

Prelim Bits 13-06-2018

Kashmir Super 50

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- Project Kashmir Super 50 is a joint initiative by Indian Army, Center for Social Responsibility and Leadership (CSRL) and PETRONET LNG Limited (PLL).

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- It was launched on 2013 to transform the educational status of children from economically weaker sections in the Kashmir region.

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- As part of the 11-month program, selected students are provided with complete free residential coaching for IIT-JEE, JK CET and other premier Engineering Institutes.

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- The project has equally helped the families of these youths in their growth and prosperity.

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- It is a major initiative towards bringing normalcy in the valley.

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- On similar lines of Kashmir Super 50 for engineering aspirants, Indian Army is planning to provide selected students with complete free residential coaching for National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET).

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Swachh Iconic Places (SIP)

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- The third phase of SIP was launched at Mana village which is situated close to the Badrinath temple in Uttarakhand.

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- Sabarimala in Kerala and the Raghavendra Swamy temple in Kurnool of Andhra Pradesh are among the 10 iconic sites added to the phase III Swachh Iconic Places (SIP) mission

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- The Swachh Iconic Places is an initiative under the Swachh Bharat Mission.
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- SIP is a collaborative project with three other central Ministries- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Tourism.
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- It also involves local administrations in the concerned States and Public Sector and Private Companies as sponsoring partners.
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- It is a special clean-up initiative focused on select iconic heritage, spiritual and cultural places in the country.
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Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D)

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- Union Home Minister recently exhorted the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) to work towards imparting training in soft skills to all the policemen in the country.
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- Ministry of Home Affairs de-merged NCRB from BPRD recently.
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- The Government of India formally established the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), under the Ministry of Home Affairs giving a new orientation to then existing Police Research and Advisory Council (1966).
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- BPR&D was to directly participate in police functions and suggest reforms.
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- Its primary objective was to modernize police force and
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- 1. To take direct and active interest in the issues
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- 2. To promote a speedy and systematic study of the police problems,
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- 3. To apply science and technology in the methods and techniques used by police.
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Norman AI

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- Norman is an artificial intelligence (AI) system created by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

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- It is also known as the first psychopathic artificial intelligence.

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- The goal is to explain in layman's terms how algorithms are made, and to make people aware of AI's potential dangers.

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- Norman represents a case study on the dangers of Artificial Intelligence gone wrong when biased data is used in machine learning algorithms,

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- The AI was named after the psychopathic killer Norman Bates in the 1960 Alfred Hitchcock film "Psycho."

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Chernobyl disaster

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- Radioactivity levels post Chernobyl disaster still continues to contaminate milk in Ukraine.

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- It is a consequence of the catastrophic Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant explosion that took place over 30 years ago.

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- The highest levels found were about 500 Becquerel per liter - five times over the limit for adults and more than 12 times that for children.

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- The Chernobyl accident in 1986 was the result of a flawed reactor design that was operated with inadequately trained personnel.

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- Without large-scale intervention, the radiation will remain above the adult level until at least 2040 and above the child threshold even longer.

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Ink from Pollutants

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- A team of Indian engineers has figured out how to capture some of the generator exhaust and turn it into ink, keeping the emissions from entering the atmosphere.
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- They have created the first-ever device to capture emissions specifically from diesel generators.
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- The Chakr Innovation's device captures emissions from diesel generators and turns it into ink.
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- It is a welcome invention for a country that has 14 of the world's 15 most polluted cities, the World Health Organization (WHO) says.
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- The company has collected over 500 kg of soot, which has been used to create more than 20,000 litres of ink.
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Source: PIB, The Hindu

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