

## Prelim Bits 03-03-2018

### **Energy Efficient Services Ltd**

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- EESL is to provide 10,000 electric vehicles and 4,000 chargers would be supplied to various Government departments in the state of Andhra Pradesh as part of its green initiative.
- Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) is a joint venture of four National Public Sector Undertakings,

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- 1. NTPC Limited
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- 2. Power Finance Corporation Limited n
- 3. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited n
- 4. POWERGRID Corporation of India Limited n

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• EESL is a Super Energy Service Company (ESCO) set up under the Ministry of Power.

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 As South Asia's first and foremost energy efficiency leader, EESL leads the market-related activities of the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE).
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Implementing the world's largest energy efficiency portfolio Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) : World's largest street light replacement programme OUnnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All(UJALA): World's largest zero-subsidy domestic LED bulb programme OWorld's largest Agricultural Demand Side Management programme (AgDSM)

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- Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) is EESL's flagship initiative.  $\slaship$
- The company has established global operations in the UK and South-East Asia.

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#### **River Citarum**

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• The river Citarum runs over 186 miles from the Wayang Mountain to the Java Sea in the Western Java.

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- The island's largest river supports more than 30 million residents who rely on the water source for agricultural, domestic and personal use.  $\n$
- Unregulated factory growth since the area's rapid industrialization in the 1980s has choked the Citarum with both human and industrial waste.  $\n$

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- Factory pipes dump waste directly into waters bubbling with chemical dyes used in textiles, creating an overwhelming stench.
- The river is now one of the most polluted rivers in the world.  $\n$
- Many locals suffer from skin diseases like scabies and dermatitis, as well as respiratory infections from inhaling factory pollution.  $\n$
- Recently, Jakarta vowed to get tough on business owners who ignore wastedisposal rules.

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## **Rise in short spells of heavy rainfall**

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- A paper published by researchers from IIT-Gandhinagar, observes that the frequency of sub-daily (less than 24-hours) rainfall extreme has witnessed a two-fold increase between 1979 and 2015.
- At present rainfall data is reported on 24-hour basis and long-term sub-daily observations are limited.

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• In cities, heavy downpour for less than an hour can create urban flooding due to large impervious area.

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• The paper states that changes in sub-daily precipitation extremes are more strongly related to **variations in the atmospheric motion** and **increase in** 

# vertical velocity than the increase in atmospheric moisture content and climate warming.

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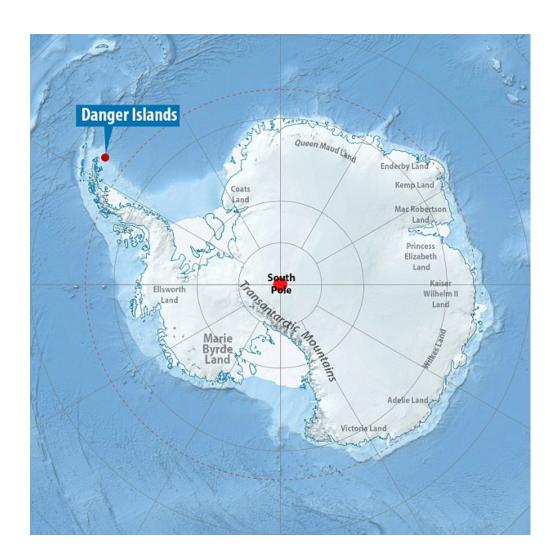
#### **Super Colony of Penguin**

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- A thriving super colony of some 1.5 million Adelie penguins has been discovered on the remote Danger Islands in the east Antarctic.  $\n$ 

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• However in the west Antarctic, the same species is in decline due to sea ice melt blamed on global warming.

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• The first complete census revealed that the Danger Islands host more than

750,000 breeding pairs of Adelie penguins, more than the rest of the Antarctic Peninsula region combined.

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- Adelie penguins, one of the five species in the continent, are carnivores, and they feed over krill and silverfish in the region.  $\n$ 

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#### **Invasive Alien Species (IAS)**

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• National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has urged the government to come up with quarantine facilities at major seaports and airports to check the invasive alien species (ornamental species), which is posing a threat to India's native fish populations.

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- The huge market for Invasive Alien Species (IAS) is turning out to be major threat to India's aquatic biodiversity.
- Most of the fish are imported from Southeast Asian countries.  $\ensuremath{\sc vn}$
- An alien species become invasive whenever it has a competitive advantage over the native ones.  $\$

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 For example sucker mouth catfish, an ornamental species known as a 'tank cleaner' of aquariums has spread to almost all freshwater ecosystems and outnumbers other native fish by feeding on their larvae and competing with them for food resources.

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### **Konark Dance and Music Festival**

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- At the  $32^{nd}$  Konark dance and music festival, various dance forms were performed that celebrated the heritage, history and arts.
- Some of the performances are as discussed below,  $\slash_n$

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 Mahari is a dance form that is performed as a special service to Lord Jagannath, Odisha by the devdasis (temple dancers)called mahari for centuries. It spurred the development of Odissi and Gotipua dance forms of Odisha.

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 Gotipua (Goti - Single; Pua - Boy) dance has been performed in Orissa by young boys who dress up as female to praise Lord Jagannath and Lord Krishna.

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- 3. Kathak is one of the classical dance forms and only one belonging to northern part of the country. It is about story telling from episodes in myths and puranas.
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- 4. **Odissi** is a highly stylized dance and to some extent is based on the classical Natya Shastra and the Abhinaya Darpana.Odisha is the home of Odissi. \n
- 5. **Mangaiyar** is a Muslim community who perform folk music with their traditional instrument is kamaicha. They are found in the Sindh, Pakistan and Rajasthan, India regions. \n

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#### Map of the Day

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#### **North America - Water Bodies**

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- Huron Ontario Michigan Erie Superior –HOMES.  $\nphin$
- Lake Superior is the largest fresh water lake in the world in terms of surface area and the deepest among the 5. n

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(Note that Lake Baikal in Russia is largest fresh water lake by volume)

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• Lake Erie is the shallowest with the most fish species.

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• Water from Lake Superior, Erie, Michigan and Huron flows into Ontario via

Niagara Falls.

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• Except Lake Michigan, which is completely inside USA, other lakes form the USA -Canada border.

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## Source: PIB, The Hindu, BusinessLine

