

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

22ND AUGUST, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Delegates from non-Hindi speaking States, were in for a rude shock during a virtual training organised by the Union Ministry of AYUSH earlier this week, with Hindi being predominantly used through the three day programme.
- The WWF(World Wildlife Fund) India Kerala unit has joined hands with the Society for Odonate Studies (SOS) and Thumbipuram for the first ever State Dragonfly Festival in Kerala, named Thumbimahotsavam 2020. 'Pantalu' is the official mascot for the festival.
- Nine people were killed in a fire in one of the units of the State run hydel station of the Srisailem project on the Telangana side of the inter State border across the Krishna river.
- It was "strange" that the Maharashtra governments were opening up economic activities but were citing the COVID19 pandemic when it came to religious activities, the Supreme Court said.(It allows 3 Jain temples in Mumbai to open for 2 days with COVID19 Safeguards- If this is allowed, the floodgates will open").
- Ahead of the Bihar Assembly poll, the Election Commission approved guidelines for conducting polls during the COVID19 pandemic, allowing public meetings and roadshows, subject to social distancing and other safety norms. EC nod for filing nominations online.
- The People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) government in Nagaland has faulted Governor R.N. Ravi's Independence Day speech, underlining the growing differences between the two over the protracted Naga peace process.
- Facebook India said the social network platform is "nonpartisan" and denounces hate and bigotry in any form.

FAIR AND RENUMERATIVE PRICE(FRP)

1. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved FRP of sugarcane for 2020-21.
2. FRP is **minimum price at which sugarcane is to be purchased by sugar mills from farmers**. It is determined under Sugarcane(Control) order, 1966.
3. FRP is dual pricing mechanism for sugarcane:**FRP announced by the central government and states can announce State Advised Prices**.

STUDENTS LEARNING ENHANCEMENT GUIDELINES

1. Guidelines were released by Ministry of Education.
2. NCERT has prepared these guidelines **to address the issues related to gaps and/or loss of learning among students, during and after lockdown**.
3. Also, these guidelines seek to help children **who cannot access online learning**, recommending ways to learn at home with their teachers or volunteers.

CHANDRAYAAN-2 COMPLETES 1 YEAR

1. Chandrayaan-2 mission was **India's first attempt to make a soft-landing**(Vikram Lander) of a rover(Pragyan) on the uncharted South pole of the lunar surface.
2. Though the soft-landing attempt was not successful, the orbiter, which was equipped with **eight scientific instruments**, was successfully placed in the lunar orbit.
3. Key instruments include: Terrain Mapping Camera-2, Chandrayaan-2 Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer, Imaging Infra-Red Spectrometer etc.

EAT RIGHT CHALLENGE

1. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India(FSSAI) has recently initiated Eat Right Challenge.
2. It is **an annual competition which aims to encourage cities/districts in India to strengthen the food safety and regulatory environment** and awareness among consumers to make better food choices.
3. FSSAI will **financially support the first 150 cities and districts** that registers.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INDICATORS(STI) 2018

1. It is a periodic compendium of the state of scientific research in India.
2. It is prepared by a **division of the Department of Science Technology, National Science and Technology Management Information System**.
3. As per this, India's private sector research companies appear to employ a **larger proportion of women in core research and development activities** than government-funded major scientific agencies.

CALL FOR DIGITALISATION OF LABOUR BUREAU

1. It is aimed **to increase outreach of the Labour Bureau**, an attached office of the Ministry of Labour & Employment.
2. Labour Bureau is the apex national-level organization in the field of labour statistics which performs functions such as **labour intelligence, research, monitoring/evaluation and training**.
3. Its mandate is to act as a storehouse of important economic indicators like consumer price Index for labours.