

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

Eminent structural biologist M. Vijayan, DAE Homi Bhabha Professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), passed away in Bengaluru on Sunday. Professor Vijayan, who was instrumental in the development of macromolecular crystallography in India. His main research areas covered protein structures, lectins, and interactions of mycobacterial proteins.

Palli village in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir has become the first panchayat in the country to become carbon neutral, fully powered by solar energy. All its records have been digitised and the benefits of all the Central schemes are available in this village around 17 km from Jammu.

Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana on Sunday completed a year as top judge, leading the Supreme Court in several interventions from ordering an inquiry into the Pegasus snooping allegations to cancelling bail to a Union Minister's son accused in the Lakhimpur Kheri killings and ordering status quo of the Jahangirpuri demolition drive. The year also saw the CJI create a consensus within the powerful Supreme Court Collegium, which went on to script history by initiating the appointment of nine Supreme Court judges in one go — a rare achievement. One of the nine judges, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, would become first woman Chief Justice of India.

The inaugural of "The Commission for Dialogue" with the United Kingdom on the Falkland Islands has run into rough weather as members of the commission from the political party declined to attend the event after the party expressed uneasiness over the launch just two days after hosting U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Launching the Commission here on Sunday, Foreign Minister of Argentina Santiago Cafiero acknowledged India's traditional support for resolving the "territorial dispute", and said, "Argentina and India share same anticolonial heritage and values."

Paying tribute to the late Lata Mangeshkar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said she was India's cultural ambassador who left an indelible imprint in the world of music over her nearly eight-

INDIA-SRI LANKA FISHERIES ISSUES

1.After a gap of 15 months, the India-Sri Lanka Joint Working Group (JWG) on fisheries held its much-awaited deliberations in virtual format. Issue-One of the major reasons complicating the issue is of Kachchatheevu Island. India ceded the uninhabited island to Sri Lanka in 1974 under a conditional accord. In 1976, through an exchange of letter, both India and Sri Lanka agreed to stop fishing in each other's waters.

2.Recent issue-The State government has control up to 12 nautical miles (NM) from the base line, while the rest is vested with the Union government. Poaching in the territorial waters of Sri Lanka- Recently, seven fishermen — five from Tamil Nadu and two from Sri Lanka have died in mid-sea clashes. As sections of fishermen from of Tamil Nadu continue to transgress the International Maritime Boundary Line, cases of getting arrested and boats being impounded by the Sri Lankan authorities continue.

3.Trawling a bone of contention between the two countries-As per the Tamil Nadu Marine Fisheries Regulation Act, 1983, bottom trawling operations shall not be conducted within three nautical miles from the coast line. **Bottom trawling is a method of fishing that involves dragging heavy weighted nets across the sea floor, in an effort to catch fish.** The use of mechanised bottom trawlers by Tamil Nadu fishermen is an issue not just between the two states but is seen as an adverse activity affecting the marine ecology. The actions of the Tamil Nadu fishermen adversely affect their counterparts in the Northern Province who are also struggling to come to terms with life after the civil war.

4.**Issue be resolved-Fisher-level talks- The people of the two countries in general have common threads of language, culture and religion, all of which can be used purposefully to resolve any dispute.** Role of government- The Tamil Nadu fishermen have to commit themselves to a swift transition to deep sea fishing or other alternative methods for which the government have to come forward as a guarantor. Whenever there is a genuine complaint about Tamil Nadu fishermen having damaged the properties of the counterparts, the Indian government can compensate this through proper channels. India's MoU with Sri Lanka for the development of fisheries harbours can be modified to include a scheme for deep sea fishing to the fishermen of the North.

LAWS THAT GOVERN TAPPING A PHONE

1.Sanjay Raut, a political party leader has accused the Centre of protecting IPS officer Rashmi Shukla, under probe for tapping the phones of political leaders in 2019. How are phones tapped in India-During the times of fixed-line phones, mechanical exchanges would link circuits together to route the audio signal from the call. When exchanges went digital, tapping was done through a computer. Authorities make a request to the service provider, which is bound by law to record the conversations on the given number and provide these in real time.

2.Competent authority to tap phones- In the states, police has the power to tap phones. At the Centre, 10 agencies are authorised to do so including the Intelligence Bureau, CBI, Enforcement Directorate, National Investigation Agency, R&AW and Delhi Police Commissioner.

3.laws govern phone tapping- Act- Phone tapping in India is governed by the The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. Time- Phone tapping can be done On the occurrence of any public emergency In the interest of the public safety.

4.Exception- An exception has been given for the press. The press messages of correspondents accredited to the Central Government or a State Government that is intended to be published in India shall not be intercepted, unless their transmission has been prohibited under this sub-section.

5.Checks against misuse-Telephone conversation is an important facet of a man's private life. Telephone tapping would thus infract Right to Privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution. Last resort - Interception must be ordered only if there is no other way of getting the information. Directions for

decadelong career. Mr. Modi was speaking at Shanmukhananda Hall in Mumbai, where he received the first Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award, instituted in memory of the legendary singer who passed away in February this year.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Sunday that Kashmiri youth of today would not suffer the miseries that the previous generations in the Valley had gone through. He was inaugurating development projects estimated at ₹20,000 crore aimed at “reducing Dilli saey doori (distance from Delhi)”.

