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BIG BANG

Celebrating



ANNIVERSARY



Appointments

Vimal Anand (IRS IT: 2003) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce for a combined tenure of seven years up to 09.12.2026. He replaces Nidhi Mani Tripathi (IAS: 2001: MN).

Monalisa Dash (IFoS: 2003: SK) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region for an overall tenure of five years i.e. up to 11.10.2026 vice Harpreet Singh (IPoS: 1992).

Ranjit Singh (IA&AS: 2003) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries for a combined tenure of seven years up to 21.03.2028 vice Sanoj Kumar Jha (IAS: 1997: SK).

Rajeev Kumar (IOFS: 2000) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs for an overall tenure up to 05.03.2025 vice Sumita Singh (CSS).

Vrunda Manohar Desai (IRS IT: 2003) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for an overall tenure of five years up to 12.04.2027 vice Vikram Sahay (IRS IT: 1992).

Navin Agarwal (IRPS: 1997) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Department of Investment & Public Asset Management for an overall tenure of five years up to 14.03.2027. He replaces Parama Sen (IA&AS: 1994).

Mahendra Kumar (IRSEE: 1999) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment for an overall tenure of five years up to 22.05.2025.

Vivek Kumar Bajpai (IRSME: 1999) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines for an overall tenure of five years up to 22.03.2027. He replaces U C Joshi (IRTS: 1989).

Rajiv Manjhi (CSS) was appointed as Director, Institute of Secretariat Training & Management (ISTM) under DoPT for a tenure up to his superannuation on 30.09.2028. He replaces Sumita Singh (CSS).

Jai Prakash Pandey (IRPS: 2003) was appointed as Additional Secretary, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) under DoPT for a combined tenure of seven years up to 20.02.2027. He replaces Pushpendra Rajput (IAS: 1999: HP).

Lal Chhandama (CSS) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Department of Rural Development, for a tenure of five years vice Abhishek Bhagotia (IAS: 2007: AM).

Debolina Thakur (IA&AS: 1998) was appointed as Joint Secretary & FA, Department of Social Justice & Empowerment for a tenure of five years vice Sanjay Pandey (ICAS: 1994).

Rahul Kashyap, CSS, was appointed as Secretary, National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) under the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment for a tenure of five years vice R K Khandelwal (IAS:1989: BH).

Shobhit Gupta (IRSEE: 2000) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation for an overall tenure of five years up to 01.03.2025 vice Satyendra Kumar Mishra (IRS IT: 1990).

- Rashmita Jha (IRS IT:1997) was appointed as CVO, National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (NTPC), Delhi for an initial period of 3 years.
- Dharmendra Yadav (ITS: 1996) was appointed as CVO, National Medical Commission (NMC), Delhi for an initial period of 3 years.
- Manoj Kumar (IRS IT: 2003) was appointed as CVO, Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Mumbai for an initial period of 3 years.
- Amit Pratap Singh (IRS IT: 2009) was inducted as Superintendent of Police in CBI for a tenure of four years.
- Nidhi S Jain (IA&AS: 2009) was appointed as CVO, Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI), Mumbai for an initial period of three years.
- Narpat Singh (IRTS: 2009) was appointed to the post of Railway Adviser in the High Commission of India, Dhaka, Bangladesh, with the diplomatic status as Counsellor (with RG), for a period of three years.
- The tenure of Rupali Banerjee (CSS) was extended beyond 02.06.2024 till her superannuation i.e. upto 28.02.2025. Currently, she is Member Secretary, NCPCR, Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- The central deputation tenure of Anu Nagar (IFoS: 1995: HP), Joint Secretary, Department of Health Research, was extended for a period of two years beyond 29.05.2024.
- Rajesh Ravindran (IFoS: 1995: KL) has been empanelled for holding the post of Joint Secretary or equivalent at the Centre (Initial deferred).
- R Raghu Prasad (IFoS: 1997: OR) has been empanelled for holding the post of Joint Secretary or equivalent at the Centre (Initial leftover).
- Bramha Kumar (IFS: 2005), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry, was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

IAS

Muthukrishnan Sankaranarayanan (IAS: 2003: MH) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy for a combined tenure of seven years up to 24.10.2026 vice Richa Bagla (IAS: 1999: MH).

Rahul Jain (IAS: 2005: MP) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Sixteenth Finance Commission under the Department of Economic Affairs for an overall tenure of five years up to 03.11.2024. His term may further be extended for additional two years on availability of cadre clearance.

