

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The Navy is set to hold the 12th President's Fleet Review (PFR) on February 21 at Visakhapatnam and few days from that it will host the largest multilateral exercise in this region, Milan 2022, which will see participation of all major Navies including Quad countries, Russia and from West Asia amid tensions in Ukraine and developments in West Asia.

The Biden administration announced its long awaited Indo-Pacific strategy. The document focuses on building collective capacity to deal with challenges in the region — China's assertiveness, the pandemic and climate change, among others. The policies set out in the document have continuity with previous administrations' strategies. These include a focus on challenges from China, advancing the U.S. relationship, a major defence partnership with India and supporting its role as a net security provider in the region. There is an emphasis on working with other countries not just from the region, but also from beyond.

An annual report from an expert committee belonging to the United Nations' International Labor Organization (ILO) highlighted the work conditions of Uighurs and other minorities in China's western Xinjiang region. The labour body took note of signs of "coercive measures" that deprive workers of free choice in selecting jobs and called on Beijing to provide more information about how it's respecting their rights.

Environmentalist and Chairman of the Supreme Court appointed High Powered Committee (HPC) to oversee the execution of the marquee Char Dham road widening project Ravi Chopra has resigned from his post, stating the panel to protect the Himalayas "has been shattered."

Calling for justice for the 26/ 11 terror attacks in Mumbai (2008) and the Pathankot airbase attack (2016) for the first time since the group was formed, the Foreign Ministers of Australia, India, Japan and the U.S. said the Quad was already cooperating on sharing intelligence on threats in the IndoPacific region. The group of Ministers, who held their fourth Quad Ministerial meeting in Melbourne on Friday, also resolved to speed up delivery of

## SEA EROSION

1.National Center for Coastal Research (NCCR) - an attached office of Ministry of Earth Sciences - has undertaken vulnerability studies due to sea erosion at selected locations along the Indian coast. Also known as Coastal Erosion (or Shoreline Retreat), the Sea Erosion is the break down and loss of coastal lands due to the net removal of sediments or bedrock by the sea from the shoreline.

**2.Coastal erosion is typically driven by the Action of destructive waves and currents with very high energy, and these waves are the most powerful in stormy conditions. Mass wasting processes on slopes, and subsidence (particularly on muddy coasts).** The swash is when a wave washes up onto the shoreline. The backwash is when the water from a wave retreats back into the sea.

3.As the backwashes of the destructive waves are stronger than swashes, the backwash pulls material away from the shoreline and into the sea resulting in erosion. Processes - Destructive waves erode through four main processes; Hydraulic Action, Compression, Abrasion and Attrition. Reasons behind the Sea erosion - Climate change-driven rise in sea level and increased intensity of ocean storms.

4.Human activity closer to the shoreline, such as construction, dredging, quarrying and sand mining, is exacerbating the menace. In its natural state, this eco-system has a sobering influence on saline winds, cyclones, sea waves and incursion of seawater into underground aquifers. In India, though the coastal zone regulations are meant to preserve the seashore, their implementation has been below par.

## CHINTAMANI PADYA NATAKAM

1.After reviewing the contents of a 100-year-old play named 'Chintamani Padya Natakam', the Andhra Pradesh government has banned it. 'Chintamani Padya Natakam' was written in 1920 by playwright Kallakuri Narayana Rao, who was also a social reformer.

2.Story - The play is about Chintamani, a courtesan and a devotee of Lord Krishna, who finds salvation by singing bhajans. She is courted by Subbi Shetty, a businessman from the Arya Vysya community, who loses his wealth and family due to his attraction to her. The original play had a social message, but over the years, it has been modified purely for entertainment.

**3.Social message - In the play, the writer explains how people neglect their families by falling prey to certain social evils.** It was aimed to create awareness on the Devadasi system and how the flesh trade was ruining many families at that particular period.

## NATIONAL MONUMENTS AUTHORITY

1.To create a global awareness on the preservation of monuments and heritage, National Monuments Authority has organized a Webinar. Head-quartered in New Delhi, the National Monuments Authority (NMA) is a statutory body that functions under the Ministry of Culture. **2.It has been setup under The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2010.** NMA works for the protection and preservation of monuments and sites through management of the prohibited and regulated area around the centrally protected monuments.

3.One among the responsibilities is to consider grant of permissions to applicants for construction related activity in the prohibited and regulated area.

## M2M COMMUNICATION

1.The Government has taken steps to facilitate wider proliferation and innovation in Machine to Machine communication (M2M) sector. Machine-to-machine (M2M) refers to any technology that enables networked devices to exchange information and perform actions without the manual assistance of humans. The first use of M2M communication is often credited to Theodore Paraskevacos, who invented technology related to the transmission of data over telephone lines, the basis for

more than a billion COVID19 vaccines to be manufactured in India, to hold a special meet on climate change this year, and to step up efforts to ensure maritime security in the region.

