Prelim Bits 13-04-2018

Index of Economic Freedom

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- Index of Economic Freedom is published by Heritage Foundation, an American think-tank.
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- The Index covers 12 freedoms – from property rights to financial freedom – in 186 countries.
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- The Index of Economic Freedom documents the positive relationship between economic freedom and a variety of positive social and economic goals.
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- Economic freedom is measured based on 12 quantitative and qualitative factors, grouped into four broad categories of economic freedom:
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1. Rule of Law (property rights, government integrity, judicial effectiveness)
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2. Government Size (government spending, tax burden, fiscal health)
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3. Regulatory Efficiency (business freedom, labor freedom, monetary freedom)
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4. Open Markets (trade freedom, investment freedom, financial freedom)
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- India moved up to the 130th spot, up from 143 in 2017.
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- India's overall score increased by 1.9 points, led by improvements in judicial effectiveness, business freedom, government integrity, and fiscal health.
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- Economic freedom is the fundamental right of every human to control his or her own labor and property.

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Mahatma Phule

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- Prime Minister paid tributes to Mahatma Phule on his birth anniversary recently.
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- Phule was India’s first Dalit reformer who offered a systematic theory of caste.
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- In the 19th century, Jyotiba Phule was the most radical opponent of untouchability and the caste system as he called for the complete demolition of its oppressive structure.
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- The Maharashtrian reformer and his wife Savitrirao Phule opened the **first-ever school for Dalit girls** in 1848 in Pune.
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- **Gulamgiri (slavery)** is one of the 16 books written by him which was dedicated to the African-American movement to end slavery.
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- Phule led the foundation of **Satyashodhak Samaj** (‘Seekers of Truth’) in 1848 in a bid to attain equal social and economic benefits for the lower castes in Maharashtra.
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Rare sculpture of Rudrama Devi’s ‘last battle’ discovered

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- A sculptural slab carved in granite that has a life-size portrait of Kakatiya warrior queen Rudrama Devi was discovered by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
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- It was discovered in the sanctum sanctorum of Trikuta temple at Bekkallu village in Siddipet district of Telegana.
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- The discovery has unraveled the mystery of her death who was killed during a war by her own subordinate chief kayastha king Ambadeva somewhere near Warangal.
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- The portrait sculpture is a first of its kind that displays a fierce fighting scene between Rudrama Devi and Ambadeva.
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- The Kakatiya dynasty was a South Indian dynasty whose capital was Orugallu, now known as Warangal in the State of Telegana.
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- Rudrama devi was one of the very few women to rule as monarchs in India and promoted a male image in order to do so.
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Guidance to increase support for breastfeeding

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- World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) issued a new 10-step guidance to increase support for breastfeeding in health facilities recently.
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- Health facilities provide the immediate health system platform to help mothers initiate breastfeeding within the first hour and breastfeed exclusively for six months.
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- Breastfeeding all babies for the first 2 years would save the lives of **more than 8, 20,000 children under age 5 annually**, noted a release issued by the WHO.
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- Key features of the Guidelines include
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1. Hospitals should have a written breastfeeding policy in place, required staff competencies.
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2. Hospitals should also have an antenatal and post-birth care, including breastfeeding support for mothers.
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3. It recommends limited use of breast milk substitutes, rooming-in, responsive feeding.
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4. Finally it stresses upon support when mothers and babies are discharged from hospital and also educating parents on the use of bottles and pacifiers.
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- **MAA – Mothers' Absolute Affection**, a nation-wide program for promoting breastfeeding is in place under the Ministry of Health and family welfare, in India.
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Green Trains for Green India

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- As per estimation, approx. 4,000 MT of human waste is discharged from train coaches every day.
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- Indian Railways has provided about 1, 25,000 bio-toilets in its coaches till March 2018.
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- With the proliferation of bio-toilets in 60% coaches commensurate human discharge in open, has been eliminated.
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- "Bio-Toilet project" of Indian Railways is an innovative & indigenous development of technology.
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- This technology is first of its kind being used by any railroad in the world for **On-board accelerated digestion of human waste**.
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- The human waste discharged in the bio-toilets is acted upon by a colony of **anaerobic bacteria** that convert human waste mainly into water and small amount of bio-gases.
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- The gases escape into atmosphere and waste water is discharged after chlorination onto the track.
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- It was developed jointly by Indian Railways' Engineers & DRDO's scientists.
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- It is one example where the technology developed for defence applications has been utilized for civilian purpose.
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Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System 1I

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- Navigation satellite IRNSS-1I was put in orbit by the Indian Space Research Organization’s (ISRO) PSLV-C41 rocket.
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- The navigation satellites are meant for giving precise information of position, navigation and time of objects or people.
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- The satellites will form the fleets of NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation).
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- NavIC is being dubbed as India’s Own GPS.
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- The satellites were built by a consortium of six Indian companies led by Alpha Design Technologies Ltd., Bengaluru.
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- They have a civilian and a restricted military/security application.
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- Like all other IRNSS satellites, IRNSS-1I will also carry two payloads
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1. Navigation payload former to transmit signals for determining position, velocity and time.
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2. Ranging payload for determining the frequency range of the satellite.
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- Each satellite has a life span of 10 years.
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- The system was planned to consist of 7 satellites (A,B,C,D,E,F,G) with 2 substitutes (H and I).
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- Out of 7 satellites A, B, F, G will be in geosynchronous and C, D, E will be in geostationary orbit.
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- IRNSS 1H, was unsuccessful as the satellite did not come out of its heat

shield.
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- While IRNSS 1I will replace IRNSS 1A as its three imported rubidium atomic clocks failed while in orbit.
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Map of the Day

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India Tiger Reserves

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- In total, there are 50 tiger reserves in the country.
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- Kamlang Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh is the 50th tiger reserve and latest addition in the country.
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- The following are the states with only one tiger reserve
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1. Valmiki -Bihar
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2. Palamau- Jharkhand
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3. Dampa –Mizoram
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4. Nagarjunasagar Srisailam (NSTR)- Andhra Pradesh
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- Amrabad Tiger Reserve was earlier part of Nagarjunasagar – Srisailam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) but, post-bifurcation, the northern part of the reserve is vested with Telangana and renamed as Amrabad Tiger Reserve and the southern part (NSTR) is with Andhra Pradesh.
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- Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Goa, Sikkim, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur are the states with no tiger reserves in their region.
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- The tiger reserve in the four corner of our states
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1. Rajaji Tiger Reserve (Uttrakhand) -North
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2. Kalakad-Mundanthurai (KMTR) - South
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3. Namdapha (Arunachal Pradesh) - East
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4. Sahyadri (Maharashtra) – West
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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business standard

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