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## 19<sup>th</sup> August 2023

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### 1) Russia has launched an e-visa facility for Indians

- Russia has launched an e-visa facility for Indians from August 1, allowing travellers to the country to surpass the hassles of obtaining a regular visa.
- The e-visa facility, also available for travellers from 54 other countries, does not require a visit to consulates or embassies.

### NATIONAL NEWS

#### 1) India's first 3D-printed post office

- Bengaluru, often hailed as nation's tech capital, has welcomed the India's first 3D-printed post office. Located in Cambridge Layout near Ulsoor, this post office has set a new benchmark for efficiency, sustainability, and design.

#### 2) Central Water Commission

- The Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC), Shri Kushvinder Vohra, has taken a groundbreaking step towards enhancing flood preparedness and response by unveiling the "FloodWatch" mobile application.
- This revolutionary app is designed to harness the power of mobile phones to disseminate real-time flood-related information and forecasts to the public, up to 7 days in advance.
- The app, which offers both readable and audio broadcasts, is available in two languages, English and Hindi, making it accessible to a wider audience.

#### 3) "Pather Panchali" by Satyajit Ray

- The first G20 film festival, organized by the Ministry of External Affairs and India International Centre, commenced in Delhi with the screening of the renowned drama film "Pather Panchali" by Satyajit Ray.
- The distinguished veteran actor Victor Banerjee and G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant graced the festival's grand opening, symbolizing a significant stride towards nurturing cross-cultural comprehension through the medium of cinema.

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#### 4) India and Trinidad and Tobago have recently entered into a significant partnership

- India and Trinidad and Tobago have recently entered into a significant partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to share the renowned INDIA STACK technology.
- This collection of open APIs and digital public goods, pioneered by India, is designed to enhance identity, data, and payment services on a large scale.
- This move reflects India's commitment to aiding the digital transformation of nations through collaboration and technology sharing.

#### 5) All India Council for Technical Education

- The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has taken a significant step towards advancing the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Science (DS) within the realm of education.
- Partnering with the renowned Jio Institute, AICTE has unveiled a comprehensive faculty development programme aimed at equipping academic leaders and senior faculty members with an in-depth understanding of AI and DS.
- With the programme set to commence on August 21, 2023, this collaboration holds the potential to reshape the educational landscape in India and beyond.

### SCHEMES NEWS

#### 1) Maharashtra government

- The Maharashtra government has taken a significant step towards enhancing connectivity and improving the lives of tribal communities in the state.
- The Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodaraste Scheme aims to link all tribal villages in 17 districts of Maharashtra with main roads, effectively addressing the challenges faced by these communities in accessing essential services.
- The project, estimated at a cost of Rs 5,000 crore, will involve the construction of approximately 6,838 kilometers of roads.

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### BANKING NEWS

#### 1) Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has unveiled a groundbreaking solution for individuals seeking their unclaimed deposits.
- Named the UDGAM (Unclaimed Deposits – Gateway to Access Information) portal, this centralized web platform is designed to simplify the process of locating unclaimed deposits across various banks.
- Here's a comprehensive breakdown of the key features and steps involved:

#### 2) Reserve Bank Innovation Hub

- In a significant partnership, Axis Bank has joined forces with the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), a subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), to introduce two groundbreaking lending products.
- These products are powered by the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit (PTPFC), a pioneering initiative launched by RBIH.

### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

#### 1) Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has appointed Parminder Chopra

- Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has appointed Parminder Chopra as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD); she becomes the first woman to lead India's largest NBFC.
- Chopra assumed the top job at the power sector lender with effect from August 14, 2023. She earlier held additional charge as CMD from June 1, and was Director (Finance) from July 1, 2020.
- She also played a key role in the successful implementation of a Rs 1.12 lakh crore Liquidity Infusion Scheme (LIS) for the power distribution sector, which was rolled out as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

#### 2) Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of PR Seshadri

- The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of PR Seshadri as Managing Director & CEO of the South Indian Bank for a period of three years with effect from October 1, 2023.
- PR Seshadri is an accomplished banker with experiences spanning multiple businesses, functional lines and geographies.
- He has significant experiences in enterprise level management and in the management of all key commercial banking business lines and he has substantial experience in successfully managing investors, boards and regulatory relationships in multiple geographies.

### SPORTS NEWS

#### 1) World Athletics Championships 2023

- The World Athletics Championships 2023 is the Budapest, Hungary from 19 to 27 August. This is the first time that Hungary has hosted the event, which is the world's most prestigious track and field competition.



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- The championships will be held at the National Athletics Centre, which is located on Margaret Island in the heart of Budapest.
- The stadium has a capacity of 38,000 and has been renovated in recent years to meet the standards required for hosting a major international event.

## 2) International Cricket Council

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has enthusiastically introduced a captivating pair of brand mascots for the upcoming World Cups.
- These mascots, unveiled at an event in Gurugram, India, in the presence of U19 World Cup Champions' captains Yash Dhull and Shafali Verma, embody the unity and spirit that cricket promotes worldwide.
- Representing gender equality and diversity, the mascots, a male and a female, originate from a distant cricket paradise called the Crictoverse.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) World Humanitarian Day

- Every year on August 19, the world comes together to honor the remarkable efforts of humanitarians who tirelessly work to improve the lives of crisis-affected populations.
- World Humanitarian Day stands as a testament to the unyielding spirit of individuals who, despite the challenges and risks, extend their unwavering support to those in need.
- The United Nations General Assembly spearheads this global initiative, uniting partners from around the world to champion survival, well-being, and dignity in the face of adversity.

### 2) World Photography Day

- World Photography Day, observed annually on August 19, marks the celebration of photography's rich history and its role as both an art form and a scientific achievement.
- This day commemorates the invention of the daguerreotype, an early photographic process developed by Louis Daguerre in 1837, which paved the way for modern photography.

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