



सत्यमेव जयते
Embassy of India
Jakarta

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INDIA'S LATEST NEWS



परदेश में अपना देश: भारतीय मूलकार
Indian Embassy: Home away from Home

NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- Agra, City of Taj Mahal Metro project inaugurated;
- Nitin Gadkari Inaugurates Three-Lane Koilwar Bridge on Sone River Worth Rs 266 Crore;
- Bhagalpur address for winged guests;
- Efficient new method of harvesting water from air developed by IIT Guwahati;
- Lakshadweep declared first UT to become 100% organic.

MISSION'S ACTIVITIES

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Agra, City of Taj Mahal Metro project inaugurated

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the construction work of Agra Metro project in Agra, Uttar Pradesh through video conference. The metro project comprised of two corridors with a total length of 29.4 km and is estimated to cost Rs 8,3796.2 Million. The project will cater to more than 6 million tourists and 2.6 million residents of Agra every year. It will also provide an environment-friendly mass rapid transit system to Agra. The project will connect major tourist attractions like Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Sikandra with railway stations and bus stands and it will be completed in five years. The metro in Agra will run at a speed of 80 Kmph and the cost of one metro rail of three coaches is pegged at Rs 80 Million.

Source: Times Now

Nitin Gadkari Inaugurates Three-Lane Koilwar Bridge on Sone River Worth Rs 266 Crore

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, inaugurated the three-lane Koilwar bridge on the Sone river in Bihar through video conference. The bridge costing Rs 266 crore would make commuting easier in South Bihar. People will be able to commute between Patna and Bhojpur and Chapra to Bhojpur easily. Moreover, going towards Rohtas, Kaimur, Aurangabad and Buxar to reach the Delhi-Kolkata NH-2 and the upcoming Purvanchal expressway would be more convenient now. The new bridge will replace the 138-year-old rail-cum-road bridge called Abdul Bari Bridge. After inaugurating the bridge, Gadkari said, "The new bridge will be known as 'Vashishtha Narayan Singh Bridge'. With this, the old Abdul Bari Bridge will now be used only for rail traffic.'

Source: News 18

Bhagalpur address for winged guests

Bird watchers are cheering the return of Black-Necked Storks in the diara (Gangetic flood plains) for breeding, terming it a positive sign for the ecosystem in the region. Arvind Mishra, the state co-ordinator of India Bird Conservation Network and the founder member of Mandar Nature Club, a Bhagalpur-based voluntary organisation working for conservation of birds and animals, along with his team members and forest officials, recently visited Karari Tintanga diara areas under Gopalpur block and sighted a pair of Black-necked Storks with four chicks on a kadamb tree. According to Mishra, out of nine stork species found in India, three are migratory, while the rest have been found to be breeding in Bihar. Among the six, Greater Adjutant, Lesser Adjutant, Black-Necked Asian Openbill and Woolly-Necked have been observed breeding in and around Bhagalpur. The Black-necked Stork, known as Loha Sarang is a "nearly threatened" species in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's red list of threatened species, Mishra said. Naugachia forest range officer Satyendra, who visited the site along with team members of Mandar Nature Club, told reporters that the department would maintain a vigil to prevent killing or catching of birds. He said the forest department would actively patronise awareness drive among the villagers for it.

Source: The Telegraph, India

Efficient new method of harvesting water from air developed by IIT Guwahati

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati have developed an efficient and new method of harvesting water from humid air using novel materials. This new method of harvesting water can be the solution to the water crisis in several parts of our country. A research team led by Dr Uttam Manna, Associate Professor, Chemistry department and Centre of Nanotechnology, IIT Guwahati, along with his research scholars, Mr Kousik Maji, Mr Avijit Das, and Ms Manideepa Dhar, have published the results of this path-breaking work in the prestigious journal of The Royal Society of Chemistry. With increasing water scarcity throughout the world, there have been attempts to collect and conserve water through non-traditional means. Scientists have turned to nature to design ways of water harvesting. For example, in regions of the world with naturally scanty rainfall, plants and insects have devised ingenious strategies to pull and collect water right out of the air. Mimicking this, scientists worldwide are trying to build technologies that can pull out water from thin air, both literally and figuratively. "Such water-harvesting techniques use the concept of hydrophobicity or water-repelling nature of some materials", explains Dr Manna.

