

PM's Mementos e-Auction 2025

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance

Why in News?

The recent Prime Minister's Mementos e-Auction 2025 brings together over hundreds of special items gifted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister from around the country.

- **PM Mementos** It is an open auction portal of government of India, that enables the buyers to participate in the online auction for the items in display after due registration.
- **Nodal Ministry** Ministry of Culture.
- **Purpose** The proceeds from these e-auctions are used to fund the Namami Gange Project, a flagship initiative for the conservation of the river Ganga.
- Items for auction The 2025 auction features items, including:
 - Paintings and intricate handicrafts.
 - Sculptures and ceremonial objects.
 - Folk and tribal artifacts from various regions, including North East India, Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.
 - A special collection of sports memorabilia from the Paris Paralympics 2024.
- **Physical exhibition** The mementos are also displayed for public viewing at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) in New Delhi.

Key highlights from the 2025 auction

- The collection reflects the cultural and artistic diversity of India through specific items from different states.
- Exquisite artefacts and crafts from North East India, representing Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh among all other.

State Artefact Description

	Mithun	
Nagaland	HONTELE GOVERNOR OF MADALAND	 Wooden Sculpture of a Bull, presented by the Governor of Nagaland. Carved in bold detail and polished to a sheen, stands as a symbol of wealth and social prestige among the Naga people.
	Handloom Naga Shawl	
Nagaland		 With a deep-coloured base accented by bright red panels and embroidered motifs of spears and shields, the shawl embodies courage and honour. In Naga society, these shawls record social standing and personal achievement, telling stories that are passed through generations.
	Cane Ship Model	
Meghalaya		 Skilfully assembled from local cane, this model ship reflects Meghalaya's tradition of bamboo and cane craftsmanship. Built with layered decks and finely engraved patterns.
	Garuda Wall Mask	• This Garuda mask comes <i>from Majuli</i> , the
Assam		world's largest river island and cultural heart of Assam. • It represents Garuda, the divine bird from mythology used in classical performances and rituals. • Created out of clay and cane using traditional mask-making skills.
	Traditional Assamese Japi	• Woven from bamboo and palm leaves, and
Assam		decorated with vibrant colored shapes, the Japi is a rain guard and symbol of honor across Assam. • Traditionally worn by farmers and given to guests, it highlights the link between daily work, hospitality, and pride in rural culture.

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Assam	Muga Silk Angavastra	This golden-hued angavastra, woven from Assam's famous muga silk, illustrates the unique silk tradition of the state.
Sikkim	Brass Sculpture of Lord Buddha	The elegant brass depiction of Lord Buddha, crafted by Sikkimese artisans, shows the Buddha in serene meditation.
Arunachal Pradesh	Wancho Wooden Craft - Tribal Couple Wancho Wooden Craft - Tribal Couple Wancho Wooden Craft - Tribal Couple	 Beautifully carved from wood and set on a single base. Represents a traditional Wancho couple from Arunachal Pradesh. The figures, shown in local attire, exemplify the woodcraft skills and symbolic storytelling of the Wancho community.

Reference

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