

## **Prelim Bits 11-04-2017**

### **Constitutional status to Backward Classes Commission**

\n\n

\n

- Lok Sabha cleared the Constitution 102nd Amendment Bill that grants constitutional status to the Backward Classes Commission.

\n

- The Commission is renamed as "National Commission for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes".

\n

- The bill says that any addition to the central list of communities under the other Backward Classes will have to be cleared through the Parliament.

\n

- It also seeks to insert a **new article 342A** that empowers the President to specify the communities which would fall under socially and educationally backward classes, for states and union territories, in consultation with the concerned governor.

\n

- The new Commission will hear the grievances of socially and educationally backward classes, a function which has been discharged so far by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.

\n

- Presently, National Commission for Backward Classes is a statutory body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the power of enacting law in identifying the backward classes has been entrusted with the state government.

\n

\n\n

### **Nakshe Portal**

\n\n

\n

- A new web portal "nakshe" was launched by the Ministry for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, on the occasion of 250th anniversary of Survey of India (SoI).

\n

- Topographic maps containing natural and man-made geographical features including terrain or topography are prepared by the SoI and it is made available for free download from “nakshe” web portal.

\n

- Survey of India is the oldest scientific department in India, created in 1767 and one of the oldest survey establishments in the world.

\n

\n\n

## **Shodhganga**

\n\n

\n

- It is the repository developed to contain an electronic copy of all M.Phil/Ph.D thesis to make it accessible to all institutions.

\n

- The task of setting-up of this repository is assigned to Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), an inter-university centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC).

\n

- It also provides access to Indian theses and dissertations in open access to world-wide academic community and making visibility of Indian research to other countries.

\n

\n\n

## **Swachhagraha “Bapu Ko Karyanjali”**

\n\n

\n

- It is a Mission, an exhibition to Mark 100th Anniversary of Champaran Satyagraha.

\n

\n

