

KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

7TH MARCH 2022

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The uncondusive weather conditions in January and early February of 2022 may have made it difficult for this season to conveniently sight the winter migratory waterbirds, which make their way to different wetlands of Punjab and other parts of the country through the central Asian flyway. But an encouraging trend of waterbirds and species diversity has been observed from the wetlands. Every winter, the birds make their way to India through the central Asian flyway, which covers a large continental area of Europe-Asia between the Arctic and the Indian Oceans. Every year, the Wildlife Department of Forests and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab, conducts waterbirds census exercise in six major and most biodiverse wetlands, which include the Nangal Wildlife Sanctuary, the Ropar Conservation Reserve, the Harike Wildlife Sanctuary, the Kanjli Wetland, the Keshopur-Miani Community Reserve and the Ranjit Sagar Conservation Reserve.

A first of its kind indigenous aircraft trainer, HANSANG, developed by the CSIRNational Aerospace Laboratories (CSIRNAL), has completed sea level trials in Puducherry, a necessary condition before evaluation by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). HANSANG New Generation is reportedly one of the most advanced flying trainers, powered by a Rotax digital control engine with features such as a composite lightweight airframe, a glass cockpit, a bubble canopy with a wide panoramic view, and electrically operated flaps.

India has brought back over 15,920 nationals on 76 flights under the evacuation mission "Operation Ganga" launched following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, officials said on Sunday. However, nearly 700 students are trapped in Sumy, waging a grim battle for survival with supplies depleting fast and exit routes to safety blocked by fierce fighting. Melting snow to slake their thirst and fast running out of food, hundreds of Indian students stand on roads every morning hoping "today is the day" when they will be rescued from the savagery of the war that has engulfed the nation. The wait, however, has got longer as fierce fighting blocks their way to safety across the Russian border.

North Korea performed data transmission and other key tests

EIGHT SCHEDULE OF THE CONSTITUTION

1.Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has said his government would revive its long-pending demand for inclusion of Bhojpuri in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, so that it can be accorded the status of an official language. The state cabinet had sent a proposal to the Centre in this regard in 2017.

2.Eighth schedule to the Constitution: Part XVII of the Indian constitution deals with the official languages in Articles 343 to 351. The Constitutional provisions related to the Eighth Schedule are: Article 344: Article 344(1) provides for the constitution of a Commission by the President on expiration of five years from the commencement of the Constitution. Article 351: It provides for the spread of the Hindi language to develop it so that it may serve as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India.

3.Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili and Dogri are the 22 languages presently in the eighth schedule to the Constitution.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

1.National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) celebrated its 17th Foundation Day, recently. About the NCPCR: NCPCR was set up in March 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, an Act of Parliament (December 2005). The Commission began operational on 5 March 2007. NCPCR is a statutory body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India. **2.Mandate:** The Commission's Mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Definition of a Child: Under the CPCR Act, The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.

3.Functions of NCPCR: Under the RTE Act, 2009, the NCPCR can: Inquire into complaints about violation of the law. Summon an individual and demand evidence. Seek a magisterial enquiry. File a writ petition in the High Court or Supreme Court. Approach the government concerned for prosecution of the offender. Recommend interim relief to those affected.

4.Composition of NCPCR: This commission has a chairperson and six members. Of which at least two should be women. These are appointed by Central Government for three years. The maximum age to serve in commission is 65 years for Chairman and 60 years for members.

PRADHAN MANTRI JAN-AUSHADHI YOJANA

1.Janaushadhi Diwas week to be observed from 1st March to 7th March 2022. Theme of 4th Janaushadhi Diwas: "Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi" Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) is the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

2.Performance of the scheme: All the districts of the country have been covered under the scheme. Effective IT-enabled logistics and supply-chain systems for ensuring real-time distribution of medicines at all outlets have also been introduced. Product basket of PMBJP presently comprises 1,451 drugs and 240 surgical instruments.

3.About PMBJP: It is a campaign launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. It seeks to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses through special kendra's known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendra. Initially launched in 2008, the scheme was rechristened in 2015. Key features of the scheme: Ensure access to quality medicines. Extend coverage of quality generic medicines so as to reduce the

needed to develop a spy satellite, state media said on Sunday, in the second such tests in about a week, indicating the country intends to conduct a prohibited long range rocket launch soon. The moves come as North Korea has been carrying out a spate of ballistic missile launches — including one detected by its neighbours on Saturday — in what experts call an attempt to add new weapons systems to its arsenal and pressure the U.S. into making concessions amid stalled diplomacy.

The Ukraine crisis triggered after the Russian military operation has given rise to “disturbing” reports of racism against students of several nations, including India, who have been attempting to flee the war torn country, the Nelson Mandela Foundation (NMF) said.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Sunday pledged America’s support to the small, Western leaning former Soviet republic of Moldova that is coping with an influx of refugees from Ukraine and warily watching Russia’s intensifying war with its neighbour.

