

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

30TH MARCH, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Odisha government received Central assistance of meagre one-sixth of the losses incurred in eight different cyclones that visited after the Super Cyclone 1999. After the Super Cyclone 1999, the State was hit by Phailin (2013), Hudhud (2014), Titli, Phethai and Daye (2018), Bulbul and Fani (2019) and Amphan (2020). In these cyclones, Odisha suffered losses of life and property worth ₹ 31,945.80 crore.
- The Centre plans to issue a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land in the country within a year. It will subsequently integrate its land records database with revenue court records and bank records, as well as Aadhaar numbers on a voluntary basis, according to a parliamentary standing committee report submitted to the Lok Sabha last week.
- The Centre has told the Assam government that “rejection slips” should be issued immediately to those excluded from the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) which was published in 2019. More than 19 lakh of the 3.29 crore applicants in Assam were left out of the final register that took five years to compile and cost ₹ 1,220 crore.
- As many as 27 migratory birds have been reported dead on account of avian influenza in the Pong Dam Wildlife Sanctuary area of Himachal Pradesh since March 25, setting off alarm bells and forcing authorities to shut down the sanctuary.
- Defence chiefs from a dozen countries on Sunday jointly condemned the bloodbath in Myanmar a day earlier, when at least 107 people — including seven children — were killed as security forces opened fire on anti-coup protesters.
- The Philippines on Sunday said it has started deploying its Air Force to carry out daily patrols over a flotilla of Chinese vessels that has sparked fresh tensions in the South China Sea..

SHIGMOTSAV:GOA

- 1.The Goa government has limited the Shigmotsav (Shigmo festivities) parades to three locations only (Panaji, Ponda and Mapusa), owing to rising cases of Covid-19 in the state.
- 2.**Shigmo is the celebration of a ‘rich, golden harvest of paddy’ by the tribal communities of Goa.** Agricultural communities including the Kunbis, Gawdas and Velips celebrate the festival that also marks the onset of spring.
- 3.Folk dances like Ghode Modni (a dance of equestrian warriors), Gopha and Phugadi. These colour-parties usually see people dressed in vibrant clothing performing traditional folk dances to depict the historical legacy of the Maratha War that backs this festival.
- 4.**Shigmo is celebrated all over India but in different names: North India - Holi. Assam and Bengal - Dolyatra. South India - Kamadahan. Maharashtra - Shimga.**

JUVENILE JUSTICE AMENDMENT BILL,2021

- 1.The Lok Sabha passed the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2021 that seeks to strengthen and streamline the provisions for protection and adoption of children.
- 2.The Bill amends the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and **contains provisions related to children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection.**
- 3.Need of the Amendment: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) audit of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in 2020, 90% of which are run by NGOs, found that 39% CCIs were not registered, even after the 2015 amendment was brought in.
- 4.**It also found that less than 20% CCIs, especially for girls, had not been set up in some states, 26% child welfare officers were not there.** Rehabilitation of children is not a priority for childcare homes and children are reportedly kept in such institutions to get funds.

NATIONAL BANK FOR FINANCING INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT BILL,2021

- 1.The Rajya Sabha cleared the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NBFID) Bill, 2021. The Bill seeks to establish the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NBFID) as the principal Development Financial Institution (DFIs) for infrastructure financing. NBFID was announced in the Budget 2021.
- 2.About: NBFID will be set up as a corporate body with authorised share capital of one lakh crore rupees. Financial Objective: **To directly or indirectly lend, invest, or attract investments for infrastructure projects located entirely or partly in India.** Developmental Objective: Includes facilitating the development of the market for bonds, loans, and derivatives for infrastructure financing.
- 3.Functions of NBFID: **Extending loans and advances for infrastructure projects. Taking over or refinancing such existing loans.** Attracting investment from private sector investors and institutional investors for infrastructure projects.

SKILL CERTIFICATION

- 1.The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has asked all government departments to ensure that workers executing government contracts must have official certification for their skills. Initially, up to 10% of the strength of workers utilized in 2021-22 can be certified. This can be progressively increased to 100% by 2026-27.