

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

1ST SEPTEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia(Baltic states) imposed travel bans on Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko and 29 other Belarusian officials, jumping into action to impose sanctions before the rest of the EU(European Union).
- In an escalation of the ongoing standoff on the disputed boundary in Ladakh, Chinese troops carried out aggressive moves on the night of August 29 to change the status quo on the south bank of Pangong Tso and those attempts were thwarted.
- The Indian economy saw its worst contraction in decades, with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) shrinking by a record 23.9% in the April to June quarter in comparison to the same period last year, according to data released by the National Statistical Office.
- Ex-President Pranab Mukherjee passes away.
- About 1,000 square kilometres of area in Ladakh along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) is now under Chinese control, intelligence inputs provided to the Centre suggest.
- A rare inscription dating back to the Renati Chola era has been unearthed in a remote village of Kadapa district(Andhra Pradesh).It Found engraved on a dolomite slab and shale, which are part of a fragmentary pillar recently excavated from the fields.
- The Working Committee of the Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs) has sought a review of the Framework Agreement (FA) the Centre had signed with the rival Isak Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland, or NSCN (IM), in August 2015.
- The Madhya Pradesh government is inspecting rice stocked across its depots after the Centre requested it to withhold them until further investigation.

KAVKAZ 2020

1. **India has withdrawn from Kavkaz multi-nation military exercise in Russia** citing logistics difficulties due to COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Kavkaz is the Russian strategic command and staff exercise including China, Pakistan.

ANDROMEDA GALAXY

1. **Andromeda galaxy, also known as M31 is a spiral of perhaps as many as 1 trillion stars** and comparable in size to Milky way galaxy.
2. It is the closest(nearly 2.5 million years) big galaxy to Milky Way.
3. Recently,NASA`s Hubble Space Telescope have mapped the **immense envelope of gas, called a halo**,surrounding Andromeda galaxy.
4. This halo extends 1.3 million light-years from the galaxy about halfway to Milky way which means that Andromeda`s halo is already bumping into the halo of Milky Way.

PANTANAL,BRAZIL

1. It is **World`s largest wetland and sprawls over more than 150,000 sq km in Brazil** and also extends into Bolivia and Paraguay.
2. It is burning as vegetation compacted under the marshy flood water during the wet season dries out as ponds and lagoons evaporate,leaving flammable deposits underground.

HANGENBERG CRISIS

1. **Earth suffered an intense loss of species diversity(around 359 million years ago) that lasted for at least 300,000 years.**
2. The event is thought to have been **caused by long-lasting ozone depletion**, which would have allowed much more of the Sun`s ultraviolet(UV) radiation to reach and harm life on Earth.
3. It was called the Hangenberg crisis.

INDIA NAVY DEPLOYED WARSHIP IN SOUTH CHINA SEA(SCS)

1. Deployment was done after Galwan valley clash.
2. Several countries bordering SCS:China, Phillippines,Malaysia,Brunei,Indonesia,Singapore and Vietnam.
3. China has been objecting to presence of Indian Navy ships in the region.
4. **Indian Navy had also deployed its frontline vessels along Malacca Strait, from where Chinese Navy enters Indian Ocean Region, to keep a check on any activity of the Chinese Navy.**

STATES ASKED TO IDENTIFY PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES(PwD)FOR RATION CARDS

1. **Centre has asked states and UTs to identify PwD eligible under the National Food Security Act(NFSA), 2013** and issue rations cards to those left out.
2. Under NFSA, State Governments/UTs are responsible to evolve criteria for identification of priority households and their actual identification.
3. **NFSA covers upto 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population.**