Prelim Bits 13-05-2017

How body fights harmful bacteria?

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- Researchers have found how our body quickly prevents an infection from spreading uncontrollably during wound healing, an advance that may lead to new ways to counteract harmful bacteria.
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- A new study found that fragments of thrombin (a common blood protein found in wounds) can aggregate both bacteria and their toxins, something that was not see in normal blood plasma.
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- The aggregation takes place quickly and causes bacteria and toxins **not only to gather but also to be "eaten"** by the body's inflammatory cells.
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- This way, the body avoids the spread of the infection.
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Integrated Case Management System

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- The system will help litigants access data and retrieve information online and will be a step towards a **paperless Supreme Court.**
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- ICMIS, among other things, will provide information on:\n
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  - Next tentative date of listing generated through e-process
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  - Categories and Acts & Section
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  - Office Reports
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  - Listing dates
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  - Judgement/Orders
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    - Tracking of file movement
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    - Status of the notice issued
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- Along with this, there will also be an online court fee calculator and an online limitation calculator, apart from an online court fee payment gateway according to barandbech.com.
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- With the help of a new software, **High Court will be able to access the case records** and it will reduce the repetition of case data entries in the Supreme Court.
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Navy Exercises

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- Both INS Sahyadri and Kamorta are on a port visit to Singapore from May 12 to May 21, during which the vessels will participate in the **International Maritime Review and lMDEX-17.**
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- Later, the four ships (Sahyadri, Shivalik, Jyoti and Kamorta) and a P-8I long range maritime patrol and anti-submarine warfare aircraft will participate in an exercise with Singapore’s Navy and Air Force as part of **SIMBEX-17,** the annual maritime bilateral exercises.
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- Held since 1994, this year would be the 24th edition of the annual maritime bilateral exercise between the two countries which aims to further cement the defence cooperation between the two countries.
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Methane into Methanol

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- Researchers have developed a one-step process that **uses water to convert methane to methanol.**
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- Methane has been identified as a greenhouse gas. Whereas, Methanol, on the other hand, has been considered **a good alternative to gasoline for**

use in automobile engines.
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- It is currently made using a variety of techniques and basic materials including coal, natural gas and even municipal waste.
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- In this new effort, **water is used to oxidize methane** over a bed of copper containing zeolite — the unique structure of the mineral lets the water behave as an oxidant.
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- The team claims the process is 97% efficient, emitting only methanol and hydrogen.
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