

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

26TH JULY 2022

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

\$14.27 billion, the worth of 37 Lines of Credit (LoC) India extended to Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka for 162 projects, according to the government in Parliament. In reply to a question, the Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan said that another 222 LoC worth \$14.07 billion covering 357 projects have been extended to 42 countries in Africa. The Minister added that these projects covered varied sectors like roads, railways, power etc.

A division bench of the Supreme Court in Satender Kumar Antil vs CBI has laid down fresh guidelines on arrests in order to have strict compliance of the provisions of Section 41 and 41A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Section 41 provides for the circumstances in which arrest can be made by the police without a warrant. Section 41A provides for the requirement of a notice to be sent by the investigating agencies before making an arrest in certain conditions. The High Courts have also been directed to undertake the exercise of finding out the undertrial prisoners who are not able to comply with bail conditions.

₹494 crore, the amount received by India as foreign direct investment (FDI) in the defence sector since the revision of policy relating to FDI, according to the Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt. In the last few years, the government has taken a series of measures to boost domestic defence manufacturing. In 2020, the government announced increasing FDI limit from 49% to 74% under the automatic route and up to 100% through the government route in the defence sector.

23.9 crore, the number of COVID-19 vaccinations supplied by India to 101 countries and UN entities in the form of a grant, commercial export, or through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access portal as of July 15, 2022, Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar informed Parliament. The Minister said that as of July 19, 2022 a total of 200.34 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered to beneficiaries above 12 years of age in the country.

Droupadi Murmu took the oath of office as the 15th President of India on Monday, and created history by becoming the first tribal head of state and second woman to occupy

WENTIAN LABORATORY

1.China launched the second of 3 modules to its permanent space station, in one of the final missions needed to complete the orbiting outpost by year's end. The 23-tonne Wentian ("Quest for the Heavens") laboratory module was launched on the China's most powerful rocket, Long March 5B.

2.The 17.9-metre long Wentian lab module will be where astronauts can carry out scientific experiments along with the third module Mengtian ("Dreaming of the heavens") module that hasn't yet been launched. The Wentian module comes with an airlock cabin that is designed to be the main exit and entry point for activities when the space station is complete.

3.It will also be used as short-term living quarters for astronauts during crew rotations on the station. It is designed for long-term accommodation of just three astronauts. Mengtian is expected to be launched in October 2022 and, like Wentian, is to dock with Tianhe, forming a T-shaped structure.

SERIOUS FRAUD INVESTIGATION OFFICE

1.A Member of Parliament has written to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO), a fraud regulator, urging them to launch an investigation into the finances of the edtech behemoth, BYJU'S. Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) is a multi-disciplinary organization under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

2.It was constituted based on the recommendation of Naresh Chandra committee on corporate governance. Initially, the Government of India set up the SFIO by way of a resolution in 2003. Section 211 of the Companies Act, 2013 has accorded statutory status to the SFIO. It consist of experts in the field of accountancy, forensic auditing, law, information technology, investigation, company law, capital market and taxation.

3.These members detect and prosecute or recommend for prosecution white-collar crimes/frauds. SFIO has powers to arrest people for the violation of the Company law. SFIO investigates serious cases of fraud received from Department of Company Affairs. SFIO can start an investigation into the affairs of a company under the following circumstances: On receipt of a report of the Registrar or inspector under section 208 (Report on Inspection made) of the Companies Act, 2013.

4.On intimation of a special resolution passed by a company that its affairs are required to be investigated. In the public interest. On request from any department of the central government or a state government. It takes up for investigation cases characterized by, Complexity and having inter-departmental and multi-disciplinary ramifications. Substantial involvement of public interest to be judged by size, either in terms of monetary. The possibility of investigation leading to or contributing towards a clear improvement in systems, laws or procedures.

LUMPY SKIN DISEASE

1.Around 1000 cattle, especially cows and buffaloes, have died in Gujarat due to the lumpy skin disease. Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a viral disease of cattle and water buffalo caused by the poxvirus LSD virus. 2.It is spread by mosquitoes, flies, lice, wasps, by direct contact among the cattle, and through contaminated food and water. Main symptoms include, Fever in animals, Depression, Characteristic skin nodules all over the body, Marked reduction in milk production, Abortion in pregnant animals, Difficulty in eating, which sometimes lead to the animal's death.

3.Prevention - Four tactics to control and prevent LSD are quarantine, vaccination, slaughter campaigns and management strategies. Insecticides can be sprayed to prevent mosquitoes, flies, lice in the animal habitats during the monsoon season.

4.Treatment - There is no treatment for the virus, so prevention by vaccination is the most effective means of control. Secondary infections in the skin may be treated with Non-Steroidal Anti-

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the country's highest constitutional post.

Myanmar's junta has executed four prisoners, including a former lawmaker from Aung San Suu Kyi's party and a prominent activist, state media said on Monday, in the country's first use of capital punishment in decades. The executions sparked widespread condemnation, heightened fears that more death sentences will follow, and prompted calls for the international community to take sterner measures against the already isolated junta.

24,893 number of cases taken up by the Directorate of Enforcement for investigation under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) provisions in the last ten years, according to Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudary. In the last decade, 3,985 cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) were also recorded. In 2021-22 alone, 5,313 cases were registered under FEMA, while 1,180 were recorded under PMLA.

