

DATE: 17/11/2018

Saturday

CURRENT AFFAIRS

SOURCE: THE HINDU and Indian Express

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1. Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal withdraw 'General Consent' to CBI
  - Andhra Pradesh withdrew the 'general consent' granted to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
  - The CBI and all agencies under the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946, will now have to approach the State government for permission on a case-by-case basis.
  - The general consent was routinely given for periods ranging from six months to a year for several years from now. The last such consent was given on August 3, 2018.
  - West Bengal government also decided to withdraw the 'general consent,' a senior official at the State secretariat in Kolkata said. The consent had been accorded to the CBI by the then Left Front government in 1989.

#### ABOUT CBI

- CBI stands for Central Bureau of Investigation.
  - Its headquarter is at Delhi.
  - The Special Police Establishment (SPE) was set up in 1941 by the Government of India.
  - The Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (DSPEA) was brought into force in 1946. The SPE thus became DSPEA.
  - The DSPE acquired its name, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), through a Home Ministry resolution in 1963.
  - The founder director of the CBI was Shri D.P. Kohli.
  - CBI is a non-constitutional and non-statutory body.
  - It is under administrative control of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Ministry of Personnel.
2. Ashim Kumar Roy was appointed as the new Lokayukta of West Bengal
    - He will occupy the office for three year from now.
    - He is the second Lokayukta for West Bengal after Samaresh Banerjee.
    - There has been no Lokayukta in the state since 2009.
    - Justice Roy is presently serving as chairperson of the West Bengal Clinical Establishment Regulatory Commission (WBCERC).
    - Justice Soumitra Roy will be the new chairman of WBCERC.
    - WBCERC is a statutory body that looks into irregularities in clinical establishments of the State.
    - The West Bengal Assembly had passed the Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 2018, keeping the Chief Minister out of its purview in matters relating to public order.
    - Recruitment of police, deployment of forces and any other emergency situations would be regarded as public order.

- The legislation allows the Lokayukta to investigate matters relating to the CM on the remaining 58 subjects under the State List with the approval of two third of the members of the Assembly present and voting.(there are 59 subjects in the State List)
3. Kg gets a new definition
- For more than a century, the kilogram had been defined as the mass of a cylinder of platinum-iridium alloy kept in a high security vault in France.
  - That artefact was nicknamed 'Le Grand K'.
  - Now the Kilogram will be defined in terms of a small but unchanging value "Planck Constant".

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