



IAS PARLIAMENT

Information is Empowering
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

Prelim Bits 11-04-2018

Pashu Chikitsak Mahasangh

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- The secretary of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare inaugurated the website of Pashu Chikitsak Mahasangh.
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- The website was dedicated to **Veterinarians of the country**.
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- It is to be developed as an effective platform for sharing of knowledge and developing a database in the field of veterinary sciences in the country.
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- Pashu Chikitsak Mahasangh is a registered body formed as apex organization of State Veterinary Associations.
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- It is to work for the welfare of the veterinarian's working in Government service sector.
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Swaziland

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- The President of India became the **first visiting Head of State** to address the Parliament of the Swaziland.
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- India and Swaziland signed two agreements — on health cooperation; and on visa waivers for those travelling on official and diplomatic passports.
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- Swaziland is a small, **landlocked** kingdom in the southern Africa.
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- It is the smallest country in the Southern hemisphere.

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- It is a predominantly rural country surrounded by South Africa and Mozambique.

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- Hlane Royal National Park and Mkhaya Game Reserve are the wildlife attractions in the country.

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- Mkhaya is one of the best places on the continent to see both **black and white rhino** and Hlane is home to big cat - the lion.

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Eco-friendly aircrafts

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- Air transportation's impact on global warming is estimated at around five percent through CO2 emissions and other substances, including nitrogen oxide and water vapor.

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- The number of air passengers is expected to almost double by 2036 to 7.8 billion per year, according to the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) projections.

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- Meanwhile, the airline industry aims to cut its CO2 emissions in half by 2050 from 2005 levels.

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- Some airlines are beginning to look at electric-powered aircraft as a way to balance both the growth and environmental sustainability.

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- Electric planes are cost-effective and much quieter.

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- They don't need long runways & could be used at some smaller airports close to city centers.

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- One of the biggest hurdles will be the battery storage technology.

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Sentinel Wrap

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- Sentinel Wrap is a transparent patch that can detect if food has gone bad, by monitoring the presence of harmful pathogens in real time.

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- It can be incorporated directly into food packaging to signal E coli and Salmonella contamination.

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- If a pathogen is present in the food or drink inside the package, it would trigger a signal in the packaging that could be read by a smart phone or other simple device.

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- The test itself does not affect the contents of the package.

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- It would be cheap and easy to mass produce, as the DNA molecules that detect food pathogens can be printed onto the test material.

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- The same technology could also be used in other applications, such as bandages to indicate if wounds are infected, or for wrapping surgical instruments to assure they are sterile.

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Defense Investor Cell

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- Defense Investor Cell is set up by department of defense production, Ministry of Defense.

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- The cell is to directly interact with all interested investors with regard to potential investment and queries related to policy and projects handled by the MoD.

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- The roles and responsibilities of the cell are

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1. To act as investment promotion and facilitation agency for all investments in Defense Sector.

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2. To facilitate in process of acquisition of licenses.

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3. To facilitate availability of public testing infrastructure.

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- The cell will initially have officers on areas related to Aerospace, Electronics, Naval and Land systems.

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- It will initially provide the following platforms:\n

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- a. Query Based System to address the online queries.

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- b. Platform for Start-ups to show case their technologies and seek potential partners.

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- c. Physical setting of the Investor Cell Defense.

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International Energy Forum (IEF)

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- Prime Minister of India will inaugurate the IEF Ministerial Meeting in India.
- International Energy Forum (IEF 16) is hosted by India and co-hosted by China and Korea.
- The theme of this event is 'The Future of Global Energy Security: Transition, Technology, Trade and Investment'.
- IEF16 is the largest gathering of Energy Ministers from across the globe, industry leaders and heads of key international organizations who will debate the future of global energy.
- It aims to focus on how global shifts, transition policies and new technologies influence market stability and future investment in the energy sector.
- Click [here](#) to Know more about IEF

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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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