

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

19TH AUGUST, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh asked the Central government to be cautious on the contentious Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal issue — the focal point of a watersharing dispute between Punjab and Haryana, saying it has the potential to disturb the nation's security.
- Continuing tensions with China at the Line LAC could impact the government's decision on a major U.S.China auto plant deal in Maharashtra, with thousands of jobs on the line.
- The Supreme Court endorsed the PM CARES Fund as a "public charitable trust" to which donors contribute voluntarily. There is "no occasion" for the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to audit a public charitable trust independent of budgetary support or government money.
- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has called upon the Madhya Pradesh government to review parts of a draft Bhopal development plan that proposed development of public institutions in tiger habitats which may damage them and cause human-tiger conflict.
- The century old Mysuru zoo has become the second Indian zoo to house the African cheetah, the fastest land animal.
- A joint IndoU.S. research study found that integrating depression and diabetes treatment ('INDEPENDENT') improved parameters for both conditions. The study was published in a recent issue of the peer reviewed journal JAMA.
- Cancer cases in the country are likely to increase to 15.6 lakhs by 2025 — a 12% increase from current estimated cases — based on current trends, according to the National Cancer Registry Programme Report 2020.

DWARF PLANET CERES GIVEN STATUS OF AN "OCEAN WORLD"

1. This status was given as scientists have determined that **ceres has a brine(solution of salt in water) reservoir, making it "water rich"**.
2. Ceres is a dwarf planet which lies in the asteroid belt **between Mars and Jupiter**.
3. Criteria for a dwarf planet are-Body Orbits around the Sun;Not a satellite of any planet; has not cleared the neighbourhood around its orbit; has enough mass for its gravity to pull it into a roughly spherical shape.

NAGAR VAN SCHEME

1. Recently, **Itanagar** has been selected for implementation of the 'Nagar Van' or Urban Forest scheme of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate change.
2. The scheme aims to **develop 200 Urban forests in the country** in next five years with a renewed focus on people's participation and collaboration between Forest Department, Municipal bodies, NGOs, Corporates and local citizens.

MILKY WAY LOOK ALIKE GALAXY FOUND

1. An extremely distant **look alike galaxy(named SPT0418-47)** of milky way was found, which is 12 billion light-years away from Earth.
2. A galaxy is a large group of stars,gas, and dust bound together by gravity.
3. Sun(a star) and all the planets around it are part of a galaxy known as the Milky way Galaxy.
4. Studying distant galaxies will help find answers to how galaxies **formed and evolved after the Big Bang**.

UK LAUNCHES £3 MILLION INNOVATION CHALLENGE FUND IN INDIA

1. The fund aims to **support scientists in academia and industry to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change**.
2. Grants under the Fund are part of initiative under the **Tech Partnership known as Tech Clusters**.
3. Tech Clusters will support the development of Indian Tech Clusters by breaking down barriers to growth, including building international links.

SAGAR(SEcurity AND Growth For All In The Region)

1. Guided by **SAGAR, India has dispatched technical equipment and material to Mauritius** to help in dealing with the oil spills on its south-east coast.
2. SAGAR vision was enunciated by PM in 2015, which aims:**To safeguard our mainland and islands, ensure a safe secure and stable Indian Ocean**, and make available our capabilities to others.

GOVERNMENT EXPLORES INCENTIVES TO MAKE AGROCHEMICAL SECTOR ATMANIRBHAR(SELF-RELIANT)

1. Proposals include tax incentives, infrastructure development, import curbs etc. **To boost domestic production in agrochemicals sector**.
2. India is the **4th largest producer of agrochemicals after US,Japan and China**.India is net exporter of agrochemicals.
3. However, India imports agrochemicals in their various forms worth over Rs 3,000 crore from China.