

# KSG: NEWSPAPER CRUX

30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

UNESCO released a list of 50 exclusive and iconic heritage textile crafts of the country. Toda embroidery and Sungadi from Tamil Nadu, Himroo from Hyderabad, and Bandha tie and dye from Sambalpur in Odisha were some of the textiles that made the cut. Handmade for the 21st Century: Safeguarding Traditional Indian Textile lists the histories and legends behind the textiles, describes the complicated and secret processes behind their making, mentions the causes for their dwindling popularity, and provides strategies for their preservation. According to UNESCO, one of the major challenges to the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the South Asia is the lack of proper inventory and documentation. The publication, which aims to bridge this gap, brings together years of research on the 50 selected textiles.

In a historic judgment, the Supreme Court declared that single women with pregnancies between 20 and 24 weeks are entitled to access the same safe and legal abortion care as married women. A three judge Bench, led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, pried open the restrictive grip of a 51-year-old abortion law which barred unmarried women from terminating pregnancies that are up to 24 weeks old. The judgment came in an appeal by a person who wanted to terminate her pregnancy before her term completed 24 weeks. The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971 prohibits unmarried women who are between 20 and 24 weeks' pregnant to abort with the help of registered doctors.

At a grand ceremony in Moscow on Friday, Russia will formally annex four regions of Ukraine — Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Lugansk — that its troops seized, the Kremlin has said, after it suggested using nuclear weapons to defend the territories. The threats from Russian officials have not deterred a sweeping counter offensive from Kyiv, which has been pushing back Russian troops in the east.

The Ministry of Communications released a draft of the Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 last week for public comments. The draft is an attempt by the government to update the extant regulatory framework in keeping with the advancements and challenges in the sector. D The current draft of the

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (SEBI) ROLLS OUT FRAMEWORK FOR CREDIT RATING AGENCIES (CRAS)

1. New framework, applicable from January 1, 2023, aims at enhancing transparency and improving the rating process for Credit Enhancement (CE) ratings. CE are used to reduce risks to investors of certain structured financial products. With CE, lender is provided with reassurance that borrower will honor its obligation through insurance, additional collateral, or third-party guarantee.
2. New norms CRAs can assign suffix 'CE' to rating of instruments having explicit credit enhancement. SEBI has specified a list of support which includes Guaranteed bond, Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities, etc. for CE-suffix. Credit ratings, with or without CE-suffix, backed by specified support considerations shall contain disclosures.
3. While assigning credit ratings, CRAs shall conduct independent due diligence on nature of specified support consideration and form a definitive internal view. CRAs shall verify support considerations documentation to ensure support is unconditional, irrevocable, and legally enforceable.
4. About CRAs CRAs evaluate and assess an individual's or a company's creditworthiness. In India, they are regulated by SEBI (Credit Rating Agencies) Regulations, 1999. There are many CRAs in India viz, CRISIL, CARE, ICRA, SMREA, Brickwork Rating etc.

## LT GENERAL ANIL CHAUHAN APPOINTED NEXT CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF (CDS)

1. CDS, approved in 2019, is the head of Army, Navy and Air Force and is a four-star military officer. First proposal for CDS came from Kargil Review Committee (2000).
2. Later, Naresh Chandra Committee on defence and security (2011) and Shekatkar Committee (2016) mooted the idea of CDS. Eligibility: Any serving or retired Lieutenant General, Air Marshal and Vice Admiral under age of 62 years. Tenure: Central government has reserved the right to extend CDS tenure to maximum of 65 years. Roles and powers of CDS CDS heads Department of Military Affairs within Ministry of Defence and acts as its secretary.
3. CDS is permanent chairman of existing Chiefs of Staff Committee and member of Defence Acquisition Council and Defence Planning Committee. CDS acts principal military advisor to Defence Minister on all matters related to tri-services and military advisor to Nuclear Command Authority.
4. Significance of CDS Bringing jointness in operations, logistics, transport, training, etc. Strengthen coordination between Government and Armed force. Promoting use of indigenous equipment by Services. Reorganise Indian armed forces into integrated theatre command.

## MOU SIGNED BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE (ISA) AND INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION (ICAO)

1. MoU was signed to check growth of CO2 emissions in the sector and idea of ICAO becoming a partner organisation of ISA was mooted by India. Aviation sector is responsible for around 2.5% of global CO2 emissions. In 2015, India's Cochin International Airport became world's first fully Solar powered airport. India has a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy by 2022, and Net Zero Carbon goal in 2070. About ISA and ICAO.
2. ISA-ISA is an alliance of 121 signatory countries and 32 partner organizations including many UN organizations. ISA is a treaty based international organization that acts as coalition of solar-resource-rich countries (which lie either completely or partly between Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn) to address their special energy needs. Launched at Paris Climate Change Conference in 2015 by France and India. Aims to pave way for future solar generation, storage and technologies for Member countries' needs by mobilising over USD

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Bill expands the definition of "telecommunication services" to include OTT communication services. As a consequence of this, OTT telecommunication services may be subject to the same licensing conditions as TSPs. If the OTT communication services are required to obtain the same licence, they would also be subject to a number of conditions such as maintaining 'know your customer' details of their users, adhering to certain encryption regulations and allowing lawful access to the government of their equipment and networks.

