# Prelims Bits 14-02-2018

## Virtual Reality

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- The school children in United States experience exotic field trips through the virtual reality headsets.
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- The definition of ‘virtual’ is near and reality is what we experience as human beings. So the term ‘virtual reality’ basically means ‘near-reality’.
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- Virtual reality is the term used to describe a three-dimensional, computer generated environment which can be explored and interacted with by a person.
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## Global Theatre Olympics

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- The Vice President of India will inaugurate the 8$^{th}$ Global Theatre Olympics in New Delhi.
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- The theatrical extravaganza is being hosted for the first time in India by the National School of Drama under the aegis of Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
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- The theme of the 8th Theatre Olympics is “**Flag of Friendship**”.
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- It aims to bridge borders and bring people of different cultures, beliefs and ideologies together through the medium of theatrical art.
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- The Theatre Olympics was established in 1993 at Delphi, Greece.
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## Strategic Petroleum Reserves

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- Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) will send ships carrying crude oil to fill half of the 1.5 million tonne strategic oil reserves India has built at Mangaluru.
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- Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd has built 5.33 million tonnes of strategic crude oil storage at three locations — **Padur (Kerala) and Mangaluru** on the western coast and **Visakhapatnam** on the eastern coast
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- The oil stored in the underground rock caverns at the three locations is to be used in an emergency.
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## Dakota DC3 Aircraft

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- IAF recently received a restored World War-II DC3 Dakota aircraft from an IAF veteran.
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- The DC3 Dakota aircraft christened as “Parashurama” will be part of the IAF’s vintage fleet.
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- This military transport aircraft has played a crucial role in the 1947 India-Pakistan War.
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- The plane, which underwent a six-year-long restoration in the UK, will soon join the IAF.
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- It is the world’s first successful commercial airliner, readily adapted to military use during World War II.
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## Senior Citizen’s Welfare Fund

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- Insurance regulator IRDA has asked all insurers to transfer the deposits of policyholders that have been laying unclaimed for over 10 years to the Senior citizen’s welfare fund.
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- The corpus of the Senior Citizens Welfare Fund comprise of any credit balance in any of the accounts under the small savings like Post Office Saving Schemes, Banks, etc. remaining unclaimed for 7 years from date of declaration as an inoperative account.
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- The nodal Ministry for the administration of the Fund shall be the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
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- The Fund shall be utilized for such schemes that are in line with the National Policy on Older Persons and the National Policy on Senior Citizens.
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## Wetlands International

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- Wetlands International coordinates the International Water bird census of which Asian Water bird census is an integral part.
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- It is a global not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands.
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- It is one of the International Partner Organizations of the Ramsar Convention.
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- It was formerly known as International Waterfowl & Wetlands Research Bureau (IWRB) and their scope included the protection of wetland areas.
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**Source: The Hindu, Business Standard and PIB**

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