

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2021

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- **PM-KISAN payments worth ₹1,364 crore have been wrongly made to more than 20 lakh ineligible beneficiaries and income tax payer farmers, according to information provided by the Agriculture Ministry in response to an RTI request from activist Venkatesh Nayak. There are 11 crore beneficiaries registered under the scheme.**
- **The Supreme Court said it intended to stay the implementation of the controversial agricultural laws while proposing to form an independent committee chaired by a former Chief Justice of India to “amicably resolve” the standoff between the farmers.**
- **The wildfire at Dzukou Valley, straddling the Manipur-Nagaland border, has been doused after it raged for two weeks, officials said.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the State governments would not have to pay for vaccinating the priority group of three crore healthcare and frontline workers, stating that the Centre would bear the cost. Centre orders 11 mn doses of Covishield, Government says it will pay for priority group.**
- **The Union government’s proposal to construct a new Parliament building was approved by the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC), whose clearance was mandated by the Supreme Court.**
- **The Centre, through the Delhi police, moved the Supreme Court seeking an injunction order against any proposed tractor, trolley or vehicle march or any other kind of protest by farmers to “disrupt” the Republic Day.**
- **Democrats in the House of Republicans introduced an article of impeachment against U.S. President Donald Trump — the “incitement of insurrection” for his role in the attack on the Capitol last Wednesday. The House could vote on this charge on Wednesday.**

## LEGAL ENTITY IDENTIFIER(LEI)

- 1.RBI has decided to introduce **LEI system for all payment transactions of value Rs.50 crore and above undertaken by entities(non-individuals)** using RBI run Centralised Payment Systems with effect from April 1.
- 2.LEI is a **20-digit number used to uniquely identify parties** to financial transactions worldwide.
- 3.In India, LEI can be obtained from Legal Entity Identifier India Ltd., recognised as an issuer of LEI by RBI under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

## QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY

- 1.The detailed project report for a National Mission on Quantum Technology and Applications (NMQTA) has been drawn out and finalised.
- 2.In 2018, the Department of Science & Technology unveiled a programme called Quantum-Enabled Science & Technology (**QuEST**).
- 3.The mission seeks to develop quantum computing linked technologies amidst the second quantum revolution and make India the **world’s third-biggest nation in the sector after the US and China.**
- 4.Quantum Technology is based on the principles of Quantum mechanics that was developed in the early 20th century to describe nature at the scale of atoms and elementary particles.In this scheme of things, **processors can be a 1 and a 0 simultaneously, a state called quantum superposition.**

## CAFE-2 REGULATIONS AND BS-VI STAGE II NORMS

- 1.The auto industry has requested the government to defer the implementation of Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE-2) regulations and BS-VI stage II norms to April 2024, given the impact of the lockdown measures.
- 2.As of now, the CAFE-2 norms and BS-VI stage II norms are set to come into effect in 2022 and April 2023 respectively.
- 3.CAFE aimed at lowering fuel consumption (or improving fuel efficiency) of vehicles by lowering Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, thus **servicing the twin purposes of reducing dependence on oil for fuel and controlling pollution.**

## MUKUNDPURA METEORITE

- 1.A recent study has shed light on the mineralogy of the meteorite named Mukundpura CM2 which fell in Mukundpura village near Jaipur in 2017.
- 2.The meteorite named Mukundpura CM2 was classified to be a carbonaceous chondrite. The composition of carbonaceous chondrites are also similar to the Sun.
- 3.Chondrites are silicate droplet bearing meteorites, and this Mukundpura chondrite is the 5th carbonaceous meteorite known to fall in India.
- 4.**Mukundpura CM2 is a type of stony meteorite, considered the most primitive meteorite and a remnant of the first solid bodies to accrete in the solar system.**

## DOMESTIC EXPLORATION OF LITHIUM

- 1.Recent surveys by the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) have shown the presence of **lithium resources in Mandya district, Karnataka.** AMD is the oldest unit of the Department of Atomic Energy.
- 2.Lithium metal is used to make useful alloys. It is used in Thermo-nuclear reactions.**It is used to make electrochemical cells. Lithium is an important component in Electric Vehicles, Laptops etc.**