

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

8TH OCTOBER 2022

Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare said, he has assured Australia that his nation will not allow a Chinese military presence in its territory. The island nation has been at the centre of a diplomatic tussle in the southern Pacific Ocean between the United States, Australia and their allies on one side and China on the other.

A trio of human rights watchdogs from Belarus, Russia and Ukraine won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday, a highly symbolic choice of laureates drawn from three nations at the centre of the war in Ukraine. The honour went to detained activist Ales Bialiatski of Belarus, Russian rights group Memorial and Ukraine's Center for Civil Liberties. "They have made an outstanding effort to document war crimes, human right abuses and the abuse of power," the head of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Berit Reiss Andersen.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it will soon commence the pilot introduction of e-rupee for specific use cases with a view to bolstering India's digital economy, making payment systems more efficient, and checking money laundering. In a concept note on Central Bank Digital Currency, the RBI said CBDC is aimed to complement, rather than replace, current forms of money and is envisaged to provide an additional payment avenue to users, not to replace the existing payment systems.

The Union government has now formed a three member Commission of Inquiry headed by former Chief Justice of India, Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, to examine whether the Scheduled Caste (SC) status can be accorded to Dalits who have over the years converted to religions other than Sikhism or Buddhism. Currently, the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 provides for only those belonging to Hindu, Sikh or Buddhist communities to be categorised as SCs. When enacted, the Order only allowed for Hindu communities to be classified as SCs based on the social disabilities and discrimination they faced due to untouchability. It was amended in 1956 to include Sikh communities and again in 1990 to include Buddhist communities as SCs.

Though early days, the number of crop fires reported out of Punjab are at a three year low, suggest data from the Indian Agricultural

WHO ALERTS AGAINST INDIA-MADE COUGH SYRUPS AFTER 66 CHILDREN DIE IN GAMBIA

1.World Health Organisation issued a medical product alert over four cough and cold syrups made by Maiden Pharmaceuticals in India, warning they could be linked to acute kidney injuries and deaths in Gambia. The global health body reportedly said that it is conducting further investigation with the company and regulatory authorities in India.

2.Drug regulation in India-Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH and FW) prescribes standards for ensuring safety, efficacy and quality of drugs, cosmetics, diagnostics and devices in India. It also regulates the market authorization of new drugs and clinical trials standards; supervises drug imports and approves license to manufacture.

3.CDSCO along with state regulators, is jointly responsible for grant of licenses of certain specialized categories of critical Drugs such as blood and blood products, Vaccine etc.

4.The drug controller general of India (DCGI) is the head of the CDSCO. The office of the DCGI acts as an appellate authority if there is any dispute with respect to the quality of the drug.

GOVERNMENT IDENTIFYING PSUS WITH LAND BUT LITTLE BUSINESS FOR SELLOFF

1.The government is identifying public sector companies that are sitting on land banks, with little or no business that can be privatised or sold off. The government has set up a special purpose vehicle — National Land Monetisation Corporation (NLMC), a wholly government company, which will aggregate land from all PSUs that are either being wound up or being sold.

2.Land monetization is one of the parts of asset monetization. Assets Monetisation referred as asset or capital recycling, that involve the process of conversion of assets into economic value. Under this government cedes control over its assets for a certain period, after which the assets must be returned to the government unless the lease is extended.

3.Earlier, National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP), a roadmap for asset monetization with an estimated Rs 6 lakh crore was launched. During FY22, transactions with an aggregate monetisation value of about 97,000 crore in terms of accruals or private investments were completed under the NMP.

4.Benefits: Creation of employment opportunities, generation of substantial revenue, enabling high economic growth and seamlessly integrating the rural and semi-urban areas for overall public welfare.

INDIA ABSTAINS ON SRI LANKA VOTE AT HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

1.The resolution titled Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka' was adopted by the Council after 20 of its 47 members voted in its favour. The resolution called upon the Government of Sri Lanka to ensure impartial investigation and prosecution of all alleged crimes relating to human rights violations and the on-going economic crisis.

2.While 20 countries abstained, seven (including China and Pakistan) voted against it, effectively backing the Sri Lankan government. India abstained on a resolution but urged the government in Colombo to deliver on commitments towards the Tamil minority. India observed that Sri Lanka's progress in implementing commitments on the 13th Amendment, meaningful devolution, and early provincial elections remains "inadequate".

3.The 13th amendment states that Tamil will be one of Sri Lanka's official languages and that provincial councils, with substantial authority, will be established throughout the country. India also abstained on a draft resolution at the UNHRC calling for a debate on the human rights situation in China's Xinjiang region.

