



CURRENT AFFAIRS 21st July 2022

National News

1. Ranil Wickremesinghe takes oath as President of Sri Lanka



- In Sri Lanka, Ranil Wickremesinghe took oath as the President at the Parliament Complex this morning. He was elected to the post yesterday, receiving 134 votes.
- His closest rival, Dullus Alahapperuma, received 82 votes. In the 225-member Parliament, 223 MPs voted to elect a new President.
- Soon after Ranil Wickremesinghe's election, protesters hit the streets, saying they do not accept him as their President.
- Last week, protesters had burnt down his private home and also stormed his Prime Ministerial office in Colombo in demonstrations against his leadership.

2. Indian Men's team bags silver medal at ISSF World Cup



- The Indian men's 25m rapid fire pistol team comprising Anish Bhanwala, Vijayveer Sidhu and Sameer won the silver medal on the last day of the ISSF World Cup Changwon 2022 in South Korea.
- The medal helped India retain the top spot on the medals table with five gold, six silver and four bronze.
- South Korea managed just one bronze on the final day and finished with four golds, five silver and three bronze medals.
- The Indian trio had made the final after coming through two rounds of qualification, finishing second with 872 points in the first and topping the second round with 578 for a shot at gold. India started strongly to take a 10-2 lead.
- This is the second time this year that the Indian shooters had topped the ISSF World Cup medals table.
- India finished with four gold medals at the ISSF World Cup in Cairo.

3. India's javelin thrower Annu Rani qualifies for final of World Athletics Championships-2022



- India's star javelin thrower Annu Rani qualified for the final of World Athletics Championships-2022 in the US State of Oregon today.
- She finished with the best throw of 59.60 metres in her third and final attempt.
- The national record holder made it to her second successive javelin final at the World Athletics Championship.
- Parul Chaudhary failed to make it to the semifinals after finishing 17th in heat number-2.
- Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra will compete in the qualification round Group 'A' of men's javelin throw tomorrow.

4. Henley Passport Index ranks India 87th globally out of 199 countries



- The Henley Passport Index has recently released the list of the World's Most Powerful Passports for the year 2022.
- Three Asian nations Japan, Singapore and South Korea bagged the top three positions on the list, reversing pre-pandemic rankings that were dominated by European nations.
- India is ranked 87th on the list of the world's most powerful passports in 2022, according to the latest Henley Passport Index from Henley & Partners, an immigration consultancy.
- India's neighbouring country Pakistan reportedly has the fourth worst passport in the world, according to Henley Index.
- The Japanese passport provides hassle-free entry to 193 countries, while Singapore and South Korea both provide entry to 192 countries.

- Among other countries from Asia, India, along with Mauritius and Tajikistan, has been ranked 87th, with its passport providing access to 67 countries.
- China ties with Bolivia for the 69th spot, with each of their passports allowing access to 80 destinations.

5. RattanIndia Power appoints Brijesh Gupta as managing director



- RattanIndia Power announced hiring Brijesh Gupta as its new managing director.
- He has experience working across the renewable, steel, mining and commodities sector in India and abroad.
- He has over three decades of experience in the industrial sector.
- Brijesh Gupta held leadership positions in Adani Enterprises, Essar Group, Welspun and Atha Group.
- Other than this, he also has global experience by working across geographies in the USA, Middle East, Iran and the Indian Subcontinent.
- RattanIndia Power is a private power generation company, with an installed capacity of 2,700 MW thermal power plants at Amravati and Nashik (1,350 MW at each location)

in Maharashtra, with investments of Rs.18,615 crores (US\$ 2.5 billion).

6. CM Dhami launches book on temples of Uttarakhand



- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami released the book “BEYOND THE MISTY VEIL”, Temple Tales of Uttarakhand written by Ms Aradhana Johri (Senior IAS) on the temples of Uttarakhand.
- This book will be known as an authentic introduction to the divine temples of Uttarakhand in the country and abroad.
- Former IAS officer Aradhana Johri who had served earlier as the District Magistrate of Nainital.
- The book based on the mythological temples of Devbhoomi Uttarakhand informs us about our culture and mythology.
- Apart from Chardham, religious tourism should also be promoted.
- The book talks about the temples of Uttarakhand, their significance and the tales associated with them.

- **This will connect the main temples coming in different areas of the state and will promote religious tourism by developing them in the form of circuits.**

7. Andhra Pradesh launches first-ever blackbuck survey on Godavari islands



- **In order to create a conservation strategy to safeguard the endangered species, the Andhra Pradesh State Wildlife Department has begun the first-ever study of blackbucks along a length of islands in the Godavari between Dowleswaram and Yanam.**
- **Following reports of large numbers of blackbucks becoming stuck on the islands affected by the Godavari floods, the survey was proposed.**
- **The Gowthami, Vasista, Vainteya, and Vridha Gowthami islands in the Konaseema and East Godavari districts are a significant habitat for blackbucks, who travel throughout the area adjacent to populated areas. Blackbucks have occasionally been stolen downstream of Dowleswaram.**

- Bobbarlanka, one of the many islands that are home to the animal, situated downstream of the Dowleswaram barrage and is where you may see blackbucks all year round.
- S.S.R. Vara Prasad, a forest range officer for wildlife in Kakinada, and D. Mahesh Babu, a wildlife researcher for the A.P. Forest Department, began the field study on Monday despite the danger of floodwaters in the Godavari and its branches. By boat, they traversed the islands.

8. Bangladesh Batter Tamim Iqbal Announces Retirement from T20 Internationals



- Bangladesh ODI captain, Tamim Iqbal has announced his retirement from T20Is and his decision came shortly after his side defeated West Indies 3-0 in the three-match ODI series.
- He played his last T20 International in March 2020.
- The 33-year-old has played 78 T20 Internationals, scoring 1758 runs at 24.08.
- Tamim is one of the best openers to have come out of Bangladesh, having scored 5082 runs in Tests and 7943 runs in ODIs.

By Sameer Singhal

PLUTUS ACADEMY