Ig Nobel prize

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Awards

Why in news?

Two engineers from India win 35th annual Ig Nobel Prize awards for engineering design.

- **Aim-** The Ig Nobel Prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honor the imaginative and stimulate people's interest in science, medicine, and technology.
- It is ***awarded annually***.
- **Created in -** 1991 by Marc Abrahams, editor of the science humor magazine *Annals of Improbable Research (AIR).*
- **Motto** — "First make people laugh, and then make them think".
- **Organized by -** The scientific humor magazine "***Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)"***
- **Categories - *10 prizes*** are awarded in many categories - Physics, chemistry, physiology/medicine, literature, economics, peace, public health, engineering, biology, and interdisciplinary research.
- The 2025 ceremony, ***held virtually*** from Harvard University's Sanders Theatre, USA.
- **Ig Nobel prize, 2025** – In ***engineering design*** category - ***Vikash Kumar and Sarthak Mittal*** (22nd for India).
    - **Reason -** For analyzing, from an engineering design perspective, how foul-smelling shoes affect the good experience of using a shoe-rack.
- **In 2022** - An international team from India, China, Malaysia, and the US won the ***mechanical engineering prize*** "for re-animating dead spiders to use as mechanical gripping tools".
- **In 2020** - ***India and Pakistan*** had shared the ***peace prize*** "for having their diplomats surreptitiously ring each other's doorbells in the middle of the night, and then run away before anyone had a chance to answer the door".

References

1. The Hindu | Ig Nobel prize
2. Improbable Research | Ig Nobel prize

