

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AND LALIT KALA AKADEMI AWARDS

GS Paper - 1 - Indian Art Forms - Indian Dance Forms - Indian Music



Sangeet Natak, Lalit Kala Akademi Awards

WHY IN NEWS?

The Vice President bestowed the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Sangeet Natak Awards** for the year 2018 to **44 eminent artists** (4 Fellows and 40 awardees).

- He also presented Fellowships and National Awards of **Lalit Kala Akademi** for the year 2021 to **23 people** (3 Fellows and 20 National Awards).

WHAT IS SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI FELLOWSHIP (AKADEMI RATNA) AND AWARD?

- **Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship:**
 - The Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship is the **highest honour** conferred by Sangeet Natak Akademi **without distinction of nationality, race, caste, religion, creed, or sex.**
 - The Fellowship of the Akademi is the **most prestigious and rare honour, which is restricted to 40 numbers at any given time.**
 - The honour of Akademi Fellow carries a purse money of Rs.3,00,000/- (Rupees three lakh) along with a **Tamrapatra and Angavastram.**
- **Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards:**
 - The awards are given to the artists from the field of **Music, Dance, Theatre, Traditional/Folk/Tribal Music/Dance/Theatre, Puppetry and Overall contribution/scholarship in the Performing Arts etc.**
 - Akademi Puraskar carries Rs 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh) along with Tamrapatra and Angavastram.

WHAT IS THE LALIT KALA AKADEMI AWARD?

- The National Lalit Kala Akademi awards are **conferred to recognize individuals for their outstanding work in the field of art.** The awardees are selected by an esteemed panel of judges, nominated by the Akademi.

WHAT IS SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI?

- The Sangeet Natak Akademi is **India's national academy for music, dance and drama.**
- **It was created by a resolution of the (then) Ministry of Education, Government of India, in 1952** with Dr P.V. Rajamannar as its first Chairman.

- It is presently an **Autonomous Body of the Ministry of Culture**, Government of India and is fully funded by the Government for implementation of its schemes and programmes.
- The Akademi establishes and looks after institutions and projects of national importance in the field of the performing arts. Few important ones are:
 - **National School of Drama**, New Delhi was set up in **1959**,
 - **Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy** in Imphal- 1954,
 - **Kathak Kendra** (National Institute of Kathak Dance) in New Delhi- 1964.
 - National Projects of Support to **Kutiyattam (Sanskrit theatre of Kerala)**, Chhau dances of eastern India, **Sattriya** traditions of Assam, etc.

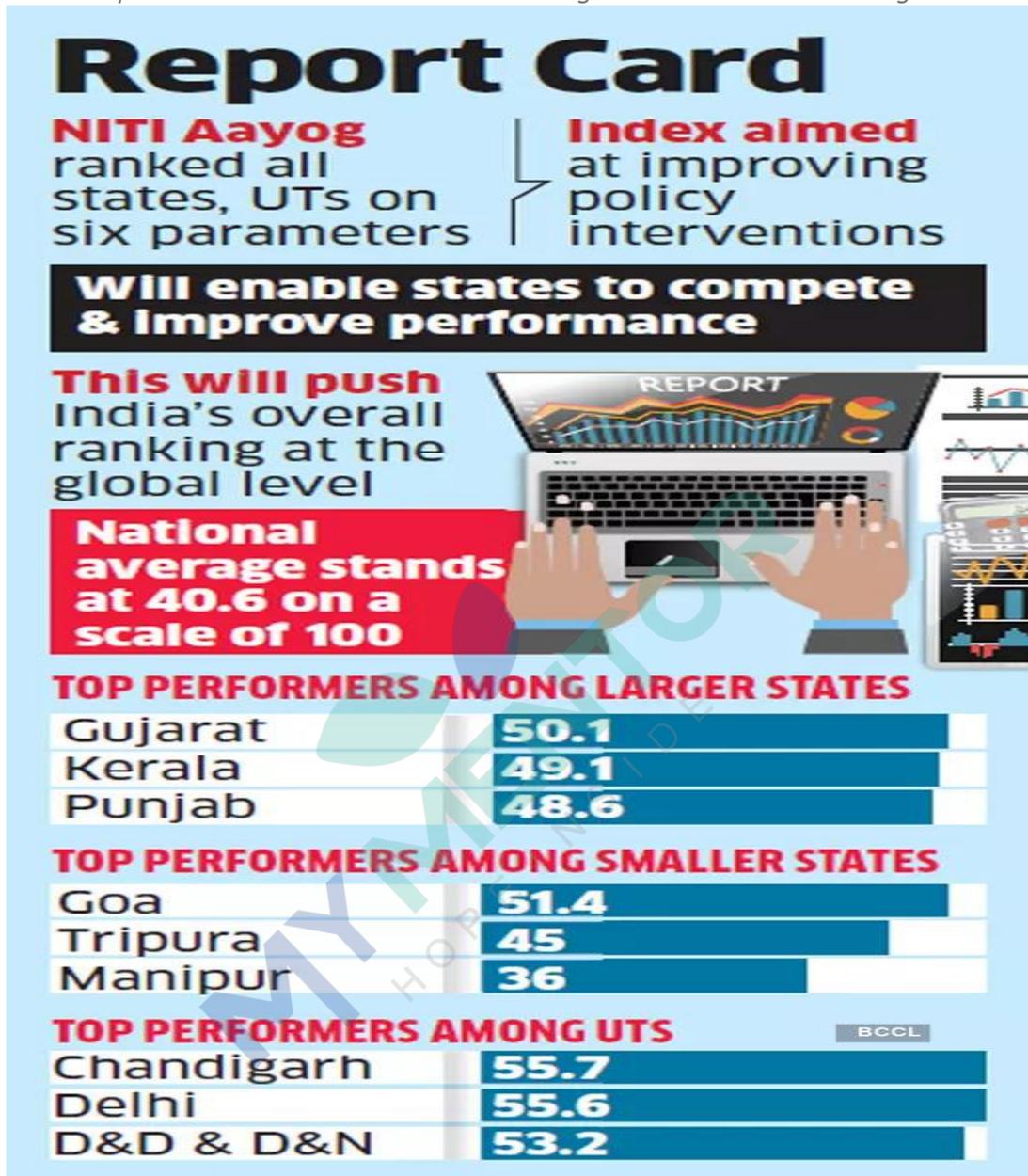
WHAT IS LALIT KALA ACADEMY?

