

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Seeking India's "proactive" support at the UN Human Rights Council, where a resolution on Sri Lanka will be soon put to vote, the Secretary to Sri Lanka's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "India cannot abandon us".
- With the next review of the flexible inflation targeting (FIT) framework coming up soon, the Reserve Bank of India, in the Report on Currency and Finance for FY21, said the current inflation target of 4% with a +/-2% tolerance band is appropriate for the next five years.
- Untimely rains and hailstones that lashed plantations in the last six days causing large scale berry dropping is expected to impact arabica and robusta coffee production by 30% for the 2020-21 crop year.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Friday extended the COVID-19 "guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution" till March 31. It asked the States to expedite the vaccination programme to break the chain of transmission.
- The Foreign Ministers of India and China agreed to establish a new hotline to ensure "timely communication" in the wake of last year's border crisis but differed sharply on the way forward to restore relations, in a 75-minute phone call.
- India's economy returned to growth terrain in the third quarter of 2020-21, with a 0.4% rise in the GDP, even as the National Statistical Office estimated the economy to contract 8% during the full fiscal.
- The United States has welcomed the announcement by India and Pakistan that they would observe the 2003 ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC). The White House called for the two countries to build upon this progress.

## CITY INNOVATION EXCHANGE(CIX)

- 1.Launched by Ministry of Housing & Urban. Platform will bring together Citizen Organisations-Academia-Businesses-Government.
- 2.It will **connect cities to innovators across the national ecosystem to design innovative solutions** for their pressing challenges.
- 3.It will ease the discovery, design & validation of solutions through a robust, transparent and user centric process.
- 4.It will **help in the flow of ideas outside in and outside out, enhancing the skills and capacity required** to deliver smart urban governance.

## FATF RETAINS PAKISTAN IN GREY LIST

- 1.The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has decided to retain Pakistan on the "greylist" till the next review of its performance on its recommendations during the June Plenary session.
- 2.During the October-2020 Plenary, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Pakistan was given an extension for full compliance with the 27-point action plan till February 2021. It had then not fully complied with 6 of the 27 directives.
- 3.In Pakistan's case, the **FATF has taken cognisance of the inaction against several banned organisations involved in raising funds for terror activities** and those linked to global terrorists like Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar and Lashkar-e-Taiba's Hafiz Saeed and its operations chief Zaki-Ur Rahman Lakhvi.

## SIDANTI-UDANTI TIGER RESERVE:CHHATISGARH

- 1.Thousands of tribals living in villages located in the core areas of Sitanadi Udanti Tiger Reserve are **protesting and demanding the recognition of their Community Forest Resource rights**.
- 2.Community Forest Resource (CFR) rights are given under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (**Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA)**.
- 3.The tiger reserves are constituted on a core/buffer strategy. The core areas have the legal status of a national park or a sanctuary, whereas the buffer or peripheral areas are a mix of forest and non-forest land, managed as a multiple use area.
- 4.The Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006 recognizes and vest the forest rights and occupation in Forest land in Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes (FDST) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFD) who have been residing in such forests for generations.

## MANNATHU PADMANABHAN

- 1.Recently, the Prime Minister paid tributes to Mannathu Padmanabhan on his Death Anniversary.
- 2.He was an Indian social reformer and freedom fighter from the south-western state of Kerala. Sardar K M Panicker called him **Madan Mohan Malaviya of Kerala**.
- 3.He took part in the **Vaikom (1924) and Guruvayoor (1931) temple-entry Satyagrahas** and the anti-untouchability agitations.
- 4.Vaikom Satyagraha was a movement in Travancore (modern-day Kerala) for temple entry of the depressed classes.Guruvayur Satyagraha was a Satyagraha (non-violent protest) to allow entry for untouchables into the Guruvayur Temple in present Thrissur district.
- 5.He led the Nairs to demand temple entry for all castes and to put an end to untouchability. In 1914 he established the Nair Service Society.