

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

19TH JULY, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mobile app KURMA helps save turtles in India** Collaborative citizen science initiative provides database, helps identify species and lists rescue centres.
- **Rep. John Lewis, a son of sharecroppers and an apostle of non-violence who was bloodied at Selma and across the Jim Crow South(U.S.A) in the historic struggle for racial equality and who then carried a mantle of moral authority into Congress died.**
- **Hackers manipulated employees to access accounts: Twitter, 'They accessed tools only available to our internal support teams to target 130 accounts.**
- **Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden said that he is now getting intelligence briefings, and has been told Russia continues to try to meddle in November's U.S. election.**
- **The rubber sector, which has about 1.3 million rubber farmers contributing to a ₹ 1lakh crore industry, is in turmoil amid concerns that the Centre plans to repeal the Rubber Act of 1947.(system of licensing, extension, replanting, research, subsidies, control over exportimport depend on the Act).**
- **The Civil Aviation Ministry has set up a single window clearance mechanism to expedite various investment proposals in the domestic aviation industry.**
- **Data from an oil and gas exploration company has helped geologists discover a series of faults at the foot of the Himalaya. The international team notes that this fault system in the south-eastern region of Nepal has the potential to cause earthquakes in the Nepal region.**
- **Pandemic may call for sustained support for healthcare Workers(adequate support and counsel before, during and after the crisis).**

WOMEN LOST TWICE AS MANY JOBS AS MEN DUE TO COVID-19

Key facts

1. A report by Mckinsey & Co finds that females job loss resulting from COVID-19, **1.8 times higher** than the male job loss in India.
2. In India, women made up 20% of the workforce before COVID-19; but unemployment survey suggests that they actually account for **23% of the overall job losses.**
3. Lack of systematic progress to resolve other societal barriers for women explains the rest.
4. Measures suggested- Interventions **to address unpaid child care**, Interventions to address **digital and financial inclusion**, Interventions to address attitudinal biases.

INDO-US STRATEGIC ENERGY PARTNERSHIP(SEP)

Key facts

1. **SEP was established in 2018**, to enhance energy security through inter-agency engagement.
2. Cooperation on operation and maintenance of strategic petroleum reserves.
3. **Public-private Hydrogen Task force** launched to help scale up technologies to produce hydrogen to bring down cost.
4. **Indo-US energy cooperation**-Partnership to advance clean energy.
5. Modernizing power system, Retrofit of Air Conditioning to improve Air Quality for safety and Efficiency.

NATIONAL PENSION SYSTEM(NPS)

Key facts

1. **NPS is a pension cum investment scheme** to provide old age security.
2. Any citizen of India(both resident and non-resident) in the age **group of 18-65 years** can join NPS.
3. For the first quarter of 2020-21 NPS subscriber base has registered a **growth of 30%**.

ROLE OF FLOODS IN KAZIRANGA ECOSYSTEM(ASSA)

Key facts

1. Kaziranga is currently facing a severe flood situation. However floods are necessary as
2. Entire area of Kaziranga-formed by **alluvial deposits from Brahmaputra and tributaries.**
3. **Regenerative nature of floods** helps replenish Kaziranga's water bodies and maintain its landscape.
4. It helps to get rid of unwanted plants such as **water hyacinth.**
5. Floods are a way of **natural selection to survive.**

ZONAL MASTER PLAN(ZMP) FOR BHAGIRATHI ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE(UTTRAKHAND)

Key facts

1. **Bhagirathi Eco-sensitive Zone(ESZ)** from Gaumukh to Uttarakshi was notified in 2012.
2. ZMP is based on watershed approach and includes governance in the area of forest and wildlife.
3. ESZs are declared around protected areas through notification **under Environment(Protection) act 1986.**