

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

Nearly 30% of Kerala is forested land and the Western Ghats occupies 48% of the State. Kerala apprehends that the Supreme Court's notification would adversely impact the interests of the State besides upsetting the lives of millions living near the protected areas. As it occurred during the post Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) days, a section of the Church has openly come out against the notification.

Only about half of the intended beneficiaries of farm loan waivers announced by nine States since 2014 have actually received debt write offs, shows a study by State Bank of India researchers. As of March 2022, the poorest implementation of farm loan waiver schemes in terms of proportion of eligible farmers who had received the announced benefits was in Telangana (5%), Madhya Pradesh (12%), Jharkhand (13%), Punjab (24%), Karnataka (38%) and Uttar Pradesh (52%).

Firefighters struggled to contain wildfires sweeping across southwest Europe on Sunday as a heatwave showed no sign of abating, with Britain poised to set new temperature records this coming week. Blazes raging in France, Greece, Portugal and Spain have destroyed thousands of hectares of land, forced thousands of residents and holidaymakers to flee and killed several emergency personnel since last week.

88 different species of animals, birds and reptiles rescued from different parts of Mumbai and its adjoining areas in three days, who were displaced due to heavy rains in the region, a forest official said. The majority of the animals and birds were rescued from the suburban areas of the city, which share spaces with forests, and most of them were displaced due to incessant rainfall, he said. Two wildlife ambulances, six rescue staff and 20 volunteers from the NGO, Resqink Association for Wildlife Welfare, rescued the animals.

The election of the new President of India will be held on Monday. The contest is between the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate and former Jharkhand Governor, Droupadi Murmu, and the Opposition's choice, senior politician and former Union Minister

ASSAM, ARUNACHAL PRADESH SIGN PACT AIMING TO SOLVE THE BORDER DISPUTE

1.A boundary line delineated in 1960 by a committee will be the basis for the realignment of the Assam and Arunachal Pradesh interstate boundary as the two states attempt to solve their longstanding border disputes. Assam CM and his Arunachal counterpart held their third meeting on the disputes at Namsai in Arunachal. Later, they jointly issued the 'Namsai Declaration'.

2.Boundary line delineated by High-Powered Tripartite Committee taken as a basis: The boundary line delineated and signed on the 29 toposheets by the High-Powered Tripartite Committee as notified boundary during the year 1960 would be taken as the basis for realignment of boundary by both states," the declaration reads. 12 Regional committees: Both states decided to constitute 12 "regional committees", each covering 12 districts of Arunachal and the counterpart districts of Assam for joint verification of 123 villages. They will make their recommendations to the respective governments keeping in view the historical perspective, administrative convenience, contiguity and people's will to delineate the interstate boundary. Both agreed in principle regarding 37 villages.

3.Final decision on the basis of regional committees: The final decision will be made based on the recommendations of the regional committees. Distribution of villages: Twenty-eight villages, which are within the constitutional boundary of Arunachal, will remain with it. Three villages, on which claims were withdrawn by Arunachal, will remain with Assam. The locations of six villages could not be located in Assam and if they exist in Arunachal, they will continue to be with it.

4.Final tranche before August 15: It was also agreed upon that the regional committees will submit their first tranche of reports on areas where consensus is arrived at before Aug. 15. Present-day Arunachal Pradesh, which attained Statehood in February 1987, used to be the North East Frontier Tract, administered by the Governor of Assam as an agent of the President of India. It was renamed North East Frontier Agency and brought under the Central government's control in 1954.

5.Namsai Declaration-his declaration is signed between the states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh on July 15, 2022, at Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh to minimize the border dispute between the two states in respect of 123 villages placed before the Local Commission by Arunachal Pradesh. According to the declaration, all border issues between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh will be confined to those raised before the local commission in 2007.

FINANCIAL INCLUSION

1.An article by David Malpass (president of the World Bank Group) on financial inclusion. Data: Global Findex found that 71% of adults in developing economies now have a formal financial account. Financial inclusion means that individuals and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs – transactions, payments, savings, credit and insurance – delivered in a responsible and sustainable way.

2.Benefits of the financial inclusion revolution: Easier, cheaper and safer for people to receive wages from employers, and send remittances to family members. Mobile money accounts can better handle high-volume, small-denomination transactions

3.Women empowerment: Individual accounts also give women more privacy, security and control over their money. Reduce leakage and delay in government transfers –It benefits directly the people through their Aadhaar seeded bank accounts. For example – MGNREGA has been attached to the Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) platform, which aims to prevent leakages and delays and is a right step in this direction.

4.Government of Andhra Pradesh launched a smart-card program for MGNREGS and social security pensions where payments were delivered to bank accounts linked with biometric smart cards has resulted in a faster, less corrupt payment

Yashwant Sinha. There are 4,809 eligible voters in the electoral college.

