

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The latest form of the National Population Register (NPR) appears to have retained contentious questions such as “mother tongue, place of birth of father and mother and last place of residence”, according to a document compiled by a committee under the Registrar General of India and shared with the District Census officers. The new questions were part of a trial exercise involving 30 lakh respondents in September 2019. The exercise has been opposed by some States and citizen groups as the NPR is the first step toward compilation of the NRC.

There are cybersecurity organisations in the country but no central body responsible for safety in the online space, a top cybersecurity official said. National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC) Rajesh Pant also said the proposed national cybersecurity strategy will address this gap in the security framework. He said India has excellent organisations and there has been ‘fantastic’ transformation in the cybersecurity space in the country in the last one year. “By and large, a framework is in place but there is no central apex organisation today in terms of allocation of business rules.

India’s government expects tax revenues for the current fiscal year to be 10% above budget, beating forecasts for the first time in four years, two officials said, as the economy powers back towards pre-pandemic levels. Tax revenues, budgeted at ₹15.45 lakh crore for the year to March 31, have been below projections ever since 2017-18 as the economy lost momentum even before COVID-19 and then slipped into a deep recession.

China’s Premier Li Keqiang called for an expedition in negotiations with ASEAN countries on a code of conduct framework for the South China Sea, according to the official Xinhua agency. China hopes the two sides can expand practical maritime cooperation, expedite COC negotiations, and strive for its early conclusion to make the South China Sea a sea of peace, friendship and collaboration, Xinhua quoted Mr. Li as saying at the 24th ASEAN-China Summit.

A Supreme Court Bench led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana is scheduled to pronounce its decision on Wednesday in pleas to form an independent committee to probe

MULLAPERIYAR DAM

1.Kerala Chief Minister has written to his Tamil Nadu CM, stressing the urgent need for the gradual release of water from the Mullaperiyar dam through the tunnel to Tamil Nadu. The 130-year old Mullaperiyar dam is located on the confluence of the Mullayar and Periyar River in Kerala’s Idukki district. It was built by Pennycuik to create a harmonious atmosphere in the east coast by taking the water there and have people cultivate crops. It is operated and maintained by the Tamil Nadu for meeting the drinking water and irrigation requirements of 5 of its southern districts.

2.The dam resulted in the formation of a big lake - the Periyar Lake. People call it the Thekkady Wildlife Sanctuary. Issues - Institute for Water, Environment and Health of the United Nations University has said that the Mullaperiyar dam suffers from structural issues and the possibility of a dam-break. Moreover, the dam is located in an earthquake-prone area.

3.There is a leakage in the dam as the technology which was put into use for constructing the dam 125 years ago was obsolete compared to the sophisticated construction methods used now. Sand mining became another major contributor to further deepening of rivers. Related Links - Idukki Reservoir.

PM AYUSHMAN BHARAT HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE MISSION

1.Prime Minister launched the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission. PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission is a part of the effort to achieve holistic health care i.e., which means affordable and accessible healthcare to all. PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission aims to fill the gaps in public health infrastructure, mainly in critical care facilities and primary care in both urban & rural areas at regional and national level. It is in addition to the National Health Mission.

2.Through this, critical care services will be available in all the districts of the country with more than five lakh population through exclusive critical care hospital blocks, while the remaining districts will be covered through referral services.

3.Major aspects of Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission Creation of elaborate facilities for diagnostics & treatment - Health & Wellness Centers are being opened in villages and cities, where there will be facilities for early detection of diseases. Facilities like free medical consultation, free tests, free medicine will be available in these centres. Testing network for diagnosis of diseases - Necessary infrastructure will be developed for the diagnosis and monitoring of diseases - Integrated Public Health labs and Block Public Health Units. Apart from that, 5 Regional National Centers for Disease Control, 20 Metropolitan units, and 15 BSL labs will further strengthen this network.

4.Expanding existing research institutions that study pandemics - PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission aims to strengthen the existing Viral Diagnostic and research labs Under the scheme, the following will be set up, A National Institution for One Health, 4 new National Institutes for Virology.

5.A regional research platform for WHO South East Asia Region, 9 Biosafety level-III laboratories, 5 new regional national centre for disease control. IT enabled disease surveillance system will be built by developing a network of surveillance laboratories at block, district, regional and national levels, in Metropolitan areas.

PAYROLL REPORTING IN INDIA

1.The National Statistical Office (NSO) has released the Employment Outlook of the country covering the period September, 2017 to August, 2021. Since April, 2018, the National Statistical Office has been bringing out the employment related statistics in the formal sector covering the period September 2017 onwards. This Employment Outlook is based on the information on the number of subscribers who have

reports that the government used Israel-based Pegasus software to spy on citizens. On September 23, the court indicated its intention to form a committee to examine the allegations. The CJI, at the time, said the court wanted to pass the orders without delay, but had been temporarily stalled because some of the members it had shortlisted for the committee were unavailable for personal reasons.

Days after Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana said judicial infrastructure was the key to improving access to justice, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said the issue would be taken up at a conference of State Law Ministers in November. "Judicial infrastructure is one of the agenda items for the meeting ... It is my responsibility to take the State Governments on board," Mr. Rijiju said. Development of physical infrastructure of the High Courts and the lower courts primarily comes under the domain of the State Governments.

