Prelim Bits 17-09-2018

PSLV C-42

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- Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle-C42 of the ISRO has recently launched two earth observation satellites of the United Kingdom.
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- The two satellites are NovaSAR and S1-4 , weighing 450kg each.
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- They were launched in to ‘Sun Synchronous Orbit’, which is usually used for imaging, reconnaissance and weather forecasts.
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- NovaSAR is a S-band synthetic Aperture radar satellite, intended for forest mapping, land use, and ice cover monitoring as well as flood and disaster monitoring.
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- S1-4 is a high-resolution optical earth observation satellite that will be used for surveying resources, environment monitoring, urban management, and disaster monitoring
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- In PSLV C-42, the core alone version without six strap-on motors were used.
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- It is the 44th launch of polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV).
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Eyerovtuna

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- Eyerovtuna is India's first commercial remotely operated vehicle (ROV) underwater robotic drone.
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- The robotic drone,can be navigated up to a depth of 50 meters to take real-time HD video images.
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- It will be helpful to examine ship hulls or undersea cables or bridge moorings, eliminating the need for costlier and riskier manual inspection by

divers.
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- It was tested for the first time in India's first solar ferry in Kerala’s Vaikom.
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- It can be put to uses ranging from inspections of ship hulls, ports, dams and nuclear power plants, to search and rescue, naval mine detection and ocean studies.
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- It will be used by the laboratory of DRDO.
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Chiller Star Labelling Programme

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- A Chiller is a machine that removes heat from a liquid via a vapor-compression cycle.
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- Chillers are used extensively for space conditioning of buildings and for industrial process cooling applications.
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- It is energy intensive system and contribute to more than 40% of total energy consumption in commercial buildings.
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- Chiller Star Labelling rogramme was recently launched by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
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- It envisages providing star rating to chillers interms of its energy performance.
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- Through this programme, it is estimated that more than 500 million units of electricity would be saved along with reduction of Greenhouse Gas emission (GHG) of 0.5 million-ton equivalent by 2019.
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Bureau of Energy Efficiency

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- Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) was set up under the provisions of Energy Conservation Act, 2001.
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- Its mission is to assist in developing policies with the primary objective of reducing energy intensity of the Indian Economy.
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- Energy Conservation Act provides for regulatory and promotional functions of BEE.
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- BEE is responsible for \n
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    - Create awareness and disseminate information on energy efficiency and conservation
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    - Promote innovative financing of energy efficiency projects
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    - Give financial assistance to institutions for promoting efficient use of energy and its conservation
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    - Prepare educational curriculum on efficient use of energy and its conservation
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    - Implement international co-operation programmes relating to efficient use of energy and its conservation.
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Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

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- Central Information Commission (CIC) in its recent report has highlighted that Rs.12,000 crore of MPLADS remains unspent.
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- CIC has aksed Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman to come out with a legal framework to ensure accountability of parliamentarians and political parties for their obligations under the scheme.
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- The MPLADS allots Rs.5 crore per year to each Member of Parliament (MP) to be spent on projects of their choice in their constituency.
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- Lok Sabha MP has to choose a gram panchayat from the constituency he/she represents and the Rajya Sabha MP chooses it from the state he/she represents.
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- MPs cannot pick villages which belong to themselves or their spouses.
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- The scheme is funded and administered through the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
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- Projects are to be recommended to and implemented by the district-level administration.
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UN and Rakhine

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- UNHRC and UNDP has recently been given permission for the first time to enter northern Rakhine to access local conditions in the state since last year.
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- It is the first step of the UN's confidence building measures.
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- More than 7,00,000 rohingya muslims fled the northen rakhine region.
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- UNHCR will publish a report about its investigations into atrocities against rohingyas.
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Nahargarh Biological Park

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- Nahargarh Biological Park is part of Nahargarh sanctuary in Jaipur.
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- It is located in the foot hills of Aravalli.
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- The park is known for breeding centre of lions.
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- State's first lion safari was recently inaugrated in this park.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu

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