- Vibhu Nayar (IAS: 1990: TN), Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs was entrusted with additional charge of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development from 24.04.2024 to 05.05.2024 during the period of absence on leave of Anil Malik (IAS: 1991: HY).
- Dnyaneshwar Bhalchandra Patil (IAS: 2003: MP) was appointed as Development Commissioner (JS Level), Santa Cruz Exclusive Export Processing Zone (SEEPZ) Special Economic Zone, Mumbai under the Department of Commerce for a tenure of five years vice Shyam Jagannathan (IAS: 1997: AM).
- Abhishek Bhagotia (IAS: 2007: AM) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Lokpal, Department of Personnel & Training for an overall tenure of five years up to 03.04.2027 vice Navin Agarwal (IRPS :1997).
- Surendra Singh (IAS: 1993: JH), Additional Secretary, Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, was repatriated to his parent cadre for availing the benefit of promotion.
- *Sakshi Mittal (IAS: 2010: AGMUT) was appointed as Director in the Department of Personnel and Training, Delhi for a period of five years.
- Rakesh Kumar Verma (IAS: 1993: PB) Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tourism was appointed as Additional Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- Suman Billa (IAS: 1996: KL), presently in the cadre, was appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tourism vice Rakesh Kumar Verma.
- Aradhana Patnaik (IAS: 1998: JH) was appointed (in-situ) as Additional Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare.
- Himani Pande (IAS: 1998: JH) was appointed as Additional Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). Currently, she is working as Joint Secretary in the same department.
- Kamal Kishore Soan (IAS: 1998: JH) was appointed as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Labour & Employment. Currently, he is working as Joint Secretary in the same department.

IPS

- Anurag Kumar (IPS: 2004: AM) inducted to the post of Joint Director in CBI on lateral shift basis from BPR&D for a combined tenure of five years i.e. up to 24.02.2027.
- Umesh Chander Datta (IPS: 2000: RJ) was appointed as IG in SPG after temporary upgradation of one vacant post of DIG to IG in SPG for a period of two years.
- Love Kumar (IPS: 2004: UP) was appointed as IG in SPG by temporarily upgrading the post of DIG for a period of two years.
- Tenure of Sudha Singh (IPS: 2006: OD), DIG, CBI, was extended for a period of two years i.e. up to 28.07.2026.
- Tenure of A Jayadevan (IPS: 2008: MP), DIG, CBI, was extended for a period of two years i.e. up to 02.06.2026.
- Tenure of Dr Navdeep Singh Brar (IPS: 2012: AGMUT), SP, CBI was extended for a period of three years i.e. up to 29.07.2027.
- Satish Shriramaji Khandare (IPS: 1995: AGMUT), Inspector General, BSF was appointed as Additional Director General, BSF up to 11.07.2028 for a combined tenure of five years.
- Padmakar S Ranipse (IPS: 1995: OD), Inspector General, CRPF was appointed as Additional Director General, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) from the date of assumption of charge.
- Rajesh Kumar (IPS: 1995: AGMUT), Inspector General, CRPF was appointed as Additional Director General, CRPF up to 18.03.2025 for a total tenure of seven years.
- Ravi Joseph Lokku (IPS: 1995: UP), Inspector General, BPR&D was appointed as Additional Director General, BPR&D up to 31.08.2026 i.e. date of his superannuation.
- Tsewang Namgyal Kalon (IPS: 1995: UP), Inspector General, SSB, was appointed as Additional Director General, Border Security Force (BSF) up to 15.08.2027 for a combined tenure of five years.

IPS Officer Nalin Prabhat DG, NSG & Sapna Tewari Spl. Director IB




Nalin Prabhat, a seasoned IPS officer from the 1992 batch in Andhra Pradesh, has been named as the new Director General of the National Security Guard (NSG). NSG, often referred to as the Black Cats, is India's premier counter-terrorism unit operating under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Established on October 16, 1984, in the aftermath of Operation Blue Star, its primary mission is to thwart terrorist activities and safeguard states from internal disruptions.

With a focus on counter-terrorism and extensive operational experience, particularly in regions like Jammu and Kashmir, Prabhat's appointment extends until August 2028. Mr. Prabhat belongs to the 1992 batch of IPS officers from the Andhra Pradesh cadre. Presently, he serves as the Additional Director-General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) stationed in Jammu and Kashmir.

Simultaneously, IPS officer Sapna Tewari, hailing from the 1992-batch of the Odisha cadre, has been appointed as the Special Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB). The two-year tenure for Tewari commences upon assuming office or until her retirement on April 30, 2026, in accordance with the DoPT order.

