

Senior judge, national sprinter lauded at Her World's annual awards

Caelyn Tan

Two women who have set records and blazed a trail in their respective fields were recognised at Her World magazine's annual awards ceremony on Oct 14.

Justice Judith Prakash, 72, was named the Her World Woman of the Year 2024 for her pioneering work in the legal field.

National sprinter Shanti Pereira, 28, received the Her World Young Woman Achiever 2024 award for her sporting achievements.

Justice Prakash is Singapore's first female Judge of Appeal, and was first appointed to the Supreme Court Bench in 1992.

In her 31 years on the bench, she authored about 645 judgments, more than half of which were selected for inclusion in law reports, due to their significance and valuable legal propositions.

The senior judge is also a renowned expert in commercial law. She played a role in the enactment of the International Arbitration Act 1994, which helped establish

Singapore as a global arbitration hub.

In a statement, SPH Media – which publishes both Her World and The Straits Times – said she has paved the way for aspiring female lawyers to build their careers in the judiciary.

On receiving this award, Justice Prakash said: "It is a great honour to receive this prestigious award for a career that has given me so much in my life – not just intellectual challenge but also an opportunity to help solve people's problems and, along the way, contribute to the development of Singapore law as well."

Ms Pereira, who recently competed in the Paris Olympics, was lauded for embodying resilience and grit.

Between 2018 and early 2022, she faced multiple setbacks. She had a hamstring injury and lost two scholarships – a sports high-performance type and a university one.

But she bounced back, setting new national records in the 100m and 200m. At the Asian Games in 2023, she won silver in the 100m,



Ms Jane Ittogi presenting the award for Her World Woman of the Year 2024 to Justice Judith Prakash at Her World's annual awards ceremony on Oct 14, held at JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach. ST PHOTOS: ARIFFIN JAMAR



(From left) SPH Media chief operating officer Loh Yuh Yiing; sprinter Shanti Pereira, who received the Her World Young Woman Achiever 2024 award; and Her World editor-in-chief Elizabeth Lee at the awards ceremony.

and gold in the 200m – the first track and field gold medal for Singapore since 1974.

Ms Pereira also set a national record while preparing for the Paris Olympics, setting a time of 53.67 seconds in a 400m race at a track meet in Florida. She now holds the national record in all four sprint categories – 60m, 100m, 200m and 400m.

SPH Media called Ms Pereira "a role model for many young women and athletes in Singapore".

Expressing her gratitude for the recognition of her efforts to put Singapore track and field on the world map, she said: "I hope to continue inspiring young girls and women to never let anyone else determine their paths in life or stop them from chasing their dreams."

Both women received their awards at a ceremony on Oct 14 at the JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach that was also attended by Ms Jane Ittogi, spouse of President Tharman Shanmugaratnam.

The magazine's annual awards celebrate outstanding women in Singapore for the impact they have made in their fields and commun-

HONOURING THEIR HARD WORK

We celebrate them for their resilience, tenacity and the successes they have achieved through hard work and grit.



MS ELIZABETH LEE, editor-in-chief of Her World, on Justice Judith Prakash and national sprinter Shanti Pereira winning awards.

ity. This year, Her World also presented a new award to three women for their game-changing contributions to Singapore's technology sector.

Ms Elizabeth Lee, editor-in-chief of Her World, said: "As someone who has broken glass ceilings, Justice Judith Prakash is an inspiration, not just for those in the legal field, but also to all Singapore women. Our top athlete, Ms Shanti Pereira, has achieved record-breaking feats at home and overseas."

"We celebrate them for their resilience, tenacity and the successes they have achieved through hard work and grit."

tcaelyn@sph.com.sg