

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

24TH JANUARY, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scientists have come up with a new model of the formation of our solar system. They argue, in Science, that the snow line, which separates regions containing water as vapour and solid ice, first migrated outward then inward, giving rise to planet infinitesimals. These then grew into large planets through collisions.**
- **The boundaries between tropical forests and savannas play an important role in controlling natural fires. Analysing forest savanna boundaries in Africa, authors of an article published in Journal of Ecology found that these can act as natural buffers. Boundary trees shaded the grasses, thereby shielding the interior from fire.**
- **Telecom firms have asked the government to clarify about the entity that will be held liable in the event of a security breach in the network post implementation of the National Security Directive (NSD) in the telecom Sector.**
- **Tucked away inside the Indonesian Embassy in New Delhi is a special room — one that has been built in recognition of the nation's freedom struggle from Dutch colonialism 74 years ago, and named, unusually, for an Indian leader, Biju Patnaik.**
- **India and China are scheduled to hold the ninth round of Corps Commander talks on Sunday after a long delay in the senior military level talks to work out a phased disengagement and de-escalation along the disputed border in Eastern Ladakh.**
- **Protesting farmers who have been camping at the borders of the national capital for more than two months now will be allowed to enter Delhi with their tractors on Republic Day.**
- **The Border Security Force on Saturday unearthed a 150 metre tunnel on the International Border in Jammu. This is the fourth such passage to be found in the past six months.**

GREEN BONDS

1. According to RBI, cost of issuance of green bonds has remained higher than other bonds in India mainly because of asymmetric information.
2. Green bonds are issued to fund projects that have positive environmental or climate benefits. For example—In renewable energy, clean transportation and sustainable water management.
3. **Benefits—Enhance an issuer's reputation, Access to specific set of global investors who invest only in green ventures. Reducing the cost of capital.** Yes Bank was the first bank to issue green bonds in India.

DIGITAL COPYRIGHT PAYMENTS

1. Google has signed a deal with a group of French publishers **to make digital copyright payments for online news content.** A similar tussle is ongoing between the Australian government and global tech platforms (google and facebook) over the sharing of royalties with news publishers.
2. France became the first country to enshrine the European Union copyright rules into national law. This brought into effect 'neighbouring rights' law.
3. **Neighboring rights protect the legal interests of certain persons and legal entities that contribute to making works available to the public** or that produce subject matter which, while not qualifying as works under the copyright systems of all countries.

DRAFT COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT RULES), 2019

1. The amendments are being brought in **to bring the Copyright Act on par with other relevant legislations and to ensure it is in sync with the technological advancements** in the current digital era. It was released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
2. Proposals in Draft Rules: **Setting up an Appellate Board to replace the Copyright Board.** The Chairman and other members of the Board will be appointed as per the provisions of the Trade Marks Act, 1999. It also proposes to amend the manner in which copyright societies fix their tariff schemes.

4-TIER STRUCTURE OF REGULATION OF NBFCs

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed a tighter regulatory framework for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) by creating a four-tier structure with a progressive increase in intensity of regulation.
2. It has also proposed classification of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of base layer NBFCs from 180 days to 90 days overdue. Earlier in 2020 the RBI announced a host of measures to provide liquidity support to NBFCs.
3. **The proposed framework is aimed at protecting financial stability while ensuring that smaller NBFCs continue to enjoy light regulations and grow with ease.**

24th HUNAR HAAT

1. 24th "Hunar Haat" is being organized in Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh). Hunar Haat is an exhibition of handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans from the minority communities. Theme: Vocal for Local.
2. These are organised by the Ministry of Minority Affairs under USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) scheme.
3. **These Haat aims to provide market exposure and employment opportunities to artisans, craftsmen and traditional culinary experts.**