



IAS PARLIAMENT

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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

Prelims Bits 11-02-2017

Dead Sea Scrolls

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- The Dead Sea Scrolls are a collection of ancient manuscripts that include the earliest existing copies of books from the Hebrew Bible, date from the 3rd century BC to the 1st century AD.

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- Around 900 scrolls were discovered between 1947 and 1956 in the Qumran caves above the Dead Sea.

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- Archaeologists have uncovered a new cave that once housed Dead Sea Scrolls.

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- The cave discovered west of Qumran in the occupied West Bank contained no manuscripts, but there is ample evidence of their earlier presence.

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Mission XI Million

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- It is the biggest school sports outreach programme in the country launched in New Delhi.
- It aims to take football to at least 11 million boys and girls around the country
- The programme is to make football as the sport of choice in India, to encourage children gain healthy habits and learn important life lessons in teamwork and sportsman spirit.

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Fairy Queen

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- The 'Fairy Queen' is the oldest surviving functional steam engine in the world.
- The locomotive was constructed in England, in 1855, and reached Kolkata in the same year.
- It was certified by the Guinness Book of Records in 1998 as the world's oldest steam locomotive in regular operation.
- It will once again run between Delhi and Rewari for a single day heritage trip.

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Defence Procurement Organisation

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- The government plans to set up a Defence Procurement Organisation (DPO).
- The Defence Procurement Process continues to be lengthy and complicated.
- DPO will simplify the defence purchase procedure by integrating

procurement processes.

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- The new agency will be established based on the recommendation of government appointed committee headed by **Dr. Pritam Singh**.

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- The DPO will be under the **Union Defence Ministry**.

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