Padma Doree Initiative

Prelims: *Current events of national & international importance | Art and Culture*

Why in News?

Recently, North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC) recently launched 'Padma Doree', a cross-regional textile initiative that merges the heritage crafts of Northeast India and Madhya Pradesh.

- **About Padma Doree** - It is a unique cross-cultural textile collaboration that fuses Eri (Ahimsa) silk from Northeast India with the Chanderi weaving traditions of central India (Madhya Pradesh).
- **Launched by -** NEHHDC under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.
- **Goal -** By blending indigenous knowledge with contemporary luxury it creates a sustainable textile ecosystem ultimately Promoting National Integration & empowering regional artisans.

Features

- **Material Combined** - The warmth, durability, and texture of Eri silk with the delicate motifs and sheer elegance of Chanderi fabric.
- **Eri silk is -** also called as Ahimsa Silk or Peace full silk it is processed without killing the silkworm, aligning with global ethical fashion trends.
- **Heritage synergy -** The project streamlines direct knowledge exchange and bridges design between weavers from the Central India & North east.
- **Beyond Textiles -** The initiative also integrates regional culinary experiences to showcase the broader cultural richness of both participating regions.

Comparison

Feature	Eri Silk	Chanderi Fabric
Origin	In Assam & Other North eastern states.	MP (Chanderi, Ashoknagar)
Type	Produced by *Samia ricini* (fed on Castor leaves).	A perfect Blend of Cotton, silk & Traditional Zari.
Texture	Dense Like wood & thermal properties.	Light, sheer & transparent texture.
Unique Trait	A Non Violent extraction (Ahimsa Silk)	Known for Butti (motifs) and "Shimmery" finish.
Status	GI Tag	GI Tag

Significance

- **Integration of nation -** Incorporates the spirit of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" by Cementing craft gap between North east India & Central India.
- **Sustainable Development -** Endorses eco-friendly production methods & ethical fashion.
- **Livelihood –** Creating International platform for traditional artisans, making Regional crafts relevant for the modern luxury market.
- India is the only countries in the world producing 4 types of silk that is **Mulberry, Eri, Tasar & Muga**.

For Reference: The times of India | IAS Parliament

