



News & Recognitions

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Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, the 22nd annual **Shorenstein**

Journalism Award honoured **The Caravan**, for its rigorous and consistent coverage that "champions accountability and media independence".

The Caravan's journalists Neel Madhav and Alishan Jafri won the **K P Narayana Kumar Memorial Award 2022** for their social impact journalism.

The Caravan's journalist Sushmita won the award in the environment section at the **Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink award** for reporting on the cost of India's push toward a coal-based economic recovery.



➤ **Article14** is among 10 media organisations that have been shortlisted for the **2023 International Press Institute Award**.

➤ **Mojo Story** founder-editor Barkha Dutt was awarded the **Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink award** for reporting on the Covid disruptions under the health and wellness television category.



➤ **The Wire's** founding editor Siddharth Varadarajan received the **Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink award** for the Pegasus investigative series in the 'politics (print/online)' category.



The Wire's reporter Sukanya Shantha was the winner of **Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink award** in the gender equality section for her reports on transgenders.

➤ **The News Minute's story** titled 'Armed with govt order, Bengaluru NGO steals voter data' received a special mention at the **ACJ Awards 2022 for Investigative Journalism**.



➤ **India Development Review (IDR)** won the **Innovation for India Awards 2023** by the Marico Innovation Foundation for 'best business and social innovations'.



IDR's podcast, **On the Contrary by IDR** won the **'Best Produced News Podcast'** award at the India Audio Summit and Awards 2023.

Grantee Journalism Over the Years: Recognised & Awarded



The News Minute's editor-in-chief Dhanya Rajendran receiving the Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Woman Media Person 2022.

Independent and Public-Spirited Media Foundation (IPSMF) since its inception has been at the forefront of identifying and supporting independent digital media. This selection of grantee media has been based on an exacting and thorough process of review – sometimes tracking the entity over years – on the quality of journalism, the rigour of its reporting and the sharpness of its analysis.

This due diligence has helped the Foundation identify entities which have maximum impact on the ground - in terms of raising awareness, promoting social justice, and addressing important and critical issues. The Foundation has also sought out media entities which seek to provide alternative perspectives, amplify marginalised voices, and foster public engagement on critical topics.

The Foundation, led by a very eminent but diverse Board of Trustees, with diverse skillsets and experiences have had a strong bearing on the quality of entities that are chosen for support.

The topics the grantees cover are not only diverse but critical and in the public

interest. The work of the Foundation's grantees has been broad and deep-reported from geographies; and on subjects that the mainstream media shies away from. In recent years, the Foundation's accent has been on regional and hyperlocal media.

This effort of the Foundation has resulted in optimising grantee reach, impact and sustainability, other than raising the quality of journalism itself. Operating with limited resources, the Foundation's grantees have always striven to excel and be counted amongst India's premier and impactful news outlets. This, in turn, has resulted in grantees receiving over 100 awards and recognitions from institutions of repute both in India and abroad.

We take a look at a select few of the accolades that have put our grantees on the map. These awards are for the sheer and intrinsic quality of their work on themes such as governance, gender, healthcare, environment, agriculture, society, politics, and rights, among contribution to others.

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Grantee Awards & Recognitions Over the Years

Editorial Leadership



For the relentless pursuit of truth and commitment to journalistic integrity.

Grantee	Award
1. ThePrint	2022 - Lifetime Contribution to Media Award by All-India Management Association (AIMA) to Shekhar Gupta.
2. The News Minute	2022 - Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Women Media Person to Dhanya Rajendran.
3. The Wire	2020 - Freedom of Speech Award from Deutsche Welle to Siddharth Varadarajan.
4. The Wire	2020 - Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Women Media Person to Arfa Khanum Sherwani.

Intrinsic Quality of Journalism



For exceptional journalism through innovation and dedication to their craft.

