



International Museums Day

Why in News

International Museum Day is observed on **18th May** every year to raise awareness among people about the museums.

- **2021 Theme:** The Future of Museums: Recover and Reimagine.

Key Points

- **History:** The Day was **instituted in 1977** by the [International Council of Museums \(ICOM\)](#).
- **International Council of Museum (ICOM):**
 - ICOM is **a membership association and a non-governmental organisation** which establishes professional and ethical standards for museum activities. It is the **only global organisation in the museum field**.
 - It was **created in 1946** and is **headquartered in Paris, France**.
 - It serves as **a network of museum professionals** (more than 40,000 members in over 138 countries).
 - The **ICOM Red Lists of Cultural Objects at Risk** are practical tools to curb the illegal traffic of cultural objects.
 - **Red Lists** present the categories of cultural objects that can be subjected to theft and traffic.
- **Administration of Museums in India:**
 - Multiple ministries hold charges of various Museums.
 - Not all Museums are administered by the Ministry of Culture.
 - Some are run without government support by a handful of people under a Board of Trustees.
 - **Related Constitutional Provision:**
 - **Article 49:** Protect monuments, places and objects of artistic or historic interest which are declared to be of national importance.
- **Initiatives Related to Museums:**
 - **Museum Grant Scheme:**
 - The **Ministry of Culture** provides financial assistance under the Scheme to the State Governments and Societies, Autonomous bodies, Local Bodies and Trusts registered under the Societies Act, for setting up new Museums.
 - It also aims to strengthen and modernize the existing museums at the Regional, State and District level.
 - The **National Portal and Digital Repository for Indian Museums** (under the Ministry of Culture) have been launched for **digitisation of the collections** of the Museums.

Notable Museums in India

- National Museum, New Delhi (Subordinate Office under the Ministry of Culture).
- **National Gallery of Modern Art**, New Delhi
- Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad
- Indian Museum, Kolkata
- Archaeological Survey of India site Museum, Goa
- National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), New Delhi

Source : PIB

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