

27 Dec 2020 - 2 Jan 2021

# INDIA'S LATEST NEWS



परिवार में अनुकूल दृष्टिकोण  
Indian Embassy, Home away from Home

## NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- KVIC Brings Alive 1000-yrs Old Monpa Handmade Paper Industry in Tawang to Revive the Heritage Art; a Historic Feat for North East;
- Eastern DFC: Freight Trains Attain Speed Of Over 90 Kmph On Bhaupur-Khurja Route;
- IMD launches country's highest Meteorological Centre in Leh;
- PM flags off India's first driverless train;
- PM Modi to flag off 100th Kisan Rail from Maharashtra to West Bengal.

## MISSION'S ACTIVITIES

# #India@75



# **KVIC Brings Alive 1000-yrs Old Monpa Handmade Paper Industry in Tawang to Revive the Heritage Art; a Historic Feat for North East**

The 1000-year old heritage art – the Monpa Handmade Paper of Arunachal Pradesh – which was driven to the extinction, has come to life once again, with the committed efforts of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The art of making Monpa handmade paper originated over 1000 years ago. Gradually the art became an integral part of local custom and culture in Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh. Once produced in every household in Tawang, this handmade paper was a major source of livelihood for the locals. However, the handmade paper industry almost disappeared in the last 100 years; prompting KVIC to plan revival of this ancient art. On the instruction of KVIC Chairman, a team of scientists and officials of Kumarappa National Handmade Paper Institute, (KNHPI) Jaipur, was deputed at Tawang to set up the unit and training the locals. Over six months of rigorous efforts bore fruits and a unit has been commissioned at Tawang. The KVIC Chairman said reviving the Monpa handmade paper industry and increasing its commercial production was the key objective of KVIC. "Owing to its peculiarity, this handmade paper has high commercial value that can be harnessed to create local employment in Arunachal Pradesh. This is a local product with great global potential, which is aligned with the Mantra of "Local to Global" given by the Prime Minister. Apart from handmade paper, Tawang is known for two other local crafts – handmade pottery and handmade furniture – that are also getting extinct with passage of time. KVIC Chairman announced that within six months plans will be rolled out for revival of these two local arts. "Revival of handmade pottery will be taken up on priority under Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana very soon," The Monpa handmade paper unit will also serve as a training center for the local youths. KVIC will provide marketing support and explore markets for the locally manufactured handmade paper. KVIC plans to set up more such units in different parts of the country. KVIC will also begin production of innovative plastic-mixed handmade paper in Tawang that will be crucial for reducing plastic waste in the region.

Source: Press Information Bureau

## **Eastern DFC: Freight Trains Attain Speed Of Over 90 Kmph On Bhaupur-Khurja Route**

Indian Railways recently operated freight trains at a speed of over 90 km per hour on the newly inaugurated 351 km long Bhaupur-Khurja section of the eastern dedicated freight corridor (EDFC), resulting in faster delivery of goods and turnaround for freight operations. On December 30, 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bhaupur-Khurja section of the EDFC as well as an operating control centre for the freight network through video conference. The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), responsible for executing the dedicated freight corridor project in the country, is carrying out the construction of 3,342-km long eastern and western DFC for the movement of freight trains. According to a statement released by the Railway Ministry, after the commissioning of the new freight corridor section, commodities such as jute, coal, petroleum, steel, iron, container, and other minerals are easily transported in Punjab and Haryana area. Two fully loaded freight trains hauled by Alstom's WAG 12 indigenous e-locos, each carrying more than 10,00 tonnes of coal and food grains, graced the inaugural run on the Bhaupur – Khurja section of the eastern dedicated freight corridor.

Source: NDTV

## **IMD launches country's highest Meteorological Centre in Leh**

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) will now provide specialised weather forecasts for traffic movement on highways, agriculture, and defence personnel from its Ladakh centre, which was inaugurated on December 29, 2020. Located at 3,500 metres above sea level in Leh, it will be the highest Meteorological Centre (MC) in India. The centre was virtually inaugurated by Minister for Earth Sciences (MoES) Dr Harsh Vardhan. After Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, the Leh centre is the second MC located in the Himalayas. Even though there are only two districts, Kargil and Leh, the Union Territory has varying micro-climatic zones ranging from plains, cold desert, hills and extreme dry places. Weather-display boards would be installed at multiple locations and information would be provided via mobile-based applications. Along with the locals, the forecasts will benefit tourists, the defence sector, disaster management and agriculture departments in the region. The IMD will install ten Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) at key locations – Nubra and Zanskar valleys, Pangong Tso, Drass and Kargil. Being a seismologically active region, the scientists will also gather seismological data here, said M. Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Source: Indian Express

## **PM flags off India's first driverless train**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28.2.2020 inaugurated the country's first driverless train on the Delhi Metro's Magenta Line, and it is expected that by 2025 metro services will expand to 25 cities across India from the current 18. The Prime Minister said that the expanding metro network was an indication of "ease of living" among the citizens. In cities where passenger numbers are less, work is being done on the MetroLite version. Similarly, MetroNeo is being planned in cities where the ridership is less. It would be built at 25% cost of the normal metro. Also, for cities where there are large waterbodies, a system of Water Metro is being worked upon," he said. He said that with "dozens of companies" engaged in the manufacturing of metro components and four companies manufacturing metro coaches in the country, Make In India and a self-reliant country was getting boosted. The National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) was also introduced by Mr. Modi for use on the Airport Express Line. The NCMC will give access to all modes of transportation and will help do away with long queues for tokens.

