

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

19TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Delhi High Court directed both private and government schools in the Capital to provide gadgets and Internet package free of cost to poor students for attending online classes, a verdict aimed at narrowing the COVID19 pandemic induced digital divide.
- The Union government is set to come up with National Cyber Security Strategy 2020 for ensuring a safe, secured, trusted and resilient cyber space.
- A message needs to go out to the media that it cannot make a religious minority the target of its attacks, the Supreme Court said. The dignity of a community is as important as journalistic freedom, it noted.
- The Army said it has concluded the inquiry ordered into the Shopian encounter of July 18 and suggested that the powers vested under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) were “exceeded during the operation”.
- The tallest grass on earth at its smallest could be among the cheapest immunity boosters for increasing the human body’s resistance to viral attacks, experts have said.
- While tensions remain high and a military build-up continues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, China has ratcheted up tensions on its eastern front, with 18 Chinese fighters and bombers crossing the midline of the Taiwan Strait and flying towards Taiwan in a major show of military force.
- There are at least 10 patrolling points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh that have been blocked by Chinese troops, a senior government official told.
- Heavy rains in some parts of the country have affected standing crops including paddy, pulses, oilseeds, spices, fruits and vegetables, Parliament was informed.

THE FARMER’S PRODUCE TRADE AND COMMERCE(PROMOTION AND FACILITATION) BILL,2020

1. It allows`intra-state and **inter-state trade of farmers` produce beyond the physical premises of APMC markets.**
2. State governments are prohibited from levying any market fee,cess or levy outside APMC areas.
3. Impact-**States will lose revenue** as they won`t be able to collect mandi fees if farmers sell their produce outside APMC yards.

THE FARMERS(EMPOWERMENT AND PROTECTION)AGREEMNT OF PRICE ASSURANCE AND FARM SERVICES BILL,2020

1. It creates a **framework for contract farming through an agreement between a farmer and a buyer prior to the production or rearing of any farm produce.**
2. It provides for a three-level dispute settlement mechanism:the conciliation board,Sub-divisional Magistrate and Appellate Authority.
3. Impact-**Farmers will be weaker player in contract farming** arrangement in terms of their ability to negotiate.

THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES(AMENDMENT) BILL,2020

1. It **aims to “deregulate” agricultural commodities like cereals,pulses,oilseeds,onions and potatoes.**
2. It will do away with the imposition of stockholding limits on such items except under extraordinary situations like war etc.
3. Stock limits may be imposed on agricultural produce only if there is a steep price rise.
4. Impact-**Price limits set for imposing stockholding limits are very high.**

AICTE-SPICES(SCHEME FOR PROMOTING INTERESTS, CREATIVITY AND ETHICS AMONG STUDENTS)

1. It was launched by Ministry of Education **to promote healthy co-curricular activity amongst the students.**
2. Schemes provides financial support to institutions for developing students club for well-rounded development of students promoting their interests, creativity and ethics.

BAGH PRINT

1. Bagh Print is a **traditional hand block print with natural colours practised in Bagh(Dhar district) in Madhya Pradesh.**
2. Bagh print has its roots in Sindh, which is now a part of Pakistan.
3. TRIFED is organizing a training program, in Barwani(MP) to train local tribal population in the Bagh,Maheshwari and Chanderi textile crafts.

ASSESSMENT OF ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS PROGRAMME (ADP) RELEASED

1. Study was conducted by US based Social Progress Imperative, set up by Professors from Harvard Business School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Institute for Competitiveness, India.
2. Key findings-**Most districts are 40-90% away from their targets and there are no clear achiever or laggard districts.**