Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Awards*

Why in News?

Recently, nominations for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP), has been opened.

- It is ***India's highest civilian honour*** for children.
- **Purpose –** Encourages children to strive for excellence beyond academics, including personal conduct and social contribution.
- **Conferred by** – President of India on Veer Bal Diwas (26th December) ***annually.***

  Veer Bal Diwas *links contemporary youth excellence with the legacy of Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh, sons of Guru Gobind Singh, martyred at ages 9 and 7 in 1704.*

- **Commenced in –** 2019.
- **6 Categories –** Bravery, Social Service, Environment, Sports, Art and Culture, and Science & Technology.

Eligibility

- **Age –** 5 to 18 years (as on July 31 of award year).
- **Citizenship –** Must be Indian citizen and resident.
- **Condition –** Achievement must have occurred within 2 years of nomination deadline.
- **Nomination –** By individuals, institutions, self-nomination, or recommendations from government authorities (Ministers, CMs, Governors, MPs, District Magistrates, etc.).
  - **Exclusion –** Not conferred posthumously, except in rare cases.

Selection Process

- **Committee** – Chaired by the *Secretary of Ministry of Women and Child Development, along with domain experts.*
- **Final approval** – The *Union Minister for Women and Child Development.*
- **Award Components – *Medal, Certificate, Citation*** presented by the President of India.
    - Awards must be received in person; in posthumous cases, guardians may accept.

Reference

PIB | PMRBP