

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX,3RD JULY, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 350 elephants have died mysteriously in Botswana's famed Okavango Delta.
- MoD approves 33 new fighter jets(MiG series aircraft from Russia) in deals worth ₹38,900 cr.
- India loses jurisdiction over Italian marines case.India wins compensation for Kerala fishermen at The Hague(at International tribunal).
- Indian Railway to allow private players to run passenger trains, To begin operations by April 2023.
- India's trade deficit with China fell to \$48.66 billion in 2019-20 on account of the decline in imports from the neighbouring country.
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) reiterated that India remains open for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) but will enforce regulatory systems while welcoming the inflow of funds into Internet technologies.
- No final decision on India's involvement in Colombo terminal, Groups object to 'foreign role' in 'national assets':Sri Lankan PM Rajapaksa.
- Over 16 lakh affected in Assam floods.
- Bid to turn Shivalik forest(Saharanpur) into tiger reserve Move would reduce increasing man-animal conflict and help nurture biodiversity.
- George W. Bush's supporters(Democrats) launch PAC(Political Action Committee) to back Joe Biden. (Mission is to restore decency, honour & dignity to the White House).
- Three policemen held in Tamil Nadu custodial deaths case.
- A landslide at a jade mine in northern Myanmar killed at least 126 people.

DECLINE IN TRADE DEFICIT WITH CHINA

Key facts

1. India's trade deficit with China to **USD 48.66 billion** in FY 2019-20.
2. In FY 2018-19, India's trade deficit with China was USD 53.56 billion.
3. Trade deficit on account of the **decline in imports** from China.
4. The **government is framing technical regulations and quality norms** for several products to reduce dependence on Chinese imports.

DRUG DISCOVERY HACKATHON

Key facts

1. Hackathon for supporting the drug discovery Process.
2. The purpose is to identify drug candidates for the COVID-19 virus through **computational methods**.
3. The predicted drug-like compound will be taken forward at the **CSIR** and other leading organizations in the country for **experimental testing**.

DEFENCE MINISTRY APPROVES PURCHASE OF 33 NEW FIGHTER JETS.

Key facts

1. The proposal to acquire 33 new fighter aircraft(**MiG-29 aircraft**) was approved by the Ministry of Defence.
2. Existing 59 MiG 29 aircraft will also be upgraded.
3. 12 Su-30 MKI aircraft will be procured from state-owned company Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
4. Boost to 'Make in India'(12 Su-30 MKI).
5. **83 Tejas Light Combat Aircraft Mk 1A project to HAL.**

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FELL TO 10.9 % IN JUNE FROM 23.5 %

Key facts

1. As per the data for the month of June 2020 released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate in June 2020 was **10.9 percent** in India (Urban-12.02 % and Rural-10.52%).
2. The unemployment rate reached an **all-time high of 23.52 percent** in the country in the month of April due to the nationwide lockdown.
3. Unemployment Rate in India has continuously Declined.

INDIA'S FIRST LICHEN PARK

Key facts

1. It has been set up in **Kumaon,Uttarakhand**.
2. Aim-To conserve,Protect and **cultivate lichens**.
3. Lichen emerges from Algae or Cyanobacteria living.
4. **Symbiotic relationship** between Algae and Fungi.
5. Lichen is **Indicator of Environment Pollution**.
6. It needs clean air to grow as they perish when the air is polluted.