

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 11, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- The L&T shipyard in Kattupalli near Chennai - is set to become a hub for repairs of US Navy ships, including warships, for the next five years



- ✓ In this regard, the US Navy has signed a master shipyard repair agreement (MSRA) with the L&T company.
- ✓ The first ship under the agreement to undergo steel repairs, the USNS Salvor, a salvage ship that does not carry weapons, arrived at Kattupalli port on July 10.
- ✓ The maintenance of the hull will be carried out during its two-week stay at the shipyard.
- ✓ The ship will return back to the shipyard for a comprehensive overhaul for 90 days in November.
- ✓ The agreement between both the parties was finalised last month and the ships belonging to the US Military Sealift Command would be repaired initially.
- ✓ Also, it is possible that warships of the US navy will also be brought for repairs in the future

- On July 10, the health department - launched a state-wide programme, 'Siruneeragam Kakkum Seermigu Maruthuva Thittam' for prevention of kidney ailments in the state



- ✓ The scheme aims to carry out several tests for early diagnosis and treatment of kidney diseases.
 - ✓ Health minister Ma Subramanian launched the programme at a primary health centre at Kadayampatty in Salem.
 - ✓ The scheme will be operational in 8,213 health sub centres (HSC), 2,286 primary health centres (PHC) and urban primary health centres (UPHC).
 - ✓ The testing kits procured at a cost of Rs.2 crore for the scheme were distributed to all the hospitals and PHCs across the state.
 - ✓ The aim of the programme is to prevent End Stage Renal Disease by screening high-risk individuals, including patients with diabetes, hypertension and a family history of renal disease.
- **The Tamil Nadu government - has formed four sub-committees to examine issues with the latest Tamil Nadu Urban Local Body Rules, 2023.**
 - ✓ The sub-committees have been formed for service matters; councils; property tax and hoardings; and public health, solid waste management and septage management.
 - ✓ The committees are headed by the respective deputy commissioners and additional commissioners.
 - ✓ The committees were set up after councillors and officials objected to several provisions in the new rules.
 - ✓ One of the objection was to the power given to the corporation commissioner to sanction projects worth up to Rs.5 crore funded by the Centre and the state.
 - ✓ The sub-committee will now examine the issues, and gives its recommendations that safeguard the legitimate services and benefits for the employees and officials.

➤ **The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) and the Hindu religious and charitable endowment (HR&CE) department - have announced a circuit tour of famous Amman temples in the state.**

- ✓ The tour that will be launched on July 17 will be conducted on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays in the Tamil month of Aadi.
- ✓ The one-day circuit tour organized in Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Thanjavur regions will cover major temples of that region.
- ✓ The tour will start at 8. 30am and end at 8. 30pm on these days.
- ✓ In Chennai, the tour will cover temples including Kalikambal temple in Parris, Angalaparameswari temple in Royapuram, Vadivudayamman temple in Thiruvottiyur, Karpagambal temple in Mylapore, Mundakakanniamman temple, Kamatchi amman temple in Mangadu, Devi Karumariyamman temple in Thiruverkadu and others.
- ✓ The TTDC and HR&CE department officials will receive the tourists at these temples and arrange special pujas for them and they will be provided with prasadams.
- ✓ The tour will be reasonably priced including food.

➤ **The Indian Institute of Management - will be training six Chennai Corporation officials on the role of artificial intelligence in city project management.**

- ✓ The training will focus on how to use automation and AI generated results in project management such as historical research for a project, data collection, success rates for project, benefits and possible wastage of resources.
- ✓ The GCC too would work on having automated response systems, virtual assistants, and machine learning.
- ✓ The training, to be provided by IIM Lucknow and IIM Shillong, would involve in using digital assistants like Chat GPT to provide instant status updates and give updates on time, task progress via text, voice or chat.
- ✓ The coaching will also help officials understand better business management such as preparing budgets, estimates, keeping project cost escalation at check and making projects successful.

NATIONAL

➤ **Foxconn, the Taiwanese electronics manufacturing giant - has withdrawn from a \$19.5 billion semiconductor joint-venture project with mining baron Anil Agarwal's Vedanta Limited.**

- ✓ In May this year, the joint venture was reported to be "struggling" to tie up with a technology partner since Foxconn and Vedanta had no semiconductor experience.
- ✓ Meanwhile, after Foxconn's withdrawal from chip JV, Vedanta says it has lined up other potential partners to set up India's first foundry

