

### NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

81 coalfired utilities in which India is planning to reduce power generation over the next four years, in an effort to replace expensive thermal generation with cheaper green energy sources. India faced a crippling power crisis in April, when a surge in power demand led to a scramble for coal, forcing the country to roll back plans to cut thermal coal imports to zero. An increase in peak power consumption during the night when solar power is not available has made phasing out coalfired generation a big challenge.

The World Health Organization's top monkeypox expert said she doesn't expect the hundreds of cases reported to date to turn into another pandemic, but acknowledged there are still many unknowns about the disease, including how exactly it's spreading and whether the suspension of mass smallpox immunisation decades ago may somehow be speeding its transmission. WHO's Rosamund Lewis said it was critical to emphasise that the vast majority of cases being seen in dozens of countries globally are in gay, bisexual, so that scientists can further study the issue and for populations at risk to take precautions. "It's very important to describe this because it appears to be an increase in a mode of transmission that may have been under recognised in the past," Dr. Lewis, WHO's technical lead on monkeypox, said.

Ten Pacific island nations rebuffed China's push for a wideranging regional security pact, amid worries the proposal was designed to pull them into Beijing's orbit. Talks in Fiji between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and leaders from the small island nations failed to reach an agreement, in a high profile diplomatic setback for Beijing. China is offering to radically ramp up its activities in the South Pacific, directly challenging the influence of the United States and its allies in the strategically vital region. The proposed pact would see Beijing train Pacific island police, become involved in cybersecurity, expand political ties, conduct sensitive marine mapping and gain greater access to natural resources on land and in the water.

The government is in the process of

### CAUTION ON AADHAAR PHOTOCOPIES

1.The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) in a press release issued notifications on sharing a photocopy of Aadhaar card to avoid any misuses. MeitY has advised the people not to share photocopy of their Aadhaar with any organisation because it can be misused. use a public computer to download electronic versions of the Aadhaar.

2.If done so, they have to delete all the downloaded copies of e-Aadhaar permanently from the computer. **Only those organisations with a 'user licence' from the UIDAI could use Aadhaar for establishing a person's identity. Hotels and cinema halls weren't authorised to collect photocopies of Aadhaar.** Alternatively, a masked Aadhaar card can be used.

3.An Aadhaar number consists of 12 digits. A masked Aadhaar displays only the last 4 digits of the biometric ID replacing the first eight digits with characters like "xxxx-xxxx". However the government has withdrawn its notification claiming that it could be "misinterpreted".

4.It said that UIDAI had only advised Aadhaar card holders to exercise "normal prudence" in using and sharing their Aadhaar numbers. Government added that Aadhaar details, without biometric information, couldn't be used to impersonate a person.

### WEST NILE VIRUS

1.The West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne, single-stranded RNA virus. It is a member of the flavivirus genus and belongs to the Japanese Encephalitis antigenic complex of the family Flaviviridae. The virus was first isolated in a woman in the West Nile district of Uganda in 1937.

2.**It was identified in birds in the Nile delta region in 1953. Transmission - Culex species of mosquitoes act as the principal vectors for transmission. It is not known to spread by contact with infected humans or animals.**

3.It is transmitted by infected mosquitoes between and among humans and animals, including birds, which are the reservoir host of the virus. It can also spread through blood transfusion, from an infected mother to her child.

4.Symptoms - The disease is asymptomatic in 80% of the infected people. In these 20% cases, the symptoms include fever (West Nile Fever), headache, fatigue, body aches, nausea, rash, and swollen glands. Severe infection can lead to encephalitis, meningitis, paralysis, and even death. Some effects to the central nervous system might be permanent. Recovery from severe illness might take several weeks or months.

### PM CARES FOR CHILDREN SCHEME

1.PM CARES for Children Scheme was launched on May 2021 to support children who have lost both the parents or legal guardian or surviving parent to COVID-19 Pandemic, during the period from 11th March 2020 to 28th February 2022.

2.**The Scheme Aims to ensure Comprehensive Care and Protection through Boarding and Lodging Health Insurance cover of Rs 5 lakhs. Education (Admission in schools) Scholarships (Rs 20,000 for all school going children) Educational loans for higher education. Financial Support till they attain the Age of 23 Years.**

3.Financial support of Rs. 10 lakh on attaining 23 years of age for self-sufficient existence A passbook of PM CARES for Children, and Health card under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana will be handed over to the children during the programme.

4.A portal was launched to register the children under the scheme. The portal is a single window system which facilitates approval process and all other assistance for children.

### INS NIRDESHAK

1.The contract for building four Survey Vessel Large (SVL) ships was inked between Ministry of Defence and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata on October, 2018. The SVL ships will replace the existing Sandhayak Class survey

taking 'advanced action' to take forward the privatisation of public sector banks and is geared up to take further steps to rein in inflation as well as maintain economic stability and growth, top finance ministry officials asserted .

India's retail inflation may ease to 7% in May, from the almost eight-year high of 7.8% in April, said State Bank of India economists, who reckoned that the Centre could still meet its fiscal deficit target of 6.4% of GDP for this year thanks to conservative revenue estimates in the Union Budget.

