

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

4TH OCTOBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- India and South Africa, in a formal submission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on October 2, sought a waiver on certain provisions of the international agreements that regulate intellectual property rights to speed up efforts to prevent, treat and contain the COVID19 pandemic.
- The Gurkha community in Assam has sought gazette notification on the issue of including it for constitutional safeguards according to Clause 6 of the 1985 Assam Accord.
- A tree species, long believed extinct, has been rediscovered after a gap of more than 180 years from a sacred grove in Kollam district. It was in 1835 that *Madhuca diplostemon*, a threatened species of the Western Ghats, was last spotted.
- A U.S. Navy P8A long range Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) landed at Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the last week of September for refuelling under the bilateral logistics support agreement, two defence sources confirmed.
- India reiterated that nuclear weapons should be abolished in a step by step non discriminatory process. India remains committed to "No First Use" against nuclear weapon states.
- The Centre has informed the Supreme Court that it will continue to "handhold" small and vulnerable borrowers and waive the compound interest (interest on interest) accumulated against their loans during the six month moratorium.
- British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that "there's a good deal to be done" with the European Union on post Brexit trade, as he prepared for scheduled talks with European Union chief Ursula von der Leyen.

MINISTERIAL PANEL TO CLEAR FDI FROM BORDER COUNTRIES

1. **An inter-ministerial committee** will evaluate the proposals initially before pushing them forward to the relevant ministries and departments for a final decision.
2. Earlier, government made its prior approval compulsory for foreign direct investments (FDIs) from all the bordering countries to prevent opportunistic takeovers of domestic firms following COVID-19 pandemic.
3. India shares land borders with **China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar and Afghanistan.**

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI LAUNCHES 100-DAYS CAMPAIGN FOR WATER SUPPLY IN SCHOOLS

1. **Mission Mode Campaign, under National Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), aims to provide potable piped water supply in schools & Anganwadi Centres.**
2. JJM aims at the universal coverage of provision of tap water connection to every rural home by 2024.
3. These facilities will be operated and maintained by the Gram Panchayat and/or its sub-committee i.e. Village water & sanitation committee or **Pani Samiti.**

BONGOSAGAR

1. It is the second edition of Indian Navy(IN)-**Bangladesh Navy(BN) bilateral exercise.**
2. Other military exercise between India and Bangladesh: Ex **SAMPRITI, IN-BN BILAT, IN-BN SF EXERCISE, TABLE TOP EX, SAMVEDNA.**

WHAT IS ANTISERA

1. Biological E, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research, has developed highly purified antisera that can be used in prevention and treatment of COVID-19.
2. **Antisera are blood sera that contain antibodies against a specific viral toxin or antigen.** Therapy works similar to plasma therapy, but here plasma is obtained from horses that have recovered from viral infection.
3. Plasma therapy is not so reliable because profile of antibodies, their efficacy and concentration keep varying from patient to patient.

PAKUR HONEY

1. It is pure **Multiflora Honey collected from a variety of flowers and floras by Santhal and Paharia (PVTGs) tribes** of Pakur District, Jharkhand.
2. It is 100% natural made from pollen and nectar collected by bees and is a good source of anti-oxidants and antiseptic vitamins, nutrients, enzymes and other herbal properties.

TRIBES INDIA e-MARKETPLACE

1. It is an initiative through which **TRIFED aims to onboard 5 lakh tribal producers for sourcing of various handicraft, handloom, natural food products across the country.**
2. The suppliers comprise of individual artisans, tribal SHGs, Organisations/Agencies/NGOs working with tribals.
3. It will connect tribal forest dwellers and artisans with national and international markets and will further enable their economic welfare and also bring them closer towards mainstream development.