

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

29TH AUGUST, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Getting India's China policy right will be "critical to India's prospects" and doing so will require "going beyond traditional assumptions", says External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in a new book(*The India Way*).
- Union government notifies functions of Lieutenant Governor and Council of Ministers in J&K, According to the transaction of business rules, "police, public order, All India Services and anti-corruption" will fall under the executive functions of the LG, implying that the Chief Minister or the Council of Ministers will have no say in their functioning.
- States are empowered under the Disaster Management Act to override the University Grants Commission (UGC) exam guidelines in order to protect human lives amid the COVID19 pandemic, the Supreme Court said.
- The government is looking to raise around ₹ 5,000 crore by divesting up to 15% stake in state owned Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL).
- The Meghalaya government has declared 19 villages across five districts as epicentres of African swine fever after a research institute based in Madhya Pradesh's capital Bhopal confirmed the outbreak of the disease.
- United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres criticised India for subsidising fossil fuels and promoting coal auctions. Mr. Guterres was delivering the 19th Darbari Seth Lecture, organised by the Delhi based The Energy Resources Institute (TERI).
- India's steel exports more than doubled between April and July to hit their highest level in at least six years, boosted by Chinese buying. Traders said reduced prices had driven the purchases as Indian sellers sought to get rid of a surplus generated by the impact of COVID19.

WORLD URDU CONFERENCE

1. It is being **organised by National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language(NCPUL)**.
2. NCPUL is an autonomous body under the ministry of Education, Department of Secondary and Higher Education.
3. It was set up to promote, develop and propagate Urdu language.
4. **Urdu is one of the languages under 8th schedule of the Constitution of India.**

BUREAU OF POLICE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT(BPR&D)

1. BPR&D, under the ministry of Home Affairs is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Anniversary.
2. It **was raised with a mandate to promote excellence in policing, promote speedy and systematic study of police problems**, apply science and technology in the method and techniques by the police.

WHAT IS KIRAN

1. It is a **mental health rehabilitation helpline** to provide support for issues like early screening, first-aid, psychological support, distress management, mental well-being etc.
2. It will offer services in 13 languages.
3. Launched by:**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**

UDE DESH KA AAM NAGRIK(UDAN)

1. **78 new routes under the 4th round of Regional Connectivity Scheme**-UDAN have been approved.
2. 4th round of UDAN was launched in December 2019 with a special focus on North-Eastern regions, Hilly States, and Islands.
3. UDAN was **launched in 2016**, with aim to provide connectivity to un-served and under-served airports through revival of existing air-strips and airports.
4. Under the scheme, **airlines are offered viability gap fund for 50% of the seats on a flight** and fares for those seats are capped by the government.

NASA MAPS TRACE CAUSES OF GLOBAL MANGROVE HABITAT LOSS

1. Map highlighted that overall **mangrove habitat loss declined between 2000 and 2016**.
2. Losses from natural causes such as erosion and extreme eather declined more slowly than human causes.
3. Key drivers for mangrove loss:**Rice, Shrimp and oil palm cultivation; Shoreline erosion; extreme weather events etc.**

NATIONAL DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS-TRANSPORT INITIATIVE FOR ASIA(NDC-TIA)

1. NDC-TIA project aims at promoting a coherent strategy of effective policies for **decarbonising transport that are co-ordinated among various sector ministries, civil society and the private sector**.
2. Project engages in **China, India and Vietnam over the period 2020-24**.
3. It is a joint project of Seven organisations including World Resources Institute, International Transport Forum, International Council on clean Transportation etc.