

January - 18

NATIONAL

ELECRAMA 2020

- ❖ The ELECRAMA 2020 was held in Noida.
- ❖ The event showcases innovations and achievements of Indian Electrical Industry.
- ❖ The “ELECRAMA” platform is organized by Indian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers’ Association (IEEMA).
- ❖ It is supported by other ministries such as ministry of renewable energy, power, MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises).

About power industry

- ❖ India is the third largest producer and consumer of electricity.
- ❖ The National Grid of the country has the capacity of 368.79 GW as of December 2019.
- ❖ Of this 41.16% is used for industrial purposes, 24.76% is used for residential purposes, 17.69% is used for agricultural purposes and commercial sector consumes 8.24% of the total electrical energy generated in the country.
- ❖ Of the 368.79 GW, the private sector production is 46%.

National Investigation Act, 2008

- ❖ The Chhattisgarh government moved the Supreme Court against the National Investigation Act, 2008 stating it is violative of the Constitution.
- ❖ This is the second instance in recent times when a state has sought to challenge a central legislation under Article 131 of the Constitution.
- ❖ Recently, the Kerala government moved the Supreme Court against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

About NIA Act

- ❖ The law governs the functioning of India’s premier counter-terror agency.
- ❖ It was introduced by then home minister P.Chidambaram in the wake of the 26/11 Mumbai terrorist attacks.
- ❖ It gives the NIA powers to take suo motu cognisance of terror activities in any part of India and register a case, to enter any state without permission from the state government, and to investigate and arrest people.
- ❖ ‘Police’ is an entry in the State List of the Constitution’s 7th Schedule.



- ❖ The 2019 NIA Amendment Act expanded the type of offences that the investigative body could investigate and prosecute.
- ❖ The agency can now investigate offences related to human trafficking, counterfeit currency, manufacture or sale of prohibited arms, cyber-terrorism, and offences under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908.
- ❖ The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment (UAPA), also passed in 2019, allows an NIA officer to conduct raids, and seize properties that are suspected to be linked to terrorist activities without taking prior permission of the Director General of Police of a state.
- ❖ The investigating officer only requires sanction from the Director General of NIA.

INTERNATIONAL

Women, Business and the Law 2020

- ❖ Women, Business and the Law 2020, the sixth edition in a series, has been released.
- ❖ Women, Business and the Law (WBL) is a World Bank Group project collecting unique data on the laws and regulations that restrict women's economic opportunities.
- ❖ The index analyzes laws and regulations affecting women's economic inclusion in 190 economies.
- ❖ It is composed by eight indicators structured around women's interactions with the law.
- ❖ The indicators are Mobility, Workplace, Pay, Marriage, Parenthood, Entrepreneurship, Assets, and Pension.
- ❖ No economy in 'East Asia and the Pacific', 'Europe and Central Asia', or 'Latin America and the Caribbean' were among top reformers.
- ❖ Only eight economies scored a perfect 100 —Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, and Sweden.
- ❖ Those countries have ensured equal legal standing to men and women on all the eight indicators of the index.

ECONOMY

Juice Jacking

- ❖ The State Bank of India (SBI) has warned customers against charging their phones at charging stations.



- ❖ The bank has advised the customers to think twice before plugging-in their phone at charging stations as malwares could infect their smartphone, thus in turn getting robbed off all their important data and passwords.

What is Juice Jacking?

- ❖ Intelligent hackers have reportedly developed a harmless looking and yet sophisticated USB port-like gadget that can be attached to the charging stations.
- ❖ Once a victim plugs his/her phone, the device can bypass the phone security to inject malware in it and steal entire contents of the phone including contact details, emails, messages, photos, private videos, and sensitive financial credentials.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

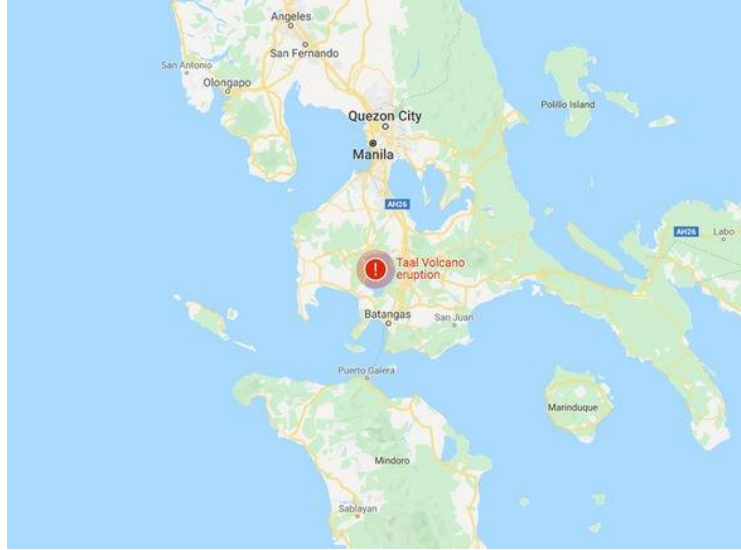
Bharati Script

- ❖ Researchers from IIT Madras have already developed a unified script for nine Indian languages, named the Bharati Script.
- ❖ The scripts that have been integrated include Devnagari, Bengali, Gurmukhi, Gujarati, Odiya, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Tamil.
- ❖ Now, going a step further, developed a method for reading documents in Bharati script using a multi-lingual optical character recognition (OCR) scheme.

ENVIRONMENT

Taal Volcano

- ❖ A volcano called Taal on the island of Luzon, 50 km from Manila, Philippines erupted.
- ❖ Taal is classified as a “complex” volcano.
- ❖ A complex volcano, also called a compound volcano, is defined as one that doesn't have just one main vent or cone but several eruption points.



