

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- What research and practical experience show is that when women can make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health, and when they have access to services to support their choices, societies are healthier and more productive. A woman who has control over her body gains not only in terms of autonomy but also through advances in health, education, income and safety. She is more likely to thrive, and so is her family. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) calls upon stakeholders to help build a new set of social norms to drive this mission.
- The Supreme Court has given a purposive declaration in the migrant labour case but the bulk of the judgment seems declaratory rather than mandatory. In order to efficaciously implement the orders of the court, the State governments need to work with the Centre closely. With the third wave of COVID19 infections looming, it is imperative to ensure that government machinery works to its full potential and robust systems are developed to withstand the challenges.
- Posterity will blame the judiciary for the incarceration and unfortunate death of Fr. Stan Swamy, and the continued imprisonment of so many others like him. But voices will continue to rise in protest. As Fr. Swamy himself said, though, “we will still sing in the chorus. A caged bird can still sing.”
- The Taliban would not find international legitimacy if they capture Kabul through bloodshed. Afghan’s past experiences suggest that one - party regimes — the communist regime, Mujahideen or the Taliban — failed to stabilise the country or sustain themselves in the long term. Now that the invading troops are exiting Afghanistan, the warring parties’ focus should shift towards settlement and building lasting structures of power. Else, Afghanistan would fall into another cycle of violence.

## MINISTRY OF CO-OPERATION:A NEW PUSH TO COOPERATIVES

- 1.A separate ‘Ministry of Co-operation’ has been created by the Central Government for realizing the vision of ‘Sahkar se Samridhi’ (Prosperity through Cooperation) and to give a new push to the cooperative movement.
- 2.Significance of Ministry of Co-operation: It will provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country.It will work to streamline processes for ‘Ease of doing business’ for co-operatives and enable development of Multi-State Co-operatives (MSCS).
- 3.Constitutional Provisions Related to Cooperatives: The Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011 added a new Part IXB right after Part IXA (Municipals) regarding the cooperatives working in India. The word “cooperatives” was added after “unions and associations” in Article 19(1)(c) under Part III of the Constitution. A new Article 43B was added in the Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV) regarding the “promotion of cooperative societies”.

## CASSINO

- 1.The Indian Chief of Army Staff (COAS) will inaugurate an Indian Army Memorial in the Cassino town of Italy during an official visit to the U.K. and Italy.
- 2.The memorial commemorates over 3,100 Commonwealth servicemen who took part in the effort to liberate Italy in World War II (1939-1945). 900 Indian soldiers were also commemorated on this memorial.
- 3.The Indian Army was the largest volunteer force during WWII, with over 2.5 million (more than 20 lakh) Indians participating.
- 4.These troops fought the Axis powers (Germany, Italy and Japan) as part of the Allies.

## GRAND ETHIOPIAN RENAISSANCE DAM’S

- 1.Ethiopia has started the second phase of filling a Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam’s (GERD) reservoir on the upper Blue Nile, which raised tensions from Sudan and Egypt ahead of an upcoming UN Security Council meeting on the issue.
- 2.Ethiopia had previously announced it would proceed to the second stage of filling in July, with or without a deal.
- 3.The Nile, Africa’s longest river, has been at the center of a decade-long complex dispute involving several countries that are dependent on the river’s waters.
- 4.Ethiopia began the construction of the GERD in 2011 on the Blue Nile. This 145-meter-tall hydropower project is Africa’s biggest dam project and will have lasting impacts on its longest river- Nile. Blue Nile is a tributary of the Nile river and it carries about two-thirds of the river's water volume and most of the silt.

## MARINE PLASTIC

- 1.According to the Central Pollution Control Board’s (CPCB) Annual Report on Implementing the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, the plastic waste generated in 2018-19 was 3.3 million tonnes per year (roughly 9,200 tonnes per day).
- 2.Plastic is a synthetic organic polymer made from petroleum with properties ideally suited for a wide variety of applications, including packaging, building and construction, household and sports equipment, vehicles, electronics and agriculture. Plastic is cheap, lightweight, strong and malleable.
- 3.According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), at least 8 million tons of plastic end up in the oceans every year.