

# KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022

Scientists Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless won the 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry on Wednesday for discovering reactions that let molecules snap together to create desired compounds and that offer insight into cell biology. It came a day after Alain Aspect, John F. Clauser and Anton Zeilinger won the prize in physics for their advances in quantum mechanics on the behaviour of subatomic particles, opening the door to work on super computers and encrypted communication. Americans Ms. Bertozzi and Mr. Sharpless, together with Denmark's Mr. Meldal, were honoured "for the development of click chemistry and bio-orthogonal chemistry".

On October 1, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the country could not afford to lose the "sheen" of its insolvency law, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). The IBC was introduced in 2016 to consolidate previously available laws to create a time bound mechanism with a creditor-in-control model as opposed to the debtor-in-possession system. When insolvency is triggered under the IBC, there can be just two outcomes: resolution or liquidation, with the former being the preferred solution. However, when one looks at official data for the 3,400 cases admitted under the IBC in the last six years, more than 50% of the cases ended in liquidation, and only 14% could find a proper resolution.

The proposal by the Election Commission that political parties disclose the financial ramifications of promises in their manifestos was not linked to the debate on freebies, but aimed at improving the implementation of existing guidelines, a top EC official said on Wednesday. The EC had on Tuesday written to the heads of recognised national and State parties to seek their views on its proposal that parties provide details of the cost and impact of promises they make during elections. It also sought information on the ways in which it would be paid for and the implications for the State or Union government's finances.

The Supreme Court of India has sought the most recent position of the Union government on a batch of petitions challenging the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order of 1950, which allows only members of Hindu, Sikh and Buddhist religions to be recognised as Scheduled Castes. The Union

## AN AVALANCHE OCCURRED IN THE KEDAR PEAK AREA OF THE CHORABARI GLACIAL LAKE REGION, RUDRAPRAYAG

1. Chorabari Bamak Glacier is situated in the Garhwal Himalayas of Uttarakhand. One of the two snouts of this glacier serves as a prominent source for the Mandakini River, which is a tributary of Alaknanda River. Avalanche is a rapid downslope movement of a large detached mass of snow, ice, and associated debris such as rocks and vegetation.

2. Major reasons for avalanches Snowstorm; heavy snowfall and precipitation during the summer months; vibration or movement; warm temperature and human activity like developing communication routes, development of winter tourism etc.

3. **Impact of Avalanches: Damage to Life and Property; Flash floods, impact Utilities and Communication etc. There are two main types of snow avalanches—sluffs and slabs. Sluff avalanches occur when the weak layer of a snowpack is on the top.** A slab avalanche occurs when the weak layer lies lower down in a snowpack.

4. NDMA guidelines for Avalanche –

Its aims to reduce the enormous destructive potential of landslides and minimize the consequential losses by institutionalizing the landslide hazard mitigation efforts. In the guidelines, nine major areas have been identified for systematic and coordinated management of the hazards. (refer infographic).

## RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI) RELEASES RULES FOR CARD TOKENISATION

1. RBI has made it mandatory for all credit and debit card data used in online, point-of-sale, and in-app transactions to be replaced with unique tokens from October, 2022 onwards.

2. The deadline was extended multiple times over the past two years for creating public awareness about the process of creating tokens and using them to undertake transactions. In 2021, RBI prohibited merchants from storing customer card details on their servers and mandated the adoption of card-on-file (CoF) tokenisation as an alternative.

3. About Card Tokenisation It refers to replacement of actual card details with an alternate code called the "token", which shall be unique for a combination of card, token requester, (i.e. the entity which accepts requests from the customer for tokenisation of a card and passes it on to the card network to issue a corresponding token) the device. It can be performed only by the authorised card network and the customer need not pay any charges for availing of this service.

4. Significance: Enhanced security as the actual card details are not shared with the merchant during transaction processing. Enhances users' digital payment experience. Conform to international best practices/globally accepted standards.

## ISRO's MANGALYAAN MISSION COMPLETES 8 YEARS IN ORBIT

1. Mars Orbiter Mission (MoM) Mangalyaan launched in 2013 was Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) first spacecraft bound for Mars. The spacecraft successfully entered Mars orbit in 2014, making ISRO only the fourth space agency in the world to do so.

2. Prior to India, only the United States, the Soviet Union and the European Space Agency (ESA) had successfully explored Mars. It was launched using PSLV C-25, Instruments included in MOM: Mars Color Camera, Methane Sensor for Mars, Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyzer.

3. **Objective of MOM-To explore Martian surface features, mineralogy, morphology and atmosphere using indigenous scientific instruments. To develop technologies required in planning, designing, management and operations of an interplanetary mission.**

4. Key findings of MOM-It has helped to prepare Martian Atlas based on the images provided by the orbiter. So far, the Mars Color Camera (MCC) orbiter has sent thousands of pictures

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DELHI: VIJAY NAGAR 9717380832 & OLD RAJENDER NAGAR 9811293743 | JAIPUR: 8290800441 | PATNA: 7463950774 | RANCHI: 9939982007  
BENGALURU: KORMANGALA 7619166663 & CHANDRA LAYOUT 7619136662 | BHOPAL: 7509975361 | INDORE: 7314977441 | IMPHAL: 9650245599  
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government in 2019 rejected the possibility of including Dalit Christians as members of SCs rooting the exclusion on an Imperial Order of 1936 of the then colonial government, which had first classified a list of the Depressed Classes and specifically excluded "Indian Christians" from it.

Even though several independent Commission reports have documented the existence of caste and caste inequalities among Indian Christians and Indian Muslims, the Union government refuses to accept these reports on the basis that they do not have enough empirical evidence to support their claims.

