Prelim Bits 13-08-2018

Parker Solar Probe

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- NASA’s Parker Solar Probe is the mankind’s first mission to ‘touch’ the Sun.
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- Parker Solar probe will perform the closest-ever observations of the Sun’s outer atmosphere, called the corona.
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- Corona is a region of the Sun only seen from Earth when the Moon blocks out the Sun’s bright face during total solar eclipses.
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- This probe will take a seven-year long journey to unlock the mysteries of Sun’s fiery outer atmosphere and its effects on space weather.
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SSLV

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- A small Indian satellite launch vehicle has been developed by ISRO, it costs looks set to revolutionise the global satellite launch industry.
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- The Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) will be an on-demand rocket for small satellites weighing about 500-700 kg, it will act as a quick response space vehicle.
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- It will be autonomous and highly intelligent, versatile and capable of adapting to different launch situations and requirements.
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PEGylated Streptokinase

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- CSIR has developed a Novel Biological Entity (NBE), new Clot buster, PEGylated Streptokinase.
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- Novel Biological Entity (NBE) is a thrombolytic protein for ischemic stroke.
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- PEGylated Streptokinase would reduce the probability of haemorrhage over current treatment regimens of thrombolytic drugs for acute stroke.
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- This technology is all set to revolutionize the treatment of ischemic strokes.
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Ischemic Stroke

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- Deprived of oxygen and other nutrients, the brain suffers damage as a result of the stroke.
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- Ischemic stroke is a condition caused by a dysfunction in the supply of blood to the brain.
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- Ischemic stroke can be divided into two main types:
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1. Thrombotic stroke - It occurs when diseased or damaged cerebral arteries become blocked by the formation of a blood clot within the brain.
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2. Embolic strokes - It is caused by a blood clot or plaque debris that develops elsewhere in the body and then travels to one of the blood vessels in the brain through the bloodstream.
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Caspian Sea

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- The Caspian Sea is the largest enclosed inland body of water on Earth by area, variously classed as the world's largest lake or a full-fledged sea.
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- It is an endorheic basin (a basin without outflows) located between Europe

and Asia.
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- It is bounded by Kazakhstan to the northeast, Russia to the northwest, Azerbaijan to the west, Iran to the south, and Turkmenistan to the southeast..
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- Recently the five nations which shares borders with Caspian Sea has signed a deal to share the resource-rich Caspian Sea after more than two decades of dispute.
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Source: PIB, the Hindu, Live Mint

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