



17.07.2022

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NATIONAL

1) "Cultural and Tourism Capital"

- The holy city of Varanasi declared the first "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.
- Varanasi will become the "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the SCO for 2022-23 under a new rotating initiative by the eight-member organisation to promote people-to-people contacts and tourism among the member states.

2) RBI and Bank Indonesia to increase collaboration in payment systems

- An agreement was reached between the Reserve Bank of India and Bank Indonesia to increase collaboration in payment systems, digital financial innovation, anti-money laundering, and countering the funding of terrorism (AML-CFT).
- On the sidelines of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting in Bali, the two central banks agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding to further their mutual cooperation.

3) "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav-22nd Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2022"

- India is celebrating the 75th year of Independence as Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- This is celebrated by the Ministry of Culture, and on this occasion, the National School of Drama, New Delhi, organized "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav-22nd Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2022" from 16th July to 14th August 2022.

STATE NEWS

1) Kerala is the first state in the country to have its own internet service

- Kerala is the first state in the country to have its own internet service, according to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who made the announcement.
- It was announced by Department of Telecommunications' granting of an Internet Service Provider licence to the IT infrastructure project of the Kerala Fiber Optic Network Ltd, which aims to provide everyone in the state access to the internet.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) V. K. Singh

- V. K. Singh has taken charge as Director (Technical) of Rural Electrification Corporation Limited.





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- Before this elevation, Singh was Executive Director in REC holding a portfolio of key business areas including Private Sector Project Management, Entity Appraisal and Procurement and is also a Director on the Board of REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited.

2) Nidhi Khatri

- The Department of Consumer Affairs has formed a committee under the leadership of Additional Secretary Nidhi Khatri in an effort to provide an overall framework for the Right to Repair.
- Spare components are under the exclusive responsibility of manufacturers (regarding the kind of design they use for screws and other).

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) World Day for International Justice

- World Day for International Justice is observed on July 17 to commemorate the organisations that work to bring justice to the victims of international criminal acts.
- It also commemorates the establishment of modern court systems in the world.
- The day focuses on the advocacy of fundamental human rights and the promotion of international criminal justice.

SPORTS

1) 41st Villa De Benasque International Chess Open

- Indian Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaram has emerged winner in the 41st Villa De Benasque International Chess Open in Spain.
- Chithambaram's coach R B Ramesh praised his ward for the title. He defeated Armenia's Robert Hovhannisyan and compatriot Raunak Sadhwani on the basis of a tie-break score here.