Insurance regulator IRDAI is ready to adopt technological innovations to protect the interest of policyholders and to provide services to people living in the hinterland, said chairman Debasish Panda.

In financial year 2022, no woman occupied the position of chief financial officer (CFO) among companies comprising stock index Nifty 50. Also, women held the position in less than 5% of Nifty 250 firms, according to a study by the IFMR Graduate School of Business at Krea University and Dun & Bradstreet (D&B).

U.S. President Joe Biden said Monday he would not send rocket systems to Ukraine that could hit targets well inside Russian territory, despite urgent requests from Kyiv for long range weapons.

Three auctions of gifts given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised ₹22.5 crore in total for the Namami Gange Programme, according to a Right to Information (RTI) reply by the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), which conducted the auctions in 2019 and 2021.

The Supreme Court has noted that "overambitious parents" and "exploitative founders of infrastructure deficient" colleges have led to the decline and commercialisation of medical education and upheld the National Medical Commission's regulations that prescribe certain strictures before foreign medical graduates can practise in India.

700\$ million, the amount the World Bank is planning to disburse to crisis ridden Sri Lanka by repurposing its existing loans. This move will give the island nation, grappling with an unprecedented economic crisis, much needed breathing space till a bailout package with the

ships. It has the capability to carry four Survey Motor Boats and an integral helicopter.

2.It has new generation hydrographic equipment to collect oceanographic and geophysical data. The primary role of the ships would be to undertake full scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic surveys of Ports and navigational channels. The ships would also be deployed for collecting oceanographic and geophysical data for defence as well as civil applications.

3.In their secondary role, the ships are capable of providing limited defence, besides serving as Hospital ships during emergencies. The Indian Navy launched 'Sandhayak', the first of the four large survey vessels on December 2021.

4.The second Vessels 'Nirdeshak' is launched now. It is built by GRSE in collaboration with L&T shipbuilding. The ship has taken its name from erstwhile Nirdeshak which was also an Indian Naval Survey ship and was decommissioned after 32 years of glorious service in December 2014.

#### ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT BACTERIA

1.The Antarctic Peninsula host a great diversity of bacteria. Some of them constitute a potential source of ancestral genes that confer resistance to antibiotics. Pseudomonas bacteria, one of the predominant bacteria groups in the Antarctic Peninsula, are not pathogenic but can be a source of resistance genes.

2.The gene gives them natural antibiotic and antimicrobial resistance. It has the potential to spread out of the Polar Regions. These are not stopped by common disinfectants such as copper, chlorine or quaternary ammonium.

3.Their ability to resist extreme conditions are contained in mobile DNA fragments. Such fragments can easily be transferred to other bacteria. Melting of ice due to climate change could have an impact on the occurrence of infectious diseases.

#### SANJHI ART FORM

1.Sanjhi panel gifted to US President Joe Biden by PM Narendra Modi is based on the theme of Thakurani Ghat (It is one of the most famous ghats on the banks of the holy river of Yamuna in Gokul).

2.This art form originated out of the cult of Krishna. It involves creating stencils based on incidents from the life of the deity and then hand-cutting these on thin sheets of paper using scissors.

3.Sanjhi was popularised in the 15th and 16th centuries by the Vaishnava temples and was practiced by Brahmin priests.

#### ROGAN PAINTING

1.PM Modi gifted the Japanese PM a hand-carved deep brown wooden box with a gold and white Rogan painting on a green cloth as its central motif.Rogan is a form of cloth painting that is considered to be more than four centuries old and is primarily practised in Kutch district of Gujarat.

2.The word 'rogan' comes from Persian, meaning varnish or oil. The craft uses paint made from boiled oil and vegetable dyes. Usually, only half the fabric is painted and it is folded to create a mirror image.

3.Originally only men used to practice the art form. Now several women in Gujarat also pursue it.

#### PALME D'OR

1.The Palme d'Or is considered one of the most prestigious awards in the film industry. The winner – 2022: The Swedish satire Triangle of Sadness, directed by Ruben Östlund. It is awarded to the film adjudged the best among those contending at the Cannes Film Festival. 2.Cannes is one of the "big five" international film festivals — the other four being the Venice Film Festival, the Berlin International Film Festival, the Toronto International Film Festival and the Sundance Film Festival.

3.Chetan Anand's Neecha Nagar is the only Indian film to win the award (The film was never released in India).

#### NATIONAL FACILITY FOR GENE FUNCTION IN HEALTH & DISEASE

1.It has been set up at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune. Built by IISER Pune and supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).

2.Objectives: Ensure timely supply of animal models to researchers studying a range of diseases from cancer to diabetes. Rats, mice and rabbits will be housed here, doing away with the need to import them.

**International Monetary Fund is worked out. Sri Lanka is nearing bankruptcy and has severe shortages of essentials such as food, fuel, and medicines. For months, citizens have been forced to stay in long lines to buy limited stocks.**

**3.Need for:** Because human trials alone are insufficient for understanding the impact of Zoonotic diseases on human health, the use of animal models in experimental setups has become essential.