

**18<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2019**

### **Devesh Srivastava takes charge as CMD of General Insurance Corporation of India**



**Devesh Srivastava** on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec took charge as the **Chairman and Managing director** of **General Insurance Corporation of India**.

His name was recommended by Banks Board Bureau in August this year, and the government issued notification for his appointment on Tuesday.

Srivastava, a direct recruit officer of 1987 batch, began his career with Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. Subsequently, his services were transferred to GIC in 1999.

He holds a post graduate degree in Physics.

### **India has become the world's third largest publisher of science and engineering articles**

**India** has become the **world's third largest publisher** of science and engineering articles, according to a US government agency data, **topped by China**.

As per the statistics compiled by the **US National Science Foundation (NSF)**, the number of scientific papers published worldwide increased from 1,755,850 in 2008 to 2,555,959 in 2018.

The data, which was released on Tuesday, stated that in 2008, India published 48,998 science and engineering articles. This increased to 1,35,788 articles in 2018 at an average annual growth rate of 10.73 per cent and the country now accounts for 5.31 per cent of the total world publications in science and engineering.

China, which accounts for 20.67 per cent of all global publications in scientific articles, is at the top position, followed by the US at 16.54 per cent.

The other countries which made it to the top 10 list are Germany (1,04,396), Japan (98,793), UK (97,681), Russia (81,579), Italy (71,240), South Korea (66,376) and France (66,352).

### **40% Indian women fear online trolls as they access Internet: Nielson report**

While education and career development are top priorities for women Internet users in India, **40 percent** of them fear irrelevant comments, being trolled and followed on smartphones which has become a preferred choice for them to remain online.

While **44 percent** of women in Indian metros access online content in English to improve their soft skills and stay "job-ready," this focus is sharper among younger women between the 18-23 age group, said the the Verizon Media survey conducted by Nielsen with 1,300 respondents in 12 cities.

Across locations, younger women were found to access more content related to education, career growth and skill development, while older women between 29-35 years of age accessed more online video content related to personal well-being.

The internet is empowering a new breed of Indian women who are coming online and preparing to take their place in the workforce. The right platform and support as a community will enable greater inclusion, boosting participation of Indian women at the workplace.

## Current Affairs

### India-US 2+2 ministerial dialogue in Washington

**India-US 2+2 ministerial dialogue** is scheduled to take place in **Washington** on **18<sup>th</sup> December** where the two countries are likely to exchange views on salient regional and global issues.

US State Department will be hosting the second annual US-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue led by **Secretary of State Mike Pompeo** and **Secretary of Defence, Mark Esper** with their Indian counterparts, **Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar** and **Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh**.

### Navy chief will visit Sri Lanka to bolster maritime ties

**Indian Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh** will leave for **Sri Lanka** on Thursday on a **four-day visit** to "**consolidate and enhance**" the bilateral maritime relations between the two countries.

The visit of the Indian Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) comes a month after newly-elected Sri Lankan President Gotabhaya Rajapaksa came to India.

Singh will hold bilateral discussions with Vice Admiral Piyal De Silva, Commander of Sri Lanka Navy.

The Karambir Singh will also take part as the chief guest during the commissioning and passing out parade of the '**60th Intake Midshipmen**' scheduled to be conducted at the **Naval Maritime Academy, Trincomalee, on December 22**.

### December 18: International Migrants Day

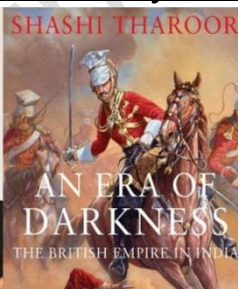
Each year on **December 18**, the United Nations, through the UN-related agency International Organization for Migration (UN Migration), uses **International Migrants Day** to highlight the contributions made by the roughly 272 million migrants, including more than 41 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and the challenges they face.

All migrants are entitled to the equal protection of their dignity and human rights.

**The theme of International Migrants Day 2019 is "Social cohesion, Celebrating the integration of migrants into communities around the world."**

On International Migrants Day, we stand strong in our unequivocal commitment to respect and protect the dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants as well as to ensure that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and well-managed way.

### Shashi Tharoor wins Sahitya Akademi Award 2019 for "An Era of Darkness"



Indian politician, writer and Congress party member **Shashi Tharoor** won the **Sahitya Akademi Award 2019**. The Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Thiruvananthapuram won the prestigious award for his book "**An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India**". The book was published in 2016.

He won for his work in creative non-fiction in English language.

Shashi Tharoor's book talks about the effect of British rule in India and how the colonizers exploited the country.

**Tharoor** is also the author of many bestsellers like "**Why I Am A Hindu**", "**Paradoxical Prime Minister**" and "**Inglorious Empire**".

### Sahitya Akademi Award Winners List 2019

**Sahitya Akademi Award** is a literary honor in India which **Sahitya Akademi, India's**

## Current Affairs

**National Academy of Letters**, annually confers on writers of **outstanding works** in one of the **twenty-four major Indian languages**.

Sahitya Akademi, India's national academy of letters, announced a list of 22 winners of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar and 23 recipients of the Yuva Puraskar for 2019.

### BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR AWARD 2019

Language	Title and Genre	Author
Assamese	Mili, Amia Aru Ekhon Nadi (Stories)	Swmim Nasrin
Bengali	Total Contribution	Nabanita Debsen
Bodo	Solobatha Khwnasong De (Folk Tales)	Lakhminath Brahma
Dogri	Larjaan (poetry)	Vijay Sharma
English	India Through Archaeology: Excavating History (History)	Devika Cariapa
Gujarati	Total Contribution	Kumarpal Desai
Hindi	Kachu Ki Topi (Stories)	Govind Sharma
Kannada	Kadu Kanasina Beedige (Novel)	Chandrakanth Karadalli
Kashmiri	Shurin Hund Naji (Poetry)	Naji Munauwar
Konkani	Chitkulya Chinkichye Vishaal Vishwa (Stories)	Rajashree Bandodkar Karapurkar
Malayalam	Total Contribution	Malayath Appunni
Manipuri	Thawaishinggi Thawai (Play)	R.K. Sanahanbi Chanu
Marathi	Jangal Khajinyacha Shodh (Novel)	Salim Sardar Mulla
Nepali	Chara Ko Chirbir Bhura ko Kirkir (Poetry)	Bhabilal Lamichhane
Odia	Total Contribution	Birendra Kumar Samantray
Punjabi	Aliens Di Dharti Te (Novel)	Pawan Harchandpuri
Sanskrit	Chitva Trinam Trinam (Poetry)	Sanjay Chaubey
Santali	Jharumjhag (Poetry)	Lakshman Chandra Saren
Sindhi	Total Contribution	Veena Shringi
Tamil	Total Contribution	Devi Nachiappan (Deivanai)
Telugu	Thatha Maata Varaala Moota (Short Stories)	Belagam Bheemeswara Rao
Urdu	Science ke Dilchasp Mazameen (Stories)	Mohammad Khalil

## Current Affairs

### YUVA PURASKAR AWARD 2019

Language	Title and Genre	Author
Assamese	Ei Pine Ki Ase ?(Short Story)	Sanjib Pol Deka
Bengali	Kuntal Fire Ase(Novel)	Moumita
Bodo	Sansri Arw Mwndangthini Mwkhang(Poetry)	Rujab Muchahary
Dogri	Sees(Short Story)	Sunil Kumar
English	Diwali in Muzaffarnagar(Short Story)	Tanuj Solanki
Gujarati	Retino Manas(Short Story)	Ajay Soni
Hindi	Baagh Aur Sugna Munda Ki Beti(Poetry)	Anuj Lugun
Kannada	Beru(Novel)	Fakeer (Shridhar Banvasi G.C.)
Kashmiri	Thaer Angnech(Poetry)	Sagar Nazir
Konkani	Kathaakar(Short Story)	Hemant Aiya
Malayalam	Amma Urangunnilla(Poetry)	Anuja Akathoottu
Manipuri	Canvasta Tarakpa Pirangna(Poetry)	Jiten Oinamba
Marathi	Shahar Atmahatya Karaycha Mhantay(Poetry)	Sushil Kumar Shinde
Nepali	Charkiyeko Bhui(Poetry)	Karna Biraha
Odia	Bimugdha Uccharana(Literary Criticism)	Sisira Behera
Punjabi	Waqat Beeteya Nahi(Novel)	Yadwinder Singh Sandhu
Rajasthani	Saglaan Ro Seer(Short Story)	Keerti Parihar
Sanskrit	Vagvilasini(Poetry)	Yuvraj Bhattarai
Santali	Jarpi Disomrin Manmi(Poetry)	Guhiram Kisku
Sindhi	Anmol Rishta(Poetry)	Kiran Paryani 'Anmol'
Tamil	Vaal(Tail)(Poetry)	Sabarinathan
Telugu	Kongavalu Kathi(Novel)	Gaddam Mohan Rao
Urdu	LaC Ke Lahoo(Novel)	Salman Abdus Samad

### **CBI officer wins 'India Cyber Cop of the Year' award**

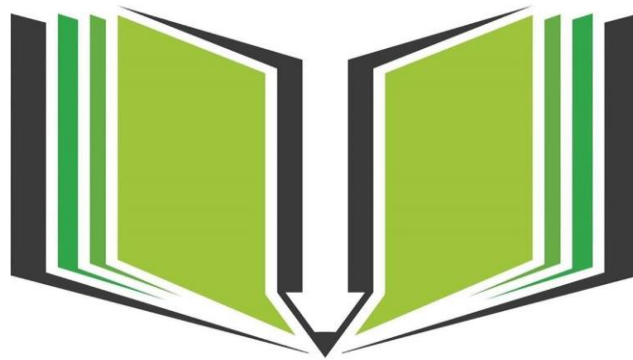


CBI officer **B P Raju** has won the '**India Cyber Cop of the Year 2019**' award by NASSCOM-DSCI for cracking a **fraud case in an online entrance exam** conducted by an engineering college in **Rajasthan**.

The award was given to Raju by Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ajay Prakash Sawhney, during the annual Information Security Summit held at Gurgaon.

Raju had investigated the case and exposed the fraud in the online entrance examination. The investigation team headed by B P Raju, arrested nine accused persons and collected incriminating evidence from digital devices, which revealed the modus operandi adapted by the accused. The investigation was also completed within the stipulated time period.

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