

## “59th Jnanpith Award”

- Hindi writer **Vinod Kumar Shukla** (88 age, from Chhattisgarh) was the recipient of the 59th Jnanpith Award, India’s highest literary honour.
- Novels ; “**Naukar ki Kameez**”, about a clerk forced to submit to professional hierarchies, and “**Khilega Toh Dekhenge**”, about a teacher who arrives in a village with eccentric residents
- He is the 12th Hindi writer to win the award and the first from Chhattisgarh.
- The Jnanpith Award
  - Instituted in 1961 by the Bharatiya Jnanpith
  - It is the oldest and most prestigious literary accolade in India.
  - It honors authors for their exceptional contributions to literature in Indian languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, with English being included from the 49th award onwards.
  - The award is not given posthumously, ensuring that it recognizes living writers for their literary excellence.
  - It carries with it a cash of Rs 11 lakh, a bronze statue of the Hindu Goddess Vagdevi and a citation.