

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

17TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and his top Ministers are responsible for probable crimes against humanity, including extrajudicial killings and the systematic use of torture, UN(United Nations) investigators said.
- An antigraft group has sought Nagaland Governor R.N. Ravi's intervention in checking unabated 'taxation' by extremist groups and corruption in the State.
- The Supreme Court asked for the government's response to a plea that wide publication of the personal details of a couple who want to wed under the Special Marriage Act is a violation of their privacy.
- Kapila Vatsyayan, the grand matriarch of cultural research, passed Delhi.
- Militants in Gaza launched rockets into Israel and Israeli aircraft hit targets in the Palestinian enclave in an explosive backdrop to the signing of pacts for formal ties between Israel and the two Gulf Arab countries.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said while there were some signs of 'stabilisation' in the pandemic hit economy, a recovery was yet to take firm root and would probably take longer to gain momentum.
- The trade deficit between India and China in April-June this fiscal year fell to \$5.48 billion from \$13.1 billion a year earlier, Parliament was informed.
- Promoting self-reliance in sectors such as electronics and defence equipment, among others, can lead to import substitution of over \$186 billion for India, says a study by Export and Import Bank of India (Exim Bank).

INDIA WINS ELECTIONS TO KEY U.N.'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL(ECOSOC) SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. India won a seat each at UN's Commission on the Status of Women, the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Commission on Population and Development.
2. Terms will begin 2021 when India will also start its stint on the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member.
3. ECOSOC focuses on advancing the three dimensions of sustainable development-economic, social and environmental. It was established in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the UN.

PARLIAMENT PANEL PROPOSES TAX INCENTIVES FOR STARTUPS

1. Panel has recommended abolition of long-term capital gains(LTCG) tax for investment in start-ups, besides other tax incentives, to encourage investments during the pandemic period.
2. LTCG tax is levied on the profit generated by an asset such as real estate and shares, which is held for a long time period.

U.S. PARTNERS WITH MEKONG NATIONS TO COUNTER CHINA'S GROWING INFLUENCE IN SE ASIA

1. Mekong partner countries(Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam) and US launched the Mekong-U.S. Partnership as a strategic forum for cooperation.
2. Cooperation name is derived from Mekong river, which starts in Tibet and flows through China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, ending in the South China Sea.

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA(TRAI) RECOMMENDED SELF REGULATING BODY FOR CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDERS(CSP)

1. CSP are companies that offer network services, infrastructure, or business applications in the cloud. Cloud services hosted in a data center that can be accessed by companies or individuals using network connectivity.
2. India is currently home to multiple cloud regions such as Amazon web services, Google Cloud, Microsoft Azure etc.

ISRAEL, UAE AND BAHRAIN SIGN ABRAHAM ACCORD

1. As per the agreements, the UAE and Bahrain will establish embassies, exchange ambassadors, cooperate and work together with Israel across a range of sectors, including tourism, trade, healthcare and security.
2. Bahrain became the second Gulf country(after UAE) to establish diplomatic and economic relations with Israel.

MICROBIAL LIFE AT VENUS

1. Scientists announced discovery of phosphine gas in Venus's clouds, that is a marker for the existence of microbes that can live without oxygen.