

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

20TH AUGUST, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Union Cabinet approved the creation of a National Recruitment Agency (NRA) for conducting a Common Eligibility Test (CET) for various government jobs. NRA will conduct test for Railway Recruitment Board, the Staff Selection Commission and the Institute of Banking Personnel Selection.
- Barely a decade after its entry, Harley-Davidson Inc. Is looking to wind down its assembly operations in the country as a result of weak sales and a lack of visibility for future demand.
- Mali awoke to a new chapter in its troubled history after rebel military leaders forced President Boubacar Keita from office, prompting its West African neighbours to threaten border closures and sanctions against the coup leaders.
- A 2,300 year old Egyptian mummy was among the rare objects of historical interest which were saved from drowning at the Albert Hall Museum in Jaipur during the torrential rains.
- Online video sharing platform YouTube turned down the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department's request to remove content allegedly being used for illegal wildlife trade as it was not violative of its policy, the department said.
- 80-90% of students in Central government schools saying they use mobiles rather than laptops to access digital schooling during the pandemic, according to an official sample survey. Almost 30% said absent or intermittent electricity connections hindered their learning.
- Facebook and its top lobbying executive in India, Ankhil Das, are facing questions internally from employees over how political content is regulated in its biggest market.

BIHAR GOVERNMENT USING TECHNOLOGY TO TACKLE FLOODS

1. Government has **deployed artificial intelligence(AI), an early warning system and a mathematical modelling system to minimise the effects of floods** in the state.
2. It will give a flood forecast model with a **72-hour lead time** for rivers like Gandak, Bagmati-Adhwara, Kamala, Kosi and Mohananda which originate in Nepal.

MAHARASHTRA FIRST INDIAN STATE TO DECLARE STATE MANGROVE TREE AS SYMBOL OF CONSERVATION

1. Recently, *Sonneratia alba* **or mangrove apple, an evergreen mangrove species** found along the Maharashtra's coastline, was approved as state mangrove tree.
2. It **grows on newly formed mudflats** and play an important role in combating land erosion.
3. Distribution of this mangrove species is **confined to west coast and some parts of Odisha**.

PARYUSHAN PARVA

1. Paryushan Parva is **annual festival of Jain religion celebrated for spiritual upliftment and self-purification**.
2. For Jains, Fasting during Paryushan is a **chance to eliminate bad karma**. It helps **one develop discipline, self-control, patience, forgiveness and repentance**

INDIGENOUS AIR UNIQUE QUALITY MONITORING(AUM) PHOTONIC SYSTEM

1. It is an **indigenous photonic system for real-time remote monitoring of air quality parameters**.
2. It is an innovative application of the principles of laser backscattering, statistical mechanics, optoelectronics, artificial intelligence, machine/deep learning, and Internet of Things.
3. It **can identify, classify, and quantify various pollutants simultaneously** and meteorological parameters, with very high precision, sensitivity and accuracy.

Dr VIKRAM SARABHAI

1. ISRO named Moon Crater Captured by Chandrayaan-2 After Vikram Sarabhai called "**Sarabhai**" Crater.
2. About Dr Vikram Sarabhai-He **founded the Physical Research Laboratory(PRL)** in Ahmedabad in 1947.
3. He played key role in establishing ISRO and is referred to as **father of Indian space programmes**

FORMER RBI GOVERNOR URJIT PATEL IN MPC SEARCH-CUM SELECTION COMMITTEE

1. The research-cum-selection committee will name the new three government nominees on the Monetary Policy Committee(MPC).
2. MPC is a **6-member committee chaired by RBI Governor**. Of these, three members are from RBI while three other members are nominated by the Central Government.
3. Its main objective is **to maintain the price stability and boosting up the growth rate of the country's** economy.