Source: India Today

Lakshadweep declared first UT to become 100% organic

Lakshadweep, after Sikkim, has become the first Union Territory to become 100% organic as all the farming in the region is carried out without the use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. The step towards organic farming was taken to provide access to safer food choices as well as for making agriculture a more environment-friendly activity. Secretary, Agriculture, Lakshadweep, OP Mishra stated that the UT can benefit much from marketing organic products such as coconut milk and desiccated coconut. As per the Agriculture Ministry, only after going through the evidence and certificates provided by the administration of Lakshadweep, competent authority approved the proposal and declared the entire territory as organic. Earlier in 2016, Sikkim was declared as the first organic farming state in India. Organic farming is a system of farm design and management that creates an ecosystem of agriculture production without the use of any form of synthetic external inputs like pesticides, chemical fertilizers, genetically modified organisms, or synthetic hormones.

Source: Jagran Josh

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India's success in Rural electrification





FLAVOR'S OF INDIA MALABAR FISH CURRY

Recipe Servings: 2

Prep Time: 15 mins

Cook Time: 40 mins

Total Cook Time: 55 mins

Difficulty Level: Medium

Ingredients of Malabar Fish Curry:

- 40 Gram Whole coriander seeds
- 60 Gram Whole red chilli
- 10 Ml Coconut oil
- 1 Gram Mustard seeds
- 10 Gram Onion, chopped
- 3-4 Nos Curry leaf
- 20 Ml Coconut milk
- 5 Ml Tamarind pulp
- 5 Gram Coriander, chopped
- 120 Gram Seabass fish curry cuts

How to Malabar Fish Curry:

- Soak whole coriander seeds and whole begdi chilli together for 3 to 4 hrs at least;
- Boil soaked ingredients, after boiling make a paste, and strain it;
- Take a pan, add coconut oil, mustard seeds, curry leaves and chopped onions, cook it till translucent;
- Put the strained paste, cook it well and add fish curry cuts in the gravy;
- Finish with coconut milk and tamarind pulp;
- Garnish with chopped coriander and fried curry leaves.

About Malabar Fish Curry:

A delicious, creamy fish curry with goodness of coconut milk and full of chillies, coriander and mustard seeds. Fish is a great dinner option since it is loaded with nutrients like omega - 3 fatty acids, proteins and several vitamins. Apart from being healthy, this fish curry is full of delightful flavours in luscious gravy. A perfect meal for the next dinner party!

Source: food.ndtv



KERALA - MUSEUMS (3)



