

Prelim Bits 02-11-2017

UNESCO Asia Pacific Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation

\n\n

\n

- Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple in Srirangam, has won the UNESCO Asia Pacific Award of Merit 2017 for cultural heritage conservation.

\n

- It has become the first temple in Tamil Nadu to be given the prestigious award from the UN body.

\n

- The massive renovation and restoration effort executed through the public-private partnership model since 2014 was the main reason to win this award.

\n

- Mumbai's Christ Church and Royal Bombay Opera House were the other monuments in India that received the Award of Merit this year.

\n

- The award is being given to encourage the efforts of all stakeholders and the public in conserving and promoting the monuments and religious institutes with rich heritage in the Asia-Pacific region.

\n

- The awards are classified under four categories - Award of Excellence, Awards of Distinction, Awards of Merit and Award for New Design in Heritage Context.

\n

\n\n

Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple

\n\n

\n

- The Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple or Thiruvaramam is a Hindu temple dedicated to Hindu deity Vishnu.

\n

- The temple is situated on an islet between Cauvery and Kollidam rivers. Kollidam is the northern distributary of Cauvery River.

\n

- It has seven prakaras and 21 towers, including the 236-feet-high

Rajagopuram.

\n

- It is considered as the foremost among the 108 DivyaDesams.
- A DivyaDesam is one of the 108 Vishnu temples that are mentioned in the works of the Alvars called “NalayiraDivyaPrabandham”.

\n

\n\n

NiveshBandhu

\n\n

\n

- NiveshBandhu is an investor facilitation portal which will be launched by the Ministry of Food Processing during World Food India Expo 2017.
- Its objective is to assist investors to make informed investment decisions.
- The portal would provide information on Central and State Governments’ investor friendly policies, agro-producing clusters, infrastructure, and potential areas of investment in the food processing sector.
- World Food India 2017 will provide global businesses a platform to explore Indian market across the value chain in food processing and food retail.
- It brings together global & Indian leaders across the food value chain for possible partnerships and facilitates investment flow in the food processing sector.

\n

\n\n

RKVY-RAFTAAR

\n\n

\n

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the continuation of RashtriyaKrishiVikasYojana (RKVY) as RKVY- Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) for three years i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- RKVY is a continuing scheme under implementation from XI Five Year Plan.
- RKVY - RAFTAAR scheme will incentivize States in enhancing more allocation to Agriculture and Allied Sectors.

- \n
- It will provide considerable flexibility and autonomy to states in planning and executing programmes for investment in agriculture and allied sectors.
- \n
- The funds would be provided to the States as 60:40 grants between Centre and States (90:10 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States).
- \n
- It will also strengthen farmer's efforts through creation of agriculture infrastructure that help in supply of quality inputs, market facilities etc.
- \n
- It will further promote agri-entrepreneurship and support business models that maximize returns to farmers.
- \n

\n\n

EESL and GEF partnership

\n\n

- \n
- The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has partnered with Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under Ministry of Power, for the project 'Creating and Sustaining Markets for Energy Efficiency'.
- \n
- The project will receive a composite funding of \$454 million comprised of the GEF grant and loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- \n
- The project, one of the largest funding by GEF till date, will mitigate 60 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent.
- \n
- EESL proposes **Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund** (EERF) for sustainable funding mechanism of energy efficiency projects in the country.
- \n
- Click [here](#) to know more about GEF
- \n

\n\n

Uluru

\n\n

- \n
- Uluru is the world's largest monolith and a giant red rock, located in Central Australia.
- \n
- It is also known as Ayers Rock, a sandstone formation which experiences a

hot desert climate.

\n

- It is considered as sacred to “Anangu”, the Aboriginal people of the region.
- Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- It is notable for appearing to change colour at different times of the day and year, most notably when it glows red at dawn and sunset.
- At a meeting of the Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park board, a unanimous decision was made to restrict the climbing of rock, which will come into effect from October 2019.
- It was a proposal by the aboriginal tribes for whom the site is sacred.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Hindu, PIB

\n

