

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

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Days after the Union Environment Ministry announced a scheme to incentivise entrepreneurs to manufacture pellets from paddy stubble, beneficiaries say that the scheme does not account for the actual costs of manufacturing and is unlikely to help with reducing pollution from stubble burning. Pellets, which are manufactured out of agriculture biomass, when properly made would provide much more heat, emit fewer than 50% of the particulate matter and only a fraction of the ash from burning an equivalent amount of coal.

Activists of the Right to Food Campaign have accused the Centre here on Friday of diverting the issue of hunger away from the real situation on the ground and the food and nutritional insecurity in the country. Countering the Centre's stand on the Global Hunger Index that it overlooked Central schemes and that the sample size of the survey was too small, the activists argued that the survey was validated by the national data on unemployment and stagnant wages.

They said there had been a worsening in food security both in quantity and quality compared to the pre-COVID period for about 41% of the population. The activists urged the Centre to stop inadequate policy response to address the problem and to hold the census at the earliest to find the number of people without ration cards. They said about 12 crore people in the country had not been enrolled in the ration cards.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) told the forest officials of Uttarakhand that it would direct the Union government to form a committee to initiate an investigation into "illegal tree cutting" in Jim Corbett National Park. The NGT's move came after it had taken cognisance of The Hindu's report on the felling of trees in the Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR). The report had quoted a Forest Survey of India (FSI) report stating that over 6,000 trees were illegally cut to pave the way for the Pakhro tiger safari project at the tiger reserve.

Four years after it was placed on the 'grey list' and penalised with severe financial strictures by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Pakistan won a major reprieve on Friday, as the international watchdog on terror financing and money laundering agreed to remove Pakistan's name

INDIA SUFFERED INCOME LOSS OF \$159 BILLION IN KEY SECTORS DUE TO EXTREME HEAT IN 2021: CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT (CTR)

1.The CTR provides a concise overview on the state of climate performance of the G20. Key highlights G20 members are responsible for around three-quarters of global emissions. However, they are still not taking the necessary level of accountability of action. Six G20 members including India did not sign the global methane pledge. At 1.5°C, most G20 members can expect water scarcity and prolonged periods of drought, and less favorable agricultural conditions.

2.India India lost 5.4% of its gross domestic product, in the service, manufacturing, agriculture, and construction sectors due to extreme heat in 2021. Several areas of Hindukush Karakoram Himalaya, experienced reduced snowfall and glacial retreat. Local precipitation is projected to increase 5.8% and labour productivity is projected to decline by 5% from the reference period of 1986-2006 at 1.5°C of warming.

3.**Key Recommendation: Increase the deployment of renewable energy and create sustainable jobs. Use targeted support for poorer households instead of expanding subsidies for all.** Expand climate finance for zero-carbon investments both domestically and through international cooperation

MINISTRY OF COAL SEEKS FEEDBACK ON DRAFT COAL LOGISTIC POLICY, 2022

1.Draft policy envisages to develop a technologically enabled, integrated, cost-efficient, resilient, sustainable and trusted logistics ecosystem. Coal Logistics' means the transport of Coal from origin to destination through a single/ multimodal mode of transportation and includes storage, and loading, for the purpose of delivery to power plants, steel manufacturing, etc.

2.**Challenges in coal evacuation are: Lack on investments in logical infrastructure. Higher coal logistics costs owing to inherent characteristics Non-availability of wagons and congestion on the rail network Limited coal transportation by alternate transportation models.** Limited logistics planning in multi-modal transport Policy Strategies Green transportation initiatives would focus on modal shift to conveyors, railways and waterways from road transportation of coal.

3.Smart Coal Logistics Corridors to be established for ensuring complete oversight on every tonne of coal from the mine to the consumption point. Rights of Way of rail and roads and first-mile evacuation are planned as part of the mine allocation process.

4.Development of data-driven systems for monitoring the logistics ecosystem to enable higher logistics efficiency. Common user facilities like Railway Siding where there are 2-3 mines close to each other.

INDIA EYEING \$5 BILLION EXPORTS, \$22 BILLION TURNOVER IN DEFENCE SECTOR BY 2025: DEFENCE MINISTER

1.The government is making efforts to take domestic defence production from the current \$12 billion to \$22 billion by 2025. The main objective is to fulfil the requirements of Indian Armed Forces and to create long-term linkages to the global supply chains of the foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to meet global demands.

2.The \$5 billion export target set for 2025 reflects the intent of the government for export-oriented manufacturing Key initiatives for promoting defence production Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020 (DPEPP 2020): It is an overarching guiding document for self-reliance and export. Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) to foster innovation and technology development in Defence by engaging Industries including MSMEs, Start-ups, etc.

3.Technology Development Fund to provide financial support for upgradation and innovation in products, systems, processes for the Armed Forces. Defence Investor Cell (Ministry of Defence): To

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from the list of countries under 'increased monitoring'. Reacting to the decision, the Ministry of External Affairs said that Pakistan must continue to take "credible, verifiable, irreversible and sustainable" action against terror groups on its soil. FATF said Pakistan had completed two action plans comprising a 34 point tasklist since 2018.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday urged citizens to spend 5% of their travel expenditure on buying local goods whenever they travel. "I can't order people but I can request all of you to at least spend 5% of your total travel expenses — be it a spiritual or a leisure trip — on buying local products from the people where ever you travel. This will help increase the income of the locals manifold," he said.

