

January - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Centre has given nod to set up six new branches of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
 - They are to be set up at Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Patna, Jaipur, Bhopal, and Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ The oldest living person in the world, Kane Tanaka of Japan, celebrated her 119th birthday on January 2, 2022.
 - In March 2019, the Guinness World Records recognized Kane as the world's oldest living person at the age of 116 years.
- ❖ Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan informed about his decision to withdraw as Chancellor of Universities.
 - He hinted towards internal turmoil being the reason behind his decision to discontinue the post.
- ❖ Azure Power said it has commissioned a 600 MW solar power project in Bikaner, Rajasthan.
 - This is the largest solar power project in India, owned and operated at a single location by any developer.
- ❖ Bahamian-American actor Sidney Poitier has died at the age of 94.
 - He was the first African American and first Bahamian to win an Academy Award for Best Actor in 1964.

TAMIL NADU

TNPSC (Additional Functions) Bill 2022

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Assembly passed a bill to empower the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission to conduct recruitment tests for posts in quasi-government entities.
- ❖ The move comes amid increasing complaints of irregularities and corruption in filling vacancies in PSUs and corporations.
- ❖ According to the TNPSC (Additional Functions) Bill 2022, the commission will carry out the recruitment process for filling certain vacancies in PSUs, corporations, statutory boards, and authorities under the government.

NATIONAL

Assembly Election 2022

- ❖ Dates for Assembly elections in five states - Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Manipur, Punjab, and Uttarakhand - were announced.
- ❖ The five states will vote over seven phases starting February 10, with the counting of votes scheduled for March 10.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh will vote in each of the seven phases - on February 10, February 14, February 20, February 23, February 27, March 3, and March 7.
- ❖ Punjab, Goa, and Uttarakhand will vote on February 14.
- ❖ Manipur will vote in two phases on February 27 March 3.
- ❖ A total of 690 Assembly constituencies will vote over the next two months.
- ❖ Maximum will be in UP (403 seats) followed by Punjab (117), Uttarakhand (70), Manipur (60), and Goa (40).



Veer Baal Diwas

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that starting this year, 26th December shall be marked as 'Veer Baal Diwas'.

- ❖ 'Veer Baal Diwas' will be observed on the same day Sahibzada Zorawar Singh Ji and Sahibzada Fateh Singh Ji attained martyrdom after being sealed alive in a wall.
- ❖ The Sahibzades were the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, who sacrificed their lives in an important battle against the Mughal.



75th BIS Foundation Day



- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standard Body of India, annually celebrates the BIS Foundation Day on 6th January.
- ❖ The BIS foundation day commemorates the day on which BIS came into existence as the Indian Standards Institution (ISI) (6th January 1947).
- ❖ Dr. Lal C. Verman took over as its first Director of ISI.
- ❖ 6th January 2022 marks the observance of the 75th BIS Foundation Day.

75th Platinum Jubilee Year Of CSIR-NPL

- ❖ Dr. Jitendra Singh released a Special Postage Stamp commemorating the 75th Platinum Jubilee year of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - National Physical Laboratory (NPL).

- ❖ It is one of the earliest CSIR laboratories that was set up during independence that the celebration coincides with the 75th year of India's independence.
- ❖ The foundation of NPL was laid by former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on 4th January 1947.
- ❖ The main building of the laboratory was formally opened by Late Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 21st January 1950.



INTERNATIONAL

Philippines bans child marriage

- ❖ The President of the Philippines Rodrigo Duterte signed a law prohibiting Child Marriage.
- ❖ As per the Britain-based rights organization Plan International, the Philippines has the world's 12th highest rate of child marriage.
- ❖ According to a report released by the United Nations Children Fund in 2021, the highest rates of child marriages were found in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

