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The BMJ awards will be held on September 20, 2014 in New Delhi to celebrate the exceptional work being done by the healthcare community across India-right from the metros to the rural towns of the country.Â Ahead of that, the finalists in each category will be announced on September 05, 2014 and will do a final presentation to the jury, which will culminate in a gala awards ceremony in New Delhi. A specially convened senior judging panel will be the final arbiters of who wins a coveted trophy.

Talking anout the same, Mr Anand Ekambaram, managing director, BMJ India said, "The first phase I has received an overwhelming response for the nominations. India is home to extraordinary doctors and their teams, who have made tangible contributions to improving patient care and healthcare outcomes in arduous circumstances. We have seen this in 2011, when two winners at the BMJ Awards in the UK were from India. We hope to applaud stories of determination, vision, insight, and innovation in medicine across the country and hope this initiative goes a long way in providing recognition to the real heroes of healthcare in the country."

The winners will be announced at a lavish dinner before an audience of 500 of India's most senior doctors, healthcare professionals, top executives of healthcare industry, government officials, academicians, researchers and sponsors, according to the BMJ team.

The BMJ's India editor, Dr Anita Jain, said "The categories reflect BMJ's values and include awards for ground-breaking research, inspirational leaders and innovations to improve patient care. Our intention is to showcase knowledge, expertise, and practices that are helping to transform healthcare throughout rural as well as urban areas. Our judges will be looking for cutting edge achievements, ways in which challenges were overcome, and impact on health outcomes, with the expectation that these will serve as inspiration to the rest of the medical community in India and across the globe."

Healthcare dignitaries will present winners with a trophy and certificate, and proceedings will be overseen by a celebrity Bollywood host, whose identity is strictly under wraps until the big night.