

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 10, 2023

### TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin - laid the foundation stone for Mitsubishi Electric India's new factory at Tiruvallur via video conferencing on May 9



- ✓ The new manufacturing facility for room air-conditioners and compressors is expected to come up on a 52-acre land at Peruvoyal village in Gummidipoondi taluk.
- ✓ This will be the Mitsubishi's first AC and compressor production facility in India through a 100% Foreign Direct Investment at a cost of Rs 1,891 crore
- ✓ The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in Chennai by the officials of Mitsubishi Electric India and the Guidance TN, promoted by the state government.
- ✓ According to company officials, the factory is expected to generate close to 2,000 jobs of which 60% would comprise women employees.

- ✓ The factory will implement various initiatives for carbon neutrality, including the minimization of carbon dioxide emissions through enhanced thermal insulation, the use of highly efficient air conditioning and heated-water systems and LED lighting.
  - ✓ The inauguration event was attended by Minister of Industries Thangam Thennarasu, additional chief secretary (industries) S Krishnan, and Mitsubishi Electric Corporation group president Yasumichi Tazunoki, among others.
  - ✓ As per the release from the state government, the commercial production at the facility is expected to begin in October 2025.
  - ✓ The initial annual capacity will total up to 3 lakh room air conditioners and the capacity will more than double to 6.5 lakh compressors by December 2025.
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin will lead a delegation to Japan and Singapore on May 23 to extend the invitation to various industrialists and government officials for the Global Investors Meet (GIM) to be hosted by the state in Chennai on January 10 and 11, 2024.
- **Researchers - have discovered a copper inscription showing a direct evidence of hanging of Veerapandiya Kattabomman, for the first time.**
- ✓ The researchers are attached to the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) department



- ✓ They discovered the inscription, while carrying out research at Etteeswarar temple in Ettayapuram in Tuticorin district.
- ✓ Ettayapuram is one of the towns that falls within the limits of the erstwhile Panchalankurichi, which was ruled by Kattabomman, one of the polygars.
- ✓ The researchers, while going through the temple records, found a copper plate in bad shape, which carried details of the death of Veerapandiya Kattabomman.
- ✓ The plate, fixed by the Britishers to inform people and local chieftains about Kattabomman's death, also carried a warning to people against hiding arms and ammunition.
- ✓ The copper plate, dated October 20, 1799, four days after the killing of Kattabomman, was written by Major Bannerman, the British officer who executed Kattabomman near Kayathar

- ✓ According to the inscription, Kattabomman was killed as he refused to obey the orders of the Britishers and the territories of chieftains who supported Kattabomman too were taken over by the Britishers.
  - ✓ The plate also mentions about the execution of Kattabomman's commanders – Sivasubramaniya Pillai and Soundarapandiya Nayakar
  - ✓ Veerapandiya Kattabomman was one of the polygars who refused to submit to the British.
  - ✓ The copper plate is significant, because, so far, the death of Kattabomman was known only from Britishers' records and from the local people,
  - ✓ However, for the first time, an inscription containing all the details has now been discovered.
- **Chennai - is set to host the first-ever all-India windsurfing and kiteboarding championship at the Surf Turf in Kovalam off ECR from May 11 to 14.**



- ✓ The event will be organised by the Tamil Nadu Sailing Association and Chennai Sailing Academy
- ✓ It is a ranking competition authorised by the Yachting Association of India.
- ✓ The championship will feature more than 48 windsurfers and kiteboarders from 15 states representing 14 clubs including sailing clubs from the Army and the Navy.
- ✓ The winners of the championship will get the opportunity to participate in international tournaments.
- ✓ Participant categories have been separated according to age and classes of boats.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

- **Former Pakistan Prime Minister and chief of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan - was arrested from outside the Islamabad high court (IHC) on May 9 in a corruption case**
- ✓ Imran Khan was at the Islamabad High Court for two hearings – one of mutiny and another of attempted murder - when he was taken into custody by the Rangers, a paramilitary law enforcement corps
    - ✓ These Rangers typically work under the Interior Ministry, and their leadership often comprises of army officers on secondment.



