

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- As part of efforts to further expand the coastal radar chain network meant to enable real time monitoring of the high seas for threats as also expand India's assistance for capacity building to Indian Ocean littoral states, efforts are in advanced stages to set up coastal radar stations in the Maldives, Myanmar and Bangladesh, according to defence sources.
- The Finance Ministry said five States, including Tamil Nadu and Telangana, had been permitted to borrow an additional ₹16,728 crore following completion of stipulated reforms to facilitate ease of doing business.
- The Health Ministry has called a meeting of its joint monitoring group on COVID19 to discuss the emergence of a mutant variant of the coronavirus in the U.K., which has reportedly led to a surge in infections there.
- India, U.S. mull over unfinished work As Trump tenure winds down, deals in trade, sanctions, nuclear energy hang fire.
- A new book on the late Vajpayee's tenure as Prime Minister, *Vajpayee: The Years That Changed India*, released by former bureaucrat Shakti Sinha, who served as Vajpayee's private secretary.
- Just as the United States has needed a unified, national response to COVID19, it needs one for dealing with climate change, President-elect Joe Biden said.
- Negotiations for a post Brexit trade deal teetered on the brink of failure, overshadowed by the coronavirus crisis and deadlocked over the issue of fishing rights.
- A bacterium called *Zobellella denitrificans* ZD1, has now been reported to aid in the production of bioplastics. They feed on sludge, wastewater and produce polyhydroxybutyrate. The researchers say that this can help reduce the burden on landfills.

## GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NATIONAL SECURITY DIRECTIVE ON TELECOM SECTOR(NSDTS) FOR SECURE NETWORKS

- 1.NSDTS India's first and biggest framework to protect itself from cyber attacks, data theft and other virtual vulnerabilities threatening its national security.
- 2.Provisions-**Government will declare a list of trusted sources and trusted products for installation in the country's telecom network.**
- 3.This list would be approved by National security committee on telecom(NSCT). NSCT will be headed by the deputy national security advisor.
- 4.Telecom Service Providers **can purchase equipment only from trusted sources and can use only trusted products.**

## WORLD BANK CORRECTS EASE OF DOING BUSINESS(EODB) RANKING

- 1.Recently, World bank has corrected the 2018 and 2020 reports EODB ranking based on an internal audit following officials allegations of undue pressure by management to alter ratings.
- 2.**It has resulted in a change in ranking of China,Saudi Arabia,United Arab Emirates and Azerbaijan.**
- 3.India's ranking (63rd in 2020), however, has remained unaffected. EODB is published by World Bank annually.
- 4.Ease of doing business is an aggregate figure that includes different parameters which define the ease of doing business in a country.

## ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK(ADB)'s PROJECT READINESS FINANCING(PRF) FACILITY

- 1.ADB and India signed a \$4.21 million PRF facility for infrastructure development projects to **improve urban amenities and develop tourism infrastructure in Tripura.**
- 2.This is ADB's first facility for a north eastern state.
- 3.PRF document describes the smooth transition from preparation to implementation of the project to minimize contracting delays and speed up the initial disbursements.
- 4.ADB is a regional development bank established in 1966 headquartered in Manila, Philippines.

## MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES(MoFPI) SIGNED 5 MoUs AND A JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOR PM FME

- 1.MoUs with TRIFED and other agencies have been signed for defining convergence mechanism in implementation of PM FME scheme(PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises Scheme).
- 2.PM FME scheme is a Centrally Sponsored scheme of the MoFPI for providing financial, technical and business support for upgradation of existing micro food processing enterprises.
- 3.**Under the scheme, about 2 lakh FME will be given direct financial assistance in the form of credit linked subsidy.**

## DAKPAY

- 1.It is digital payment app launched by India Post Payments Bank(PPB).
- 2.The app can be used for digital financial and assisted banking services like domestic Money Transfer, Scan QR code etc.
- 3.IPPB is a public sector company under the department of posts, ministry of communication where the Indian government holds 100% equity.