

2020



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CURRENT AFFAIRS

**INDIAN CULTURE AND
HISTORICAL EVENTS**

2nd March - 7th March



 *The Indian* **EXPRESS**

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mint

THE HINDU
BusinessLine



1. National Lalit Kala Akademi Awards

Why in News?

Lalit Kala Akademi's 61st annual awards were conferred by the President of India to 15 artists in New Delhi.

Lalit Kala Akademi

- Lalit Kala Akademi was set up by the Government of India as an autonomous body, on 5th August, 1954.
- It was inaugurated by the then Honourable Minister for Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- The Akademi was given statutory authority in 1957, under the Societies Registration Act 1860.
- It works under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture.
- The Akademi is headquartered in New Delhi with regional centers at Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Garhi (Delhi), Kolkata, Lucknow and Shimla.
- Lalit Kala Akademi organises art exhibitions and award ceremonies every year to promote art as well as to honour talents.
- The Akademi is focussed mainly to encourage and promote activities in the fields of creative visual arts such as painting, sculpture and graphics.

2. Dholavira

Why in News?

The Government of India has submitted the nomination dossier of Dholavira: A Harappan City for inclusion in the **World Heritage List for the year 2020**.

Key Points:

- It is one of the five largest Harappan sites and the most prominent archaeological sites in India belonging to the Indus valley civilization.
- Dholavira is located in Rann of Kutch, Gujarat. **Tropic of Cancer** passes through the site.
- Also known locally as Kotada timba, the site contains ruins of an ancient Indus Valley civilization.
- The city was divided into three parts:
 - Citadel
 - Middle town
 - Lower town