Prelim Bits 04-01-2017

Striped Hyenas bred at Visakhapatnam Zoo

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- Indira Gandhi Zoological Park in Visakhapatnam is the third zoo in the country to have successfully **recorded captive breeding** of hyenas.
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- The striped hyena is a species of hyaena native to North and East Africa, the Middle East, the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Indian subcontinent.
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- It is listed by the IUCN as **near-threatened**.
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- Though primarily a scavenger, large specimens have been known to kill their own prey and striped hyenas is the smallest of the true hyenas.
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- The striped hyena is a **monogamous animal** i.e the state of having only one mate at any one time and it is **nocturnal** i.e emerges only in darkness
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Promoting Start-ups in Biology space

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- The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (Hyderabad) has built iHUB, a Hyderabad-based innovation centre to promote start-ups in the biology space.
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- The Start-ups plans to establish its innovative processes in the production of Biosimilars and Bioartis.
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- **Biosimilars** - a biopharmaceutical drug designed to have active properties similar to one that has previously been licensed.
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- **Bioartis** will be involved in optimising and validating novel diagnosis methods for diseases of marine and animal origin and developing diagnostic kits for such marine diseases.

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National Tribunal for Adoption

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- The Centre has proposed a dedicated National Tribunal for adoption to deal mounting number of adoption cases.
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- Under the amended Juvenile Justice Act of 2015, no judge should keep an adoption-related case pending for more than two hearings spread over two months.
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- In a related matter, T**he National Commission for Protection of Child Rights -** the apex child right's body has prepared the Guidelines for Private Playschools with an important change that no child below the age of three would be allowed to be admitted to any such school.
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Paytm gets final approval for payments bank

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- Paytm, launched three years ago as a mobile wallet, is now aiming to build a new business model in the banking industry.
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- By launching payment bank, paytm has focussed on bringing financial services to the un-served Indians.
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