Prelim Bits 15-09-2017

Trade & Development report 2017

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- Trade & Development report 2017 was recently released by United Nation Conference on Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**).
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- In its recent report titled ‘Beyond austerity — towards a global new deal’, it states that India, China unlikely to be ‘growth poles’ for global economy.
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- The report pegs India's rate at 6.7% in 2017, down from 7% in 2016.
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- It pointed out that effects of demonetisation and rollout of the Goods & Services Tax regime on the informal sector and reduction in pace of credit creation may affect India’s growth prospects.
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UNCTAD

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- UNCTAD is a permanent intergovernmental body established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1964.
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- It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland and part of the UN Secretariat.
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- It is also a part of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG).
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- It was formed specifically to handle the problems of developing countries dealing with trade, investment and development issues.
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- **Other reports published by UNCTAD** – World Investment Report, The Least Developed Countries Report, Information and Economy Report, Technology and Innovation Report and Commodities and Development Report.
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Operation Insaaniyat

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- The operation is carried out by Indian Government providing humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh on account of influx of refugees from Myanmar.
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- As part of this operation, the Indian Air Force was tasked to airlift the relief material from India to Bangladesh.
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Swachhta Hi Seva

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- It is the nation-wide sanitation campaign from 15th September to 2nd October 2017 to highlight the third year anniversary of Swachh Bharat mission.
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- It is coordinated by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, the convening Ministry for the Swachh Bharat Mission.
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Pacific Storm

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- The Pacific typhoon "**Doksuri**" is currently racing to the south of Hong Kong for a landfall over Vietnam.
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- It is expected to make qualitative change to the Indian Monsoon.
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- It will set up a low-pressure area in the Bay of Bengal, which could even grow as a depression, to bring heavy rain initially over East India and later over Central India, West, North-West and South India.
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International Day of Democracy

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- United Nation observes 15th September of every year as International Day of Democracy.
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- This year's theme of democracy and conflict prevention focuses on the critical need to strengthen democratic institutions to promote peace and stability.
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- The values of freedom, respect for human rights and the principle of holding periodic and genuine elections by universal suffrage are essential elements of democracy.
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- These values are embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
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- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development addresses democracy in Sustainable Development Goal 16.
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Source: PIB, Business Standard, The Hindu, Business Line

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