

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Gulf Stream system conveys warm surface water from equator to the north and the deeper cold, low salinity water down south. A study in Nature Geoscience reconstructing its flow shows that never before in a 1,000 years has it been as slow as it is in the last decade. Increased rainfall and melting of the Greenland Ice sheet likely contributed to this.
- Scientists from Northwestern University, U.S., have discovered a new biomaterial that mimics the brain tissue and can be made by 3D printing. Developed, this can treat neurodegenerative diseases, for instance, by transplanting the tissues. Earlier, the group had shown they can design materials that selforganise to form 'superstructures'. Now they find these can enhance the growth of neurons.
- A wayward comet like object that travelled long distances towards the Sun has found a temporary parking space among 'Trojans', a group of captured ancient asteroids orbiting the Sun along with Jupiter. Such objects, called Centaurs, are icy bodies found between Neptune and Jupiter and warm up and become active as they near the Sun, looking more like a comet.
- An analysis published in Science Advances identified key events in the Moon's past, such as the formation of its iron core and crystallization of a sea of molten rock that is believed to have covered the Moon for 100 million years after it formed.
- A draft of China's new FiveYear Plan (2021-2025), which is set to be formally approved on Thursday, has given the green light for the first dams to be built on the lower reaches of Yarlung Zangbo river, as the Brahmaputra is known in Tibet before it flows into India.
- Urging people to buy affordable medicines from Janaushadhi Kendras, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7,500th Janaushadhi Kendra at Shillong.

## CHINA TO PUSH FOR BUILDING POLAR SILK ROAD(PSR) IN ARCTICA OCEAN

- 1.As ice-covered parts of Arctica Ocean melt due to climate change, PSR will raise prospects for emergence of a new sea route. China Plans to integrate it with its Belt and Road Initiative.
- 2.PSR will open up blue economic passage linking China and Europe via Arctica Ocean and weave a global infrastructure network in Arctic. It will provide China with an alternative supply of oil and gas.
- 3.Recently, India also released a draft Arctic policy for expanding scientific research, sustainable tourism and mineral oil and gas exploration region.
- 4.Arctica region refers to region above Arctica Circle, north of latitude 66 degree 34'N, which includes Arctica Ocean with North Pole at its centre.

## USE OIL IN STRATEGIC RESERVES, SAUDI TELLS INDIA AFTER PLEAS FOR INCREASED SUPPLY

- 1.Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries(OPEC) and its allies, known as OPEC+, agreed not to increase crude oil supplies until global economic recovery is more firmly established.
- 2.India plead to ease production control on crude oil as production cuts will raise oil prices. However, India was advised to use strategic reserves for easing price.
- 3.Currently, India has total storage apacity for 74 days. This includes 3 strategic Petroleum Reserves located at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Mangalore and Padur in Karnatka.
- 4.India is the 3rd largest importer and it imports about 85% of its oil needs retail rates are benchmarked to international prices.

## DUMPING INERT WASTE IN ASOLA BHATTI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

- 1.The Supreme Court-mandated Ridge Management Board has decided to constitute an expert committee to look into the proposal of dumping inert (non-reactive) waste in the mines of Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary (Delhi).
- 2.Inert waste is waste which is neither biologically nor chemically reactive and is waste which will not decompose or decompose very slowly.
- 3.Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary covering 32.71 sq km area lies on the Southern Delhi Ridge of Aravalli hill range, one of the oldest mountain systems of the world, on Delhi-Haryana border.
- 4.An area of 1km around the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary in Gurugram and Faridabad is an Eco-sensitive zone.

## CSIR FLORICULTURE MISSION

- 1.CSIR(Council of Scientific and Industrial Research ) Floriculture Mission has been approved for implementation in 21 States and Union Territories of India.
- 2.The mission will focus on commercial floral crops, seasonal/annual crops, wild ornaments and cultivation of flower crops for honey bee rearing. Some of the popular crops include Gladiolus, Canna, Carnation, Chrysanthemum, Gerbera, Lilium, Marigold, Rose, Tuberose etc.
- 3.Floriculture has the potential to provide employment to a large number of people through nursery raising, floriculture farming, entrepreneurship development for nursery trade, value addition and export.
- 4.The convergence of Floriculture with Apiculture (beekeeping) as envisaged in the mission will yield even greater benefits.