

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at an All party meeting of floor leaders in Parliament that the government's proposal of suspending the implementation of three farm laws, against which farmers' unions have been protesting for months, still stood, and that any resolution of the issue "should be found through dialogue".
- China still remains the largest source of critical imports for India, from mobile phone components to pharmaceutical ingredients, and India is working on a multipronged strategy to reduce this reliance, which is a bigger concern than the imbalance in trade.
- Delhi Police and Gurugram Police have lodged FIRs against Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and six senior journalists, including Rajdeep Sardesai and Mrinal Pande, on charges of sedition, promoting enmity and criminal conspiracy, for posting "mala fide, defamatory, false and misleading" tweets accusing the Delhi police of killing a farmer during the tractor parade on Republic Day.
- Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sharad A. Bobde wrote to the government withdrawing the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation to appoint Justice P.V. Ganediwala, an Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court, as Permanent Judge, following her controversial decisions in two sexual assault cases.
- Rajasthan has sought extension of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation payable to the States by five more years, from June 2022 to June 2027, after its calculation on the basis of the total revenue deficit.
- Miscreants have vandalised, broken and ripped from the base a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in a park in California, evoking a strong response from India which sought a thorough investigation and appropriate action against those responsible for the "despicable act".

## SIGUR PLATEAU

1. Supreme court upheld Tamil Nadu government's authority to notify an elephant corridor through Nilgiri biosphere reserve.
2. This **corridor is situated in Masinagudi area in ecologically fragile Sigur plateau. Sigur Plateau is located in the northern part of Nilgiris district** of Tamil Nadu.
3. The Plateau connects Western and the Eastern Ghats. It has the Nilgiri Hills on its southwestern side and the Moyar River Valley on its north-eastern side.

## A86G ICEBERG

1. A68g is the chunk of iceberg that was separated from the giant iceberg A68a (5,800 square kilometres) that broke off Antarctica in 2017.
2. Since then, A68a has split into 6 smaller units. This year **the iceberg was propelled into the South Atlantic Ocean** and has been drifting towards the remote sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia.
3. They might squish small marine species under their weight or erasing the lands where their food grows.

## INDIGENOUS REFERENCE MATERIAL(RM) FOR CHEMICAL TESTING

1. Indigenous RM for chemical testing was synthesised. RMs are used during dope testing for quality control purposes and therefore their availability remains critical in sports dope testing globally.
2. RM is rarely **available substance globally and would used to strengthen anti-doping measures** in all World Anti-doping Agency (WADA)-accredited laboratories.

## DAVOS DIALOGUE: WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

1. Prime Minister addressed the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Davos Dialogue via video conferencing. The WEF annual meeting in Davos (Switzerland) engages the world's top leaders to shape global, regional and industry agendas. The Davos Dialogues agenda marks the launch of the WEF's Great Reset Initiative in the post Covid world.
2. It is based on the assessment that the world economy is in deep trouble. Situation has been made a lot worse by many factors, including the **pandemic's devastating effects on global society, the un-folding technological revolution, and the consequences of climate change.**
3. Agenda: The world must act jointly and swiftly to revamp all aspects of our societies and economies, from education to social contracts and working conditions. **In short there should be a 'Great Reset' of capitalism.**

## WEST ASIA PEACE CONFERENCE

1. Russia backed a Palestinian proposal for a West Asia Peace Conference. The Conference is intended to focus on a two-state solution, under which Israel and a future Palestinian state would coexist.
2. Background: The support for the Conference came as the USA, which had sided with Israel under the administration of Donald Trump, intends **to "restore credible USA engagement with Palestinians as well as Israelis."**
3. Participants in the Conference: The 10 participants would include Israel, the Palestinians, the four members of the West Asia diplomatic quartet (**Russia, the United Nation, the USA and the European Union**), **along with four Arab states — Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan and the UAE.**
4. Other Related Developments: The Abraham Accord between Israel, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain is mediated by the USA. It was the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years.