

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2020

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The much delayed Kochi-Mangaluru natural gas pipeline project is finally ready for commissioning as GAIL India has completed the final 540 metre treacherous stretch across the Chandragiri river in northern Kerala.
- Justice U.U. Lalit of the Supreme Court recused himself from hearing separate writ petitions that sought action against the Andhra Pradesh government and Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy for levelling “false, vague and political allegations” against Supreme Court judge N.V. Ramana and other High Court judges.
- Fissures within the People’s Alliance for Gupkar Declaration, an amalgam of seven political parties, came starkly to the fore as the Congress fielded candidates against the alliance partner Peoples Democratic Party on many seats for the upcoming District Development Council polls.
- Twelve individuals, who took part in the anti Citizenship (Amendment) Act protest at Shaheen Bagh, sought a review of the Supreme Court judgment which declared the demonstration of dissent as “unacceptable” for blocking a public road.
- India has allowed other countries ‘unfair’ trade and manufacturing advantages “in the name of openness”, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar asserted in a speech criticising globalisation on Monday.
- India’s wholesale price inflation quickened to the highest level in eight months, reaching 1.48% in October 2020 as per provisional data, compared with 0% in October 2019 and 1.32% in September this year.
- The winter session of Parliament that usually commences by last week of November is unlikely to be held due to the high number of COVID19 cases in Delhi.

## NATIONAL NURSING AND MIDWIFERY COMMISSION BILL 2020(NNMC)

- 1.Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has finalised NNMC to replace the Indian Nursing Council Act 1947.
- 2.Draft **Bill replaces the Indian Nursing Council with a new representative body called National Nursing and Midwifery Commission.**
- 3.It would have representatives of Centre and States, **would frame policies and regulate standards for the governance of nursing and midwifery education.**

## CAQM REVIEWS AIR QUALITY IN NCR AND ADJOINING AREAS

- 1.The newly formed Commission for Air Quality Management(CAQM) in National Capital Region(NCR) reviewed air quality scenario and identified immediate measures to be taken.
- 2.These include-**Minimizing use of personalized transport, encouraging work from home, strict enforcement to prevent burning of waste burning of waste, use of anti-smog guns and sprinkling of water in dust prone areas etc.**
- 3.CAQM supersede all other bodies and authorities(in matters related to pollution) including EPCA(environment pollution and prevention control authority), apex body formed by Supreme Court in matters of pollution.

## SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE INITIATIVE(SCRI)

- 1.SCRI was proposed by Japan as a trilateral approach to trade, with India and Australia.
- 2.It aims **to attract FDI in Indo-Pacific region and to build mutually complementary relationship with partner countries.**
- 3.As a **part of SCRI, Australia, Japan, India are likely to set up a trilateral framework to address trade and investment barriers** along with trade and investment promotion.

## HUNAR HAAT

- 1.It is an **exhibition of handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans from minority communities.**
- 2.It is **organized under USTTAD**(Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) scheme of Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- 3.It aims to provide market exposure and employment opportunities to artisans, craftsmen and traditional culinary experts.

## RISING GST DUES FOR STATES

- 1.**As per Fifteenth Finance Commission, the gap between the GST cess collections used to recompense states and their compensation dues could accumulate by 2022.**
- 2.The current revenue shortfall for States is pegged at 3 lakh crore this year, with GST cess collections are expected to be just 65,000 crore.
- 3.Earlier, Centre has allowed States to borrow from the market to meet part of the shortfall.

## SAFFRON BOWL OF INDIA EXTENDS TO THE NORTH EAST

- 1.North East Centre For Technology Application and Reach(an autonomous body under Department of Science & Technology) is supporting a pilot project **to explore feasibility of growing saffron in Sikkim.**
- 2.**Similar climatic and geographical conditions between Pampore(Kashmir) and Yangyang(Sikkim) led to the successful sample farming of Saffron in Yangyang.**