

**DAILY
CURRENT
AFFAIRS
ANALYSIS**

LAKSHYA ACADEMY[®]

19 JULY 2023

1 - Namda Art:

GS I

Indian Culture

- **Context:**

- The Skill India programme has successfully restored the extinct Jammu and Kashmiri Namda Art.

- **About:**

- The Mughal Emperor Akbar, according to mythology, wanted to purchase a covering for his horses to keep them warm, which is how Namada came to be. This was in the 16th century.
- Nubi, who initially presented the idea of felted wool carpets, is where the word "Namda" originates.
- The Sufi saint Shah-e-Hamdan is credited for introducing the Namda art to Kashmiris.
- Namda carpets and rugs are made by felting wool.
- A mat is covered with a thick layer of wool, which is then applied, washed with soapy water, and maybe squeezed with a pinjra tool.
- The mat is then rolled on the ground with the hands and feet, linked with a rope, and compacted.
- Next, the rope is undone and the mat is unrolled.
- The Pinjara and Mansuri communities, as well as the Sama Muslims, all practise Namda in Kachchh.
- The Kashmiri Namda craft is currently in danger of going extinct and requires preservation measures.
- One such endeavour is the introduction of a machine rolling process that uses a blend of silk and wool fibres.
- A different attempt to resurrect Namda is the company Incredible Kashmir Craft.

Source → The Hindu

2 - Maputo Protocol:

GS II

Social Issues

- **Context:**
- According to a new study, the Maputo Protocol has helped advance gender equality in several African countries, but its effects have been patchy.
- **Important details:**
- Another name for it is the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa.
- The African Union drafted the international human rights pact, which went into effect in 2005.
- **It offers complete defences for women's rights, including:**
- the capacity to engage in politics
- social and political equality compared to men,
- increased independence in deciding what to do with their reproductive health, and
- the end of cutting female genitalia.
- It was accepted by the African Union in Maputo, Mozambique, in 2003 as a protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (agreed in 1981 and put into effect in 1986).
- One of the most progressive legal frameworks for women's rights now in place is the Protocol.

Source → The Hindu

3 – Aspartame:

GS I

Geography related issues

- **Context:**
- Aspartame, an artificial sweetener, has been labelled "possibly carcinogenic to humans" by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).
- **In relation to aspartame:**
- Aspartame is an artificial sweetener with few calories that is nearly 200 times sweeter than sugar.
- It is a white, odourless powder that is present in approximately 5,000 food products worldwide.
- Since aspartame is a non-nutritive sweetener, it either contains very few or no carbohydrates.
- health effects:
- Artificial sweeteners have been connected in studies to a variety of health issues, such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, dementia, migraines, and depression. They have also been associated to issues with behaviour, cognition, and development.

Source → *The Hindu*

4 - How Electric vehicle tires cause pollution:

GS III

Environmental Conservation

- **Context:**
- Electric vehicles (EVs) often have larger batteries than vehicles with internal combustion engines, which makes them significantly heavier and puts stress on the tyres.
- **What contributes to tyre pollution?**

- In addition, electric vehicles usually have more torque than internal combustion engines, which their tyres must be able to swiftly transfer to the road.
- Tyres deteriorate over time because each rotation releases tiny particles.
- Smaller pieces of these debris either fall to the ground or stray off the road to settle on nearby soil.
- According to a recent study, tailpipe emissions have been significantly surpassed by tyre particle pollution.
- A single car sheds 4 kilogrammes (8.8 pounds) or more of tyre debris annually on average.
- When the fleet as a whole is considered, there are 6 million tonnes of tyre particles produced annually.
- The amount flowing from the tailpipe reduces year after year as vehicles get heavier, whereas the amount coming from the tyres rises.
- Environmental danger:
- **Pollution of water resources:**
- Since the particle washes into streams, it has been found to be a significant source of oceanic microplastics.
- Tyres contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which are harmful to human health and combine with other air pollutants to create smog.
- **Poisonous material:**
- Particularly concerning is the chemical 6PPD, which tyres use to prevent the rubber from breaking or deteriorating.
- Since 6PPD is water soluble, rain can carry it into the oceans and rivers, where it has been linked to significant salmon and trout die-offs.
- Human urine has been found to contain 6PPD, which is also taken up by edible plants like lettuce.
- **Solution:**
- **Less cars:**
- The straightforward solution would be to drive and sell fewer cars, which would reduce tyre emissions.
- **Increased tyre spending:**

- to create a market mechanism where tyre companies will be encouraged to spend a lot of money and create the best formulations.
- There is currently a variation of two to three times between particular tyres in terms of VOC toxicity.
- **Individual responsibility:**
 - On a personal level, avoiding abrupt accelerations and stops helps reduce tyre wear.
 - It is also advised to utilise tyres till the end of their useful lives because new tyres produce twice as much particulate during their first few thousand miles of use.

Source → *The Hindu*

5 – About Nawab Wajid Shah:

GS I

Indian Culture

- **About:**
 - The final and twelfth king of Awadh, Mirza Wajid Ali Shah ruled from 1847 until 1856.
 - Wajid Ali Shah's first wife was Alam Ara, also known as Khas Mahal.
 - While acting as the regent of Awadh in 1857, Muhammadi Khanum, also known as the Begum Hazrat Mahal, his second wife, staged a revolt against the British East India Company.
 - The East India Company (EIC), in accordance with a treaty, had long guarded his kingdom, but in 1856, the EIC annexed it.
 - He was a gifted poet, writer, dancer, and supporter of the arts.
 - He embraced Kathak, an important form of ancient Indian dance, as a court dance following the collapse of the Mughals.
- **He started building the palaces in the Qaiser Bagh series. Important structures within the complex included:**
 - The inner court yard of Qaiserbagh, which contained grass, was known as Jilo Khana.
 - With two mermaid gates (Lakkhigates) at the eastern and western ends, a Baradari stood in the centre.

- Together with the khas muqam and Badshah manzil, which served as the king's private residence, sliver was used to pave Chandiwali Baradari.
- The chaulakkhi kothi, a huge group of buildings built by Azimutla Khan, was later sold to the emperor.
- The Roshan-ud-daula Kothi, which Nasir-ud-din-Haider had the Wazirs build, was later taken by Wajid Ali Shah and given the new name "Qaiser Pasand."

Source → The Hindu



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