

CURRENT EVENTS

Important National / International Events December, 2008 to March, 2009

December 2008

13th Mr. Ashok Gehlot sworn in as 23rd Chief Minister of Rajasthan. **15th** Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva elected Prime Minister of Thailand by the House of Representatives. **18th** NRI Industrial Mr. Swaraj Paul appointed as Deputy Speaker of House of Lords, The U.K. **25th** Third generation hit to kill anti tank missile was successfully test fired in its full configuration at Air Force range near Pokhran, Rajasthan.



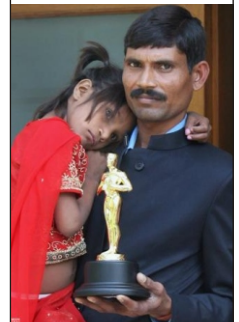
January 2009

5th Mr. Omar Abdulla sworn in as 11th Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. **6th** Ms. Sheikh Hasina sworn in as Prime Minister of Bangla Desh. **7th** The 7th Edition of Pravasi Bhartiya divas held at Chennai. **8th** Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh inaugurated Indian Naval Academy at Ezhimala in Kannur District of Kerla. **11th** Golden Globe Awards : A.R. Rehman for Best Original Score for Slumdog Millionaire for the year 2009. **20th** Mr. Barack Obama took over as 44th President of U.S.A. **27th** Former President Mr. R. Venkatraman died at the age of 98 years.



February 2009

2nd Ms. Johanna Sigurdardottir sworn in as first Women Prime Minister of Iceland. **2nd** Ms. Hillary Clinton sworn in as US Secretary of state. **11th** Mr. Morgan Tsvangirai sworn in as Prime Minister of Zimbabwe in Harare. **12th** Mr. Zillur Rahman elected unopposed as President of Bangladesh. **13th** Ms. Suman Sharma became the world's first civilian women to fly the mighty MiG 35 Fighter Jet at the Aero Indian Airshow in Bangaluru. **14th** Saudia Arabia king appointed Norah al Faiz first woman minister in the muslim kingdom.

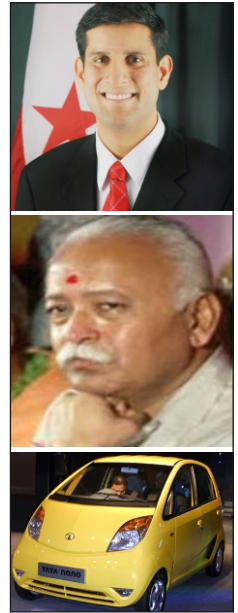


Oscar Award's

24th A.R. Rehman Best Original Song for Slumdog Millionaire. **24th** A.R. Rehman and Gulzar Best Original Song for Slumdog Millionaire. **24th** Resul Pookutty along with Ian Tapp and Richard Pryke for Best Sound Mixing for Slumdog Millionaire. **24th** Short documentary Titled " Smile Pinki " won as Oscar A story based on the life of Nine year old girl Pinki from Mirzapur in U.P.

March 2009

5th Mr. Vivek Kundra appointed as the Chief Information Officer of Obama administration. **20th** An under sea volcano erupts about 10 to 12 KM off the Coast of Tonga. **21st** Senior R.S.S. leader Mohan Rao Bhagwat has taken over as the new R.S.S. Sarsangh chalak after outgoing Chief K.S. Sudarshan stepped down due to prolonged illness. **24th** Tata Motors launched the Cheapest Car "Nano" in Mumbai. **26th** Velo designer and self appointed 'Devil of the tour de France' Didi Senft present his latest creation, the so-called truffle bike in storwok, near Berlin. The bike is 617 meters long and 269 meters high. Senft has 20 entries in the Guinness book of world records. **26th** A brilliant green tree frog with huge black eyes, jumping spider and a striped gecko are among than 50 new species scientist have discovered in remote mountains region of Papua New Guinea. **26th** German born Sister Mary Prema has been elected the new superior general of the Missionaries of charity, founded by mother Teresa. **29th** Bollywood actress Katrina Kaif will be the first Indian face of the legendry doll "Barbie".



Important Sports Events December, 2008 to March 2009

December 2008

18th Tennis Player Sania Mirza honored with the degree of Doctor of Letters by MGR Educational and Research institute in Chennai on 18th December 2008. **28th** Jyoti Randhwa won the BILT Open golf tournament on 28th December 2008.



January 2009

30th Women's double: Venus and Serena Williams won the 2009 Australian Open women's doubles title, beating Slovakia's Daniela Hantuchova and Japan's Ai Sugiyama 6-3, 6-3. **31st** Women's Single : Serena Williams thrashed Russia's Dinara Safina 6-0, 6-3 on Saturday to win the Australian Open. **31st** Men's Double : Bob And Mike Bryan of U.S.A. defeated Mahesh Bhupathi (India) and Mark Knowles (Bahamian) 2-6, 7-5, 6-0. **31st** Junior Boys : Yuki Bhambhani of India defeated Georgoudas of Germany 6-3, 6-1 in Boy's final. **31st** Junior Girls : Ksenia Pervak of Russia defeated Laura Robson of GBR by 6-3, 6-1.



