

## Daily Current Affair - 01.06.2022

### 1. PM announces 'Yoga for Humanity' is the theme of eighth International Day of Yoga

'Yoga for Humanity' has been chosen as the theme of the eighth International Day of Yoga to be organised in India and across the globe on June 21. The theme has been selected after much deliberation and consultation and it appropriately portrays how yoga served humanity in alleviating suffering during the peak of the pandemic.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the theme in his "Maan Ki Baat" broadcast. The main event of International Day of Yoga this year will be held in Mysuru, Karnataka. Focusing on the theme of 'yoga for humanity', special programmes have been designed this year for specially-abled people, the transgender population, women and children. Human values that are an integral part of yoga education in schools are also in focus.

The 8th edition of International Day of Yoga (IDY) will see many firsts, one of them is an innovative programme, named "Guardian Ring", under which participation of people performing yoga will take place along with the movement of the sun from different countries, beginning from the east and marching towards west.

### 2. NCTE launches online portal to Simplify Process of Teacher Education Programme

National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has launched an online portal to simplify the process of recognition of teacher education programs in higher education institutions.

The portal launched to streamline the process seeks to help right from the time of inviting application for courses till the stage of issue of recognition orders including the inspection of institutions. The applications for the recently launched four-year integrated teacher education programmes (ITEP) applications will be processed on this portal.

The four-year ITEP is available for all students who choose to teach as a profession after secondary, by choice. The integrated course will benefit students since they will save one year by finishing it in four years rather than the customary five years required by the present BEd plan.

NCTE under the Ministry of Education has devised the curriculum for this course as per NEP 2020 in such a way that it enables a student-teacher to get a degree in education as well as a specialized discipline such as History, Mathematics, Science, Arts, Economics, or Commerce.

Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

National Council for Teacher Education Founded: 1995, India;

National Council for Teacher Education Chairperson: Shri Santosh Sarangi, IAS;

National Council for Teacher Education Headquarters: New Delhi.

### 3. New law introduced in Canada aims to 'freeze' handgun ownership

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has unveiled new legislation that would implement "some of the harshest gun control measures" in decades, including a "freeze" on the country's handgun purchases and sales.

Trudeau cited a succession of mass shootings in Canada over the years, as well as recent assaults in the United States, as part of his government's motivation to propose Bill C-21 during a press conference in Ottawa.

Canada has stronger gun ownership laws than the United States, gun control supporters have campaigned for tougher regulations in recent years in the wake of a number of mass shootings, including a 2017 attack on a Quebec mosque that killed six worshipers and a fatal shooting in Toronto in 2018.

The AR-15 weapon, which was used by a shooter to murder 26 adults and children in the Sandy Hook tragedy in the United States in 2012, and the Ruger Mini-14 rifle, which was used by a gunman to murder 14 women at a Montreal engineering school in 1989, were among those banned.

Long-gun magazines will also be permanently changed so that they can never store more than five rounds, and the sale and transfer of large-capacity magazines would be prohibited.

#### **4. LIC Launches Savings Life Insurance Plan Bima Ratna**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has chosen Jharkhand for the World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) Award-2022, in recognition of the state's efforts to reduce tobacco usage.

The award will be presented to the State Tobacco Control Cell of the Health Department in New Delhi in honour of World No Tobacco Day. The coveted award, which honoured the State Government's achievements in reducing tobacco usage, was given by the National Tobacco Control Program in Jharkhand.

According to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS)-1 report, the NTCP was begun in Jharkhand in 2012, when the state's tobacco prevalence rate was 51.1 percent, with 48 percent of smokers.

According to the GATS-2 study, tobacco users in the state decreased to 38.9%, with 35.4 percent of those using smokeless tobacco.

#### **5. Rajesh Gera appointed DG National Informatics Centre**

Senior scientist Rajesh Gera has been appointed as the Director-General, National Informatics Centre (NIC), a Personnel Ministry order issued. He is currently Deputy Director-General in the NIC. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Gera, Scientist 'G', to the post of Director-General.

The National Informatics Centre is an Indian government organization under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, was established in 1976 with the objective to provide technology-driven solutions to central and state governments.

Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

National Informatics Centre (NIC) Headquarters: New Delhi;

National Informatics Centre (NIC) Founded: 1976.

#### **6. Indian-origin academic appointed to Bank of England's monetary panel**

Leading UK-based academic, Dr Swati Dhingra has been named as the first Indian-origin woman to be appointed as an external member of the Bank of England's interest rate-setting committee.

Dhingra will replace current external member, Michael Saunders, who has been on the MPC since August 2016.

According to the UK government's Treasury Department, the appointment of external members to the MPC is designed to ensure that the committee benefits from thinking and expertise in addition to that gained inside the Bank.

The Bank of England's independent MPC makes decisions about the operation of the monetary policy of the UK. It comprises the Governor of the Bank of England, its three Deputy Governors, one member of the Bank with responsibility for monetary policy and four external members who are appointed by the Chancellor.

Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

The Governor of the Bank of England: Andrew Bailey.

#### **7. Former SBI officer Natarajan Sundar joins NARCL as MD & CEO**

Former State Bank of India executive Natarajan Sundar joined National Assets Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) as Managing Director and CEO on May 30. Sundar is a banking veteran having served SBI for over 37 years and retired as Dy MD and Chief Credit Officer of the bank.

He was selected through a competitive selection process through an open advertisement and was interviewed in April 2022, by a selection panel consisting of senior bankers from both the Public and Private sectors.

NARCL appointed Mr Karnam Sekar as the Independent Director and Non-Executive Chairman of the Board. Sekar was the MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank from July 2019 to June 2020. Earlier he was MD and CEO of Dena Bank from Sep 2018 until its merger in April 2019.

### **8. Public Sector Banks doubled their Net Profit to almost Rs 66,500 crore in FY22**

Israel has inked its first free trade agreement with an Arab country, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The agreement was signed in Dubai by Israel's Economy and Industry Minister Orna Barbivay and the UAE's Economy Minister Abdalla Bin Touq Al Marri.

According to an official statement released by Israel's Ministry of Economy and Industry, the comprehensive, significant, and ground-breaking agreement is expected to increase bilateral trade in goods and services, increase Israeli exports to the United Arab Emirates, and provide customs exemption on 96% of trade between the countries: food, agriculture, cosmetics, medical equipment, medication, and more.

Defence News

### **9. Defence Ministry signs Rs 2,971-crore deal for indigenous Astra Beyond Visual Range missiles**

The Defence Ministry has signed a contract with the defence public sector undertaking Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for the supply of the indigenously developed Astra Mk-I Beyond Visual Range (BVR) air to air missiles and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Navy at a cost of Rs 2,971 Crore.

The missile, for which successful trials have already been undertaken by the IAF, is fully integrated on the Su-30 MK-I fighter aircraft and will be integrated with other fighter aircraft in a phased manner, including the Light Combat Aircraft.

Astra has a range of over 100 km with modern guidance and navigation techniques and has midcourse guidance and RF seeker based terminal guidance to achieve target destruction with pinpoint accuracy, as the DRDO had stated earlier.

Air to Air missile with BVR capability provides large standoff ranges to fighter aircraft which can neutralise the adversary aircraft without exposing themselves to adversary air defence measures, thereby gaining and sustaining superiority of the air space.

A longer range and more sophisticated Astra-Mk2 is under development by DRDO and once it is inducted will free up the dependency on imports in the BVR segment.

### **10. PARAM ANANTA Supercomputer commissioned at IIT, Gandhinagar**

Param Ananta, is a state of the art supercomputer at IIT Gandhinagar dedicated to the nation under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

It is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), which was commissioned. This indigenous software stack is developed by C-DAC and is a Make in India initiative.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between IIT Gandhinagar and the Centre for Development in Advanced Computing (C-DAC) on October 12, 2020, to establish this 838 TeraFlops Supercomputing Facility under NSM.

The system is equipped with a mix of CPU nodes, GPU nodes, high memory nodes, high throughput storage, and high-performance Infiniband interconnect to cater to the computing needs of various scientific and engineering applications.