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30th August 2019

Topic:- Award

News:- It is a matter of happiness that Ajay Thakur, son of Devbhoomi Himachal and captain of the Indian Kabaddi Team, was conferred the Arjuna Award by President Shri Ram Nath Kovind Ji today.

Name of Sportsman:-

▪ Ajay Thakur

Sports:-

▪ Kabaddi

Award:-

▪ Arjun Award.

What is Arjun Award?

- The Arjuna Award was instituted in 1961 as the highest national recognition for outstanding performance in Sports and Games in the Olympics, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, World Cup, World Championship disciplines and Cricket.
- As per the revised scheme from April 2002, the objective of Arjuna Awards is to recognize outstanding performance of sportspersons, at international level only.

NUMBER OF ARJUNA AWARDS TO BE GIVEN IN A YEAR:-

- Ordinarily, not more than one award will be given in each discipline in a particular year subject to deserving sportspersons being available. However, at least one award is to be given exclusively for sports for physically challenged. Further, the principle of one award per
- discipline may be relaxed in case of team sports and across gender. That is to say that, the Selection Committee may recommend, in deserving cases with proper justification, more than one sportsperson in respect of team sports and sportspersons of both the genders.

General information:-

- The Award consists of a statuette, a certificate, ceremonial dress, and a Cash award of Rs. 5.00 lakh which will be presented to the winners in a function to be held at a place and on a date to be decided by the Government of India.
- No Award will be made for a second time to the same person.
- The Award may be given posthumously if such an occasion

arises.

(Source:- The Tribune & Government website)

Topic:-Polity

News:- Freedom Bill of religion-2019 passed in the Himachal Pradesh assembly house.

Context:-The Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed a Bill against conversion by force, inducement or through marriages solemnised for the “sole purpose” of adopting a new religion.

Main Reason:-

- Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur said new stringent legislation was required as “forced conversion”, especially in Rampur and Kinnaur, was “on the rise.”

Any law before this?

- Yes, the Bill seeks to replace the Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, 2006, which is on similar lines. The new Bill proposes stringent punishments – up to seven years in jail compared to the three years under the existing law.
- The Bill prohibits conversion by misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, inducement, marriage

or any fraudulent means. Any marriage for the sole purpose of conversion will also be declared null and void under Section 5 of the Bill.

Why not amendment, why New Bill?

- Mr Thakur said the 13-year old act was not so effective. The government decided to bring new legislation instead of amending the already-existing Act as it has only eight sections and it would have not better to add about 10 more sections to it.

Can anyone convert willingly?

- As per the Bill, anyone seeking to convert will need to give a month's notice to the district magistrate, stating that the person is converting on his/her own. The provision figured in the 2006 law as well and was challenged in court.
- The priest who performs a conversion ceremony will also give a month's notice in advance. Those reconverting to their "parent religion" are exempted from this provision.

Any other provision:-

- According to the new Bill, if Dalits, women or minors were made to convert, the jail term will be between two-seven years.
- Section 10 of the Bill states that no person or organisation violating the provisions will be allowed to accept any donation or contribution of any kind from within or outside the country.

(Source:- The Hindu)

Topic:- Temple

News:-Now, more facilities for Bajreshwari devotees.

Where is Bajreshwari temple located?

- The Shree Vajreshwari Mata Mandir also known as Kangra Devi Mandir is a Hindu temple dedicated to the goddess Vajreshvari, a form of Durga located in the town Kangra, in Himachal Pradesh, India.

History

- It is said that the temple was not known as Bajreshwari Devi Temple when for the first time it was built. According to the history of this region, the temple was attacked by Mohammad Ghazni, the notorious invader and ruined in 1009. Later, the temple was reconstructed. It is in 1905, the temple got destroyed by a devastating earthquake. The temple is reopened to the public in 1920. The temple of Bajreshwari Devi is one of the few remaining temples from the glorious past of Kangra.

Architecture style:-

- It has also been built as per the Shikhara style of architecture.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Topic:- Award

News:-Award for the social justice department.

The Women and Child Development Directorate under the State Social Justice and Empowerment Department has been conferred with the Skoch Order-of-Merit Award-2019

Why?

- For its outstanding performance in skill development and providing jobs to the orphan and abandoned children in childcare institutes.

(Source:- The Tribune)

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QUIZ: -

Question 1:- Ajay Thakur, was conferred the Arjuna Award by President for which sports?

1. Kabaddi
2. Volleyball
3. Badminton

4. None

Question 2:- Where is Bajreshwari temple located?

1. Kangra
2. Chamba
3. Kullu
4. Solan

Question 3:-:- Freedom Bill of religion-2019 passed in the Himachal Pradesh assembly house, the Bill seeks to replace the Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act of which year?

1. 2002
2. 2004
3. 2006
4. 2008

Answers:-

- Q1:-1
- Q2:-1
- Q3:-3

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