The All India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey, usually conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) every five years, is set to resume this year after a prolonged break. India has not had any official estimates on per capita household spending, used to arrive at estimates of poverty levels in different parts of the country and to review economic indicators such as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), since 2011-12. The government had junked the findings of the last Survey, conducted in 2017-18, citing “data quality” issues.

French President Emmanuel Macron on Sunday defeated his rival Marine Le Pen in presidential elections, projections showed, prompting a wave of relief in Europe that the far-right had been prevented from taking power.

The visits of Nokpai Chonglymn and Chhangpoh S.V. to India for education, healthcare or for procuring essentials have been “too routine to remember”. But the two Naga leaders, separated from each other by “four days’ journey” in Myanmar’s Sagaing division, are unlikely to forget a special Sunday – April 24 – that brought them together and hundreds of other tribespeople for an event titled ‘Nagas Without Borders’ organised by the Zingun Tangkhul Katamnao Long (ZTKL), a Tangkhul Naga students’ body, on its 75th anniversary at Talui in Ukhrul district.

India has suspended tourist visas issued to Chinese nationals, the global airlines body IATA told its member carriers on April 20. India has been raising with China the plight of over 22,000 of its students enrolled in Chinese universities who are unable to go back for physical classes. However, the neighbouring country has till date refused to let them enter.

interception- The directions for interception remain in force, unless revoked, for a period not exceeding 60 days. They may be renewed, but not beyond a total of 180 days. Review Committee- Any order issued by the competent authority has to contain reasons, and a copy is to be forwarded to a review committee within seven working days.

DOWNSTREAM ALUMINIUM FOR BUILDING SMART CITIES

1. Aluminium can play a significant role in creating sustainable products in the construction sector because of its environment friendly nature.
2. Need for smart cities-India is urbanizing exponentially with the expected influx of over 400 million people over next 35 years. As cities develop into smart clusters, they are set to act as the primary growth drivers for the country’s economy. The government of India is taking up an initiative to promote 100 sustainable and inclusive cities in a time-bound manner under Smart Cities Mission.
3. Status of aluminium industry in India-Aluminium is the third most abundant element in the world behind only oxygen and silicon. Since Aluminium is so chemically reactive, it is not found as a pure element in nature, but instead found in combined state. The top source of aluminum is an ore called bauxite.
4. Aluminium significant in building eco-friendly cities- **Environment friendly- Aluminium offers half the carbon footprint of competing metals and thus more significant environmental sustainability benefits.** Cost factor- Aluminium poles turn cities smarter with their longevity, reduced installation, and maintenance costs.
5. Recyclable- Aluminium is a 100% recyclable metal, and its recycling only requires 5% of energy, making it highly efficient. Sustainable mobility solutions- The malleability, ductility, conductivity, and light-weighting properties make aluminium an up-to-date material in transport.

DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN SOMALIA

1. A joint statement by the U.N. FAO, OCHA, UNICEF and WFP stated that roughly 40% of Somalia’s population is now facing extreme levels of food insecurity with pockets of famine conditions in certain areas.
2. Geography of Somalia- **The Republic of Somalia was formed in 1960 by the federation of a former Italian colony and a British protectorate. Somalia is located in the Horn of Africa,** the eastern most part of Africa. Somalia is bounded by the Gulf of Aden to the north, Indian Ocean to the east, Kenya and Ethiopia to the west, and Djibouti to the northwest.
3. The capital is Mogadishu, located just north of the Equator. Somalia is a country of geographic extremes where the climate is mainly dry and hot, with landscapes of thornbush savanna and semidesert.
4. Cause of this crisis- Seasonal changes- **Somalia has been struggling with multi-season drought since late 2020. The 2021 Deyr season started late, ended early, and had an erratic distribution.** The cumulative rainfall was 40-60% below average resulting in massive crop failures and below-average crop production. The harvest season led to increased migration in search of food, water and pasture, spurring pressure and depletion of resources in less drought-affected areas.
5. Factors exacerbating the crisis- Persistent insecurity. Conflict. Unresolved political tensions. Global supply and price shock.

CRYPTOS AND CBDC

1. The central bank must note that a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) can only be a fiat currency and not a crypto.
2. Crypto Assets- A crypto asset is a digital asset; but not all digital assets are crypto assets. The distinguish features of crypto assets: uses cryptography depends on distributed ledger technology no need for a third party such as a bank to issue crypto assets have three primary uses: as an investment, a medium of exchange, and to access goods and services.
3. CBDC- A CBDC is a legal tender issued by a bank in a digital format. Also known as digital base money or digital fiat currencies, a CBDC is no different from hard cash, apart from the fact that they are in a digital or virtual form. It is not meant to replace hard cash but coexist as an additional form of payment method.
4. Possible to ban cryptos- The total valuation of cryptos recently was upward of 2 trillion dollars which is more than the value of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urged Indians to go for a “cashless day out” every once in a while to benefit the digital economy, adding that online payments were developing a digital economy and encouraging an atmosphere of “honesty” with over ₹20,000crore transactions taking place daily in the country.

VicePresident M. Venkaiah Naidu said there was a need to amend the antidefection legislation in the country to plug existing loopholes. “There are certain loopholes in the anti defection law. It allows wholesale defection. But retail defection is not allowed. Amendments are required to plug the loopholes,” Mr. Naidu said.

gold held globally. Cryptos which operate via the net can be banned only if all nations come together. Even then, tax havens may allow cryptos to function, defying the global agreement.