

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Children in anganwadis and government schools could soon be eating rice infused with iron, folic acid and vitamin B12. In a bid to combat chronic anaemia and undernutrition, the government is planning to distribute fortified rice through the Integrated Child Development Services and Mid Day Meal schemes across the country from next year, with a special focus on 112 aspirational districts.
- Qatar's ruler said that a long delayed vote for the country's policy reviewing chamber will be held in October 2021, marking the Gulf emirate's first national election.
- The Health Ministry said it has asked the State governments to refrain from making isolated plans for vaccine distribution.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha sought to allay apprehensions over the new amendments to laws regarding the acquisition of land by outsiders in the Union Territory, stating that protections of the kind enshrined in land laws of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand were incorporated into the new laws.
- In a major push to electric mobility sector, the government has decided to establish 400 charging stations across Andhra Pradesh in the first phase.
- India's merchandise exports slid back into contraction mode in October as struggling global trade continued to face headwinds from the COVID19 pandemic.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a virtual meeting with 20 large global investors managing assets of more than \$6 trillion, on Thursday, to reiterate India's attractiveness as an investment destination.
- India's economy is recovering fast and should hopefully be back on track soon, a top finance ministry official said.

## WORLD IN LIQUIDITY TRAP, WHICH CALLS FOR SYNCHRONIZED FISCAL PUSH SAYS IMF CHIEF ECONOMIST

1. IMF chief argued that world is in a liquidity trap with policy interest rates staying below 1% in 60% of global economy and 97% of advanced economies.
2. **Liquidity trap is a situation when expansionary monetary policy (increase in money supply) does not increase interest rate**, income and hence does not stimulate economic growth.
3. Some of the indicators of liquidity trap - **low interest rates, recessionary trends, Wage Remain Stagnant etc.**

## PRIMARY HEALTH-CARE (PHC) SYSTEMS RELATED FINDINGS IN LOW-AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

1. Findings are part of document released by Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)
2. Key findings - **Despite the growing burden of noncommunicable disease, many low-and middle-income countries lacked funds for preventive services.**
3. Community health workers were often under sourced, poorly supported and lacked training.
4. Health insurance schemes were hampered by the fragmentation of public and private systems, underfunding etc.

## DEPARTMENT OF SPACE HAS INVITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON SPACECOM POLICY-2020 AND SPACECOM NGP-2020

1. Spacecom Policy-2020 **aims at meeting the growing demands of space-based communication requirements of the nation** and Advancements in the relevant technologies for self-sustenance in areas of commercial, secured and societal communications.
2. Key Features - **Securing space assets, Re-assigning unused orbital resources**, Involving Indian industry, Security and connectivity projects.

## PANNA TIGER RESERVE INCLUDED IN WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES (WNBR) UNDER MAB PROGRAMME

1. Biosphere reserves are sites established by countries and recognized under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme to promote sustainable development based on local community efforts and sound science.
2. **World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) is a unique global network of biosphere reserves (BR) explicitly linking sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.**

## HC PANEL QUESTIONS SETTING UP SPECIAL COURTS TO TRY MPs, MLAs

1. A three-judge committee of the Madras High Court has questioned the constitutional validity of **setting up special courts to exclusively try MPs and MLAs for various crimes in its report.**
2. According to the report the special courts should be "offence centric" and not "offender-centric".

## ASTEROID 16 PSYCHE

1. **Asteroid 16 Psyche, which orbits between Mars and Jupiter, is one of the most massive objects in the asteroid belt in our solar system.**
2. Asteroids, sometimes called minor planets, are rocky, airless remnants left over from the early formation of solar system.
3. A recent study has found that **asteroid 16 Psyche could be made entirely of metal** and is worth and estimated \$10,000 quadrillion, more than the entire economy of Earth.