EX IAS Parampal fielded from Bhatinda as BJP candidate

Parampal Kaur Sidhu, who recently resigned as IAS, has been fielded from Bhatinda Lok Sabha constituency as the BJP candidate. Sidhu, the daughter-in-law of Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) senior leader Sikandar Singh Maluka, might have to face Harsimrat Kaur Badal. However, SAD has not yet declared the name of its candidate from Bhatinda.




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Corridors of Power



High Temperature ! Be Alert

Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari directed district collectors to sensitise the people about sun-stroke, dehydration etc due to high temperature in summer. She said ORS packets, IV fluids and other medicines in large quantities had been distributed to all the districts and made available in the primary health centres and sub-centres. Similarly, ORS packets were available with ASHA workers and at employment guarantee work centres,

she said. Children and elderly people were advised to not venture out in the hot sun, particularly between 11 am and 4 pm. Santhi Kumari advised officials to rent agricultural wells and draw water if there was any disruption in the supply of fresh water. Water should also be provided through water tankers. Repairs and flushing of borewells in all villages had been completed and leakages stopped.



Coming Soon ! Don't Miss Your VOTE/RIGHT

"If T20 matches can have full house, Why not on Poll Day?" - Chief Electoral Officer Vikas Raj while expressing concern over a possible dip in voter turnout due to heat, Mr.Vikas Raj wants electorate to emulate cricket lovers who turn out in hordes to watch IPL matches. He also said that necessary arrangements, including providing chairs and fans, as well as deploying paramedical staff, will be made at polling stations.

To ensure fair and transparent elections, 19 enforcement agencies are collaborating to prevent the illegal flow of liquor, cash, precious metals, and freebies. Additionally, 51 election expenditure segments have been identified for close monitoring to curb malpractices. Addressing security concerns, Vikas Raj assured adequate measures are in place, especially in border districts.



'Women Should Come Out From Their Comfort Zones'

"Agreed that the glass ceiling does exist even today, but in a more subtle avatar. It is essential for Women to push their boundaries, come out of their comfort zones & strive towards reaching their potential.We also need to forge networks & uplift each other. Let gender not shackle us!" Sr.IPS officer Shikha Goel, ADGP CID, Director TS Cyber Security Bureau, Director TS FSL & ADGP Women Safety Wing with another guest speaker Justice Hima Kohli agreed on above statement during a talk on the topic, 'Glass Ceiling: A Myth or Reality'. The talk was planned by International Arbitration and Mediation Centre, Hyderabad, attended by Manisha Saboo,Suchiatra Ella, Kamble Purnima , Vivek Reddy and others.

Mahesh Bhagwat- The Best Mentor



Yields 200 Successful Civil Services Candidates
Going beyond the call of duty, Additional DGP, Railways and Road Safety Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat and his team of mentors aided 200 candidates from across the country, who eventually cracked the Civil Services examination 2023.

In the results recently announced by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), 16 candidates under top 100 ranks including third ranker Donoru Ananya Reddy from Mahabubnagar district were mentored by Bhagwat and his team for the personality test or interview.

Overall, 200 candidates trained by this top police officer and his team figured in the final selection list of 1,016. Since 2015, Bhagwat and his team of mentors have been a guiding force for civil services aspirants for their interview preparation.

The aspirants are offered free training and guidance both in person and online via WhatsApp. The team also extends training for Indian Forest services and Assistant commandant CAPF exam interviews conducted by the UPSC. So far, more than 2,000 candidates benefitted from interview preparation and achieved success. "For us, it is like giving back to the society as we have also gone through a struggle period in our preparation days," Bhagwat said.For those who were unsuccessful, Bhagwat advised them to hold on to their dream and work on weak areas, also have a plan B ready.Bhagwat acknowledged efforts of team members including Abhishek Saraf, IAS of MP cadre, Nitish Pathode IRS DC Customs Mumbai, Dr. Shailendra Deolankar, Director Higher Education Maharashtra, Dr. Vivek Kulkarni JPEC, and Anand Patil IAS Additional Secretary Education Delhi who have walked extra mile beyond call of duty.



Warm Welcome To VP

"Delighted to welcome our most respected Honourable Vice President of India Shri. Jagdeep Dhankhar to Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad ." During the visit the C.P.Radhakrishnan , Hon'ble Governor of Telangana welcomed VP. The Hon'ble VP attended an event in the town.He also visited Tirumala for darshan and blessings.



