

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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- Saora 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\nColors used\n\n	\n\nAccording to convention, only geru (red earth) and white(from rice paste)\n\n
\n\nIconography\n\n	\n\nStick figures\n\n
\n\nMotifs\n\n	\n\nPeople, trees, sun, moon, animals, village activities etc\n\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.

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- e-Aushadhi' deals with the management of stock of various drugs, sutures and surgical items required by **different district drug warehouses**.

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- 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.

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- Earth Hour, which started in Australia in 2007, is set to be observed by millions of supporters in 187 countries.

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- 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.

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- This year's theme is **the impact of warming on biodiversity and wildlife**.

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- 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
 2. To develop indicators for monitoring progress
 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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