

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2020

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- India's eight core industry sectors shrank just 0.8% in September on a year on year basis, recording their lowest contraction since March 2020, with electricity and steel output clocking positive growth for the first time since March, and coal production rising for the second month in a row.
- India described the map of Kashmir in a new currency note of Saudi Arabia as a "gross misrepresentation" of sovereign territory. India has taken up the issue at the diplomatic level with Riyadh.
- The fiscal deficit continued to soar in September to reach ₹ 9.1 lakh crore, or almost 115% of the budget target of ₹ 7.96 lakh crore for 2020-21, as per data from the Comptroller General of Accounts.
- Tech Giant Google told the joint parliamentary committee on Personal Data Protection Bill that India should avoid data localisation requirements, a submission which riled some panel members.
- A Typhoon that slammed into central Vietnam has set off a series of landslides that buried villages and towns, left more than 60 people dead or missing and compounded the misery of a country already struggling with catastrophic floods.
- Global e-commerce giant Amazon's Indian arm has written to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), the BSE and the National Stock Exchange (NSE), asking them not to approve the Future Retail-Reliance Retail.
- Unemployment rate in urban areas continued to ease to 7.9 per cent in October-December 2019 from 8.4 percent in July-September 2019, 8.9 percent in April-June 2019 and 9.9 per cent in October-December 2018, the quarterly Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) showed.

## GREEN CRACKERS

- 1.Green crackers **don't contain banned chemicals such as lithium, arsenic, arsenic, barium and lead.**
- 2.They are called safe Water Releaser(SWAS), Safe Thermite Cracker(STAR) and safe Minimal Aluminium(SAFAL) crackers.
- 3.Green crackers **release water vapour and don't allow the dust particles to rise.** They are designed to have 30% less particulate matter pollution.
- 4.They have been developed by National Environmental and Engineering Research Institute(**NEERI**).

## MUDUMALAI TIGER RESERVE

- 1.It is located in the Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu and shares boundary with Wyanad Wildlife Sanctuary(Kerala) on the West, Bandipur Tiger Reserve(Karnataka).
- 2.Important fauna includes **Tiger, Elephant, Indian Gaur, Panther, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Barking Deer, Mouse Deer, Malabar Giant Squirrel, Wild Dog.**

## INDIA-UAE AGREE TO FURTHER DEFENCE CO-OPERATION THROUGH JOINT PRODUCTION AND MUTUAL TRADE

- 1.This would help to achieve the defence export target of \$5 billion in the next five years.
- 2.**UAE is India's third largest trading partner** and the second largest export destination and has around 3.5 million diaspora.
- 3.UAE-Isarael peace deal has opened the opportunity for India to play a greater role in the gulf.

## 2020 UN GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION AWARDS

- 1.Global Himalayan Expedition(GHE) is among the winners of the 2020 UN Global Climate Action Award.
- 2.GHE(Indian Organisation) is one of the world's first organisations that **leverages tourism and technology to bring solar energy to remote communities in Himalayan villages.**
- 3.Awards are spearheaded by **UN Climate Change's Momentum for Change initiative.**

## COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AND ADJOINING AREAS ORDINANCE 2020.

- 1.President signed an Ordinance to set up a permanent commission to tackle air pollution in National Capital Region(NCR) and adjoining areas.
- 2.Functions- **It will work towards better coordination, research, identification and resolution of problems surrounding Air Quality Index in NCR and adjoining areas.**
- 3.It will lay down parameters for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources. It will supersede all other bodies and authorities including EPCA(Environment pollution and prevention control authority).

## EUROPEAN UNION(EU) STRIKE DEAL ON CLIMATE LAW

- 1.EU environment ministers struck a deal to make the **bloc's 2050 net zero emissions target legally binding.**
- 2.The 2050 net-zero emission target involves the whole EU, implying that one country could make higher emissions if others make deeper cuts.
- 3.It will define the rules for reviewing progress towards climate targets.