

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, CHANDIGARH
PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION ON THE THEME "CHANDIGARH IN APRIL"
GENERAL RODRIGUES FAVOURS EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PROFESSIONAL
AND CREATIVE VENTURES

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 23: Giving a new boost to My Chandigarh Campaign and to make Chandigarh a truly modern City, the Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM, said that we have initiated the process of preparing a theme song for Chandigarh, keeping in view its unique feature and distinctive place in the Country. He said that a new book entitled "Moods of Sukhna" is also being brought out soon, to highlight the beautify of this tourist spot.

Addressing a gathering of academia, professionals in the field of art and photography on the occasion of prize distribution function of the photography competition on the theme "Chandigarh in April" organized by Department of Tourism and Museum & Art Gallery, here today, General Rodrigues said that we have undertaken an Action Oriented Approach for retaining the distinctive character of the City and various plans are in the process of implementation to place Chandigarh on the global tourism map through partnerships. He said that Chandigarh will soon have an aquatic park and a world class aquarium. He said that various innovative steps are being taken for boosting its image as a preferred tourist destination.

Stressing the need for enhancing the participation of women in photography and artistic endeavours, General Rodrigues said that more holistic programmes must be evolved to encourage them to actively join in these professional and creative ventures. Giving his comments in the visitor book after seeing the photography exhibition "Chandigarh in April", General Rodrigues mentioned "A remarkable collection --- unfortunately with very little work by the fair sex! Can we have another competition, on the monsoon, only for the ladies?"

Accompanied by Home Secretary, Mr. Krishna Mohan and other senior officers of the Administration General Rodrigues went round the exhibits and appreciated the art works.

Mr. V.N. Singh, Director Museum and Art Gallery in his welcome address elaborated the theme of the exhibition "Chandigarh in April" and said that the month of April (Chaitra and Vaisakha) is the month of abundance and joy. It is also beginning of the summer season in our country and Baisakhi festival falls in this month. He said that 115 entries by 35 professionals & amateurs were selected for competition and put on display.

Mr. Vivek Attray, Director Tourism, while speaking on the occasion said that this competition has been organized as part of the series of initiatives taken by the Chandigarh Administration for the promotion of Tourism in the Union Territory, Chandigarh.

In the category of Amateur Photographers, Mr. Randeep Singh won first prize, Mr. Bhim malhotra and Dr. Shubh Mohan shared second prize and Dr. Sandeep S. Chhatwal & Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Sharma shared third prize. Besides this Satya Saroj, Dr. VD Singh, Plastic Surgeon, Mr. Gurpreet Singh, Mr. Rupinder Singh, Mr. Sarvesh Kumar and Mr. Anil Kumar were given consolation prizes.

In the category of professionals, no photography work was selected for first prize whereas Sh. Surinder M. Dhama got second prize, Mr. Jai Pal Singh and Mr. Kamleshwar Singh shared third prize. The consolation prize were given to Mr. Sunil Sharma, Mr. K. Sethi and Mr. Vinay Malik. A Jury of three professionals including Mr. Rajneesh Vats, Principal Chandigarh college of Architecture, Mr. Brahm Parkash, Principal Government College of Arts selected the photography works for prizes.