

3. The National Council of Science Museums

Prelims Level: Science Exploration

Mains Level: GS-III Science & Technology Developments and their Applications and Effects in everyday life achievements of Indians in Science & Technology indigenization's of Technology and Developing a Technology

Why in News?

- National Council of Science Museums, of the Culture Ministry, collaborated with Google Arts & Culture for the largest Interactive Online Exhibition on Inventions and Discoveries.

Highlights:

- The National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) had collaborated with Google Arts & Culture for 'Once upon a Try': Epic journeys of invention and discovery.
- It's the largest online exhibition about inventions and discoveries ever curated, as an attempt to explore humanity's greatest inventions and discoveries in an interactive online exhibition.
- The online exhibition contains collections, stories and knowledge from over 110 renowned institutions, across 23 countries, highlighting millennia of major breakthroughs and the great minds behind them.

National Council of Science Museums (NCSM):

- The National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) was established in 1978, as a central coordinating agency for national science museums.
- It's an organization jointly under the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Science & Technology (DST). It's considered an autonomous Science & Technology institution.
- NCSM is the world's largest network of science centres and museums that functions under a single administrative umbrella which is primarily engaged in popularizing science and technology.
- NCSM is formed by the government based on the recommendations of Taskforce formed by the Planning Commission in the early 1970s to assess the activities of the Science Museums.

Mobile Science Exhibition (SCIENCE EXPLORER):

- Mobile Science Exhibition (MSE) programme, was originally launched as a Mobile Science Museum (MSM) in 1965.

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- It's mission being 'If the people cannot visit the museum, let the museum visit the people at their doorsteps.'
 - It's the largest and the longest-running outreach programme of NCSM.

Significance:

- **It has been Very Successful In:**
 - ✓ Supplementing formal education with a non-formal mode of science education
 - ✓ Creating a scientific awareness in society and,
 - ✓ Nurturing scientific temper and creative potential of the young people in the areas where MSE programmes are conducted.

