

Prelim Bits 17-03-2018

Mental Health Survey

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- The Government had undertaken a National Mental Health Survey through the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS). \n
- The report was released in 2016 and some of its major findings are as follows,

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- 1. The prevalence of mental morbidity is high in urban metropolitan areas. $\ensuremath{\sc n}$
- 2. Nearly 1 in 40 and 1 in 20 persons suffer from past and current depression, respectively. $$\n$
- 3. Data indicate that 0.9 % of the survey population were at high risk of suicide. n
- 4. Mental disorders are closely linked to both causation and consequences of several non-communicable disorders (NCD).

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 To address the mental health problems, the government is implementing the National Mental Health Program (NMHP).
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National Centre for Disease Control

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- NCDC is an institute which is under the administrative control of the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. \n
- NCDC, formerly National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) had its origin as Central Malaria Bureau, established at Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh) in 1909.
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- It functions as the nodal agency in the country for disease surveillance facilitating prevention and control of communicable diseases n
- Some of the health programs under the National Centre for Disease Control are,

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- 1. Integrated Disease Surveillance Program (IDSP) n
- 2. National Program for Containment of Anti-Microbial Resistance \n
- 3. National Viral Hepatitis Surveillance Program
- 4. National Rabies control program (NRCP)
- 5. Yaws Eradication Program
- 6. Guinea Worm Eradication Program

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 The mandate of the Institute broadly covers three areas viz. services, trained health manpower development and research.

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Defense corridor

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- An interactive meeting with local industry was held at Tiruchirappalli as to initiate development of the Tamil Nadu Defense Corridor. \n
- It is with respect to budget announcement of two Defense Corridors in Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

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- The Tamil Nadu Defense Corridor is also called the Tamil Nadu Defense Production Quad.
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- \bullet It is called as Quad as the nodal cities Chennai, Hosur, Salem and Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli forms the quadrilateral region. \n
- These nodal cities have existing defense ecosystem in the form of OFBs, vendors working with Defense PSUs, and other allied industries. \n
- The Corridor aims to bolster interaction between all industry players in order to create long-term synergy and eventual development of the area into a Defense Production powerhouse.

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Eastern Quoll

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- Eastern quolls, which were wiped out of mainland Australia decades ago, are being introduced to the remote Booderee National Park, Australia.
- Eastern quolls is a species of small Australian marsupial. n
- The carnivorous marsupial is native to mainland Australia, New Guinea, and Tasmania.

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- This nocturnal marsupial feed on insects, small mammals, birds, and reptiles. $\ensuremath{\sc vn}$
- The quolls were wiped out 50 years ago in the mainland due to the human induced poisoning, habitat destruction and predatory foxes that fed these cat sized marusipals. \n

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World Glaucoma Week

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• During World Glaucoma Week observed between March 11 and 17, Ripon Buildings in Chennai was lit up in green to raise awareness about the eye disease.

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- Glaucoma is an irreversible condition, resulting from damaged optic nerves due to pressure in the eye. $\gamman{\car{l}}{\lambda}$

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- Glaucoma is the second prominent cause of blindness in the world accounting up to 8% of total blindness. $\gamman \gamman$
- In India, glaucoma is the third leading cause of irreversible blindness with nearly 12 million people affected and nearly 1.2 million people blind from the disease.

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International Criminal Court

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• Philippines is to pull out from the International Criminal Court(ICC) after it opened a crimes against humanity investigation into its President's brutal war on drugs.

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- The International Criminal Court was found by the Rome Statue. $\slash n$
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) investigates and tries individuals charged with genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression.

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• India is a non signatory of the Rome statue and thereby a non member of ICC.

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 Click <u>here</u> to know more about ICC \n

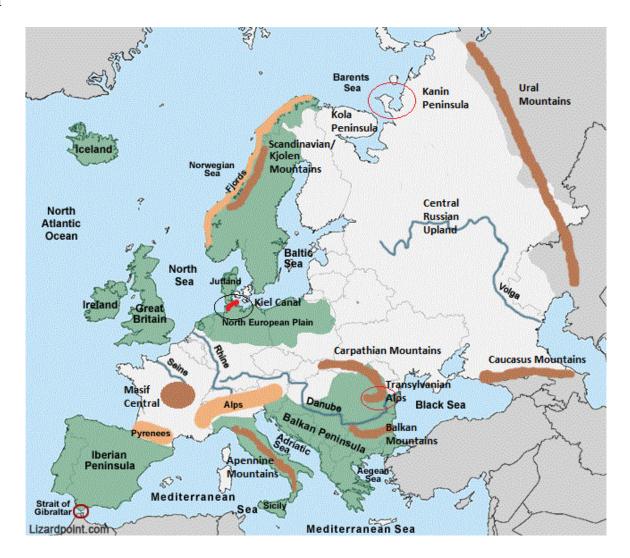
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Map of the Day

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Europe Physical features

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- Europe is often called a "peninsula of peninsulas".
- Pyrenees Mountains form the natural border between France & Spain.
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 - Ural Mountains is considered the natural boundary between European and Asian parts of Russia

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• Caucasus Mountains act as a natural barrier separating Eastern Europe from Western Asia.

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• Massif Central, upland area in France with mountains and plateaus of volcanic origin.

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- Kiel Canal connects North Sea and Baltic Sea. $\slash n$

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Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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