Prelim Bits 23-05-2018

Goodhart's Law

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- The law refers to the adage that any measure that becomes the target of a policy eventually stops being a useful measure.
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- This is because people simply trying to meet the target, as gauged by a certain measure, may fail to focus on the underlying basis of the target.
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- For instance, a government that is solely focussed on boosting gross domestic product may decide to engage in wasteful spending just to boost GDP even though such spending does not improve the living standards of citizens.
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- It is named after British economist Charles Goodhart who proposed it while serving as the chief economic adviser to the Bank of England.
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StartUpLink

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- The Indo-Dutch #StartUpLink is developed for Indian and Dutch startups that are exploring each other's markets and offers access to key information, relevant networks, pilot opportunities, and navigators for the respective startup ecosystems.
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- Startup India Hub under Invest India and Netherlands Enterprise Agency under the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Change would act as single points of contact and navigators for their respective countries.
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- As a partner for the Indo Dutch #StartUpLink, Shell has come on board with the aim of accelerating India's transition to a sustainable energy future.
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Solar system’s first interstellar immigrant

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- The first Alien asteroid was discovered in our Solar system.
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- Scientists have discovered the first known permanent immigrant to the solar system — an asteroid, nestling in Jupiter’s orbit, that migrated from another star system.
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- This asteroid is named as (514107) 2015 BZ509,
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- All the planets in the solar system travel around the Sun, whereas this asteroid moves in the opposite direction, referred to as ‘retrograde’ orbit.
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GRACE FO

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- A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket was scheduled to blast off from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, hoisting into orbit the spacecraft known as GRACE-FO.
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- It is follow-on to the prior, 15-year mission known as the Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE).
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- The two satellites, each the size of a car, will circle the Earth at a distance of 220 km from each other.
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- They will be flying about 490 km above the Earth for the next five years.
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- The New satellites are to keep track of earth’s water.
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- The prior mission, GRACE, allowed scientists to gain an understanding of how much ice Greenland was losing.
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- Renewing the mission will allow scientists to continue to track trends in sea level rise, glacial and ice melt, and the drying up of certain aquifers.
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Pasighat airport

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- Arunachel Pradesh’s first flight landed at the Pasighat airport recently.
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- A wartime airstrip laid 66 years ago helped Arunachal Pradesh create history by becoming the last of the eight northeastern States to be on India’s commercial flight service map.
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- Pasighat airport, one of six operational advance landing grounds (ALGs) in Arunachal Pradesh primarily for military use.
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- It was laid in 1952 but was virtually abandoned after the China-India war in 1962, until the Indian Air Force took it over in 2010.
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- The airport is India’s easternmost airport with civilian operations.
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- Pasighat airport made it to the record books when an Alliance Air flight touched down from Kolkata via Guwahati, carrying Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu and other passengers.
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- The flight serivce on the Kolkata-Guwahati-Pasighat circuit was introduced under UDAN, the regional air connectivity scheme.
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- Pasighat, about 570 km northeast of Guwahati, is the headquarters of East Siang district and the State’s oldest city.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu

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