Prelim Bits 27-05-2017

Juno Mission

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- Juno's primary goal is to reveal **the story of Jupiter's formation and evolution.**
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- Using long-proven technologies on a spinning spacecraft placed in an elliptical polar orbit, Juno will observe Jupiter's gravity and magnetic fields, atmospheric dynamics and composition, and evolution.
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- The first close-up observations from Nasa’s Juno spacecraft have captured towering clouds, swirling cyclones and dramatic flows of ammonia that drive giant weather systems on the largest planet in the solar system.
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- The mission has also sent back data on Jupiter's magnetic field, thought to be much like our own compass-directing fields.
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- In some places it's 10 times stronger than the strongest magnetic fields of Earth. And, like our planet, **Jupiter has northern and southern lights,** but as of now, its auroras look to be quite different from our own.
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HADR

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- **Indo-Thailand** Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Table Top Exercise 2017 is in progress at Chiang Mai, Thailand from 22 May to 26 May 17 between the Indian Air Force and Royal Thailand Air Force (RTAF).
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- The aim of the bilateral exercise is to evolve SOPs for **planning and executing relief missions** during unforeseen natural calamities like Tsunami, earthquakes, cyclones, floods etc.,
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- The objective is to **enhance interoperability** between both the Air Forces,

while conducting combined air operations triggered by a crisis.
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- The exercise would assist in laying down procedures and establish decision support system at various stages of relief operations.
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Atal Pension Yojana

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- The subscribers base under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has reached about 53 Lakhs.
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- APY is a government-backed pension scheme in India targeted at the **unorganised sector**.
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- In APY, for every contribution made to the pension fund, the Central Government would also co-contribute 50% of the total contribution or Rs 1,000 per annum, whichever is lower, to each eligible subscriber account, for a period of 5 years.
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- The minimum age of joining APY is 18 years and maximum age is 40 years. The age of exit and start of pension would be 60 years.
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- Therefore, minimum period of contribution by the subscriber under APY would be 20 years or more.
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Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

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- While presenting India’s Statement, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju briefed about the steps taken by India, after the adoption of the **Sendai Framework.**
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- He said that in June 2016, India launched the **National Disaster Management Plan** which aligns with the Sendai priorities.
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- **Sendai Framework (2015 – 2030):** It is an international document which was adopted by UN member states at the World Conference on Disaster Risk

Reduction held in Sendai, Japan.
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- It is the successor agreement to the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015).
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- The Sendai Framework sets four specific priorities for action and to support the assessment of global progress in achieving the outcome and goal of the Sendai Framework, **seven global targets** have been agreed.
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