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Thursday, 02 March 2023



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Rajesh Malhotra, was appointed as the Principal Director General of the Press Information Bureau

- Senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer Rajesh Malhotra has been appointed as the principal director general of the Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- In his new role, Malhotra will be the principal spokesperson of the government of India.
- He will replace Satyendra Prakash, who took charge as principal DG of PIB in August 2022.
- Malhotra, a 1989 batch officer, had been working in Ministry of Finance since January 2018.
- Malhotra has over 32 years of operational experience in planning and implementation of media and communication strategies for the Election Commission of India and various central government ministries/ departments including finance, company affairs, agriculture, power, coal, mines, communications and IT, textiles, labour, new & renewable energy.
- He was associated with Election Commission of India as in-charge of media & communication for 21 years till 2017.

Q. Who has been appointed as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau? **Rajesh Malhotra**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

UK to launch India-Britain exchange scheme and announce Indo-Pacific tech envoy

- James Cleverly will launch the Young Professionals Scheme allowing young Britons and Indians to live and work in each other's country for up to two years.
- This landmark migration scheme will enable the brightest and best in both our countries to benefit from new opportunities.
- This announcement illustrates the UK's clear commitment to boosting partnerships in India and across South Asia.
- The tech envoy will boost the UK's status as a science and tech superpower and collaborate with the partners in the Indo-Pacific region in areas of shared interest, including setting global technology standards and helping to solve challenges through innovative technology.
- The UK-India 2030 Roadmap aims to strengthen both nation's defence and security, trade and investment.

UK:

- Capital: London
- Prime minister: Rishi Sunak

Q. The UK will launch an India-UK exchange scheme, under which UK youth and Indians will be able to live and work in each other's country for how many years? **2 years**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

Men's and Women's Hockey Teams' goalkeepers PR Sreejesh and Savita received the Sportstar ACES 2023 award

- The Indian Men's and Women's Hockey Teams' goalkeepers PR Sreejesh and Savita received the Sportstar ACES 2023 award in Mumbai.
- PR Sreejesh was named Sportsman of the Year (Team Sports) for his outstanding performance in 2022, which saw the Indian team finish third in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2021-2022, followed by a silver medal at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022.
- He was also crucial to the team's performance in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2022-2023 home matches against New Zealand and Spain in Bhubaneswar.
- Savita, on the other hand, received the Sportstar ACES Sportswoman of the Year award (Team Sports).
- The Indian Women's Team Captain led the team to a glorious Bronze Medal performance at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022. She was also instrumental in the team winning the inaugural FIH Women's Nations Cup, which helped them qualify for the next season of the FIH Hockey Pro League.
- Odisha was awarded the 'Best State for Sports Promotion'.
- The Odisha government along with Hockey India recently hosted the FIH Odisha Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 held in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela.

Q. Men's and women's hockey team goalkeeper _____ received the Sportstar ACES 2023 award. **PR Sreejesh and Savita**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

Axis Bank completes acquisition of Citigroup's India consumer business for an overall consideration of ₹11,603 crore

- Mumbai-headquartered Axis Bank has completed the acquisition of the India consumer business of the Citigroup-owned foreign bank Citibank for Rs 12,325 crore prior to evaluation of the closing position of Citibank India's assets, assets under management, and liabilities as of January 31, 2023.
- Post evaluation, the deal is valued at around Rs 11,603 crore. As per this deal, Axis Bank has acquired Citibank's India consumer business from Citibank N.A. or CBNA and the non-banking financial company (NBFC) consumer business from Citicorp Finance (India) Limited or CFIL, according to a recent exchange filing by Axis Bank.

Q. Which bank has completed the acquisition of Indian consumer business of Citigroup for an overall consideration of ₹11,603 crore? **Axis Bank**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

Poland signs contract for 1,400 military vehicles

- Poland's government signed a framework contract with the country's arms producer Huta Stalowa Wola for the delivery of around 1,000 infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) and some 400 accompanying vehicles to boost the country's defence capabilities.
- Alongside the IFVs, the contract also covers reconnaissance, command, medevac, technical support and contamination detection vehicles.
- Since 2022, Poland has already signed huge contracts for firearms and howitzers with domestic producers as well as with the US dealers for Abrams tanks and HIMARS rocket systems, and with South Korea for tanks, howitzers and light fighter jets.