- The Akademi was inaugurated on 5th August, 1954, by the then Honourable Minister for Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- The Akademi was given **statutory authority in 1957, under the Societies Registration Act 1860**.
- Since its establishment it has been serving the entire country by **promoting the creative endeavours of Indian artists and bringing their arts to bear upon a large number of people**, thereby playing an important role in defining and redefining the sensibility of an entire culture, falling under the visual arts spectrum.
- It is **headquartered in New Delhi**.

Source: PIB

STATE ENERGY AND CLIMATE INDEX

GS Paper - 3 - Environmental Pollution & Degradation - Disaster Management



Why in News?

Recently, the **NITI Aayog** launched the **State Energy and Climate Index (SECI)**. It is the **first index that aims to track the efforts made by states and UTs in the climate and energy sector.**

- The parameters of the index have been devised keeping in mind **India's goals for climate change and clean energy transition.**

WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS OF SECI?

- **Objectives:** The objectives of the index are:
 - **Ranking the States** based on their efforts towards improving energy access, energy consumption, energy efficiency, and safeguarding the environment.
 - **Helping drive the agenda** of the affordable, accessible, efficient and clean energy transition at the State level,

- **Encouraging healthy competition** among the states on different dimensions of energy and climate.
- **Parameters:** The State Energy and Climate Index (SECI) ranks states and UTs on **six parameters**:
 - **Discoms' (Power distribution companies) Performance,**
 - **Access Affordability And Reliability Of Energy,**
 - **Clean Energy Initiatives,**
 - **Energy Efficiency,**
 - **Environmental Sustainability,**
 - **New Initiatives.**
- **Categorization:** Based on the outcome of SECI scores, states and union territories have been categorised into **three groups -- front runners, achievers, and aspirants.**
 - **Top Performers:** Gujarat, Kerala and Punjab have been adjudged as top three performer states in the NITI Aayog's SECI.
 - The top three performers among smaller states are **Goa, Tripura and Manipur.**
 - **Unsatisfactory Performance:** States like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand were placed at the bottom.

Category	SECI score	
Front-runners (Top one-third)	Composite SECI score ≥ 46	
Achievers (Middle one-third)	Composite SECI score between 36 and 46	
Aspirants (Lowest one-third)	Composite SECI score ≤ 36	

- **Need:** India is a **resource-rich and diverse country.** Many of its states are comparable to countries in the **European Union** in terms of area, population, and diversity of resources.
 - Thus, a **one-size-fits-all approach** will not be appropriate as each state and Union Territory (UT) differ in terms of culture, geography, and use of energy resources.
 - It is imperative for each state and UT to have its **own policy to harness its potential and capability.**

WHAT ARE INDIA'S CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITMENTS?

