Prelim Bits 11-03-2018

Multilateral Air Exercise 'Samvedna'

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- A Multilateral Air Force exercise, 'Ex Samvedna', is being spearheaded by Indian Air Force.
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- 'Samvedna' means 'Empathy' and it will ensure better understanding and sharing of response procedures between a numbers of friendly neighboring nations.
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- It is the first composite HADR Air exercise in the South Asian region.
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- The focus is on practicing Air Force centric HADR solutions in a Multi-national cooperative Disaster Management environment.
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- Air Forces of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, UAE and Myanmar had committed resources and personnel for the exercise.
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Kidney related disease

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- The Indian Council of Medical Research (IMA) said the prevalence of kidney-related diseases has almost doubled in the past decade and is expected to rise further.
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- The risk of developing chronic kidney disease (CKD) is at least as high in women as in men.
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- The number of women on dialysis in India is lower than the number of men.
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- The IMA launched a Kidney Disease Prevention project for screening and creating awareness drives to identify the population at risk.
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- Indian Medical Association is a representative voluntary organization of

Doctors of Modern Scientific System of Medicine.
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Threat to Coral Sediments

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- According to journal Science, ocean acidification is eroding the coral reef systems.
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- Coral reefs are formed by the calcium carbonate skeletons and also carbonate sediments which accumulate on them over thousands of years.
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- Calcium carbonate skeletons are created by tiny animals called coral polyps.
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- Ocean acidification is lowering of sea water's pH when it absorbs the excess, human-caused carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
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- It prevents polyps from building their stony skeletons.
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- Coral reefs span 3,062 sq. km in India.
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- Many coral species are included in the Schedule 1 of the Wildlife protection Act.
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BioNEST

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- University of Hyderabad (UoH) had launched the Bio-Incubator to facilitate start-ups and entrepreneurship ventures.
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- The BioNEST (Bio-Incubator Nurturing Entrepreneurship for Scaling Technologies) was inaugurated on the occasion of `National Science Day'.
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- It was supported by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a unit of the Department of Biotechnology.
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- The BioNEST will incubate start-ups and entrepreneurs in the life sciences, biotechnology, healthcare and allied areas of research.
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Initiatives launched on International women’s day

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Udyam Sakhi Portal

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1. It was for Women Entrepreneurs
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2. On the occasion of International Women’s Day the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(MSME) launched the portal for women entrepreneurs of India
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3. The portal is a network for nurturing entrepreneurship and creating business models for low cost products.
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4. The portal provides assistance through its platform for entrepreneurship learning tools, incubation facility, training programs
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Women Entrepreneurship Platform

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1. It was launched by Niti Ayog.
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2. The initiative is aimed at building an ecosystem for women across India to realize their entrepreneurial aspirations, scale-up innovative initiatives and chalk-out sustainable, long-term strategies for their businesses.
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3. the three pillars on which WEP is built:
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A. Ichha Shakti (motivating aspiring entrepreneurs to start their enterprise)
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B. Gyaan Shakti (providing knowledge and ecosystem support to women entrepreneurs to help them foster entrepreneurship)
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c. Karma Shakti (providing hands-on support to entrepreneurs in setting-up and scaling up businesses).
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WHO new guidelines on Tobacco Products

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- World Health Organization has launched new guidelines on the role that tobacco product regulations can play.
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- The focus is on reducing tobacco demand, saving lives and raising revenues for health services to treat tobacco-related diseases.
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- The new guide, titled 'Tobacco product regulation: Building laboratory testing capacity' was included in the publication that was launched in the 17th World Conference on Tobacco or Health, 2018.
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- The new guidelines provide practical, stepwise approaches to implementing tobacco testing
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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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