

**INDIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE, HISTORY****Baul Music**

A three day long festival of Baul songs named Indo-Bangla Baul Music Festival concluded in Dhaka with performances by Bauls from India and Bangladesh. The program was organised to observe the 129th death anniversary of Baul saint Fakir Lal Shah.

**About:**

- Baul Music is a form of folk music, unique to Bangladesh and West Bengal of India.
- The word Baul means “afflicted with the wind disease” and the Baul singers are traditionally wandering minstrels singing their particular form of folk music.
- The lyrics and music are soul searching, quite comparable to the genre of Sufi music. The lyrics in Baul music urge man to search for God within himself and decry the role of mosques and temples in the quest of God.
- Lal Shah is regarded as the most celebrated Baul saint in history.
- Baul singers usually traveled alone and had their characteristic musical accompaniments.
- They usually carried either a khamak, a string instrument with one or two strings attached to the head of a small drum or an ektara, a plucked single string drone.
- Other instruments were a khamajani, a tambourine without jangles, mandira or kartal which are small bell-shaped cymbals or ramchaki, a pair of wooden clappers with jangles.
- In 2005, the Baul tradition of Bangladesh was included in the list of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.

**CONSTITUTION AND POLITY****General Election 2019**

The Election Commission of India released the statistical report for general election 2019.

**Key findings of the report:**

- The overall polling percentage in the last parliamentary election, including postal ballots, was 67.4%, which is the highest ever turnout in a Lok Sabha poll.
- Nearly 86% of the 8,026 candidates in the recent Lok Sabha poll forfeited their deposits.
- On the final vote share of national parties, BJP polled 37.76% of valid votes, Congress 19.7%, Trinamool 4.11%, BSP 3.67%, CPM 1.77%, NCP 1.4% and CPI 0.59%.
- The national turnout among women electors was marginally higher at 67.18% as compared to male electors (67%). The turnout of women voters surpassed the male turnout figures in 17 states/Union Territories, including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- As per the state-wise turnout figures, Lakshadweep recorded the highest turnout at 85.21% across all states and UTs, followed by Nagaland (83%). Jammu and Kashmir recorded the lowest turnout at 44.97%.
- Dhubri in Assam emerged as the constituency with the highest turnout of 90.66% while Anantnag in J&K recorded the lowest turnout of 8.98%.
- Postal ballots received in the 2019 parliamentary poll totalled around 28 lakh, though only around 22.8 lakh were found to be valid with over 5 lakh rejected.

**GOVERNANCE- WELFARE SCHEMES, E-GOVERNANCE, SERVICES ETC.****Sahyatri**

Union minister of state of home affairs launched the Sahyatri mobile app to facilitate the railway police in addressing complaints of passengers from across India and crime detection by integrating the criminal database online.

**About:**

- The Sahyatri app will help railway passengers find out the jurisdiction of a police station and the details of GRP officials by geo-tagging with Google Maps.
- It will also have the facility to scan and read QR codes and make an emergency call.
- The app can be downloaded on Android and iOS mobile phones and shall contain links to citizen services provided by Delhi Police through Tatpar and Himmat Plus Apps.

**Report Card on The Performance Of Information Commissions In India**

As the RTI Act marks its 14th anniversary, a report card analysing its performance showed that government officials face hardly any punishment for violating the law by denying applicants the legitimate information sought by them.

**About:**

- The 'Report Card on the Performance of Information Commissions in India' was prepared by the Satark Nagrik Sangathan and the Centre for Equity Studies.
- It analysed information from 22 commissions, which disposed of almost 1.17 lakh cases between January 2018 and March 2019.

**Key findings of the study:**

- The State and Central Information Commissions, which are the courts of appeal under the Act, failed to impose penalties in about 97% of the cases where violations took place in 2018-19.
- The State Commissions of Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Mizoram and Tripura did not impose penalties in any cases at all.
- The commissions also have the power to recommend disciplinary action against officials for persistent violations. Only 10 states invoked these powers.
- There were 2.18 lakh cases pending with the commissions in March 2019. As of October 11, 2019, the Central Information Commission alone had over 33,000 pending cases. Any new appeal would have to wait more than one-and-a-half years for resolution. The backlog is exacerbated by the fact that four out of 11 CIC posts are yet to be filled.

**INDIAN ECONOMY****Index Of Industrial Production (IIP)**

According to the data for the "Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production" released by the Ministry of Statistics, India's industrial sector production contracted by 1.1 per cent in August when compared to the production in the same month in 2018.

**About:**

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index which shows the growth rates in different industry groups of the economy in a stipulated period of time.
- The IIP index is computed and published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) on a monthly basis.
- Currently IIP figures are calculated considering 2011-12 as base year. Besides the new base year, different sectors have been amended based on National Industrial Classification (NIC), 2008.
- Major changes in coverage of the new series of IIP:
  - The un-organised sector was included in the existing series
  - Mining sector basket now comprises of 29 minerals as opposed to 61 minerals in the old series.
  - Under 'Electricity' sector, electricity generation from renewable energy sources has been included.

