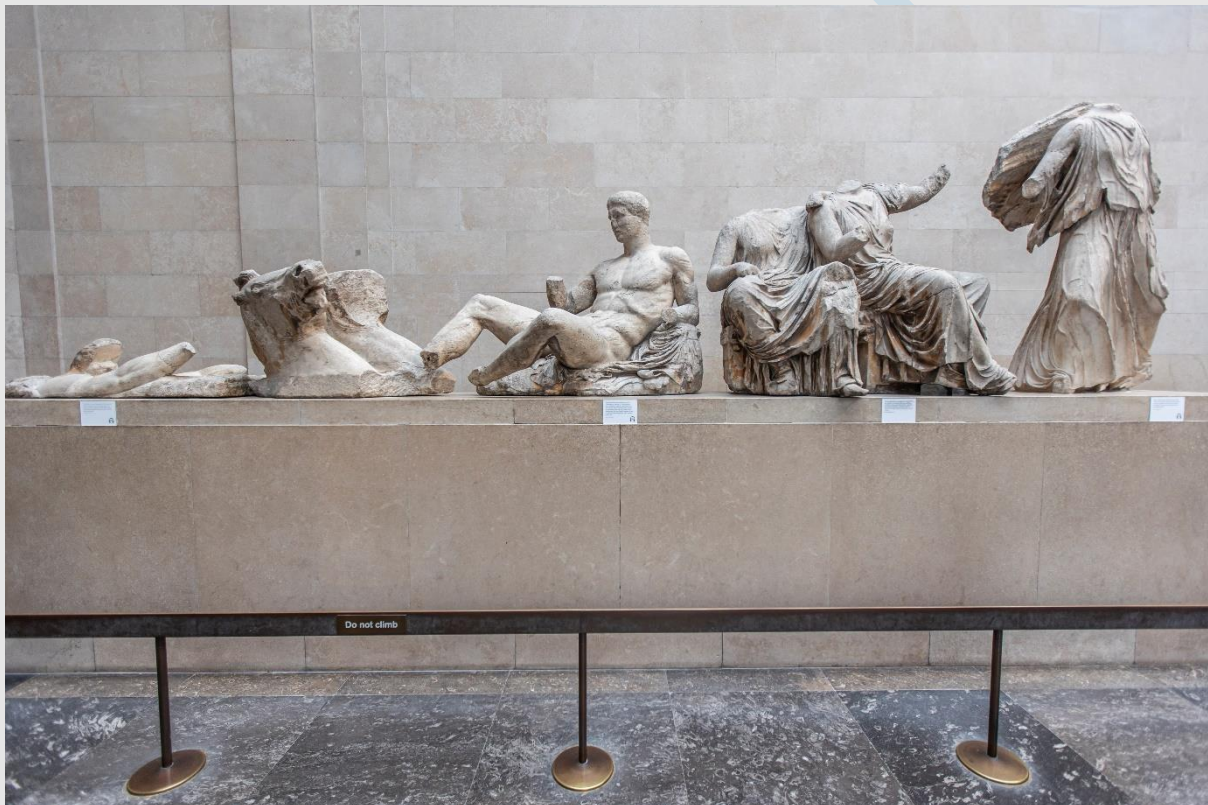


1. Parthenon Sculptures - at the centre of the row between Britain and Greece**Introduction**

WA diplomatic row sparked between Greece and the UK after British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak cancelled a meeting with his Greek counterpart Kyriakos Mitsotakis over the status of the Parthenon Sculptures housed at the British Museum.

It prompted Athens to accuse London of trying to avoid discussing the contested sculptures, also known as the Elgin Marbles. Over the years, Greece has repeatedly asked for the sculptures' permanent return to Athens, but Britain and the British Museum have refused to do so.

**What are the Parthenon Sculptures?**

The Parthenon Sculptures at the British Museum are more than 30 ancient stone sculptures from Greece that are more than 2,000 years old. Most of them originally adorned the walls and grounds of the Parthenon temple on the rocky Acropolis hill in Athens. Completed in 432 BC, the temple is dedicated to the goddess Athena and is seen as the crowning glory of Athens' Golden Age.

While one notable sculpture, which is 75 metres long, depicts a procession for the birthday of Athena, others show gods, heroes or mythical creatures.

How did the sculptures reach Britain?

They were removed from the Parthenon in the early 19th century by Thomas Bruce, the 7th Earl of Elgin and then-British ambassador to the Ottoman Empire. The marbles were taken to Britain and purchased by the British Museum in 1816.

Were the sculptures stolen?

While Athen accused Lord Elgin of theft, he insisted he had permission to remove the marbles from the Ottoman Empire, which used to control Athen at the time. The original letter giving him permission, however, has been lost and its text remains disputed.

