



सत्यमेव जयते
Embassy of India
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INDIA'S LATEST NEWS



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

NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- India's new paper Covid-19 test could be a 'game changer';
- Women power in Indian Navy!
Female officers selected as Airborne Tacticians in the helicopter stream;
- Kerala wins UN award on prevention, control of non communicable diseases;
- India conducts successful flight test of ABHYAS from Odisha test range.

MISSION'S ACTIVITIES



India's new paper Covid-19 test could be a 'gamechanger'

The test, named after a famous Indian fictional detective, is based on a gene-editing technology called Crispr. The new Feluda test uses Crispr - short form for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats - or a gene editing technology to detect the virus. Scientists estimate that the kit - called Feluda - would return results in under an hour and cost 500 rupees (about \$6.75; £5.25). Feluda will be made by a leading Indian conglomerate, Tata, and could be the world's first paper-based Covid-19 test available in the market. "This is a simple, precise, reliable, scalable and frugal test," said Professor K Vijay Raghavan, principal scientific adviser to the Government of India said. Researchers at the Delhi-based CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB), where Feluda was developed, as well as private labs, tried out the test on samples from about 2,000 patients, including ones who had already tested positive for the coronavirus. They found that the new test had 96% sensitivity and 98% specificity. The accuracy of a test is based on these two proportions. A test that's highly sensitive will detect almost everyone who has the disease; and a test that has high-specificity will correctly rule out almost everyone who doesn't have the disease.

Source: BBC

Women power in Indian Navy! Female officers selected as Airborne Tacticians in the helicopter stream

For the first time in the history of Indian naval aviation, two women officers have been selected to join as "Observers" (Airborne Tacticians) in the helicopter stream. They are the crew of the Multi-role Helicopters - presently the Seakings and will later on the crew of MH-60R anti-submarine helicopters. It means that they will be the first women airborne combatants and they would be operating from warships. According to the Indian Navy, entry of the women was earlier just restricted to the fixed-wing aircraft. And these fixed-wing aircraft would take off and landed ashore. The officers - Sub Lieutenant (SLt) Kumudini Tyagi and SLt Riti Singh are selected as "Observers". They are a part of a group of 17 officers of the Indian Navy which has four women officers and three officers of the Indian Coast Guard (13 officers of Regular batch and 04 woman officers of Short Service Commission batch). They were awarded "Wings" on graduating as "Observers" at a ceremony at INS Garuda, Kochi.

Source: Financial Express

Kerala wins UN award on prevention, control of non-communicable diseases

Kerala bagged a United Nations award for its "outstanding contribution" towards the non-communicable diseases-related sustainable development goals. The UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) award this year on prevention and control of non-communicable diseases was announced by World Health Organization director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. The award recognises achievements during 2019 on the multisectoral action in the prevention and control of NCDs, mental health and the wider NCD-related sustainable development goals (SDGs). The state government release said the award was a recognition of the lifestyle disease control mechanism in Kerala, and the treatment and free services received by a large section of the population.

Source: The Business Standard

India conducts successful flight test of ABHYAS from Odisha test range

India successfully conducted the flight test of ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) vehicles from a test range in Odisha, defence sources said. The trial, carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur near here, was tracked by various radars and electro-optic systems. This can be used as a target for evaluation of various Missile systems. During the trial on two demonstrator vehicles were successfully test-flown. ABHYAS has been designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of the DRDO. The air vehicle is launched using twin underslung boosters. It is powered by a small gas turbine engine and has an Inertial Navigation System (INS) along with a Flight Control Computer (FCC) for guidance and control. The vehicle has been programmed for fully autonomous flight. The check out of the vehicle is done using laptop-based Ground Control Station (GCS). During the test campaign, the user requirement of 5 km flying altitude, vehicle speed of 0.5 mach, endurance of 30 minutes and 2g turn capability of the test vehicle were successfully achieved.

Source: Hindustan Times





Image credit: Café W, The World Towers

FLAVOR'S OF INDIA TURMERIC MASALA MILK

Recipe Servings: 2

Prep Time: 5 mins

Cook Time: 15 mins

Total Cook Time: 20 mins

Difficulty Level: Easy

Ingredients of Turmeric Masala Milk:

- Turmeric
- Cinnamon powder
- Black pepper (freshly crushed)
- Milk (luke warm)

How to Make Turmeric Masala Milk:

- Boil the milk properly and then bring it down to luke-warm state;
- Add all the ingredients, mix well and leave it for infusion for 10 minutes;
- Add sugar/ jaggery/ honey as per taste. Serve luke-warm.

About Turmeric Masala Milk:

Turmeric milk is something our mothers and grandmothers are familiar with, and it's often referred to as liquid gold! With the healing and anti-inflammatory properties of turmeric, combined with the benefits of other spices, this is the perfect drink to develop immunity and stay healthy.

Source: food.ndtv



KERALA - FORTS & PALACES (3)



Bekal Fort: Kasaragod boasts of the largest and best preserved Fort in the whole of Kerala, bordered by a magnificent beach. Shaped like a giant keyhole, the historic Bekal Fort was built in the 17th century. This historic monument offers a superb view of the Arabian Sea from its tall observation towers, which were occupied by gigantic cannons till a few centuries ago. Near the Fort is an old Mosque that is said to have been built by Tipu Sultan of Mysore. Originally constructed by the rulers of the ancient Kadampa Dynasty, the Fort changed hands over the years to the Kolathiri Rajas, the Vijayanagara Empire, Tipu Sultan and finally, the British East India Company. Today, the Bekal Fort and its scenic surroundings are fast becoming an international tourist destination and a favourite shooting locale for film makers. Visiting hours: 08:00 - 17:30 hrs.

Getting there:

Nearest railway station: Kasaragod, on the Kozhikode-Mangalore-Mumbai route, about 16 km

Nearest airport: Mangalore, about 50 km from Kasaragod town; Calicut International Airport, Kozhikode, about 200 km from Kasaragod.

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





Krishnapuram Palace: The 'Gajendra Moksham' is a massive mural depicting an elephant saluting Lord Vishnu as the other Gods, Goddesses and sages look on in reverence. At 49 sq m, this largest single mural band of its kind ever found in Kerala, greets all who visit Krishnapuram Palace. It is said that Lord Vishnu was the chief deity of theerst while Kayamkulam royal family. This mural was placed at the entrance to the palace from the pond to enable the rulers to worship the deity after their bath. The Krishnapuram Palace is a rare specimen of the Kerala style of architecture, complete with gabled roofs, narrow corridors and dormer windows. Residence of the rulers of Kayamkulam Kingdom, the age of the palace is unknown. Renovated in the 18th century, the palace is today a protected monument under the Archaeology Department. Recently it was again renovated according to the scientific techniques prescribed for the protection of heritage buildings. One can come across many rare antiques and paintings when exploring this beautiful palace. Visiting Hours: 09:30 to 16:30 hrs. Closed on Mondays and National Holidays.

Getting there:

Nearest railway station: Kayamkulam Junction, about 8 km

Nearest airport: Trivandrum International Airport, about 103 km

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



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Feedback/Suggestions:

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