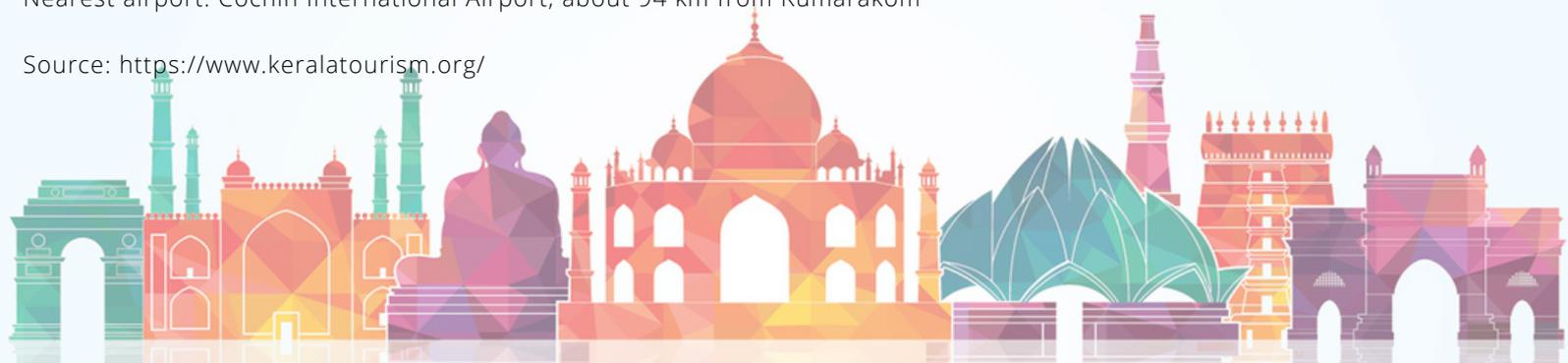
Bay Island Driftwood Museum, Kottayam: Bay Island Driftwood Museum at Kumarakom displays large collection of superior quality driftwood articles of very high artistic value, prepared through a rare and innovative modern art form. A Museum displaying a unique collection of superior quality driftwood articles of very high artistic value, prepared through a rare and innovative modern art form, is functioning at the scenic village of Kumarakom in Kottayam. A Visitor would find there a huge collection of root sculptures of various shapes and designs. During her professional tenure in the Andaman & Nicobar archipelago, a dynamic lady school teacher used to pick up pieces of driftwood deposited by the sea on the shores, comprising of twisted tree trunks, stumps, roots etc., which had potential for transformation into sculptures with marginal efforts, thanks to the Bay of Bengal prone to frequent cyclones that make the sea turbulent and unpredictable. Every cyclone brought back as many things to the shore as it washed away from it. Some of these wood pieces and roots were centuries old and having drifted across the seas they became more resilient. Having traversed vast distances, what is left of a tree is its sturdiest part which has weathered much inclemency. The picked up pieces were cleansed, crumbling parts removed, scraped and trimmed to conform to the shape she had in mind. In the course of the process, it so happened, the Nature's original designs could emerge more forcefully, evocatively and permanently. Many of these pieces closely resemble birds, animals, reptiles, amphibians and fishes. Shaping, scraping, polishing, finishing and preserving were done with fierce dedication. The admirers and connoisseurs of this rare and innovative form of art frequent the Bay Island Driftwood Museum. The student community finds the art form adopted in the preparation of the exhibits in the museum interesting and educative as the museum inculcates in them the qualities of imagination, creativity, originality and initiative to produce useful articles out of materials normally considered waste.

Getting there:

Nearest railway station: Kottayam, about 16 km from Kumarakom

Nearest airport: Cochin International Airport, about 94 km from Kumarakom

Source: <https://www.keralatourism.org/>





Indo-Portuguese Museum, Fort Kochi: Kerala's history is interspersed with the many myths and legends that once held court here. The celestial beings themselves carved out the soul of this land, and today we look back and revere the glorious past of our ancestors. Keralam, a museum of history and heritage in the capital city of Thiruvananthapuram, is a joint venture of Kerala Tourism and the State Department of Archaeology that aims at showcasing the beauty of this land. One is greeted by a modern display techniques such as touch-screen counters and multimedia systems that explain the artefacts arranged in different galleries. There are regular narrative documentaries on the distinctive facets of Kerala's cultural history. Also on display are archaeological evidences of the Neolithic Age, burial accompaniments belonging to the Iron Age, sculptures of Gods and Goddesses in bronze, wood and stone, coins, murals and many more. Other main attractions include the Roman Dinari (that settled the debate on Kerala's contact with the Roman Empire), 14th Century Brahma Sculpture, 16th Century Nataraja Sculpture and the 17th Century murals from the Pundarikapuram Temple, Kottiyam. Museum Timings: 10 am to 5.30 pm. Closed on Mondays and public holidays.

Getting there:

Nearest railway station: Thiruvananthapuram, about 3 km

Nearest airport: Trivandrum International Airport, about 9 km

Source: <https://www.keralatourism.org/>



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