The World Health Organisation's technical advisory group on Tuesday sought "additional clarifications" from Bharat Biotech for its COVID-19 vaccine Covaxin to conduct a final "risk-benefit assessment" for Emergency Use Listing of the vaccine.

The Government released draft norms for ensuring accessibility for the differently abled at airports, which include reserved parking, passenger lifts for boarding an aircraft, and aisle chairs on flights longer than three hours for inflight use, among other measures.

China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi has pledged support and assistance to the Taliban in a meeting in Doha. Coming three months after Mr. Wang hosted the Taliban in Tianjin, near Beijing, in late July, the Chinese Foreign Minister on Monday met Acting Deputy Prime Minister Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, who assured Beijing that "a friendly policy towards China" was "a firm choice" by the Taliban. Mr. Wang "expressed China's willingness to continue to provide humanitarian aid to Afghanistan within its capacity and work with the international community to help Afghanistan alleviate temporary difficulties and realise economic reconstruction as well as independent development", the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

Sudan's top General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan defended the Army's seizure of power on Tuesday, saying he had ousted the Government of Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok to avoid civil war.

subscribed under three major schemes, namely the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme, Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Scheme and National Pension Scheme (NPS).

2. National Statistical Office National Statistical Office is the central statistical agency of the Government mandated under the Statistical Services Act 1980 under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. It is responsible for the development of arrangements for providing statistical information services to meet the needs of the Government and other users for information on which to base policy, planning, monitoring and management decisions.

3. The services include collecting, compiling and disseminating official statistical information. All business operations in NSO are done in compliance with international standards, procedures and best practices. Other reports released by NSO- Periodic Labour Force Survey, Index of Industrial Production and Consumer Price Index.

GREEN DAY AHEAD MARKET

1. After the successful launch of Green Term-Ahead Market (GTAM) in 2020, the Green Day Ahead market (GDAM) was launched in India. Day-Ahead-Market (DAM) is a physical electricity trading market for deliveries for any/some/all 15 minute time blocks in 24 hours of next day starting from midnight. Green Day Ahead market (GDAM) is a marketplace for trading of renewable power on a day-ahead basis. As the buyer's behavior is shifting from long term contracts to short term contracts and also from fossil fuel to non-fossil fuel, this new initiative will help in enabling this energy transition.

2. The intent is to promote merchant green power plants and provide additional sale avenues to existing renewable power plants that are facing payment risk with the distribution companies (DISCOM) under the existing Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) or have surplus energy.

3. The launch of the Green Day-Ahead Market will, Deepen the green market and Provide competitive price signals, Offer an opportunity to the market participants to trade in green energy, in a transparent, flexible, competitive & efficient manner.

AMENDED TECHNOLOGY UP-GRADATION FUND SCHEME

1. Union Minister of Textiles reviewed the Amended Technology Up-gradation fund Scheme (ATUFS). TUFS - Ministry of Textiles had introduced Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) in 1999 as a credit linked subsidy scheme for, Modernization and technology up-gradation of the Indian textile industry, Promoting ease of doing business, Generating employment and Promoting exports.

2. ATUFS - The ongoing ATUFS has been approved for a period from 2015-16 to 2021-22 in the year 2016. It is a credit linked Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS) scheme to catalyze capital investments for technology upgradation and modernization of the textile industry. It is implemented through web based iTUFS platform. It facilitates augmenting of investment, productivity, employment, quality, exports along with import substitution in the textile industry.

3. It also indirectly promotes investment in textile machinery (having benchmarked technology) manufacturing. Under ATUFS, the CIS is provided to benchmarked machinery installed by the industry after physical verification.

RBI CAPS IPO FUNDING BY NBFCs

1. The RBI has issued a fresh set of rules for non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) which limits lending to IPO investors to Rs 1 crore per borrower from April 1, 2022. What is an Initial Public Offering (IPO)? An initial public offering (IPO) refers to the process of offering shares of a private corporation to the public in a new stock issuance. Companies must meet requirements by exchanges and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to hold an IPO. IPOs provide companies with an opportunity to obtain capital by offering shares through the primary market.

2. How does IPO funding work? IPO Funding is a loan offered for applying in primary stock market by NBFC's to high net worth individuals (HNI). The investor pays only small margin for applying in IPO and rest amount is funded by the lender. Interest is charged between 8 to 12% and it varies by the lender. Through IPO Funding, an investor can leverage its own funds in primary market and thereby maximize the profits in a very short span of time. IPO Funding loans are short term loans, where in most

Iranian authorities blamed a mysterious cyberattack for unprecedented disruption to the country's fuel distribution network. Iran is a major oil producer and the country's motorists, used to cheap petrol, were surprised to see filling stations inexplicably closing one after the other and queues growing longer.

cases they are for 7 days, from the IPO closing day to date of listing of IPO shares. Repayment of these short term loans is up to 3 months.

3.What is the new RBI framework? Layer-based structure - Under the new framework, the regulatory structure for NBFCs shall comprise four layers — base, middle, upper and top layer. The first category primarily entails non-deposit taking NBFCs with less than Rs 1,000 crore in assets. The second category include all deposit taking NBFCs irrespective of asset size. The Upper Layer will comprise the top ten eligible NBFCs in terms of their asset sizes. Depending on sudden risk factors, the RBI can move Upper Layer companies to the Top or fourth category, citing systemic risks.