- The Prime Minister of India at the **COP-26 Glasgow summit** presented five nectar elements, **Panchamrit**, to deal with climate change:
 - India will reach its **non-fossil installed electricity capacity to 500 GW by 2030.**
 - India will meet **50% of its electricity requirements from renewable energy by 2030.**
 - India will reduce the **total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now onwards till 2030.**
 - By 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its **economy by less than 45%.**
 - **By the year 2070, India will achieve the target of Net-zero.**

Summarised list of Global indices and India's ranking

Index	World Energy Trilemma Index (WETI)	Energy Transition Index (ETI)	Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI)	Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)
Publishing Agency	World Energy Council	World Economic Forum (WEF)	Ernst & Young (EY)	Germanwatch e.V.
What it measures	Measures energy system performance in terms of Energy Security, Energy Equity, Environmental Sustainability in Country context	Checks nation's energy system information	Ranks performance of economies based on the investment made in the renewable energy sector -energy supply, renewable technologies, & ease of doing business	Measures country's progress towards the NDC 2030 targets and compares climate protection performance of countries
India's Rank	75/127 (2021)	87/115 (2021)	3/40 (2021)	10/63 (2022)
Best performing countries	Top 3: Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark	Top 3: Sweden, Norway, Denmark	Top 2: USA & Mainland China	Top 6: Denmark (4 th), Sweden (5 th), Norway (6 th)

Source:TH

CHILD ADOPTION IN INDIA AND RELATED ISSUES

GS Paper - 2 - Indian Constitution - Issues Related to Children - Human Resource

WHY IN NEWS?

Recently, the **Supreme Court** agreed to hear a plea seeking to simplify the legal process for child adoption in India.

- In 2021, **Adoption (First Amendment) Regulations, 2021** was notified which allowed Indian diplomatic missions abroad to be in charge of safeguarding adopted children whose parents move overseas with the child within two years of adoption.

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES RELATED TO CHILD ADOPTION IN INDIA?

- **Declining Statistics and Institutional Apathy:**
 - There is a **wide gap between adoptable children and prospective parents**, which may increase the length of the adoption process.
 - Data shows that while more than **29,000 prospective parents are willing to adopt**, just 2,317 children are available for adoption.
- **Returning Children after Adoption:**
 - Between 2017-19, the **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)** faced an unusual upsurge in adoptive parents returning children after adopting.
 - **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)** is a statutory body of the Ministry of Women & Child Development. It functions as the nodal body for adoption of

Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions.

- According to the data, **60% of all children returned were girls**, 24% were children with special needs, and many were older than six.
 - The primary reason these **'disruptions' occur is that disabled children and older children take much longer to adjust** to their adoptive families.
 - This is **primarily because older children find it challenging to adjust** to a new environment because institutions do not prepare or counsel children about living with a new family.
- **Disability and Adoption:**
 - **Only 40 children with disabilities were adopted between 2018 and 2019**, accounting for approximately 1% of the total number of children adopted in the year.
 - Annual trends reveal that domestic adoptions of children with special needs are dwindling with each passing year.
- **Manufactured Orphans and Child Trafficking:**
 - In 2018, Ranchi's Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity came under fire for its "baby-selling racket" after a nun from the shelter confessed to selling four children.
 - Similar instances are becoming increasingly common as the pool of children available for adoption shrinks and waitlisted parents grow restless.
 - Also, during the **pandemic**, cases of threat of **child trafficking** and illegal adoption rackets came into play.
 - These rackets usually source children from poor or marginalised families, and unwed women are coaxed or misled into submitting their children to trafficking organisations.
- **LGBTQ+ Parenthood and Reproductive Autonomy:**
 - Despite the constant evolution of the definition of a family, **the 'ideal' Indian family nucleus still constitutes a husband, a wife and daughter(s) and son(s)**.
 - In February 2021, while addressing petitions seeking the legal recognition of **LGBTQI+** marriages, the government opined that LGBTQI+ relationships **could not be compared to the "Indian family unit concept"** of a husband, wife and children.
 - The **invalidity of LGBTQI+ marriages and relationships in the eyes of the law obstructs LGBTQI+ persons from becoming parents** because the minimum eligibility for a couple to adopt a child is the proof of their marriage.
 - To negotiate these unfavourable legalities, illegal adoptions are becoming increasingly common among queer communities.
 - Moreover, provisions under the **Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2020** and **Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2020** completely exclude LGBTQI+ families, stripping them of their reproductive autonomy.