**Related Info :**

- There are two ways in which IIP data can be viewed.
- Broad sectors: The first is to look at sectoral performance. In this the whole industrial economy is divided into three sectors; manufacturing (with a weight of 77.63 % in the index), mining (14.37 %) and electricity (7.99 %).
- Use-based sectors: The second way is to look at the way such industrial products are used, namely Basic Goods, Capital Goods and Intermediate Goods.

**ENVIRONMENT- CONSERVATION, BIO-DIVERSITY AND ISSUES****Annual Ganges River Dolphin Census**

The annual Ganges river dolphin census began in Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh.

About:

- The annual Ganges river dolphin census is undertaken by World Wide Fund for Nature-India in collaboration with the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department.
- It will be conducted along 250-km-long riverine stretch of Upper Ganga between Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary and Narora Ramsar site.
- This year the upstream of Bijnor Ganga barrage up to Balawali has also been included. It has added around 30 km to the area being covered by the census which will conclude on October 15.

Tandem Boat Survey Method:

- Unlike previous years, when direct counting method was used, this year the tandem boat survey method is being used.
- Here the officials use two inflated boats which move in tandem to count the dolphins. After collating the data, statistical tools are employed to arrive at the final count. In this process, we don't announce the number of sightings on a daily basis.
- The method, developed by the renowned river and marine ecologist Gill Braulik, provides a more accurate count of the endangered species. New method is likely to yield more accurate count of the endangered species

Ganges River Dolphin

- Ganges river dolphin is among the four 'obligate' freshwater dolphins in the world. Its presence indicates the health of the riverine ecosystem.
- The animal is known to make strange sounds when it breathes, earning it the sobriquet 'Susu'. Being a mammal, it has to come to the surface to breathe.
- It is also called a blind dolphin because it doesn't have a crystalline eye lens and uses echolocation to navigate and hunt.

Clean Air Cities Declaration

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal attended the C40 Cities Summit in Copenhagen through a video link and announced formation of a special task force to monitor implementation of 'Clean Air Cities Declaration' signed at the meet.

About:

- During the C40 World Mayor's Summit, a global gathering of local leaders in Copenhagen dedicated to combating climate change, 35 cities pledged to drastically reduce air pollution by 2025.
- Signatories will set ambitious pollution reduction targets within two years that meet or exceed national commitments and will implement substantive clean air policies by 2025, publicly reporting their progress on achieving cleaner air going forward.
- The C40 Clean Air Cities Declaration declares that clean air is a "human right" and could encourage tree planting while penalising cars drivers, among other initiatives.
- C40 research found that if all 94 member cities cleaned their transport, buildings, and industry, it would cut greenhouse gases by 87 percent and avoid nearly 220,000 premature deaths every year.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY- EVERYDAY SCIENCE, SPACE, NUCLEAR, DEFENCE ETC**

Milasen

Doctors in the United States have customised a drug to treat a girl with a rare form of genetic disease, opening avenues for the development of personalised treatments for people with life-threatening rare diseases.

About:

- Milasen is said to be the first tailor-made treatment for a single patient. The drug, described in the New England Journal of Medicine, is believed to be the first "custom" treatment for a genetic disease.

- It is called milasen, named after the only patient who will ever take it: Mila Makovec, suffering from a form of Batten disease.

**Significance:**

- Milasen is not suited to the treatment of other patients with Batten disease because its design is customised to our patient's specific mutation.
- However, the study demonstrates the ability to "rationally design, test, and deploy a novel therapeutic agent for a patient with a rare disease."

**Batten disease**

- Batten disease is a rare, fatal and inherited disorder that affects the retina and the central nervous system (CNS).
- The disease, caused by mutations in CLN7 protein, is recessive, meaning the patient inherits two mutated genes, one from each parent. CLN7 (also known as MFSD8) is one of more than a dozen genes known to be associated with Batten disease.

**PRELIMS SPECIFIC FACTS- INDICES, DAYS, AWARDS, PERSONS ETC.****Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM)**

Ministry of Culture, Government of India is organising the 10th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav under the Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat initiative in Madhya Pradesh from 14th to 21st October 2019.

**About:**

- RSM was conceived by the Ministry of Culture in the year 2015.
- Its objective is to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the Country in all dimensions, viz Handicrafts, Cuisine, Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Documentation and Performing Arts- Folk, Tribal, Classical and Contemporary- all in one place.
- So far, this Ministry has organised 9 RSM's i.e. 2 each in Delhi and 2 in Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, RSM North East, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

**Kadri Gopalnath**

Kadri Gopalnath, the famous saxophone player passed away in Mangaluru, Karnataka. He was 69.

