Prelim Bits 29-03-2017

National Social Security Council

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- It is a proposed body to streamline and make policy on social security schemes related to all Ministries.
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- It is headed by Prime Minister and members include Finance Minister, Labour Minister, Health and Family Welfare Minister along with employer and employees representatives.
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- The council will co-ordinate between central and state governments, monitor the implementation of social security schemes.
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Olive Ridleys

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- Olive ridleys are similar to the Kemp’s ridley sea turtles. The two species are the smallest of all sea turtles.
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- Olive ridleys are omnivorous in diet and primarily found in tropic regions of Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.
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- They nest twice or thrice in a year on the Pacific shores of the American tropics, as well as in the Indian Ocean and along the northeast coast of South America.
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- They are known for their behavior of synchronized nesting in mass numbers, termed **arribadas.**
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- Female sea turtles always return to the beach where they were born, their natal beach, to lay their eggs.
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- Incubation takes about 60 days and the temperature of the sand governs

the incubation time.
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- An increase in sand temperature keeps the incubation time shorter, influencing the determination of sex of the hatchlings.
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- A shorter incubation leads to more female hatchlings whereas cooler sand has longer incubation time and produces more males.
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- The nesting season ranges worldwide from June to December, with the peak period in September and October.
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- They are listed as Vulnerable in IUCN Red List and in Appendix I of CITES.
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Kalinjar fort and Neelkanth Temple

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- The Kalinjar fort was also built by the Chandela Rulers in the 10^{th} century and the fort served both the Chandela dynasty of Rajputs and the Solankis of Rewa between 10^{th} and 13^{th} Century.
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- The fort is called as “The Destroyer of Time” since it is one of the few forts that stood against the invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni.
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- The fort lies on a hilly plateau, 1,203 ft above the plains in the Vindhyan Range.
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- The Shiva temple built in the kalinjar fort is called as Neelkanth Temple, which is also built by Chandela Rulers in the 10^{th} Century.
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- Legend says that after samudra manthan or churning of the ocean, Hindu God Lord Shiva, drank the poison and his throat became blue (hence the name Neel (blue) Kantha (throat)) and he came to Kalinjar and overcome the 'Kal' i.e. he achieved victory over death. This is the reason the Shiva temple at Kalinjar is called **Neelkanth**.
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Fearless Girl

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- The statue of fearless girl was installed on March 7 in New York’s Wall Street.
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- The statue was seen as a defiant symbol of women’s rights under the new administration of President Donald Trump.
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- The exhibit of artist Kristen Visbal's work was first extended until April 2 and is now set to run until next year's International Women's Day on March 8.
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