

Daily Current Affairs 21.07.2022

Important News: International

Jeddah Security and Development Summit

Why in News:

- The Jeddah Security and Development Summit held in Jeddah city of Saudi Arabia concluded.



key points:

- The Jeddah Security and Development Summit was attended by the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United States, with leaders of the involved countries discussing the historical ties shared between the countries.
- The aim of the Jeddah Security and Development Summit is to promote the joint cooperation of countries in all fields.
- The leaders involved in the conference reiterated their joint vision for a prosperous and peaceful Middle East and discussed

taking all necessary measures to safeguard security and stability in the region.

- The Jeddah Security and Development Summit decided to support the Palestinian economy and UNRWA by all the member states.
- The commitment to build joint projects between countries for sustainable development was also renewed by the participating countries during the summit.
- Joint Task Force 153 and Task Force 59, formed prior to the conference, were set up with the objective of strengthening joint defense coordination, improving joint naval defense, and dealing with maritime security threats.

Source: Times of India

Important News: State

Kerala is the first state in India to start its own internet service.

Why in News:

- The state of Kerala has become the first state in India to launch its own internet service which was named KFON (Kerala Fiber Optic Network).



Key points:

- The Internet Service Provider (ISP) license has been granted to KFON Ltd by the Department of Telecommunications with an aim to provide internet facilities to all the residents of the state.
- KFON is an initiative of the Government of Kerala, which aims to bridge the digital gap in the state.
- The Kerala government aims to develop the existing telecom ecosystem infrastructure in Kerala through this project.
- The objective of KFON is to establish a core network infrastructure to provide non-discriminatory access to all service providers in the state with the aim of reducing their connectivity gap.
- Reliable, secure, and scalable internet will be provided to all government offices, hospitals, and educational institutions through KFON, as well as internet service providers, system operators, and internet service providers to provide free internet to economically backward families through this scheme by the state. Partnerships with telecom service providers will also be further strengthened.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Polity

The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery System (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022

Why in News:

- The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Distribution System (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022 was introduced in Rajya Sabha by the government.



key points:

- The new bill has been introduced to amend the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Distribution System (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005.
- Under the 2005 Act, illegal activities such as the manufacture, transportation, or transfer of weapons of mass destruction and their means of distribution are prohibited.

- Whether weapons of mass destruction are biological, chemical, or nuclear weapons, the new bill prohibits the financing of any prohibited activity related to weapons of mass destruction to individuals and their delivery systems.

Source: All India Radio

Renunciation of Indian citizenship

Why in News:

- According to data released by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), over 1.6 lakh Indians relinquished their citizenship in 2021, the highest since the year 2019.



key points:

- According to the data released by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the number of Indians who gave up their Indian citizenship in the years 2019, 2020, and 2021 are 1,44,017, 85,256, and 1,63,370 respectively.

- Among Indians who renounced Indian citizenship, more than 78,000 Indians acquired US citizenship, the highest among all other countries.
- After US citizenship, 23,533 Indians took citizenship in Australia, followed by 21,597 Indians in Canada followed by 14,637 Indians in the UK.
- The provision of single citizenship has been included in the Indian Constitution. The Indian Constitution does not allow dual citizenship.
- According to the Citizenship Act of 1955, any Indian citizen can renounce his citizenship through the following 3 means-
 - Any citizen of India of full age and capacity can declare to renounce Indian citizenship.
 - If a citizen of India voluntarily acquires the citizenship of another country, he loses the citizenship of India.
 - With the announcement of the termination of Indian citizenship by the central government

Source: Times of India

Important News: Economy

Remittance Status in India

Why in News:

- According to RBI, the US has become the top remittance source for India after UAE.



Key points:

- Remittance refers to financial or other transfers made by residents residing abroad to friends and relatives in their country of origin.
- According to RBI, economic recovery in the US is one of the important components of India's remittance growth.
- In FY 2011, India received about 87 billion dollars in remittances, the highest in the world.
- According to the RBI, the share of remittances from the GCC sector in India's inward remittances is estimated to decline from over 50 percent in 2016-17 to around 30 percent in 2020-21.
- The share of traditional remittance receiving states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka has come down to half in the year 2020-21, while Maharashtra has emerged as the top remittance receiving state, surpassing Kerala.

Source: The Hindu

Report on Employment in India released by National Statistical Office

Why in News:

- The report on employment status in India on the compilation of minimum gender indicators and labor indicators has been released by the National Statistical Office.



key points:

- According to the report released by the Office of National Statistics, the employment rate of women with at least one child under the age of 3 years is lower than those who do not have any children.
- According to the report, more women work part-time than men across all age groups in both rural and urban areas in India.
- In both rural and urban areas in India, the 60+ age group has the highest number of part-time workers as a total employed ratio between men and urban women.
- The National Statistics Office is a comprehensive body consisting of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), the Computer Center, and the Central Statistical Office (CSO).

- The National Statistical Office was conceived by the Rangarajan Commission to implement the statistical standards set by the National Statistical Commission (NSC) and to coordinate the statistical activities of central and state agencies.

Source: PIB

Important News: Environment

Amendment in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Rules

Why in News:

- The latest amendment to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Rules has been notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.



Key points:

- Highway projects of strategic and defense importance have been exempted in the new Act, under which any project which is 100 km from the Line of Control, all those projects have been exempted from obtaining environmental clearance before construction.
- The requirement of green clearance for the construction of the controversial Char Dham project has also been dispensed with by amending the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) rules.
- Under the new amendments, thermal power plants up to 15 MW based on biomass or non-hazardous municipal solid waste such as coal,

lignite, or petroleum products up to 15 percent of non-hazardous municipal solid waste have also been excluded from this purview.

- Keeping in mind the pace of development in India, other projects have also been exempted in the new rules, such as toll plazas which require more width for setting up of toll collection booths, have also been kept out of this purview.

Source: The Hindu

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