Super Saturday

It's amazing to see Jennifer Larson, Consul General of US in Hyderabad over the mirror at the consulate. In her post she mentioned. "It's super Saturday again at the Consulate! Happy to pitch in helping meet demand for visitor visas. And great meeting so many wonderful people along the way!" This is called simplicity.



Excellence Awards For Hospitality

On the occasion of International Hospitality Day International Institute Of Hotel Management planned the award show to recognize the excellence across Telangana & Andhra Pradesh. The UK Dy.High Commissioner of Gareth Wynn Owen & Sr.IAS officer Jayesh Ranjan attended the event as chief guests.



Meeting Of The Month

Dr.Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul of Republic of Kazakhstan in Hyderabad for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh met Honorable Consul General of Republic of Kazakhstan His Excellency Almaz Tasbolat at the Consulate of Kazakhstan in Dubai. It was a fruitful meeting followed many important discussions.



Tourism Talks

Turkey Consul General in Hyderabad Orhan Yalman Okan met Ms. Shailaja Ramaier,IAS Principal Secretary to Government for Tourism and Culture, Telangana state. Turkey is one of the best and preferred Tourism country, many tourists love to visit Turkey. Lot of scope and many potentiality. Mr.Okan shared several details regarding to the tourism industry. Fruitful discussions.



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All Set For Second Innings

Dr.Tamilisai Soundararajan, Former Governor of Telangana & Lieutenant Governor Puducherry recently came to the city as she is a star campaigner of Telangana , she discussed the program arrangements with the BJP karyakarthas, Parliament and program In charges at BJP office at Hyderabad.She also visited to Khairatabad Sree Ramanjaneya Swami Temple.As She is now contesting as the BJP candidate from the Chennai (South) Lok Sabha constituency in Tamil Nadu, which went to polls in the first phase.All set for second innings.



EC picks Kumar Vishwajeet as new AP Intelligence boss

The Election Commission appointed Andhra Pradesh Police Recruitment Board chairman Kumar Vishwajeet as Intelligence DGP. He replaces Mr A.B. Venkateswara Rao who the government had transferred.Mr Rao's transfer came three days after the Election Commission order and after the Andhra Pradesh High Court refused to stay it. They EC also transferred Vijayawada police commissioner Kanthi Rana Tata. Telangana State On the instructions of the Election Commission of India (ECI), Sneha Mehra has been posted as south zone deputy commissioner of police (DCP) in place of P. Sai Chaitanya, who on Wednesday was transferred and asked to report to the DGP office.



Well Done Collector Garu

Karimnagar Collector Pamela Satpathy focused on the education of SSC failed students. She collected the data from the education department and found that 124 persons had failed and not writing the supplementary examinations to pursue further higher education and losing their precious career.The Collector geared up the education department machinery and the students to write the SSC examinations in March 2024. The teachers visited their houses and given personalized guidance to crack the SSC examinations. Out of a total of 124 failed students, 95 appeared in the examinations and 72 students cleared the examinations with a pass percentage of 75.78 percent in the results which were announced on April 30. Among them, 40 were boys and 32 were girl students.



Let's Reciprocate
MOTHER'S LOVE

Mother's Day
is on 12th May



Pure Veg. Cakes, Pastries, Cookies & Snacks

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My First Indian Train Journey

Lindy Camero, British High Commissioner-designate to India, is on screen. During her visit to Chandigarh she had an opportunity to travel in train. In her post she stated that "First Indian train journey of many, I hope! Spent the day with the Chandigarh". Learned lot about Punjab and Haryana.



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Public Sector

REC okays Rs 1,869 crore loan for Kiru hydro project in J&K



REC Limited, a Maharatna public sector company and a leading NBFC, has signed an agreement with Chenab Valley Power Project Private Limited (CVPPPL) for providing a term loan of Rs 1,869.26 crore. The loan will be utilised for the development, construction and operation of the greenfield Kiru Hydro Electric Project (4×156 MW) on Chenab river located in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir. Kiru Hydro Electric Project (624 MW), is a run-of-river scheme proposed on Chenab and is about 42 km from Kishtwar. The project envisages the construction of a 135-metre-high dam and an underground powerhouse with 4 units of 156 MW each.

