

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

17TH FEBRUARY, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- In an apparent bid to displace a Chinese company that had won the contract to install renewable energy systems in three small islands off Jaffna Peninsula in northern Sri Lanka, India has offered a grant of \$12 million to execute it.
- European Union Ambassador Ugo Astuto is expected to lead a delegation of Ambassadors, including some from European countries, to Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, beginning with Srinagar, in a visit expected to study the "situation on the ground".
- The focus of investigation by the Delhi Police into the toolkit document case is centred on an alleged "pro-Khalistani" organisation, Poetic Justice Foundation (PJF), sources said.
- Charges of sedition "cannot be invoked to quieten the disquiet under the pretence of muzzling the miscreants", a Delhi Court observed while granting bail to a 21-year-old labourer. The youth was arrested for posting a fake video on Facebook about the Delhi police on the farmers' agitation.
- A week after a landslide claimed 58 lives in Chamoli, Uttarakhand, a team of scientists at the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG) in Dehradun are analysing fragments of ice, rock and mud in their labs to better understand the origins of the disaster.
- The third edition of the Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary, which is set to be released on Wednesday, will have 10,000 terms of daily use as well as academic, legal, administrative, medical, technical and agricultural terms, the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry said.
- The latest generation of smartphones, 5G, can interfere with aircraft altitude instruments, as it recommended they should be turned off during flight.

SANDES

- 1.It is an instant messaging platform launched by National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Initially it was open only to government officers, and now has been **released for the common public**.
- 2.It has an additional safety feature, that allows a **user to mark a message as confidential, will allow the recipient to be made aware the message should not be shared with others**.
- 3.It was launched as part of the government strategy to push for use of India-made software and build an ecosystem of indigenously developed products.

DIGITAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT(DIU)

- 1.DIU would be set up as a nodal agency by Ministry of Communications **for speedy investigation and resolution of cases related financial frauds involving telecom resources**.
- 2.It will coordinate with various LEAs(Law enforcement agencies), financial institutions and telecom service providers in investigation.
- 3.At License Service Area level, Telecom Analytics for Fraud Management and Consumer Protection system will also be created.
- 4.This will strengthen the trust of people in the digital ecosystem and will make financial digital transactions primarily through mobile more secure and reliable.

REPORT ON ROAD ACCIDENTS:WORLD BANK

- 1.The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways released the World Bank Report titled "**Traffic Crash Injuries And Disabilities: The Burden on India Society**". The Report has been prepared in collaboration with the **NGO-Save Life Foundation**.
- 2.Global Fatalities due to Road Accidents: Road Traffic Injuries (RTIs) - Eighth leading cause of death. Road Crash Fatality Rate.
- 3.Road Accidents and Related Deaths in India: **Accounts for 11% of the global death in road accidents, the highest in the world**. Accounts for about 4.5 lakh road crashes per annum, in which 1.5 lakh people die.
- 4.Burden on Households: At the individual level, road crash injuries and deaths impose a severe financial burden and push entire (non-poor) households into poverty.

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX 2020

- 1.**India's rank has slipped six places to 86th among 180 countries in Corruption Perception Index (CPI)** released by Transparency International. India was ranked 80th out of 180 countries in 2019.
- 2.Transparency International Transparency International is an international non-governmental organisation founded in 1993 based in Berlin, Germany.
- 3.The index ranks 180 countries and territories by the perceived level of public sector corruption according to experts and business people. **It uses a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean)**.

KARLAPAT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, ODISHA

- 1.Six elephants died of **haemorrhagic septicaemia** in this sanctuary in last 14 days,
- 2.Haemorrhagic septicaemia is a **contagious bacterial disease which infects animals that come in contact with contaminated water or soil**.
- 3.The sanctuary is located in **Kalahandi district**