Dr. Lakshminarayana Subramaniam is India’s violin icon, a composer and conductor, known as ‘The Paganini of Indian Classical music’ and at times also referred as ‘the God of Indian Violin’. Along with music, he completed MBBS at Madras Medical College and registered as a General Practitioner. Dr. Subramaniam did his Master’s Degree in Western Classical Music in California and finally decided to dedicate his life to music.

Being trained in the classical Carnatic music tradition and Western classical music, Dr. Subramaniam performed and recorded orchestral fusion, composed and conducted major orchestras, scored for films, collaborated with a wide range of greatest musicians from different genres of music including jazz, occidental and jugalbandis.

He was honoured with the title “Violin Chakravarthy”. Till date, Dr. Subramaniam has produced, performed, collaborated and conducted close to two hundred recordings. He worked as musical advisor to films like “Salaam Bombay”, “Mississippi Masala”, “Little Buddha” and “Cotton Mary”.

He is the founder of the Subramaniam Academy of Performing Arts (SAPA), a global institute in Bangalore that imparts a high level of music education to students from all over the world. He has also initiated ‘Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival’- the biggest in India.

Dr. Subramaniam received several awards and honours, including the coveted Padma Bhushan (2001) and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for “The Most Creative Artist” from the President of India and was conferred Honorary Doctorates by the Bangalore University, University of Madras and Sheffield University.

In recognition of his immense contribution to the world of Music, the ITM University, Gwalior is proud to confer upon Dr. Lakshminarayana Subramaniam the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.).
In her writing career spanning over four decades, Shrimati Mridula Garg has redefined the contours of fiction writing in Indian literature. In her short stories and novels, she has explored the hitherto uncharted territories of human relations and gender equations. Showing deep sympathy for the maligned and marginalised, her works like ‘Chitkobra’ and ‘Vanshaj’ put the gender and family relations in a wider perspective of social and political power dynamics. Her story ‘Kitni Qaiden’, one of the most remarkable Hindi short stories deals with the possible response to a disaster and underlines poignantly that while the week are destroyed in such a situation the strong turn it into a positive resignation.

Academically trained in Economics, Mridula Garg has shown an exceptional sensitivity to word and the world around. She has been regularly commenting through print and electronic media on social, cultural, environmental and political issues.

Along with exploring so far ignored nuances of human relations and dynamics of power, Mridula Garg has also been making notable innovations in the narrative form. In her latest novel, ‘Vasu ka Kutum’, she draws upon the traditional form of Qissagoi. Adopting an apparently light-hearted manner of ‘telling’, this novel transcends the limits of realistic narrative and brings forth the depressing decay in our social relations and political system.

The ITM University Gwalior feels honoured in bestowing the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Lit.) on Shrimati Mridula Garg in recognition of her amazing creativity and contribution to Indian Literature.
CITATION
Prabhakar M. Kolte

Any important collection of Indian art would be incomplete without Prof. Prabhakar Kolte’s paintings. His decisive contribution to the contemporary Indian art and in enlightening art students and art lovers across the generations is irrefutable.

His bold poetic articulations of his impulses on canvas, contemplations about philosophical reality of art, are universally acknowledged. Prabhakar Kolte is admired for his exceptional creativity and uncompromising commitment to his convictions. His paintings demonstrate his unique approach: “Painting itself is my subject and subject matter.”

In 1994 Prof. Prabhakar Kolte voluntarily retired from Sir J. J. School of Arts, his Alma-mater, after teaching for 22 years but continues to interact with students. Teaching is his passion. Many of his students are celebrated artists today, internationally acclaimed.

Prabhakar Kolte’s work continues to enthrall connoisseurs of art and is appreciated all over the world in prestigious galleries and in important museums. The Bombay Art Society and the Art Society of India have conferred on him Life Time Achievement Awards. In addition to this, he has won many other coveted awards and honours, the list is endless. Prabhakar Kolte is a prolific writer and poet as well.

His fundamental belief is - “Subjects can be easily found all around but thought comes out from the solitude within. My painting reflects my thought.”

The ITM University, Gwalior is honoured to confer the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Lit.) on Professor Prabhakar Kolte in recognition of his creativity and his accomplishments.
Starting his career in advertising, and producing his first film, ‘Ankur’ in 1974, Shri Shyam Benegal is among those few, who put the Indian cinema on the world map. His work is marked by deep insight into the dynamics of Indian society and a matching sympathy with the agony of human soul. His characters; particularly - women - represent a constant search for meaning of life while insisting on individual freedom. This can clearly be seen in films like ‘Bhumika’, ‘Mammo’ and ‘Zubeida’.

Benegal criticizes his society, but not from a pulpit; he shares the pains and turmoil of his people intimately. This comes out most poignantly in his film ‘Kondura/Anugraham’.

