



# Kala Kumbh-Artist Workshops

## Why in News

As part of grand celebrations of the Amrit Mahotsav, the **Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence** organized **Kala Kumbh** - artist workshops for painting scrolls.

- The Director General, **NGMA (National Gallery of Modern Art)** along with professors of eminent universities acted as mentors for the scroll painting workshops.

## Key Points

### ▪ About:

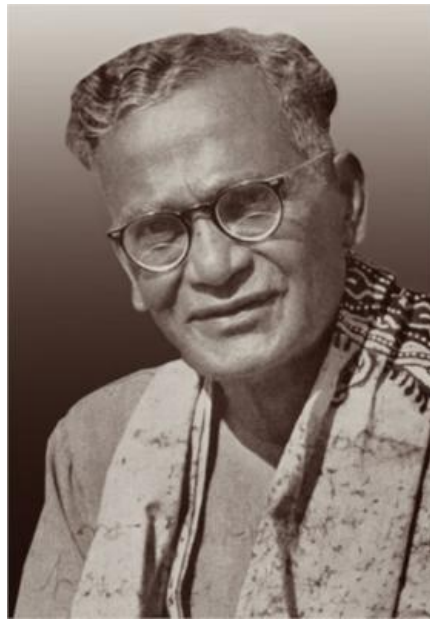
- The **major theme** of these artworks is on the **unsung heroes of the struggle for India's freedom**.
- Inspiration has also been drawn from the illustrations in the Constitution of India which have been **meticulously done by Nandalal Bose** - one of the leading masters of modern Indian art from the Bengal School along with a team of other eminent artists and calligraphers.

### ▪ National Gallery of Modern Art:

#### ◦ About:

- It is a **national premier Institute that was established in 1954** by then vice-president Dr. S Radhakrishnan in the presence of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.
- NGMA is a **repository of the cultural ethos of the country and showcases the changing art forms through the passage of the last hundred and fifty years** starting from about 1857 in the field of Visual and Plastic arts.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi.
- **Nodal Ministry:** It is run and administered **under the Ministry of Culture**.

**Nandalal Bose (1882-1966)** [//](#)



- Born in **Bihar's Munger district on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1882, Nandalal Bose was one of the pioneers of modern Indian art and a key figure of Contextual Modernism.**
- Bose was groomed by [Abanindranath Tagore](#), the nephew of [Rabindranath Tagore](#) as well as the principal artist and creator of the Indian Society of Oriental Art, for five years till 1910.
- Association with the Tagore family and the **murals of Ajanta awakened his idealism for a nationalistic consciousness, commitment toward classical and folk art**, along with its underlying spirituality and symbolism.
- His classic works include **paintings of scenes from Indian mythologies, women, and village life.**
- In his own work, **Bose experimented with the flat treatment of Mughal and Rajasthani traditions** and played with the Sino-Japanese style and technique in his works.
- Bose became principal of the Kala Bhavana (College of Arts) at **Rabindranath Tagore's International University Santiniketan in 1922.**
- The Congress entrusted Bose with the **task of illustrating the pages of the Indian Constitution, when it was being drafted.** Along with his disciple Rammanohar, Bose took up the **task of beautifying and decorating the original manuscript of the Constitution.**
- He died on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 1966, in Calcutta.
- Today, many critics consider his paintings **among India's most important modern paintings.**
  - **In 1976, the [Archaeological Survey of India](#) declared his works among the "nine artists" whose work, "not being antiquities", were to be henceforth considered "to be art treasures, having regard to their artistic and aesthetic value".**

[Source: PIB](#)