4.An inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe. It

www.ksgindia.com

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
t.me/ksgindia | facebook.com/khanstudygroup | youtube.com/khanstudygroupksg | Instagram.com/khanstudygroup | WhatsApp 9868005599

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

8TH OCTOBER 2022

Research Institute (IARI) that tracks such fires via satellite. Only 320 fires have been reported this year, as opposed to 620 and 1,935 in 2021 and 2020, respectively

India addressed the issue of the Uighurs of Xinjiang directly for the first time saying that the community's human rights should be "respected". Official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs Arindam Bagchi said that the government of India had taken "note" of the human rights "assessment" of Xinjiang that was earlier presented by the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) in a 46 page report. "The human rights of the people of Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region should be respected and guaranteed.

India has objected to the United States over the recent visit of the American Ambassador to Pakistan's visit to Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), said the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Kyiv's forces were swiftly recapturing more territory, especially in the south while Moscow's military leadership faced rare public backlash from within Russia over its handling of the war.

The Biden administration published a sweeping set of export controls, including a measure to cut China off from certain semiconductor chips made anywhere in the world with U.S. tools, vastly expanding its reach in its bid to slow Beijing's technological and military advances.

India's foreign exchange reserves fell to \$532.66 billion in the week through September 30, their lowest level since July 2020, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) weekly statistical supplement showed on Friday. The country's reserves declined for the ninth consecutive week. They were \$537.52 billion at the end of the previous week ended September 23.

Up to 10 times faster Internet speeds, download of 8K movies in seconds and console quality gaming experience on smartphones — these are just some of many benefits that 5G networks will bring to users. However, lack of affordable devices and high tariffs may drag down the

discuss all thematic human rights issues and situations that require its attention throughout the year.

WORLD BANK RELEASED 'POVERTY AND SHARED PROSPERITY 2022: CORRECTING COURSES' REPORT

1. Poverty and Shared Prosperity is a biennial series that provides the latest estimates and trends in global poverty and shared prosperity. The World Bank adopted a new extreme poverty line of \$2.15 per person per day, which replaces the \$1.90 poverty line, based on 2017 purchasing power parities (PPPs). 2. Key Findings-The pandemic increased the global extreme poverty rate to an estimated 9.3% in 2020, up from 8.4% in 2019. The primary reasons for such economic setbacks are: severe economic downturn during Covid and the recent war in Ukraine. 3. The world is unlikely to meet a longstanding goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030. In 2019-20, 10% of India's population was living under the updated poverty line. 5.6 crore Indians slipped into poverty in 2020. 12% of the population lived below the poverty line in rural areas, while 6% of urban Indians were in poverty. 4. There has been a decline in poverty in India since 2011, especially in rural areas. The richest people have recovered from the pandemic at a faster pace, this is further reflected in the first rise in global inequality in decades.

QUALITY COUNCIL OF INDIA (QCI) COMPLETES 25 YEARS

1. The Council, which was set up in 1997 jointly by the government, Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). To celebrate the journey of quality and excellence that India stands for, QCI has launched a marquee campaign—Gunvatta Se Atmanirbharta: India's quality movement. 2. Objectives of QCI To monitor and administer the National Quality Campaign to educate both suppliers and consumers on modern concepts of quality. To develop appropriate capacities at the level of Governments, Institutions and enterprises for implementing & institutionalizing continuous quality improvement. To develop, establish & operate National Accreditation programmes in accordance with the relevant international standards. 3. To promote quality competitiveness of India's enterprises especially MSMEs through adoption of and adherence to quality management standards and quality tools. QCI does not provide any financial assistance directly to MSMEs. 4. QCI runs accreditation programmes through its Boards: National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET), etc. Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister of India.

RAILWAY MINISTRY PLANS TO BID OUT 16 STATIONS UNDER PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) ROUTE

1. This is in addition to the 1253 railway stations that have been identified for development under the Adarsh Station Scheme. These railway stations will be upgraded to ensure improved basic facilities and accessibility for passengers. PPP refers to a cooperative agreement between the government organization and a private firm to execute a project or provide services to the local population for the long term. It encompasses several delivery models such as Operation & Maintenance (O&M), Built-Operate Transfer (BOT), Builds-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT), Design-Finance-Build-Operate-Transfer, etc. 2. Benefits-Help in recovering the project cost, as the present railway fair is highly Cross-subsidised. Increase the competition and efficiency in the modernization of railway projects. Tackle the underperformance of the railway due to a lack of skilled workforce and other construction equipment. 3. Challenges for PPP in Railways Delay in land acquisition and multiple clearances and approvals from various regulatory bodies. Unviable tendering of PPP projects owing to lack of proper planning and unrealistic cost estimates. Ineffective dispute resolution mechanism. Lack of standard PPP practices in line

www.ksgindia.com

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
t.me/ksgindia | facebook.com/khanstudygroup | youtube.com/khanstudygroupksg | Instagram.com/khanstudygroup | WhatsApp 9868005599

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

8TH OCTOBER 2022

pace of adoption of these services.

with global standards.

The UNICEF said 10,17,000 people have been internally displaced in Myanmar since last year's coup. More than half of those forced to flee are in the country's northwest Sagaing region, which has seen some of the fiercest fighting. There were "significant challenges" to delivering humanitarian assistance in the region, UNICEF said.