Prelim Bits 15-03-2018

Indian-based Neutrino Observatory

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- The India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) project was granted environmental clearance by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF)
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- The initial goal of INO is to study neutrinos
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- Neutrinos are subatomic particles produced by the decay of radioactive elements and are elementary particles that lack an electric charge.
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- The site of INO is in the West Bodi Hills of Theni district in the state of Tamil Nadu.
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- The project includes
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(a) Construction of an underground laboratory and associated surface facilities at Pottipuram in Bodi West hills

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(b) Construction of an **Iron Calorimeter (ICAL)** detector for studying neutrinos

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(c) Setting up of **National Centre for High Energy Physics** at Madurai, for the operation and maintenance of the underground laboratory, human resource development and detector R&D along with its applications.

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Energy transition Index

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- The Index is released by World Economic Forum.
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- The report titled **"Fostering Effective Energy Transition"**, ranks countries on how well they are able to balance energy security and access with environmental sustainability and affordability.
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- The overall list was topped by Sweden, followed by Norway at the 2nd position and Switzerland at the 3rd rank.
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- India has been ranked at 78th among 114 countries on the Energy Transition Index.
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- India is ranked lower than its emerging market peers like Brazil and China.
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- However the report stated that India has taken "bold measures" to improve energy access, energy efficiency, and to improve the deployment of renewable sources of energy.
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Blue economy

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- The government is implementing a Central Plan Scheme on “Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries”.
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- Its vision is to achieve economic prosperity of the country and the fishermen through utilization of full potential of water resources for development of fisheries in a sustainable manner.
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- In addition, in 2017, Government has notified the ‘National Policy on Marine

Fisheries, 2017’ (NPMF).
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- The policy provides guidance for promoting ‘Blue Growth Initiative’ which focuses on ushering ‘Blue Revolution’ (NeeliKranti).
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‘Citizen Services’ app

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- The app was launched by National Crimes record Bureau on its 33rd Inception Day.
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- It is a bouquet of 9 police related services, for the citizen.
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- The services will provide smooth interface between Citizens and Police.
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- Features of the app
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1. Citizens can file complaint and check its status it once the app is made available in the CCTNS platform.
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2. SOS provision is available to send emergency message to friends and family
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3. Locate Police Station feature to know about nearby police station details and route to approach using GPS technology.
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4. Vahan Samanvay stolen vehicle Registration feature to verify the status of stolen/recovered vehicles, before purchase, re-registration, claim settlement etc..
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5. Talash/ Missing Person (Lost persons Registration) a web link in the App to provide a link to NCRB website displaying missing persons/ unidentified dead bodies and unidentified persons.
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- The App is developed by in house team of NCRB.

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- The Mobile App was tested & certified by CERT-In empanelled Company as per the compliance of MeitY directions.
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North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme

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- In 2017, Government of India approved North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) for the period of 2017-18 to 2019-20
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- The scheme is completely funded by the central government.
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- The funds under the scheme, will be distributed among eight North Eastern States
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- The distribution of funds will be on the basis of well-defined criteria on certain parameters e.g. Area, Population, Human Development Index, Road density, etc.
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- The new scheme will broadly cover creation of infrastructure under following sectors:-
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1. **Physical infrastructure** relating to water supply, power, connectivity and specially the projects promoting tourism;
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2. **Infrastructure** of **social** sectors of education and health.
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- In addition the scheme will also cover the projects that promote tourism.
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- The scheme will act as a catalyst in overall development of the region.
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Cyber Gram Project for Digital Literacy of Minority Communities

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- The Ministry of Minority Affairs has launched a pilot project for minority Cyber Gram for digital literacy in a minority dominated village Chandauli in Alwar district of Rajasthan.
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- The Ministry mainstreamed the Cyber Gram project with the Multi-sectoral Development Program in the year 2014-15 as a special initiative.
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- The aim of the initiative is
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1. To provide hands on training in computers for students from minority community
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2. To enable them to acquire basic Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills to become digitally literate
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3. To actively involve them in knowledge based activities, access financial, social and government services and to use internet for communications.
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- The initiative covers students of Class VI to Class X belonging to notified minority communities residing in minority concentration areas indentified under Multi-sectoral Development Program (MsDP).
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- Minority communities include Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains.
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- The project is being implemented through Common Service Center (CSC) e-governance India Ltd-a company under Department of Electronics and Information Technology with support of States/UTs.
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Map of the Day

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Europe Water Bodies

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- A fjord is a deep, narrow and elongated sea or lake drain, with steep land on three sides which are found in Norway.
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- If the geological formation is wider than it is long, it is not a fjord. Then it is a bay or cove.
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- North Sea is a rich source of petroleum resource. The Brent crude from North Sea is an important global crude benchmark.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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