

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

1ST AUGUST 2022

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

From July 24, Pope Francis began a five day visit to Canada to apologise in person for the Church's role in schools meant to assimilate indigenous children. This was after the remains of 751 people, mainly indigenous children, were found at the site of a former residential school in Canada's Saskatchewan province. The residential school system was a federal government initiative aimed at forcefully assimilating indigenous children into the European way of life. Indigenous children were forcefully taken away from their families and put in these schools. Many of them were emotionally, physically and sexually abused. They died mainly due to tuberculosis, malnutrition and other illnesses resulting from the inhuman conditions inside the schools.

A hybrid electric vehicle (HEV) uses an ICE (a petrol/diesel engine) and one or more electric motors to run. It is powered by the electric motor alone, which uses energy stored in batteries, by the ICE, or both. The efficiency of HEVs will be determined by their ability to recover as much energy as possible while braking, with a higher degree of energy recovery lowering fuel consumption. A regenerative braking system (RBS) while enhancing fuel economy also helps in energy optimisation resulting in minimum energy wastage. The HEVs can be categorised into micro, mild and full hybrid vehicles, based on the degree of hybridisation. The hybrid variants of the Maruti Suzuki's Grand Vitara and the Toyota's Urban Cruiser Hyryder can be classified as full and mild hybrids.

384 number of infrastructure projects out of 1,514 projects, each entailing an investment of ₹150 crore or more, hit by cost overruns of more than ₹4.66 lakh crore, according to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation which monitors infrastructure projects of ₹150 crore and above. It also informed that about 713 such projects were delayed. The expenditure incurred on these projects till June 2022 is ₹13,30,885 crore, which is 51.43% of the anticipated cost of these projects.

The legality of Section 295(A) was affirmed by a five judge Bench of the Supreme Court. The court said that the punishment under Section 295(A) deals with aggravated form of blasphemy which is committed with

PRYUSHAN PARV(FESTIVAL)

- 1.Context: Jain festival in which Jain Monks and Nuns stay with the community and provide them instructions and guidance. It is also a festival of "Forgiveness".
- 2.About: It is usually celebrated in August or September (rainy season) During Paryushan, Jains increase their level of spiritual intensity often using fasting and prayer/meditation to help.
- 3.The five main vows are emphasized during this time- Ahimsā(Non-violence), Satya (Truth), Asteya (Non-stealing), Brahmacharya (Chastity), Aparigraha (Non-possession) Pratikraman is also performed by many Jains during the festival. The word Pratikraman is made from the combination of two words, Pra meaning return and atikraman meaning violation.

THE FAMILY COURTS(AMENDMENT BILL) 2022

- 1.Context: Statutory cover has been provided to family courts in Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland The bill has amended the Family Court Act 1984, which provided for the establishment of family courts by states to deal with disputes related to family and marriage.
- 2.Why the amendment is needed: For the Family Courts Act to come into force, the central government must notify it for different states. However, it had not done so for Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland. There are 715 Family Courts in 26 States and UTs.
- 3.About Family Court Act 1984: The act was enacted for the establishment of Family Courts in order to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs and related matters. The judges are appointed by the State government in concurrence with the High court. 4.The state government may provide for Social welfare agencies or individuals working in the field of social welfare, to be attached to Family Court for help in mediation and conciliations.

NEED FOR A NEW LEGAL FRAMEWORK GOVERNING TELECOMMUNICATION IN INDIA

- 1.Given emerging technologies such as 5G, IoT, etc., the Ministry of Communication has underscored the need to have a legal framework for these technologies. Direction: Just go through it once. This is just a draft framework and may change in the future. Proposals of the New Law: Recognition of exclusive privilege of the government over telecommunication Simplification of regulatory framework related to spectrum allocations.
- 2.Effective policy for the Right of Way (RoW): Right of way is the legal right, established by a grant from a landowner or long usage, to pass along a specific route through property belonging to another. CAG criticized that Spectrum allocation in India is conducted on an ad hoc basis (2012-2021); the spectrum allocated to the government is not optimally used.
- 3.Energy travels in the form of waves known as electromagnetic waves. These waves differ from each other in terms of frequencies. This whole range of frequencies is called the spectrum. In telecommunication like TV, radio and GPRS, radio waves of different wavelengths are used.
- 4.Mobile phones use two technologies based on different parts of the radio spectrum— GSM (global system for mobile communications) and CDMA (code division multiple access). Most of the radio spectrum is reserved in countries for defence. The rest is available for public use. But following an increase in the number of phone users and new services, countries started auctioning the frequencies to telecom companies.

UN DECLARES ACCESS TO A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT AS A UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHT

- 1.Context: At a meeting of the UN General Assembly, India voted in favour of the UNGA resolution for a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right. Previously it was not included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948.

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the malicious aim of offending any religious sensibilities. B Insulting a religion may be disputed but should not be legally outlawed. The reason for this is because hate speech laws are predicated on the critical distinction between criticising religion and encouraging prejudice towards individuals because of their faith.

