

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

30TH JANUARY, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- India's economy is firmly in the middle of a V-shaped recovery and will bounce back to record 11% growth in 2021-22 after an estimated 7.7% contraction this year, as per a "conservative" estimate in the Economic Survey for 2020-21, which termed this a "lockdown dividend" from the country's stringent response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Union Home Ministry has laid down a charter for banks which says that "donations received in Indian rupees" by non governmental organisations (NGOs) and associations from "any foreign source even if that source is located in India at the time of such donation" should be treated as "foreign contribution".
- China said it "appreciates" External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasising the importance of India-China relations, but reiterated its calls for the boundary dispute to "not be linked with the overall bilateral relations".
- India assured Israel of the safety of its missions and diplomats after a low intensity device exploded near the country's Embassy on the high security A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Road in Delhi.
- Noting that it was duty bound to monitor the rights of citizens under threat on account of their sexual orientation, the Allahabad High Court has ordered police protection for a same sex woman couple in Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur.
- In a renewed push to the farmers' agitation against the three contentious farm laws after the unions appeared to be on the back foot following the Republic Day violence, support poured in from parts of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.
- The Union Government respected the Supreme Court and would abide by its decision to stay the implementation of the three farm laws, President Ram Nath Kovind told a joint sitting of Parliament.

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX(CPI),2020

1. **Published by Transparency international** the index ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption according to experts and business people.
2. It uses a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean. India's rank is 86(80th in 2019) with a score of 40.
3. New Zealand and Denmark rank at first preposition with scores of 88.
4. Somalia and South Sudan rank lowest at 179th position with scores of 12.

WILDLIFE INSTITUTE OF INDIA(WII)

1. MoEFCC has **cleared 3 highway projects disregarding the advice by WII.** It is an autonomous Institution under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
2. Objectives-It offers training programs, academic courses and advisory in wildlife research and management. Build up scientific knowledge on wildlife resources.
3. Collaborates with international organizations on wildlife research, management and training, provides advice on specific wildlife management problems.

PATHARUGHAT UPRISING

1. It was a **peasant uprising against British in 1894 in Pathurghat, a small village in Assam's Darrang district.**
2. The unarmed peasants were protesting against the increase in land revenue and decided that no taxes would be paid, until a proper solution was found to the problem.
3. While the protest meeting was going on, Deputy Commissioner ordered police to open fire on the gathering.

GOLD SCHEMES IN INDIA

1. The government is planning to bring changes in the existing gold deposit and gold metal loan schemes to gradually stop investors from excessive investment in physical gold.
2. Despite the government's emphasis on gold monetisation over the last few years, including issuing gold bonds as part of its borrowing programmes, investment in physical gold and purchases of jewellery continues to outpace investment through financial channels.
3. Government's Plan: A number of amendments have been finalised in the existing revamped Gold Deposit Scheme, **revamped Gold Metal Loan Scheme and India Gold Coin Scheme.** The existing scheme will be made **far from attractive from investment convenience and taxation aspects.**

INDIA JUSTICE REPORT 2020

1. The India Justice Report (2020) **prepared by the Tata Trusts in collaboration with the Centre for Social Justice,** Common Cause, DAKSH, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative has been released recently.
2. About the Report: The report analysed expenditure, vacancies, representation of women, human resources, infrastructure.
3. Overall Ranking: The overall ranking is a **result of a state's ranking across the four pillars of justice delivery system - Judiciary, Police, Prisons and Legal aid.**
4. **Maharashtra** was ranked topmost among 18 states for the second time in a row, followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana. **Uttar Pradesh remains last.** Amongst the smaller states, Goa remained at the top and Arunachal Pradesh at the bottom.