

**Press Information Bureau  
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Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

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**Mukul Wasnik gives Away Spandan-Special Performance Awards to  
Differently Abled Persons**

The National Trust for welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment felicitated and conferred awards to people with development and intellectual disabilities, their parents, professionals and organisations in various categories, for their extraordinary achievements in the wake of adversities and challenges that they always face. The awards were named SPANDAN from this year which means Pulsating and Celebrates dynamism. The Awardees were specially nominated by eminent personalities in the sector on invitation and selected by a specially appointed Jury.

The new name “SPANDAN” – Special Performance Awards in NT Centric Disabilities, Activities and Networking were launched by Shri D Napoleon, Minister of State, Social Justice & Empowerment.

Shri Mukul Wasnik, Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment gave away, the awards to 10 persons and organisations. He welcomed the new idea for the Awards and acclaimed the innate strength shown by the awardees, rising from so many adversities in life to reach these heights.

The Awards were given in two categories: Best Individual and Best Organisations. The Best Individual Award was further divided into six sub-categories: Person with Disability (Female) went to Ms. Ummul Khair, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, Ms. Saylee Nandkishore Agavane, Pune, Maharashtra; Person with Disability (Male) went to Shri Ashish Kumar Verma, Patna, Bihar, Shri Achyutanal Guaha, Delhi. Special Jury Felicitations went to Shri J. P. Gadkari, Bangalore, Karnataka. The Best Organisations Award went to Local Level Committee, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, Latika Roy Foundation, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

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