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School of
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ASPIRANT'S CHOICE

Information is a Blessing

A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

International Ranger Award

NATIONAL NEWS

Jal Shakti Abhiyan campaign launched

- Prime Minister launched “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain” campaign on the World Water Day commenced on 22nd March.
- The theme of this campaign is “catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls”.
- It will be launched as a Jan Andolan to take water conservation at grass-root level through people’s participation.
- It will be implemented from 22nd March 2021 to 30th November, 2021 - the pre-monsoon and monsoon period in the country.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World Water Development Report

- United Nations World Water Development Report was recently published by UNESCO during the World Water Day.
- According to the report, built water reservoir capacity per person is decreasing globally as reservoir expansion has not been able to keep pace with population growth.
- The headquarters of UNESCO is located in Paris, France.

MISCELLENEOUS

Volcanic Mount Fagradalsfjall erupted

- This long-dormant Icelandic volcano - Fagradalsfjall erupted after hundreds of years.
- Fagradalsfjall is in the Reykjanes peninsula located in the southwest of Iceland.

PRIZES & AWARDS

Gandhi Peace Prize

- The Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2020 is being conferred on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
- The Gandhi Peace Prize is an annual award instituted by Government of India since 1995, the 125th Birth Anniversary commemoration year of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The award carries an amount of Rs. 1 crore, a citation, a plaque and an exquisite traditional handicraft/ handloom item.

International Ranger Award

- Mahinder Giri, range officer of Rajaji Tiger Reserve, won the prestigious International Ranger Award for his contribution towards conservation.
- He is the only ranger from Asia to receive this award.
- The award is given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature in collaboration with International Ranger Federation, Global Wildlife Conservation and Conservation allies.
- This award was instituted in 2020 to highlight and felicitate the extraordinary work that rangers do in protected and conserved areas worldwide.

ORBITUARY

Music director P.J. Lipson

- Music director P.J. Lipson passed away at the age of 62.
- He was noted for composing and arranging Christian devotional songs and his album 'Pushpanjali' had achieved much popularity.
- He composed the hymns for the Mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II when he visited Kochi in 1986.

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