



BASAI News Updates

August 24, 2022

LSD-INFECTED CATTLE ON THE LOOSE IN NARWANA

CATTLE OWNERS in the adjoining villages have let their LSD infected cows loose in the city. The gaushalas are already struggling with keeping their cows safe and refusing to accept anymore cows, especially the ones infected with the LSD. Their staff is reluctant to even touch the infected cows. The veterinarians are unable to handle this constantly spreading disease within a limited time frame and resources. The government must realise the seriousness of the issue and deal with it on priority.

RAMESH GUPTA, NARWANA



STRAY CATTLE MENACE PLAGUES PANCHKULA

IT'S intriguing that the stray cattle menace has assumed alarming proportions in Sector 21, Panchkula. The MC authorities continue to be in deep slumber and are least bothered by the issue. The residents require quick resolution in the matter. **VINAYAK, PANCHKULA**

Centre aims to hit \$2 trillion exports by 2030, says Goyal

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NEW DELHI: The Union government has decided to restructure the commerce department, making it future-ready to achieve a \$2 trillion export target by 2030, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said, highlighting five guiding principles behind the exercise.

Saying that the restructuring plan is inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) and to make India a hub for global exports, Goyal highlighted the five pillars of the revamp exercise – enhancing India's share in global trade, its leadership role in bilateral and multilateral forums, democratisation of trade activities, creating 100 Indian brands as global champions, and setting up economic zones.

"The goal is increasing India's share in global trade, particularly our share in exports and consequently increasing the share of our exports to our GDP," he said.

On the second pillar, he said India must "assume leadership role in multilateral organisations like WTO (World Trade Organisation). And many other organisations of which we are part. Also expand our engagement, bilateral engagement through free trade agreements (FTAs)... with developed countries and other countries".

The third pillar, he said, is important "so that we can have a greater role for MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) sector, farmers and agri sector,



Goyal highlighted 5 principles to revamp the ministry MINT

fishermen through the marine exports, animal husbandry through milk and similar processed food products, weavers, craftsmen – all of them becoming part of international trade".

"Fourth, we want to create 100 Indian brands as global champions. The PM desires to see large Indian multinationals, which can play an increasingly important role, not only giving boost to the Indian economy creating huge amount of jobs in India but also strengthening our image across the world," Goyal said. "And lastly, the fifth. We are looking at setting up economic zones or industrial hubs across the country which will strengthen the manufacturing base and the service base of the economy, provide plug and play infrastructure, and encourage greater investments to come to India," he added.

Goyal said that officials in the ministry are working on a restructuring plan to envisage what should the department of commerce look like to be able to meet the needs of a developed country.

Heat, drought hit crop production across countries

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BEIJING/BRUSSELS: China's ongoing heatwave, the country's longest, most intense and covering the widest landmass since 1961, poses a "serious threat" to the autumn grain production a joint statement from multiple Chinese ministries and departments said on Tuesday.

The autumn grain production makes up about 75% of China's annual grain output and China, until the drought gradually set in from July, had aimed to produce more than 650 billion kilograms this year, unlikely given the severity of the situation.

The statement, jointly issued by the agriculture and rural welfare ministry and the water resources ministry, among others, said all departments should "shoulder the political responsibility of ensuring national food security" and to ensure the autumn grain harvest. Large parts of China have been in the grip of a drought for weeks now.

China's national meteorological centre has continued to issue red alerts for high temperatures, the most severe warning in China's four-tier colour-coded weather warning system, on Tuesday, the twelfth consecutive day. Since July, the drought has affected over 821,000 hectares of farmlands in several provincial-level regions including Sichuan, Chongqing, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi and Anhui, the water resources ministry said.

"Weather forecasts have indicated that heatwaves in some regions will last until late August, a crucial time for the growth of autumn grain, posing

challenges to the country's autumn grain production, which makes up about 75% of China's annual grain output," the official Xinhua news agency reported.

Europe's worst drought

Europe is facing its worst drought in at least 500 years, with two-thirds of the continent in a state of alert or warning, reducing inland shipping, electricity production and the yields of certain crops, a European Union agency said on Tuesday.

The August report of the European Drought Observatory said 47% of Europe is under warning conditions, with clear deficit of soil moisture, and 17% in a state of alert, in which vegetation is affected.

Summer crops have suffered, with 2022 yields for grain maize set to be 16% below the average of the previous five years and soybean and sunflowers yields set to fall by 15% and 12% respectively.

US: Unplanted acres rise

Acres that US farmers were unable to plant have more than tripled from the same period last year as extreme weather wreaks havoc on fields.

Prevented planting acres - or insured crop that can't be planted because of disasters including flooding and drought - were at 6.4 million, according to the USDA Farm Service Agency's August report. That's up from 2.1 million in 2021.

The news comes at the start of the key US crop tour, which will determine if the US can produce enough corn and soybeans to revive supplies diminished by extreme weather and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Aim is to start deliberation in Parl on law for freebies: SC

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it took up the issue of freebies in politics with the "good intention" of facilitating a dialogue in Parliament, which could consider framing a law with the assistance of the suggestions that the proposed committee appointed by the court may make.

The court was hearing a petition filed by former BJP spokesperson Ashwini Upadhyay in January seeking directions for issuance of stringent guidelines to deregister errant political parties

and seize election symbols for offering "irrational freebies"

During the hearing, the bench headed by chief justice of India NV Ramana, emphasised that the top court is neither going to issue directions on how to curb freebies, nor can it ask Parliament to make a particular law.

"But the endeavour is to start a deliberation by the lawmakers to muse over possibility of a legislation," said the bench.

"We think there could be some people in the committee who are concerned about the welfare of people, as well as the economy. They could make some sugges-

COURT REMARKS CAME AFTER OBJECTIONS BY AAP AND DMK TO THE SET UP OF A PANEL TO EXAMINE ISSUE

tions to Parliament, which can then consider framing a law...To initiate a debate in Parliament, some background papers are required and we thought this committee could thus make certain suggestions," remarked the bench, which also comprised justices CT

Ravi Kumar and Hima Kohli.

The observations came following objections raised by Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) against the constitution of the committee.

During the hearing, CJI Ramana pulled up the DMK over comments made by Tamil Nadu finance minister on the issue.

When senior advocate P Wilson, representing the DMK, sought to make submissions, the CJI told him: "Mr Wilson, the party you represent, I have a lot of things to say but I am restraining myself... Don't think you are the only wise

party. The way you are talking, giving statements... Don't think we are ignoring all that is being said."

Senior advocate Vikas Singh, appearing for the petitioner, submitted that the plea seeks to focus on freebies being promised at the time of elections and wants some financial discipline in place.

The bench, however, replied; "It's a very complex issue. Even if you may be confining your case to promises made at the time of the election, the other part of it, about the schemes framed after the election, are also important." The hearing in the case will continue on Wednesday.