

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

16TH OCTOBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Nandankanan Zoological Park (NZP) in Bhubaneswar, which suffered a huge loss following its closure due to the COVID19 pandemic, has revived its innovative 'Adopt An Animal' programme to mobilise resources for animals. People can adopt the Asiatic lion and the Bengal tiger for ₹ 1 lakh per annum.
- J&K parties team up for restoring special status. Peoples Alliance for Gupkar(A place in Srinagar) Declaration formed.
- Union Government will now undertake the required borrowings for states in tranches(Tranches are pieces of a pooled collection of securities, usually debt instruments) and pass them on to the States as "back to back loans" that will reflect on states own books.
- BARC(Broadcast Audience Research Council) suspends ratings for 3 months of all news channels.'Effort to improve statistical robustness.
- Legendary Malayalam poet and Jnanpith laureate Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri passes away.
- Talks between India and China on disengagement at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) were a "work in progress" and "confidential" at present, said External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, even as his Ministry said the two sides now had a "better understanding" of each other's positions.
- The Union government categorically denied that it had reached out for a dialogue with Pakistan, Ministry says Pakistan's claim is an effort to divert attention from its domestic failures.
- The Supreme Court said crimes against women continued in a "never ending cycle" in India. 'A majority prefer to suffer in silence'.

OPPOSITION EVENT

- 1.Opposition is the event when **sun,Earth and an outer planet(Mars in this case) are lined up,with the Earth in the Middle.**
- 2.The time of opposition is the point when the outer planet is typically also at its closest distance to the Earth for a given year.
- 3.Due to opposition event,Mars will outshine Jupiter,becoming the third brightest object(moon and Venus are first and second,respectively)in the night sky during the month of October.

NILGIRIS ELEPHANT CORRIDOR

- 1.Supreme Court upheld a 2011 order of the Madras High Court on the Nilgiris elephant corridor,affirming the right of passage of the animals and the closure of resorts in the area.
- 2.This corridor is **situated in the ecologically fragile Sigur plateau,near the Mudumalai National Park in the Nilgiri district**,Tamil Nadu which connects Western side and the Moyar river valley on its northern side.
- 3.It is the largest protected forest area in India,**spanning across Tamilnadu,Karnatka and Kerala.**

SYSTEM FOR INTEGRATED MODELLING OF ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION(SILAM)

- 1.SILAM model **is a chemical transport model, that provides information about atmospheric composition and air quality.**
- 2.Recently,Indian Meteorological Department operationalised SILAM model for India as Advanced high-resolution Air Quality Early Warning System.
- 3.Also,very high-resolution city scale model ENFUSER(Environmental information FUsion SERvice) for Delhi has been operationalized to identify the air pollution hotspots and pollution up to street level.

GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON DATA SECURITY

- 1.China has launched this initiative **to address global data security issues, a countermove to the US "clean network" programme that is aimed at discouraging other countries from using Chinese technology.**
- 2.Under the initiative,China would call on all countries to handle data security in a **"comprehensive,objective and evidence-based manner"** and maintain an open,secure and stable supply chain for information and communications technology services.
- 3.It opposes undermining key infrastructure, or data theft by using information technology and forcing firms to store data generated overseas in their home country.

GLOBAL TUBERCULOSIS(TB) REPORT 2020 RELEASED BY WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATIONS(WHO)

- 1.**Report aims to provide a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the TB epidemic, and of progress in prevention,diagnosis** and treatment of the disease, at global,regional and country levels.
- 2.Highlights of the report-10.0 million people fell ill with TB in 2019. 1.4 million people died from TB-related illness in 2019.There was **still a large gap of 2.9 million between number of people diagnosed and reported** and the estimated cases.