4.52 crore, the number of Income Tax Returns (ITR) filed till July 29, according to the Income tax department. The department informed that out of the total ITRs filed, 43 lakh returns were filed on Saturday alone. Officials said that the Finance Ministry and the Central Board of Direct Taxes, which frames policy for the tax department, are continuously monitoring the ITR filing exercise. The officer also informed that issues related to the e-filing portal are being promptly addressed.

6.16 percentage, the retail inflation for industrial workers in June from 6.97% in May this year due to lower prices of certain food items and petrol, according to the Labour Ministry. The year on year inflation was 5.57% in June 2021. It also informed that the food inflation stood at 6.73% in June against the 7.92% in the previous month and 5.61% in June 2021. The all India consumer price index for industrial workers (CPI1W) for June 2022 increased by 0.2 points and stood at 129.2 points.

₹4989 crore, the amount invested by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) in Indian equities in July, after nine consecutive months of relentless selling of stocks. This is in sharp contrast to a net withdrawal of ₹50,145 crore from the stock market seen in June. This was the highest net outflow since March 2020, when FPIs had pulled out ₹61,973 crore from equities. Between October 2021 and June 2022, FPIs had sold ₹2.46 lakh crore in the Indian equity markets.

India and Oman will carry out a 13-day military exercise beginning Monday, with a focus on counterterrorism cooperation. "The fourth edition of India-Oman joint military exercise 'AL NAJAHIV' between contingents of Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman is scheduled to take place at the Foreign Training Node of Mahajan Field Firing Ranges from August 1 to 13," the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

2.Status: It is not legally binding. UN Human Rights Council has already recognized access to a healthy and sustainable environment as a universal right (2021). Constitutional Provision in India: Article 21: Right to life (clean environment, free of disease).

3.Article 48A (protect the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife). Art 51-A(g) (Duty to protect and improve the natural environment).

ARIDITY ANOMALY OUTLOOK INDEX

1.Context: Recently Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) released the Index for the month of July Direction: Remember the percentage of India under dry land and their locations. Key findings-Nearly 660 of 756 districts (85%) were facing different degrees of aridity, while only 63 are non-arid.

2.At least 196 districts are in the grip of a 'severe' degree of dryness and 65 of these are in Uttar Pradesh Nearly 69% of India is dry land.

3.Applications: Impacts of drought in agriculture, especially in the tropics where defined wet and dry seasons are part of the climate regime. Both winter and summer cropping seasons can be assessed using this method. Large Arid regions are found in the desert of Rajasthan, Rann of Kutch and semi-arid regions of Punjab and Gujarat, rain shadow areas of Western Ghats.

4.What can be done: Further intensify drought-prone area programme (DPAP), crop diversification, cultivation of traditional varieties, mulching, intercropping, micro-irrigation, etc. Three types of drought: Meteorological (actual rainfall is significantly less than the climatological mean); Hydrological (a marked depletion of surface water); Agriculture (low soil moisture leading to acute crop stress).

AGRICULTURE CENSUS

1.Context: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched the 11th Agriculture Census (2021-22) Background: The census is part of the World Census of Agriculture of FAO and has been conducted every 5 years from 1970-71. Unique feature of the 11th Census: Data collection will be conducted on smartphones and tablets Use of digital land records like land title records and survey reports.

2.Aim: It will provide updated information number and area of operational holdings, their size, class-wise distribution, land use, tenancy and cropping pattern, etc. Operational holding is defined as "all land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others without regard to title, legal form, size or location".

3.It is taken as a statistical unit for data collection in Agriculture Census. 10th agriculture census (2015-16): As per the census, the land holding was inequitably distributed, Small and marginal farmers (less than two hectares of land) accounted for 86.2% of all farmers but owned just 47.3% of the crop area.

4.World Census of Agriculture (WCA): Started in 1950 by FAO. Unlike FAO's definition, Indian operational holding doesn't include holdings under livestock, poultry, fishing, etc.

INDIA INTERNATIONAL BULLION EXCHANGE(IIBX)

1.Context: PM launched India's 1st IIBX at International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) at GIFT City (Gujarat) Bullion is a metal that has been refined to a high standard of elemental purity. The term is ordinarily applied to the bulk metal used in the production of coins and especially to precious metals such as gold and silver.

2.Bullion Exchange: It is a market through which buyers and sellers trade gold and silver as well as associated derivatives. E.g. London Bullion Market is known as the primary global market trading platform for gold and silver.

3.Background: IIBX was 1st introduced in budget 2020 for easing gold import by Jewellers in India Bullion can sometimes be considered legal tender and is often held as reserves by central banks or held by institutional investors. Recently, Zimbabwe's central bank has introduced gold coins ('Mosi-oa-Tunya')that it hopes will ease citizens' demands for foreign currency.

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The Rajya Sabha has recorded only 21% productivity since the Monsoon Session commenced on July 18, an official said on Sunday. The productivity fell to 16% in the second week, compared with 26% in the first week.

4.India is the world's 2nd biggest consumer of Gold after China. Significance of IIBX: Help in standard gold pricing in the country. It will help dealers and jewellers to trade in precious metals.

5.About GIFT City It is a multi-service Special Economic Zone (SEZ), which houses India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) and an exclusive Domestic Tariff Area (DTA).