

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

27TH JANUARY, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- India has said that the UN Security Council is finding itself unable to act effectively to address increasingly complex issues of international peace and security as it lacked inclusivity of those who need to be members of the powerful organ of the world body.
- U.S. President Joe Biden's administration announced Tuesday it was restoring relations with the Palestinians and renewing aid to Palestinian refugees, a reversal of the Donald Trump administration's cutoff and a key element of its new support for a two state solution to the decades old conflict agreed to by Israelis and Palestinians.
- Myanmar's powerful military raised the spectre of staging a coup as it ramped up demands for an investigation into alleged voter fraud during last year's election, swept by Aung San Suu Kyi's ruling party.
- Delhi witnessed chaotic scenes on Tuesday as groups of protesting farmers broke off from the planned Republic Day tractor parade routes and swarmed into the heart of the national capital, hoisting a union flag and a Sikh religious flag inside Red Fort.
- The Centre is inclined to continue talks with agitating farmer leaders despite the violence and chaos in the capital on Republic Day, a top government source told.
- Democrats of the U.S. House of Representatives delivered charges of "incitement of insurrection" against former President Donald Trump to their Senate colleagues, clearing the way for his trial by the upper chamber of the U.S. Congress.
- Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte resigned in the hope of forming a new government after weeks of turmoil in his ruling coalition, leaving Italy rudderless as it battles the deadly coronavirus pandemic.

BODO ACCORD HAS BROUGHT PEACE TO BODOLAND TERRITORIAL REGION(BTR) SAYS MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

1. Bodo Accord, a tripartite agreement between Centre, Assam Government and banned Assam-based insurgent group National Democratic front of Bodoland(NDFB), was signed last year.
2. It presents a **new model of power sharing and governance in Assam under the Sixth Schedule of Indian Constitution.**
3. Key highlights of the accord-Bodo Territorial Areas District(BTAD) was recognized, BTAD renamed as Bodoland Territorial Region, Number of seats in Bodoland Territorial Council will be increased from 40 to 60.

MORE FLASH DROUGHTS IN INDIA BY END OF CENTURY

1. A new study finds that ongoing climate change has caused a significant increase in global temperature and this can lead to more and more flash droughts in the coming years.
2. Study concluded that meeting 'Paris Agreement' goals and limiting global warming to well below 2 degrees C, may result in low numbers and frequency of projected flash droughts.
3. Unlike **conventional droughts that develop over months, Flash droughts refers to a severe drought kind of situation that develops very rapidly.**

UNITED NATIONS' TREATY ON PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS(TPNW) COMES INTO FORCE

1. TPNW is first-ever binding treaty to ban nuclear weapons and includes a comprehensive set of prohibitions on participating in any nuclear weapon activities.
2. It was officially adopted in 2017 due to efforts of the International campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons(ICAN), for which ICAN received the 2017 Nobel peace prize.
3. **TPNW includes undertakings not to develop, test, produce, acquire, possess, stockpile, use or threaten to use nuclear weapons.**

AGEING DAMS IN INDIA, U.S., OTHER NATIONS POSE GROWING THREAT:UN REPORT

1. Report, titled 'Ageing water infrastructure:An emerging global risk' analyzes large dam construction trends across major geographical regions.
2. Report finds-By 2050, most people will live downstream of large dams as most of the large dams worldwide were constructed between 1930 and 1970 with a design life of 50 to 100 years.55% of world's dams are found in China, India, Japan and South Korea.
3. Globally **there is a trend of decommissioning ageing dams to address issues of ensuring public safety, escalating maintenance costs, reservoir sedimentation,** and restoration of a natural river ecosystem.

NEW START TREATY

1. It is a treaty between US and Russia on measures for the further reduction and limitation of Strategic offensive Arms.
2. Treaty restricts both countries to a maximum of 1,550 deployed warheads each, a cut of about 30% from a limit set in 2002. Treaty entered into force in 2011 and expires in February 2021.
3. Recently, United States is seeking a five-year extension of the New START treaty as the treaty permits.