

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

27TH JULY, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- About 200 investment proposals from China are awaiting security clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Prior government approval mandatory for foreign direct investments (FDI) from countries which share a land border with India.
- The Taliban accused Afghan security forces of re-arresting insurgents who had been released as part of a crucial prisoner swap meant to kickstart peace talks.
- The ministry of Science and Technology is set to come out with the first draft of India's fifth science, Technology and Innovation policy. The Government for the first time has decided to take a "bottom-up" approach in order to address the everyday concerns of Indians.
- "First Bell", the digital classroom started by the Kerala government to impart education to 41 lakh students in the state after schools due to the lockdown, has gained a global audience. US to West Asia, Kerala govt's digital classes find learners across continents.
- Weeks of violent clashes between federal agents and protesters (Killing of George Floyd) in USA, Galvanised thousands of people to march through the streets of American cities, Injecting new life into protests.
- Remittances to India are estimated to decline sharply by about 25% in FY2021 amid the economic crisis induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A Government committee on non-personal data, headed by Infosys co-founder Kris Gopala Krishnan said that all non-personal raw data must be shared between companies for a healthy innovation ecosystem to develop.

INDIAN RAILWAYS TO RFID TAG ALL WAGONS BY DECEMBER 2022

Key facts

1. Radio-frequency identification tags (RFID) will be used for **tracking all wagons** which will make it easier to track and know the exact position of all the wagons, locomotives and coaches.
2. RFID is the **use of radio waves to read and capture information** stored on a tag attached to an object. A tag can be read from up to several feet away and does not to be within direct line of sight of the radar to be tracked.
3. It is **similar to barcoding** in that data from a tag or label are captured by device that stores the data in a database.

ENHANCED AND REVISED PICTORIAL HEALTH WARNINGS ON ALL TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Key facts

1. Government notified new sets of specified health warnings for all tobacco product packs.
2. Persons engaged directly or indirectly in the manufacture, production, supply, import or distribution of cigarettes or any tobacco products have to ensure the specified health warnings exactly as prescribed.
3. Violation of the provisions is a **punishable offence** with imprisonment or fine.

GOVERNMENT TIGHTENS BIDDING REGULATIONS FOR BORDER COUNTRIES

Key facts

1. Citing grounds of defence and national security, Government has amended General Financial Rules, 2017 to **impose restriction on public procurement from bidders of countries that share a land border** with India.
2. Bidders from these countries will be eligible only if they are registered with registration committee constituted by Department for promotion of Industry and Internal trade.

INDIA'S FIRST IN-ORBIT SPACE DEBRIS MONITORING AND TRACKING SYSTEM

Key facts

1. It will provide global **real-time earth coverage** by deploying a constellations of cost-efficient nano-satellites in LEO (Low Earth Orbit).
2. It will help **international space agencies to track and map the space debris** and minimize the major threat to the future space explorations.
3. It has been **developed by Digantara**, India's first air and space surveillance company.

TIANWEN 1 OR QUEST FOR HEAVENLY TRUTH 1

Key facts

1. It is **china's first Mars probe aiming to complete** orbiting, landing and roving in a single mission.
2. It will be orbiting Mars for **comprehensive observation, landing on Martian soil** and sending a rover to roam the landing site.