

CNN-IBN award for Madhavan Nair

Dilip Kumar was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award

NEW DELHI: Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation G. Madhavan Nair and Team Chandrayaan were declared the CNN-IBN Indian of the Year 2008 on Monday.

Mr. Nair and his team also bagged an award in the Public Service category.

"CNN-IBN Indian of the Year Awards initiative is an attempt to recognise the contribution of individuals who have stood first amongst equals," said Rajdeep Sardesai, Editor-in-Chief, IBN network.

Also honoured was veteran actor Dilip Kumar. He was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award. Late Assistant sub-inspector Tukaram Omble and the Mumbai police - "The Mumbai Bravehearts" - were also honoured for Extraordinary Service to the Nation during the Mumbai terror attacks.

HDFC Bank MD Aditya Puri, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, shooter Abhinav Bindra and actor Aamir Khan won the awards in the business, politics, sports and entertainment categories respectively.

Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit was presented a Special Achievement Award for her contribution to bringing a change in Delhi.

Music maestro A.R. Rahman was felicitated with an award in a stand-alone Global Indian Category for putting India on the global entertainment map with his Golden Globe Award and three Oscar nominations for underdog drama *Slumdog Millionaire*.

The winners were chosen through a unique four-tier selection process audited by Ernst & Young.

Speaking on the occasion, External Affairs Minister



External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee presents the CNN-IBN Indian of the Year award to ISRO chairman G. Madhavan Nair in New Delhi on Monday. - PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

Pranab Mukherjee said India had "hardly" any choice except to patiently wait for Pakistan to respond to the dossier given on the Mumbai attacks.

"We won't get anything by simply losing our patience, so hardly we have a choice."

Mr. Mukherjee was responding to a question as to

how long India would wait for Pakistan's response to India's demands after the Mumbai terror strikes.

India gave the dossier of evidence on January 5 and Pakistan has said it is investigating the matter and will get back to India as soon as it is over.

Queried on his status now,

he said: "I am simply discharging duties; neither I am officiating nor acting, neither *de jure* nor *de facto*." He said that under the Constitution, there can be only one Prime Minister. But "the Prime Minister can delegate some responsibility to his colleagues and I am doing exactly that." - IANS, PTI