Prelim Bits 31-07-2018

Idukki Dam

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- Idukki dam in kerala is constructed across the Periyar river, the longest river in kerala.
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- It is one of the highest arch dams in the continent, measuring 550ft in height.
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- It was commissioned in the year 1973 with financial aid from Canada.
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- It is built between two granite hills such as Kuravanmala and kuravathimala.
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- It is owned by the Kerala State Electricity Board.
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- It supports a hydroelectric power station in Moolamattom.
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- The hydel project is receiving water from two other dams at Cheruthoni and Kulamavu.
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- The water levels in the reservoir are rising at an alarming rate as a result of the record high rains Kerala has received this monsoon.
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- It has prompted authorities in Kerala to issue an "Orange Alert" - a precautionary messages to the public in light of possibility of water release from the reservoir.
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- The dam is going to be reopened after 26 years. Previous opening was in 1981 and 1992.
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Strategic Partnership Model

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- The Defence Ministry has recently approved key guidelines for implementation of Strategic Partnership model.
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- The guidelines were approved by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), the ministry's highest decision making body.
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- Under this model, select private firms will be roped in to build military platforms like submarines and fighter jets in India in partnership with foreign entities.
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- It aims to create a vibrant defence manufacturing ecosystem in the country through **joint ventures** between Indian corporates and global defence majors.
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- All procurements under the SP Model would be executed by specially constituted Empowered Project Committees (EPC).
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- It is to provide focused attention and ensure timely execution.
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Additional Surveillance Measures

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- Additional Surveillance Measures (ASM) was introduced recently by SEBI.
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- It is a surveillance method in which SEBI impose trading curbs on excessively volatile stocks in the Indian market.
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- For example, if the "Spread" - Price variation of a stock between the high and low price, in the last three months is 200 per cent or more, then it will be placed under ASM.
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- Once a stock is caught in the ASM net, it attracts a bunch of stricter exchange rules on intra-day price movements.
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- Such curbs discourage speculators and intra-day traders from taking heavy positions in stocks and will result in stock prices to drop.
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- Stocks of PSUs, securities with derivative products and stocks under **Graded Surveillance Measure** are exempted from ASM net.
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Graded Surveillance Measure

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- Graded Surveillance Measure, designed by SEBI, is to keep a tab on securities that witness an abnormal price rise, which is not commensurate with financial health and fundamentals of the company.
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- The underlying principle is to alert and protect small / retail investors from getting stuck in such stocks inadvertently on some wrong advice.
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- Currently, more than 900 companies are monitored under this.
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- Once a firm is identified for surveillance it goes through six stages.
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- In the first stage the securities are put in the trade-to-trade segment i.e no speculative trading is allowed and delivery of shares and payment of consideration amount are mandatory.
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- A maximum of 5% movement in share price is allowed.
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- With subsequent stages, corresponding surveillance actions and the restrictions gets higher progressively.
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- In the sixth and final stage, there are maximum restrictions.
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- Trading is permitted only once a month at this stage, with no upward movement allowed in price. Also, the additional surveillance deposit would be 200%.
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- There would a quarterly review of securities.
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- Based on criteria, the securities would be moved from a higher stage to a lower stage in a sequential manner.
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Nepal-India Think Tank Summit

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- The first ever Nepal-India Think Tank Summit is going to begin in Kathmandu.
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- It is being jointly organized by the Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs and Nehru Memorial Museum Library
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- It aims to foster greater collaboration and knowledge-sharing among the think tanks of the two countries.
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- The summit is proposed to become an annual feature for the participating organisations and it will be hosted alternatively in Nepal and India.
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Lombak

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- It is a part of Indonesian group of Islands and located to the east of Bali.
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- An earthquake of 6.4 magnitude has recently struck the island and triggered landslides in a volcano Mt. Rinjani.
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- The volcano, which rises 3,726m (12,224ft) above sea level and is the second-highest one in Indonesia.
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- Indonesia is prone to earthquakes because it lies on the "Ring of Fire".
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- Ring of Fire is the line of frequent quakes and volcanic eruptions that circles virtually the entire Pacific rim.
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Source: The Hindu, BusinessLine

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