6000 number of children from Myanmar who have been enrolled in various schools across Mizoram. They had taken refuge in the State along with their parents following a military coup in their country. Of the 6,195 children, 5,221 were enrolled in government schools and 184 in government-aided institutes.

3 million, the number of children in Pakistan who may miss at least one semester because of flood damage to schools, following heavy monsoon rains likely worsened by climate change. Unprecedented deluges since mid-June have affected more than 33 million people, inundated millions of acres of land and devastated infrastructure, including education facilities.

6 number of mandatory airbags that have to be part of eight-seater cars from October 1, 2023. The government has deferred the implementation of the proposal by one year. It had earlier planned to make six airbags mandatory for enhanced safety from October 1, 2022. The announcement was made by Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari.

200 number of militants operating in J&K currently, according to outgoing Central Reserve Police Force DG Kuldiep Singh. An uptick has been noticed in the number of foreign terrorists operating in the valley post the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. "However, the total number of terrorists is less now compared to earlier", Mr. Singh said.

10.9 percentage by which consumer prices accelerated in Germany in September. This was the highest increase in the country in more than a quarter of a century, driven by high energy prices. Analysts have warned that the energy crisis is yet

1000 billion by 2030. ISA is first international organization headquartered in India.

3. ICAO-Established under Convention on International Civil Aviation, also known as 'Chicago Convention'. Funded and directed by 193 national governments. Committed towards reducing carbon emissions in aviation sector. Functions Maintain ICAO Secretariat supporting diplomatic interactions Research new air transport policy and standardize innovations as directed and endorsed by governments through assembly.

## INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL THERMONUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL REACTOR (ITER) PROJECT

1. Atomic Energy Commission Chairman, at 66th International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference in Vienna, stated that India has supplied Cryolines for ITER project in France. IAEA promotes peaceful uses of nuclear energy and application of safeguards to prevent diversion of nuclear energy for military use.

2. ITER is located in France and launched in 1985. It aims to prove feasibility of nuclear fusion as a future source of energy and build world's largest tokamak through an international collaboration of 35 nations. Tokamak is an experimental magnetic fusion device designed to harness energy of fusion. Inside a tokamak, energy produced through fusion is absorbed as heat in walls of vessel, which will be used by a fusion power plant to produce steam and then electricity.

3. ITER Members- China, European Union, India (joined in 2005), Japan, Korea, Russia and United States. Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), an aided institute of Department of Atomic Energy, is India's collaborating agency. Other than supplying cryolines, IPR has also supplied ITER about six km of return lines for warm gases, manufactured in India.

## DARK SKY RESERVE TO COME UP IN LADAKH

1. Department of Science & Technology has announced setting up of India's first dark sky reserve at Hanle in Ladakh as a part of Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary. It will be one of the world's highest-located sites for optical, infra-red, and gamma-ray telescopes. It will promote astronomy-tourism, giving a boost to local tourism and economy through science.

2. Dark Sky Reserve is a place that has policies to ensure that a tract of land or region has minimal artificial light interference. International Dark Sky Association, a U.S.-based non-profit, designates places as International Dark Sky Places, parks, sanctuaries and reserves, depending on criteria they meet. About Hanle It is located in Ladakh's cold desert region – away from any form of human disturbance.

3. Cloudless skies and low atmospheric water vapour make it one of the best sites in world for astronomical observations.

4. Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO), high-altitude station of Indian Institute of Astrophysics, is also located atop Mt. Saraswati in Nilamkhul Plain in the Hanle Valley. Other Prominent telescopes at IAO: Himalayan Chandra Telescope, High Energy Gamma Ray (HAGAR) telescope, Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment Telescope (MACE), GROWTH etc.

## POWER OF SPEAKER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY(LA)

1. Supreme Court ruled that Speaker of LA does not have the power to take away the status of former MLA while deciding a disqualification plea against a lawmaker under 10th schedule of Constitution (Anti- defection).

2. In 2014, Bihar LA Speaker not only disqualified some of speakers under 10th schedule but also took away their status of being treated as former lawmakers, depriving them of pension and other benefits.

3. In *Kihoto Hollohan v Zachillhu and Others (1992)*, SC ruled that power of speaker under 10th Schedule is subject to judicial review.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF INDIA(AGI)

1. R Venkataramani has been appointed as next AGI. Article 76 of Constitution provides for AGI office. He is the highest law officer in country. Appointed by President and holds office during

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to make itself fully felt. Costs for energy were 43.9% higher compared to September 2021.

Ahead of Assembly elections in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, the government on Thursday approved issuance of the 22nd tranche of electoral bonds that will open for sale on October 1. Electoral bonds have been pitched as an alternative to cash donations made to political parties as part of efforts to bring transparency in political funding. State Bank of India (SBI) has been authorised to issue and encash electoral bonds through its 29 authorised branches from October 1-10, the Finance Ministry said.

pleasure of President. He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of SC.

2. He has right of audience in all courts in territory of India. He has right to speak and to take part in proceedings of both Houses of Parliament or their joint sitting and any committee of Parliament but without a right to vote.