Mitathal and Tighrana Harappan Sites

Prelims – *History of India.*

Mains (GS I) - *Indian Heritage and Culture.*

Why in News?

The Haryana government has declared two sites of over 4,400-year-old Harappan civilization in Bhiwani district as protected monuments and archaeological sites.

- These are notified under the *Haryana Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1964.*

Mitathal site

- The site was first discovered in 1913 when a hoard of coins belonging to Samudra Gupta of the Gupta dynasty was found.
- Archaeological excavation conducted in 1968 has thrown light on the Copper- Bronze Age culture, a complex of the Indo-Gangetic divide of the 3rd-2nd millennia BCE.
- From 1965 to 1968, *beads and copper implements* were discovered at the site, yielding proto-historic material.
- Mitathal bear out the Harappan tradition in *town planning, architecture and in arts and crafts.*
- The pottery was well-burnt, sturdy red ware painted in black with pipal leaf, fish scale, and other geometric designs.
- The site has yielded a variety of antiquities, such as beads, bangles, and terracotta, as well as stone, shell, copper, ivory, and bone objects.

Tighrana site

- According to the Tighrana village site, the post-Harappan period remnants shed light on the development and persistence of human habitation in the area.
- Chalcolithic farming communities originally settled in the area around 2,400 BCE.
- These early settlers, often referred to as ***Sothians***, resided in modest thatched-roofed mud-brick homes at Chang, Mitathal, Tighrana, and other locations.
- Some of their settlements may have been fortified and comprised 50 to 100 houses each.
- They used wheel-made ceramics decorated in ***bichrome with black-and-white motifs***, domesticated cows, bulls, goats, and other animals, and engaged in agriculture.
- They used copper, bronze and stone implements as discovered in large numbers.
- The presence of ***beads and green carnelian bangles*** indicate a thriving industry of bead making and jewellery production.

- Remains from pre-Siswal, pre-Harappan, and post-Harappan settlements were found in Tighrana, making it an important archaeological site.

Reference

The Indian Express | Harappan civilization spots

