Graça Machel receives the 2025 Indira Gandhi Prize: Award year and value

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Prelims: awards and international personalities; Mains: GS-II social justice and humanitarian cooperation



Original symbolic illustration: pcsmantra.com

Why in the news

Mozambican rights advocate Graça Machel received the 2025 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development in New Delhi on 19 November 2026. The award year is 2025; the presentation took place in 2026. Keeping them separate matters for factual exam questions.

Work recognised

The Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust's official account recognises her contribution to education, health and nutrition, economic empowerment and humanitarian work under difficult circumstances. The stated recognition concerns these social and humanitarian contributions, rather than political identity or diplomatic office alone.

Nature of the prize

The Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust administers the award. Its official page says a person or organisation may be selected without distinction of nationality, race or religion. Its aims include peace and disarmament, international economic cooperation, development of developing countries and the wider human benefit of science.

Correcting the value

The Trust's official page gives the prize value as Rs.10 million, equivalent to ₹1 crore. The ₹25 lakh figure found in older general-knowledge notes should therefore not replace the current official amount. The prize also includes a citation and trophy. For current terms, the awarding institution is a better source than an older summary.

Link with social justice

Peace is wider than a ceasefire. Education, nutrition, health and economic opportunity are connected with security and human dignity. Mains answers can use the example for human development, the rights of women and children, and the role of international civil society.

Prelims practice question

Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The honour presented to Graça Machel on 19 November 2026 was the prize for 2025.

Statement-II: The official prize page currently records a value of Rs.10 million.

Choose the correct option:

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect

(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

▼ **Answer and explanation**

Correct answer: **(b)**. The presentation date and award year differ; Rs.10 million equals ₹1 crore.

Both statements are correct, but the prize value does not explain the award or presentation year.

Sources

https://indiragandhi.in/en/awardees

https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/graca-machel-conferred-indira-gandhi-prize-sonia-gandhi-recalls-shared-ideals-of-

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social-justice/article71721262.ece

Source status: award year, recipient, purpose and amount from the Trust; presentation date from the news report.

Frequently asked questions

For which year did Graça Machel receive the prize, and when?

She received the 2025 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development in New Delhi on 19 November 2026. The award year is 2025 while the presentation took place in 2026, and the two should not be confused. Source (https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/graca-machel-conferred-indira-gandhi-prize-sonia-gandhi-recalls-shared-ideals-of-social-justice/article71721262.ece)

What is the current value of the prize?

The Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust's official page gives the prize value as Rs.10 million, that is ₹1 crore, along with a citation and trophy. The ₹25 lakh figure found in older notes is not the current official amount. Source (https://indiragandhi.in/en/awardees)

For which contributions was Graça Machel selected?

The Trust's official account recognises her contribution to education, health and nutrition, economic empowerment and humanitarian work under difficult circumstances. A person or organisation may be selected without distinction of nationality, race or religion. Source (https://indiragandhi.in/en/awardees)

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