

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

12TH NOVEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Sixty eight per cent of the newly elected Bihar MLAs have pending criminal charges, with 51% of them having declared serious cases against themselves, including rape and murder, according to a report released by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).
- In a move that will have far reaching impact, the government brought "Over the Top" (OTT) platforms or video streaming service providers like Netflix, Amazon Prime and others under the ambit of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- India and China are working out modalities to finalise a plan for phased disengagement and de-escalation along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, beginning with the North Bank of Pangong Tso, according to multiple sources.
- The Central government unveiled a production linked incentive (PLI) scheme to encourage domestic manufacturing investments in 10 more sectors, with an estimated outlay of about ₹1.46 lakh crore over the next five years.
- Farmers' groups insist they will come to the Capital for protest on November 26 and 27, despite the Delhi police denying permission for a rally at the Jantar Mantar protest site, citing COVID19 and other restrictions.
- A Meghalaya based rights group has accused the alliance government in the State of encouraging illegal coal mining in contempt of a Supreme Court order.
- The India Customs intercepted an 18tonne shipment of red sandalwood destined for the United Arab Emirates, during a month long "Operation Thunder 2020", coordinated by the Interpol and the World Customs Organisation, which involved law enforcement agencies in 103 countries.

THIRTY METER TELESCOPE(TMT) PROJECT

- 1.Indian astronomers collaborated with 2020 physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez on TMT project.
- 2.TMT is a proposed new class of extremely large telescopes that will allow seeing deeper into space and observing cosmic objects with unprecedented sensitivity.
- 3.It is a joint venture of five countries-India(Department of Science and Technology) Canada, US, China and Japan.

HEALTH CERTIFICATE MUST FOR DAIRY EXPORTS

- 1.Ministry of Commerce and industry notified Export of Milk and Milk Products(Quality Control, Inspection and Monitoring) Rules, 2020.
- 2.According to new rules-Exporters of milk and milk products would have to obtain a certificate of export worthiness from a government agency for shipments.
- 3.Milk and milk products shall be subjected to quality control or inspection or both prior to export.

INTERSTATE MIGRANT POLICY INDEX(IMPEX) RELEASED BY INDIA MIGRATION NOW(IMN)

- 1.IMPEX ranks and compares all the states based on their migrant integration policies. It examines policy areas such as child rights, education, health and sanitation, housing, political inclusion etc.
- 2.More than 1/3rd of India's population is internal migrants, while 75% of the youth are migrants(Centre for policy research, 2018).
- 3.IMN is a Mumbai-based research non-profit organisation.Key findings-Kerala, Goa and Rajasthan are the top three states migrant friendly policies.

INDIANS' ACCESS TO MOBILE MONEY JUMPS 17-FOLD IN FOUR YEARS:IMF

- 1.IMF defines mobile money as a financial service offered by a mobile network operator(MNO) or another entity that partners with an MNO, facilitated by a network of mobile money agents.
- 2.It is distinct from accessing conventional bank accounts, or debit or credit card information, using a mobile phone.
- 3.Number of Indians(per thousand) using digital financial services offered by a MNO or its partners rose from 73 in 2015 to 1,265 in 2019.

GOVERNMENT KICKS OFF POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES(DISCOMS) PRIVATIZATION FOR UTs

- 1.Centre had announced in May that power departments and distribution utilities in UTs will be privatised. Now Chandigarh administration is taking steps to sell 100% government stake in its discom.
- 2.It will lead to better service to consumers and improvement in operational and financial efficiency in power distribution.

ATAL INNOVATION MISSION-SIRIUS INNOVATION PROGRAMME 3.0 LAUNCHED

- 1.It is the first Indo-Russian bilateral youth innovation initiative which seeks to develop technological solutions(both web- and mobile-based) for the two countries.
- 2.It was launched by Atal Innovation Mission(NITI Aayog, India) and Sirius(Russia).
- 3.In this programme, students, educators and mentors will create 8 virtual products and mobile applications addressing global challenges.