National Florence Nightingale Awards

Published On: 08-11-2022

Why is in news? President of India Presents National Florence Nightingale Awards 2021

The National Florence Nightingale Awards were instituted in the year **1973** by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

To a mark of recognition for the **meritorious services rendered by the nurses and nursing professionals** to the society.

It is the highest national distinction a nurse can achieve for selfless devotion and exceptional professionalism.

<u>**Florence Nightingale**</u>:

Florence Nightingale (12 May 1820 – 13 August 1910) was an **English social reformer, statistician and the founder of modern nursing.**

Nightingale came to prominence while serving as a manager and trainer of nurses during the Crimean War, in which she organised care for wounded soldiers at Constantinople.

She significantly reduced death rates by improving hygiene and living standards.

In recognition of her pioneering work in nursing, the **Nightingale Pledge** taken by new nurses, and **the Florence Nightingale Medal**, the highest international distinction a nurse can achieve, were named in her honour, and the annual **International Nurses Day** is celebrated on her birthday.

Her social reforms included improving healthcare for all sections of British society, advocating better hunger relief in India, **helping to abolish prostitution laws** that were harsh for women, and expanding the acceptable forms of female participation in the workforce.