



United Nations Population Award 2020

Why in News

Recently, **HelpAge India** has been presented the **UN Population Award for 2020 in the institutional category**.

- **Bhutan's Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck** has been awarded the United Nations Population Award in the **individual category** for 2020 for her work on sexual health and ending gender violence.

Key Points

- **United Nations Population Award:**
 - **Each year**, the Committee for the United Nations Population Award honours **an individual and/or institution** in recognition of outstanding **contributions to population and reproductive health issues** and solutions.
 - The Award was **established by the General Assembly in 1981**, and was **first presented in 1983**. It **consists of** a gold medal, a diploma and a monetary prize.
 - The [United Nations Population Fund \(UNFPA\)](https://www.unfpa.org/) serves as its **secretariat**.
- **HelpAge India:**
 - It is a **leading charity in India** working with and **for disadvantaged elderly** for nearly 4 decades. It was set up in 1978 and is registered under the Societies' Registration Act of 1860.
 - For the **first time** in the history of the UN Population Award, the honour is being **conferred on an Indian institution**.
 - **Only two Indians have been awarded** in the past four decades since the award was established in 1981: former Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi in 1983** and industrialist-philanthropist **J.R.D. Tata in 1992**.

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