Prelim Bits 04-07-2018

Repatriation of Bru refugees

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- The Centre and the state governments of Tripura and Mizoram has recently signed an agreement for repatriation of Bru community from Tripura to Mizoram.
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- The central government will provide financial assistance for rehabilitation of Bru community members in Mizoram.
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- The Bru militancy was a reactionary movement against Mizo nationalist groups.
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- Mizo nationalists had demanded in the mid-1990s that the Brus be left out of the state's electoral rolls, contending that the tribe was not indigenous to Mizoram.
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- In 1997, the murder of a Mizo forest guard at the Dampa Tiger Reserve in Mizoram allegedly by Bru militants led to a violent backlash against the community.
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- It forced several thousand people belonging to Bru community to flee to neighbouring Tripura.
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- The displaced Bru people from Mizoram have been living in various camps in Tripura since 1997.
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MOVE: Global Mobility Summit

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- India’s **first ever mobility summit** will be organised by NITI Aayog, in collaboration with various ministries and industry partners.
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- It will be held in New Delhi in the month of September, 2018.
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- The summit will give impetus for vehicle electrification, renewable energy integration, job growth and speed up India’s transition to a clean energy economy.
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- It will see participation from major global players offering first-hand perspective on automotive solutions, upcoming trends in the logistics sector.
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- The conclave would include panel discussions featuring global CEOs and transport ministers from across the world.
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- It will see participation from countries like Netherlands, Slovakia, USA, UK, Netherlands, China, South Korea, Australia etc.
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- NITI Aayog has also been working towards evolving a National Strategy for Transforming Mobility.
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Behdienkhlam

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- It is Meghalaya’s annual cultural festival.
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- It is celebrated in the month of July all over the Jaintia hills for good health, property and bumper harvest.
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- The main spectacle happens at the small peripheral town of Jowai, 64 km away from Shillong, Meghalaya.
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- The non-Christian ‘Pnar’ people who believe either in the traditional faith of ‘Niamtre’ or Hinduism observe this festival.
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cVIGIL

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- cVIGIL is a mobile app launched by Election Commission of India.
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- It enables citizens to report on violation of code of conduct during elections.

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- The application will be active only in States where elections have been announced.
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- The moment a citizen exits an election-bound State, the app will become inactive.
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- To prevent any misuse, the app will not allow uploading of the pre-recorded or old images and videos.
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- The app will be made available for general use by all, from the forthcoming Assembly elections in the States of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Rajasthan.
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Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) 2018

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- The conference is to be held **in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia** in the month of July.
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- Theme of the AMCDRR 2018 is 'Preventing Disaster Risk: Protecting Sustainable Development'.
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- It will enable governments and stakeholders to review progress made against the commitments at the AMCDRR 2016, i.e. the New Delhi Declaration, the Asia Regional Plan.
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- It will provide a unique forum for those countries and cities that have not yet developed and/or updated their Disaster Risk Reduction strategies under the Sendai framework.
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- India will participate in this conference and also organize a side event on Cultural Heritage and Disaster Risk Management.
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Koala bear

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- Recently, an international team of scientists has successfully sequenced the

whole genome of Koala bear.
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- It is a tree-dwelling marsupial of coastal eastern Australia.
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- They have exceptional parental care and strange eating habits that they enjoy the leaves of eucalyptus that would be toxic or even fatal to most mammals.
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- They are born after just 34-36 days of gestation without an immune system and spend almost six months developing in the pouch.
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- It is listed as “Vulnerable” under IUCN’s Red Data Book.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu

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