

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

7TH JUNE, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- The coronavirus research conducted in the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) for years is an example of science that has run amok, without ethical restraints or any code of conduct for the scientists, who appear to be bereft of any accountability. Such action threatens the very existence of humankind. This is why China's role requires closer scrutiny.
- The RBI's latest policy statement underscores the diminishing options available to it to address the economic fallout from the COVID19 pandemic. The bank's Monetary Policy Committee left benchmark interest rates unchanged for a sixth straight meeting and reiterated that it would keep its policy stance accommodative 'as long as necessary to revive and sustain growth on a durable basis'.
- Just like humans pause in between words when speaking, electric fish too were observed to have pauses in their communication which were significant. The study, published in Current Biology, also pointed out how pauses allow the neurons in the midbrain to recover from stimulation. The researchers from Washington University, used mormyrids for the study.
- The government sent out "one last notice" to U.S.-based social media platform Twitter to immediately comply with the new IT Rules that came into effect on May 26, and warned that failure to do so will lead to the platform losing exemption from liability under the IT Act.
- A group of the world's richest nations reached a landmark deal to close crossborder tax loopholes used by some of the world's biggest companies. The Group of Seven said it would back a minimum global corporation tax rate of at least 15%, and put in place measures to ensure that taxes were paid in the countries where businesses operate.

SATELLITE INTERNET

1. According to an estimate, 1,250 satellites will be launched annually this decade, with 70% of them for commercial purposes.
2. Various private companies are aiming to deliver broadband satellite Internet around the world through their fleet of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites.
3. Satellite Internet and LEO Technology: Positioning of Satellites: LEO satellites are positioned around 500km-2000km from earth, compared to stationary orbit satellites which are approximately 36,000km away. **As LEO satellites orbit closer to the earth, they are able to provide stronger signals and faster speeds than traditional fixed-satellite systems.**
4. Additionally, because signals travel faster through space than through fibre-optic cables, they also have the potential to rival if not exceed existing ground-based networks. Individual satellites can only make direct contact with a land transmitter for a short period of time thus requiring massive LEO satellite fleets and consequently, a significant capital investment.

BAMBOO MARKET WINDOW ON GeM PORTAL

1. The government of India has dedicated a window 'The Green Gold Collection' on the GeM (Government e-Marketplace) portal for the marketing of Bamboo Goods. This window is the collective work of the National Bamboo Mission (NBM) and GeM.
2. It showcases a range of exquisitely handcrafted bamboo and bamboo products, handicrafts, disposals and office utility products on the GeM portal.
3. It **aims to provide bamboo artisans, weavers and entrepreneurs in rural areas with market access to Government buyers.**
4. It seeks to promote the adoption and use of bamboo products among Government buyers and usher a sustainable rural economy for an Atmanirbhar Bharat.

INDIA'S RESTORATION INITIATIVES FOR ECOSYSTEM

1. **National Afforestation Programme (NAP):** It focuses on the rehabilitation of degraded forests and afforestation around forests.
2. **National Mission for a Green India (Green India Mission):** It is under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and aimed at improving and increasing tree cover as a climate adaptation and mitigation strategy.
3. **National Biodiversity Action Plan:** It has been launched to implement strategies for the reduction in rates of degradation, fragmentation and loss of natural habitats.
4. **Rural Livelihood Schemes:** Recognition of natural resources intrinsically linked to rural livelihoods is also reflected in flagship schemes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

SCHEMES OF MEGA FOOD PARK

1. Food Processing Industries Minister inaugurated Indus Best Mega Food Park at Raipur, Chhatisgarh.
2. Scheme of Mega Food Park aims at **Providing a mechanism to link agricultural production to the market by bringing together farmers, processors and retailers** so as to ensure maximizing value addition. Minimizing wastage. Increasing farmers income.
3. It is a cluster based approach under which the govt provides financial assistance up to Rs.50 Crore per Mega Food Park project.