

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

23RD MAY, 2021

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- Using genome sequences, researchers from McGill University have shown that the three spined stickleback, can adapt to extreme climatic changes. Climate change is leading to habitat loss and temperature swings, and this finding can help scientists map out the population's evolutionary future. The group found the fishes rapidly adapted to changes happening in real time.
- The merging of the Milky Way with a satellite galaxy Gaia Enceladus is very significant in the Milky Way's history. Now, by estimating the ages of a bunch of red giants in our galaxy, researchers were able to show that this merger took place some ten billion years ago. By then, the Milky Way already had its own stars at the centre and those from the merger occupied the edges. This work was published in Nature Astronomy.
- Over eight lakh migrant workers left the Capital for their respective hometowns during the first four weeks of the lockdown imposed in the city to contain the second wave of COVID19 pandemic, says a report prepared by the Delhi Transport Department. Transport Dept. report credits govt. for 'timely coordination'.
- The Indian Medical Association has demanded that the Health Ministry take strong action against yoga guru Ramdev for allegedly misleading the public through his statements. It said Ramdev should be prosecuted under the Epidemic Diseases Act as his "untutored" statements are "a threat to people".
- Nepal plunged into fresh political turmoil on Saturday as President Bidya Devi Bhandari dissolved Parliament and fixed general elections in November, amid a worsening COVID19 outbreak.
- Cyclone Yaas is likely to intensify into a "very severe cyclonic storm".

INCREASED SUBSIDY ON DAP

- 1.The government has increased the subsidy to 140% on Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) fertiliser in order to retain the selling price for farmers at the current level.
- 2.Recently, the **international prices of phosphoric acid, ammonia etc. used in DAP have gone up by 60% to 70%.**
- 3.DAP is the second most commonly used fertiliser in India after urea. Farmers normally apply this fertiliser just before or at the beginning of sowing, as it is high in phosphorus (P) that stimulates root development.
- 4.Fertilizer subsidy is the second-biggest subsidy after food subsidy, the NBS policy is not only damaging the fiscal health of the economy but also proving detrimental to the soil health of the country.

BRICS ASTRONOMY WORKING GROUP(BAWG)

- 1.India virtually hosted the 7th meeting of the BRICS Astronomy Working Group (BAWG) under the Science, Technology, and Innovation track of the BRICS 2021.
- 2.It provides **a platform for BRICS member countries to collaborate in the field of astronomy, recommending that the focal points in each country should present the scientific results of the work being carried out in each country.**
- 3.The members indicated future directions of research in this area such as building network of intelligent telescope and data network, study of transient astronomical phenomena in universe, big data, artificial intelligence, machine learning application to process the voluminous data generated now a days due to enhance multi-wavelength telescope observatory.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

- The International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) (International Biodiversity day) is observed on 22nd May every year.
- 2.The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1993 proclaimed 22nd May as IDB to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.
 - 3.The UNGA also declared the period 2011-2020 as the United Nations (UN) Decade on Biodiversity to promote the implementation of a strategic plan on biodiversity and its overall vision of living in harmony with nature.
 - 4.It also declared 2021-2030 as the **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.**This year's theme is **"We're part of the solution"** which is a continuation of 2020 theme- Our solutions are in nature.

KYASANUR FOREST DISEASE

- 1.A new point-of-care test has been found to be highly sensitive in the rapid diagnosis of Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD). This disease is also known as monkey fever.
- 2.It is caused by Kyasanur Forest disease Virus (KFDV), which primarily affects humans and monkeys.
- 3.It was first identified in 1957 in a sick monkey from the Kyasanur Forest in Karnataka.Eventually, **KFD emerged as a grave public health problem spreading through the entire Western Ghats.**
- 4.In nature, the virus is maintained mainly in hard ticks (Haemaphysalis spinigera), monkeys, rodents and birds. To humans, it may occur after a tick bite or contact with an infected animal (a sick or recently dead monkey).