- ✓ Taiwan-based Hon Hai Technology Group, better known as Foxconn, is best known for assembling iPhones and other Apple products but in recent years it has been expanding into chips to diversify its business
- ✓ Foxconn, the global contract electronics maker, and Vedanta had signed an agreement in September last year to build India's first semiconductor and display production plants in Gujarat involving an investment of about Rs 1.5 lakh crore.
 - ✓ Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw attended the signing of an MoU with the state government in Gandhinagar.
- ✓ India, which expects its semiconductor market to be worth \$63 billion by 2026, last year received three applications to set up plants under a \$10 billion incentive scheme.
 - ✓ These were from the Vedanta-Foxconn joint venture, Singapore-based IGSS Ventures and global consortium ISMC, which counts Tower Semiconductor (TSEM.TA) as a tech partner.
 - ✓ The \$3 billion ISMC project has stalled, too, after Tower being acquired by Intel, while another \$3 billion plan by IGSS was also halted because it wanted to re-submit its application.
- **On July 9, the National Housing Bank (NHB) - said it has operationalised the Rs.10,000-crore Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF)**
- ✓ The UIDF was announced in this year's Budget for creation of urban infrastructure in tier-2 and tier-3 cities.
- ✓ A total of 459 tier-2 cities with population of 50,000 to less than a lakh and 580 tier-3 cities with population of one lakh to less than a million as per 2011 census are being covered under UDIF as of now.
- ✓ The loan (principal) will be repayable in five equal annual instalments within seven years from the date of withdrawal, including a moratorium period of two years while interest will be payable on quarterly basis.
- ✓ The Interest rate on UIDF loans has been kept at bank rate minus 1.5% i.e., 5.25% at present.
- ✓ The focus of the fund will be on basic services like sewerage and solid waste management, water supply and sanitation, construction and improvement of drains/storm water drains, etc. and impact-oriented projects would be prioritised.
- ✓ The minimum size and maximum size of the project proposal shall be Rs.5 crore (Rs.1 crore for northeast & hilly States) and Rs. 100 crore respectively.
- ✓ Finance Department of States/ UTs have been designated as the nodal department for implementation of the fund

SPORTS

- **Indian Badminton player Lakshya Sen - defeated China's All England champion Li Shi Feng in straight sets to clinch the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023 in Calgary on July 9**



- ✓ The victory marks Lakshya's second BWF World Tour Super 500 title, having already won the India Open in January 2022.
 - ✓ This is Sen's first title after the Birmingham Commonwealth Games gold in August last year.
 - ✓ Current World No.19, Lakshya had undergone a nose surgery for a deviated septum after the World Championships last August.
- **India's Parth Salunkhe - became the first male archer to win a gold in the recurve category at the Youth World Championships**



- ✓ With this gold medal, India finished the Championships with their highest-ever tally of 11 medals.
 - ✓ India finished with six gold, one silver and four bronze medals, which was highest in the standings in terms of total number of medals.
 - ✓ In the overall rankings, the 24-member Indian contingent finished second behind Korea who took the pole position with six gold and four silver medals.
 - ✓ Overall, Salunkhe is the sixth Indian archer to become world champion in the Youth World Championships.
- **PSPB's IM Padmini Rout - beat Maharashtra's 17-year-old defending champion IM Divya Deshmukh to regain the 49th National Women's chess title in Ahmedabad on July 10.**
- ✓ It was the first title for Odisha's 29-year-old since winning in the 2017 edition in Ahmedabad.
 - ✓ With this, Padmini had won five National Women's title, equaling the record held by WIM's Rohini Khadilkar, Bhagyashree Thipsay and Anupama Gokhale



- ✓ Padmini is one victory away from making a tie with IM S Vijayalakshmi's record of winning the National Women title a record six times.
 - ✓ But this is her first title in Swiss League, the previous (2014 to 2017) being in roundrobin format.
 - ✓ Mary Ann Gomes and Arpita Mukherjee finished second and third respectively.
 - ✓ The total prize fund was Rs 30 lakh with the winner getting Rs 7 lakh.
 - ✓ The tournament was organized by Gujarat State Chess Association in Ahmedabad, Gujarat from June 30 to July 10.
 - ✓ A total of 156 players including 6 IMs, 6 WGMs and 10 WIMs took part in the tournament from various states and units across the country
- **Tamil Nadu's Archana Suseendran and Haryana's Anjali Devi - have been handed provisional suspensions by the National Anti-Doping Agency (Nada) for failing the drug test.**



- ✓ Both have been dropped from the country's contingent for the Asian athletics championships, scheduled to begin from July 12 in Bangkok
- ✓ Recently, Archana had defeated Hima Das in the 100m final and clinched a double gold in the 200m in the Indian Grand Prix 2
- ✓ Quartermiler Anjali was expected to lead the country's charge in 4x400m relay at the upcoming Asian Games in Hangzhou.
- ✓ At the National Inter-State Championships in Bhubaneswar, she had recorded a personal best timing of 51.58s to win the women's 400m gold.
- ✓ The timing was the second best in Asia this season.

- ✓ On July 1, shot putter Karanveer Singh was also left out of the Indian team after failing an out-of-competition dope test.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ World Population Day – July 11



- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness and educate people about the rapidly increasing global population and its associated challenges.
- ✓ Poverty, economic concerns, and maternal health are some of the areas affected by the growing population.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "Unleashing the power of gender Equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities."
- ✓ The initiative was proposed by Dr. KC Zachariah to mark the day when the global population reached five billion on July 11, 1987
- ✓ The then-Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme established World Population Day in 1989.
- ✓ World Population Day was first celebrated on July 11 1990 in more than 90 countries.
- ✓ According to the United Nations, it took hundreds of thousands of years for the world population to grow to 1 billion – then in just another 200 years or so, it grew sevenfold
- ✓ In 2011, the global population reached the 7 billion mark, 8 billion in 2022 and it's expected to grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050, and 10.9 billion in 2100.

