

KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

25TH SEPTEMBER 2022

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

Since July, NASA's Perseverance rover has drilled and collected four slim cores of sedimentary rock, formed in what was once a river delta on Mars. They are the first of this type of rock to be gathered on another world — and scientists are excited because at least two of the cores probably contain organic compounds, which, on Earth, are often associated with living things. If all goes well, the samples will be the first ever returned from Mars.

The first worldwide estimate of the number of adult sea turtles moved on the black market suggests that 1.1 million of the reptiles were illegally harvested between 1990 and 2020. But poaching is dropping sharply, and most populations worldwide are doing well. But researchers also found that the illegal catch has declined in the past decade — 2010 to 2020 — by nearly 30%, with some exceptions occurring in large, stable, and genetically stable diverse marine turtle populations.

A programme to bring oral COVID19 antivirals to low and middle-income countries has been launched with an initial donation of 1,00,000 courses of the antiviral drug Paxlovid, to be distributed in nine sub-Saharan African countries and Laos. The COVID Treatment Quick Start Consortium aims to begin treating people in these countries by the end of September. The programme is expected to be expanded to cover more countries, and transition to lower cost, generic versions of Paxlovid.

For about two decades now, the 'coffee ring effect' has been known as when a drop of spilt coffee dries up, the outermost edge of the dried drop is a little darker than the centre, forming a darker 'ring'. This is caused by the outward drift of suspended coffee particles from the centre, causing a denser, darkened rim. Now, researchers from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, have shown that after reaching the rim, as the drop dries, some of the particles undergo an inward drift too. This research has applications in agriculture, forensic science and even disease diagnosis. The present work has been published in the journal, Soft Matter.

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is a viral disease that predominantly affects cattle. First identified in an outbreak in Zambia in 1929, the disease is caused by the LSD virus

QUAD COUNTRIES SIGNED GUIDELINES FOR QUAD PARTNERSHIP ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF (HADR) IN THE INDO-PACIFIC

1. Partnership has been designed to respond to the vulnerabilities of the Indo-Pacific region and will serve as a dedicated framework for Quad partners to coordinate their disaster response operations in the region. The mechanism will augment their capacity and capability, interoperability and operational synergy to undertake HADR operations.
2. Response operations will be guided by the core principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality as outlined in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 46/182 on the provisions of humanitarian assistance. Call for zero tolerance for inaction on tackling Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment. Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is an informal association of India, the United States, Australia, and Japan.
3. The core objective of the Quad is to secure a rules-based global order, freedom of navigation and a liberal trading system. It is considered an alliance of maritime democracies, and the forum is maintained by meetings, semi-regular summits, information exchanges and military drills of all the member countries.
4. The Quad is 'not a military alliance' for India, but a multilateral cooperation effort for humanitarian assistance and an anti-smuggling exercises.

GUIDELINES ON SCHEME FOR 'SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT (SASCI) FOR 2022-23' LAUNCHED

1. The scheme launched in 2020-21 provides 50-year interest-free loans for capital investment projects to states. For the 2022-23 Financial Year (FY) a total financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh crore would be given to states.
2. Key features The loan under the scheme would be over and above the normal borrowing ceiling allowed to states for the FY 2022-23 and should be spent in the same year. Funds not used by a state within a reasonable time period may be allocated to another state.
- 3.7 parts of the scheme: For capital works (PM Gati Shakti Master Plan will receive priority); PM Gati Shakti related expenditure; PM Gram Sadak Yojana; Incentives for digitisation; Optical Fibre Cable; Urban reforms; Disinvestment and monetisation.
4. Eligible projects: New or ongoing projects or for settling pending bills in ongoing capital projects. States may submit projects of higher value than the funds allocated, indicating their preference/priority. Exclusion: Projects with capital outlay of less than 5 crore (2 crore for North East) and repair and maintenance projects irrespective of capital outlay are not eligible.

ONE YEAR OF AYUSHMAN BHARAT DIGITAL MISSION (ABDM)

1. Launched in 2021 the ABDM aims to develop the backbone necessary to support the integrated digital health infrastructure of the country. Key features It is a Central Sector Scheme launched under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for 5 years.
2. Components of ABDM ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) numbers could be generated by citizens to which their digital health records can be linked. ABHA App allows patient to maintain and manage their health information (and that of others for whom they are authorized) in a private, secure, and confidential environment.
3. Health Facility Registry is a comprehensive repository of all the health facilities of the country across different systems of medicine. Unified Health Interface to enable a wide variety of digital health services between patients and health service providers.
4. The National Health Authority (NHA) is the implementing agency. Benefits Facilitate effective public health interventions by

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

25TH SEPTEMBER 2022

(LSDV), a poxvirus of the genus capripoxvirus. Until the 1980s, multiple outbreaks of LSD were confined to the African continent. The first reports of infections outside Africa were in 1989 from Israel. In 2016, LSD was reported from Russia and South-East European nations. In the Indian subcontinent, the disease was initially observed in Bangladesh in 2019, followed by China, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Myanmar.

An international team of researchers with NASA's InSight mission recently located four new craters created by impacts on the surface of Mars. Using data from a seismometer and visuals acquired from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, the researchers successfully confirmed the impact locations. This is the first time that researchers have been able to capture the dynamics of an impact on Mars (Nature Geoscience). The researchers used an instrument on board the InSight — SEIS (Seismic Experiment for Interior Structure) — to estimate the approximate locations, says a University of Maryland release. These findings show how planetary seismology (the study of quakes and related events such as volcanic eruptions) can be used to identify sources of seismic activity.

