Prelims Bits 17-03-2017

Whanganui River

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- It is the third longest in New Zealand.
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- The local Maori tribe had been fighting to assert their rights over the river since the 1870s.
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- Recently the river has been recognised by Parliament as a “legal person” i.e formally declared a living entity.
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- It will have its own legal identity with all the corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a legal person.
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- In practical terms, it means the river can be represented at legal proceedings with two lawyers protecting its interests.
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Institute of National Importance (INI)

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- INI is a status conferred to a premier public higher education institution in India by an act of parliament.
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- It is conferred on an institution which "serves as a pivotal player in developing highly skilled personnel within the specified region of the country/state".
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- INIs receive special recognition and funding.
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- All IITs, NITs, AIIMS’, School of Planning and Architecture and Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research are considered Institutes of National Importance.
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Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

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- The Ministry has two wings i.e Statistics wing and the Programme Implementation wing.
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- The Statistics Wing called the National Statistical Office (NSO) consists of the Central Statistical Office (CSO), the Computer Centre and the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).
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- The Programme Implementation Wing has three Divisions, namely i.e Twenty Point Programme, Infrastructure Monitoring and Project Monitoring and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme.
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