**About:**

- Kadri Gopalnath (1949 – 2019), also known as Saxophone Chakravarty, was an Indian saxophonist and one of the pioneers of Carnatic music on the saxophone.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2004. he was presented with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Carnatic Music - Instrumental (Saxophone), by the President Abdul Kalam, in 2004.
- He had the distinction of being the first Carnatic musician to be invited in the BBC Promenade concert in the Royal Albert Hall at London in 1994.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

**Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out.**

## **DAILY ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE**

**Qns- The MSME sector, apart from being the backbone of the Indian economy, plays a great role in ensuring socialist goals like income equality, employment generation, poverty eradication and balanced regional development. Substantiate.**

### **Answer**

MSMEs are labour intensive, have the advantage of low cost of production and can make good use of locally available resources pushing demand and growth

The sector offers wide range of employment opportunities and absorbs most of the working age population

- Majorly consists of handlooms, handicrafts, coir, sericulture, khadi and village industries, small scale industries and powerlooms
- It is complementary to large industries as ancillary units. Contributes in the inclusive industrial development.
- Functions as the backbone by providing the linkage between different units within the economy, connecting the labour skills, intermediate parts and market to the respective specific manufacturing systems.

### **Role of MSME in ensuring socialist goals**

- Income equality: MSMEs support industrialisation of backward areas and assure more equitable distribution of national income and wealth.
- Employment generation: Produces a wide range of products, from simple consumer goods to high-precision, sophisticated finished product has emerged a major supplier of mass consumption goods as well as a producer of electronic and electrical equipment and drugs and pharmaceuticals
- Can generate more number of employment opportunities per unit of capital invested compared to large industries
- Provides opportunities for entrepreneurship.
- Poverty eradication: Addresses unemployment, provides diversified income opportunities to rural masses.
- Customised production expands the range of market and ensures sustainability to production.
- Balanced regional development: Depends on locally available resources both material and labour and can be set up anywhere in the country.
- Absence of locational constraints ensures that the benefits of industrialisation reach every region. Thus, contributing to the balanced development of the country.

### **Conclusion**

- Problems like remote location with less developed infrastructural facilities, lack of managerial talent, poor quality, traditional technology and inadequate availability of finance have to be addressed for the maximum benefits from the industry.
- Other problems of exporting small scale units include lack of adequate data on foreign markets, lack of market intelligence, exchange rate fluctuations, quality standards, and pre-shipment finance should be tackled to boost the industry.
- Regular monitoring and research for the upgradation of the sector can contribute to the holistic development.

## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQS**

1. With reference to Election manifestos, consider the following statements:
  1. In India, Election manifestos are legally enforceable documents.
  2. Under Representation of the People Act, 1951, political parties could be held liable for not fulfilling promises made in their election manifestos.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2**
2. With reference to the 'Report Card on the Performance of Information Commissions in India', consider the following statements:
  1. The State Commissions of Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Mizoram and Tripura did not impose penalties in any cases at all.
  2. All state commissions invoked the power to recommend disciplinary action against officials for persistent violations.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only**
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
3. Kadri Gopalnath, recently seen in news, was:
  - (a) An eminent Hindi author
  - (b) An Indian tabla player in Hindustani classical music
  - (c) A saxophone player**
  - (d) None of these
4. Which of the following Union Ministries recently launched Sahyatri mobile app?
  - (a) Ministry of Home Affairs**
  - (b) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
  - (c) Ministry of Human Resource Development
  - (d) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
5. With reference to Milasen, consider the following statements:
  1. It is said to be the first tailor-made treatment for a single patient suffering from a form of Batten disease.
  2. Batten disease is a rare, fatal and inherited disorder that affects the retina and the central nervous system (CNS).
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2**
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
6. With reference to the C40 Cities Summit, consider the following statements:
  1. During the recent summit it announced formation of a special task force to monitor implementation of 'Clean Air Cities Declaration' signed at the meet.
  2. The C40 Clean Air Cities Declaration declares that clean air is a "human right".
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2**
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. With reference to the annual Ganges river dolphin census being undertaken in Uttar Pradesh, consider the following statements:
  1. It is undertaken by IUCN.
  2. This year the tandem boat survey method is being used.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only**
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
8. With reference to the Baul Music, consider the following statements:
  1. Lalou Shah is regarded as the most celebrated Baul saint in history.
  2. They usually carried either a khamak, a string instrument with one or two strings attached to the head of a small drum or an ektara, a plucked single string drone.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2**
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
9. With reference to Index of Industrial Production (IIP), consider the following statements:
  1. It is computed and published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) on a monthly basis.
  2. Currently IIP figures are calculated considering 2005-06 as base year.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - (a) 1 only**
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2