There are few districts in India that can match the financial muscle of Keonjhar in Odisha. Yet, the district suffers the ignominy of having the highest number of stunted, underweight children and anaemic pregnant women among the 30 districts in the State. The district has a high share of the iron ore reserves in the country and is flush with funds meant for welfare needs, but women and infants are struggling to access basic amenities

Three lifeless rhinos have risen from the ashes of the most conspicuous part of the herbivore, at the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday unveiled a memorial to the greater onehorned rhino and the forest guards the 1,300 sq. km tiger reserve owes its existence to. The ash collected from the burning of a stockpile of 2,479 rhino horns, seized from poachers and smugglers and collected from animals that died naturally, was used in the concrete mix to create the lifesize rhinos.

supporting evidence-based decision making. Equitable access to quality healthcare by encouraging the use of technologies such as telemedicine and enabling national portability of health services. Catalyse innovation and generate more jobs across the healthcare ecosystem.

INDIA-BRAZIL-SOUTH AFRICA DIALOGUE FORUM (IBSA) TRILATERAL MINISTERIAL COMMISSION (ITMC) HELD

- 1.The ITMC at the level of Foreign Ministers was held in New York which was chaired by India's external affairs minister. They reviewed the entire gamut of IBSA cooperation and held discussions on global issues (like UNSC Reform, countering terrorism) as well as on regional issues such as African Union, Middle East Peace Process, and situation in Ukraine. About IBSA IBSA or G3 grouping was formalized and named the IBSA Dialogue Forum through Brasilia Declaration in 2003.
- 2.Members are democracies and major economies from three different continents, facing similar challenges. It is based on the spirit of South-South Cooperation or SSC (collaboration among developing countries).India will be hosting the 6th IBSA Summit on the side-lines of the G20 Summit in November 2022.
- 3.**Key Initiatives under IBSA IBSA Fund for poverty and hunger alleviation developing countries on a demand driven basis. 14 Joint Working Groups for cooperation in areas, Transport; Health; Education; Defence; Science & Technology; etc.**
- 4.IBSA Business Forum was launched in 2005 and CII coordinates India's participation.SSC is defined as the exchange and sharing of developmental solutions among countries in the global south. The division of "North" and "South" is used to refer to the social, economic, and political differences that exist between developed countries (North) and developing countries (South).
- 5.However, a country is defined as North or South not by location, but depending on economic factors and the quality of life of its population.

COAL INDIA LTD TO INK MOU WITH INDIAN OIL, BHEL AND GAIL FOR COAL TO CHEMICAL PRODUCTS

- 1.The Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) will ease the way for setting up of coal-to-chemical projects through the Surface Coal Gasification (SCG) route. It will help to achieve the target of 100 million tonne coal gasification by 2030 set by the Ministry of Coal.
- 2.Through SCG route coal is converted into syngas that can be subsequently processed for downstream production of value added chemicals. Envisaged end products would be di-methyl ether, synthetic natural gas and ammonium nitrate.
- 3.These are otherwise produced through imported natural gas or crude oil. This will help India to reduce its import bill. Gasification of coal is a process in which coal is partially oxidated by air, oxygen, steam or carbon dioxide under controlled conditions to produce Syngas, also known as synthesis gas or producer gas.
- 4.It is a mixture of hydrogen, methane, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, water vapors etc. Issues with coal gasification: Higher cost of produced fuels; low grade of Indian coal; highly capital-intensive and water-intensive process etc.

TRACHOMA

- 1.Malawi became the first country in southern Africa to eliminate trachoma. In 2017, India eliminated trachoma. According to the WHO, active trachoma is considered eliminated if the prevalence of active infection among children below 10 years is less than 5%.
- 2.Trachoma is an infection of the eye caused by bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis. It is contagious, spreading through contact with the eyes, eyelids, and nose or throat secretions of infected people.
3. It is responsible for the blindness or visual impairment of about 1.9 million people.

5G C-BAND SPECTRUM

- 1.Diretorate General of Civil Aviation flagged concerns over

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

25TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Addressing the 77th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Saturday, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar explained India's position in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, saying India was on the side that respected the UN charter and on the side of peace. The Minister also made a strong pitch for UN Security Council (UNSC) reform. Mr. Jaishankar said India was often asked which side it was on in the Ukraine conflict. "And our answer, each time, is straight and honest," he said.

India is on track to attract \$100 billion foreign direct investment (FDI) in the current fiscal on account of economic reforms and ease of doing business, the Centre said on Saturday. In 202122, India received the "highest ever" foreign inflows of \$83.6 billion. "This FDI has come from 101 countries, and invested across 31 Union Territories and States and 57 sectors in the country," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said in a statement.

likely interference of 5G C-Band spectrum with aircraft radio altimeters. Radio altimeter is an instrument that provides direct height-above-terrain information to various aircraft systems.

2.C-Band refers to frequency bands of 3.7–4.2 GHz. It brings faster 5G speeds and better coverage. For aircraft operations, use of altimeters in this band ensures highly precise measurements of plane's altitude.