

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2021

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 400 Indian women's rights activists, women's organisations and academics have penned an open letter to the government expressing their solidarity with protesting women farmer and underscoring that they are central to the farmers' agitation as they are likely to be hit the hardest.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping warned global leaders at an all virtual World Economic Forum (WEF) at Davos against starting a "new Cold War", and urged global unity in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.
- Indian and Chinese troops clashed at Naku La in north Sikkim last week, in what the Army termed a "minor faceoff", resulting in some minor injuries on both sides, it has been learnt.
- Amid the ongoing tensions with China, President Ram Nath Kovind asserted that Indian armed forces are "adequately mobilised to thwart any attempt to undermine national security" while reiterating the country's commitment to peace.
- Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and late singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam were named for the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award in India.
- The Centre told the Delhi High Court that the differential treatment by WhatsApp of Indian users compared with their European counterparts with respect to its privacy policy was a "cause for concern for the government".
- U.S. President Joe Biden will sign an executive order on Monday requiring the federal government to increase its purchases of American goods, relative to foreign goods.
- Owners of old vehicles will have to pay the government a 'green' tax as a penalty for polluting the environment, which will be much steeper if you reside in one of the more polluted cities in India.

## RISA:TRIPURA'S SIGNATURE GARMENT

- 1.The State government of Tripura aims to promote risa nationally as Tripura's signature garment. For this, various initiatives have been taken like providing risa uniforms to anganwadi and ASHA workers and facilitating training for making risa at Tripura Handloom and Handicrafts Development Corporation.
- 2.The risa is being branded under the India Handloom Brand. This supports the 'Vocal for Local' initiative of the central government.
- 3.Risa is a handwoven cloth used as a female upper garment. Risa is a part of traditional Tripuri attire that comprises three parts - risa, rignai and rikutu.

## NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL(NEC)

- 1.69th plenary session of NEC was held. NEC is a statutory body constituted under NEC Act 1971.
- 2.NEC is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of North Eastern Region which consists of eight States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.
- 3.NEC comprises of Governors and Chief Ministers of constituent States and three members to be nominated by the President. Union Home Minister is ex-officio Chairman of NEC.

## THE INEQUALITY VIRUS REPORT:OXFAM INTERNATIONAL

- 1.The Inequality Virus Report, released by Oxfam International, has found that the Covid pandemic deeply increased the existing inequalities in India and around the world.
- 2.The rich were able to escape the pandemic's worst impact; and while the white-collar workers isolated themselves and worked from home, a majority of the not-so-fortunate Indians lost their livelihood.
- 3.The wealth of Indian billionaires increased by 35% during the lockdown and by 90% since 2009 to USD 422.9 billion, ranking India sixth in the world after the USA, China, Germany, Russia and France.

## DECRIMINALISATION OF OFFENCES UNDER LLP ACT

- 1.The Company Law Committee (CLC) has recommended that 12 offences under the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act 2008 be decriminalised and that LLPs be allowed to issue Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) to raise funds with the aim of improving ease of doing business for LLP firms.
- 2.Several offences related to timely filings, including annual reports and filings on changes in partnership status of the LLP, not related to fraud have been recommended for decriminalisation.

## PERFORMANCE OF BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO SCHEME

- 1.The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme has recently completed 6 years of its launch in 2015.
- 2.Performance of BBBP Scheme: Sex Ratio at Birth: Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) has improved by 16 points from 918 (2014-15) to 934 (2019-20), as per the Health Management Information System (HMIS) data. Out of 640 districts covered under BBBP, 422 districts have shown improvement in SRB from 2014-15 to 2018-2019.
- 3.Health: ANC Registration: Percentage of 1st Trimester ANC (AnteNatal Care) Registration has shown an improving trend from 61% in 2014-15 to 71% in 2019-20.