Poland:

- Capital: Warsaw
- President: Andrzej Duda

Q. Poland has signed contract for how many military vehicles? **1,400**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

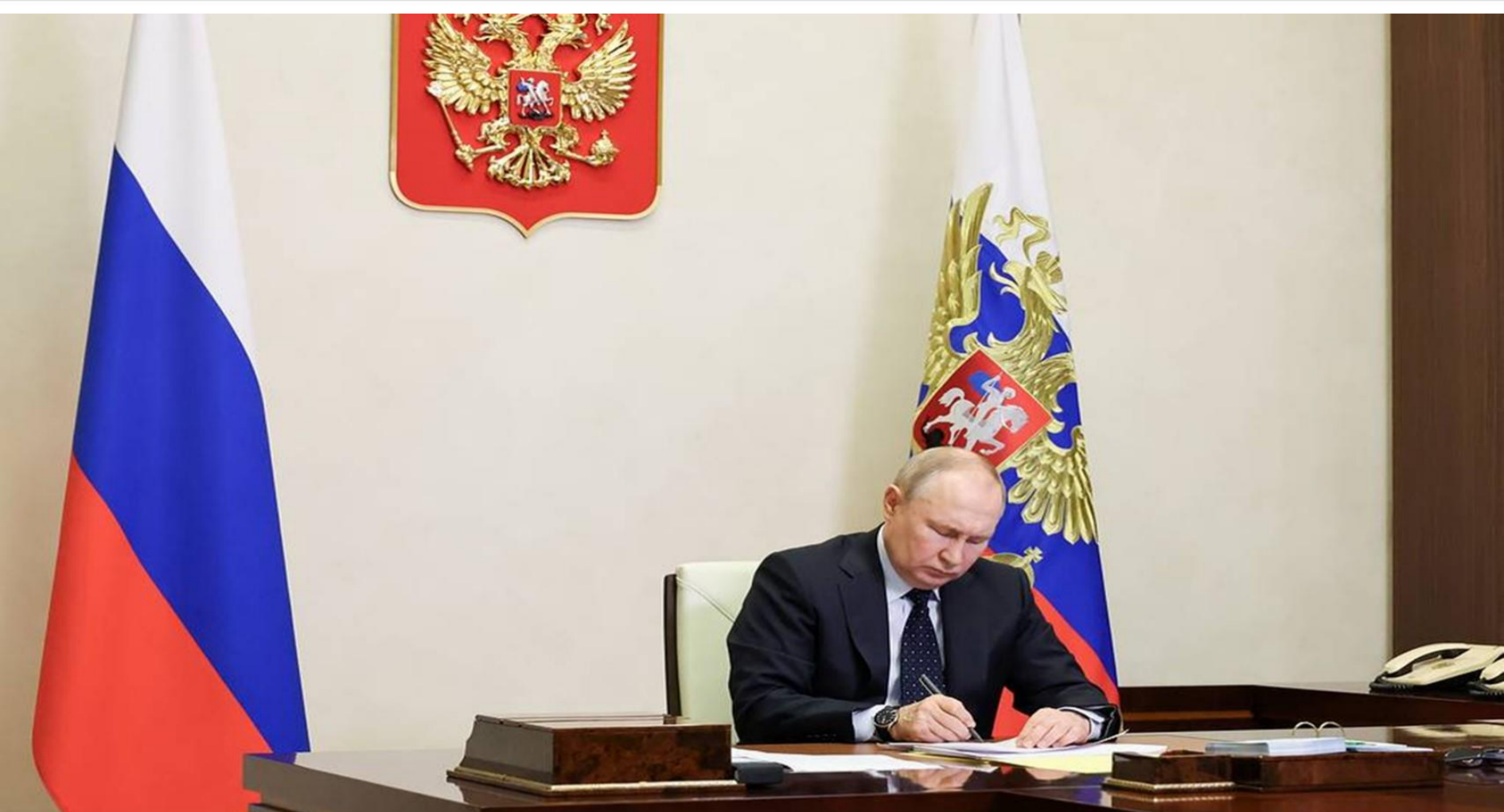
Bola Tinubu elected as the new President of Nigeria

