Prelim Bits 13-11-2018

Samudra Shakti

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\n
- It is a bilateral naval exercise between India and Indonesia.
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- It is going to be organised at port of Surabaya, Java.
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- Indian Naval Ship Rana is going to participate in this year edition of the exercise.
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- The aim of the exercise is to strengthen bilateral relations, expand maritime co-operation, enhance interoperability and exchange best practices.
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- India and Indonesia shares “Comprehensive Strategic Partnership”.
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Point Calimere Sanctuary

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- It is the only Ramsar site in the State of Tamil Nadu.
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- It is a mix of salt swamps, mangroves, backwaters, mudflats, grasslands and tropical dry evergreen forest.
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- It is a haven for migratory birds and resident species.
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- Chemical companies and small-scale shrimp farms around the wetland have started to pose a threat to the biodiversity and ecosystem of the sanctuary.
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- Atmospheric temperature, pH and salinity exceeded the permissible limits for ecologically sensitive zones.
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- The presence of salt pans around the sanctuary lead to increase in salinity of the waters.
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- Previous studies show that, high acidic or high alkaline water can affect the metabolic and developmental activities of wild animals and birds.
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- Coliform microbial infection in the birds have also been reported which can cause a change in their natural behaviour and even affect their long-distance migration.
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Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund

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- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Energy Efficiency Services (EESL) signed a USD 13 million grant to set up Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund.
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- The fund is to be administered by ADB.
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- It aims to expand and sustain investments in the energy efficiency market in India, build market diversification, and scale up existing technologies.
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- Global Environment Facility (GEF) will provide the additional financing for the ongoing projects under this fund.
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- Additional grants from GEF will be used by EESL for making investments in new and emerging technologies.
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- EESL is under the administration of Ministry of Power and is working towards mainstreaming energy efficiency.
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Click here to know about GEF.

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INSPIRE

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- The 2nd edition of INSPIRE (International Symposium to Promote Innovation & Research in Energy Efficiency) was recently inaugurated.
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- It is being organised by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) and

World Bank.
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- Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI), Asian Development Bank (ADB), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) are the other collaborators for the symposium.
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- It focuses on enhancing grid management, e-Mobility, financial instruments and technologies for energy efficiency in India.
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- Awards for InnovateToINSPIRE, a first-of-its-kind energy innovation challenge, was also given in the symposium.
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INSPIRE Programme

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- Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Programme is sponsored and managed by Ministry of Science & Technology.
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- The basic objective of INSPIRE is to attract young talents to the study of science and build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening R & D base.
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- The programme does not conduct any competitive exams for identification of talent at any level.
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- It relies on the existing educational structure for identification of talent.
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- The programme has three components:
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1. Scheme for Early Attraction of Talent- (SEATS)
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2. Scholarship for Higher Education- (SHE)
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3. Assured Opportunity for Research Careers - (AORC)
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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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