# Prelim Bits 03-02-2018

## Shigmo Festival

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- Shigmo is the traditional spring festival celebrated by farmers in rural Goa.
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- It is an annual float parade held in major cities of the state.
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- The Goan folk art such as **GhodeModni, Goff, and Fugdi** are performed.
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- It was traditionally celebrated as the homecoming of the warriors who had left their homes and families at the end of Dusshera to fight invaders.
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## World Wetlands Day

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- Feburary 2$^{nd}$ of every year is celebrated as world wetlands day, marking the adoption of Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
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- The MoEF&CC in collaboration with Department of Forests, Assam government is organizing the national-level celebration of World Wetlands Day (WWD), 2018 at DeeporBeel, a Ramsar Site in Guwahati,Assam.
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- The 2018 theme **'Wetlands for a sustainable urban future**' marks the role of healthy wetlands play in making cities and towns liveable.
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## Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

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- The Convention was adopted in 1971 at the Iranian City of Ramsar.

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- It is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
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- India is a party to the Convention since 1982.
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- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is the nodal Ministry for wetlands conservation in India.
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- Wetlands in India account for 4.7% of the total geographical area
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## Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)

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- IWAI signed an project agreement with the world bank for the **Jal Marg Vikas** on Ganga (NW1)
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- The IWAIcame into existence for development and regulation of inland waterways for shipping and navigation.
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- Functions of IWAI with respect to National Waterways
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1. Survey
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2. Navigation, Infrastructure and Regulations
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3. Fairway Development
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4. Pilotage
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5. Coordination of IWT with other modes
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## Initiatives of FSSAI for Nutritional and Safe Food

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- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has developed science-based standards for various categories of food products to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food in the country.
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- FSSAI has introduced **+F Logo** for **fortified** foods.
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- To promote awareness among consumers on Nutrition, mandatory labelling requirements for pre-packaged foods, is prescribed.
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- FSSAI has also undertaken '**Safe and Nutritious Food (SNF)'initiative** to promote awareness towards consumption of safe and nutritious food.
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## Rabi Crops Sowing

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- The area under the sowing reached 324 lakh hectares
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- The word 'rabi' in Arabic means **winter**
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- Rabi crops are sown in winter from Octoberto December and harvested in summer fromApril to June.
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- Some of the important rabi cropsare wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard.
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- Punjab, Haryana,Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir,Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh are importantfor the production of  rabicrops.
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- Western temperate cyclones during winter provides the precipitation in these areas
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### Source: PIB, The Hindu, BusinessLine, Business Standard

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