

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- As more nations complete their vaccine programmes, they will seek to tighten their border controls with “vaccine passports” and longer quarantines in order to curtail the spread of new variants. While it is necessary for the Government to keep up with European Nations like actions worldwide, and battle discriminatory practices, the real imperative remains to vaccinate as many Indians as possible, given that more than six months after the Indian inoculation programme began, only 4.4% of those eligible have been fully vaccinated.
- Getting computers to schools should also not be difficult because, apart from public funding, communities, corporates and hardware makers can use recycling and donation options. The Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) shows that many schools have fallen through the net, and they need urgent help to get connected.
- Rajasthan is taking a big step in vocational education during the pandemic by introducing vocational classes beginning from Class 6 in schools as part of the new education policy of 2020. The State has also improved its ranking in the performance grading index in school education.
- With India registering its highest quarterly merchandise exports of \$95 billion during the first quarter (April-June) of 2021, the country is now eyeing a target of \$400 billion in merchandise exports in the current fiscal.
- The Odisha Institute of Maritime and South East Asian Studies (OIMSEAS), the archaeological wing of the State government, has discovered a 4,000-year-old settlement and ancient artifacts in Balasore district. According to the ASI, the site has circular mud fortification of about 4.9 kms, in between the river Sona on south and the Burahabalong on its northeastern borders.

## HEAT DOME

1. The Pacific Northwest and some parts of Canada recorded temperatures around 47 degrees, causing a "historic" heat wave. This is a result of a phenomenon referred to as a "heat dome".
2. The phenomenon begins when there is a strong change (or gradient) in ocean temperatures. In the process known as convection, the gradient causes more warm air, heated by the ocean surface, to rise over the ocean surface.
3. **As prevailing winds move the hot air east, the northern shifts of the jet stream trap the air and move it toward land, where it sinks, resulting in heat waves.**
4. A heat dome is effectively what it sounds like - an area of high pressure that parks over a region like a lid on a pot, trapping heat. They are more likely to form during La Niña years like 2021, when waters are cool in the eastern Pacific and warm in the western Pacific.

## LEAF COALITION

1. LEAF (Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance) Coalition was announced at the Leaders Summit on Climate, 2021.
2. **LEAF coalition will be one of the largest ever public-private efforts to protect tropical forests and intend to mobilize at least USD 1 billion in financing to countries committed to protecting their tropical forests.**
3. About LEAF Coalition: It is a collective of the governments of the USA, United Kingdom and Norway. As it is a public-private effort, thus also supported by transnational corporations (TNCs) like Unilever plc, Amazon.com, Nestle, Airbnb etc.
4. A country willing to participate would need to fulfil certain predetermined conditions laid down by the Coalition.

## 7TH EDITION OF INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL SYMPOSIUM

1. The 7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was hosted by the French Navy at Réunion island. It is a biennial event which was conceived by the Indian Navy in 2008.
2. **The IONS is a voluntary and inclusive initiative that brings together navies of Indian Ocean Region littoral states to increase maritime co-operation and enhance regional security.**
3. It also serves to develop an effective response mechanism and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) against natural disasters.
4. IONS includes 24 member nations that touch or lie within the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), and 8 observer nations.

## 6 YEARS OF DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

1. The Prime Minister of India addressed a virtual event to mark the completion of six years of Digital India programme.
2. Important Points of Address: India's Techade: The data and demographic dividend combined with India's proven tech prowess presents massive opportunity for the country, and this decade will be 'India's techade'.
3. **Significant Achievements-The Electronic Document Storage System (DigiLocker) and the Electronic Signature System (eSign) were introduced to help businesses streamline their operations.**
4. Beyond the JAM Trinity: What started as a simple step to kick off the JAM trinity (Jan Dhan, Aadhar and Mobile) to weed out leakages in the system, **today empowered the entire vaccination drive for Covid, making India only the second nation to USA that administered 20 crore vaccines.**