Prelims Bits 15-07-2018

Purvanchal Expressway

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- Recently foundation stone has been laid for the India’s longest expressway Poorvanchal Expressway in Azamgarh, in Uttar Pradesh.
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- The 340 kilometre long Poorvanchal Expressway extends from Delhi in the west to Ghazipur in the east.
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- The Purvanchal Expressway will connect Lucknow with Barabanki, Amethi, Sultanpur, Faizabad, Ambedkar Nagar, Azamgarh, Mau and Ghazipur.
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- The Purvanchal Expressway will be linked with the Lucknow-Agra Expressway and Yamuna Expressway which connects Agra to Delhi and will considerably bring down the travel time between Delhi and eastern Uttar Pradesh.
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- The Purvanchal Expressway will be linked with Varanasi through a separate link.
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Swachh Survekshan Grameen

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- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation recently launched Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018.
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- It is an Independent Survey to be Conducted in all Districts from 1st to 31st August.
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- The results will be announced in the form of a ranking of all districts and states on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation (Swachhata) parameters.
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- As part of Swachh Survekshan Grameen 6,980 villages in 698 districts across India will be covered. Total 34,000 public places namely schools, anganwadis, public health centres, haat/bazaars/religious places in these villages will be visited for survey.
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Kabir Jayanti

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- Kabir Jayanti is an annual event that is observed in the honour of Sant Kabir Das.
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- It is celebrated on the ‘Purnima’ (full moon day) during the month of ‘Jyesta’ in the traditional Hindu calendar.
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- This occurrence falls during the months of May-June as per the Gregorian calendar.
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- This year Kabir Jayanti will be celebrated in 15th July.
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Sant Kabir Das

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- Sant Kabir Das was a very renowned saint, poet and social reformer of India who lived during the 15th century, born in Varanasi.
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- His esteemed works and poems describe the greatness and oneness of the Supreme Being.
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- According to the legends, Kabir Das was born to Muslim parents in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
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- He did not believe in any religious discrimination and readily accepted all the religions.
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- Some of his famous writings include ‘SakhiGranth’, ‘Anurag Sagar’, ‘Bijak’ and ‘Kabir Granthawali’.
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- A religious community known as ‘Kabir Panth’ was founded by him and the members of this forum are referred as ‘Kabir Panthis’, implying the followers of Kabir Das.
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Institute of Cost Accountants

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- The Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI), previously known as the Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India (ICWAI).
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- It is a premier statutory professional accountancy body in India with the objects of promoting, regulating and developing the profession of Cost Accountancy.
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- It is the only licensing cum regulating body of Cost & Management Accountancy profession in India.
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- It recommends the Cost Accounting Standards to be followed by companies in India to which statutory maintenance of cost records applicable.
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- ICAI is solely responsible for setting the auditing and assurance standards for statutory Cost Audit to be followed in the Audit of Cost statements in India.
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Draft rules on Blood Donation

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- Union government has proposed to rename 'blood banks' as 'blood centres'.
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- According to the proposed rules approved by the Drugs Technical Advisory Board blood centres' will be authorised premises in an organisation or institution for carrying out all or any of the operations including collection, processing, storage and distribution of blood.
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- The minimum age for a blood donor remains 18 years and the maximum 65 years.
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- According to the proposed rules, women cannot donate blood for 12 months after delivery, six months after abortion, during breast-feeding and menstruation.
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- The rules recommend deferring blood donation for six and 12 months after recovery following a minor and major surgery respectively.
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- Also, one cannot donate blood for three months after recovering from malaria, for six months after recovering from dengue and Chikungunya and four months after recuperating from being infected by Zika virus.
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Source: PIB, Business Standard, Economic Times

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