



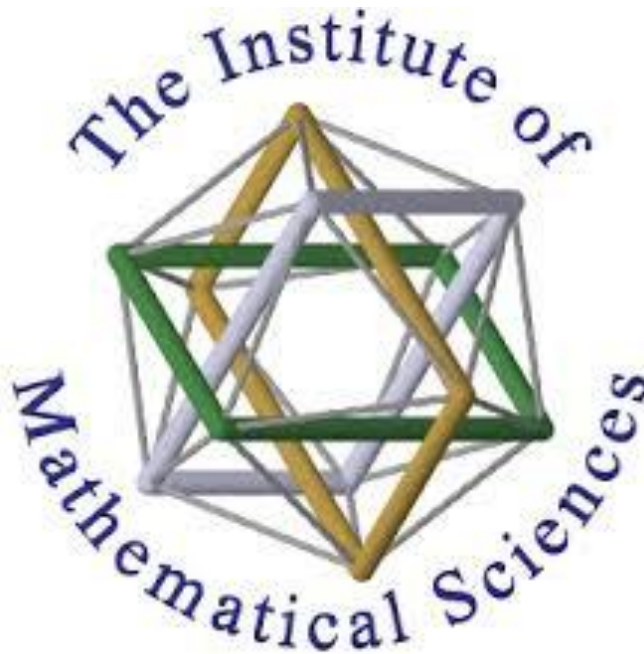
January - 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Airtel Payments Bank has been categorized as a scheduled bank by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the second schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
 - With this, Airtel Payments Bank can now pitch for the government.
- ❖ Odisha's Ganjam has declared itself a child marriage-free district, the first in the State.
 - Ganjam had started a programme Nirbhaya Kadhi (Fearless bud) to achieve this feat.
- ❖ The stock market value of Apple Inc. hit \$3 trillion.
 - It became the world's first company to hit this mark.

NATIONAL

Institute of Mathematical Sciences



- ❖ The Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc), Chennai came into the 60th year of its existence on January 3 this year.
- ❖ The IMSc is a research centre located in Chennai.
- ❖ It is funded mainly by the Department of Atomic Energy.

- ❖ The institute operates the Kabru supercomputer.

Mud Crab Reovirus

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh recently found that 'Mud Crab Reovirus (MCRV)' has been the reason for the mass mortality of wild crab (*Scylla serrata*).
- ❖ The presence of MCRV in samples collected from Nagayalanka fields was confirmed by Joint research by the Centre for Advanced Study in Marine Biology (Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu) and M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF).
- ❖ MSSRF has been noticing mortality in areas like Machilipatnam and Nagayalanka in the Krishna district, since 2019.

5G network – 2022



- ❖ The Department of Telecommunication (DoT) confirmed that the 5G network will roll out in India by 2022.
- ❖ DoT noted that 13 cities across the country will get 5G in the beginning.
- ❖ These cities include Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Gandhinagar, Gurugram, Hyderabad, Jamnagar, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, and Pune.
- ❖ Earlier this year, 5G trials were carried out in most of these cities by telecom operators Airtel, Jio, and Vi.
- ❖ 5G technology is expected to deliver an improved user experience in terms of data download rates.

OMISURE

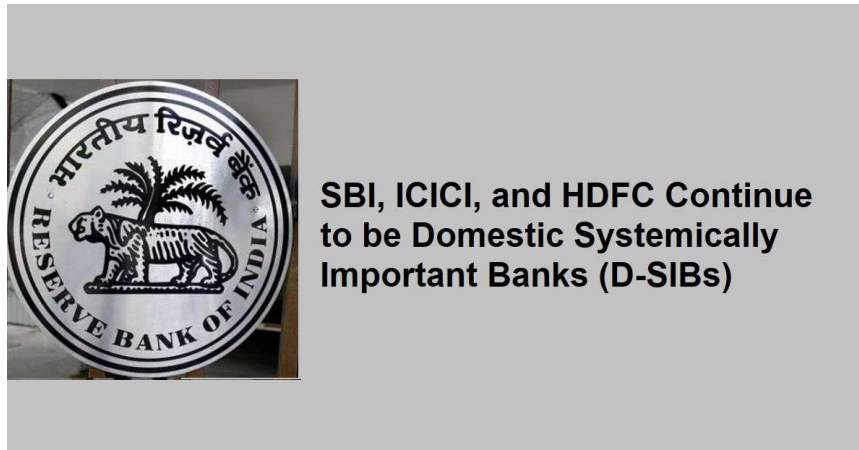
- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research recently approved 'OMISURE'.

- ❖ Omisure is a RT – PCR kit.
- ❖ It is used to detect Omicron, a COVID-19 variant.
- ❖ The kit was designed and developed by a US-based company Thermo Fisher.
- ❖ It was manufactured by Tata.
- ❖ The kit uses S Gene Target Failure to detect Omicron.
- ❖ It is currently the only kit in India to use this method to detect Omicron.



ECONOMY

Domestic Systemically Important Banks



- ❖ Reserve Bank of India has retained State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs).
- ❖ These three banks have continued to be on the D-SIBs list published by RBI, since Sep 04, 2017.
- ❖ Domestic Systemically Important Banks are those banks which if fail would have a significant impact on the economy.
- ❖ The D-SIBs banks are classified into 5 buckets.

- ❖ They are Bucket 1, Bucket 2, Bucket 3, Bucket 4, and Bucket 5.
- ❖ With Bucket 5 is being the most important followed by rest in decreasing order.
- ❖ State Bank of India is in Bucket 3.
- ❖ ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank are in Bucket 1.

