KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

1ST DECEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Bank capital will shrink moderately in Asia's emerging markets over the next two years with banks in India and Sri Lanka expected to post larger declines in the absence of public or private funds injections, Moody's Investors Service said.**

- **Crossborder terrorism is the biggest challenge for countries belonging to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, said VicePresident M. Venkaiah Naidu.**

- **A petition before the Delhi High Court has sought a direction to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) to recognise and classify transgenders as a separate third gender in their annual publication of Prison Statistics India.**

- **Representatives of media organisations from BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) called for the five nations to work together to jointly combat the "virus of disinformation" in the pandemic era.**

- **A virtual exhibition on the shared Buddhist heritage of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) countries was launched by VicePresident M. Venkaiah Naid.**

- **The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has apprised about 400 experts from both the public and private sectors of the latest risk findings related to money laundering and terror funding.**

- **After a COVID19 pandemicled contraction in consumer spending in 2020, household spending will return to growth in 2021, expanding by as much as 6.6%, Fitch Solutions said.**

- **India, which has the highest average monthly mobile data traffic per smartphone, is expected to surpass 350 million 5G subscriptions by 2026.**

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

1. Greenpeace New Zealand is **urging New Zealand government to declare climate emergency** due to catastrophic loss of life and people facing more extreme weather events due to climate change.
2. Oxford defines **Climate emergency as situation in which urgent action is required to reduce/halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it.**
3. Recently the Japanese lawmakers declared a climate emergency. Under the climate emergency they have framed a timetable for net zero emissions.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS TECHNOLOGIES PARK(ARTPARK)

1. It was recently set up in Bengaluru. It is a unique not-for-profit foundation established by **Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru** with support from AI Foundry in a public-private model.
2. It aims to **leverage AI & Robotics to bring a better quality of life** by lowering the cost of living with AI and robotics, and improving access to AI awareness, education and enablement.
3. It receives seed funding from the Department of Science and Technology under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-physical Systems.

TARGET OLYMPIC PODIUM SCHEME(TOPS)

1. Recently, MInistry of Youth Affairs and Sports added eight para athletes to TOPS.
2. TOPS is a flagship program which attempts to provide **assistance to India`s top athletes by giving premium to the preparations of these athletes so that they can win Olympic medals** in 2020 and 2024 Olympics.
3. Under the Scheme, the Department of Sports identify athletes who are potential medal winners in 2020/2024 Olympic.

GITA-GLOBAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

1. 9th Foundation Day of GITA was celebrated with theme 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'(Self-Reliant India)
2. It is a joint venture between Confederation Of Indian Industry(CII) and Technology Development Board(TDB) of Department of Science & Technology under the **National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems.**

NEOM:THE CITY OF THE PRINCE

1. Neom is the futuristic megacity of the Saudi Arabia. **The city opens into the red sea.**
2. Once completed the city will be completely **powered with green hydrogen fuel.**
3. World's largest green hydrogen power is being established in the city.

LIVE WIRE KILLS ELEPHANT IN MADHYA PRADESH

1. Electrocution of elephants has become a particular cause for concern in managing India`s elephant population.
2. Deaths caused by electrocution stood at 226, **contributing to 60.6% of deaths since 2015.**
3. Elephants are often deliberately electrocuted for foraying into human-used areas.