

# PRAYAS KSG NEWSPAPER SPOTLIGHT'S

(6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2020)

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Uttarakhand to develop India's first snow leopard conservation centre in Uttarkashi forests.
- The United States (US) Air Force conducted a scheduled test launch of an LGM-30G Minuteman III, an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) carrying a load of three unarmed reentry vehicles, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, US to a target in the Pacific Ocean.
- India told China "not to comment on the internal affairs" of other countries, in response to Beijing describing the dilution of Article 370, on the one year anniversary of the move, as being "illegal and invalid".
- The Supreme Court referred to a five judge Bench the "substantial question of law" whether grant of 10% reservation to economically weaker sections of the society is unconstitutional and violates the 50% ceiling cap on quota declared by the court itself.
- Three organisations representing the Bru community displaced from Mizoram have rejected the sites proposed by the Joint Movement Committee (JMC), an umbrella group of non-Brus in Tripura, for their resettlement.
- Baidu Search :- Baidu Search, among the most influential apps of China and dubbed as the country's answer to Google search, has been blocked in India..
- Polar Bears in Arctic will become extinct by 2100: The Study published in Nature Climate Change.

## UNITED NATION'S POLICY BRIEF ON THE PANDEMIC'S IMPACT ON EDUCATION

1. Almost **24 million children** are at risk of not returning to school next year due to the economic fallout of COVID-19.
2. Educational financing gap is also likely to increase by one third.
3. More than **1.6 billion learners across the world have been affected.**

## CONVERTING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT(PPE) INTO BIOFUELS

1. According to new study, **Plastic from used PPE can be converted from its polypropylene(Plastic)** state into bio fuels which is at par with standard fossil fuels using pyrolysis.
2. pyrolysis is a chemical process for breaking down plastic at high temperature-between **300-400 degree centigrade** for an hour-without oxygen.
3. Presently there is a need to **mitigate the problem Of dumped PPE.**

## SUPREME COURT(SC) DIRECTS STATES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO SENIOR CITIZENS

1. **SC** directed states to provide care, support and **priority medical treatment for senior citizens**, especially those living alone or quarantined, amid COVID-19 pandemic.
2. SC directions include-All eligible old age persons should **be regularly paid pension.**
3. Provide them necessary medicines, masks, sanitizers and other essential goods.

## SAHKAR COOPTUBE NCDC CHANNEL

1. It is a new initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation(NCDC) **to encourage farmers and the youth to take benefit of cooperatives.**
2. **NCDC is a statutory** body.
3. It strengthens and promotes programmes across sectors relating to agriculture and allied fields like dairy.

## PANEL SUGGESTS TWEAKS IN RICE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY OF FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA(FCI)

1. Panel constituted by 15<sup>th</sup> Finance commission suggested that a **higher pool of surplus rice should be made available to exporters** by suitably modifying FCI's procurement strategies.
2. FCI is the largest buyer of rice in the domestic market.
3. **Rice is among the biggest agriculture exports from India** along with cotton.

## NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL(NGT) SETS STRINGENT CONDITIONS FOR COMMERCIAL USE OF GROUNDWATER

1. In a ruling NGT has issued **directions for groundwater usage** to Union Ministry of Jal Shakti and Central Ground Water Board(CGWB).
2. There must be **no general permission** for withdrawal of groundwater, particularly to any commercial entity, without environmental impact assessment (EIA) of such activity.
3. Permission to extract groundwater must be for specified times and quantity of water, not for perpetuity.

- **BEIRUT -**

At least 100 people were killed and nearly 4,000 injured in a massive explosion at Lebanon's capital Beirut.

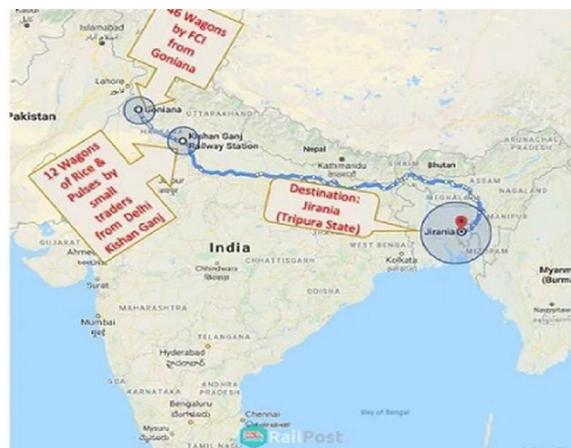


- **VIDYARTHI VIGYAN MANTHAN**

1. Government of India launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21.
2. Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM) is an initiative of Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA), in collaboration with Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous organization under the Department of Science and Technology, and NCERT, an institution under the Ministry of Education.
3. VVM is a national program for popularizing science among school students of standard VI to XI, conceptualised to identify the bright minds with a scientific aptitude among the student community.

- **VYAPAR MALA EXPRESS TRAIN**

1. Northern Railway today ran its first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train.
2. This train destined for Jirania in Tripura has 46 wagons. This is an express service where piece-meal stock will reach its destination in a shorter time.
3. The train departed from Delhi Kishanganj for Jirania and it will cover a distance of 2,673 km from Punjab to Tripura.



### **MP Current Affair**

- The Madhya Pradesh government will set up a textile tourism circuit in the state.
  1. Chanderi, Maheshwar, Sarangpur and Bagh have been selected in the first phase for the purpose.
  2. The places are famous for fabrics and print and also get tourists for their palaces, temples and archeological sites.
  3. The government is also planning to set up textile parks in these places where tourists can buy directly from weavers. It would reduce the price of products to around 40% since there will be no middlemen involved in the process.
- Punjab chief minister Capt Amarinder Singh has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking his intervention to not allow geographical indication (GI) tagging of basmati to Madhya Pradesh, in the larger interest of Punjab and other states which are already basmati GI-tagged.