International remittance business



Fino | Payments Bank
फिनो पेमेंट्स बैंक

- ❖ Reserve Bank of India has approved Fino Payments Bank for commencing international (Cross Border) remittance business under the Money Transfer Service Scheme.
- ❖ The approval will enable the customers of Fino Payments Bank to receive money sent from foreign countries.
- ❖ It also plans to partner with more leading money transfer operators (MTOs) to improve its cross-border remittance.

STATES

Losar Festival

- ❖ The Losar Festival in Ladakh is celebrated at the onset of the New Year in the traditional schedule of Tibetan Buddhism.
- ❖ It is celebrated by the Buddhist Community in the Ladakh region.
- ❖ The Losar is a 15 days festival, from the start of the Tibetan Lunar calendar, marking the 1st day of the 11 months in the Tibetan Calendar.
- ❖ Losar is a Tibetan word that means 'New Year'.



- ❖ The festivities began with the celebration of Birth and Nirvana Anniversary Je Tsongkhapa.



LNG terminal

- ❖ Karnataka Government has signed a memorandum of understanding with Singapore-based LNG Alliance Company.
- ❖ This is to set up the State's first LNG Terminal in Mangalore.
- ❖ The first LNG terminal will be set up in Karnataka, in collaboration with New Mangalore Port Trust.
- ❖ The terminal will be set up as a part of the Union Government's plan to boost the alternative fuel market for achieving net-zero carbon by 2070.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Robert Irwin



- ❖ Australia's Robert Irwin has been awarded the London's Natural History Museum's Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's Choice Award 2020.
- ❖ It was awarded for his drone image of the Bushfire in northern Australia.
- ❖ The 17-year-old is the son of the Australian wildlife conservationist and icon, the late Steve Irwin.

Captain Harpreet Chandi

- ❖ Captain Harpreet Chandi has created history by becoming the first woman of colour to complete a solo trek to the South Pole.
- ❖ She is an Indian-origin British Sikh Army Officer, and a physiotherapist
- ❖ Harpreet Chandi is also known as Polar Preet.



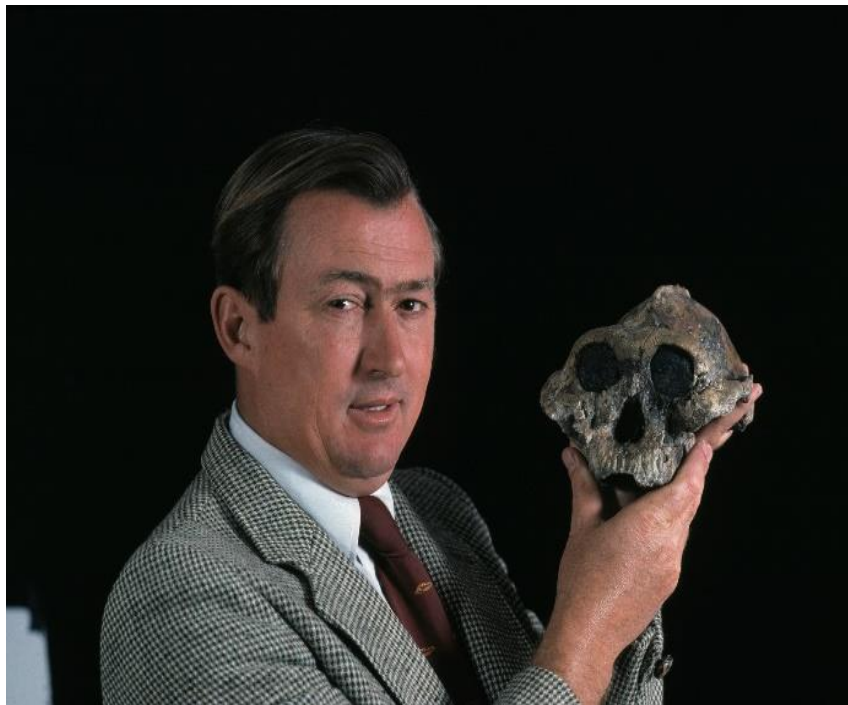
Alka Mittal



- ❖ Director HR in ONGC, Alka Mittal has been given the additional charge as the new interim chairman and managing director (CMD) of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).
- ❖ She is the first woman to head the top post at the Maharatna company.
- ❖ She replaces Subhash Kumar.

Richard Leakey

- ❖ World-renowned Kenyan politician, conservationist, and fossil hunter Richard Leakey has passed away.
- ❖ He is credited for the discovery of 'Turkana Boy' in 1984 which led to ground breaking discoveries proving that humankind evolved in Africa.
- ❖ Turkana boy is the most complete fossil Skelton of a human ancestor ever found.
- ❖ Leakey is also known to spearhead campaigns against the ivory trade to save the population of African elephants.



Goenka Award in the Photo Journalism

- ❖ Zishaan A Latif won Ramnath Goenka Award in the Photo Journalism category.
- ❖ He won the award for his photo essay, The arduous struggle for inclusion in the NRC.
- ❖ It was published in The Caravan in October 2019.

- ❖ He documented the plight of people who were dropped from the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and put a face to an untold human story.



K Ayyappan Pillai

- ❖ K Ayyappan Pillai of Kerala, the freedom fighter and senior BJP leader, passed away at the age of 107.
- ❖ Ayyappan Pillai had participated in India's freedom struggle and had met Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ Pillai was a senior lawyer and was also a member of Shree Moolam Praja Sabha of Travancore.

