

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- Egg cells are the largest cells in the body. A new study on fruit flies by biologists and mathematicians at MIT reveals how they grow so big. In a phenomenon analogous to exchange of gas between two balloons of different sizes, 'nurse' cells, connected to the oocyte, dump their contents into the latter, thereby causing it to expand.
- Cosmologists have hypothesised that super massive black holes wander in space. A new study published a case of a moving black hole located 230 million light years away and about three million times the Sun's mass.
- The Commission on Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, under the Central government, has become "non-functional" within five months of its constitution. "The commission was formed through an Ordinance in October. A Bill has to be introduced in the Lok Sabha during the next session, within six weeks of its commencement. But this was not done.
- The "gregarious flowering of bamboo" inside the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS) and the nearby Mudumalai Tiger Reserve and Gudalur forest division in Tamil Nadu this year may pose a threat to wildlife in the Nilgiri biosphere, a major tiger and elephant habitat.
- A Mizoram based group representing the Zo indigenous people of India, Bangladesh and Myanmar has petitioned President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to impose sanctions on military ruled Myanmar.
- The "Aap Ke Dwar Ayushman" campaign of the National Health Authority (NHA) recorded more than 4.7 lakh beneficiary verifications in a single day on March 10 for free healthcare services under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY) Scheme.

## LGBTIQ FREEDOM ZONE IN EU

1. In response to the backsliding of LGBTIQ rights in some EU countries, notably Poland and Hungary, the European Parliament has declared the European Union an "LGBTIQ Freedom Zone". LGBTIQ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Inter-sex and Queer.
2. The EU Resolution: The **EU Parliament resolution declared the entire European Union as an "LGBTIQ Freedom Zone"**. The resolution provides **LGBTIQ persons everywhere in the EU the freedom to live and publicly show their sexual orientation and gender identity without fear of intolerance, discrimination or persecution.**
3. LGBT Community in India Even after section 377 of IPC was removed by the Supreme Court in Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India, 2018 case, there is a wide gap in implementing a policy for the LGBTIQ community and making a better environment for them.

## WRONGFUL PROSECUTION IN INDIA

1. A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court highlighting the need for the government to frame guidelines for compensating victims of wrongful prosecution by the police or authorities.
2. The petition said the government had not bothered to implement the recommendations made by the Law Commission of India in its 277th report on the miscarriage of justice in 2018.
3. Wrongful Prosecution It refers to the cases where the accused was not guilty of the offence, and the **police and/or prosecution engaged in some form of misconduct in investigating and/or prosecuting the person.**

## QUAD'S LEADER'S SUMMIT

1. Recently, the Prime Minister addressed the first summit of the leaders' of the QUAD (Quadrilateral Framework). QUAD is a grouping of India, USA, Australia and Japan which aims to safeguard the interests of democratic nations in the Indo-Pacific region and address global challenges.
2. QUAD pledged to promote a free, open rule-based order, rooted in international law to advance security and prosperity and counter threats to both in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.
3. Quad Vaccine Partnership: Agreed to ensure "equitable" access to vaccines to counter the pandemic. Agreed to a plan **to pool their financial resources, manufacturing capabilities and logistical strengths.** Japan, USA and Australia will finance the vaccine initiative that India has welcomed.

## AVIATION TURBINE FUEL(ATF) MAY BE BROUGHT UNDER GST

- Aviation industry has long been demanding that ATF should be brought under the GST regime.
2. ATF or jet fuel cost, which account for 45-55% of an airline's operating expenses in India is among the highest in the world.
  3. Other **excluded categories from GST-Alcohol for human consumption, Petroleum products like crude oil petrol, High Speed Diesel and Natural Gas, Electricity.**

## BUREAU OF OUTREACH COMMUNICATION

1. It acts as an advisory body to Government on media strategy. It undertakes campaigns to inform and educate rural and urban people about the Government's policies and programmes.
2. It was setup in 2017 by integration of erstwhile Directorate of Advertising and visual publicity, Directorate of Field Publicity and Song and Drama division.