

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

Rajasthan has sought compensation for the farmers affected by excessive rain from the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana after a survey of the damaged crops. According to a preliminary survey of the Agriculture Department, the crops in an area measuring 3.69 lakh hectares have been affected.

The governing council of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) adopted the framework of the new 'Deshbhakti' curriculum, which the Delhi government is planning to introduce this academic year. The government said the primary aim of the curriculum is to instil "love and pride" for India, build awareness of one's responsibilities and duties towards the country, and commitment to make sacrifices for India.

While the U.S. has in the past backed India's bid for a permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), the Biden administration has continued to remain non-committal on the issue. However, the U.S. would not support an expansion of the veto — given to the P5, the current five permanent members: China, France, Russia, the U.K and the U.S.

India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives have agreed to work on "four pillars" of security cooperation, covering areas of marine security, human trafficking, counterterrorism, and cyber security, in a recent virtual meeting of top security officials of the three countries.

Asserting that "the future of Afghanistan cannot be its past," India said terrorist safe havens in the region must be dismantled immediately and terrorist supply chains disrupted, stressing that it is time for the UN Security Council to decide on actions to ensure immediate cessation of violence in the country.

The United Nations said it urgently needed funds to feed people in Myanmar amid fears that 6.2 million could be plunged into hunger by October. The UN World Food Programme said it was 70% short of the \$86 million needed over the next six months.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that he had written a letter seeking an appointment with

## PLASTIC-MIXED HANDMADE PAPER

**1.Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has secured Patent registration for its innovative Plastic-mixed Handmade Paper developed to reduce plastic menace from nature.**The plastic-mixed handmade paper (which is recyclable and eco-friendly) was developed under Project REPLAN (REducing PLastic from Nature). The project was launched in September 2018 as part of KVIC's commitment to Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan.

**2.This is the first of its kind project in India, where plastic waste is de-structured, degraded, diluted and used with paper pulp while making handmade paper and thus reduces plastic waste from nature.** The invention is aligned with the Prime Minister's call for fighting the menace of single-use plastic.

**3.Patent-A Patent is a statutory right for an invention granted for a limited period of time to the patentee by the Government, in exchange of full disclosure of his invention for excluding others, from making, using, selling, importing the patented product or process for producing that product for those purposes without his consent. The term of every patent granted is 20 years from the date of filing of application. The patent system in India is governed by the Patents Act, 1970.**

## E-PRISON PROJECT

**1.The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has provided financial assistance to the States and Union Territories (UTs) for the E-Prisons Project. Also, acting on the request of the MHA, NIMHANS, an Institute of National Importance, has recently issued a set of guidelines on the management of mental health issues of the prisoners and prison staff.**

**2.This project aims at computerization of the functioning of prisons in the country. It has been operationalised in all States and Union Territories. e-Prisons data has been integrated with the Police and Court system under the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System.**

**3.e-Prisons application suite has been developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY).** It has 3 components-e-Prison Management Information System (MIS), National Prisons Information Portal, Kara Bazaar: Portal for showcasing and selling the products manufactured in various prisons of the country by inmates.

**4.Inter-operable Criminal Justice System: It is a common platform for information exchange and analytics of all the pillars of the criminal justice system** comprising Police, Forensics, Prosecution, Courts, Prisons.

## SAMGRA SHIKSHA SCHEME 2.0

**1.The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the school education programme Samagra Shiksha Scheme 2.0 till the 2025-26 financial year. It has been upgraded to align it with the Sustainable Development Goal for Education and the new National Education Policy launched in 2020.**

**2.It is an integrated scheme for school education covering the entire gamut from pre-school to class XII. It aims to deliver inclusive, equitable, and affordable school education. It subsumes the three Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).**

**3.About Samagra Shiksha Scheme 2.0: Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** In order to enhance the direct outreach of the scheme, all **child-centric interventions will be provided directly to the students through DBT mode on an IT-based platform over a period of time.** This DBT would include RTE (Right to Education) entitlements such as textbooks, uniforms and transport allowance.On NEP Recommendations: Encouraging Indian languages: It has a new component for appointment of language teachers, which includes salaries, and training costs as well as bilingual books and teaching learning material as recommended in NEP.

**4.NIPUN Bharat Initiative:** Under this initiative, an annual provision of Rs. 500 per child for learning materials, Rs. 150 per

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi to press for a caste based census.**

India laid out the position ahead of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) discussion on Afghanistan and said the relation with Afghanistan was guided by the Strategic Partnership Agreement signed in 2011. India is "closely monitoring" the unfolding situation in Afghanistan.

The Assam government revoked its advisory against travel to Mizoram after the two States agreed to let neutral forces deployed by the Union government take control of the disputed stretches of the Inter-State border for maintaining peace.

India and China have undertaken disengagement from Gogra area of eastern Ladakh following an agreement at the 12th round of Corps Commander talks, the Army said. This is the second friction area from which disengagement has been carried out after Pangong Tso in February as part of efforts for overall disengagement and deescalation along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh.

