

Prelim Bits 04-10-2017

Turtle Sanctuary

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- Ministry of Water resources has approved setting up of a Turtle sanctuary in Allahabad under Namami Gange Programme.

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- The Project envisioned the development of River Biodiversity Park along with Turtle rearing centre.

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- The Biodiversity Park will be located at confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and Mythical Saraswati, popularly known as Sangam.

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- Rivers Ganga and Yamuna at Allahabad are home to some of the most endangered fauna like turtles, Gangetic dolphin, Gharial and other migratory birds.

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India Economic Summit

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- 33rd India Economic Summit is organised by World Economic Forum in partnership with Industry body Confederation of Indian Industry.

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- The summit will host leaders from 35 countries, discussing issues such as climate change, infrastructure, gender parity, tourism, education and skills.

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- The recent economic reforms, including demonetization and the goods and services tax, will be prominently featured in the programme.

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INS Chakra

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- INS Chakra belongs to Akula-class nuclear powered Submarine.
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- It was taken from Russia on a 10 year lease period.
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- Originally named as K-152 Nerpa, it was handed over to the Indian Navy in 2011.
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- Though it is a nuclear powered submarine, it carries only conventional weapons and not nuclear tipped missiles.
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- It is based at INS Virbahu, the submarine base in Visakhapatnam.
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- It is the second nuclear submarine after the indigenously built INS Arihant.
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- INS Arihant is capable of launching nuclear-tipped submarine ballistic missiles.
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Khanderi

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- It is the second Scorpene Submarine built under the Project-75, following INS Kalvari.
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- It was named after an island fort of Maratha ruler Chhatrapati Shivaji.
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- It was launched in January and sea trials have begun. It is expected to be commissioned within this year.
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- It is followed by third Scorpene Submarine known as “Karanj”.
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- Scorpene Submarines are class of diesel-electric attack submarine which is designed by French naval defence and energy company DCNS and being manufactured by Mazagon Dock Limited in Mumbai.
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- It features additional air-independent propulsion (AIP).
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Swayam

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- The Right to Education Act was amended to offer untrained school teachers a window to acquire required qualification.
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- It was done to improve the quality of education in government and private schools.
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- Many untrained school teachers have enrolled for a training course in National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to get themselves trained by 2019 to retain their jobs.
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- Courses will be offered through Swayam which is a platform for online education.
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PMIS App

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- Project Monitoring Information System (PMIS) mobile app was launched by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).
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- The app will facilitate in-house monitoring on NHAI projects and real time status of the highway across the country.
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Insecticide Poisoning

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- An insecticide poisoning occurs when chemicals intended to control an insect affect non-target organisms such as humans, wildlife, or bees.
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- Usually Insecticide poisoning occurs in 3 ways,\n
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 - Single and short-term very high level of exposure - Acute poisoning
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 - Long-term high-level exposure - Occur in pesticide formulators and manufacturers.
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 - Long-term low-level exposure - Individuals are exposed to residues in food as well as in the air, water, soil, sediment, food materials, plants

and animals.

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- The farmers in Vidarbha's yavatmal district have lost their lives due to improper spraying of an **insecticide Profex super**.
- Indiscriminate use of wrong combinations of insecticides and direct and continuous exposure of toxic substances owing to lack of protective gear were the reasons for the death of the farmers.

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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Line.

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