

SHIVANGI SINGH

Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh is set to become India's first woman fighter pilot to fly the Rafale aircraft that was formally inducted into the Indian Air Force on September 10.



About:

Shivangi Singh, who hails from Varanasi, is currently being trained to fly IAF's newest fighter based in Ambala. She is undergoing conversion training to fly the Rafale jet and will soon join the Ambala-based No. 17 squadron, also known

as "Golden Arrows."

- The officer, who is one of IAF's 10 women fighter pilots, joined the air force in 2017. After joining IAF, she has been flying the MiG-21 Bison aircraft.

Important Info :

Flight Lieutenants Avani Chaturvedi, Bhawana Kanth and Mohana Singh were the first women to be commissioned as flying officers into the IAF fighter stream after basic training in June 2016.

They broke the glass ceiling of the long-standing combat-exclusion policy for women in the Indian armed forces.

YAMIN HAZARIKA AWARD



Historian-author Rana Safvi has been conferred Yamin Hazarika award, an award instituted in memory of Yamin Hazarika, the first woman from the Northeast to join the central police service.

About:

Rana Safvi, who has published several books on culture, history, and monuments of India, was

chosen for her "contribution to the syncretic culture of India".

The award is given every year by a collective of women professionals since 2015.



Previous winners are author Indrani Raimedhi, athlete Tayabun Nisha, actor Moloya Goswami, environmental activist Purnima Devi Barman and social activist Hasina Kharbhih.

Yamin Hazarika?

Hailing from Assam, Yamin Hazarika was selected for the NCT of Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Police service (DANIPS) in 1977.

She held the post of assistant commissioner of Police in Chanakyapuri (Delhi) and went on to become deputy commissioner of police (Crime against Women Cell) in the national capital.

In 1998, she was posted in Bosnia as part of the UN peacekeeping force. But she succumbed to cancer at the age of 43 in 1999.

NOBEL PRIZE

Winners of the prestigious Nobel prizes this year will receive an extra 1 million crowns (\$110,000), the head of the foundation which oversees the awards said. Prize money will increase to 10 million crowns this year.



About:

Dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel left around 31 million crowns - about 1.8 billion crowns in today's money according to the Foundation - to fund the prizes, which have been awarded since 1901.

The prize amount has varied over time, starting at 150,000 crowns and reaching 1 million crowns in 1981. The value rose sharply in the 1980s and 1990s, jumping to 9 million crowns in 2000 and 10 million a year later.

- But the global credit crunch of 2008-9 hit the Foundation's investments. The prize money was cut to 8 million crowns in 2012 only to rise again to 9 million in 2017.

Important Info :

The Nobel Foundation is a private institution founded in 1900 to manage the finances and administration of the Nobel Prizes. The Foundation is based on the last will of Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite. It is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.



BARBADOS



Queen Elizabeth II, who is the head of state in the UK and 15 other Commonwealth realms, including Canada, Australia and New Zealand, will be dropped as monarch by Barbados next year.

About:

The Caribbean nation aims to complete the process of becoming a republic before its 55th anniversary of independence from Britain, in November 2021.

With this, it will become the first country in almost three decades to sever ties with the British royal family and become a republic; Mauritius being the last to do so in 1992.

Barbados, a former British colony, gained its independence in 1966. Although it is an independent state, Queen Elizabeth remains its constitutional head, as did other self-governing Commonwealth nations such as Canada and Australia.

The Caribbean nation is, however, expected to remain a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, the 54-nation club of mostly former British colonies which is led by the queen, and includes India.

Its current Prime Minister is Mia Mottley, who is the first woman to hold the post in the nation. She was elected in 2018.

WORLD MARITIME DAY



World Maritime Day 2020 was observed 24 September under the Theme “Sustainable Shipping for a Sustainable Planet.”

About:

World Maritime Day is observed on September 24 to mark the contribution of international maritime industries towards the economy of the world especially shipping.

- Every year the International Maritime Organization (IMO) celebrates World Maritime Day.
- It is usually celebrated during the last week in September, generally the last Thursday of the month.

Successful flight-tests of Abhyas High-speed Expendable Aerial Target conducted

Recently, successful flight-tests of the indigenously-designed Abhyas High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) in Balasore (Odisha) were conducted.

Conducted by: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Designed and developed by: Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of DRDO



Two demonstrator vehicles of Abhyas cleared all the evaluation parameters like 5 km flying altitude, vehicle speed of 0.5 mach (half the speed of sound), endurance of 30 minutes etc.

Important value additions

Abhyas High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT)

It is a drone (UAV) that will be used as

a target for various missile systems.

It is powered by a small gas turbine engine.

Navigation by: Micro-electromechanical (MEMS) systems based Inertial Navigation System (INS).

It is lightweight and reliable, consumes less power and is cost-effective.

It is programmed for fully autonomous flight.

PASSEX

The Indian and the Australian navies are undertaking Passage Exercise or PASSEX exercises on September 23-24 in the Indian Ocean. From the Indian side, Indian Naval Ships Sahyadri and Karmuk will be present and Australia will be represented by HMAS Hobart.

PASSEXs are regularly conducted by the Indian Navy with units of friendly foreign navies.

Australia is the third country, since June, with which India has conducted the exercises.

The first was with US Navy's USS Nimitz and the second was the Russian Navy.

YuWaah Platform launched

Recently, the Government has launched YuWaah.

It is a multi-stakeholder platform to make young people career ready.

Launched by: The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

A 'Statement of Intent' has also been signed to establish Generation Unlimited in India (YuWaah).

Objectives of YuWaah

- Providing career guidance support to young people through career portal.
- Job-readiness and self-exploration sessions to make young people career-ready.
- Supporting young people by providing entrepreneurship classes with successful entrepreneurs and experts.
- Creating linkages with aspirational economic opportunities to connect young people with jobs or self-employment. For this, innovative solutions and technology platforms will be engaged to maximize the scale and reach.
- Upskilling young people on 21st century skills, life skills, digital skills and supporting them through self-learning, for their productive lives and the future of work.



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