STATES

Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Sahitya Sammelan

- ❖ It is an annual conference for literary discussions by Marathi writers.
- ❖ At the recently concluded 93rd edition of this conference, a resolution was passed demanding the declaration of Marathi as a 'Classical' language.
- ❖ Currently, six languages enjoy the 'Classical' status: Tamil (declared in 2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014).

Guidelines

- ❖ High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years.
- ❖ A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers.
- ❖ The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community.
- ❖ The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

IMPORTANT DAYS



Central Adoption Resource Authority - January 15

- ❖ Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) celebrated its 5th Annual Day in New Delhi.
- ❖ CARA is an apex body of Government of India for promoting and facilitating In-country Adoption.
- ❖ It is the designated Central Authority for regulating Inter-country Adoption.

**Central Adoption Resource Authority
(CARA)**

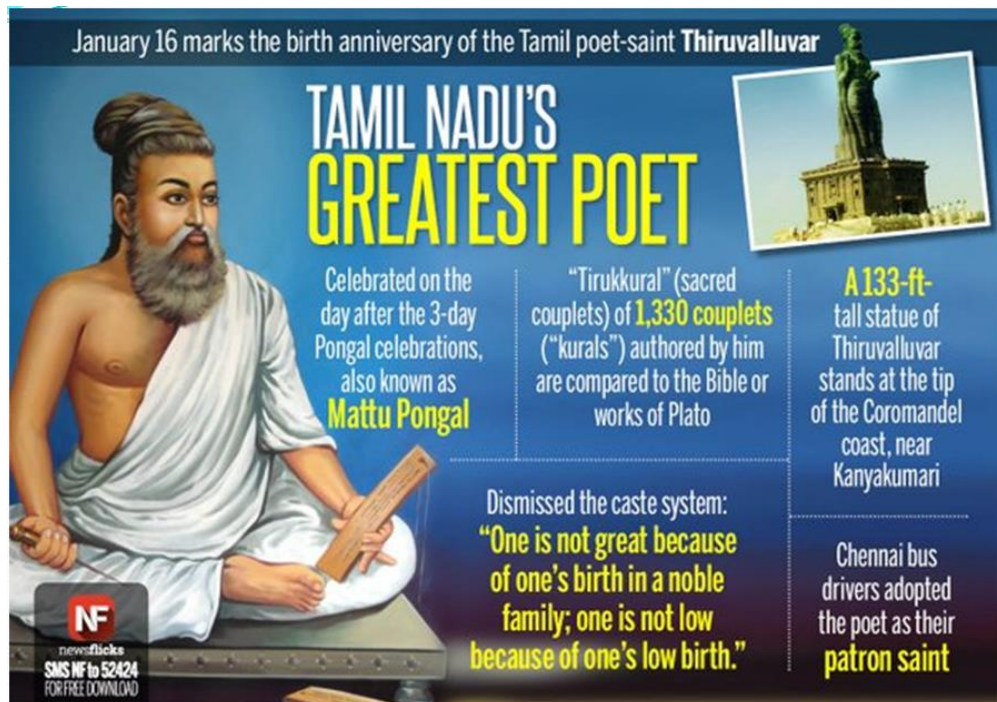
- The **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)** is an Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India and is responsible for both in-country and inter-country adoptions in India.
- Its objectives are to find an **affectionate and caring family** for every orphan/destitute/surrendered child in the country.
- It firstly ensures that **no Indian child is given for inter-country adoption** without him/her having been considered by Indian families residing in India.
- It also **provides financial assistance to various NGOs** and Government run Homes to promote quality child care to such children and place them in domestic adoption.

- ❖ The Hague Conventions on Inter-Country Adoptions, 1993 was ratified by the Government of India in 2003.
- ❖ CARA was designated as a Statutory Body on 15 Jan 2016, under the provisions of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.
- ❖ It functions under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Thiruvalluvar Day – January 16

- ❖ A resolution to celebrate a day known as "Thiruvalluvar Day" for him by all Tamils was passed on 17 January 1935 by Kali Sivakannuswami Pillai and Padmashri V. Suppaya.
- ❖ The first Thiruvalluvar Day was celebrated on May 17 and 18, 1935 in Chennai Pachaiappan College in the presence of Maraimalai Adigal, T.P. Meenakshisundaram and Thiru. V. Kalyanasundaram.
- ❖ In the present time, it is usually observed either on January 15 or 16 in Tamil Nadu and is a part of Pongal celebrations.

- ❖ Thiruvalluvar year, also known as the Valluvar year, is an officially recognized Tamil calendar system for use in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ When comparing it with the widely used Gregorian calendar, Thiruvalluvar year will have an additional 31 years.
- ❖ For instance, the year 2019 in Gregorian calendar way is 2050 in the Thiruvalluvar year.
- ❖ In 1971, Thiruvalluvar Year was released in the Tamil Gazette by M. Karunanidhi's DMK government and came into existence in 1972.
- ❖ At the Madurai World Tamil Conference in 1981, the then Chief Minister, M. G. Ramachandran, issued a formal order for official use of the same in all government documents.



January 16 marks the birth anniversary of the Tamil poet-saint **Thiruvalluvar**

TAMIL NADU'S GREATEST POET

Celebrated on the day after the 3-day Pongal celebrations, also known as **Mattu Pongal**

"Tirukkural" (sacred couplets) of **1,330 couplets** ("kurals") authored by him are compared to the Bible or works of Plato

A **133-ft-**tall statue of Thiruvalluvar stands at the tip of the Coromandel coast, near Kanyakumari

Dismissed the caste system:
"One is not great because of one's birth in a noble family; one is not low because of one's low birth."

Chennai bus drivers adopted the poet as their **patron saint**

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