

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

1ST AUGUST, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The COVID19 pandemic has given the world a chance to reflect and take “outrageously bold decisions” to create a new order, Nobel laureate and founder of the Grameen Bank Muhammad Yunus Said.
- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Friday rapped the Environment Ministry for failing to strengthen the monitoring mechanisms pertaining to the compliance of conditions mentioned in clearances granted for various projects.
- Bangladesh Foreign Minister said the contract for building an airport terminal at Sylhet was not awarded to an Indian firm because of a high bid and therefore, went to a Chinese firm.
- In a first, five districts in Maharashtra are set to witness the implementation of a foster care scheme for orphaned children in Maharashtra.
- The 1947 agreement among India, Nepal and the United Kingdom that deals with the military service of Gurkha soldiers has become “redundant:Napal.
- The hackers who accessed dozens of high profile Twitter accounts in mid-July gained access to the system with an attack that tricked a handful of employees(Through“spear-phishing”)
- Finance Minister said the government is working with the RBI on need for restructuring loans to help industry tide over the impact of COVID19. “The focus is on restructuring,” she said while addressing a FICCI event.
- As India reassesses its trade relations with China and considers a range of moves to reduce dependencies, China has called for ‘equal’ treatment for its firms and described ‘forced decoupling’ between the two economies as being harmful to both.

UNICEF REPORT ON LEAD POISONING

Key facts

1. A third of the world’s children,around 800 million,are affected by lead poisoning(**India`s 275 million cases**).
2. Informal and substandard recycling of **lead-acid batteries is a leading contributor** to lead poisoning.
3. Lead poisoning leads to-**Lifelong neurological,cognitive and physical impairment**;Mental health and behavioural problems.

PROTESTING A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

Key facts

1. United Nation Human rights committee(UNHCR) raised some points about **worldwide protests in support of political rights and racial justice**.
2. UNHRC is body a body of **18 independent experts** that monitors implementation of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights(ICCPR).
3. Key points raised by the UNHCR-It is a **fundamental right for people to gather to celebrate or to air grievances**.
4. Everyone including children,foreign nationals,women,migrant workers,asylum seekers and refugees, can exercise the right of peaceful assembly.
5. **Government could not prohibit** protests by making “generalised references to public order or public safety, or an unspecified risk of potential violence”.
6. Government **cannot block internet networks** or close down any website, Journalists and human rights observers have right to monitor.
7. **Indian context** on Right to protest-**Article 19(1)(b)** assures citizens the right to assemble peaceably and without arms.

AERIAL SEEDING TO INCREASE GREEN COVER IN ARAVALLIS

Key facts

1. **Haryana has employed this technique** to improve green cover in Aravali area of Faridabad.
2. Recently,**Ecological degradation in the Aravali region** has become an alarming situation.
3. Aravali mountains range spans four states-**Gujrat,Rajasthan,Haryana and Delhi**.
4. Aerial seeding is a plantaion technique wherein seed balls are sprayed on the pre-determined location using aerial devices, **including planes, helicopters or drones**.
5. Advantages- It is practiced in areas that are either difficult to reach or inaccessible altogether;They eliminate any need for ploughing and digging holes.
6. The clay shell also protects seeds from birds,ants and rats.

CANE AND BAMBOO TECHNOLOGY CENTRE(CBTC)

Key facts

1. **CBTC** has been asked to explore setting up of Vocational training and Skill Development centres for Bamboo sector.
2. CBTC was incorporated with the objective of organizing the hitherto untapped bamboo sector of **North east India**.