Grantee	Award
1. Khabar Lahariya	2022 - 'Writing with Fire' (documentary on Khabar Lahariya) was shortlisted for Oscars in the 'Best Documentary Feature' category .
2. Article-14	2022 - HRRF Best Media Organisation Award .
3. India Development Review	2022 - Innovation for India Awards by Marico Innovation Foundation for 'best business and social innovations.'
4. LiveLaw	2017 - Best Legal News Portal of the Year awarded by the Indian National Bar Association.



ThePrint's Bismee Taskin and Jyoti Yadav receiving the Ramnath Goenka Award from CJI D.Y. Chandrachud.

Investigative Reporting



For outstanding investigative reporting, exposing corruption, and holding those in power to account.

Grantee	Award
1. The Wire	2022 - Red Ink Award to Siddharth Varadarajan for Pegasus investigative series in the politics (print/online) category.
2. ThePrint	2020 - Ramnath Goenka Journalism Awards for its reportage on migrant exodus during the Covid-19 lockdown.
3. The Caravan	2018 - Asian College of Journalism Award for Investigative Journalism for the story titled "Coalgate 2.0: The Adani Group reaps benefits worth thousands of crores of rupees as the coal scam continues under the Modi government."

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News & Recognitions

 **ThePrint** received the **International Press Institute (IPI) Award for Excellence in Journalism 2022**, acknowledging its impactful series of stories exposing the mismanagement of the support system for the fight against COVID-19 by hospitals, local bodies, and governments across various states.

ThePrint's reporter Angana Chakrabarti won the award at the **Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink Award** in the crime category for her report 'Tripura mosque attacks: Ground report on what really happened during those 8 days in October'.

 In March, G Mahantesh, the Founder of **The File**, was recognised as the **'Best Investigative Journalist 2022-23'** by the Karnataka Union of Working Journalists.

 **Imphal Free Press's (IFP) Jimmy Leivon**, was selected as the sole representative from the Northeast for the **'US Mission Mekong Media Reporting Tours'** in January 2023.

IFP's Jimmy Leivon and Bishworjit Mandengbam were chosen to be part of the 'News Video Accelerator programme 2022', conducted by Ping Digital and BOOM Live in partnership with YouTube.

Additionally, three **IFP** reporters were selected for the **'Climate Change Fellowship 2023'** by Manipur's Department of Environment and Climate Change.

 Author Sabah Khan's latest book 'The Queen, the Courtesan, the Doctor, the Writer: 50 Inspiring Stories of Muslims' has used multiple **Feminism in India (FII)** articles for its research.

FII Hindi received the **Social Media For Empowerment 2023** award from Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF).

 **The Citizen** was among the news organisations selected for the **'News Video Accelerator Programme 2022'** in partnership with YouTube.

 **Aatreyee Dhar** of **Down To Earth** won the **Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink award** in the health and wellness category for a report on the health hazards Assam's tea garden workers face.



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Social Issues and Rights**For flagging caste discrimination, human rights violations, and the issues faced by the marginalised.**

Grantee	Award
1. The Probe	2022 - Asian College of Journalism Award for Social Impact Journalism for the documentary highlighting the plight of manual scavengers in India.
2. TrueCopy Think	2022 - KSEB Media Award for the story on the Central Electricity Amendment Bill and its impact on the common man.
3. Democratic Charkha	2022 - जनता की आवाज़ Award for the story on the rights of artisans in Bihar.
4. The Caravan	2020 - Fetisov Journalism Awards (Second prize) in the category of 'Contribution to Civil Rights' for the story, "How industry bodies are using the NCPDR and UNICEF to whitewash accusations of child labour".
5. The Wire	2019 - Red Ink Award for its video on a bookstore that brought together Urdu's literary greats.
6. IndiaSpend	2018 - PII-ICRC Annual Award for a story that examined the reality of living with disability in India.
7. The News Minute	2018 - Kerala Media Award for its story on child marriages in Malappuram.
8. The Better India	2018 - Abby Award for their branded content series "Breaking Barriers."

