Sakharov prize

October 23, 2021

In news- Recently, ALexi Navlny, a jailed Russian opposition politician received the EU's top Human rights award- Sakharov Prize.

About Sakharov Prize-

- The **Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought,** commonly known as the Sakharov Prize is an **honorary award for individuals or groups** who have dedicated their lives to the defence of human rights and freedom of thought.
- It was **established in 1988 by the European Parliament.**
- It is **named after Russian scientist and dissident Andrei Sakharov.**
- The **prize is awarded in a ceremony at the Parliament's Strasbourg hemicycle** (round chamber) in December.
- The prize includes a monetary **award of €50,000.**
- **The idea of creating an annual European Parliament prize emerged during a plenary debate in July 1984** discussing Andrei Sakharov's situation.
- **Its original purpose** was to reward work on the development of East-West relations, the freedom of debate and inquiry and the defence of human rights or the rule of law.
- **The first prize** was awarded jointly to **South African Nelson Mandela** and **Russian Anatoly Marchenko.**

About ALexi Navlny-

- He is a Russian opposition leader, lawyer, and anti-corruption activist.
- He came to international prominence by organizing anti-government demonstrations and running for office to advocate reforms against corruption in Russia, and against President Vladimir Putin and his government.
- He is the leader of the Russia of the Future party and

the founder of the Anti-Corruption Foundation (FBK).