Prelim Bits 26-09-2019

CARICOM Countries

- The Caribbean community, also known as CARICOM, was formed in 1973 by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.
- It is an economic and political community that works jointly to shape policies for the region and encourages economic growth and trade.
- It is a grouping of 15 member states and five associate members (Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands).
- Its membership is open to any other State or Territory of the Caribbean Region.
- First-ever India- CARICOM leaders' summit was recently held.
- India announced a $14-million grant for community development projects and $150 million Line of Credit for solar, renewable energy and climate-change-related works.

Sastra Ramanujan Award

- The SASTRA-Ramanujan Award was instituted in 2005 by SASTRA University.
- It is conferred annually on mathematicians from across the world who are less than 32 years of age, working in an area influenced by the genius Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- The age limit is 32 years to commemorate the fact that Srinivasa Ramanujan accomplished a phenomenal body of work in this short span.
- In 2019, it will be awarded to mathematician Adam Harper, Assistant Professor with the University of Warwick, England.
- He was awarded for several outstanding contributions to analytic and probabilistic number theory.

Global Solar Park

- The global solar park was inaugurated at UN headquarters by the Indian Prime Minister during the Gandhi@150 commemorative event.
- It has 193 solar panels, each representing a member of the multilateral body.
- It is a roof-top solar park which has the capacity of a 50-kilowatt hour (kWh)

for each panel and the total output is 86,244 KWh.

- This equals 61 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide, 30,242 kg of coal burned, and carbon sequestered from 1,008 tree seedlings grown for 10 years.
- It was built at the cost of US $1 million.
- India is the third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, after China and the US.
- Coal power, cattle and paddy are major sources of emission, though per capita emissions are roughly a seventh of the US and less than half the world average.
- India has pledged for a 33-35% reduction in emission intensity (emissions associated with each unit of economic output) by 2030, compared to 2005 levels in Paris agreement.
- India will host the 2nd general assembly of the International Solar Alliance, in New Delhi on the sidelines of COP-21, the UN Climate Conference.

Kalam Centre for Science and Technology

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Ministry of Defence and the Central University of Jammu for the establishment of Kalam Centre for Science and Technology.
- It will be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment leading to increase scholars in computational system security and sensors.

Source: The Hindu, Hindustan Times

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