

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- A plan for the sustainable and holistic development of the 680 sq km, fragile Little Andaman Island in the Andaman and Nicobar group has raised the alarm among conservationists. The 'Sustainable Development of Little Andaman Island Vision Document', is the NITI Aayog's proposal to leverage the strategic location and natural features of the island.
- The Centre is on track to push the 2021 Census to 2022 on account of the country's continuing preoccupation with the COVID19 pandemic, a senior government official told.
- Police detained more than 4,400 people across Russia and blocked off the centre of Moscow in a massive clampdown on protests demanding the release of jailed Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny.
- The Delhi High Court has ruled that Central Public Information Officers (CPIOs) cannot act like a "post office" as they are instead responsible to ensure that the information sought under the Right to Information Act is provided.
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has said the three language policy is not applicable to offices of the Union government.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his first *Mann Ki Baat* address for the year, made a mention of the garbage to power plant being commissioned inside the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Agriculture Market in Bowenpally. Vegetable and fruit waste is used to generate power to the extent of 500 units a day and 30 kilos of green manure at the plant.
- A new visa scheme offering millions of people in Hong Kong a pathway to British citizenship went live as the city's former colonial master opens its doors to those wanting to escape China's crackdown on dissent.

## GOVERNMENT MAY GO FOR HIGHER EXTERNAL FINANCING

- 1.The route of external financing to bridge the fiscal deficit gap has been suggested.
- 2.**External Financing(EF) refers to money borrowed from a source outside the country. External debt has to be paid back in the currency in which it is borrowed.**
- 3.It can be obtained from foreign commercial banks, international financial institutions like IMF, World Bank, ADB etc from the government of foreign nations.
- 4.These funds are mainly used for long-term financing and carry much lower interests rates.

## CSIR CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF INDIA'S TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE DIGITAL LIBRARY, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND GLOBALLY

- 1.Traditionally Knowledge Digital Library(TKDL) is an Indian digital Knowledge repository of traditional knowledge(TK), especially about medicinal plants and formulations used in Indian systems of medicine.
- 2.**TK is knowledge know-how, skills and practices that are developed, sustained and passed on from generation to generation within a community,** often forming part of its cultural or spiritual identity.

## 'MARINE MEGA FAUNA STRANDING GUIDELINES' AND NATIONAL MARINE TURTLE ACTION RELEASED BY MOEF&CC

- 1.These two documents highlight-**Actions to be taken for handling stranded animals on shore, in the sea or on a boat,** Management actions for improved coordination, reducing threats to marine species and their habitats, rehabilitation of degradable habitats.
- 2.Enhancing People's participation, Advance scientific research and exchange of information on marine mammals and marine turtles and their habitats.
- 3.Indian coastline has significant nesting and feeding grounds for four species of marine turtles namely, **Leatherback-Vulnerable(IUCN status), Green-Endangered, Hawksbill-Critically Endangered, Olive Ridley-Vulnerable.** All four species are listed under Schedule I of wildLife(Protection) Act,1972.

## COVID-19 PERFORMANCE INDEX

- 1.**India has been ranked 86th in a "Covid-19 Performance Index"** comprising 98 countries. New Zealand topped the rankings closely followed by Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand and Cyprus.
- 2.About the Index Institution Involved: Covid-19 Performance Index was compiled by the Sydney-based Lowy Institute, an Australian think tank, which sought to measure the response of countries to the Pandemic.
- 3.Parameter Used: Six Indicators: **Confirmed cases, confirmed deaths, cases per million people, deaths per million people,** cases as a proportion of tests, and tests per thousand people.

## FIRST PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP RESEARCH REACTOR FOR PRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR MEDICINES

- 1.Under the proposed partnership, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre(BARC) is ready to share the technology of production of a variety of nuclear medicines.
- 2.**Private entities will get exclusive rights to process and market the isotopes produced in the research reactor,** in lieu of investing in the reactor and processing facilities.