

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

12<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- There is enough academic research to demonstrate how the demographic dividend contributed to growth in other countries, especially during East Asia's economic miracle of 1965-1990. During that period, East Asia's working age population grew at a faster rate than its dependent population, thereby expanding the per capita productivity of these economies. Improving the lives of our adolescents in mission mode would lift their lives, but also generate a virtuous cycle with healthier and educated young adults contributing substantially to securing India's future.
- One of the signs of India's growing centrality in the Indo-Pacific strategic architecture is its burgeoning engagement with key western nations. Even countries which have been lackadaisical in their regional outreach so far have begun to approach the Indo-Pacific with a new seriousness and have been reaching out to New Delhi.
- Chinese nationals displayed banners in protest from across Indus river, close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC), when Indian villagers were celebrating the birthday of the Dalai Lama in Demchok in eastern Ladakh.
- The majority of the 30 mobile theatre groups in Assam may find it difficult to stage a comeback after almost two years of closure due to the two phases of the COVID-19 lockdown preceded by the unrest associated with the anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act protests.
- The premise of a cooperative is that decisions are made by those affected by them. The case for transparency and efficiency in the sector is strong; that goal must be pursued not by scaring the very soul of the sector but by advancing the cooperative spirit. The new Ministry could indeed be a catalyst, but it must not fashion itself as a command authority.

## AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

1. The Union Cabinet approved some modifications in the Central Sector Scheme of Financing Facility under 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund'.
2. It was launched in 2020 as a part of the Rs. 20 lakh crore stimulus package announced in response to the Covid-19 crisis.
3. Aim: To provide medium-long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets.
4. Modification-**The funds will be provided for setting up of cold stores and chains, warehousing, grading and packaging units, e-marketing points linked to e-trading platforms, besides PPP (Public Private Partnership) projects** for crop aggregation sponsored by central/state/local bodies.

## LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS

1. The Maharashtra government has started a drug administration drive for the elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) and become the first State in the country to resume giving rounds of the drug after the second wave of Covid-19.
2. **LF, commonly known as elephantiasis and is considered as a Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD). It is the second most disabling disease after mental health.**
3. It impairs the lymphatic system and can lead to the abnormal enlargement of body parts, causing pain, severe disability and social stigma.
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## SPARSH:SYSTEM FOR PENSION ADMINISTRATION RAKSHA

1. The Ministry of Defence has implemented SPARSH (System for Pension Administration Raksha).
2. It is an integrated system for automation of sanction and disbursement of defence pension.
3. This web-based system processes pension claims and credits pension directly into the bank accounts of defence pensioners without relying on any external intermediary.
4. **SPARSH envisages establishment of Service Centres to provide last mile connectivity to pensioners who may be unable to directly access the SPARSH portal.**

## ICDS SURVEY IN JHARKHAND

1. According to a recent survey, more than 55% did not receive Supplementary Nutrition under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in Jharkhand even once in the first six months of 2021.
2. **As per National Family Health Survey-4 data, every second child in the state is stunted and underweight and every third child is affected by stunting and every 10th child is affected from severe wasting and around 70% children are anemic.**
3. The Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It was launched in 1975.
4. Anganwadi Services Scheme: It is a unique programme for early childhood care and development. It provides a package of six services namely supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services.