February 2009

1st Men's Single : Rafa Nadal captured the Australian Open title with an enthralling 7-5, 3-6, 7-6, 3-6, 6-2 win over Roger Federer. **1st** Mixed Doubles: Sania Mirza and Mahesh Bhupathi (India) won the mixed doubles title at the Australian Open beating Nathalie Dechy (France) and Andy Ram (Israel) 6-3, 6-1. **5th** Sri Lankan player Muttiah Muralidharan became the highest wicket taker in One Day International (505) by overtaking Wasim Akram of Pakistan on 5th February 2009. **5th** Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal was named FIFA World Footballer of the year for 2008. **5th** Mahinder Singh Dhoni leads the team India to most consecutive wins (9 Wins in a row) during the period 14.11.2008 to 5.2.2009.



March 2009

10th Virender Sehwag of Indian becomes first Indian batsman to score fastest 100 runs in 60 balls against New Zealand in Hamilton. **14th** India defeated New Zealand 3 -1 in one day series in 33 years. **21st** Dominant India defeated New Zealand by 10 wickets in the 1st Test to take 1-0 lead. This is India's first Test win in New Zealand since 1976. **22nd** England beat New Zealand by 4 wickets and lifted Women's World Cup 2009.



Awards

Ashok Chakra Awards

Chief of Anti Terrorist Squad of Maharashtra — Hemant Karkare, Additional Commissioner of Police — Ashok Kamte, Inspector of Anti Extortion cell of Maharashtra — Vijay Salakar, Assistant Sub Inspector of Police — Tukaram Ombale, Major Sandeep Unikrishnan, Havildar Gajinder Singh, Inspector Mohan Chand Sharma, Colonel Jojan Thomas, Havildar Bahadur Singh Bohra, R.P. Diengdoh, P.K. Satapathy.

Kirti Chakra Awards

Naik Tape Yajo, Nitya Nand Bora, Arun Raghonath Chitte, Ambadas Ramchandra Powar, Shashank Chandrasen Shinde and Mukesh Bikaji Jadhav.

Padma Vibhushan, 2009

Dr. Chandrika Prasad Srivastave (Civil Services), Sh. Sunder Lal Bhaguna (Environment Conservation) Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyaya (Literature and Conservation), Prof. Jasbir Singh Bajaj (Medicine), Dr. Purshotam Lal (Medicine), Sh. Gobind Narain (Public Affairs), Dr. Anil Kakodkar (Science and Engineering), Sh. G. Mahadavan Nair (Science and Engineering), Sister Nirmala (Social Work), Dr. A.S. Ganguly, (Trade and Industry).

Padma Bhushan, 2009

Sh. G. Sivarama Krishna Muthy alias Krishna (Art), Prof. Ramanlal C. Mehta (Art), Smt. Samshad Bagum (Art), Sh. V.P. Dhananjayan and Smt. Shanta Dhanjayan (Art), Dr. Vidyanathan Ganapathi Sthapati (Art), Sh. S.K. Mishra (Civil Services), Sh. Shakher Gupta (Journalism), Prof. Alappat Sreedhara Menon (Literature and Education), Sh. C.K. Prahlad (Literature and Education), Sh. D. Jayakanthan (Literature and Education), Dr. Smt. Isher Judge Ahluwalia (Literature and Education), Sh. Kunwar Narain (Literature and Education), Prof. Minoru Hara (Literature and Education), Sh. Ramachandran Guha (Literature and Education), Dr. Brijinder Rao (Medicine), Vaidya Devendra Triguna (Medicine), Dr. Khalid Hameed (Medicine), Lt. Gen. (Retd) National Security Affairs, Dr. Smt. Inderjit Kaur Barthkur (Public Affairs), Dr. Kirti Shantilal Parikh 9 Public Affairs, Dr. Bhakta B. Rath (Science and Engineering), Sh. Conjeevanram Srirangachari Seshadari (Science and Engineering), Dr. Gurdip Singh Randhwa (Science and Engineering), Sh. Sam Pitroda (Science and Engineering), Prof. (Dr.) Sarvagya Singh Katiyar (Science and Engineering), Prof. Thomas Kailath (Science and Engineering), Dr. (Smt) Sarojini Varadappan (Social Work), Dr. Naganath Nayakawadi (Social Work), Sh. Abhinav Bindra (Sports), Sh. Anil Mani Bhai Naik (Trade and Industry).

