Prelim Bits 02-07-2017

INAM-Pro +

\n\n

\n
- INAM-Pro+ is an upgraded version of INAM-Pro, the web portal launched by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
\n
- INAM Pro is a common platform to bring cement buyers and sellers together and made it very convenient for the buyers to procure cement at reasonable rates in a transparent manner.
\n
- INAM-Pro+ is upgraded to include the A to Z of construction materials, equipments and services like purchase/hiring/lease of new/used products in the domains of construction materials viz, cement, steel, bitumen, stone aggregates, concrete, bricks, wood, sanitary items, paint etc.
\n

\n\n

Zika Virus

\n\n

\n
- Recently, one of the blood samples collected from Ahmedabad municipality tested positive for Zika virus.
\n
- Zika virus is a member of the virus family Flaviviridae.
\n
- It is spread mostly by the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito (Ae. aegypti and Ae. albopictus).
\n
- Its name comes from the Zika Forest of Uganda, where the virus was first isolated in 1947.
\n
- It can be passed from a pregnant woman to her fetus. Infection during pregnancy can cause certain birth defects.
\n
- There is no vaccine or medicine for Zika.
\n

- Zika infection during pregnancy can cause a birth defect of the brain called microcephaly and other severe brain defects. It is also linked to other problems, such as miscarriage, stillbirth, and other birth defects.
  \n
- There have also been increased reports of Guillain-Barré syndrome, an uncommon sickness of the nervous system, in areas affected by Zika.
  \n

\n\n

Slum Yuva Daud

\n\n

\n

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting flagged off the 5 th Mega Slum Yuva Daud.
  \n
- The Slum Yuva Daud is part of the Adopt Slum Campaign initiated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.
  \n
- It aims to involve youngsters in constructive activities to keep the away from anti-social evils such as drug abuse and violence and to utilize their power in for development.
  \n
- The initiative also encouraged the youngsters to participate in sporting events, competitions to utilize their time and skills to achieve big in life.
  \n
- “Adopt a Slum” campaign will involve groups like NSS, public schools, RWAs, NGOs and Rotary clubs etc.
  \n

\n\n

Solar Energy Production and Air Pollution

\n\n

\n

- Recent study has revealed that global solar energy production is taking a major hit due to air pollution and dust.
  \n
- The study shows airborne particles and their accumulation on solar cells is cutting energy output by more than 25 percent in certain parts of the world.
  \n
- The regions hardest hit are also those investing the most in solar energy installations such as China, India and the Arabian Peninsula.
  \n

- The human made pollutants composed of carbon and ion pollutants blocks more light efficiently than natural dust and contribute to more energy loss from solar production.
  \n
- The Arabian Peninsula loses much more solar power to dust than it does human made pollutants. But the reverse is true for regions of China, and regions of India.
  \n

\n