The recent sighting of three Great Indian Bustards (GIBs) deep in Pakistan's Cholistan desert has given rise to speculation that the endangered birds might have flown across the international border from India's Desert National Park (DNP). GIBs are critically endangered in Pakistan because of lack of protection and rampant hunting.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday recommended to the Interpol that setting up permanent counter-terrorism and antinarcotics realtime information exchange platforms would further strengthen the fight against the global menaces, underlining that the spread of terrorist ideologies via online radicalisation should not be viewed as a political problem.

In the next few years, the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Tejas, will be able to carry and launch the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile. This will be possible once the lighter version of the supersonic cruise missile, BrahMosNG (next generation), is ready, according to the company officials. "The BrahMosNG development is expected to make first flight in two years and will be ready for production in 23 years after that. The focus of the development as of now is on the air-launched version," a BrahMos official said on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022.

India on Friday successfully test fired indigenously developed new generation medium range ballistic missile Agni Prime from the Odisha coast, Defence Research and

provide information and address queries related to investment opportunities, procedures and regulatory requirements.

4.74% Foreign Direct Investment in the Defence sector through the automatic route, and 100% through the government route. Introduction of Buy (Global-Manufacturer in India) category in Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020.

COMPETITION COMMISSION OF INDIA (CCI) SLAPS RS 1,337.76 CRORE PENALTY ON GOOGLE FOR UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES

1.The fine was imposed for anti-competitive practices by Google in the markets for mobile operating system (OS), app stores, web search services, web browsers, and online video hosting services. Google is accused of ensuring mandatory pre-installation of the entire Google Mobile Suite (GMS) under Mobile Application Distribution Agreement (MADA).

2.By virtue of various agreements executed by Google with original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), it ensured that users continued to use its search services on mobile devices which facilitated un-interrupted growth of advertisement revenue for Google. CCI concluded that Google has perpetuated its dominant position in the online search market resulting in denial of market access for competing search apps.

3.Issue with respect to Big tech companies regulations Pricing and promotion decisions can be managed and favour some merchants and their own private label products. Indulge in acquirers of smaller, fast-growing companies thereby act a barrier for new start-ups.

4.Access to individual personal data by them, often raise the issue of the violation of the 'Right to Privacy'. No global monitoring and regulatory framework for inter-jurisdictional coordination.

CCI has been setup under Competition Act 2002, to regulate anticompetitive activity in the country.

PRIME MINISTER LAUNCHED 'MISSION LIFE' (LIFESTYLE FOR ENVIRONMENT) IN THE PRESENCE OF U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL

1.Mission LiFe is a global initiative by India to help the world in its fight against climate change and lead to a sustainable way of life to achieve the sustainable development goals set by the U.N. LiFE was introduced by the Indian Prime Minister at COP26 in Glasgow.

2.It aims to nudge individuals and communities to practice a lifestyle that is synchronous with nature and does not harm it. It envisions three core shifts in approach toward sustainability: Change in Demand (Phase I): practice simple yet effective environment-friendly actions in their daily lives.

3.Change in Supply (Phase II): gradually nudge stakeholders to respond and tailor supply and procurement as per the revised demands. Change in Policy (Phase III): trigger shifts in large-scale industrial and government policies that can support both sustainable consumption and production.

4.The mission will be incubated, curated and piloted by Niti Aayog and subsequently implemented by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The mission will be implemented till 2027-28 with annual targets. In 2022-23, the mission will focus on Phase I.

5.It identifies the sustainable actions across 7 categories i.e., Energy Saved, water saved, Single Use Plastic Reduced, Sustainable Food Systems Adopted, Waste Reduced (Swachhata Actions), Healthy Lifestyles Adopted, and E-Waste reduced.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION LAUNCHES NATIONAL CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK (NCF) FOR FOUNDATIONAL STAGE

1.The Foundational Stage envisions an integrated approach to Early Childhood Care and Education for children between ages 3-8. NCF for the Foundational Stage is developed based on the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Foundational, preparatory, middle and secondary are the four stages of NCF for school education.

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Development Organisation (DRDO) sources said. The sleek missile was test fired from a mobile launcher from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island around 9:45a.m, they said. The solid fuelled missile met all mission parameter during the test, sources added. All its navigation was tracked and monitored by radars and telemetry equipment positioned along various points. The missile's strike range is between 1,000 km and 2,000 km.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry on Friday issued an advisory stating that no Ministry or department of the governments at the Centre, States and Union Territories and their associated entities should enter into broadcasting or distribution of broadcasting activities in future. Those already broadcasting their content have been told to get it done through the public broadcaster, Prasar Bharati, and the entities distributing the broadcasting content have been asked to “extract themselves” from it by December 31, 2023.

2.Key highlights For ages three to six, there should not be any prescribed textbooks for the children, and activity books can guide teachers to sequence activities and learning experiences. Learning through Play, toy based learning, avoiding stereotypes, gender representation in textbooks, ethical and moral awareness.

3.Children exposed to age-appropriate, physical, educational, and social activities through play-based methods learn better and grow better. The primary medium of instruction would optimally be the child's home language/mother tongue/familiar language.

4.Curriculum must reflect the cultural and social context in which the child is growing. Empowering teachers in terms of training, infrastructure and other facilities. The framework has listed the 'panchakosha' concept for children's education. The Panchakosha description is mentioned in the Taittiriya Upanishad.