Source: The Hindu

## **PM Modi to flag off 100th Kisan Rail from Maharashtra to West Bengal**

On 28.12.2020 Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off 100th Kisan Rail from Sangola in Maharashtra to Shalimar in West Bengal, via video conferencing. According to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the multi-commodity train service will carry vegetables such as cauliflower, capsicum, cabbage, drumsticks, chilies, onion, as well as fruits like grapes, oranges, pomegranate, banana, custard apple etc. Loading and unloading of perishable commodities will be permitted at all en route stoppages with no bar on the size of the consignment. The Government of India has extended a subsidy of 50 per cent on transportation of fruits and vegetables. The first Kisan Rail was introduced from Devlali to Danapur on August 7 this year, which was extended up to Muzaffarpur. Its frequency was also increased from weekly to three days a week. Kisan Rail has been a "game-changer" in ensuring "fast transportation of agriculture produce" across the nation. It provides a "seamless" supply chain of perishable produce, as per the PMO.

Source: India TV News

# #India@75

Development  
of Indian  
Railways as an  
engine of growth





# FLAVOR'S OF INDIA

## LAUKI GOSHT

**Recipe Servings:** 2

**Prep Time:** 10 mins

**Cook Time:** 40 mins

**Total Cook Time:** 50 mins

**Difficulty Level:** Medium

### Ingredients of Lauki Gosht:

- 500 Gram Mutton
- 500 Gram Lauki
- 1 1/2 tsp Red chilli powder
- 1/4 tsp Turmeric powder
- 2 tsp Coriander powder
- 1 tsp Garlic paste
- 1 tsp Ginger paste
- 3 tbsp Fresh coriander leaves
- 2-3 Green chillies
- 2 Tomatoes
- 2 Onion
- 1 Cinnamon stick
- To taste Salt
- 4-5 tbsp Oil
- For frying Oil

### How to Lauki Gosht:

- Wash and peel the Lauki. Cut in to halves and wash and then keep a side;
- Heat oil in a wok and add cinnamon stick, black cardamom and finely chopped onions, fry onions till golden brown;
- Add the meat and sauté. Add ginger garlic paste and mix;
- Add coriander, turmeric, red chilli powder along with salt and fry all of these spices;
- Add chopped tomatoes and cook, followed by lauki and continue cooking with little water;
- Let it simmer until the mutton is cooked;
- Now add water depending on how thin you want the gravy;
- Serve garnished with fresh coriander leaves.

### About Lauki Gosht:

A delicious combination of Lauki and Mutton comes alive in the form of this spicy, aromatic dish of Lauki Gosht.

**Source:** food.ndtv



# KERALA - MUSEUMS (6)



**Revi Karunakaran Memorial Museum:** Mr. Revi Karunakaran will always be remembered for his passion and the massive role he played in improving the coir industry in Kerala. The museum built to showcase his art collection stands testament to a man with a fine eye and love for a multitude of art forms. The museum is among the primary attractions in Alappuzha. The ivory and crystal collections are among the largest of its kind. A collection of Tanjore paintings shine brightly on its catalogue along with a 200 sq. ft. mural made completely from vegetable dyes. Its special 'Kerala Room' has over 3800 unique pieces that chart the growth and evolution of our culture. It is an establishment that embodies a love for art and all that is relevant to our culture. Visiting Hours: 09:00 hrs.to 14:00 hrs. on all days except Mondays & National Holidays

## Getting there:

Nearest railway station: Alappuzha, about 3 km

Nearest airport: Cochin International Airport, about 75 km

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





**Krishna Menon Museum in Kozhikode:** Krishna Menon Museum, located in Kozhikode district, has an exclusive wing dedicated to the renowned statesman, the late V. K. Krishna Menon. This section of the Museum displays his personal belongings and souvenirs. Adjacent to the museum is a beautiful Art Gallery with an excellent collection of paintings by Raja Ravi Varma and Raja Raja Varma. Visiting Hours: 10:00- 17:00 hrs. Closed on Mondays & Wednesday mornings.

#### **Getting there:**

Nearest railway station: Kozhikode, about 6 km

Nearest airport: Calicut International Airport, about 31 km

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



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#### **Feedback/Suggestions:**

We welcome suggestions/feedback of our readers on e-bulletin. Kindly send your views to us on [info.india.jakarta@gmail.com](mailto:info.india.jakarta@gmail.com)