India's industrial recovery slowed sharply in December, with factory output growing just 0.4% year on year and manufacturing shrinking 0.1% in the month, as per quick official estimates for the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). Capital goods output shrank 4.6%, while consumer durables contracted for the fourth month in a row, by 2.7%. Consumer nondurables also dipped 0.6%, prompting concerns that weak consumption is dampening the sustenance prospects of a fledgling economic rebound.

India's decision to refrain from pushing demand through handouts during the pandemic is paying off now, as developed countries such as the U.S. and Germany, which relied on such stimulus packages, are now facing runaway inflation, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told Parliament.

European stock indices fell on Friday and the U.S. 10 year yield held close to 2% after red-hot U.S. inflation led investors to expect tighter monetary policy from the Federal Reserve. U.S. consumer prices rose 7.5% last month, the biggest annual increase in 40 years, data showed on Thursday. The news fuelled speculation that the Fed will raise rates by 50 basis points in March, rather than 25.

Seven Opposition activists convicted of "undermining national integrity" in Nicaragua have received prison sentences of up to 13 years, a human rights group said.

U.S. President Joe Biden urged Americans to leave Ukraine immediately, as his top diplomat said on Friday that a Russian invasion could come "any time" — including during the Winter Olympics, which end in nine days.

The U.S. government will take steps on Friday to free half of the \$7 billion in frozen Afghan reserves held in the United States to aid the Afghan people without providing the Taliban access to the funds, sources familiar with the plan said.

The interim trade agreement between India and Australia is unlikely to include items that both sides consider "sensitive", said Canberra's Trade and Tourism Minister Dan Tehan on Friday. Addressing a joint press conference here, Commerce and

modern-day caller ID.

**2.Purpose** - The main purpose of M2M technology is to tap into sensor data and transmit it to a network. Unlike SCADA or other remote monitoring tools, M2M systems often use public networks and access methods - cellular or Ethernet - to make it more cost-effective. **3.Components** - **The main components of an M2M system include sensors, RFID, a Wi-Fi or cellular communications link, and autonomic computing software programmed to help a network device interpret data and make decisions.** These M2M applications translate the data, which can trigger preprogrammed, automated actions. Artificial intelligence and machine learning facilitate the communication between systems, allowing them to make their own autonomous choices.

**4.M2M** is also the foundation for the internet of things. Uses - M2M technology helps remotely monitor equipment and systems. It reduces costs by minimizing equipment maintenance and downtime. It was first adopted in manufacturing and industrial settings, where other technologies, such as and remote monitoring, helped remotely manage and control data from equipment. M2M has since found applications in other sectors, such as healthcare, business and insurance.

### **KRISHI UDAN SCHEME 2.0**

**1.**In 2020, Krishi Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (Krishi UDAN) Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products on international and national routes. The scheme aims to ensure seamless, cost-effective, time-bound air transportation and associated logistics for all Agri-produce originating especially from Northeast, hilly and tribal regions of the country.

**2.**Krishi UDAN Scheme is a convergence scheme where 8 Ministries/ Departments would leverage their existing schemes to strengthen the logistics for transportation of Agri-produce. Those include, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Development of North-eastern Region (DoNER).

**3.**There is no specific budget for Krishi Udan under the Scheme. In 2021, Krishi UDAN 2.0 was launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. **Krishi UDAN 2.0 aims to facilitate and incentivise the movement of agricultural produce through air transportation, mainly biodegradable foods from hilly areas, north-eastern States and tribal regions.** It will also focus on bringing about a convergence between the agriculture and aviation sectors (A2A: Agriculture to Aviation).

**4.**It aims to increase the share of air carriage in the modal mix for transportation of Agri-produce, which includes horticulture, fishery, livestock and processed products. The Ministry of Civil Aviation has identified 7 domestic and international trade routes under the scheme.

**5.Implementation Agency** - The enhanced version of the Krishi UDAN scheme was formulated with support from AAI Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited (AAICLAS). [AAICLAS is a 100% subsidiary of the Airports Authority of India and Invest India, India's national Investment Promotion & Facilitation Agency, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.]

### **KHIBAR-BUSTER**

**1.**Iran has unveiled a new missile- 'Khaibar-buster' that is capable of hitting nearby US bases and targets within its arch-enemy Israel.

**2.Khaibar-buster is a reference to a Jewish castle overrun by Muslim warriors in the early days of Islam.** It has a range of 900 miles and runs on solid fuel.

**3.**Iran has the largest arsenal of missiles in the Middle East.

### **RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION(RFID)**

**1.**Indian Army has commenced implementation of RFID tagging of its ammunition inventory. How it works? RFID is a specific type of radio technology that uses radio waves to identify tags attached to an object and thus identify the object.

**2.The tag contains a transceiver chip that is triggered by the electromagnetic wave from the RFID reader and transmits an identification number back to the reader.**

**3.**The identification number is then used for the inventory of the

**Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the Indian and Australian negotiators will have the final “interim agreement” ready in 30 days and that the agreement will be a “win-win” document.**

objects with tags.

**The Supreme Court on Friday refused to intervene in a petition challenging sections of the Right to Education Act of 2009 which exclude vedic pathsalas, madrasas and institutions imparting religious education from its ambit.**

