

Prelim Bits 25-03-2018

Sarora Paintings

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- Saora paintings are painted by **Lanjia Saora tribals** in the mud walls of their homes.

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- The tribe inhabits the great Bansadhara River in southern Odisha.

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- The tribe finds mention in the Hindu epic Ramayana with Savari, Lord Ram's devotee.

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- A Saora painting is called **Idital** and the person who creates it is known as the **iditalma**.

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- Saura paintings are done to appease their presiding deity, Edital, who is invoked during all rituals and celebrations.

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- Each painting has a rectangular frame, and features icons of deities, or those drawn from nature.

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\n Colors used \n	\n According to convention, only geru (red earth) and white(from rice paste) \n
\n Iconography \n	\n Stick figures \n
\n Motifs \n	\n People, trees, sun, moon, animals, village activities etc \n

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- The frequently featured motifs include Labasum (the earth god), Jodisum (the village deity), Manduasum (the sun god) and Jananglosum (the wind deity).

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Nikshay Asudhi Portal

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- On World TB day, the health secretary released the TB INDIA 2018 Report, National Drug Resistance Survey Report, Nikshay Aushadi Portal and shorter regimen for Drug Resistant TB.

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- Nikshay Aushadhi is a logistics and supply chain management solution portal.

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- It will enable real time visibility into stock status at all levels and enable forecasting, quantification & further distribution of TB drugs and diagnostics.

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- It is not to be confused with NIKSHAY portal which a web based solution for monitoring of TB patients.

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- Also Nikshay portal is to monitor Revised National Tuberculosis Programme (RNTCP) effectively that was developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC).

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e-Asuhadhi

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- Health Informatics technologies help to improve quality of healthcare, reduce medical errors, reduce healthcare costs, increase administrative efficiency, and expand access to affordable healthcare.

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- e-Aushadhi is one among such health informatics technology developed by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing.

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- Each state government has its separate e-asuhadhi portal.
- e-Aushadhi' deals with the management of stock of various drugs, sutures and surgical items required by **different district drug warehouses.**
- The main aim is that all the required materials/drugs are constantly available to be supplied to the user district drug warehouses without delay.

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Earth hour

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- Earth hour is a global campaign raising awareness about the impact of climate change.
- Earth Hour, which started in Australia in 2007, is set to be observed by millions of supporters in 187 countries.
- People were urged to join Earth Hour's "Give Up to Give Back" campaign by switching off all non-essential lights between 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm.
- This year's theme is **the impact of warming on biodiversity and wildlife.**
- Some of the species at risk include Australia's green turtles, black-flanked rock wallabies and koalas, as well as the Adelie penguin colonies in Antarctica.

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Lithium-ion Cells

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- ISRO has entered into a Technology Transfer Agreement (TTA) with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to transfer the technology for the manufacture of space grade Li-Ion cells.

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- ISRO uses Li-Ion batteries as power sources for satellite and launch vehicle applications due to their high energy density, reliability and long cycle life.
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- These cells are currently being used for various satellite and launch vehicle applications.
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- Lithium ion batteries are more reliable than older technologies such as nickel-cadmium.
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- Lithium-ion batteries don't contain cadmium, a toxic, heavy metal.
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- It is used in every modern cell phone, laptop, tablet, and most other rechargeable gadgets.
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Resource Efficiency

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- NITI aayog initiated implementation of strategy on Resource efficiency.
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- Resource efficiency means using the Earth's limited resources in a sustainable manner while minimizing impacts on the environment.
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- In 2017, the NITI Aayog along with EU Delegation to India released the Strategy paper on Resource Efficiency (RE).
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- The objective of the RE Strategy is
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1. To make recommendations for enhancing the resource-use efficiency in the Indian economy and industry
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2. To develop indicators for monitoring progress
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3. To create an ecosystem for improving the resource security and minimizing environmental impacts.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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