The Supreme Court said Central agencies such as the CBI and the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and State police forces chose to ignore complaints from judges about abusive messages and threats even as attacks on the judiciary were on the rise. The court suggested the formation of a special force to protect judges, especially trial judges who decide criminal cases involving high profile accused.

The Taliban have captured their first provincial capital since launching an offensive to coincide with the departure of foreign troops, a senior official confirmed, a significant psychological blow to a government desperately defending a string of cities against the insurgents.

The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna stands renamed as the "Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna". Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to Twitter to announce the change of name in honour of the hockey wizard.

Iran would welcome an Indian role in stabilising Afghanistan, said Iran's new President Ebrahim Raisi, during a meeting with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in Tehran, where the Minister attended Mr. Raisi's swearing in ceremony.

The Supreme Court asked the Central government pointblank to come clean on whether it intends to "close" tribunals across the country by not filling up vacancies that have been pending for years.

teacher for manuals and resources and Rs. 10-20 lakh per district will be given for assessment for foundational literacy and numeracy.

## RECENT ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS

1. The Union Government gave the information on Major Administrative Reforms which were introduced in recent years and emphasised the importance of these reforms in making governance more accessible. These reforms aim to encourage greater efficiency, transparent and corruption free governance, accountability and reduce scope for discretion. The Government follows the maxim "Minimum Government - Maximum Governance".

2. **Mission Karmayogi:** This is a National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB). It is a comprehensive reform of the capacity building apparatus at individual, institutional and process levels for efficient public service delivery. Lateral Entry: Lateral entry means when personnel from the private sector are selected to an administrative post of the government despite them not being selected in or being part of a bureaucratic setup.

3. **e-Samiksha:** A real time online system for monitoring and follow up action on the decisions taken by the Government at the Apex level in respect of implementation of important Government programmes/projects. e-Office: e-Office Mission Mode Project (MMP) has been strengthened for enabling Ministries/Departments to switch over to paperless office and efficient decision making.

4. **Citizen Charters, Good Governance Index, National Conference on e-Governance, Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) are the other reforms.**

## CONSTITUTIONAL (127th) AMENDMENT BILL, 2021

1. The Government is planning to bring a Bill to Parliament to clarify "some provisions in the 102nd Constitutional amendment Bill" to restore the power of the states to identify backward classes. In India, separate OBC lists are drawn up by the Centre and each state concerned. **Articles 15(4), 15(5) and 16(4) expressly conferred power on a state to identify and declare the list of socially and educationally backward classes.**

2. The amendment was necessitated after the Supreme Court in its ruling earlier this year upheld the 102nd constitutional amendment but said the President, based on the recommendations of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC), would determine which communities would be included on the state OBC list.

3. **The 102nd Constitution Amendment Act of 2018 inserted Articles 338B and Article 342A (with two clauses) after Article 342. Article 338B deals with the structure, duties and powers of the National Commission for Backward Classes.** Article 342A says that the President, in consultation with the governor, would specify the socially and educationally backward classes.

4. About the Bill: It will amend clauses 1 and 2 of Article 342A and also introduce a new clause 3. The bill will also amend the Articles 366 (26c) and 338B (9). It is designed to clarify that the states can maintain the "state list" of OBCs as was the system before the Supreme Court judgement.

5. **Articles 366 (26c) defines socially and educationally backward classes. The "state list" will be completely taken out of the ambit of the President and will be notified by the state assembly.**

## REPORT ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1. A report was tabled in Rajya Sabha by the **Standing Committee on Water Resources.** The report is titled "Flood Management in the Country including International Water Treaties in the field of Water Resource Management with particular reference to Treaty/Agreement entered into with China, Pakistan and Bhutan".

2. The Government of India should renegotiate the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 with Pakistan in the light of present-day challenges such as climate change and constantly monitor 'Chinese actions' over Brahmaputra.

3. On Flood Management: The **committee recommended setting up of a permanent institutional structure in the form of National Integrated Flood Management Group under the chairmanship of the Minister of Jal Shakti "immediately"** for

**Nigerian forces have killed 78 gunmen, known locally as bandits, during military operations including air strikes in northwestern Zamfara State, the Air Force said in a statement.**

control and management of floods in the country. On Indus Water Treaty: Highlighted Impacts of Climate Change: Rainfall Pattern: There are instances of more high-intensity rainfall as well as long stretches where there is low rainfall.

4. Glacial Melt: The contribution of glaciers in the Indus basin is higher than in the Ganges or Brahmaputra basins. Disasters: Because there is a fragile Himalayan region involved, there is greater frequency of landslides and flash floods. On China's Development on Brahmaputra: **Committee expressed apprehension that though 'run of the river' projects undertaken by China per se may not lead to diversion of waters, but there is every possibility that water can be stored in pondages and released for running the turbines.**