

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

19TH DECEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Supreme Court stayed an Andhra Pradesh High Court order intending to embark on a judicial inquiry into whether there is a constitutional breakdown in the State machinery under the Jagan Mohan Reddy government, requiring a declaration of President's rule.
- A national database of migrant workers should be collated at the earliest to ensure that if ever there is a repeat of a COVID19 like pandemic, the relief measures should reach the intended beneficiaries, the Standing Committee on Home Affairs has noted in its report. The committee also recommended an urgent review of the 123year old Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.
- A preprint published recently in Medrxiv has advanced the case to use indomethacin, a drug conventionally used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, for faster symptomatic relief and preventing progression of pneumonia in COVID19 patients.
- China said its economy is yet to fully bounce back from the COVID19 pandemic and pledged financial support for recovery efforts, at the end of a key annual policy meeting.
- Iran has begun construction on a site at its underground nuclear facility at ordow amid tensions with the U.S. over its atomic programme, satellite photos obtained on Friday.
- A devastating cyberattack on U.S. government agencies has also hit targets worldwide, with the list of victims still growing, according to researchers, heightening fears over computer security and espionage.
- The Heavy Industries Ministry is engaged in close coordination with stakeholders on the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme which also covers the automobile sector, and hopefully it will be rolled out very soon.

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE(IUCN) UPDATED THE RED LIST OF THE THREATENED SPECIES

- 1.The IUCN List of Threatened Species, founded in 1964, is the world most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of plant and animal species.
- 2.It uses a set of quantitative criteria to evaluate the extinction risk of the species included in the Global Species Programme of the IUCN.
- 3.An **additional 31 species are extinct in the wild including 15 freshwater fish species endemic to Lake Lanao and its outlet in the Philippines.**

SUPREME COURT(SC) NOT SATISFIED WITH WORK OF COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT(CAQM) SO FAR

- 1.SC sought to know the work done by the CAQM till date as it is monitoring air pollution in Delhi caused by stubble burning and other reasons.
- 2.**SC expressed displeasure over the works done by the CAQM**(established in November 2020) which would include steps like.
- 3.Developing a Decision Support System for air quality emergency response activities involving resource persons from scientific institutions.
- 4.**Delegated task of operationalising and monitoring Graded Response Action Plan(GRAP)** to Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB) till a mechanism is devised.

2020 GLOBAL STATUS REPORT FOR BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

- 1.Report is released by Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction.
- 2.Key highlights-**Building sector emitted more than a third of global energy-related carbon dioxide in 2019.**CO2 emissions increased due to a high proportion of fossil fuels used for power generation, combined with higher activity levels in regions where electricity remains carbon-intensive.
- 3.In India, **Energy Conservation Building Code caters to commercial buildings.**In 2018, a separate energy code for residential buildings,Eco-Niwas Samhita, was launched.

YOGASANA AS A COMPETITIVE SPORT

- 1.Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the **formal recognition of Yogasana as a competitive sport.**
- 2.It will ensure new technologies and new strategies being inducted into the disciplines to benefit athletes and officials.
- 3.It will encourage yoga, spread awareness about its benefits and to help improve physical and mental wellbeing of the people.
- 4.Proposed **events include Traditional Yogasana,Artistic Yogasana(Single), Artistic Yogasana(Pair),Rhythmic Yogasana(Pair) etc.**

CYBER CRIME PREVENTION AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN SCHEME(CCPWC)

- 1.Jharkhand government has launched the Centrally Sponsored Scheme CCPW.
- 2.Key components of the CCPWC-**One national level cyber forensic laboratory.Training of Police officers, judges & prosecutor. Cybercrime awareness activities.** Research & Development.