

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- It is necessary to revamp the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction) to institute an implementation body to assess treaty compliance, and build safer standards for the future and also voice for a stronger convention to regulate any research that could lead, by accident or design, to something as diabolical as the current pandemic. India, which has now begun to speak up on the issue, must call for a more definitive answer.
- We — governments, employers, unions, civil society organisations and even individuals — must rise and pledge to ‘Take Action against Child Labour’ as a part of the UN’s declaration of 2021 as the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. Our actions today will determine the future of children tomorrow.
- With unabated job losses pushing overall unemployment to a oneyear high of 11.9% in May, as per CMIE(Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy) data, and rural areas ravaged, only an accelerated nationwide vaccine rollout and direct job and income boosting measures can prevent the economy from backsliding again.
- Days after Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan urged the Chief Ministers to come together to persuade the Centre to procure and distribute COVID19 vaccines free for the whole nation, Odisha and Jharkhand have also called for centralised procurement.
- China’s decision to relax its twochild norm and allow couples to have three children must serve as a warning for India that coercive population strategies can be counterproductive, say experts.

## AMBITAG

- 1.Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar, Punjab has developed a **first-of-its-kind IoT (Internet of Things) device – AmbiTag that records real-time ambient temperature during the transportation of perishable products, vaccines and even body organs and blood.**
- 2.The device has been developed under Technology Innovation Hub – AWaDH (Agriculture and Water Technology Development Hub) and its Startup ScratchNest.
- 3.About AmbiTAG: This is shaped as a USB (Universal Serial Bus) device. It is India's first indigenous temperature data logger for cold chain management.
- 4.It continuously records the temperature of its immediate surroundings from -40 to +80 degrees in any time zone for a full 90 days on a single charge. Most of the similar devices available in the international market record data only for a duration of 30- 60 days.

## HORTICULTURE CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

- 1.The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched the Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP) in order to promote the export of horticultural produce.
- 2.It is a central sector programme aimed at growing and developing identified horticulture clusters to make them globally competitive.
- 3.Horticulture cluster is a regional/geographical concentration of targeted horticulture crops.
- 4.Objectives: **To address all major issues related to the Indian horticulture sector** including pre-production, production, post-harvest management, logistics, marketing and branding.

## WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY

- 1.Every year, on 31st May, the World Health Organization (WHO) and global partners celebrate World No Tobacco Day (WNTD).
- 2.The theme for the World No Tobacco Day 2021 is “Commit to Quit”. The **WHO has honoured Indian Union health minister Harsh Vardhan with Director-General Special award for his efforts to control tobacco consumption in India.**
- 3.Socio Economic Burden of ‘Tobacco’: In India, over 1.3 million deaths are attributable to tobacco use every year amounting to 3500 deaths per day, imposing a lot of avoidable socio-economic burden.
- 4.In addition to the death and diseases it causes, tobacco also impacts the economic development of the country. Smokers face a 40-50% higher risk of developing severe disease deaths from Covid-19.

## SECTION 304B OF IPC:DOWRY DEATHS

- 1.The Supreme Court (SC) has widened the scope of section 304B of Indian Penal Code (IPC) by indicating that there is no straitjacket formula to determine the cruelty against women.
- 2.About Section 304B of IPC: According to Section 304B, to make out a case of dowry death, a woman should have died of burns or other bodily injuries or “otherwise than under normal circumstances” within seven years of her marriage.
- 3.Highlights of the Judgement: **Section 304B of IPC must be interpreted keeping in mind the legislative intent to curb the social evil of bride burning and dowry demand.**
- 4.The court should use their discretion to determine if the period between the cruelty or harassment and the death of the victim would come within the term “soon before”.