

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

17TH APRIL, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- By announcing that all U.S. troops would be pulled out of Afghanistan by September 11, President Joe Biden has effectively upheld the spirit of the Trump-Taliban deal, rather than defying it. But one thing is certain: the U.S., despite all its military might, has lost the war and its withdrawal, without any settlement or even a peace road map, leaves the Taliban stronger and the government weaker. That is an ominous sign.
- A Nagaland tribe has declined to pay “taxes” to several extremist groups in the State unless they unite for the greater cause of the Nagas. The “no unity, no tax” declaration by the Konyak community in the State’s Mon district is believed to be a move to provide fiscal relief to the people by ending multiple taxation.
- Twenty five girls from seven cities set out to interview their peers to record the impact of COVID19 on their lives and found that adolescent girls were grappling with an increased pressure to get married, spent longer hours on household chores, lacked tools to continue school education online, and reported an increase in gender based violence.
- Russia banned top officials from U.S. President Joe Biden’s administration, including FBI chief Christopher Wray, from entering the country as it announced a wave of titfortat sanctions and expulsions of diplomats, as tensions soar between the rivals.
- Opponents of Myanmar’s ruling junta went on the political offensive, declaring they have formed an interim national unity government with members of Aung San Suu Kyi’s ousted Cabinet and major ethnic minority groups.
- Iran began enriching uranium to its highest level ever, edging closer to weapons-grade levels to pressure talks in Vienna aimed at restoring its nuclear deal with world powers after an attack on its main atomic site.

AAHAR KRANTI

- 1.The Union Health Ministry launched Aahar Kranti, a mission dedicated to spread awareness about nutrition.
- 2.It is designed to address the **peculiar problem of hunger and disease in abundance, being faced by India and the world.**
- 3.Studies show that India Produces as much as two times the amount of calories it consumes.
- 4.However, many in the country are still malnourished. The root cause of this strange phenomenon is a lack of nutritional awareness.

INITIATIVES OF NATIONAL INTERNET EXCHANGE OF INDIA

- 1.The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has inaugurated three new initiatives/services of National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI).
- 2.IPv6 Expert Panel (IP Guru): It is a group to extend support to all the Indian entities who are finding it technically challenging to migrate and adopt IPv6. It will be offering its services free of cost.
- 3.NIXI Academy is created **to educate technical/non-technical people in India to learn and relearn technologies like IPv6 which are normally not taught in Educational Institutes.**
- 4.NIXI has developed an IPv6 index portal for the Internet community. NIXI-IP-INDEX portal will showcase the IPv6 adoption rate in India and across the world. It can be used to compare IPv6 Indian adoption rate with other economies in the world.

MONKEY DACTYL:PTEROSAUR SPECIES

- 1.The new pterosaur fossil was discovered in the Tiaojishan Formation of Liaoning, China, and is thought to be 160 million years old. It has been named Kunpengopterus antipollicatus, also dubbed “Monkeydactyl”.
- 2.The pterosaur species were reptiles, close cousins of dinosaurs and the first animals after insects to evolve powered flight.
- 3.They **flourished during all periods (Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous) of the Mesozoic Era (252.2 million to 66 million years ago).**
- 4.They evolved into various species, while some were as large as an F-16 fighter jet, others were as small as paper airplanes.

EATSMART CITIES CHALLENGES AND TRANSPORT FOR ALL CHALLENGES

- 1.The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the EatSmart Cities Challenge and Transport 4 All Challenge.
- 2.The challenges aim at creating an environment of right food practices and habits and to make public transport safe, affordable, comfortable, and reliable.
- 3.The EatSmart Cities Challenge is envisioned as a competition among cities to recognize their efforts in adopting and scaling up various initiatives under Eat Right India.**The challenge has a potential to create social and behavioural change towards food safety, hygiene and nutrition.**
- 4.The Transport 4 All Digital Innovation Challenge Aims to develop digital solutions that will make public transport safe, affordable, comfortable, and reliable for all. Initiatives to Address Urban Transport Issues: National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP), Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric vehicles in India (FAME India), Mass Rapid Transit/ Transport Systems (MRTS), Personal Rapid Transit System (PRT) and Green Urban Mobility Initiative.