

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

20<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2020

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite India's repeated demands for reform of the UN Security Council, the process of the expansion of the membership is expected to slow down this year with the final draft of the Declaration on the Commemoration of the Seventy Fifth Anniversary of the U.N. favouring a softer approach to the issue.
- With Army taking a decision to order another 72,400 assault rifles from Sig Sauer of the U.S., domestic small arms manufacturers have expressed concern over continuing imports.
- Prominent Democrats urged the Indian American community to vote this year and support presumptive Democratic nominee Joe Biden — emphasising his character and history of support for the India-U.S. relationship.
- The preference for English As a medium of Instruction at different levels of education until secondary is an enduring and a rising trend, reveals the latest all India survey conducted by the National Statistical office.
- A group of Indian-origin doctors has warned that inherent racial bias in medical research and practice could be exacerbating the disproportionately severe impact of Covid-19 among ethnic minorities in the UK and globally.
- China accused U.S.A of outrageously smearing the country and driving a wedge with its Southeast Asian Neighbours over the contested South China sea and Hong Kong.
- Centre will take steps to formulate a policy to allow independent micro-financing organisations to work exclusively rural areas for micro entrepreneurs.
- The commerce ministry's investigation arm DGTR has recommended imposition of safeguard duty on solar cells.

## CHINA'S DEEPENING TIES WITH IRAN ,CRITICAL CONCERNS FOR INDIA

### Key facts

1. China and Iran are close to sealing an ambitious deal on economic and security partnership.
2. **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership since 2016.**
3. Iran already part of China's Belt and Road Initiative(BRI).
4. **With USA walking out of nuclear deal** with Iran,China has moved in to negotiate broader and deeper ties with Iran.
5. **Strategic stakes around Chabahar port** project is being developed by China.
6. **India find itself caught in geopolitical rivalry** between USA and China over Iran.Robust relationship with USA are essential for India,considering recent border stand-off with China.

## REVAMPED "PRIME MINISTER'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION" LAUNCHED

### Key facts

1. The scheme **was instituted in 2006** to acknowledge,recognize and reward the extraordinary and innovative work done by officers of the central and state governments.
2. Scheme has been **revamped to recognize the performance of the District Collectors** towards outcome indicators,economic development,People's participation and redressal of public grievances.

## AUTOMATIVE SOLUTIONS PORTAL FOR INDUSTRY,RESEARCH AND EDUCATION(ASPIRE)

### Key facts

1. Developed by **International Centre of Automotive Technology(ICAT).**
2. Key objective of this portal-To Facilitate the Indian Automotive Industry **to become self-reliant by assisting in Innovation and adoption of global technological** advancements by bringing together the stakeholders from various associated avenues.

## CONTAINER SHIP FROM KOLKATA PORT TO AGARTALA VIA CHATTOGRAM PORT

### Key facts

1. This was done under Agreement on use of **Chattogram and Mongla ports for movement** of India's transit cargo through Bangladesh.
2. It will provide **alternative and shorter route** to connect North East region through Bangladesh.
3. Enhanced cooperation in shipping and inland water trade between India-Bangladesh.

## WOLLY WHITEFLY

### Key facts

1. It is an **invasive exotic pest of Caribbean-origin** that feeds on various kinds of food(Polyphagous).
2. It spread from the Caribbean Island through transportation of infested seedlings.
3. Recently,it was recorded from **Kerala,Karnatka and Tamilnadu.**