In his TV series ‘Bharat: Ek Khoj’ Benegal presents a rich and layered re-telling of that great book, ‘Discovery of India’.

In ‘Kalyug’, Shyam Benegal re-tells the greatest Indian epic, ‘Mahabharata’, highlighting the eternal moral dilemmas in the specific context of our own times when the forces of ethical “Good” seem to be ineffective and marginalized. And yet, the whole body of Shri Benegal’s work is tirelessly dedicated to the search for ethical meaning of life. In this search, he creatively uses and invokes the Indian tradition of narrative both in its epic and folk variants.

The ITM University Gwalior feels honoured in bestowing the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Lit.) on Shri Shyam Benegal in recognition of his genius.
CITATION

Tessy Thomas

Hailed as India’s Missile Woman, “Agni Putri” or the one originated from fire, Dr. Tessy Thomas is the first woman scientist to lead a missile project in the country so far. Born in Alleppey, Kerala, Tessy grew up near a rocket launching station that attracted her towards rockets and missiles at a very young age. As an engineering graduate from Thrissur, she completed her masters in guided missile from Defense Institute of Advanced Technology Pune before joining the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

She is a pioneering woman scientist who has played a key role in the making of most potent long-range Agni series of nuclear-capable ballistic missiles which is considered to be the backbone of India’s missile program. Dr. Tessy led the test launch of the Agni-III missile and assumed responsibility as Project Director for mission Agni-IV and also for Agni-V which were successfully tested in 2011 and 2012 respectively.

In a career spanning over 24 years, she has contributed notably in various fields such as guidance, control, inertial navigation, trajectory simulation and mission design. This makes her stand as a role model and a living inspiration for young women scientists.

She has received more than 30 awards including the prestigious Y. Nayudamma Memorial Award 2014 and Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award 2012 for her commendable contribution towards advancement of missile technology.

In recognition of her sustained efforts to make India self-reliant in the field of missile technology, the ITM University Gwalior is proud to confer upon Dr. Tessy Thomas the degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.).
Shri Vinod Dua has played a crucial role in the evolution story of Indian Television from a single, government controlled channel to present day multi-channel satellite based industry. Starting with ‘Yuv-Jan’, an educational programme in 1975, He has anchored and produced a number of political and cultural shows for various channels. He has earned great eminence as political, cultural commentator and election analyst with impeccable credentials.

‘Jan-Vani’ conceived and anchored by Shri Vinod Dua in 1985 was and till date remains an unique program. In this, the ministers had to answer the specific and tough questions from people about the performance of their ministries, and this on the single, government controlled TV channel. Since then, he has anchored and produced many programs covering an astonishing range from psephological analysis, political commentary, cultural concerns, news-paper headlines and variety of cuisines. His innovative ideas have paved the ways for others.

Be it, ‘Prati-Din’, ‘Tasweer-e-Hind’, ‘Parakh’ ‘Jaika India ka’ or the most recent, ‘Vinod Dua live’, each program by Vinod Dua comes with great human warmth, wit and a healthy sense of humour.

His innovative imagination has always been characterized with unwavering professional integrity and deep commitment to the values of secular, democratic and inclusive idea of India.

ITM University, Gwalior feels honoured in bestowing the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Lit.) on Shri Vinod Dua in recognition of his trend-setting innovations and lasting contribution to information culture in our society.
Starting as a participant and a chronicler of the legendary Chipko movement launched by the women of Uttarakhand in the eighth decade of last century, to save their trees from the ferocity of the so-called ‘development; Shri Anupam Mishra has emerged as a world-renowned environmentalist.

In fact, ‘environmentalist’ though popularly accepted, is a rather inadequate description for Shri Mishra’s personality. In his activism and writing, he critically engages with the very notions of development and modernity. He is one of those few, who have made creative contributions to Gandhian critique of modern civilisation. His insistence on the respectful dialogue with tradition covers all aspects of social and cultural thinking though apparently focused on the water harvesting and management.

His works, ‘Aaj bhi khare hai Talab’; ‘Rajasthan ki Rajat Boonden’ and others are remarkable not only for their innovative and thought-provoking content, but also for excitingly creative and lucid prose. His writing meets the test set by his father the eminent Hindi poet, late Bhawani Prasad Mishra for all writers- “Jis tarah hum bolte hain us tarah tu likh/aur is ke baad bhi hum se bada tu dikh”

Both in his activism and in his writing, Shri Anupam Mishra represents the strength and potential of a ‘Saaf Mathe ka Samaaj’ to recall the title of one of his essay collections.

The ITM University feels honoured in bestowing the degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Lit.) on Shri Anupam Mishra in recognition of his culturally rooted and far reaching contribution to environmental consciousness.