MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

- > SHILPI DIWAS The Assam Tribune GS- 5, PRELIMS
- CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)

> PENCH TIGER RESERVE

PRELIMS

PRELIMS, GS-3

- > eSAKSHI APP PRELIMS, GS-3, GS-2

PRELIMS PRACTISE QUESTION

- Q. Who is called the father of mobile theatre?
 - A. Brajanath Sarma
 - B. Achyut Lahkar
 - C. Nipon Goswami
 - D. Hemchandra Goswami

PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

- Q. Saryu Ghat is located in
- (a) Guwahati
- (b) Prayagraj
- (c) Ayodhya
- (d) Varanasi

Competition Care

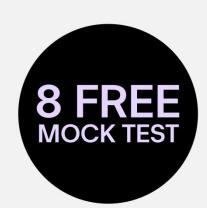
APSC PRELIMS CRASH COURSE

Online mode



- Regular online class
- Study materials (soft copy)
- Current affairs yearly compilation
- Sectional mock test
- Weekly test based on the topics covered

- Special emphasis on Assam section
- Sunday doubt clearing sessions
- PYQ analysis
- Test Series
- Special class on PYQ



Competition Care

APSC CCE PRELIMS TEST SERIES 2024

Online mode Starting from 18th Jan, 2024

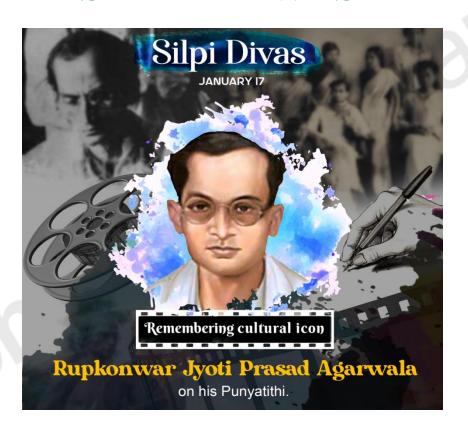


JOIN NOW!

- Total 30 Tests: Sectional & Full Length Tests.
- 4 Tests Specifically for Assam based topics.



SHILPI DIWAS



CONTEXT

Assam celebrated Silpi Diwas to commemorate the 70th death anniversary of Rupkonwar Jyotiprasad Agarwala, the father of Assamese films and a poet, lyricist and music composer



EARLY LIFE AND FAMILY BACKGROUND

- Jyoti Prasad Agarwala was born into a culturally rich family, with ancestors who significantly contributed to Assamese culture.
- His grandfather, Chandra Kumar Agarwala, was a prominent figure in Assamese literature and a founding member of the Unnati Sadhini Sabha.
- Jyoti Prasad's father, Parmananda Agarwala, was a talented singer and behela player, influencing Agarwala's cultural upbringing.

CONTRIBUTION TO LITERATURE AND CULTURE

- Agarwala was a versatile artist, excelling in playwriting, storytelling, novel writing, poetry and more.
- He authored notable plays like "Sonitkonwari," "Lavita," "Rupalim" and others, enriching Assamese drama literature.
- His works often reflected national consciousness and a deep connection with Assamese culture.

PARTICIPATION IN THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT

- Agarwala actively participated in India's freedom struggle under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership.
- He faced imprisonment and physical hardship, including a battle with tuberculosis, due to his involvement in the movement.
- After his release, he continued to contribute to the freedom struggle, including participation in the Quit India Movement of 1942.

IMPACT ON ASSAMESE CINEMA

- Agarwala studied filmmaking in Germany and founded Chitravan Studios in Assam.
- He produced significant Assamese films like "Joymati" and "Indramalati," contributing to the growth of the regional film industry.
- His work in cinema earned him the title of the fath.er of Assamese cinema

LEGACY AND RECOGNITION

- Agarwala's artistic endeavors extended to newspaper editing and leading the Assam Artists' Association.
- His contributions to Assamese culture and society were honored with a commemorative postage stamp by the Indian government in 2004.
- His death anniversary on January 17 is celebrated as "Artist's Day (Silpi Divas)" in Assam, highlighting his enduring influence on art and culture.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)



CONTEXT

India's consumer price index
 (CPI) based inflation rate
 touched 5.7% in December.



- The CPI inflation is nothing but the rate of inflation that consumers face.
- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI),releases the data.
- The data shows that the YoY inflation rate has started rising towards the end of 2023. The MoM data, however, shows deflation in December.

- Among the different components, it was the relative spike in food prices that caused the YoY inflation to rise in December. In particular, vegetable prices increased by almost 28% (relative to December 2022), while pulses were costlier by 21% and spices by 20%. Cereals, too, were costlier by 10%.
- Such high levels of inflation in just these four food groups, which account for 23% of the total index weight, pushed up the overall inflation rate.

The inflation rate varied across the country with Odisha registering the highest inflation at 8.7% and Delhi experiencing the lowest at 2.9%.

(2)

PENCH TIGER RESERVE



CONTEXT

- Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has become India's first Dark Sky Park and the fifth in Asia.
- The certification was awarded by the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) after a rigorous evaluation process.

ABOUT

- The park aims to shield skies and nature from light pollution and is set to welcome a host of infrastructure and activities to promote astrotourism.
- The certification is expected to boost tourism in the region and promote awareness about the importance of preserving dark skies for wildlife and human health.



BENEFITS OF HAVING A DARK SKY PARK

- Attracting Visitors: Dark sky status can lead to increased tourism as it attracts stargazers and nature enthusiasts, thereby benefiting local communities economically.
- Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection: Dark sky areas safeguard true wilderness conditions vital for space research and local ecosystems. They are crucial for protecting light-sensitive wildlife populations and preserving the natural balance of ecosystems.

- Energy Conservation and Cost Savings: Implementing dark sky-friendly lighting not only reduces light pollution but also saves energy and reduces costs. It also minimizes the harmful effects of artificial light on plants and animals.
- Educational and Research Opportunities: Dark Sky Parks provide an ideal environment for astronomy and stargazing, offering educational and research opportunities for both locals and visitors.

eSAKSHI APP



CONTEXT

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation launched a new app called eSakshi this week to track the fund flow under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for 2023.
- The app aims to capture the entire MPLADS fund allocation cycle and provide greater convenience and accessibility in monitoring the scheme.

REVAMPING MPLADS MANAGEMENT

- The eSakshi app launch is part of the ministry's ongoing efforts to strengthen the management and efficiency of the MPLADS.
- Last year, the ministry introduced revised guidelines for MPLADS to help MPs better direct funds toward needed works in their constituencies. The guidelines came after a third-party evaluation of the scheme based on works done from 2014-2019.

DEMANDS TO INCREASE MPLADS FUNDS

- Given the large volume of pending works, some Members of Parliament have demanded that the annual MPLADS fund allocation per MP be doubled from Rs 5 crore to Rs 10 crore.
- They argue this will enable them to sanction more high-impact projects for their constituents.

SAKSHI PORTAL AND APP TO IMPROVE MONITORING

- The SAKSHI portal launched last year and the new eSakshi app represent the ministry's focus on leveraging technology to strengthen MPLADS governance.
- Features like real-time visibility into the status of sanctions, funds and work should assist all parties in tracking and accelerating projects.

By the Officers,
For the Officers