



Nari Shakti Puraskar 2021

Why in News

Nominations for the **Nari Shakti Puraskar, 2021** are open till 31st January, 2022.

Key points

▪ About:

- Initiated in the year 1999, it is the **highest Civilian Honour for Women in India**.
- The **President of India** confers the Nari Shakti Puraskar on the [International Women's Day \(8th March\)](#), annually.
- The Nari Shakti Puraskar carries a **cash award of Rs.2 Lakh** and a certificate for individuals and institutions.
- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development** announces these national level awards for individuals/ groups/ [Non-governmental Organisations \(NGOs\)](#)/ institutions etc. The awards are given:
 - For encouraging women to participate in decision making roles.
 - Women's skill development in traditional and non-traditional sectors.
 - Facilitating basic amenities for rural women.
 - Promoting women in non-traditional sectors like science and technology, sports, art, culture concretely.
 - For the significant work towards safety and security, health and wellness, education, life skills, respect and dignity of women etc.

▪ Objectives:

- To showcase the Government's commitment towards women with the aim of strengthening their position in the society.
- It will also **provide an opportunity to Young Indians to understand the contribution of women** in building society and the nation.
 - It will also help in achieving the 2030 [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#).
 - **SDG 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

▪ Eligibility:

- As per the Guidelines, **any individual of at least 25 years of age** and institutions having worked in the **relevant field for at least 5 years** are eligible to apply.

International Women's Day

- International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day **celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women**. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.
- Women's Day was first celebrated back in **1911 by Clara Zetkin**, who was a German. The roots of the celebration had been in the labour movement.
- It was only in 1913, however, that the **celebrations were shifted to 8th March**, and it has

remained that way ever since.

- International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time by the [United Nations](#) in 1975.
- In December 1977, the General Assembly **adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day** for Women's Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical and national traditions.

Source: PIB

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