2 billion number of COVID19 vaccination doses administered in India till Sunday, with booster doses underway for adults, as daily infections hit a four month high. Prime Minister Narendra Modi extolled the vaccination milestone, celebrating the world's longest - running inoculation campaign, which began last year. According to the health ministry, the death toll due to COVID19 infections is 5,25,709, with 49 deaths recorded overnight. New cases rose to 20,528 over the past 24 hours. The country has lifted most COVID related restrictions.

₹7432 crore, the amount pulled out by Foreign portfolio investors (FPI) from the Indian equity market this month so far amid sustained strengthening of the dollar and increasing concerns over a recession in the U.S. This comes following a net withdrawal of ₹50,203 crore from equities in June. This was the highest net outflow since March 2020, when they had pulled out ₹61,973 crore. FPIs withdrew ₹879 crore from the debt market during the period under review.

100 number of days since Sri Lanka's protest movement began, that forced President Gotabaya Rajapaksa out of office and now turning its sights on his successor as the country's economic crisis continues. Mr. Rajapaksa fled his palace shortly before demonstrators invaded it last weekend and on Thursday resigned from the presidency. His mismanagement is blamed for Sri Lanka's financial turmoil, which has forced 22 million people to endure shortages of food, fuel and medicines since late last year.

India and China held the 16th round of Corps Commander level talks on Sunday for over 12 hours as the two sides attempted to revive the stalled process of disengagement and de-escalation in Eastern Ladakh.

The Navy's Kilo class submarine INS Sindhudhvaj was decommissioned from service at Visakhapatnam after 35 years in service. With this, the Navy now has 15 conventional submarines in service.

Tribal clashes in Sudan's southern Blue Nile State, on the border with Ethiopia, have killed 60 and wounded 163 people since erupting nearly a week ago, the State's Health Minister said.

process. It enhances financial resilience (the ability to deal with an unexpected financial event)- Financial access facilitates day-to-day living and helps families and businesses plan for everything from long-term goals to unexpected emergencies. Against corruption: It helps to increase transparency as money flows from a government's budget to public agencies to citizens. **5.Suggestions given by the world bank chief-Create a favourable operating and policy environment: E.g. enable the interoperability of systems (e.g. UPI), access to the mobile-phone system for banking, Consumer protections and stable regulations.** Establishing digital-identification systems: g. Aadhar in India Promote the digitalization of payments: This will also promote formal-sector employment without making compliance excessively burdensome.

TIME's LIST OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST PLACES OF 2022

- 1.Indian city Ahmedabad and the state of Kerala have been mentioned in TIME magazine's list of the world's greatest places of 2022. Nomination: TIME solicited nominations of places from our international network of correspondents and contributors, with an eye toward those offering new and exciting experiences.**
- 2.Why Ahmedabad: India's first UNESCO World Heritage City Cultural tourism: Ancient landmarks and contemporary innovations, Gandhi Ashram, Navratri (longest dance festival in the world) Ahmedabad's Gujarat Science City, a "sprawling entertainment centre and theme park", unveiled three major attractions last year, including a 20-acre nature park to educate the public on local flora as well as provide new spaces for playing chess and practising yoga.**
- 3.Why Kerala: Kerala is one of India's most beautiful states. Spectacular beaches and lush backwaters, temples, and palaces, it's known as "God's own country". Kerala is boosting motor-home tourism. State's first caravan park, Karavan Meadows, opened in Vagamon, a scenic hill station.**

REGISTRATION OF PRESS AND PERIODICALS BILL, 2019

- 1.Government will revive the Registration of Press and Periodicals Bill, 2019 for a new registration regime for newspapers that will include digital Media as well (the current registration framework doesn't include digital news).**
- 2.It will replace the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 (the act currently regulates the newspaper and printing press industry).**
- 3.Provisions: It will enable the Central and State Government to formulate appropriate rules or regulations for issuing govt advertisements in newspapers, accreditation of newspapers and such other facilities for newspapers.** Create a Press Registrar General along with laying down a simple system of registration of e-papers.
- 4.It is mandatory for the editor of the periodical to be an Indian citizen. Allows anyone who is a citizen of India to bring out its publication. Bill seeks to punish the concerned only with a fine (the previous bill had fine + imprisonment).**

POSOCO TO RUN SINGLE WINDOW GREEN ENERGY SYSTEM

- 1.The power ministry has notified Power System Operation Corporation Ltd (POSOCO) as the central nodal agency to set up and run a single window green energy system. POSOCO is CPSE under the Ministry of Power to monitor and ensure round-the-clock integrated operation of the Indian Power System in a reliable, efficient and secure manner thus serving a mission-critical activity. Green Energy: Green energy is that which comes from natural sources, such as the sun.**
- 2.Benefits: Approval process will be quicker (POSOCO will approve or reject the applications for green power supply within 15 days) Large consumers can now take power (under Green Open Access) without any limits Distribution companies can demand a supply of green power from generation companies. Uniform renewable purchase obligation on users under the open access norms, including captive consumers and commercial entities, in areas assigned to the discoms.**
- 3.Tariffs for green energy will be determined separately by an appropriate commission. The 2003 Electricity Act allowed consumers to buy power directly from the generators by using**

the grid under open access arrangement.