

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- It might be appropriate to quote IBM Chairman, Arvind Krishna, that cybersecurity will be “the pressing issue of this decade” and that “value lies in the data and people are going to come after that data”.
- With job losses accelerating, and consumer spending hit by a combination of falling real incomes, depleted savings and increasing healthcare costs, the broader outlook for a nearterm revival in consumption led demand appears bleak right now. To ensure an abiding recovery, the government needs to expedite targeted, demand-creating fiscal support measures and drastically quicken the pace of vaccinations.
- Whether India, with its porous borders and ill-trained border control institutions, is prepared for defending against pathogens or dangerous biological organisms or agents arriving from abroad. COVID19 should serve as a wakeup call.
- A year since the clash between the Armies of India and China in the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh, the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) has built additional accommodation in the depth areas along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) on its side and is preparing for the long haul, according to official sources.
- India is a “natural ally” to work with the world’s richest G7 countries to fight against threats of authoritarianism, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, speaking at a special outreach session for guest countries on “Open Societies and Open Economies” at the G7 summit that ended in Corbis Bay, U.K.
- Foreign forces should hold ‘no hope’ of keeping a military presence in Afghanistan after the U.S. and NATO withdraw troops, the Taliban, warning the security of embassies and airports would be the responsibility of Afghans.

## ONLINE MODULE FOR COMPILING OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN’S DATA

- 1.The Ministry of Education has developed an online module for compiling out-of-school (due to Covid-19 pandemic) children’s data identified by each State/UT. The collected data will be mapped with special training centres on the PRABANDH portal of Samagra Shiksha.
- 2.Through the module, the **government will facilitate age-appropriate admissions of children in the age group of 6-14 years and those belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged groups.**
- 3.Also, for out of school children in the 16-18 years age group, financial assistance will be provided for the first time in the session 2021-22, to continue their education through open/distance learning mode.
- 4.**PRABANDH (P**roject **A**ppraisal, **B**udgeting, **A**chievements and **D**ata **H**andling **S**ystem) is a step towards leveraging technology to increase efficiency and manage the implementation of a centrally sponsored integrated scheme for schooling- Samagra Shiksha.

## SUB-MISSION ON AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION SCHEME

- 1.The Government of India has released funds for various activities of Farm Mechanization under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) scheme.
- 2.Under it, subsidy is provided for purchase of **various types of agricultural equipment and machinery to the extent of 40-50% for States other than NER (North Eastern Region) States and for NER States it is 100% limited to Rs.1.25 lakhs per beneficiary.**
- 3.The agriculture ministry has also developed a Multilingual Mobile App, ‘CHC (Custom Hiring Centres)-Farm Machinery’ which connects farmers with Custom Hiring Service Centres situated in their locality.
- 4.Aim: Increasing the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers and to the regions and difficult areas where farm power availability is low.

## EnVISION MISSION TO VENUS:EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

- 1.European Space Agency (ESA) has announced a new mission- EnVision mission to Venus.
- 2.About: It is an European Space Agency (ESA) led mission with contributions from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
- 3.Aim: The mission will carry a **range of instruments to study the planet’s atmosphere and surface, monitor trace gases in the atmosphere and analyse its surface composition.**
- 4.Significance: EnVision will follow another ESA-led mission to Venus called ‘Venus Express’ (2005-2014) that focussed on atmospheric research and pointed to volcanic hotspots on the planet’s surface.

## RESCUING GHARIALS

- 1.Odisha announced a cash award of Rs. 1,000 to conserve gharials in Mahanadi River Basin.
- 2.Gharials, sometimes called gavials, are a type of Asian crocodylian distinguished by their long, thin snouts. Crocodylians are a group of reptiles that includes crocodiles, alligators, caimans, and more.
- 3.India has three species of Crocodylians namely: **Gharial** (Gavialis gangeticus): IUCN Red List- Critically Endangered **Mugger crocodile** (Crocodylus palustris): IUCN- Vulnerable. **Saltwater crocodile** (Crocodylus porosus): IUCN- Least Concern.