Athens has been demanding the return of the sculptures since it became independent in the early 1830s. The campaign gained momentum in the 1980s after Greek Oscar-nominated actress Melina Mercouri launched a movement for their return when she was culture minister between 1981 and 1989.

How did Britain respond?

The British Museum, the caretaker of the sculptures, claims that they were acquired by Elgin under a legal contract with the Ottoman Empire and has rejected the demands of their return.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; International Issues

Source: The Indian Express

2. 'Moye moye' song meaning

Why in news?

If you've found yourself humming "moye moye" without a reason in the last few days, you can rest assured that you're not the only one. The sound has gone viral on the short video platforms Instagram Reels and YouTube Shorts, particularly among Indians and Bangladeshis.

What does 'moye moye' or 'moje more' mean?

The sound comes from the chorus of Serbian singer Teya Dora's 2023 song 'Džanum' (a repetition of the words "moje more"). In Serbian, the term 'moje more' means 'my nightmares'. Dora's nearly 3-minute long song is a portrayal of a person at their lowest emotionally, with lyrics that aim at conveying despair and misery. That the chorus consists of her repeating "my nightmares" is enough to understand the thrust of the song.

Relevance: GS Prelims

Source: The Indian Express

3. Michael Douglas honored with Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Cinema

Introduction

Renowned Hollywood actor and producer Michael Douglas was honoured with the prestigious Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Cinema at the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa.

The award is an illustrious recognition of Michael Douglas, who has captivated audiences worldwide with over five decades of exceptional talent and unwavering commitment to his craft.

About Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award

The IFFI Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award (formerly IFFI Lifetime Achievement Award) is an international honor instituted by the International Film Festival of India. The recipient is honored for their "outstanding contribution to the growth and development of World cinema.

The award was first instituted in the year 1999 from the 30th IFFI. During the 52nd edition in 2021, on the occasion of the birth centenary of Satyajit Ray, the Directorate of Film Festivals in recognition of the auteur's legacy, "The IFFI Lifetime Achievement award" was rechristened to "IFFI - Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award". An auteur is an artist with a distinctive approach, usually a film director whose filmmaking control is so unbounded and personal that the director is likened to the "author" of the film, thus manifesting the director's unique style or thematic focus.

About Satyajit Ray

Satyajit Ray (2 May 1921 – 23 April 1992) was an Indian director, screenwriter, documentary filmmaker, author, essayist, lyricist, magazine editor, illustrator, calligrapher, and composer.

Ray is not only widely considered one of the greatest and most influential Indian directors of all time but has been often described as "one of the world's greatest directors". He is celebrated for works including The Apu Trilogy (1955–1959), The Music Room (1958), The Big City (1963) and Charulata (1964) and the Goopy-Bagha trilogy.

Relevance: GS Prelims

Source: The Hindu

4. Cabinet approves Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan

Introduction

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) with total outlay of Rs.24,104 crore (Central Share: Rs.15,336 crore and State Share: Rs.8,768 crore) to focus on 11 critical interventions through 9 line Ministries.

Purpose

As announced in the Budget Speech 2023-24, "to improve socio-economic conditions of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission will be launched. This will saturate PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities. An amount of Rs.15,000 crore will be made available to implement the Mission in the next three years under the Development Action Plan for the Scheduled Tribes (DAPST)."

PVTGs

India has ST population of 10.45 crore as per 2011 census, out of which 75 communities located in 18 States and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). These PVTGs continue to face vulnerability in social, economic and educational fields.

The PM-JANMAN (comprising Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes) to focus on 11 critical interventions through 9 Ministries including Ministry of Tribal Affairs which are as follows:

S.No. Activity

- 1 Provision of pucca houses
- 2 Connecting roads
- 3a Piped Water Supply/
- 3b Community water supply
- 4 Mobile Medical Units with medicine cost
- 5a Construction of hostels
- 5b Vocational education & skilling
- 6 Construction of Anganwadi Centers
- 7 Construction of Multipurpose Centers (MPC)
- 8a Last mile connectivity
- 8b Provision of 0.3 KW solar off-grid system
- 9 Solar lighting in streets
- 10 Setting up of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras
- 11 Installation of mobile towers

Other than the interventions mentioned above, the following intervention of other Ministries will be part of Mission:

i. Ministry of Ayush will set up Ayush Wellness Centre as per existing norms and Ayush facilities will be extended to PVTG habitations through Mobile Medical Units.

ii. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will facilitate skill and vocational training in PVTG habitations, Multipurpose centres and hostels as per the suitable skills of these communities.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Governance

Source: PIB