

🔥 Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF)

-Launched by: It is a G20 initiative established in 2014.

-Purpose: It is a global collaboration platform that integrates efforts to boost private investment in sustainable, quality infrastructure projects in developing countries and emerging markets.

-The facility enables collective action among a wide range of partners – including donors, development finance institutions, country governments, with inputs of private sector investors and financiers – to leverage resources and expertise and find solutions to build bankable pipelines of infrastructure projects that attract private financing.

#WORLD AFFAIRS

■ China's Chang'e 5 finds first on-site evidence of water on moon's surface

✓✓China's Chang'e-5 lunar lander has found the first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface of the moon, lending new evidence to the dryness of the satellite.

✓✓The study revealed that the lunar soil at the landing site contains less than 120 ppm water or 120 grams water per ton, and a light, vesicular rock carries 180 ppm, which are much drier than that on Earth.

● Background

✓✓Chang'e-5 probe : named after the Chinese Moon goddess.

✓✓It is the Chinese National Space Administration's (CNSA) lunar sample return mission.

✓✓The goal of the mission is to land in the Mons Rumker region of the moon.

✓✓Where it will operate for one lunar day, which is two weeks lon...

☀️NATIONAL ATLAS & THEMATIC MAPPING ORGANISATION (NATMO)

✓✓ Why in News: Visually challenged students from all over the country will have the access soon to Braille Maps designed and developed using Digital Embossing Technology, enabling them for ease of use, user friendly, better feeling and durable in terms of quality.

✓✓The digital embossing technology is a technology which eliminates the need for printing plates, moulds, chemicals, and solvents, emitting no pollutants or waste and reduces overall

energy usage.

✓ This innovative technology has been introduced, designed and implemented first time in India by National Atlas & Thematic Mapping Organisation (NATMO) functioning as the Attached Office of the Department of Science & Technology.

✓ The maps produced using this technology is not only useful for high-speed production of the maps but can also produce Braille Maps that can be used by more people for years together.

✓ NATMO started the journey in the year 1997, however, it has become popularized with the publication of Braille Atlas for Visually Impaired (India), edition 2017 in English Braille Script which received a huge response from the visually impaired community.

✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi conferred National Award on “Science & Technology Intervention for Physically Challenged” to NATMO for this publication which was officially released on 10th February 2017 at New Delhi.

#social_issues