Prelim Bits 10-03-2018

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

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- India is to become the 69th member of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).
- The London-headquartered EBRD is a multilateral development bank set up in 1991.
- It was set up after the fall of the Berlin wall to promote private and entrepreneurial initiative in emerging Europe.
- In 2017, the EBRD signed an accord to strengthen ties with the International Solar Alliance.
- The EBRD works closely with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).
- Click here to know more about EBRD.

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Albania's City of Ruins

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- The ruins of Butrint are situated in Albania, Southern Europe.
- It was called as Buthrotum in ancient time.
- It was inhabited since pre historic times.
- The site has been under the control of Greeks, Romans and a bishopric (a district under a bishop's control).

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- It is a UNESCO world heritage site
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- The city of ruins is a part of the Butrint National Park.
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Safe and Nutritious Food Initiative

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- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has undertaken several initiatives under ‘Safe and Nutritious Food’ (SNF) for citizen guidance and behavioral change viz:
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i) SNF@Home

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ii) SNF@School

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iii) SNF@Workplace

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iv) SNF@Eatout

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- The SNF portal serves as an online resource centre containing information pertaining to this initiative.
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- Resource materials, interactive guides on understanding food safety and nutrition are developed by FSSAI.
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- For the campaign it has published resource book regarding the steps to be taken,
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\n SNF@Home \n	\n Pink book \n
\n SNF@School \n	\n Yellow Book \n
\n SNF@Workplace \n	\n Orange Book \n

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Asiatic Lion (Panthera leo persica)

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- India’s endangered Asiatic lion population rose to 600, following the conservation efforts.
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- The species, which was found in the South West Asian region, is now restricted to the Gir Sanctuary in India.
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- Five protected areas currently exist to protect the Asian lion:
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1. Gir Sanctuary,
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2. Gir National Park
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3. Pania Sanctuary
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4. Mitiyala
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5. Girnar
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- The lions face the usual threats of poaching and habitat fragmentation.
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- Conservationists have suggested selective relocation of big cats to another sanctuary, to reduce human-animal conflict and avoid the risk of getting wiped out by disease or natural disaster.
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- It is an endangered species according to the IUCN Red list.
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- It is listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and also in Appendix I of CITES.
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CBRN emergencies

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- National Disaster Management Authority conducted training program for CBRN emergencies at Mumbai airport recently.
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- CBRN emergencies pertain to threats emanating due to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear material.
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- It is aimed at enhancing the preparedness of Airport Emergency Handlers (AEHs) to respond to CBRN emergencies at the airports.
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- The training program is being conducted in collaboration with the Airport Authority of India (AAI) and Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences (INMAS).
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Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016-2030

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- The WHO Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016-2030 was adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2015.
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- It provides a comprehensive framework to guide countries in their efforts to accelerate progress towards malaria elimination.
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- The strategy sets the target of reducing global malaria incidence and mortality rates by at least 90% by 2030.

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- It emphasizes the need for universal coverage of core malaria interventions for all populations at risk.
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- It highlights the importance of using high-quality surveillance data for decision-making.
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- The WHO strategy was developed in close alignment with the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership’s Action and Investment to defeat Malaria 2016-2030.
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Map of the Day

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South America

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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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