KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

7TH DECEMBER, 2020

- Japan has retrieved a capsule of asteroid dust from Australia's remote outback after a six¬year mission that may help uncover more about the origins of the planets and water, the Asian nation's space agency said. The mission of the Japanese spacecraft, Hayabusa2, spotlights Asia's growing role in space exploration.

- The Madhya Pradesh government is preparing to deal with a likely surge in children suff• ering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), by chalking out a strategy to cater to 1 lakh such children by emphasising community¬led efforts to overcome shortcomings in health infrastructure.

- Rat¬hole coal mining had sucked the life out of Moolamylliang less than a decade ago. The village in the East Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya has now risen like the proverbial phoenix to become a clean, green dot in a vast black blot.

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Odisha government to prepare an action plan within three months on 14 identifid elephant corridors.

- Citing the rise in exports ofAyurveda related products since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the government has decided to set up an export promotion council for AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) products.

- A prominent Saudi prince harshly criticised Israel at a Bahrain security summit. showing the challenges any further deals between Arab States and Israel face in the absence of an independent Palestinian state.

- Protesters from different parts of the U.K. gathering outside the Indian High Commission in central London, as a show of support for farmers demonstrating against agricultural reforms in India.

CHINESE RESEARCHERS CLAIM TO HAVE ACHIEVED QUANTUM SUPREMACY

1.Researchers have built a quantum computer prototype that is able to perform certain computations **nearly 100 trillion times faster than the world`s most advanced supercomputer.**

2..Last year, Google had built a computer named Sycamore, that could perform a computation in 200 seconds that would take the fastest supercomputers about 10,000 years, hence reaching quantum supremacy.

4.Rather than storing information using bits represented by 0`s or 1`s as conventional computers do, **quantum computers use quantum bits, or qubits, to encode information as o`s, 1`s,** or both at the same time.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA(RBI) ALLOWS REGIONAL RURAL BANKS(RRBs) TO ACCESS LAF,MSF WINDOWS

1.RBI allowed **RRBs to access the liquidity adjustment facility(LAF), marginal standing facility(MSF) and call or notice money market.**

2.At present, RRBs are not permitted to access the liquidity windows of the RBI as well as the call or notice market.

3.This step is aimed at facilitating **better liquidity management** for these lenders and expand their participation in money market.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA(RBI) TIGHTENS OVERSIGHT OF LARGE URBAN COOPERATIVE BANKS(UCBs) AND NBFCs

1.RBI recently announced measures aimed at improving governance and assurance functions of UCBs and non-banking financial companies(NBFCs).

2.Introduction of risk-based internet audit(RBIA) norms for large UCBs and NBFCs.

3.New guidelines will enable Supervised Entities(SEs) to appoint the audit firms as per their needs in a timely, transparent and effective manner.

MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION RELEASED OF THE NATIONAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM(UAS) TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT POLICY

1.It aims to develop an air traffic management(ATM) system for civilian drones or UAS.

2.**As newer technology evolves, drones will soon need to fly alongside manned aircrafts and maintaining acceptable levels of aviation safety** in such scenarios would be the primary consideration for active integration of manned and unmanned aircraft in the National Airspace.

3.Earlier in june 2020, the government had also issued the Draft Unmanned Aircraft in the National Airspace.

4.UAS Traffic Management(UTM) ecosystem, is envisioned to be a software-based interface between drones, remote pilots, regulatory systems and Air Traffic Control systems to share flight information and real-time situational awareness.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, INDIA SIGN $50-MILLION LOAN TO BOOST BENGAL`S PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT(PFM) REFORMS

1.The loan has been granted to West Bengal to improve its PFM.

2.**Public finance reforms include fiscal reforms, regulatory reforms, Expenditure Management, Public Management, Process Improvement,MIS**, capacity development, Institutional strengthening etc