

Ig Nobel prize

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Awards

Why in news?

Two engineers from India win 35th annual Ig Nobel Prize awards for engineering design.

- **Aim-** The Ig Nobel Prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honor the imaginative and stimulate people's interest in science, medicine, and technology.
- It is **awarded annually**.
- **Created in** - 1991 by Marc Abrahams, editor of the science humor magazine *Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)*.
- **Motto** — "First make people laugh, and then make them think".
- **Organized by** - The scientific humor magazine "*Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)*"
- **Categories - 10 prizes** are awarded in many categories - Physics, chemistry, physiology/medicine, literature, economics, peace, public health, engineering, biology, and interdisciplinary research.
- The 2025 ceremony, **held virtually** from Harvard University's Sanders Theatre, USA.
- **Ig Nobel prize, 2025** - In **engineering design** category - **Vikash Kumar and Sarthak Mittal** (22nd for India).
 - **Reason** - For analyzing, from an engineering design perspective, how foul-smelling shoes affect the good experience of using a shoe-rack.
- **In 2022** - An international team from India, China, Malaysia, and the US won the **mechanical engineering prize** "for re-animating dead spiders to use as mechanical gripping tools".
- **In 2020** - **India and Pakistan** had shared the **peace prize** "for having their diplomats surreptitiously ring each other's doorbells in the middle of the night, and then run away before anyone had a chance to answer the door".

References

1. [The Hindu | Ig Nobel prize](#)
2. [Improbable Research | Ig Nobel prize](#)

