

Prelim Bits 23-06-2017

4th and 5th ODF States in India

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- Under the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin (SBM-G), rural Uttarakhand and rural Haryana have declared themselves as the 4th and 5th Open Defecation Free (ODF) States of India.

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- The two states joined the league of Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala, which were the first three states to be declared ODF.

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- Nationally, the sanitation coverage has increased from 42% to over 64% since the launch of SBM.

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- With the total number of ODF States now rising to 5, more than 2 Lakh villages and 147 districts have also been declared ODF across the country.

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NIUSAT

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- It is one of the nano-satellites from India sharing space in PSLV C-38 mission which carries CARTOSAT and 29 other nano-satellites from 14 countries.

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- NIUSAT was designed and developed by the Noorul Islam University in Tamil Nadu.

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- This nano-satellite is built for disaster management and crop monitoring, equipped with an RGB camera for multispectral imagery.

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Operation Swarn

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- Operation Swarn is launched by the Railway Ministry to improve services in Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains.

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- Under the project, the Indian Railways will focus attention on 10 key areas — punctuality, cleanliness, linen, coach interiors, toilets, catering, staff behaviour, security, entertainment, housekeeping and regular feedback.

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e-waybill

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- An e-waybill is an electronic bill documenting any transport of a good of a value of more than 50,000.

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- Though few items which may be exempted from GST, they would require generation of e-waybill for their transportation.

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- For e.g. The National flag, temple prasadam, Khadi fabric and Gandhi caps may be exempt from GST, but for their transportation, generation of e-waybill may be required.

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- Sensitive technology that goes into spacecrafts and satellites will be exempt.

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- Recently held GST council failed to reach consensus over the implementation of the e-waybill system and authorized the continuation of the current e-waybill system.

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First Total Yoga Village

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- Kunnamthanam in kerala is the first total yoga village with at least one member of each family in the panchayat trained in yoga.

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