

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

1ST OCTOBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Southwest monsoon ends with 8% surplus, India received over 100% of its long period average (LPA). This is also the first time since 2010 that India has got more than 100% of its long LPA of 88 cm in consecutive years.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research(ICMR)-National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) has redefined the ideal or reference Indian adult man and woman with regard to age to 19-39 years instead of 20-39 years. The body weight has been put at 65 kg for men and 55 kg for women.
- India's fiscal deficit went further past the Budget target of nearly ₹ 8 lakh crore in the first five months of 2020-21, touching ₹ 8.7 lakh crore or 109.3% of the deficit target. Revenue receipts stood at just 18.3% of the Budget targets, while expenditure touched 41%.
- India's eight core industrial sectors contracted by 8.5% in August compared to August 2019, marking the sixth month in a row of shrinking output.
- German Chancellor Angela Merkel accused China of "poor and cruel treatment" of minorities and underlined deep concerns over the crackdown on dissent in Hong Kong.
- The country's external debt at end June 2020 was lower at \$554.5 billion, recording a decrease of \$2.4 billion from \$556.9 billion recorded in June 2019.
- Indian and Chinese officials meet again They stress the need to 'strengthen communications' and comply with the 5 point Moscow pact.
- Paying Farmers to manage paddy stubble as an incentive for not burning it is not advisable and could be a "perverse incentive", the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) said in a report submitted to the Supreme Court.

CRIME IN INDIA 2019 REPORT BY NATIONAL CRIME RECORD BUREAU(NCRB)

1. Report highlighted that 2018-19-**Crime against women increased 7.3%**.
2. **Uttar Pradesh** reported highest number of cases of crime against women and **Assam** reported highest rate of crimes against women(per lakh population).
3. Crimes **against Scheduled castes went up 7.3%**.
4. Crimes **against children have gone up by 4.5%**.

RBI EXTENDS WMA LIMITS AND OVERDRAFT REGULATIONS FOR STATES/UTs FOR SIX MONTHS

1. Both these relaxations are aimed at helping States/UTs overcome short-term liquidity mismatches.
2. **Ways and Means Advances(WMA)** scheme was introduced in 1997 **to meet mismatches in the receipts and payments of the government**.
3. The government can avail of **immediate cash from the RBI, if required**. But it **has to return the amount within 90 days**. Interest is charged at the existing repo rate.

TIME USE SURVEY(TUS) BY NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY OFFICE(NSSO)

1. Objectives of TUS is **to measure participation of men, women and other groups of persons in paid and unpaid activities**.
2. Key findings-Only **38.2% of the population participates in "employment** and other related activities", spending 429 minutes on an average each day.
3. Only **18.4% women participating** in employment activities compared with 57.3% men.
4. Only 14% of men participate in unpaid care giving services for household members spending on average 76 minutes a day.

ECO SENSITIVE ZONES(ESZ)

1. National Green Tribunal has expressed concern after six states asked the MoEF&CC(Ministry of Environment & climate change) **to whittle down the size of ESZ under Western Ghats by 6,386.65 km**.
2. Western Ghat cover six states-**Gujrat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu**.
3. ESZs are ecologically important areas notified under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to be protected from industrial pollution and unregulated development.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM(P-MIS) PORTAL OF NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PLANNING BOARD(NCRPB) LAUNCHED

1. It is launched by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs(MoHUA) to monitor the progress of Projects and administering loans.
2. P-MIS will bring ease in review and management of projects and provide information and opportunity to the citizens.

DEFENCE INDIA STARTUP CHALLENGE-4(DISC 4)

1. DISC 4 is aimed at **expanding the horizons of innovations for Defence Excellence(iDEX) ecosystem**.
2. iDEX initiatives was launched in 2018 with the objective to encourage and nurture innovations and to develop an effective defence Startup ecosystems in the country.
3. Under Defence DISC 4, eleven challenges from Armed forces were thrown open to prospective start-ups, innovators and MSMEs to provide innovative ideas.