



CURRENT AFFAIRS 25th June 2022

National News

1. Shyam Saran to take over as India International Center president



- India International Centre's President is now former foreign secretary and Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Nuclear Affairs and Climate Change Shyam Saran.
- After leaving the administration in 2010, he served as chairman of the National Security Advisory Board under the National Security Council and served as the director of the Research and Information System for Developing Countries, a renowned think tank specialising in economic issues, from 2011 to 2017.
- He is a member of the governing boards of the Institute of Chinese Studies and the Centre for Policy Research.
- How India Sees the World, his debut book, was released in 2017.
- His second book, How China Sees India and the World, was just released. For his achievements to the civil service,

Saran received the Padma Bhushan in 2011, the third-highest civilian honour.

- **He received the Spring Order Gold and Silver Star in May 2019 from the Emperor of Japan for fostering ties between India and Japan.**

2. Chennai-based drone startup to set up plant in Malaysia



- **Garuda Aerospace Pvt. Ltd., an integrated drone manufacturer and drone-as-a-service (DAAS) provider based in India, would invest Rs 115 crore in the construction of a production facility in Malaysia.**
- **The decision is made to establish a drone manufacturing plant in Malaysia, with a daily production capacity of around 50 drones. The components would be imported from India and other nations.**
- **The city-based business has partnered with HiiLSE Global Sdn Bhd (HiiLSE Drones), a Malaysian drone start-up.**
- **This alliance will establish a drone ecosystem with cutting-edge artificial intelligence, machine learning, and deep learning technology.**
- **The partnership is not a joint venture in which the equity capital is shared by two entities.**

- **The Malaysian firm will make it possible for Garuda Aerospace to establish the factory and other commercial opportunities.**
- **Garuda Aerospace would conclude in July after raising USD 30 million.**

3. US Supreme Court overrules women's constitutional right to abortion



- **US Supreme Court has overturned a 50-year-old ruling that recognised a woman's constitutional right to an abortion.**
- **Supreme Court, in a 6-3 majority ruling, upheld a Republican-backed Mississippi law that bans abortion after 15 weeks.**
- **The judgement will transform abortion rights in America, with individual states now able to ban the procedure.**
- **Half of US states are expected to introduce new restrictions or bans.**
- **13 have already passed trigger laws to automatically outlaw abortion following the Supreme Court's ruling.**
- **President Joe Biden has slammed the US Supreme Court for ending the right to abortion, accusing it of putting women's lives at risk in the name of an extreme ideology.**

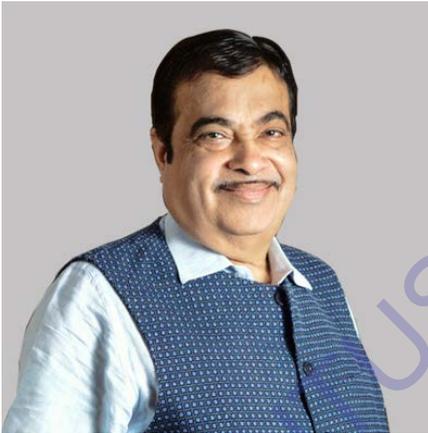
- In a White House speech, President Biden said it is a sad day for the court and the country, calling the decision cruel and saying it takes America back 150 years.

4. US passes gun control bill; imposes tougher checks on young buyers



- The US Congress has passed a gun control bill, which is being considered the most significant firearms legislation in nearly 30 years.
- It imposes tougher checks on young buyers and encourages states to remove guns from people considered a threat.
- The measures enjoyed bipartisan support, with 14 Republicans joining Democrats in the House to approve the bill by 234 to 193 votes.
- Earlier, the bill also passed in the Senate, with 15 Republican Senators voting alongside their Democratic colleagues in favour of the bill.
- It ultimately passed in a late-night 65-33 vote. The bill is now headed to President Joe Biden to be signed into law.

5. Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari approves the Draft GSR Notification to introduce Bharat NCAP



- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has approved the Draft GSR Notification to introduce Bharat NCAP (New Car Assessment Program), wherein automobiles in India shall be accorded Star Ratings based upon their performance in Crash Tests.
- In a series of tweets, Mr Gadkari, said Bharat-NCAP will serve as a consumer-centric platform allowing customers to opt for safer cars based upon their star-ratings, while promoting a healthy competition among OEMs in India to manufacture safer vehicles.
- The Minister said Star Rating of Indian Cars based on Crash Tests is extremely crucial not only to ensure

structural and passenger safety in cars, but to also increase the export-worthiness of Indian automobiles.

