



8 Indians Who Made 2015 A Proud Year For Us With Their Outstanding Achievements

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[Anjali Bisaria](#) Updated on Dec 24, 2015, 17:54 IST

Looking back on a passing year, we are often reminded of moments that made it a success. But more than moments, it's the people who shine as the real stars. People who do extraordinary work for the betterment of the country, and make their motherland proud.

Today, we are reminiscing stories that made us smile while at work, that stayed with us while we drove back home, that inspired us to do better. Today, we are looking back at 8 exceptional personalities who, with their wins, not only made headlines but history itself!

1. Professor U Ramamurthy

An IISc Bangalore professor, Ramamurthy won UNESCO's 2015 Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) prize, which came with a cash prize of \$15,000.

"I left the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and came to India because I knew there is potential here. There must be more encouragement and funding. More Indians getting such awards will make our future generation confident of doing research from here," said Ramamurthy (seen centre).



IISc

2. Kalyanasundaram

The 74-year-old retired librarian donated his entire life's earnings for the betterment of the poor. The money that he gave away amounted to a whopping Rs 30 crores!

A recipient of both national and international awards, Kalyanasundaram has won the best librarian in India Award; Man of the Millennium award and Life Time of Service Award from Rotary Club of India in 2011; to name a few.



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3. Aditi Chauhan

After becoming the first Indian to play in the English Premiere League, Aditi Chauhan made India even prouder by winning the 'Woman In Football Award' at the Asian Football Awards held in London this year.



4. Sameer Panda

The Ph.D student's groundbreaking innovation 'Mild Run Flat Tyre' won a coveted award in the Create the Future Design Contest 2015, at the NASA Tech Brief in New York. His project was also recognised as among the top 10 entries in the contest that was jointly organised by NASA and Society of Automobile Engineers International.



Tycheejuno

5. Lalita Prasida Sripada Srisai

This 13-year-old genius from DPS Damanjodi (Odisha) won the 'Community Impact Award' at the Google Science Fair hosted this year. A student of IX standard, Lalita won \$10,000 as prize money along with a year-long mentorship from Scientific American.



The Hindu

6. Sanjiv Chaturvedi

The recipient of the Ramon Magsaysay award, Sanjiv donated the entire prize money (Rs 19.85 lakh) to AIIMS for treatment of the poor, especially those who are suffering from different forms of cancer.

The Magsaysay Award Foundation recognised Sanjiv for "his exemplary integrity, courage and tenacity in uncompromisingly exposing and painstakingly investigating corruption in public office, and his resolute crafting of programme and system improvements to ensure that government honourably serves the people."



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7. Dr Modadugu Vijay Gupta

India's renowned agriculture scientist, Dr Gupta has done some commendable work in the field of aquaculture, which led to his winning of the prestigious Sunhak Peace Prize award. He co-shares the award money of USD 1 million with the President of Kiribati islands.



8. Pentechan

This group of 5 students from Bengaluru, all aged 14, won the Technovation challenge held at a global pitch event in San Francisco. Sanjana Vasanth, N Anupama, Mahima Mehendale, Swasthi P Rao and B Navyashree, who named their group the 'Pentechan' bagged the award for an app they developed called 'Sellixo'. The app is an intelligent take on an online marketplace for buying and selling dry waste.

