

12 April 2021

PRESS RELEASE

PROVISIONAL RESULTS: "FLASH TRUTHS – TAKING INDIA'S PULSE"

The Panel of Judges has concluded its assessment of Entries submitted to the nano-Essay Competition held by DownloadingMyMind (DMM) in association with South Asia Monitor (SAM). The *Provisional Winners* of the DMM prizes are:

2nd Prize: INR25000 Dhruv Raman: **Untitled**
2nd Prize: INR25000 Aizen Sama: **Indian Pickle - The Ancient Spirit of Indian Everyday Gourmet**
3rd Prize: INR15000 Neha Negi: **Untitled**
3rd Prize: INR15000 Arijit Goswami: **Untitled**
3rd Prize: INR15000 Lipokmenla AO: **Untitled**
3rd Prize: INR15000 Spandan Pandya: **Indian Life**
3rd Prize: INR15000 Shivani Singh: **A Full Stop to Her Hope**

Also, DMM has decided to award a Special Prize (INR15000) to Atul Sharma for the (**Untitled**) Essay on the LGBT community-related existence in Indian Life.

This 300 word nano - Essay Competition open to all people of Indian origin anywhere was a 'street-level' contest in contrast with stratospheric academic exercises – the first such held in India. The response was overwhelming. Several Essays addressed original ideas. However, we must acknowledge that many entries did not meet the essay Guidelines, which restricted the scope for awarding the prize money. The unawarded moneys will be carried forward to the next edition of the Competition in January 2022.

The organisers will contact all *Provisional Winners* to verify their identity and authenticity of authorship. Where necessary, we will consult them to amend grammar, spelling and punctuation, and to provide essay titles before publication on DMM and SAM sites. We will transfer Prize money directly to their bank accounts.

The Judges and the Organisers congratulate the provisional winners of this Inaugural nano – Essay Competition. We hope you will participate again in its second edition next year.



Anjolie Ela Menon

is one of India's leading contemporary artists. She is best known for her religious-themed works and portraits. She has held solo exhibitions of her works extensively in India and abroad. Menon has also represented India at international Art Competitions and Shows. She was awarded the Padma Shri in 2000.



John McCarthy AO

was Australia's Ambassador to Vietnam, Mexico, Thailand, Syria, the United States, Indonesia, Japan, and High Commissioner to India. He has also served as Chair of the Australia-India Council, Deputy Chair of the Australia- India Institute, and Chair of the Advisory Board of the Griffith Asia Institute



Commodore C. Uday Bhaskar

is Director of the Society for Policy Studies (SPS), an independent think tank based in New Delhi. He was Director of IDSA and the National Maritime Foundation. He is a well-known columnist, editor, and contributor on nuclear and international security issues to reputed journals and media in India and abroad.