



13 February 2024

National and International News

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SWATI Portal: Empowering Women in STEMM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India launched the "Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation (SWATI)" Portal. <p>About SWATI Portal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purpose: Represents and showcases Indian women and girls' contributions in STEMM fields. ● Database: Comprehensive database aiding policymakers in addressing gender gap challenges. ● Interactive Features: Designed to be interactive, facilitating easy access and contribution to the database. ● Development: Developed, hosted, and maintained by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR) in New Delhi. <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exponential Scaling: To include every Indian woman in science across all career stages and subjects. ● Research Support: Compilation of a comprehensive database to support long-term research on equality, diversity, and inclusivity. ● Active Search Engine: Easy access to information about women scientists, their affiliations, areas of interest, and achievements. <p>Do you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Women's Day in India is celebrated every year on 13 February. ● The day marks the birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu, an eminent freedom fighter and poet, also known as the "Nightingale of India".
<p>Sangeet Natak Akademi</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sangeet Natak Akademi to have South India centre in Hyderabad.



- Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA): A national institution **founded on 31 May 1952**.
- **Aim:** To preserve and promote India's rich cultural heritage in music, dance, and drama.

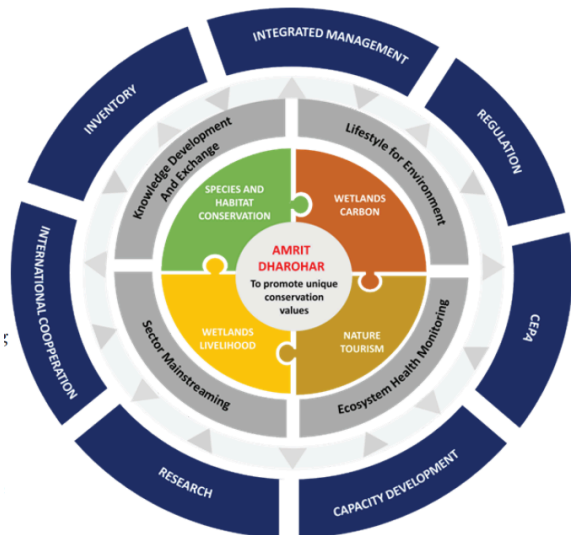
Key points:

- Apex body for performing arts, collaborating with governments and art academies.
- Established institutions like Manipur Dance Academy and Kathak Kendra.

Awards and Recognitions

- Sangeet Natak Akademi Award: Highest recognition for artists and scholars.
- SNA Fellowship (Ratna Sadsya): For distinguished individuals.
- Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar: For young artists.
- Tagore Ratna and Tagore Puraskar: Honoring Rabindranath Tagore.
- Kala Deeksha Initiative: Continuing Guru Shishya Parampara.

Amrit Darohar Initiative: Strengthening Communities and Conservation at Ramsar Sites



Context:

- The Centre has launched the fourth phase of training under the 'Amrit Darohar' capacity-building scheme.
- This initiative is targeted towards people residing close to the **Bhitarkanika National Park**.

Key points:

- **Collaboration:** The initiative involves collaboration between **IITM-Bhubaneswar**, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Tourism (MoT), and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- **Objective:** The aim is to build the capacity of 60 local community members around the Ramsar site to strengthen nature tourism and provide alternative livelihoods.
- **Training:** Local community members will be trained and certified as nature guides.

About:

Goal: The goal of Amrit Darohar is 'to promote unique conservation values of Ramsar Sites'.



	<p>Purpose The purpose is to maintain a healthy and effectively managed network of Ramsar Sites which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide water and food security • To buffer the landscape from floods, droughts, cyclones and other extreme events • To generate local employment and support livelihoods • To provide habitats for species of local, national and international conservation significance • To maintain and enhance carbon sinks • To conserve and celebrate rich cultural heritage.
India – UAE Relations	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to the UAE signifies the importance of the bilateral relationship. • Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit the UAE from February 13-14, 2024. • He will inaugurate a temple built by the Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha in Abu Dhabi. <p>Overview of India – UAE relationship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India's relationship with the UAE has become one of its most significant bilateral relationships, evolving into a strategic partnership. • The UAE has become an important partner for India's engagement in the Gulf region. • There's a close rapport between UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Mr. Modi. • The BAPS temple, constructed on a 27-acre plot donated by the UAE President, is the second big Hindu temple to be inaugurated in the UAE recently. • Mr. Modi will also address the World Government Summit on February 14 in Dubai as the 'Guest of Honour'.



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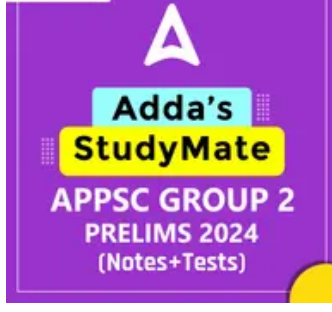
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