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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

Prelim Bits 09-09-2018

World Summit on Accreditation

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- Union Human Resources and Development ministry has recently inaugurated world summit on Accreditation.
- The summit is a biennial Summit organised by National Board of Accreditation (NBA).
- The summit provides platform to stakeholders to share their knowledge and information on accreditation.
- NBA has already organised three Summits in 2012, 2014 and 2016.

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National Board of Accreditation

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- NBA is an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- It engaged in quality assurance of the programs offered by the professional and technical institutions in India through accreditation.
- It has been accorded Permanent Signatory Status of Washington Accord since June, 2014.
- It has adopted internationally implemented outcome-based assessment and accreditation to ensure the graduates are globally competent.

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Dawn Mission

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- Dawn mission was launched by NASA deploying spacecrafts to study the asteroid Vesta and dwarf planet Ceres.

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- It is the only mission ever to orbit two extraterrestrial targets and will characterize the early solar system and the processes that dominated its formation.

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- Vesta and Ceres are celestial bodies believed to have accreted early in the history of the solar system.

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- Dawn orbited giant asteroid Vesta for 14 months from 2011 to 2012, then continued on to Ceres, where it has been in orbit since March 2015.

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- The spacecraft is likely to run out of a key fuel known as hydrazine which keeps it oriented and in communication with Earth.

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Ceres and Vesta

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- Ceres is the earliest known and smallest of the dwarf planet.

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- It is also the largest object in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

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- Thus Ceres is both dwarf planet and asteroid.

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- Vesta is the second most massive body in the asteroid belt, surpassed only by Ceres.

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Indo-France Space Relationship

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- France has offered India its expertise in space medicine, astronaut health monitoring, life support and radiation protection for India's proposed manned space mission – Gaganyaan.

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- French space agency (CNES) has already launched human spaceflights in its Proxima mission in 2016.
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- The partnership will also allow the French space agency to learn from India's developments in the field of crew transport.
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Wind Power Generation

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- India has set an offshore wind power capacity target of 5 GW by 2022 and, 30 GW by 2030.
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- As per the estimates of the Institute for Energy Economics & Financial Analysis (IEEFA), both China and India will ride the offshore wind power wave
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- India's offshore wind power generation capacity is seen climbing to 30 GW by 2030, on par with China.
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- It accounts for 30 per cent of the envisaged capacity of 100 GW in Asian economies.
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- The balance capacities will be contributed by South Korea , Japan, Taiwan and the rest to be added up jointly by Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam.
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Source: PIB, Business Standard

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