



IAS PARLIAMENT

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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

Prelim Bits 17-01-2017

Inclusive Development Index (IDI):

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- The index is computed by [World Economic Forum](#) to provide a more complete measure of economic development than GDP growth alone.

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- The index has 3 pillars - Growth and Development, Inclusion and Intergenerational Equity and Sustainability.

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- IDI scores are based on the scale of 1-7 and it is computed separately for developed and developing countries and is not comparable.

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- [Lithuania](#) tops the list of 79 developing economies, Azerbaijan and Hungary at 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

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- India is placed at 60th place, much lower than the neighbouring countries. China (15th), Nepal (27th), Bangladesh (36th) and Pakistan (52nd).

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- [Norway](#) tops the list in developed economies followed by Luxembourg and Switzerland.

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Reclamation of Saline lands in Maharashtra:

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- The World Bank will fund the reclamation of saline lands in Vidharba region under the “[Climate Resilient Agriculture](#)” Project.

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- National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture was launched by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in 2011 to enhance the resilience of agriculture to climate change.

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- Under this project, efforts would be made revive the natural drainage systems since the topography of the region does not allow the rain water to get drained easily.

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- The Majority of the region is in cotton producing districts of Maharashtra and in close proximity to Purna River, which is a tributary of Godavari.

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\n**Age of Moon:**

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- The new research on the minerals brought by the "[Apollo Mission](#)" to the Moon reveals the new age of Moon. The minerals are called as "Zircons" and it is the best mineral in preserving the geological history of moon.

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- The research found that the moon formed only about 60 million years after the birth of solar system.

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- The moon was formed by a violent, head-on collision between the early Earth and a planetary embryo called "[Theia](#)".

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- The Earth's collision with Theia created a liquefied moon, which then solidified and most of the moon's surface was covered with magma right after its formation.

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