WHAT ARE THE LAWS TO ADOPT A CHILD IN INDIA?

- The adoption in India takes place under **Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956 (HAMA)** and the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act)**.

- HAMA, 1956 falls in the **domain of Ministry of Law and Justice** and JJ Act, 2015 pertains to the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.
- As per the government rules, **Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Sikhs** are legalized to adopt kids.
- Until the JJ Act, the **Guardians and Ward Act (GWA), 1980** was the only means for non-Hindu individuals to become guardians of children from their community.
 - However, since the GWA appoints individuals as legal guardians and not natural parents, guardianship is terminated once the ward turns 21 and the ward assumes individual identity.

WAY FORWARD

- **Need to Prioritise Children's Welfare:**
 - The primary purpose of **giving a child in adoption is his welfare and restoring his or her right to family**.
 - CARA and the ministry **must accord attention to the vulnerable and invisible community of children** silently suffering in our institutions.
- **Need to Strengthen the Institutional Mandates:**
 - The adoption ecosystem **needs to transition from a parent-centric perspective to a child-centric approach**.
- **Need to Adopt an Inclusive Approach:**
 - There is a **need to adopt an inclusive approach** that focuses on the needs of a child to create an environment of acceptance, growth, and well being, thus recognising children as equal stakeholders in the adoption process.
- **Adoption Process Needs to Simplified:**
 - The process of adoption **needs to be simplified by taking a close relook** at the various regulations guiding the procedure of adoption.
 - The ministry **can engage with concerned experts working in this field** to get feedback on the practical difficulties which prospective parents are facing.

Source: TH

MAHATMA JYOTIRAO PHULE

GS Paper - 1 - Socio-cultural Reform Movements - Important Personalities



WHY IN NEWS?

The Prime Minister has paid tribute to the great social reformer, philosopher and writer **Mahatma Jyotirao Phule** on his birth anniversary (11th April). He is also known as Jyotiba Phule.

WHO WAS JYOTIRAO PHULE?

○ Brief Profile:

- **Birth:** Phule was born on 11th April, 1827 in present-day Maharashtra and **belonged to the Mali caste of gardeners and vegetable farmers.**
- **Education:** In 1841, Phule was enrolled at the Scottish Missionary High School (Pune), where he completed education.
- **Ideology:** His Ideology was based on: Liberty, Egalitarianism, Socialism.
 - Phule was **influenced by Thomas Paine's book titled The Rights of Man** and believed that the only solution to combat the social evils was the enlightenment of women and members of the lower castes.

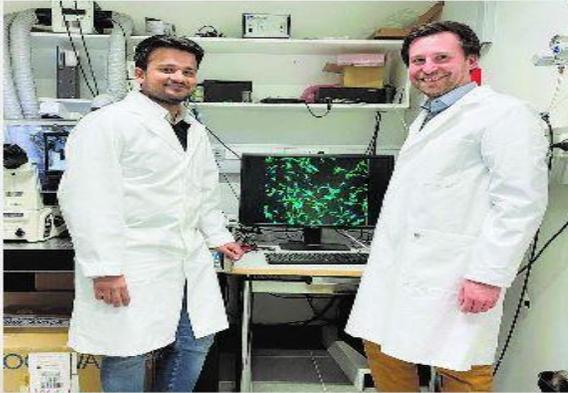
- **Major Publications:** Tritiya Ratna (1855), Powada: Chatrapati Shivajiraje Bhosle Yancha (1869), Gulamgiri (1873), Shetkarayacha Aasud (1881).
- **Related Association:** Phule along with his followers **formed Satyashodhak Samaj in 1873** which meant 'Seekers of Truth' in order to attain equal social and economic benefits for the lower castes in Maharashtra.
- **Municipal Council Member:** He was appointed commissioner to the Poona municipality and served in the position until 1883.
- **Title of Mahatma:** He was bestowed with the title of Mahatma on 11th May, 1888 **by a Maharashtrian social activist Vithalrao Krishnaji Vandekar.**
- **Social Reformer:**
 - In 1848, he taught his wife (**Savitribai**) **how to read and write**, after which the couple opened the first indigenously run school for girls in Pune where they both taught.
 - He was a **believer in gender equality** and he exemplified his beliefs by involving his wife in all his social reform activities.
 - By 1852, the Phules had established three schools but all of them had shut by 1858 due to the shortage of funds after the Revolt of 1857.
 - Jyotiba realised the pathetic conditions of widows and established an ashram for young widows and eventually **became an advocate of the idea of Widow Remarriage.**
 - Jyotirao attacked the **orthodox Brahmins and other upper castes** and termed them as "hypocrites".
 - In 1868, Jyotirao constructed a **common bathing tank outside his house to exhibit his embracing attitude towards all human beings** and wished to dine with everyone, regardless of their caste.
 - He started awareness campaigns that **ultimately inspired the likes of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi**, stalwarts who undertook major initiatives against caste discrimination later.
 - It is believed by many that it was **Phule who first used the term 'Dalit'** for the depiction of oppressed masses often placed outside the 'varna system'.
 - He **worked for abolishment of untouchability and caste system** in Maharashtra.
- **Death:** 28th November, 1890. His memorial is built in Phule Wada, Pune, Maharashtra.