\$ 625 million, the amount of additional military aid the United States is providing Ukraine, a package that includes additional advanced rocket systems credited with helping the country's military gain momentum in its war with Russia. President Joe Biden provided details on the latest package in a call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

50 number of people killed in an airstrike that hit a school in northern Ethiopia's Tigray region. The school was sheltering people, displaced by conflict between the federal and regional governments, and two aid workers, Tigray forces said. The air strike in the town of Adi Daero appears to be one of the deadliest strikes carried out during the nearly two-year war.

10,000 kms, is the length of the trail left by an asteroid which was deliberately smashed by NASA's Dart spacecraft. The trail of debris was captured by a telescope in Chile. The DART spacecraft intentionally crashed into Dimorphos, the asteroid moonlet of Didymos, on September 26.

The Archaeological Survey of India recently announced its findings on exploration in the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh. The ASI said it documented second century Buddhist caves and eighth and ninth century Hindu temples in the region. Sculptures depicting the 10 avatars of Vishnu were described.

Inaugurating the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Bilaspur in Himachal Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Centre was working to bring affordable health care to remote locations. He said the government wanted to ensure ease of living for

totalling two terabytes. Sent close distance images of Phobos and Deimos-two moons of Mars. It has discovered that dust storms on Mars can rise up to hundreds of kilometers.

## SCIENTISTS FIND LINK BETWEEN FAST-MELTING ARCTIC ICE AND OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

1.A team of researchers has flagged changing chemistry of western region of the Arctic Ocean after discovering acidity levels increasing three to four times faster than ocean waters elsewhere. The team identified a strong correlation between the accelerated rate of melting ice and the rate of ocean acidification.

2.The relation between sea-ice melting and rapid pH decrease, is explained in following ways. The water under the sea ice, which had a deficit of carbon dioxide, now is exposed to the atmospheric carbon dioxide and can take it up freely.

3.The seawater mixed with meltwater is light and can't mix easily into deeper waters, which means carbon dioxide is concentrated at the surface. The meltwater dilutes the carbonate ion concentration in the seawater, weakening its ability to neutralise the carbon dioxide into bicarbonate. Ocean acidification refers to a reduction in the pH of the ocean over an extended period of time, caused primarily by uptake of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.

4.Possible Impacts of Ocean acidification: Creates life-threatening problems for the diverse population of sea creatures (especially organisms like oysters and corals), plants and other living things that depend on a healthy ocean.

5.Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) GOA-ON is a collaborative international network to detect and understand the drivers of ocean acidification in estuarine-coastal-open ocean environments, the resulting impacts on marine ecosystems, and to make the information available to optimize modelling studies. It was established in 2012 together with a number of organizations including International Atomic Energy Agency etc.

## MINISTRY OF FINANCE ISSUES DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR LISTING OF REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (RRBs)

1.As per the draft guidelines, RRBs will be eligible to list on stock exchanges and raise funds if they fulfil conditions like: net worth of at least Rs. 300 crore over the previous years capital adequacy of 9% in each of the previous three years recorded operating profit of at least Rs 15 crore for a minimum of three out of the preceding five years.

2.Guidelines came after government asked the 'Department of Financial Services' to formulate a clear roadmap to further strengthen the RRBs in a time-bound manner and support the post-pandemic economic recovery.

3.About RRBs-RRBs were formed under the RRB Act, 1976 with an objective to provide credit and other facilities to small farmers, agricultural labourers and artisans in rural areas. Currently, the Centre holds 50% in RRBs, while 35% and 15% are with the concerned sponsor banks and state governments, respectively.

4.The Act was amended in 2015, whereby RRBs were permitted to raise capital from sources other than the Centre, states and sponsor banks. RRBs have a target of 75% set for priority sector lending (PSL) like Agriculture, MSME, Education, Housing etc.

## RESULTS OF SWACHH SURVEKSHAN (SS) 2022 ANNOUNCED

1.Indore ranked first under 'Cities with more than 1 lakh population' and Madhya Pradesh ranked first under category "States with more than 100 Urban Local Bodies". The awards were given in ceremony hosted as part of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

2.About Swachh Survekshan-It is the world's largest urban sanitation and cleanliness survey conducted by MoHUA (under the ambit of the SBM-U) since 2016. It started out with the assessment of 73 cities. Swachh Survekshan 2022 has managed to accomplish the assessment of 4354 cities. SS 2022 emphasized on End-to-End Digital monitoring, Swachh City Technology Challenge – Innovative Solutions from Citizens/Start-

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**the poor and the middle class and minimise their medical expenses.**

**The World Trade Organization (WTO) forecast a slowdown of global trade growth next year as sharply higher energy and food prices and rising interest rates curb import demand, and warned of a possible contraction if the war in Ukraine worsens. The trade body said on Wednesday that merchandise trade would increase by 3.5% this year, up from its April estimate of 3%. However, for 2023, it sees trade growth of just 1%, compared with a previous forecast of 3.4%. The WTO said there was high uncertainty over its forecasts. It provided a band of trade growth expansion of 2% to 4.9% for this year and of 2.8% to 4.6% for 2023.**

ups, etc., Gender & Social Inclusion, Covid-19 Response with focus on Municipal Frontline Workers, etc.

**3.Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2022 awards were also announced recently. SSG is annual national ranking of all districts and states of India on the basis of following quantitative and qualitative sanitation parameters:** Direct observation Citizen feedback Service level progress Instituted by Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti (under SBM- Grameen), since 2018.

**4.**Telangana topped under the Large state category and A&N Islands under Small States & UT category.

Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation also launched two campaigns: "Retrofit to Twin Pit Abhiyan" for promoting twin pit toilets in households towards improved faecal sludge management. 'Swachh Jal Se Suraksha': to create awareness on the importance of clean and safe drinking water and also help to monitor the quality of water supplied in rural households.