

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

31ST AUGUST, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah said that his powerful Iran backed Shia movement is “open” to a French proposal for a new political pact for Lebanon.
- As India heads towards completing six months of being in a virtual mode and restricted mobility because of the COVID19 pandemic in September, the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Home Affairs is examining the impact of the lockdown on citizens’ mental health.
- Exactly a year after the publication of the complete National Register of Citizens (NRC), the fate of 19,06,657 people excluded from the updated list in Assam continues to hang in the balance.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi called upon start-ups and entrepreneurs to “team up for toys”, pointing out that India’s share in the ₹7 lakh crore global toy market is minuscule. He asserted that the country has the potential to be a hub for the industry.
- A year after the famed organic turmeric of Odisha’s Kandhamal district received the geographical indication (GI) tag, thousands of farmers who hoped to make a profit out of the crop are cursing themselves.
- West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra said, “states to borrow for the shortfall of the GST revenue” was a “planned strategy” to destroy the economic health of the States and crush federalism.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa flagged off the maiden rollon, rolloff(RORO) train from Bengaluru to Solapur through videoconferencing. The RORO train will transport goods from the Peenya industrial area.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION(WHO) CERTIFIED AFRICAN REGION FREE OF WILD POLIO

1. For certification, **all countries in WHO region need to have no case of wild polio for 3 consecutive years.** No single country can be certified as polio-free.
2. Now, five of six WHO regions, except Eastern Mediterranean which includes Afghanistan and Pakistan, are certified free of wild poliovirus.
3. In 2014, India was officially declared polio-free, along with the rest of the South-East Asia Region.
4. Poliomyelitis(polio) is a highly infectious disease that invades nervous system.

RBI TRANSFERS RS 73,615 TO ITS CONTINGENCY FUND

1. With this, main risk provision accounts of RBI together now amount to Rs 13.88 lakh crore.
2. Main risk provision accounts of RBI-Contingency Fund(CF): A specific provision **meant for meeting unexpected and unforeseen contingencies, including depreciation in the value of securities, risks arising out of exchange rate policy operations.**
3. This **transfer has led to 67.5% fall in RBI’s surplus(dividend) to central government in 2019-20,** as compared to last year.

PMJDY-NATIONAL MISSION FOR FINANCIAL INCLUSION, COMPLETES SIX YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION

1. Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana(PMJDY) was launched in 2014 to ensure access of financial products & services at an affordable cost and use of technology to lower cost & widen reach.
2. Achievement so far-Total **PMJDY accounts:40.35 Crore;(Rural:63.6%, Women:55.2%).**
3. **About 8 Crore PMJDY account holders receive direct benefit transfer** under various schemes.
4. Jan Dhan Darshak App-citizen centric platform for locating banking touch points such as bank branches,ATMs, Bank Mitras.

NATIONAL GIS-ENABLED LAND BANK SYSTEM LAUNCHED BY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

1. National GIS(Geographical Information System)-enabled Land Bank system is being developed by integration of industrial information System(IIS) with State GIS System.
2. Department for promotion of Industry & Internal Trade has developed IIS portal, a GIS enabled database of industrial areas/clusters across the country **to adopt a committed approach towards resource optimization, industrial upgradation and sustainability.**
3. GIS is a computer system for capturing, storing, checking, and displaying data related to positions on Earth’s surface.

EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX(EPI)

1. **EPI aims to assess the readiness of the states, in terms of their export potential and their performance.**
2. EPI includes **4 pillars-Policy;Business Ecosystem;Export Ecosystem;Export Performance.**