

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

15TH OCTOBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- After the incident at the Line of Actual Control in Galwan in Ladakh in June, in which 20 Indian soldiers were killed in a clash with Chinese soldiers, the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) approached both the Indian and Chinese governments and asked that they observe the Geneva Conventions to which Both countries are signatories.
- Farmers' delegation boycotts Central government meet. With Agriculture Minister absent at the talks in Delhi, the leaders walk out.
- Assam's district heads have been asked to submit the list of ineligible people whose names have been included in the National Register of Citizens (NRC) published in August 2019. They have also been told to write speaking orders for deletion of such names from the list of citizens.
- 'Indian Americans strongly identify with Democratic Party'. 72% of registered voters from community plan to vote for Joe Biden, says survey.
- Robert Destro appointed U.S. special envoy to Tibet. The post has been lying vacant since January 2017.
- India's public debt ratio, which remarkably remained stable at about 70% of the GDP since 1991, is projected to jump by 17 percentage points to almost 90% because of an increase in public spending due to COVID19, the IMF said.
- 'Pandemic shuts 15% of start-ups, funding dips 50%'. But pace of recovery faster than expected, report reveals.
- The World Bank has approved \$12 billion in financing to help developing countries buy and distribute coronavirus vaccines, tests, and treatments, aiming to support the vaccination of up to 1 billion people.

TECH FOR TRIBALS

1. It is an initiative of TRIFED supported by Ministry of MSME.
2. It aims at **capacity building and imparting entrepreneurship skills to tribal forest produce gatherers** enrolled under the Pradhan Mantri VanDhan Yojana (PMVDY)
3. It will ensure higher success rate of the Tribal Entrepreneurship by enabling and empowering them to **run their business with marketable products with quality certifications**

AQUAPONICS

1. Recently, a pilot Aquaponics facility developed by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Mohali was inaugurated.
2. **Aquaponics is a form of agriculture that combines raising fish in tanks (recirculating aquaculture) with soilless plant culture (hydroponics).**
3. In aquaponics, the nutrient-rich water from raising fish provides a natural fertilizer for the plants and the plants help to purify the water for the fish.

INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS ASSOCIATION (ISCA)

1. **108th edition will be held in 2022 instead of scheduled 2021.**
2. **ISCA owes its origin (1914)** to the initiative of two British Chemists, namely, Professor J.L. Simonsen and Professor P.S. MacMohan
3. It aims to promote cause of science in India by holding annual congress, publishing proceedings, journals and securing and managing funds for promotion of science.

INDIA, MALDIVES INK \$400-MN PACT FOR CONNECTIVITY

1. India provided \$500 million package to the Maldives to fund the **Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP)**. It includes \$100 million of grant and \$400 million Line of Credit.
2. GMCP is a 6.7 km bridge and causeway network connecting Male, with islands Villingili, Gulhifalhu and Thilafushi.
3. It is the second significant connectivity project in Maldives, after China backed China-Maldives Friendship Bridge was inaugurated.

WOMEN SCIENTISTS SCHEME

1. It was launched by Department of Science and Technology (DST) in 2002-03.
2. This initiative primarily aimed at providing opportunities to women scientists and technologists between the age group of 25-57 years.
3. Recently, women scientists availed this scheme through mathematical modelling **showed that the deadly effects of nuclear weapons can be partially mitigated or reduced with the help of dust particles.**

ASIA/PACIFIC GROUP (APG) ON MONEY LAUNDERING

1. It is an inter-governmental organization focused on **ensuring that its members effectively implement the international standards against money laundering**, terrorist financing and proliferation financing related to weapons of mass destruction.
2. There are 41 jurisdictional members of the APG within the Asia-Pacific region. India is a member.