Padma Shri, 2009

Sh. Thilakan (Art), Sh. A. Vivekh (Art), Smt. Aishwarya Rai Bachchan (Art), Sh. Akshay Kumar (Art), Dr. (Ms.) Ammena Ahmed Ahuja (Art), Smt. Aruna Sriram (Art), Smt. Devayani Chaymotty (Art), Ms. Geeta Kapur (Art), Sh. Govind Ram Nirmalkar (Art), Sh. Gurumayum Gourakishor Sharma (Art), Sh. Hashmat Ullah Khan (Art), Smt. Helan Khan (Art), Smt. Hemi Bawa (Art), Pandit Hridaynath Mangeshkar (Art), Sh. Iravatham Mahadaven (Art), Sh. K.P. Udayabhanu (Art), Dr. Kanneganti Brahmamandam (Art), Prof. Kiran Seth (Art), Sh. Kumar Sanu Bhattacharjee (Art), Prof. Dr. (Smt.) Leela Omchery (Art), Sh. Mattannoor Sankarankutty Marar (Art), Sh. Niranjana Goswami (Art), Bhai Nirmal Singh Khalsa (Art), Ms. Penaz Masani (Art), Sh. Prakesh N. Dubey (Art), Dr. Pratapaditya Pal (Art), Sh. Ram Kishor Chippa (Art), Smt. Saoli Mitra (Art), Late Sh. Skendrowell Syiemlieh (Posthumous) (Art), Dr. Subrahmanyam Krishnaswamy (Art), Sh. Suresh Dutta (Art), Late Sh. Tafazzul Ali (Posthumous) (Art), Sh. Udit Narain (Art), Sh. Vadakka MANALATH Govindan Alias Kalamandalam Gopi (Art), Sh. S.B. Ghosh Dastidar (Civil Services), Sh. Ameen Sayani (Commentary and Broadcasting), Sh. Abhay Chhajani (Journalism), Dr. A. Sankara Reddy (Literature and Education), Sh. Alok Mehta (Literature and Education), Dr. Bannanje Govindacharya (Literature and Education), Dr. Birendranath Datta (Literature and Education), Prof. Geshe Ngawang Samren (Literature and Education), Prof. Jalees Ahmed Khan Tareen (Literature and Education), Sh. Jayanta Mahapatra (Literature and Education), Dr. John Ralston Marr (Literature and Education), Sh. Lalthanfala Saila (Literature and Education), Sh. Laxman Babu Mane (Literature and Education), Dr. Mathoor Krishnamoorthy (Literature and Education), Sh. Norden Tshering (Literature and Education), Dr. Panchapakesa Jataraman (Literature and Education), Prof. Ram Shanker Tripathi (Literature and Education), Prof. (Dr.) Ranbir Chander Sobti (Literature and Education), Dr. Ravindera Nath Srivastava (Literature and Education), Sh. Shamsur Rahman Faruqi (Literature and Education), Smt. Sashi Deshpandya (Literature and Education), Sh. Sunny Varkey (Literature and Education), Sh. Suresh Chander Amonkar (Literature and Education), Dr. Utpal K. Banerjee (Literature and Education), Dr. A.K. Gupta (Medicine), Dr. Alampur Saibaba Goud (Medicine), Dr. Arvind Lal (Medicine), Dr. Ashok K. Vaid (Medicine), Dr. Ashok Kumar Grover (Medicine), Dr. Balswarup Choubey (Medicine), Dr. D.S. Rana (Medicine), Dr. Govindan Vijayaraghvan (Medicine), Dr. Kalyan Banerjee (Medicine), Sh. P.R. Krishan Kumar (Medicine), Dr. R. Sivaraaman (Medicine), Dr. Shaik Khader Noordeen (Medicine), Prof. (Dr.) Thanikachalam Sadagopan (Medicine), Dr. Yash Gulati (Medicine), Sh. K. Asungba Sangtam (Public Affairs), Dr. (Ms.) Shyamliha Pappu (Public Affairs), Prof. Syed Iqbal Hasnain (Research on Himalayan Glaciers) Sh. Goriparthi Narasimha Raju Yadav (Science and Engineering), Prof. Parmood Tandon (Science and Engineering), Sh. Bansi Lal Rathi (Social Work), Begum Biklees I. Latif (Social Work), Sh. Cheril Krishnan Menon (Social Work), Rev. Fr. Joseph H. Pereira (Social Work), Sh. K. Viswanathan (Social Work), Ms. Keepu Tshering Lepcha (Social Work), Prof. Shyam Sunder Maheshwari (Social Work), Sh. Sunil Kanti Roy (Social Work), Sh. Balbir Singh Khullar (Sports), Sh. Harbhanjan Singh (Sports), Sh. Mahendra Singh Dhoni (Sports), Sh. Pankaj Advani (Sports), Sh. Surinder Mehta (Technology Solutions), Sh. Arunmugam Sakthivel Sakthivel (Trade and Industry), Dr. Bavaguthu Raghuram Shetty (Trade and Industry), Sh. R.K. Krishna Kumar (Trade and Industry).

Abbreviations in News

ICESCR : International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

ICI : Investment Climate Index.

UNHRC : United Nations Human Right Council.

SAHMAT : The Safdar Hashmi Memorial Trust.

C-DAC : Centre for Development of Advance Computing.

AARDO : Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization.

NIA : National Investigation Agency.