

GENERAL AWARENESS

New Navy Chief

Vice Admiral Karambir Singh has been appointed as the next Navy Chief. He will succeed Admiral Sunil Lanba who retires on 31st May 2019.

Karambir Singh is currently serving as the Flag Officer Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Naval Command. He is the recipient of Param Vishisht Seva Medal and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal also.

Lokpal

On 23rd March 2019, President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath of office to the former Supreme Court judge Pinaki Chandra Ghose as Lokpal chairperson.

Justice Ghose, the former Supreme Court judge, was on March 19th appointed as the country's first Lokpal, the anti-corruption ombudsman.

President also appointed four judicial members and four Non-Judicial members in Lokpal.

Goa New CM

On 19th March 2019, Pramod Sawant sworn in as the Chief Minister of Goa, after death of the ex-CM Manohar Parikkar.

He also passed the floor test in the legislative assembly by 20 to 15 votes, by taking the help of three MLAs each from the MGP (Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party) and the GFP (Goa Forward Party) and three independents.

World Consumer Rights Day

Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution, Government of India celebrated the World Consumer Rights Day 2019 with the theme "Trusted Smart Products" on 15th March 2019 at Vignyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

Justice RK Agrawal, President, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) mentioned about the need for a comprehensive approach to address all the key elements of the digital world, including data security, privacy, safety and grievance redressal including strengthening of the regulatory and supervisory framework.

Able Prize

The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has decided to award the Abel Prize for 2019 to Karen Keskulla Uhlenbeck of the University of Texas at Austin, USA for her pioneering achievements in geometric partial differential equations, gauge theory and integrable systems, and for the fundamental impact of her work on analysis, geometry and mathematical physics.

Able Prize often referred as the Nobel Prize of mathematics and his Majesty King Harald V of Norway will present the Abel Prize to the laureate at the award ceremony in Oslo on the 21st of May 2019.

SAFF Women's Championship

India lifted South Asian Football Federation SAFF Women's Championship fifth time in a row. India defeated Nepal in the final by 3-1 in Biratnagar, Nepal on 22nd March 2019.

Happiness Index

India ranked 140th among 156 nations on UN World Happiness report. The report ranks countries on six key variables that support well-being: income, freedom, trust, healthy life expectancy, social support and generosity.

India down by 7 ranks compare to previous year, where as Finland has been ranked as the happiest country in the world for the second year in succession, followed by Denmark, Norway, Iceland and the Netherlands. South Sudan got the bottom 156th rank.

The report was released by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations on March 20th, which was designated as the World Happiness Day by the UN General Assembly in 2012.

Special Olympics World Games

The Indian team of 284 athletes won 85 Gold, 154 silver and 129 bronze medals in Special Olympic Games conducted in Abu Dhabi.

The closing ceremony took place on 21st March 2019 at the Zayed Sports City Stadium where the Special Olympics flag was handed over from Abu Dhabi to Sweden as the hosts of the 2021 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

Special Olympics is a global inclusion movement using sport, health, education and leadership programs every day around the world to end discrimination against and empower people with intellectual disabilities.

Vyas Samman

Hindi writer Leeladhar Jagudi will be honoured with the Vyas Samman 2018 by the KK Birla Foundation for his collection of poems “Jitne Log Utne Prem”.

The Vyas Samman, started in 1991 is given to an “outstanding literary work” in Hindi, authored by an Indian citizen who has been published in the last decade.

Leeladhar compilation appears to be a collection of simple love poems, but deep within, it is also an attempt to get liberated from the stereotyped definition of love.

MODEL QUESTIONS

1. Sudin Dhavalikar and Vijai Sardesai appointed as the deputy Chief Ministers of..?
 - 1) Bihar
 - 2) Rajasthan
 - 3) UP
 - 4) Goa
 - 5) Maharashtra
2. Which nation decided to its capital Astana as Nursultan in honour of longtime ruler Nursultan Nazarbayev, a day after he resigned as president?
 - 1) Tajikistan
 - 2) Uzbekistan
 - 3) Kazakhstan
 - 4) Kyrgyzstan
 - 5) Mongolia
3. Which Brazilian physicist and astronomer was awarded with the 2019 Templeton Prize for his work blending science and spirituality?
 - 1) Greta Thunberg
 - 2) Kane Tanaka
 - 3) Marcelo Gleiser
 - 4) Arata Isozaki
 - 5) Mahesh Elkunchwar
4. The next winter Special Olympic Games are set to take place in 2021 in which nation?
 - 1) India
 - 2) USA
 - 3) UK
 - 4) Portugal
 - 5) Sweden

5. Election Commission of India has appointed transgender social activist.....as one of the 12 election ambassadors from Maharashtra.

1) Laxmi Narayan Tripathi

2) Sathyasri Sharmila

3) Joyita Mondal

4) Prithika Yashini

5) Gauri Sawant

6. Which day observed as world sparrow day?

1) 18th March

2) 25th March

3) 20th March

4) 26th March

5) 1st March

ANSWERS: 1-4; 2-3; 3-3; 4-5; 5-5; 6-3.

Writer: Amara Veeraswamy