Prelim Bits 10-11-2018

Report on Child deaths

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- International Vaccine Access Centre (IVAC) has recently released Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report".
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- The report was released ahead of the 10th World Pneumonia Day on November 12.
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- The report looked at progress in fighting pneumonia and diarrhoea in 15 countries which accounted for 70% of global pneumonia and diarrhoea deaths in children under five.
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- Globally, pneumonia and diarrhoea led to nearly one of every four deaths in children under five years of age in 2016.
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- According to the report, India continues to have the highest burden of pneumonia and diarrhoea child deaths in the world.
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- India's progress – Coverage of Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) vaccine and introduction of rota virus vaccine led to improvement in addressing diarrhoea deaths.
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- Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) was introduced in 2017 under Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) to address pneumonia.
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Double Jeopardy

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- Article 20(2) of the constitution deals with Double Jeopardy. It mandates that a person cannot be prosecuted or punished twice for the same offence.
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- Recently, the Supreme Court has taken the issue of double jeopardy.
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- It has held that the bar of double jeopardy does not arise if an accused was discharged of a criminal offence, even before the commencement of trial.
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- The principles of double jeopardy cannot be invoked if the accused has not been tried at all and convicted or acquitted on the basis of an invalid sanction for prosecution.
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- The judgment is based on an appeal filed by the State of Mizoram against an order passed by the Gauhati High Court in August 2015.
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- Gauhati High Court upholds a special court decision to decline to entertain a second chargesheet filed in a corruption case against the accused on the ground of double jeopardy.
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- SC has observed that the accused was earlier discharged due to lack of proper sanction and the principle of double jeopardy did not apply.
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Disqualification of MLA

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- Kerala High Court has recently declared the election of Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) from the Azhikode assembly constituency for indulging in corrupt practices.
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- He was disqualified for corrupt practices covered under the Section 123(3) and 123(4) of Representation of People’s Act 1951.
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- Under section 123 of RPA, if a candidate or his agent appeals for votes on religious, caste, community, race and language grounds, it would amount to corrupt practice
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- The court declared the election of MLA citing that he appealed to the voters to vote for muslim community candidate.
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- The court also disqualified him from contesting any election for period of 6 years.
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- The findings of the court will be forwarded to the President for appropriate action.
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Myanmar Port Development by China

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- China has signed a multi-billion-dollar deal with Myanmar to build a port at a strategic town along the coast of the Bay of Bengal.
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- It will build the deep sea port project in Kyaukpyu town after negotiations dragged for years.
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- Under the framework agreement, China will fund 70% of the investment for the project and Myanmar will pitch in the remaining 30%.
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- This new framework agreement marks step for the China proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
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- China is also developing deepwater strategic Gwadar port in Pakistan in the Arabian Sea which faces the Mumbai coast.
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- It has also acquired Sri Lanka’s Hambantota port on debt swap in the Indian Ocean.
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Simbex

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- It is Singapore – India Maritime Bilateral Exercise.
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- This year edition is scheduled to be organized in Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
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- This year edition Simbex-18 marks silver jubilee of this maritime exercise and it is the largest edition since 1994.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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