



Important Facts For Prelims (20th April 2019)

Swiss Challenge Method

- **Central Bank of India** has recently put up its **two** non-performing assets (**NPA**s) worth Rs 251 crore for **sale through the Swiss challenge method**.
 - Swiss challenge method is a **method of bidding**, often used in public projects, in which an **interested party initiates a proposal** for a contract or the bid for a project.
 - **The government** then puts the details of the project out in the public and **invites proposals from others** interested in executing it.
 - On the receipt of these bids, **the original proposer gets an opportunity to match the best bid**. In case, the original proposer fails to match the bid, the project is awarded to the proposer of the best bid.



Kakapo Parrot (*Strigops habroptila*) //

- According to New Zealand's Department of Conservation (DOC), **Kakapos - the world's heaviest species of parrot** - have had their most successful breeding season this year.
- The researchers have said that **climate change might be responsible for changing the breeding pattern** of these parrots.
- Kakapo parrots (meaning "night parrot" in Maori), also known as **owl parrot**, are **nocturnal and flightless parrots endemic to New Zealand**.
- The kakapos, which currently have a total of 147 adults, were believed to be extinct until some were found **again** in 1970.
- **IUCN Status: Critically Endangered; CITES: Appendix 1**

Power Surplus Status of India

- India's **installed generation capacity (344 GW) of power is more than peak demand (170GW)**.
- However, **due to lack of demand by Discoms' and loss in transmission**, during peak hours, as much as 175.52 gigawatt (GW) was up against demand of 177.02 GW leaving a deficit of 1.49 GW or 0.8 per cent in 2018-19.
- This **inhabited India from being power surplus country**.
 - Surplus power occurs when the **power available with distribution companies at a**

given time exceeds the demand for electricity.

- A surplus **could arise due to a fall in the demand for power**, for instance, during an industrial slowdown. Or it could result from an **increase in the power supply**, for instance, when a new generating station is added.

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