- **He said, the testing protocol of Bharat NCAP shall be aligned with Global Crash Test Protocols factoring in the existing Indian regulations, allowing OEMs to get their vehicles tested at India's own in-house testing facilities.**

6. Spain Germany battle wildfires amid unusual heat wave



- **On Sunday amid an unusual heat wave in western Europe and Germany struggled with wildfires. There has been used damage in several places in Spain and Germany.**
- **The Northwest province of Zamora is affected by over 25000 hectares. Up to 25000 hectares of the area have been consumed by the wildfire in Zamora.**
- **In Germany residents of three villages near Berlin have been ordered to leave their homes due to the approaching wildfire as requested by the officials on Sunday.**
- **On Sunday morning the Spanish authorities said that after 3 days of high-temperature high wind and low humidity some rest came with dropping temperatures.**

- 650 firefighters along with water dumping aircraft were allowed to establish a perimeter around the fire which started in Zamora's Sierra de la Culebra.
- The authorities have won the people that there was still a danger of unfavorable shifts in weather and the revival of the blaze.
- Arjun Spain has been on alert for an outbreak of intense wildfire as the country suffers from the record temperature in many places in the country.

7. South Korea Launches Satellite With Its Own Rocket for the First Time



- South Korea launched its first satellite successfully using a homegrown rocket, boosting the nation's expanding aerospace ambitions and proving it has the necessary technologies to build larger missiles and launch spy satellites in the midst of tensions with rival North Korea.
- The Science Ministry reported that the three-stage Nuri rocket successfully launched a working "performance verification" satellite to a target altitude of 435 miles from South Korea's space launch facility on a southern island.
- An unmanned South Korean station in Antarctica received signals from the satellite informing it of its condition. It is carrying four smaller satellites that will be launched for

Earth observation and other missions in the following days.

- **At a live-streamed press conference at the launch facility, science minister Lee Jong-Ho declared that “the science and technology of the Republic of Korea have achieved a remarkable advance.” Together with the people, the government will continue its bold march toward becoming a space power.**
- **President Yoon Suk Yeol congratulated scientists and other launch participants in a video conference and promised to uphold his campaign pledge to create a state aerospace agency, according to his office.**
- **The 154-foot rocket was seen ascending in live TV footage among brilliant flames and copious amounts of white smoke.**

8. BSE appoints former RBI deputy governor S S Mundra as a chairman



- **S.S. Mundra, a public interest director to lead the world’s largest stock exchange, according to the BSE. Justice Vikramajit Sen will be replaced by Mr. Mundra.**
- **After serving for three years, Mr. Mundra left his position as Reserve Bank of India’s Deputy Governor in July 2017.**
- **Before that, he held the positions of Chairman and Managing Director at Bank of Baroda, until he retired in July 2014.**

- Mr. Mundra has held a number of significant positions over his more than 40-year banking career, including Executive Director of Union Bank of India and Chief Executive of Bank of Baroda (European Operations), among others.
- Additionally, he represented the RBI as the G20 Forum's nominee on the Financial Stability Board and its numerous committees.
- Additionally, he served as the International Network on Financial Education's Vice-Chair for the OECD.
- He served on the boards of a number of multi-faceted businesses before to the RBI, including Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. and Central Depository Services (India) Ltd. (CDSL).

9. India jump two places to 104 in FIFA ranking after Asian cup qualification



- The Indian football team reaped a good harvest of its impressive Asian Cup qualification campaign as it gained two places to jump to 104th in the latest FIFA world rankings released.
- The Blue Tigers are placed just below New Zealand (103), who missed out on a 2022 FIFA World Cup spot after losing 0-1 to Costa Rica in the intercontinental play-off earlier this month.
- India's ranking among Asian Football Confederation (AFC) members, however, still remained static at 19th place.

- Iran retained the top spot among the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) countries (23).
- Brazil remained on top, three months after taking the top spot from Belgium (2nd).
- Argentina jumped one place to third at the expense of France (4th) who paid the price for four winless games in the UEFA Nations League.
- England, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and Denmark complete the top-10.
- The next FIFA world ranking will be out on August 25.

By Sameer Singhal

PLUTUS ACADEMY