

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

12TH DECEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Droughts in India have historically been associated with El Nino, an anomalous warming of the equatorial Pacific. The study that appears in journal *Science* says that nearly six out of 10 droughts, in non El Nino years, that occurred during the Indian summer monsoon season in the past century may have been driven by atmospheric disturbances from the North Atlantic region.
- A paper released by the Pranab Mukherjee Foundation (PMF) suggested that the next delimitation exercise should be a two step process: first a Delimitation Commission should be set up to redraw boundaries of constituencies on the basis of the 2031 Census and then a State Reorganisation Act be passed to split States into smaller ones.
- India's industrial output grew at the fastest pace in eight months in October 2020 at 3.6%, with consumer durables production surpassing levels last seen prior to the COVID19 pandemic, as per quick estimates from the NSO Released.
- A three member Committee chaired by former Supreme Court judge D.K. Jain is scheduled to begin work on unravelling the rogue officials responsible for the infamous ISRO "frameup" case of 1994, which destroyed the life and reputation of Nambi Narayanan, one of the country's prominent space scientists.
- In the midst of conflicts in the last three decades, global financial crisis and mushrooming of many multilateral organisations, China's rise has been one of the most defining moments of the 21st century, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen. Bipin Rawat stated.
- Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said that India was the only major G20 country that was on track towards keeping to its nationally determined commitments to halt runaway global warming.

AEROSOLS IN INDO-GANGETIC PLAIN HAVE LED TO INCREASED INCIDENTS OF HIGH RAINFALL IN THE HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

- 1.This study was done by various institutes supported by the Department of science & Technology (DST) under DST climate change program.
- 2.According to study:**Aerosols can play a vital role in exciting high precipitation events over the Himalayas during the monsoon season.**
- 3.The region is **associated with high aerosol loading, much of which is black carbon and dust.**

BSNL TO INTRODUCE WORLD'S FIRST, SATELLITE-BASED NB-IOT(NARROW BAND-INTERNET OF THINGS) NETWORK IN INDIA

- 1.BSNL, in partnership with Skylotech India (Skylo), announced a breakthrough in satellite-based NB-IoT.
- 2.This will enable it to provide connectivity for millions of unconnected machines, sensor and industrial IoT devices across the country.
- 3.**NB-IoT is a wireless communication standard for the IoT. It belongs to the category of low-power wide-area networks(LPWAN), enabling to connect devices that need small amounts of data, low bandwidth, and long battery life.**

IN INDIA, OVER 75% DISTRICTS HOTSPOTS OF EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS:STUDY

- 1.This is the first time when a study has mapped the extreme weather event hotspots in the country.
- 2.Findings are part of a study by Council on Energy, Environment and water(CEEW), a not-for-profit policy research institution.
- 3.Key Findings-**More than 75% of Indian districts, home to over 638 million people, are hotspots of extreme climate events such as cyclones, floods, droughts, heat and cold waves.**

DRAFT CABINET NOTE ON NATIONAL LOGISTICS POLICY, 2020

- 1.Policy aims to reduce logistics costs by 5% over next five years. **At 14%, logistics cost in India is much higher than Japan's 11% and US 9-10%.**
- 2.**India ranked 44 on World Bank's Logistics Performance Index in 2018.**
- 3.Other proposals include-standardised physical components and services like packaging, racking etc.and a National Logistics Dashboard for real time monitoring of various logistics infrastructure.

SONE RIVER

- 1.Recently, Minister for Road Transport and Highways inaugurated **Koilwar bridge over Sone river.**
- 2.Sone river originates near Amarkantak Plateau in Madhya Pradesh and its main tributaries are Rihand and North Koel.
- 3.It is also a tributary of Ganges.
- 4.It passes along the Kaimur Range(eastern portion of the Vindhya Range)

ONE NATION-ONE RATION CARD (ONORC) SCHEME

- 1.Nine States have completed ONORC Reform. These states include **Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujrat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.**
- 2.ONORC scheme was launched to make sure all the beneficiaries, especially the migrants can access the Public Distribution System(PDS) from anywhere in the country through nation-wide portability of ration cards.