KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

24TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- **G4 seeks time-bound reform of Security Council, India, Brazil, Japan and Germany agree to work with likeminded countries for 'concrete outcomes.**

- **The U.S. is guilty of "obstructing" the global fight against emissions, China said, as Beijing seized the climate agenda by vowing to go carbon neutral by 2060, a target welcomed by environmentalists despite its patchy detail.**

- **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in a report tabled in Parliament: Rafale vendors, Dassault Aviation and European missile maker MBDA have till date "not confirmed" the transfer of technology for the indigenous development of engine for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).**

- **Parliament passed three Bills that complete the government's codification of 29 labour laws into four codes, with the Rajya Sabha passing the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 and the Social Security Code, 2020.**

- **Public sector units claimed to have constructed 1.4 lakh toilets in government schools as part of a Right to Education project, but almost 40% of those surveyed by the CAG were found to be non-existent, partially constructed, or unused.**

- **With oxygen shortage reported from several parts of the country in the wake of rising COVID19 cases, the government has allowed the domestic movement of liquid oxygen through tank containers conforming to international quality standards.**

- **The restrictions in Kashmir, National Register of Citizens (NRC) and Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) were discussed at a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee hearing on human rights in Asia.**

GOVERNMENT FORMES COMMITTEE TO SET HYDROGEN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT TARGETS

1. As a **part of a hydrogen mission, this committee would be focussed towards creating volumes, addressing regulations, supporting demonstrations and research development**.
2. Currently,hydrogen is not included in India`s plan to develop 175GW of renewable power by 2022.
3. **Hydrogen is one of the cleanest fuels, which on being burnt in air produces only water as a by-product and no carbon-based emissions are released.**

TARGETING POTASSIUM DEFICIENCY IN RICE

1. According to a new study,**targeting a specific plant hormone (called Jasmonate) would help rice plants have greater tolerance to potassium deficiency, in turn, improving rice productivity.**
2. Potassium is one of the most important macronutrients for plants. Plants deficient in Potassium are more susceptible to salt,drought,chilling and other stresses.
3. **Jasmonate is often associated with the plant`s defence against biotic factors like insects,pests** and other pathogens.

SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT TEST OF ABHYAS

1. **Abhyas is a High-speed Expendable aerial Target(HEAT) which is designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment under DRDO**.
2. It is an unmanned aerial vehicle based on **microelectromechanical systems(MEMS)** navigation system.
3. It uses indigenously developed MEMS-based navigation system for its navigation and guidance.

POWER TEX INDIA

1. It is a **comprehensive scheme(Ministry of Textiles) for development of powerloom sector.**
2. Scheme has various components such as-In situ upgradation of plain powerlooms,Group Workshed scheme,Yarn Bank Scheme,Grant-in-Aid & Modernisation/Upgradation of powerloom services Centres, Solar Energy Scheme etc.

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA(TRAI) RECOMMENDATION ON TMP AND MSB TO MONITOR NET NEUTRALITY

1. TRAI has released its recommendations on Traffic Management Practices (TMPs) and multi-stakeholder Body(MSB) to check if telecom operators are complying with net neutrality rules.
2. **Net Neutrality principle restricts discrimination or interference in treatment of content,including practices like blocking,slowing down or granting preferential speeds or treatment to any content.**
3. This enables a level playing field and users can connect to websites of their choice.

INDIA SAYS NO TO DATA FREE FLOW WITH TRUST(DFFT) AT G20 MEETING

1. **Data free flow with trust is the key understanding concept of Osaka Track**.
2. Osaka Track is an initiative launched by Japan`s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe that seeks the removal of prohibitions on data localisation and urges nations to negotiate rules on data flows, cloud computing among others.