Source:PIB

MICRO SWIMMERS FOR DRUG DELIVERY

GS Paper - 3 - Health - Robotics

Swimming through viscous body fluids



Varied tactics: By changing the pH of the solution or by triggering it with light, the researchers showed that drug release could be activated

▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

■ The micro-swimmers are made from the two-dimensional compound poly(heptazine imide) carbon nitride

■ The nearly spherical micro-swimmers (1 to 10 micrometre in size) can self-propel, energised by light

■ Like in a solar cell, the incident light is converted into electrons and holes on the surface of the swimmers, which in turn react to form ions

■ These ions move around the particle and make the fluid flow around it, causing the micro-swimmers to move

■ The body fluids and blood contain dissolved salts, and

the salt ions stop the reaction ions from moving freely

■ The researchers found that the ions in the salty solution passed through the pores of PHI carbon nitride leaving little or no resistance

■ In addition to transporting salt ions from the fluid, the voids and pores on the microparticles acted like cargo bays to soak up drug molecules

■ The researchers showed drug release could also be activated by testing with Doxorubicin

WHY IN NEWS?

Recently, research has shown that it is possible to use light as a fuel to **move microbots in real-body conditions with intelligent drug-delivery that is selectively sensitive to cancer cells.**

- These microbots are referred to as **microswimmers.**
- The research is led by **Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems (MPI-IS)** and **Max Planck Institute for Solid State Research (MPI-FKF), Stuttgart, Germany.**

WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS OF THE RESEARCH?

- **About:** These microbots are made from the **two-dimensional compound poly (heptazine imide) carbon nitride (i.e. PHI carbon nitride).**
 - These microbots are like **miniaturised humans.**
 - They range from **1-10 micrometre** (a micrometre is one-millionth of a metre) in size, and can self-propel when energised by shining light.
- **How Microbots Swim:** The **PHI carbon nitride microparticles** are photocatalytic.
 - The particles are nearly **spherical**, and the **incident light illuminates one-half of the sphere**, leaving the other dark.
 - As **photocatalysis is light-driven**, it occurs only on the brightened hemisphere.
 - As the ions move from the **bright side to the dark side**, micro-swimmers march towards the direction of the light source.
 - This reaction, combined with the **particle's electric field**, makes the **microbots (micro-swimmers) swim.**
- **Existing Barriers:** The body fluids and blood contain dissolved salts.
 - When salts are present, the **salt ions stop the reaction ions from moving freely** as they will just bind or recombine with them and stop them.

- So all the chemically propelled swimmers can't swim in solutions containing salts.
 - For example, when dissolved in water, common salt (NaCl) breaks up into sodium (Na +) and chloride (Cl -) ions.
 - These ions will neutralise the ions created by the photocatalytic reaction, **thereby impeding the self-propulsion.**
- **Contribution of Research:** The researchers found that the ions in the **salty solution passed** through the pores of PHI carbon nitride. Thus, there was **little or no resistance from the salt ions.**
- In addition to transporting salt ions from the fluid, the voids and pores on the microparticles worked as cargo bays and could soak up large amounts of drug.
 - Microswimmers for drug delivery introduced **in the past relied on 'artificial capsules,'** which were meant to be filled with drugs and delivered to specific locations in the body.
 - Creating these capsules, however, could be both complex and expensive. In contrast, the particles used by the researchers are cheap, organic, and spongy by design, binding directly to drugs or other substances.
 - This means that they could be easier to implement on a large-scale. Remarkably, they can also be loaded with more drugs (i.e., 185% of their own mass) than other materials used in the past.
- **Significance:** Microswimmers could **allow doctors to deliver drugs to targeted regions inside the human body.**
- The microswimmers **could also help to introduce specific substances in lakes or in the ocean.**
 - For instance, the **swimmers could be deployed in endangered natural environments to heal specific animal species** or exterminate harmful organisms.

