

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- India and China have reached an agreement on disengagement in the Pangonglake area to cease their forward deployments in a phased, coordinated and verified manner and it would substantially restore the situation to that existing prior to the commencement of the stand-off last year, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said.
- A fresh pool of water may be building up in the Rishiganga river that could tip over a mass of rock and debris, thereby impeding ongoing rescue operations in Uttarakhand.
- Anti-coup protesters took to the streets of Myanmar for a sixth consecutive day, after U.S. President Joe Biden announced sanctions against the Southeast Asian nation's Generals and demanded they relinquish power.
- Even as the government is soon expected to come out with regulations for OTT platforms, the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) on Thursday said 17 platforms, including Netflix, Disney+ Hotstar and Amazon Prime Video, have adopted a 'toolkit' for effective implementation of the self-regulation code introduced last year.
- Minister for Information Technology and Communications Ravi Shankar Prasad said global social media platforms were welcome to work and earn money in India but they should follow the law and the Constitution of India.
- The Industries Department constituted a three member committee to investigate the leak of furnace oil from pipeline of the Travancore Titanium Products Ltd (TTP) here into the coast.
- A gene therapy costing ₹ 16 crore is the only shot at life for nearly 200 children with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Type 1, a rare genetic disease, in Karnataka.

## INDIA FACILITATES TRANSIT TRAFFIC FROM BANGLADESH TO NEPAL

1. In a big boost to sub-regional connectivity and cooperation, India facilitated transit of fertiliser export from Bangladesh to Nepal via Rohanpur-Singhabad rail route.
2. India and Bangladesh had signed an agreement in 1976 to allow for export of commodities from Bangladesh to Nepal and import from other countries to Nepal via Indian territory as 'traffic in transit'.
3. Other regional connectivity initiatives-Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal Motor Vehicles Agreement, India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway, Kaladan Project etc.

## UAE GETS CATEGORY-I STATUS FOR INVESTMENT

1. Government has classified foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) from UAE as eligible for taking up Category-I license, a move that could boost investment from the region into India.
2. Category-I license implies lower compliance burden, simplified know-your-customer norms and document requirements, and fewer investment restrictions.
3. Earlier SEBI relaxed its guidelines for FPIs seeking a Category-I license by allowing investors from non FATF countries (specified by govt.) to qualify for registrations.
4. Nearly 80% of FPIs were put under Category-I after reclassification of three categories into two in September 2019, with easiest set of compliance norms for Category-I FPIs and strictest for Category-III FPIs.

## GAGANYAAN MISSION

1. The Union Minister of Science and Technology informed that the human spaceflight module of Gaganyaan will be launched after the second unmanned mission planned in 2022-23.
2. It was initially envisaged that the Rs. 10,000 crore Gaganyaan mission aims to send a three-member crew to space for five to seven days by 2022 when India completes 75 years of independence.
3. About: Gaganyaan is a mission by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Three flights will be sent into orbit. There will be two unmanned flights and one human spaceflight. The Gaganyaan system module, called the Orbital Module will have three Indian astronauts, including a woman.

## CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT ON HINDUKUSH KARAKORAM RANGES

1. According to the 'Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region' report, snowfall over the higher reaches of the Hindukush Himalayan mountain ranges has been increasing in recent decades, which has shielded the region from glacier shrinkage.
2. The recent massive flooding in the Alaknanda river, probably due to glacial bursts has highlighted the issue of higher glacier retreat in recent decades due to global warming., however, the report indicates a contrasting picture of the Hindukush Himalayas.
3. Findings of the Report: Several areas of Hindukush Karakoram Himalayas have experienced a declining trend in snowfall and also retreat of glaciers in recent decades. In contrast, the high-elevation Karakoram Himalayas have experienced higher winter snowfall that has shielded the region from glacier shrinkage.