The agreement was signed in the presence of CVPPPL Managing Director Ramesh Mukhiya, and Deputy General Manager Rishabh Jain from REC Limited. CVPPPL is a Joint Venture Company between NHPC (51 per cent) and JKSPDC (49 per cent) formed at the initiative of the Jammu and Kashmir government and the Central government to harness the vast hydro potential of Chenab river. The company was incorporated in 2011. CVPPPL has been entrusted with the construction of Kiru HE Project (624 MW), Pakal Dul HE Project (1,000 MW), Kwar HE Project (540 MW), & Kirthai-II HE Project (930 MW) on Build, Own, Operate and Maintain (BOOM) basis with an aggregate installed capacity of 3,094 MW.

NTPC won first prize at the prestigious SCOPE Business Quiz Bonanza



NTPC won first prize at the prestigious SCOPE Business Quiz Bonanza (SBQB) held on 23rd April, 2024, at the SCOPE Convention Centre, New Delhi. As part of the Public Sector Day celebrations, over 100 teams from various Maharatna, Navaratna, and Miniratna PSUs participated in this competition.

Represented by K M Prashanth, GM (CC), and Anshuman Srivastava, DGM (CP), the NTPC team showcased exceptional knowledge and expertise throughout the event. Their dedication propelled them through the initial screening round, two semi-final rounds, and finally, to the grand finale, where they competed against three teams from SAIL.

The quiz covered an array of topics including management concepts, current business events, brands, and the legacy of Public Sector Companies, tested the teams' breadth of knowledge and strategic thinking. After four intense rounds of quizzing, the NTPC team emerged victorious, demonstrating their commitment to excellence.

The prizes were distributed by Amarendu Prakash, CMD (SAIL), Atul Sobti, DG, SCOPE, Uttam Lal, Director (HR), NHPC, and other esteemed dignitaries from SCOPE.

D K Patel, Director (HR), NTPC, also congratulated the team members for their excellent performance. This achievement is a testament to NTPC's relentless pursuit of knowledge and commitment to excellence.

NBCC registers historical Performance in FY2023–24

NBCC secured significant business during FY'23-24 and it has secured record new works of sRs. 23,500Crore on consolidated basis and Rs. 18,400 Crore on standalone basis, as compared to Rs. 6,700 Crore (Consolidated basis) and Rs. 4,225 Crore (Standalone basis) in preceding FY. Major business secured in FY2023-24:

- Additional FAR works in Amrapali worth approximately Rs. 10,000 Crore.
- First Re-development project out-side of Delhi i.e; Kerala State Housing Board (KSHB) Project valuing Rs. 2,000 Crore.
- Diversification into Agri-infrastructure Sector through construction of grain storage under "World's Largest Grain Storage Plan" with an approximate value of Rs 1,500 Crore.
- Redevelopment and modernisation of Government of India Presses through self-financing model at Mayapuri, Rashtrapati Bhawan, Nasik & Kolkata, valuing Rs. 750 Crore.
- Various infrastructure works of SAIL Bhilai, Bokaro, Durgapur & Burnpur valuing Rs. 580 Crore.
- NIT Sikkim works valuing Rs. 560 Crore.
- Construction work of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) at various locations of Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, NER, UP & Delhi valuing Rs. 346 Crore.
- Other works secured are for Paradip Port Authority (PPA), Indian Medical Association (IMA), Khadi Village Industrial Commission (KVIC), NIFT Varanasi, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), PWD Puducherry, etc.
- MoUs signed with BHEL (land monetisation), HUDCO, DMRC& Institute of Company Secretaries of India(ICS)

Amrapali: NBCC has successfully completed about 19,000 units in just three years (including 2-years under the influence of COVID-19 pandemic). The company is committed to deliver another 19,000 units before March 2025.NBCC along with Aspire team has achieved sale of over 6,300 units in Amrapali Projects with total sale value of more than Rs. 3,650 Crore.

SAIL emerges champion in All India Public Sector Volleyball Tournament



Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) won the All India Public Sector Volleyball Tournament 2024 held at Bhopal from 15 – 18 April, 2024 organized by All India Public Sector Sports Control Board (AIPSSCB). Earlier, SAIL had also emerged the champion in the All India Public Sector Hockey Tournament, also organized by AIPSSCB, beating Food Corporation of India in Bhubaneswar recently.

In the All India Public Sector Volleyball Tournament, SAIL beat OIL India (3-0) to become the champion of this tournament. Total nine public sectors viz. SAIL, LIC, BSNL, Coal India, Nyveli Lignite Corporation, OIL India, ESIC, BHEL and NALCO participated in the tournament.