Principal Scientific Adviser Ajay Kumar Sood stated earlier this month that the government would soon come up with a new space policy to increase private sector participation in the industry. Consultations have already been held and the final version of the policy would soon be referred to the Empowered Technology Group for further examination. Enhancing space technology would be beneficial to bolster connectivity and combat climate related implications through a more secure and effective means. Private sector's involvement in the long term, as with other commercial sectors, is believed to help spur investment and expertise in the realm which is capital intensive and demands high technology.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is justified in using the country's foreign exchange reserves to smooth out volatility in the rupee's moves against the dollar, a member of the Economic Advisory Council said. There is no point targeting a INR/USD level when USD is appreciating against all other majors.

The Rajya Sabha adjourned multiple times on Monday as the Opposition demanded a discussion on price rise and a rollback of recent hikes under the Goods and Services Tax. Leader

Inflammatories (NSAIDs) and also antibiotics when appropriate.

INDIAN ANTARCTIC BILL 2022

1. Lok Sabha passed the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 moved by Minister of Earth Sciences. The bill seeks to give effect to To the Antarctic Treaty, The Protocol on Environment Protection (Madrid Protocol) to the Antarctic Treaty and To the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. The main aim is to ensure de-militarization of the region along with getting it rid of mining or illegal activities. It also aims that there should not be any nuclear test / explosion in the region.

2. **Applicability - The Bill will apply to any person, vessel or aircraft that is a part of an Indian expedition to Antarctica under a permit issued under the Bill. Areas comprising of Antarctica include: The continent of Antarctica, including its ice-shelves, and all areas of the continental shelf adjacent to it, and All islands (including their ice-shelves), seas, and air space south of 60°S latitude.**

3. **Committee - The Bill also establishes a 'Committee on Antarctic Governance and Environmental Protection', which Grants permits for various activities, Implements and ensures compliance of relevant international laws for protection of Antarctic environment, Obtains and reviews relevant information provided by parties to the Treaty, Convention, and Protocol, and Negotiates charges with other parties for activities in Antarctica. The Bill will also facilitate India's interest and pro-active involvement in the management of growing Antarctic tourism and sustainable development of fisheries resources in Antarctic waters. It will also help in increased international visibility, credibility of India in Polar governance leading to international collaboration and cooperation in scientific and logistics fields. The Bill also lays out a structure for government officials to inspect a vessel, conduct checks of research facilities.**

4. **IAA - The Bill also proposed to set-up Indian Antarctic Authority (IAA) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences. The IAA shall be the apex decision making authority and shall facilitate programmes and activities permitted under the Bill.** It shall, Provide a stable, transparent and accountable process for the sponsorship and supervision of Antarctic research and expeditions; Ensure the protection and preservation of the Antarctic environment; and Ensure compliance by Indian citizens engaged in the Antarctic programs and activities with relevant rules and internationally agreed standards.

5. **Antarctic fund - The act directs creating a fund called the Antarctic fund that will be used for protecting the Antarctic environment.**

6. **Jurisdiction - The Bill also extends the jurisdiction of Indian courts to Antarctica. It lays out penal provision for crimes on the continent by Indian citizens, foreign citizens who are a part of Indian expeditions, or are in the precincts of Indian research stations. The Bill also prohibits mining, dredging and activities that threaten the pristine conditions of the continent. It also prohibits any person, vessel or aircraft from disposing waste in Antarctica and bars the testing of nuclear devices.**

BIOECONOMY

1. **Context:** BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council) releases the Indian Bio-economy Report (IBER) 2022
Definition: As per FAO, bioeconomy is "the production, use and conservation of biological resources with the aim of moving towards a sustainable economy".

2. **Aim:** The ultimate aim is to protect the environment, avoid overexploitation of natural resources and enhance biodiversity.
Example: Bioplastics, biofuels, biodegradable clothing, biomass (for energy), natural farming (for food) etc.

3. **Findings of the report:** Bioeconomy size in India is USD 80bn; BioAgri (e.g. biopesticides, marine biotech, Bt Cotton) will double its contribution India's initiatives: National Mission on Bioeconomy (2016); National Biopharma Mission (Industry + Academia for indigenous manufacture in biopharma); Bio-incubators (startups); Bio-clusters (e.g. NCR, Bangalore, Pune etc.); Ethanol blending target; National Policy on Biofuels.

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of the House Piyush Goyal said the Centre was ready for a dialogue on the issue but the Opposition that was avoiding it.

More than a year since the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry circulated the Model Tenancy Act (MTA), only four States had revised their tenancy laws to be in line with the MTA, the Ministry said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Assam have revised Tenancy Acts on the lines of Model Tenancy Act (MTA).” The reply stated that the Model Tenancy Act aimed to balance the rights of tenants and landlords, and to “create an accountable and transparent ecosystem for renting of premises in a disciplined and efficient manner”.

MIGRATORY MONARCH BUTTERFLIES OFFICIALLY DECLARED ENDANGERED

1.Habitat destruction and climate change biggest contributors, says International Union for Conservation of Nature Monarchs, the most recognizable species of butterfly, are important pollinators and provide various ecosystem services such as maintaining the global food web.

2.These butterflies follow a unique lifestyle: They traverse the length and breadth of the American continent twice a year, feasting on nectar from a variety of flora. But they breed in only one particular plant — the milkweeds. The monarch larvae feed on this species on hatching.