

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 16, 2023

### TAMIL NADU

- On May 15, Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) hub, constructed at a cost of Rs 54.61 crore inside the Anna University campus, through video conference from the Secretariat.



- ✓ India's first emerging and Deep Tech innovation network, iTNT hub, was announced in the State Budget for 2022-23.
- ✓ It aims to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML) and Block Chain technology by integrating them to face future challenges
- ✓ The hub will work with an academic network of more than 570 engineering colleges by engaging with researchers and industry partners to promote innovation.
- ✓ The hub will connect innovators to experts and industry players, and support them with space and other guidance
- ✓ It will have a special focus on IP (intellectual property) creation and partner with PhDs and other researchers in the state to help convert research into viable products.

- ✓ Initially, the iTNT hub has partnered with 19 startup industries across space tech, health tech and other areas and will anchor the state's soon-to-be launched 'AI mission'
  - ✓ The AI mission will define the artificial intelligence use roadmap for government departments as the state aims to utilize technology to improve e-governance.
  - ✓ AI mission will be a three-year programme to use AI in eight focus areas to help the state lead in tech-enabled governance.
  - ✓ The eight focus areas are data exchange platform, adoption within government agencies, talent building, R&D, startups, funding, community engagement, and high performance computing.
- ✓ The iTNT hub will function as a non-profit organization under the State's Information Technology and Digital Services department
- ✓ iTNT was set up with 50% funding from the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, 37% funding from the State and 13% from industry partners.

## STATES

- **On May 15, Taiwanese electronics giant Foxconn Interconnect Technology - laid the foundation for a new manufacturing facility in Telangana as part of its \$500-million investment plans for the state.**

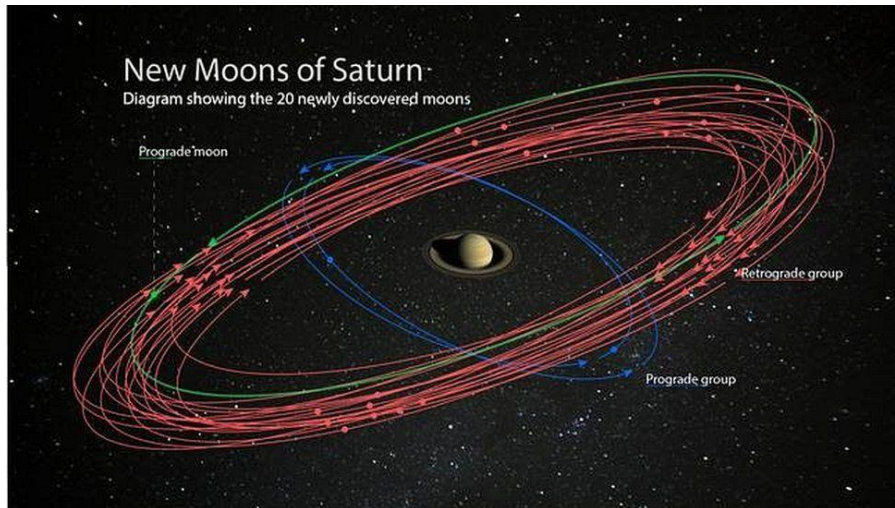


- ✓ The company is the world's most lucrative and biggest contract manufacturer
- ✓ It has been making products of Apple as well as other companies such as Xiaomi and Sony through its existing factories in India.
- ✓ The foundation laying ceremony in Hyderabad took place in the presence of Telangana minister for industries and commerce K T Rama Rao, Foxconn Interconnect Technology chairman and CEO Sidney Lu and other officials.
- ✓ The proposed electronics manufacturing facility at Kongara Kalan near Hyderabad is part of the expansion strategy of the Taiwanese firm

- ✓ It shall create 25,000 direct jobs in the first phase
- ✓ The proposed facility will serve as a hub for Foxconn Interconnect Technology's operations in Telangana allowing the firm to expand its production capacity.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Planet Saturn - has reclaimed the title of the “planet with the highest number of moons”, surpassing Jupiter**



- ✓ A new study have unveiled an astonishing 62 new moons orbiting Saturn, bringing the ringed planet's total number of moons to 145.
- ✓ Prior to this finding, Saturn had 83 moons recognised by the International Astronomical Union.
- ✓ Jupiter temporarily took the lead in February with its 12 newly discovered moons, taking its total to 95 moons, according to the International Astronomical Union (IAU)
- ✓ With the new findings, Saturn has not only regained its crown for having the most known moons but it has also become the first planet to have over 100 moons.
- ✓ The new moons were discovered by a team led by Edward Ashton, a postdoctoral fellow at the Academia Sinica Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics
- ✓ He used a technique called “shift and stack” to find these smaller and fainter moons around Saturn.
- ✓ The technique uses a set of images shifting at the same speed at which a moon moves through the sky to enhance the signal from that moon.
- ✓ The method has been used for moon searches around Neptune and Uranus in the past

## DEFENCE

- **INS Garuda, the premier Naval Air Station of Southern Naval Command in Kerala's Kochi - celebrated 70 years of glorious service to Indian Navy on May 11.**



- ✓ Commissioned on 11 May 1953, it is the oldest Naval Air Station which has been associated with beginning of Naval Aviation.
- ✓ The air base is home to the first amphibious aircraft of Indian Navy, the Sealanders
- ✓ Also known as the 'Cradle of Naval Aviation', it has unique distinction of operating oldest as well as latest aircraft available in inventory of Indian Navy.
  - ✓ It houses squadrons of naval aircraft such as Sea Harriers, Dornier aircraft, and various types of helicopters, including Sea Kings, Chetaks, and Seaknights.
- ✓ In 1942, Royal Navy had commissioned a royal Navy Aircraft Repair Yard at Peelamedu, Coimbatore called 'HMS GARUDA'.
- ✓ That is how 'Garuda' was used for the first time in Naval context.
- ✓ HMS Garuda at Peelamedu was decommissioned on September 1, 1946.
- ✓ On 11 May 1953, Naval Air Station INS Venduruthy II was formally commissioned as INS Garuda.
- ✓ Minister of Defence Organisation Mahavir Tyagi performed the commissioning ceremony.

## **BUSINESS/ECONOMY**

- **Tata Group - has entered into a manufacturing contract with Apple for its upcoming iPhone 15 and 15 Plus in India**
- ✓ Tata Group has reportedly started making iPhones at Taiwanese giant Wistron's Narasapura factory in Kolar district of Karnataka
- ✓ The development comes days after Apple CEO Tim Cook met Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran during his visit to India in April to open the Apple Stores in Mumbai and Delhi.
- ✓ Tata's buyout marked Wistron's exit from the iPhone assembly business.
- ✓ Tata will be the fourth iPhone manufacturing partner for Apple in India
- ✓ Apple currently has three manufacturing partners in India – Luxshare, Foxconn, and Pegatron
- ✓ The company already manufactures some of its devices in India including the latest iPhone 14, iPhone SE, and iPhone 13.
- ✓ Apple iPhone 15 series is likely to make its debut in September later this year.

- ✓ Currently, China is the source of roughly 85% of all iPhones produced by the company.
- ✓ The iPhone-maker has increased its production of iPhones in India, accounting for as much as 7% of its global iPhone production volume in 2022, while Apple assembled over \$7 billion worth of iPhones in India in 2022 alone.
- ✓ The shipment volumes of iPhones manufactured in India rose by 65% year-on-year (YoY) in 2022.