Healthcare**For the focus on healthcare reporting - healthcare policies, public health concerns and coverage of health issues.**

Grantee	Award
1. Down To Earth	2022 - Mumbai Press Club's Red Ink Award in the health and wellness category for a report on the health hazards faced by Assam's tea garden workers.
2. ThePrint	2022 - International Press Institute (IPI) Award for Excellence in Journalism for its coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Mojo Story	2021 - COVID-19 India Prize by US-based Emergent Ventures for their extensive ground reporting on the impact of the pandemic on lives and livelihoods during the first COVID-19 lockdown in India.
4. IndiaSpend	2018 - PII-ICRC Annual Awards (Second prize) for the story on Assam's maternal mortality, highlighting important issues related to maternal healthcare.

Environment**For the thrust on a greener future through reporting on the environment, climate change, and sustainability.**

Grantee	Award
1. The Bastion	2021 - Behanbox Fellowship to cover Women's Land and Forest Rights in Gujarat.
2. Down To Earth	2020 - Edinburgh Medal instituted by the City of Edinburgh Council awarded to Sunita Narain for her significant contribution to science and technology.
3. IndiaSpend	2019 - Young Environmental Journalist of the Year to Bhasker Tripathi.

GRANTEE IMPACT

↘ **ThePrint's story** on how 72 industrial plots allotted ten years ago to Rakesh Sachan, UP's Minister for MSMEs, were lying fallow, led to the state government cancelling the allotment and ordering an inquiry into the irregularities in the process. The plots were also opened to the public for allotment.

↘ **The File**, based on an RTI application, has **uncovered** a report by the Karnataka Biodiversity Board, under the State's Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, which reveals encroachment of forest land in Karnataka to the tune of 612 acres. These alleged intrusions are spread across the two districts of Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga during the Covid lockdown in 2021.

↘ **Main Bhi Bharat's ground report** on the issues of common people in the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (ADC) not only generated a debate on the lack of funds for the Council but also persuaded the government to increase its budget and begin work on providing an increased supply of potable water.

↘ **Imphal Free Press's story** on discrepancies in the recruitment process for 750 vacant posts in the Autonomous District Councils in Manipur on December 05, 2022, led to intense public reaction. It forced the government department to indefinitely postpone the written test scheduled to be held two weeks later.

↘ In September last year, **Main Media reported** on a health centre in Dhangara village of Kishanganj built in 2017, which had not seen a doctor for more than half a decade, and lay in ruins. The story triggered a response from the state's health department which visited the facility, refurbished it, and appointed medical staff.

↘ **Democratic Charkha reported** on the difficulties of labourers in the Barari Block of Katihar to get work under MNREGA without having a job card despite applying for it several times. After the report, the officials visited the labourers and provided them with valid documents.

↘ **TrueCopy Think's documentary** chronicling the story of a teacher, in a model residential school in Wadakkanchery in Kerala, kindled in her wards - underprivileged tribal students - new confidence and aspirations through the art of drawing and painting. The story also led to several citizens reaching out to support the effort.

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Barkha Dutt and the team of Mojo Story after winning ENBA awards in 2022.

Gender

For addressing gender-related issues, promoting gender equality, and highlighting women's voices.

Grantee	Award
1. Feminism in India	2022 - SCARF Media Award for mental health reporting for a story that highlighted the importance of mental health support for the LGBTQIA+ community.
2. Imphal Free Press	2022 - WAD Gender Journalist Award for their work on crime against women and children in Manipur.
3. The News Minute	2018 - SCARF Media Award for mental health reporting for the story on the vulnerability of trans individuals to mental health problems.

