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## **Birkha Bawari architect Mridul bags national award**



Jodhpur native Anu Mridul bagged the first position in the All India Stone Architecture Awards 2009.

Mridul bagged this award on the second day of the Stone Conference inaugurated by the Rajasthan chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. The award carries a cash prize of one lakh rupees, shield and citation. The jury included noteworthy luminaries from India and the abroad.

The recognition of Mridul at an all India platform prominently highlights the traditional 'Birkha Bawari' stone art flourishing in the environs of Jodhpur also known as gateway to the Thar desert. The competition had 29 architect participating from all over the country.

Terming the art of designing molded in the Birkha Bawari as 'timeless', the award jury felt it was an amalgamation of traditional knowledge and skilled artistry. Mridul bagged this award in the external category, while in the interior category the first prize was conferred on Gaurav Bhatnagar from Jaipur. The third category was of the commendation award bagged by a Pune architect.

Rajendra Pareek, Rajasthan minister for Industries graced the event as the chief guest. The award ceremony was organized at the SMS convention hall in Jaipur.