Prelim Bits 24-12-2018

Lalitgiri Museum

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- Earliest Buddhist settlements in Lalitgiri, Cuttack district, Odisha has been recently converted in to a museum.
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- it will be the third site museum of the Bhubaneswar circle of the Archaeological Survey of India after Ratnagiri and Konrak.
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- Excavations at Lalitgiri shows the cultural community from the post-Mauryan period till the 13th century CE.
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- Lalitgiri along with the Ratnagiri and Udayagiri sites are known as the "Diamond Triangle".
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- Excavations at the site shows that "Tantric Buddhism" was practiced.
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- Tantric Buddhism is a tradition that focuses on mystical practices and concepts as a path to enlightenment and is associated with the Vajrayana sects.
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Tsunami in Indonesia

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- Anak Krakatau Volcano in the middle of the Java and Sumatra islands in the Sunda Strait erupted and triggered underwater landslides.
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- This has led to Volcano triggered Tsunami in the region.
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- Also called the "Child of Krakatoa", it emerged around 1928 in the caldera of Krakatoa, a volcanic island that violently erupted in 1883.
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- It has become a small volcanic island with subsequent lava flows at an altitude of 1000 feet above sea level.

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- The island is part of the Ujung Kulon National Park, listed in UNESCO's World Heritage site.
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- Since its birth, it has been in a state of semi-continuous eruptive activity.
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- Indonesia has nearly 130 active volcanoes, forming part of the pacific "Ring of Fire".
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- Indonesia's proximity to the junction of 3 continental plates, makes it particularly vulnerable to earthquakes and eruptions.
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- According to the International Tsunami Information Centre, Tsunamis triggered by volcanic eruptions are relatively rare, caused by the sudden displacement of water or "slope failure".
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- Unlike earthquake triggered Tsunami, which trigger alert systems, Volcano triggered give little time to give warning.
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Chennai Andaman Nicobar Island (CANI) Cable System

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- CANI is a proposed project to provide high speed internet to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in order to augment their communication infrastructure.
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- It is a 2,200-km-long optical fibre system with a speed of 100 Gigabit per second.
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- It will connect the Indian mainland from Chennai with the 8 islands of UT.
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- They are Port Blair, Little Andaman (Hut Ba), Car Nicobar, Kamorta, Great Nicobar (Campbell Bay), Havelock, Long and Rangat.
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- Under the proposal, the sub-marine cable system will be laid on the sea bed and the total route length will be 2,199.66 km.
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- It is set to provide a fillip to defence communication infrastructure in the islands and improve communication during natural disasters.

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- At present, telecom connectivity between the mainland and the islands is through satellites with limited bandwidth capacity.
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Climate Vulnerability Report

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- Climate Vulnerability Assessment for the Indian Himalayan Region Using a Common Framework is a first-of-its-kind report prepared by the Department of Science and Technology.
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- According to the report, all the 12 Himalayan states in India are extremely vulnerable to global warming.
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- It is based on 4 indicators such as
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i. The economic and sociological status of the people and their health,
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ii. Possible impact on agriculture production,
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iii. Forest-dependent livelihoods and
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iv. Access to information services and infrastructure
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- States having low per capita income, low area under irrigation and low area under forests per 1,000 households and high area under open forests received a high vulnerability score.
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- Assam, Mizoram and Jammu & Kashmir topped the list.
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- Sikkim is the least vulnerable state.
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Source: The Hindu, The New Indian Express

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