Prelim Bits 27-03-2017

World's largest artificial Sun

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- The artificial sun is made up of a honeycomb of 149 spotlights, which together make the structure known as "Synlight", located in Germany.
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- The lights are designed to focus on a single spot and produce the equivalent of 10,000 times the amount of solar radiation that would normally shine on the same surface.
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- Such light is in rare supply in Germany at this time of year and thus it provides new ways of making hydrogen and exploring cleaner energy sources.
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- This is used in separating atomic hydrogen from the water (H_2O).
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Earth Hour

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- Recently, the world wide movement "Earth Hour" celebrates its 10th anniversary.
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- Conservation Group World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) organizes Earth Hour every year to encourage everyone to turn off lights for one hour as symbol of their commitment towards climate change.
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- The event was originated in Sydney, Australia in 2007.
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- Earth Hour is scheduled on the last Saturday of every March, closely coinciding with the equinox to ensure most cities are in darkness as it is rolled out around the world.
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India's first Carbon-neutral Panchayat

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- Meenangadi in Wayanad district is the India's first carbon-neutral panchayat.
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- The carbon-neutral project intends to offset carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases emitted by human activities through a series of greening initiatives.
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Sleeping Beauty Syndrome

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- It is a rare sleep disorder, also known as **Kleine-Levin Syndrome.**
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- The syndrome is characterized by persistent and reoccurring feelings of excessive tiredness and prolonged sleep (Hypersomnia).
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- It is very rare, occurring at a rate of one in a million and there is no known cure.
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- The condition primarily affects adolescent males, though females can also be affected and the age of onset varies.
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- It was added to the International Classification of Sleep Disorders in 1990.
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