- ✓ The arrest comes just a day after Imran Khan accused the powerful army of plotting to assassinate him
- ✓ Khan had been arrested in a case pertaining to allegations regarding the allotment of land worth Pakistani Rupees 530 million to the Al-Qadir University Trust, which is owned by Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi.
  - ✓ The scandal came to light when Pakistan's media pointed out that Rs 180 million (in Pakistani currency) was received by the trust, while the records showed expenses of around Rs 8.52 million only.
- ✓ During the day, Khan was indicted in the Toshakhana case, under which it was alleged that he didn't disclose information on gifts presented to Toshakhana and the proceeds from the "illegal" sale of some the gifts
  - ✓ In August 2022, the coalition government — led by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) — had filed the Toshakhana case against Khan.
- ✓ There are over a 100 cases registered against Khan since he was ousted from office in a parliamentary vote last April after serving four of his five-year term.
- ✓ Khan is likely to remain in the custody of anti-graft agency National Accountability Bureau (NAB) for at least four to five days and is expected to be presented before an accountability court

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - have developed a thin-membrane based sensor technology for underwater communication.**
  - ✓ The indigenous communication technology can be used in defence applications
  - ✓ It will help in making and fabricating low-cost sensing devices than depending on international foundries where the fabrication cost is high.
  - ✓ According to researchers, they have developed piezoelectric MEMS (micro electro mechanical system) technology where they fabricated 100mm diameter piezoelectric thin films.
  - ✓ The film was fabricated with good uniformity and higher piezoelectric properties
  - ✓ This provides the film the capability to generate electric charge upon mechanical stress or vibration or vibrate when an electric charge is applied.

- ✓ The film was used to make thin film membrane based piezo MEMS (micro electro mechanical system) acoustic sensors.
- ✓ The piezo thin films are one of the vital components of piezo MEMS devices and are considered for acoustics and vibration-sensing applications

## DEFENCE

- **The Army - has decided to adopt a common uniform for officers of the Brigadier rank and above, from August 1**



- ✓ The change will be applicable to one-star brigadiers, two-star major generals, three-star lieutenant generals and four-star general and chief, irrespective of the parent cadre and appointment
- ✓ The decision was taken after detailed deliberations during the recently concluded Army Commanders' Conference, chaired by army chief General Manoj Pande, and extensive consultations with all stakeholders.
- ✓ As per the proposed changes, the headgear, shoulder rank badges, gorget patches (worn on collars), belts and shoes of senior officers of flag rank (Brigadier and above) will now be standardised and common, while flag-rank officers will not wear any lanyard around the shoulder.
- ✓ There will be no change to the uniform worn by Colonels and below-rank officers.
- ✓ At present, different types of uniforms and accoutrements have specific associations to the respective arms, regiments and services in the Army.
- ✓ Last year, the Army introduced a new combat camouflage uniform for all its soldiers, based on a "digital disruptive" pattern

## SPORTS

- **Argentina football team captain and FIFA World Cup 2022 champion Lionel Messi - was named the Laureus Sportsman of the Year for 2023 in a ceremony held in Paris on May 8.**
- ✓ Messi also received an award on behalf of the Argentina men's football team, who were named World Team of the Year after their triumph at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.



- ✓ With this, Messi became the first ever athlete to win the award as an individual and as a part of the best team of the year.
  - ✓ Lionel Messi guided the Argentina side to win the FIFA World Cup, the first in his career in December 2022.
  - ✓ The 35-year-old Paris St Germain forward has previously won the award once before, sharing it with Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton in 2020
  - ✓ Back then, Messi was the first football player to bag the honour.
- ✓ Messi was nominated alongside other star athletes such as Kylian Mbappe, Rafael Nadal, Stephen Curry, Mondo Duplantis, and Max Verstappen
- ✓ Jamaican sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce bagged the Sportswoman of the Year award on her sixth nomination
  - ✓ Fraser-Pryce won the 100m gold at the 2022 World Athletics Championships for the fifth time.
- ✓ Tennis player Carlos Alcaraz, who won the 2022 US Open and became the youngest-ever player to be ranked No. 1 in ATP rankings, was named the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year.
  - ✓ Alcaraz broke Lleyton Hewitt's record and clinched the top position when he was 19 years and 131 days of age
- ✓ Denmark and Manchester United footballer Christian Eriksen, who recovered from the cardiac arrest he suffered at the European Championship in 2021 to return to Premier League football, received the Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award.
- ✓ The world Action Sports person of the Year went to American-born Chinese freestyle skier Eileen Gu, who was 18 during the Winter Olympics in Beijing.
  - ✓ She became the first athlete to win three medals in freestyle skiing at a single Olympics — gold in both the halfpipe and big air events, and silver in slopestyle.
- ✓ Swiss para-athlete sensation Catherine Debrunner meanwhile picked up the Disability Award after triumphing in her opening two marathons
- ✓ The Sport for Good Award was presented to TeamUp -- a programme for children displaced by war -- by Barcelona and Poland star Robert Lewandowski.

- ✓ The Laureus World Sports Awards nominees are selected by the global media, while the winners are determined by the 71 members of the Laureus World Sports Academy.
- ✓ The awards have been presented annually since their inception in 2000.
- ✓ Roger Federer has won it 5 times, the most since the inception of the award.