- Nigerian electoral officials announced on 1 March 2023 that the ruling party's candidate in the presidential election, Bola Tinubu, has been elected as the country's new president.
- Bola Tinubu has been associated with the 'All Progressive Congress Party' from which he has been winning elections.
- However, not accepting Bola Tinubu's victory, the other two opposition candidates have demanded re-election.
- Main opponents Atiku Abubakar and Peter Obi are likely to challenge the decision again in court. Because Abubakar had finished second in the 2019 election as well and challenged the result in court. However, his suit was dismissed.

Nigeria:

- Capital: Abuja
- Currency: Nigerian naira
- Prime Minister: Bola Tinubu

Q. Who has recently been elected as the new President of Nigeria? **Bola Tinubu**

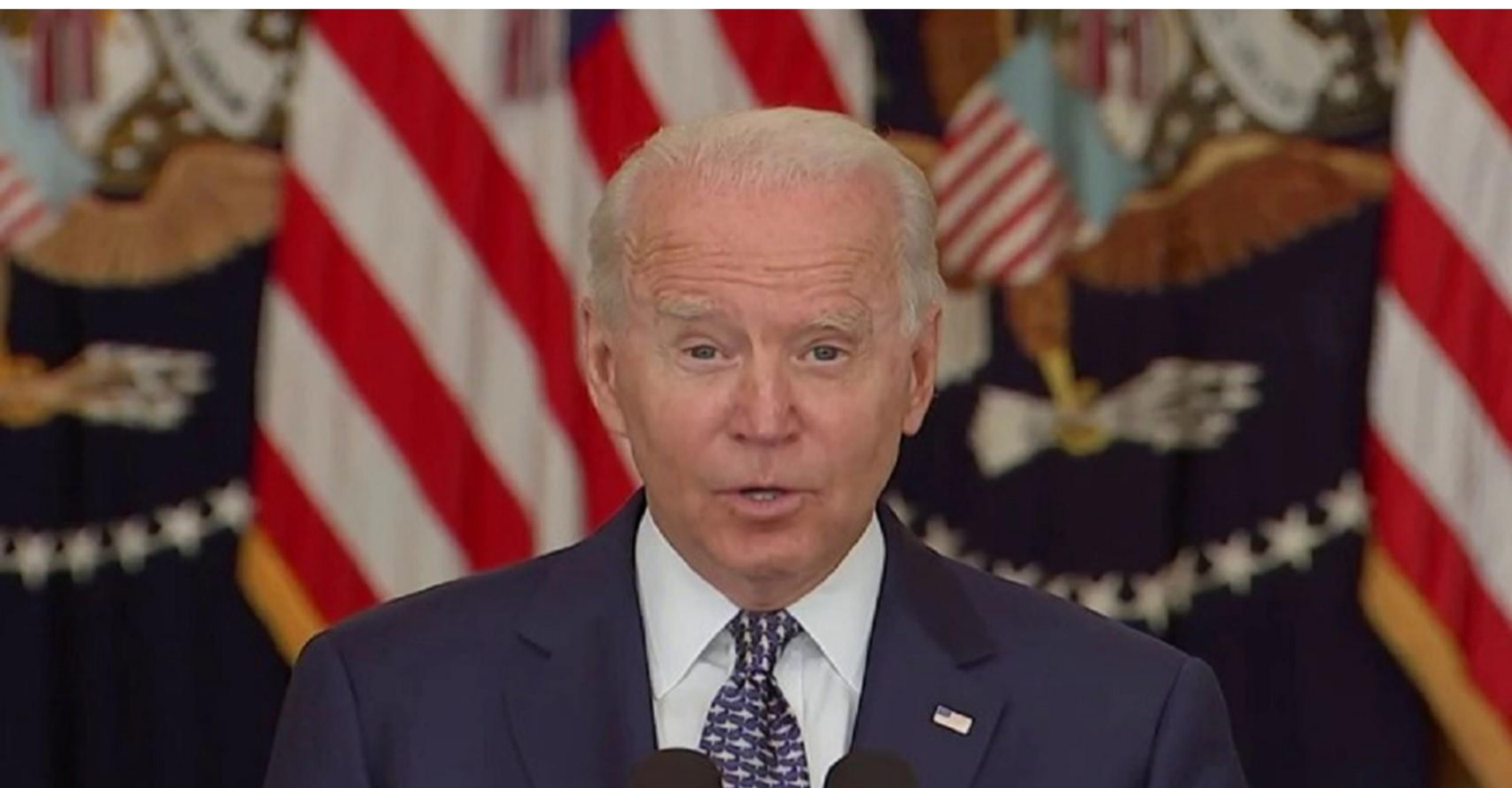


Thursday, 02 March 2023

Putin signs law to suspend Russia's participation in arms treaty with the US

- Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a law officially suspending his country's participation in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) with the US.
- In his annual State of the Nation to the Federal Assembly on February 21, Putin said Russia was suspending its participation in, rather than withdrawing from, the New START treaty.
- A day later, a bill on the New START treaty suspension was unanimously adopted by Russia's parliament and then sent to Putin for his final approval.
- The New START, the last remaining nuclear arms control treaty in force between the two nuclear superpowers, was signed in 2010 and took effect on February 5, 2011.
- The Treaty stipulates that seven years after it enters into force, each party should have no more than a total of 700 deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and strategic bombers, as well as no more than 1,550 warheads on deployed ICBMs, deployed SLBMs and strategic bombers, and a total of 800 deployed and non-deployed ICBM launchers, SLBM launchers and strategic bombers.
- On February 3, 2021, the two nations exchanged notes on the completion of internal procedures necessary for the agreement on extending the term of the treaty for five years to take effect.

Q. Putin signed a law to suspend Russia's participation in an arms treaty with _____. **America**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

Biden appoints two prominent Indian American corporate leaders to his Export Council

