

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

4TH JUNE, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- The United States announced and then immediately suspended a whopping 25% tariff rate on over \$2 billion of imports from six countries including India, signalling Washington's intent to act punitively on its longheld grouse with these nations for their digital services taxes primarily impacting Silicon Valley tech giants.
- India saw significant improvement in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to clean energy, urban development and health in 2020, according to the NITI Aayog's 2020 SDG Index. However, there has been a major decline in the areas of industry, innovation and infrastructure as well as decent work and economic growth.
- The Supreme Court quashed a sedition case registered against senior journalist Vinod Dua for his critical remarks against the Prime Minister and the Union government in a YouTube telecast, underscoring its 59 year old verdict that "strong words" of disapproval about the ruling regime did not amount to sedition.
- Almost a third of all ration card holders are yet to get their free foodgrains allocation for May under the Centre's COVID19 relief scheme, according to the Food Ministry.
- India's latest abstention on a Palestinerelated resolution at the Human Rights Council (HRC) of the United Nations is not a "new" stand, said Ministry of External Affairs.
- The decision to split the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) wage payments by caste categories was done on the advice of the Union Finance Ministry in order to assess and highlight the benefits flowing from budgetary outlay towards Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

MODEL TENANCY ACT

- 1.The Union Cabinet has approved the Model Tenancy Act to be sent to the States and Union Territories to enact legislation or amend laws on rental properties.
- 2.Written Agreement is Mandatory: Mandatory for there to be a written agreement between the property owner and the tenant.Establishes an independent authority in every state and UT for registration of tenancy agreements and even a separate court to take up tenancy related disputes.
- 3.As per Census 2011, nearly 1.1 crore houses were lying vacant in the country and **making these houses available on rent will complement the vision of 'Housing for All' by 2022.**
- 4.It will enable creation of adequate rental housing stock for all the income groups thereby **addressing the issue of homelessness.** It will enable **institutionalisation of rental housing by gradually shifting it towards the formal market.**

SCO AGREEMENT ON MASS MEDIA COOPERATION

- 1.The Union Government approved the signing and ratification of an Agreement on 'Cooperation in the field of Mass Media' between all the Member States of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).
- 2.The Agreement was signed in June 2019. It will provide an opportunity for the Member States to share new innovations and best practices in the field of Mass Media.
- 3.**Creation of a favorable system for mutual and wide distribution of information via Mass Media in a bid to deepen the knowledge about the lives of the people** of their States.
- 4.It will exchange of specialists and experience in the field of Mass Media, offer mutual assistance in training media professionals, and promote cooperation between scientific research and educational institutions in the field of Mass Media.

NEW MISSIONS TO VENUS:NASA

- 1.The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced two new robotic missions to Venus. Earlier, scientists obtained new data about Venus by bouncing radio waves off the planet.
- 2.The two sister missions aim to understand how Venus became an inferno-like world capable of melting lead at the surface.
- 3.**DaVinci Plus**-It will be the first of the two, it will analyze the thick, cloudy Venusian atmosphere in an attempt to determine whether the inferno planet ever had an ocean and was possibly habitable.**Veritas**-It will be the second one seeking a geologic history by mapping the rocky planet's surface.
- 4.Significance: The new missions will give fresh views of the planet's atmosphere, made up mostly of carbon dioxide, down to the core.

FIRST HUMAN CASE OF H10N3

- 1.China has reported the first case of human infection with the H10N3 strain of bird flu in Jiangsu province.
- 2.**H10N3 is a subtype of the Influenza A virus which is commonly known as the bird flu virus.** It is a low pathogenic, or relatively less severe, strain of the virus in poultry and the risk of it spreading on a large scale is very low.
- 3.Bird flu, also known as Avian influenza (AI), is a highly contagious viral disease affecting several species of food-producing birds (chickens, turkeys, quails, guinea fowl, etc.) as well as pet birds and wild birds.