

## **Medaram Jatara**

- Medaram Jatara is a festival of tribal origin in Telangana.
- It is a festival of honouring the goddesses Sarakka celebrated in the state of Telangana.
- The festival is held every two years at in Medaram Village in the heart of the thick forests of Jayashankar Bhupalpally district.
- The festival honors tribal folk goddess Sammakka and Saralamma.
- It has become a major pilgrimage in the recent decade and is believed to attract the largest number of devotees in the country after Kumbha Mela.

## **Removal of High Court Judge**

- Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dipak Misra recommended the impeachment of Justice Shri Narayan Shukla, judge of the Allahabad High Court.
- The action was taken based on the in-house panel report setup by the CJI.
- His orders in the cases of blacklisted private medical colleges in Lucknow had come under the scanner.
- A judge of High court can be removed by the order of the President.
- The President can issue the removal order only after the Parliament's address presented to him.
- The grounds of removal are two- proven misbehaviour and incapacity.
- The Judges Enquiry Act, 1968 regulates the procedure relating to the removal of judge.

## **Indus script**

- Scientists at The Institute of Mathematical Sciences have figured out a way to computationally estimate whether a language is written from left to right or otherwise.
- As a part of the study, the found that the Indus script was written from right to left.
- However in some long seals the Boustrophedon method of writing was adopted.
- Boustrophedon writing is the way of writing in the reverse direction in alternate line.

## **Paleolithic sites**

- The study of over 7,200 stone artefacts collected from the archaeological site at Attirampakkam in the Kortallayar river basin (Tamilnadu) throws light over the transition period from lower to middle Paleolithic period
- The Paleolithic/Old stone age period extends from 2.6 million years ago to 10000 BC
- The period is divided into Lower, Middle and Upper phases

## **Res extra commercium**

- It is Latin phrase meaning 'outside commerce'.
- The doctrine dates back to the Roman period.
- If applied, the doctrine gives authorities more leeway to impose restrictions.
- e.g The Supreme Court's application of the doctrine to alcohol in the 1970s paved the way for at least two Indian states to ban it completely and allowed courts to take a stricter stance while regulating liquor.
- The Indian government is now pushing the Supreme Court to use this doctrine to the tobacco industry's legal right to trade.
- With an aim to curb tobacco consumption, the government has recently raised tobacco taxes, started smoking cessation campaigns and introduced laws requiring covering most of the package in health warnings.
- But a court in Karnataka recently quashed the labelling rules holding them as "unreasonable" and as violative of the right to trade.
- So the government is pushing the courts to use the doctrine to deter tobacco companies from challenging tough new regulations.

## **Medaram Jatara**

The four-day 'Sammakka – Saralamma Jatara' at Medaram in Telangana has begun. Considered the biggest tribal festival across South Asia, the Jatara witnesses a huge number of devotees thronging the village to take the blessings of Goddess Sammakka-Saralamma.

### **About the Medaram's Sammakka-Sarakka/Saralamma Jatara:**

Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara held by forest dwelling Koya tribe of Telangana and surrounding States, is the biggest Tribal festival in Asia which is attended by one crore people on an average.

The event is held bi-annually to honour the twin goddesses Sammakka and her daughter Sarakka. Several communities in Telangana society support Jatara as it is also a mythical narrative of two tribal women leaders who fought against the Kakatiya rulers who tried to annex their land and forests. According to the myth it was Sammakka's curse which caused gradual decline and death of Kakatiya rule.

Medaram is a remote place in the Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary, a part of Dandakaranya, the largest surviving forest belt in the Deccan.

## Government E Marketplace

- Government has launched the advanced version of GeM – the Government E Marketplace portal.
- The new version GeM would offer standardised and enriched catalogue management, powerful search engine, demand aggregation, user rating and analytics.
- GeM 3.0 has undergone a digital transformation with superior technology and ability to scale from the previous version.
- This will bring together many sellers and service providers for products and services across the country under one roof. This will also give a huge uplift for growth of MSME's, manufacturers & service providers.

### About GeM:

Government e-Marketplace (GeM) aims to transform the way in which procurement of goods and services is done by the Government Ministries/Departments, PSUs, autonomous bodies etc. DGS&D with technical support of NeGD (MeitY) has developed GeM portal for procurement of both Products & Services.

GeM is a completely paperless, cashless and system driven e-market place that enables procurement of common use goods and services with minimal human interface.