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Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace for 2021

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Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace for 2021

Recently, **Pratham**, a civil society organisation has been conferred the **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2021**.

- Pratham is **dedicated to improving the quality of education** among underprivileged children in India and across the world.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development was **instituted in the memory of the former prime minister by a trust**(Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust) **in her name in 1986**.
 - It consists of **a monetary award of Rs 25 lakh along with a citation**.
 - The award is given **to individuals or organisations** who work towards ensuring international peace and development, ensuring that scientific discoveries are used to further the scope of freedom and better humanity, and creating a new international economic order.
- **Pratham:**
 - **About: Set up in 1995**, Pratham began its work in slum areas by setting up community-based pre-schools and by offering remedial education to students who lagged behind in their classes.
 - Its **Annual Status of Education Report (ASER)**, based on surveying 6,00,000 rural Indian children, is now used as a model to assess education outcomes and learning deficiencies in 14 countries over three continents.
 - To respond to the concerns raised by ASER, in 2007 **Pratham launched its flagship programme, Read India**, which aims to improve children's learning by strengthening basic reading and arithmetic.
- **Awarded For:** Pratham was **awarded for its pioneering work over more than a quarter century** in seeking to ensure that every child has access to quality education, for its innovative use of digital technology to deliver education, for its programmes to provide skills to young adults, for its regular evaluation of the quality of education, and for its timely response in enabling children to learn during the Covid-19 related school closures.