GRANTEE IMPACT

➤ In response to a Right to Information request filed by **MEDIANAMA** [MediaNama](#), the Ministry of Corporate Affairs said that they have no information about Digi Yatra data because it is run by a private organisation called the Digi Yatra Foundation. The Indian Civil Aviation Ministry issued a press release in response to the story highlighting concerns about the data privacy of air travellers using the Digi Yatra facility, which uses facial recognition tools.

➤ A special [series](#) published by **EPW** on the issue of 'new-age environmentalism' had contributions from renowned scholars and brought out new facets of the debate and discourse on environment, and critiques the actions in the name of sustainability.

➤ **Mojo Story's** [report](#) from Punjab on how joblessness, unreal aspirations, and rampant drug addiction among the youth have been exploited by 'cult figures', who have promoted a culture of gangs and guns, brought new perspectives on the socio-economic situation in the state from the ground.

RSF Press Freedom Index-INDIA 2023
Slips 11 places, **Ranks 161**



RSF Rankings: India and other key countries

Rank'23/(22)	Country	Score	Situation
1(=)	Norway	95.18	Good
15 ▲(19)	Canada	83.53	Satisfactory
21 ▼(16)	Germany	81.91	Satisfactory
24 ▲(26)	France	78.72	Satisfactory
26 ▼(24)	UK	78.51	Satisfactory
27 ▲(39)	Australia	78.24	Satisfactory
35 ▲(38)	Taiwan	75.54	Satisfactory
45 ▼(42)	USA	71.22	Noticeable
47 ▼(43)	S.Korea	70.83	Noticeable
68 ▲(71)	Japan	93.95	Good
92 ▲(110)	Brazil	58.67	Difficult
95 ▼(76)	Nepal	57.89	Difficult
129 ▲(139)	Singapore	47.88	Very serious
135 ▲(146)	Sri Lanka	45.85	Very serious
145 ▼(138)	U.A.E	42.99	Very serious
150 ▲(157)	Pakistan	39.95	Very serious
161 ▼(150)	India	36.62	Very serious
163 ▼(162)	Bangladesh	35.31	Very serious
164 ▼(155)	Russia	34.77	Very serious
177 ▲(178)	Iran	24.81	Very serious
179 ▼(175)	China	22.97	Very serious
180(=)	N.Korea	21.72	Very serious

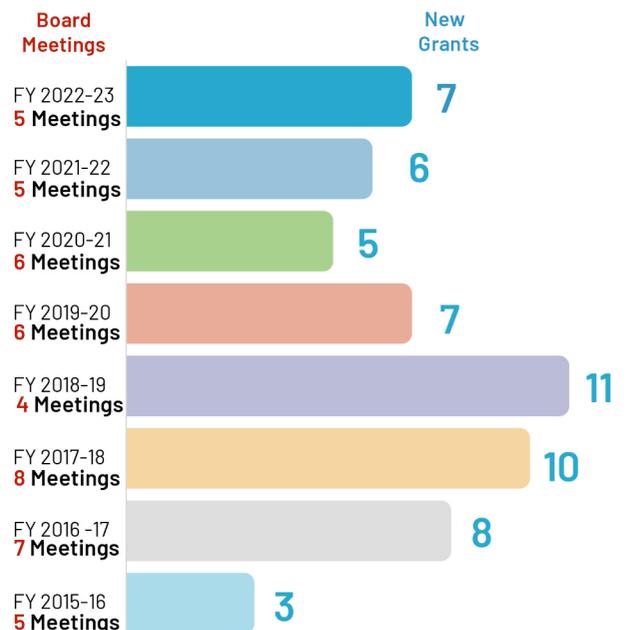
India's Ranking over the years - of 180 countries

- 2023 - 161 ▼
- 2022 - 150 ▼
- 2021 - 142 ◀
- 2020 - 142 ▼
- 2019 - 140 ▼
- 2018 - 138 ▼
- 2017 - 136 ▼
- 2016 - 133 ▲
- 2013 - 140

Grant Timeline

₹ **103 Cr**
Grant Commitment

56
Grantees



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