

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

16TH JULY, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Maharashtra government sought alternative routes for the proposed broad gauge conversion of a railway line passing through the Melghat Tiger Reserve in Amravati district.
- A day after the marathon talks at the Corps Commander level between India and China, the China Study Group (CSG) met and reviewed the progress of the dialogue for disengagement along the border.
- India and the European Union (European Union) committed to a framework for strategic cooperation until 2025, and vowed to cooperate on their response to the coronavirus pandemic and at the United Nations Security Council. EU leadership voices concerns over J&K and Citizenship Amendment Act.
- The Supreme Court will begin hearing on a day today basis from July 27 a batch of appeals challenging a Bombay High Court decision upholding a State law providing reservation to the Maratha community.
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the first fully indigenously developed conjugate vaccine for pneumonia developed by the Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd, Pune.
- At the current rate of growth, India's population is likely to peak by 2047 at about 1.61 billion and then decline to 1.03 billion by 2100:Lancet study.
- Between 8.3 crore and 13 crore people globally are likely to go hungry this year due to the economic recession triggered by COVID19, warns the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) 2020 report.
- U.S. ends HK's special trade status, backs sanctions, Beijing vows to retaliate against U.S. personnel and entities.

EIGHT-STEP DIGITAL EDUCATION GUIDELINES PRAGYATA

Key facts

1. Help in Mitigating COVID-19 impact that has led to closure of schools and has **impacted 240 million children.**
2. Guidelines are **prepared by NCERT** and are only advisory in nature, and state governments have to build on them and formulate their own rules, based on local needs.
3. It will be relevant for schools heads, teachers, parents, teacher educators and students.
4. Suggestion on-Physical, mental health and well being during digital education, cyber safety and ethical practices, screen time, inclusiveness etc.
5. National Initiative for digital education and teacher preparation-**DIKSHA, SWAYAM Prabha, SWAYAM MOOCS, Radio Vahini, Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY), Shiksha Vanni** etc.

DRAFT TRANSGENDER PERSONS (PROTECTION OF RIGHTS) RULES, 2020

Key facts

1. Draft Rules were published under **Transgender persons (protection of Rights) Act, 2019.**
2. Act aims **to end discrimination against transgender persons** in accessing education, employment and healthcare.
3. According to 2011 Census, Transgender population was around **4.88 Lakh.**
4. District Magistrate would issue a **transgender identity identity certificate** but without any medical examination.
5. Educational institution **to have a committee** which transgender persons can approach.
6. Timely prosecution of individuals charged under offences against the transgender community.

AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN TRANSIT TRADE AGREEMENT (APTTA)

Key facts

1. Pakistan announced resumption of **Afghan exports to India through the wagah border** crossing under APTTA.
2. It **provides Afghan trader access to eastern Wagah border** with India.
3. **APTTA** does not allow India's exports to Afghanistan.

INDIA'S TIGER CENSUS SETS A NEW GUINNESS RECORD

Key facts

1. Fourth cycle of the All India Tiger estimation 2018.
2. As per the census, released last year, India has an estimated 2967 tigers, accounting for **75% of the global tiger population.**

NATANZ, IRAN

Key facts

1. **Iran's main nuclear facility** is located, Recently a series of unexplained fires and explosions at several places including **Natanz.**