

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The hypersonic air breathing scramjet technology was successfully demonstrated by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) with a flight test of the hypersonic technology demonstrator vehicle (HSTDV), which will lead to the development of hypersonic cruise missiles and vehicles in future.
- Thousands of villagers in Odisha's Malkangiri district are set to enjoy uninterrupted cellular service for the first time in their lives. Many in violence-hit Malkangiri district to get voice, broadband for first time.
- Farmers in Punjab under the banner of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangarsh Samiti started a campaign to "court arrest" themselves as a mark of protest against the Centre's recently promulgated agriculture ordinances.
- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said the situation at eastern Ladakh, where Indian and Chinese troops have been in an eyeball to eyeball confrontation since April, was "very serious" and called for "deep conversations between the two sides at the political level".
- The Supreme Court asked the States to provide a more detailed version of the measures in place to provide care, support and priority medical treatment to senior citizens, especially those who live alone, during the COVID19 pandemic.
- Britain's tortuous divorce from the EU veered into fresh crisis after London signalled it could undermine the exit agreement with Brussels unless free trade terms are agreed by next month.
- Saudi Arabia supports a "fair" solution for the Palestinian cause, King Salman has told Donald Trump, as the U.S. President praised the kingdom for opening its airspace to Israel-UAE flights.

## WARMING ARABIAN SEA

1. According to scientists an **unusually warm Arabian sea is likely to have contributed to intense bursts of monsoon rain in parts of India in August this year.**
2. Earlier reports also suggested that Arabian sea is becoming warmer as a result of climate change.
3. This has resulted in a rise in widespread **extreme rains over Western Ghats and central India**, Since warming induces increased fluctuations in the monsoon winds, with ensuing episodes of enhanced moisture transport from the Arabian Sea towards the Indian subcontinent.

## DATA FROM A REPORT ON EDUCATION RELEASED BY THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE(NSO)

1. Key highlights-**Top 5 states/UTs in literacy: Kerala(highest-96.2%),Delhi,Uttarakhand,Himachal Pradesh,Assam.**
2. **Bottom 5:UP,Telangana,Bihar,Rajasthan,Andhra Pradesh(lowest-66.4%).**
3. Male-Female literacy gap at the all-India levels is 14.4 percentage points with male literacy at 84.7% and female literacy at 70.3%.

## FIRST EVER INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CLEAN AIR FOR BLUE SKIES

1. In 2019, United Nations adopted a resolution to observe international Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies on 07<sup>th</sup> September every year starting from 2020.
2. It aims to-Raise public awareness at all levels, Demonstrate close link of air quality to other environmental/developmental challenges such as climate change and Sustainable Development Goals.

## START-UP VILLAGE ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME(SVEP)

1. It is a sub-scheme under deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission of Ministry of Rural Development which aims **to help rural households including women to set-up enterprises.**
2. SVEP addresses **three major pillars of rural start-ups namely- finances, incubation, skill ecosystems.**
3. Long term vision is to provide support for start-up to 1 crore village enterprises and provide direct employment to 2 crore people.

## ZERO-BUDGET NATURAL FARMING(ZBNF) BROUGHT BIG GAINS FOR ANDHRA FARMERS

1. Findings were part of a study that compared ZBNF and non-ZBNF techniques in crops like paddy, groundnut etc. **It compared 6 parameters: water,electricity, energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, yield and net revenue.**
2. ZBNF provided saving of 1,400 to 3,500 cubic metres of water per acre per paddy cropping period. If all of India's paddy area is brought under ZBNF, 150-400 billion cubic metre of water can potentially be saved

## K-SHAPED RECOVERY

1. This means those at the top are seeing things go up, and those at the middle and below are seeing things go down and get worse.
2. An example in India is the stock market being healthy while millions have lost their jobs.