



Important Facts for Prelims (21st November 2018)

World Heritage Week

- World Heritage Week is marked around the world from November 19-25, after **UNESCO declared** the designated period a few decades ago.
- Its objective is to increase awareness about the preservation of invaluable heritage and celebrate the architectural and cultural legacy.
- **India currently has 37 UNESCO World Heritage Sites.**

Matibabu Device

- It is a **non-invasive test kit** used to detect malaria.
- It is a low cost and reusable device that could be used to test for malaria instantly. It was **developed in Uganda.**
- This device is called 'Matibabu', a word in Swahili which means "treatment".
- Unlike current testing methods that require blood to be drawn for testing, **'Matibabu' is "bloodless"**.
- The device is clipped onto a finger and 'using light and magnetism, a red beam of light scans the finger to detect changes in the colour, shape and concentration of red blood cells — all of which are often affected when the malaria parasite is present in the body'.
- The **result is available within a minute** and sent to a mobile phone which is linked to the device.
- Another key feature is that one **does not require specialized training** to use the device.
- 'Matibabu' can provide an easy diagnosis of malaria in low-income areas such as Uganda.
- The device and application won the first prize at 'Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation' 2018 — an award dedicated to engineering innovation on the continent.
- 'Matibabu' has also been mentioned in Time magazine as one of 50 best inventions of 2018.