

CURRENT AFFAIRS

M. Nageshwar Rao is the CBI interim director

The government of India removed CBI director Alok Verma from his post by appointing CBI joint director M. Nageshwar Rao as the interim chief of the agency.

CBI director Alok Verma was removed by the government following a tussle with special director Rakesh Asthana.

Supreme Court ordered the Central Vigilance Commission to complete the probe into the allegations against director Alok Verma and the investigation must be conducted under the supervision of retired Supreme Court judge A.K. Patnaik within 14 days. Meanwhile, Nageshwar Rao, who is the interim CBI director, has been restricted from taking any policy decisions.

M. Nageswar Rao hails from Telangana and received many awards and rewards including President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service.

No sale of Bharat Stage-IV vehicles across the country from 2020

On 24th October 2018, Supreme Court ruled that no Bharat Stage-IV vehicle shall be sold across the country with effect from 1st April 2020. The Bharat Stage VI (BS-VI) emission norm would come into force from 1st April 2020 across the country. Bharat stage emission standards are standards instituted by the government to regulate output of air pollutants from motor vehicles.

Supreme Court made it clear that only BS-VI compliant vehicle shall be sold in the country from 1st April 2020. In 2016, the Central government announced that the country would skip the BS-V norms altogether and adopt BS-VI norms by 2020.

Bharat Stage emission standards were set up by the Union Government to regulate the output of air pollutants from internal combustion engine equipment, including motor vehicles.

Swachh Survekshan Grameen Awards 2018

Swachh Survekshan Grameen Awards 2018 were given at the concluding session of Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave awards to top Ranked State, District and State with maximum citizen participation based on the National Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018. The awards were commissioned by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation had commissioned 'Swachh Survekshan Grameen-2018' (SSG 2018) through an independent survey agency to develop ranking of all districts of India on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation (Swachhata) parameters.

6786 villages in 685 Districts across India were covered, as part of Swachh Survekshan Grameen. Around 1,82,531 citizens were interviewed for their feedback in villages.

The top ranked States and Districts which received awards are as below

Overall Ranking

★ Top 3 States

- 1) Haryana
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) Maharashtra

★ **Top 3 Districts**

- 1) Satara, Maharashtra
- 2) Rewari, Haryana
- 3) Pedapalli, Telangana

★ **States with maximum citizen participation**

- 1) Uttar Pradesh
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) Maharashtra

★ **Districts with maximum citizens' participation**

- 1) Nashik, Maharashtra
- 2) Solapur, Maharashtra
- 3) Chittorgarh, Rajasthan

International Day for Disaster Reduction observed

International Day for Disaster Reduction 2018 observed globally on 13th October 2018.

UNO General Assembly through a resolution had designated the second Wednesday of October as International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction in 1989. On 21st December, 2009 the UNO General Assembly adopted a new resolution on in which it designated 13th October as the date to commemorate the Day and it also changed the day's name to International Day for Disaster Reduction.

The day observed to raise awareness of how people are taking action to reduce their risk to disasters.

The theme of the 2018 International Day for Disaster Reduction is "Reducing Disaster Economic Losses".

2018 theme continues as part of the "Sendai Seven" campaign, centered on the seven targets of the Sendai Framework. This year focuses on Target C of the Sendai Framework, which is, 'reducing disaster economic losses in relation to global GDP by 2030'.

In 2016, the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) launched the Sendai Seven campaign, which was centered on the seven targets of the Sendai Framework.

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 is the first major agreement of the post–2015 development agenda, with seven targets and four priorities for action.

The campaign seeks to create a wave of awareness about actions taken to reduce mortality around the world.

Seven targets of Sendai Framework are.....

- 1) Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030
- 2) Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030
- 3) Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030
- 4) Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services by 2030
- 5) Substantially increase the number of countries with disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020
- 6) Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries by 2030
- 7) Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems by 2030

National Award in the name of Subhash Chandra Bose

The Prime Minister announced an annual award in the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for police and paramilitary forces for commendable contributions in disaster relief operations.

The announcement came on the 75th anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's declaration of the formation of India's first independent government—the Azadi government on 21st October 1943. Modi said the award will be announced on 23rd January, the Netaji's birthday.

21st October observed as the Police Commemoration day and Prime Minister dedicated a Police memorial and museum at New Delhi. The memorial has been built in recognition of the supreme sacrifice made by police personnel since independence.

Vijay Hazare Trophy champion is Mumbai

2018–19 Vijay Hazare Trophy won by Mumbai team. The final match was held at M.Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru. Karnataka were the defending champion.

In the qualifier 2 match between Haryana and Delhi, Gautam Gambhir of Delhi team scored his 10,000 runs in List A Cricket. In the qualifier 3 match between Jharkhand and Maharashtra, the Jharkhand won by 8 Wickets as per VJD method.

This is Mumbai's third title and Aditya Tare of Mumbai team declared as the Player of the Match in finals.

MODEL QUESTIONS

- To advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance, Central Vigilance commission was established. Who is the present Central Vigilance Commissioner?
 - Om Prakash Rawat
 - Ranjan Gagoi
 - Radha Krishna Mathur
 - Urjith Patel
 - K.V.Chowdary
- Central Vigilance Commission declared which week as 'Vigilance Awareness Week'?
 - 1st November to 6th November
 - 7th November to 12th November
 - 29th October to 3rd November
 - 28th October to 2nd November
 - 1st October to 6th October
- BS–IV norms have been enforced across the country since April?
 - 2015
 - 2017
 - 2014
 - 2012
 - 2010
- Union Government reconstituted the Supreme Court–empowered Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority under the chairmanship of.....?
 - Bhure Lal
 - Vandana Shiva
 - Sunita Narain
 - Ashish Kothari
 - V.S. Vijayan
- International Conference on Status and Protection of Coral Reefs (STAPCOR – 2018) was held in.....?
 - Andhra Pradesh
 - Tamil nadu
 - Karnataka
 - Lakshadweep
 - Andaman Nicobar Islands

6. Which day celebrated as the Police Commemoration day?
1) 15th January 2) 4th December 3) 21st October 4) 8th October
5) 1st December
7. Which of the famous slogan given by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose?
1) Jai Jawan Jai Kisan 2) Simon Go Back
3) Chalo Delhi 4) Freedom is my birth Right
5) Jai Vignan
8. Mumbai team beaten which team to win Vijay Hazare trophy 2018-19?
1) Andhra 2) Hyderabad 3) Delhi 4) Nagaland
5) Karnataka
9. Which batsman did the highest number of runs in Vijay Hazare trophy recently?
1) Ambati Rayudu of Telengana 2) Hanuma Vihari of Andhra
3) Abhinav Mukund of Tamilnadu 4) Shreyas Iyer of Mumbai
5) Gautam Gambhir of Delhi
10. Most number of wickets (24) taken by Shahbaz Nadeem of.....in Vijay Hazare trophy 2018-19?
1) Tamil nadu 2) Andhra 3) Jharkhand 4) Railways
5) Karnataka
11. Union Minister for Drinking Water & Sanitation is.....?
1) Uma Bharati 2) D.V. Sadananda Gowda
3) Maneka Sanjay Gandhi 4) Ananthkumar
5) Jagat Prakash Nadda
12. Union Minister of State for Drinking Water & Sanitation is.....?
1) Ramesh Chandappa Jigajinagi 2) Kiren Rijiju
3) S.S. Ahluwalia 4) Dr. Mahesh Sharma
5) General (Retd.) V.K. Singh

KEY

1-5; 2-3; 3-2; 4-1; 5-4; 6-3; 7-3; 8-3; 9-3; 10-3; 11-1; 12-1.

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