- President Joe Biden has announced his intent to appoint two prominent Indian-American corporate leaders, Punit Renjen and Rajesh Subramaniam, to his powerful Export Council which is the principal national advisory committee on international trade.
- The council will be headed by Mark Edin, Chairman of Kastle Systems.
- More than two dozen leaders from the corporate sector, labour, real estate, national security and law, have been tapped into the President's Export Council.
- Punit Renjen retired as Deloitte Global CEO after having served in the role since June 2015.
- He now serves as Deloitte Global CEO Emeritus.
- In 2022, Renjen was recognised by the Economic Times as "Global Indian of the Year" and the Carnegie Corporation of America as one of 34 "Great Immigrants."
- In 2020, Renjen was awarded the Oregon History Makers Medal.
- Subramaniam is chair of the five-person Executive Committee, which plans and executes the corporation's strategic business activities.

Q. President Joe Biden has announced the appointment of two prominent Indian-American corporate leaders, _____, to his powerful Export Council. **Puneet Renzen and Rajesh Subramaniam**



Thursday, 02 March 2023

Union Minister Parshottam Rupala launched 3 national flagship programmes at ICAR-CIBA, Chennai

- Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, inaugurated and launched three national flagship programmes at Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)- Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) campus, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The 3 flagship programmes were, the launch of the National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) Phase II and Genetic Improvement Programme of *Penaeus Indicus* (Indian White Shrimp) (GIPPI), and laying the foundation stone for Indian White Shrimp Breeding and Improvement Facility at ICAR-CIBA campus.
- He also launched aquaculture insurance products brought out by CIBA during the event.
- Note: NSPAAD Phase II and GIPPI are important for the development and sustainability of the aquaculture sector which eventually lead to the Blue Revolution in India.

Q. Union Minister Purushottam Rupala launched how many national flagship programs at ICAR-CIBA, Chennai? **3**

The image shows the logos for Bharti and AXA. The Bharti logo is in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a dark blue background. The AXA logo is in a white, uppercase, sans-serif font on a dark blue background, with a red diagonal line striking through the 'A's.