Russian banks said on Sunday they planned to issue cards using China’s UnionPay system after Visa and Mastercard moved to suspend operations in Russia over Moscow’s military intervention in Ukraine.

Palestine has expressed “astonishment” at the sudden death of the Indian Representative to Ramallah, headquarters of the Palestinian Authority. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar condoled the death of Mukul Arya, a young diplomat who took charge as India’s envoy to Ramallah last year.

The fact that India is able to evacuate its citizens out of war-torn Ukraine through “Operation Ganga” is proof of the country’s increasing influence around the globe, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said.

The Delhi High Court has sought response from several city officials on why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for dereliction of duty in protecting and preserving trees.

The Quad, cannot afford to alienate India, a critical partner in the global-strategic plan to balance the rise of China as a potential Asian hegemon. Yet, India may find its resolve and patience with Russia tested should Russian occupying forces begin committing war crimes and human rights violations in contravention of the Geneva Convention, the

out of pocket expenditure on medicines and thereby redefine the unit cost of treatment per person.

4. Create awareness about generic medicines through education and publicity so that quality is not synonymous with only high price. A public programme involving Government, PSUs, Private Sector, NGO, Societies, Co-operative Bodies and other Institutions. Create demand for generic medicines by improving access to better healthcare through low treatment cost and easy availability wherever needed in all therapeutic categories.

DATA PROTECTION BILL

1. The government has said that it is studying the inputs received on the draft data protection bill, and will carefully ensure that any legislation in the digital ecosystem will act as an enabler, fuelling the growth momentum. On December 16, 2021, the Joint Committee on Personal Data Protection Bill had tabled its report in both the Houses of Parliament, giving its views on various provisions.

2. Background: Nearly two years after it was constituted on 11 December 2019, the Joint Committee on the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, headed by BJP MP P.P. Chaudhary, presented its final report on the upcoming bill in both Houses of Parliament on 16 December.

3. Key recommendations: Remove the word ‘personal’ from the existing title of ‘Personal Data Protection Bill’. This is intended to reflect that the bill, in order to better ensure privacy, will also be dealing with non-personal data, such as personal data that has been anonymised. Amend the section restricting the transfer of personal data outside India to say “sensitive personal data shall not be shared with any foreign government or agency unless such sharing is approved by the central government. No social media platform be allowed to operate in India unless its parent company, which controls the technology powering its services, sets up an office in the country. It proposes a separate regulatory body to be set up to regulate the media. Jail term of up to 3 years, fine of Rs 2 lakh or both if de-identified data is re-identified by any person. The word ‘personal’ ought to be dropped from the name of the Bill. Central government may exempt any government agency from the legislation only under exceptional circumstances.

4. How do these recommendations compare with EU regulation? The JCP recommendations on the Personal Data Protection Bill are in some aspects very similar to global standards such as European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation. **Similarities: Consent: Users must have informed consent about the way their data is processed so that they can opt in or out. Breach: Authorities must be notified of a breach within 72 hours of the leak. Transition period:** Two-year transition period for provisions of GDPR to be put in place. Data fiduciary: Under EU law, a Data fiduciary is any natural or legal person, public authority, agency or body that determines purpose and means of data processing. In India, it also includes NGOs.

SAMARTH RAMDAS

1. Several politicians from Maharashtra expressed their disapproval of remarks by state Governor B S Koshiyari, that Samarth Ramdas was the guru of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Samarth Ramdas was also known as Sant (saint) Ramdas or Ramdas Swami. He was an Indian Marathi Hindu saint, poet, philosopher, writer and spiritual master.

2. He was a devotee of Hindu deities Rama and Hanuman. He was previously famous as Narayan. He was born at Jamb, which is a village in present-day Jalna district of Maharashtra. His literary works include Karunashtakas, Dasbodh, Yuddhakand, Sunderkand, Poorvarambh, Antarbhav, Chaturthman, Aatmaaram, Panchman, Panchsamasi, Manpanchak, Janaswabhawgosavi, etc.

3. Ramdas served an inspiration for several Indian thinkers, historians and social reformers from 19th and 20th-century, including Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Rajwade, Keshav Hedgewar, and Ramchandra Ranade.

JAMMU TO GET VILLAGE DEFENSE GROUPS

1. Residents from the villages of Jammu and Kashmir will be enrolled for local defense before the delimitation process of Union Territory starts. The government has approved the village defense groups’ (VDG) formation.

2. VDGs will be created so that they can respond to threats in

Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other applicable global treaties.

areas where the local police presence is thin. Each VDG will consist of 8 to 10 members of the same rank and pay, which the government will credit to their accounts every month.

3.The present system of assigning 1 or 2 special police officers with VDGs will be discontinued. The VDGs will also operate in parts of Kashmir valley.