



CURRENT AFFAIRS 2nd July 2022

National News

1. India's largest floating solar power project commissioned



- India's largest floating solar power project is now fully operational.
- NTPC declared commercial operation of the final part capacity of 20 MW out of 100 MW Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project at Ramagundam, Telangana with effect from 1st of July.
- With the operationalisation of the 100-MW Solar PV Project at Ramagundam, the total commercial operation of floating solar capacity in the Southern Region rose to 217 MW.
- Earlier, NTPC declared commercial operation of 92 MW Floating Solar at Kayamkulam in Kerala and 25 MW Floating Solar at Simhadri in Andhra Pradesh.
- The 100-MW Floating Solar project at Ramagundam is endowed with advanced technology as well as environment-friendly features.

- **Constructed with a financial implication of 423 crore rupees, the project spreads over 500 acres of its reservoir.**
- **An official release said that with the presence of floating solar panels, the evaporation rate from water bodies is reduced, thus helping in water conservation.**

2. DRDO carries out maiden flight of unmanned combat aircraft



- **The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) yesterday successfully carried out the Maiden flight of Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator from Aeronautical Test Range at Chitradurga in Karnataka.**
- **With this success, India's secretive unmanned combat aerial vehicle UCAV programme under which a technology demonstrator called stealth wing flying test bed (SWift) is being developed reached a milestone.**
- **The programme is linked to the development of India's fifth-generation stealth fighter advanced medium combat aircraft or AMCA.**
- **The flight operated in a fully autonomous mode. The aircraft exhibited a perfect flight, including take-off, way point navigation and a smooth touchdown. This aircraft is powered by a small turbofan engine.**

3. Railways records best ever monthly freight loading of over 125 million tonnes in June this year



- **Railways has recorded best-ever monthly freight loading of over 125 million tonnes in June this year. The incremental loading has been a growth of 11.28 percent over the same period in 2021.**
- **Railway Ministry said, this growth has been fuelled by incremental loading of over 13 million tonnes in Coal, followed by Cement and Food grains.**
- **The cumulative freight loading in the first quarter of this financial year has been over 379 million tonnes as against 339 million tonnes achieved in 2021-22.**

4. K.K. Venugopal re-appointed as Attorney General for three months



- **Attorney General (A-G), K.K. Venugopal has been re-appointed as the country's top law officer for a period of three months.**
- **Mr. Venugopal, whose current one-year term ends on June 30, agreed to a short tenure following a request from the government.**
- **The sources cited above said that he was initially not willing to continue in the Constitutional post due to "personal reasons".**
- **In July 2017, Mr. Venugopal, 90, was appointed by the President of India to succeed Mukul Rohatgi as the A-G.**

- The government's top law officer enjoys a tenure of three years.
- However, when Mr. Venugopal's first term as A-G was to end in 2020, he requested the government to give him a one-year tenure keeping in mind his advanced age.
- Last year too, he was reappointed for one year.

5. Isro places 3 Singapore satellites, 6 experiments in orbit in second launch this year



- Three Singaporean satellites were successfully launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as part of a commercial mission for the New Space India Limited.
- This was the space agency's second launch of the year; its first, had put an Indian Earth Observation Satellite in orbit.
- The space agency also carried six in-orbit experiments mounted on the fourth stage of the rocket on the current mission in addition to the commercial satellites.
- The nation's workhorse rocket, PSLV-C53, launched from Sriharikota and put the three satellites into precise orbits about 18 minutes later.
- The launch vehicle was deployed in the core-alone configuration, which only uses the four primary engine stages.
- The 365 kg Singaporean DS-EO satellite served as the mission's primary payload.

- It is an electro-optic earth observation satellite that can deliver full-color images for land classification and disaster relief operations.
- Its first small commercial satellite, weighing 155 kg, is called NeuSAR. It can transmit images in all weather conditions, day or night.

6. Dictator's son Ferdinand Marcos Jr. takes oath as Philippine president



- Ferdinand Marcos Jr, the son of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos Sr, won the elections on 9th May with 31.6 million votes and was sworn as the 17th President of the Philippines.
- He took the oath at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Manila before the Supreme Court Justice, Alexander Gesmundo.
- The former President's daughter and his running mate, Sara Duterte Carpio, swore as vice president on 19th June. The two will be serving the nation until 2028.
- Marcos Jr. is more popularly known as "Bongbong" in the country and won on the platform of national unity, promising more jobs, lowering prices, and increasing investment in agriculture and infrastructure.

- **Ferdinand Marcos Sr. was a dictator who ruled the country from 1965 to 1986 and was laid off due to abuse of human rights and increased corruption.**
- **During his reign, the country observed martial law from 1972-1981, where several people were tortured, imprisoned or killed for criticizing the government.**

7. Malayalam Actress Ambika Rao Dies of Cardiac Arrest Aged 58



- **Malayalam actor and assistant director Ambika Rao passed away at the age of 58.**
- **She entered the movie industry as an assistant director with the 2002 release 'Krishna Gopalakrishna' helmed by Balachandra Menon.**
- **She forayed into the film industry as an assistant director in early 2000.**
- **She has assisted several directors, including Balachandra Menon, Anwar Rasheed, Shafi, and Vinayan.**
- **She also acted in many movies. Recently, she made a mark with her performances in hit films like Virus and Kumbalangi Nights.**

By Sameer Singhal

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