Prelim Bits 04-10-2018

Global Skills Park (GSP)

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- Global Skills Park is going to be established in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
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- It is funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB).
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- ADB and Government of India recently signed a $150 million loan agreement to establish the park.
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- GSP is the first multi-skills park in India.
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- It aims to enhance the quality of Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET) System in the State and create a more skilled workforce.
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- The GSP campus will be in Bhopal which consists of
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i. Core Advanced Training Institutes including the Center for Occupational Skills Acquisition,
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ii. Center for Advanced Agricultural Training and
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iii. Other support services focusing on entrepreneurship, training of trainers, and skill-related research.
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Asian Development Bank

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- ADB was conceived in the early 1960s as a financial institution that would

be Asian in character and foster economic growth and cooperation in one of the poorest regions in the world.
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- It is headquartered at Manila, Philippines.
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- ADB now has 67 members of which 48 from within Asia and Pacific while remaining 19 from outside.
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- The bank admits the members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and non-regional developed countries.
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- ADB assists its members, and partners, by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development.
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- ADB is modeled closely on the World Bank, and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion with members' capital subscriptions.
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- India is a founding member and the fourth largest shareholder.
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- **ADB's recent projects in India** - Safe drinking water project in West Bengal, Sewerage and drainage project in Kolkata.
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- **Other Projects** - East coast economic corridor, solar rooftop investment program, Mechi river bridge project in Indo-Nepal border, TAPI gas pipeline, South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Program, supporting fiscal reforms in West Bengal State.
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Udyam Abhilasha

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- It is a National Level Entrepreneurship Awareness Campaign.
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- It is organised by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
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- The campaign is organised in 115 Aspirational Districts identified by NITI Aayog in 28 States and reaching to around 15,000 youth.
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- It provides entrepreneurship training to the aspiring youths across these

districts thus encouraging them to enter the segment of entrepreneurs.
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- It focuses on women aspirants in these aspirational districts to encourage women entrepreneurship.
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- The campaign will be delivered through common service centres (CSC) in these districts.
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- SIDBI has partnered with a CSC Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV).
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- CSC e-Governance Services India Limited is set up by the Ministry of Electronics & IT.
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RE-INVEST

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- RE-INVEST is a global platform to explore strategies for development and deployment of renewables.
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- It showcases India’s clean energy market and the Government’s efforts to scale up capacity to meet the national energy demands in sustainable ways.
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- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is organising 2nd global RE-INVEST expo in Greater Noida, UP.
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- It will build upon the success of RE-INVEST 2015.
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- It provides an international forum to established players as well as new segments of investors and entrepreneurs to engage, ideate and innovate.
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World Peace Monument

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- Vice President of India has recently inaugrated the world’s largest dome at the Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT).
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- It is built atop the MIT World Peace Library and the World Peace Prayer Hall in World Peace University Campus in MIT.
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- The structure is called World Peace Monument.
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- It is 160ft in diameter and larger in area than the dome at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.
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- MIT World Peace Library and Prayer Hall are named after the 13th century poet-saint and philosopher Dnyaneshwar, a pivotal figure of the Bhakti movement in Maharashtra.
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Marrakesh Treaty

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- European Union has recently ratified Marrakesh Treaty to ease access to reading material for print-disabled people.
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- Marrakesh Treaty was adopted by United Nations - World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).
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- With the ratification of European Union, the treaty now expands to 70 countries.
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- India was among the earliest to ratify the Marrakesh treaty in June 2014.
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- The governments that are party to the Marrakesh treaty are obliged to adopt laws authorising the conversion of books into accessible formats such as braille, e-text, audio and large print by designated organisations.
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- They are also allowed to exchange these alternative formats across national borders without clearance by copyright owners.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu

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