Thursday, 02 March 2023

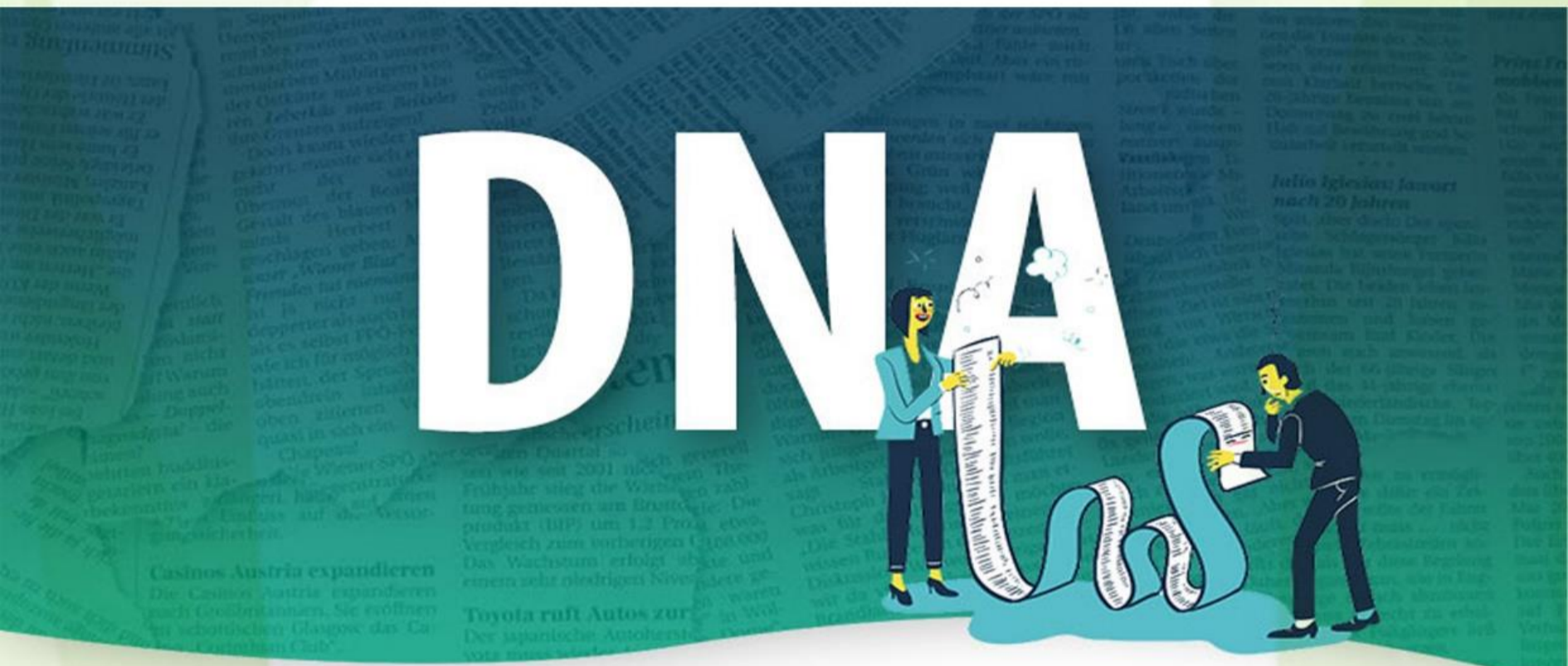
Bharti AXA-Unity Bank in bancassurance tie-up to tap 1.5 mn customers

- Bharti AXA Life Insurance, a joint venture between Bharti Enterprises and global insurance firm AXA, has entered into a bancassurance tie up with Unity Small Finance Bank (Unity Bank) in order to sell its life insurance products through the lender's network of 111 branches and 206 offices across India.
- Through this alliance, Bharti AXA Life's entire suite of life insurance plans, including protection, savings, investment, and retirement products, will be offered to over 1.5 million customers of the bank, across 17 states.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance has a presence across India, through 251 offices.

Q. Which bank has tied-up with Bancassurance to tap 1.5 million customers? **Bharti AXA-Unity Bank**



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