Prelim Bits 03-04-2017

Grassoline

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- It is a sustainable energy resource, a biofuel derived from grass that could power aircraft.
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- The grass is pre-treated to improve its biodegradability and then bacteria are added which convert the sugars in the grass into lactic acid.
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- This lactic acid can serve as an intermediate chemical to produce other compounds such as biodegradable plastics (PLA) or fuels.
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- The lactic acid is then converted into caproic acid, which is further converted into Decane which can be used in aviation fuel.
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Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana

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- It is a scheme launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
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- It is a scheme for providing physical aids and assisted-living devices for **Senior citizens belonging to BPL category**.
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- The devices will be distributed in camp mode and will be implemented by ‘Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)’, a Public Sector Undertaking under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
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- This is a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Central Government.
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- The expenditure for implementation of the scheme will be met from the "Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund".
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- Beneficiaries in each district will be identified by the State

Governments/UT Administrations through a Committee chaired by the Deputy Commissioner/District Collector.
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Gokul Grams

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- Gokul grams are being established under the **Rashtriya Gokul Mission** scheme which will function as centres for the development and protection of Indigenous cattle breeds.
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- The aim of these centres is to develop and conserve existing indigenous breeds recognised by National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources. No new breeds are proposed to be developed at these centres.
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- Funds released for implementation of Rashtriya Gokul Mission is a part of National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development.
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National Tribal and North East Art Conclave

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- The conclave is organized by Lalit Kala Akademy under Minsitry of Culture.
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- It is a unique artistic event representing the important schools of Indian tribal art, alongside other art genres.
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- The conclave platform features different forms of tribal art such as Cheriyal painters from Telangana, Patachitra art from Odisha, fresco paintings from Rajasthan, Bhil, Mina works and Paintings on leather by artists from Andhra Pradesh.
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