Prelim Bits 22-08-2018

TRIFED

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- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) has made record procurement of tribal products during the current financial year.
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- There is an increase of 511% in procurement in comparison to the corresponding period of the last financial year.
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- It is a national level apex organization functioning under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
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- The objective of TRIFED is socio-economic development of tribal people by undertaking marketing development of the tribal products.
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- It serves the interest of Tribal people by ensuring better remunerative price for their Minor Forest Produce and tribal art and handicraft products.
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- It is also engaged in skill up gradation and capacity building to develop the marketing of Minor Forest Produce.
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- Its approach involves exploring marketing possibilities for products in national as well as international markets, brand building & creating opportunities for marketing on sustainable basis.
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Holocene Epoch

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- The Holocene Epoch is the current period of geologic time.
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- It refers to the last 11,700 years of the Earth's history, the time since the end of the last major glacial epoch, or "ice age."
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- Another term that is sometimes used is the Anthropocene Epoch or “The Age of Man”.
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- The International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) had divided this Epoch in to three ages – Greenlandian, Northgrippian and Meghalayan which began at 11,700 year, 8200 year and 4200 year points.
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- There are controversies over this newly designated geological age, though the stratification by ICS is official.
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International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS)

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- ICS is a body of geological timekeepers and is the largest and oldest constituent scientific body in the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS).
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- Its primary objective is to precisely define global units (systems, series, and stages) which are basic for the units (periods, epochs and age) of the International Geological Time Scale.
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- It sets global standards for the fundamental scale for expressing the history of the Earth.
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Presence of Water in the Moon

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- Scientists have found frozen water deposits in the Moon’s polar region using data from the Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft.
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- The ice deposited on the surface would possibly acts as a resource for future expeditions to explore Moon.
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- Scientists used NASA’s Moon Mineralogy Mapper (M3) instrument aboard Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft to confirm the presence of solid ice using specific signatures.
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- This is not the first time that evidence of water has been found on the Moon.
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- In 2009, observations of NASA's EPOXI spacecraft showed the evidence of presence of water across the lunar surface.
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- After 2009, the data from ISRO's hyperspectral imager aboard Chandrayaan-1, supplemented the evidence.
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- The recent finding shows that water ice lies in the shadows of craters in the Moon's polar region, where the warmest temperatures never reach above -250^{0}F.
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Chandrayaan-1

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- Chandrayaan-1 is India's first mission to Moon launched in 2008 by PSLV-C11.
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- The spacecraft is orbiting around the Moon at a height of 100 km from the lunar surface for chemical, mineralogical and photo-geologic mapping of the Moon.
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- It also carried the payloads built in UK, USA, Bulgaria Germany and Sweden.
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- The mission comprised an orbiter and an impactor launched by ISRO's workhorse PSLV.
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Cyclone Warning Centre

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- Union Ministry of Earth Sciences is proposing to set up a Cyclone Warning Centre in Thiruvananthapuram.
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- At present, IMD has cyclone warning centres only at Chennai, Vishakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Ahmedabad and Mumbai.
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- The newly proposed centre will cater to the needs of Kerala and Karnataka with rising incidents of tropical cyclones and extreme weather events in the

region.
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Source: Indian Express, The Hindu, PIB

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