The collapse of Maya Civilisation

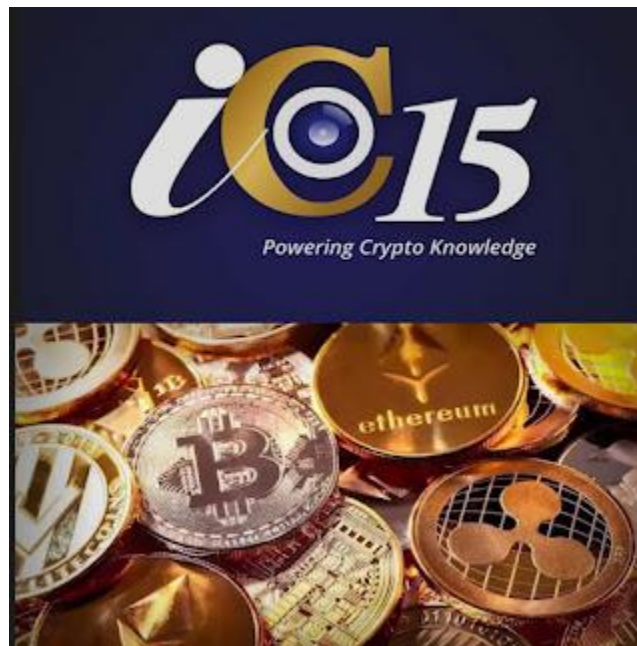
- ❖ Various studies suggested that the disruption of Classic Maya society in the Yucatan Peninsula of south eastern Mexico and northern Central America at the end of the ninth century coincided with extended droughts.
- ❖ It is clear that droughts of strong magnitude could have limited food availability, potentially causing famine, migration, and societal decline.
- ❖ A new analysis by UC Riverside archaeologist Scott Fedick and plant physiologist Louis Santiago shows the Maya had nearly 500 edible plants available to them.

- ❖ Also, many of them are highly drought resistant.
- ❖ This study casts doubt on drought as the driver of ancient Mayan civilization collapsed.



ECONOMY

Cryptocurrency index



- ❖ Global cryptocurrency super app Cryptowire has launched a crypto index in India to monitor the performance of the 15 most traded cryptocurrencies.

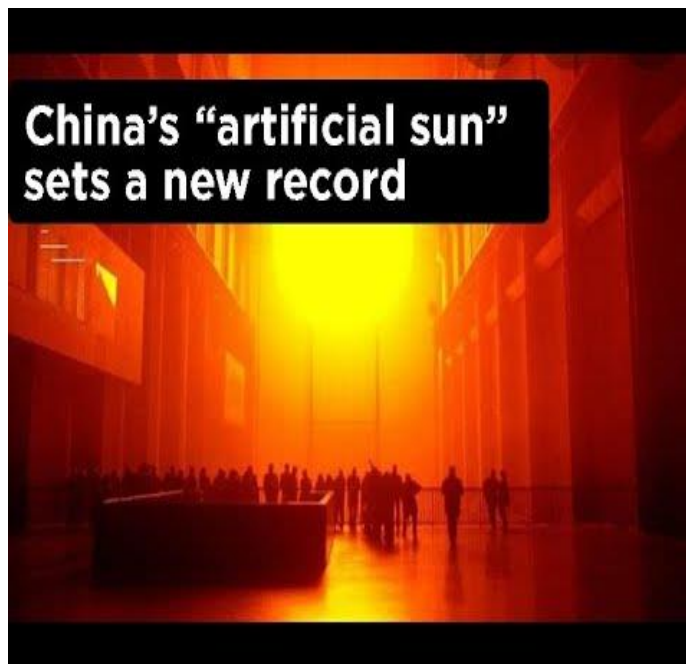
- ❖ The cryptocurrency index is known as IC15.
- ❖ Cryptowire is a unit of crypto statistics provider Ticker Plant.

New window for Primary Dealers

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India recently provided a new special window for bond houses called “Primary Dealers”.
- ❖ The primary dealers are those dealers who buy securities directly from the government.
- ❖ They then resell the security to the others.
- ❖ Thus, their main role is to assist the government in selling bonds or securities.
- ❖ They earn some fees for selling these securities.
- ❖ The Bond House is the security firm that creates and distributes bonds.
- ❖ Now, these primary dealers have a separate section or window to buy securities from the government.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Artificial Sun – China



- ❖ China has been experimenting with its ‘artificial sun’ to facilitate a way for clean energy in the future.

- ❖ In a recent successful test of China's artificial sun, the fusion reactor ran successfully for almost 20 minutes at a stunning 70 million degrees Celsius.
- ❖ The machine strives at utilizing the power of nuclear fusion which is a less explored way of harnessing nuclear energy.

IMPORTANT DAYS

NRI Day - January 09

- ❖ The day is also called Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.
- ❖ The day is celebrated every year to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community to the development of India.
- ❖ The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated on January 9, as Mahatma Gandhi returned from South Africa on the day in 1915.