The back-to-back trophies won by SAIL are a testament to its unwavering dedication to foster and advance sports and athletic talents continuously. The company runs and operates multiple sports academies at various locations in the country to nurture budding sporting talents of the nation. Apart from upgrading and developing sporting infrastructure and nurturing talents on a sustained basis, the company also organizes inter-SAIL sports championships across its plants and units to offer opportunities to hone sporting talents. SAIL organizes various games and sports competitions throughout the year under the aegis of Steel Plant Sports Board (SPSB).

SJVN sets milestone with Inauguration of First Multi-purpose Green Hydrogen Pilot Project of the Nation

SJVN Limited has achieved a significant milestone with the inauguration of India's first Multi-purpose (Combined Heat & Power) Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at SJVN's 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Jhakri, Himachal Pradesh. The green hydrogen produced from the project will be utilized for High Velocity Oxygen Fuel (HVOF) Coating Facility of NJHPS for meeting its combustion fuel requirements. In addition, it will also generate electricity through its fuel cell of 25 kW capacity.

The first Multi-purpose (Combined Heat & Power) Green Hydrogen Generation Plant of the nation has been inaugurated by Chairperson and Managing Director, Smt. Geeta Kapur on April 24, 2024. Speaking about the project, the Chairperson said: "Aligned with National Hydrogen Mission of Government of India, SJVN's Green Hydrogen Pilot Project is poised to accelerate the development of green hydrogen production infrastructure in the power sector, thus establishing green hydrogen as a clean energy source." The state-of-the-art Green Hydrogen Pilot Project is set to produce 14 kilograms of Green Hydrogen daily during 8 hours of operation. The hydrogen produced will be stored at a pressure of 30 bars, in six storage tanks, with a total storage capacity of 12 m³. The project will produce hydrogen using alkaline electrolyzer of 20 Nm³/hour capacity, which would be powered by renewable energy supplied from 1.31 MW Solar Power Plant of SJVN in Wadhali, Shimla. Besides generating power, the green hydrogen will also be used for High Velocity Oxygen Fuel Coating of turbine underwater parts. During her visit, the SJVN Chairperson also inaugurated first-of-its-kind Centralized Operation of the 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) and 412 MW Rampur Hydro Power Station (Rampur HPS), by remotely operating Unit-2 of Rampur HPS from NJHPS Control Room at Jhakri, Himachal Pradesh. Rampur HPS is being successfully operated on Tandem Operating System with NJHPS. Smt. Kapur commended the dedicated efforts of the teams at NJHPS, Rampur HPS and at Electrical Design Team at SJVN Corporate Headquarters for this achievement. She urged the employees to continue working diligently to realize the aim of being able to operate the entire Rampur HPS from NJHPS at the earliest.

BITES, DVC collaborate for rail infra works



BITES Ltd., a prime transport infrastructure consultancy, today signed an MoU with Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), a statutory body under the Ministry of Power, to collaborate for Project Management Consultancy for rail infra works.

The partnership aims at finding novel infrastructure solutions for upgradation, renovation and development of rail connectivity for power plants and surrounding areas. As part of this collaboration, BITES will be working closely with DVC for development of rail infrastructure facilities and associated civil, structural, S&T, OHE works.

PNB Celebrates 130 Years of Banking Excellence

In celebration of its 130th Foundation Day, Punjab National Bank (PNB), nation's leading public sector bank, unveiled its commemorative history book, introduced new digital offerings, and launched few CSR initiatives – all aimed to honour the bank's rich legacy, enhance customer experience, and contribute to environmental sustainability and community empowerment. The celebration, held at PNB's Corporate Office in New Delhi, was graced by esteemed dignitaries including Chief Guest DFS Secretary Dr. Vivek Joshi, DFS Joint Secretary Sameer Shukla, DFS Joint Secretary Pankaj Sharma, PNB Board of Directors, PNB Non-Executive Chairman K. G. Ananthakrishnan, PNB MD&CEO Atul Kumar Goel, PNB Executive Directors – Kalyan Kumar, Binod Kumar, M. Paramasivam and Bibhu Prasad Mahapatra, PNB CVO Raghvendra Kumar, and PNB staff members.

Chief Guest DFS Secretary Dr. Vivek Joshi expressed his confidence in PNB's ability to excel and lead the banking sector towards greater heights of success and excellence. He further encouraged the audience to focus on financial inclusion, opt for proactive measures for mitigating risks, cybersecurity, preventive vigilance, green finance and climate finance. He also urged the audience to prioritise self-health. By addressing these multifaceted aspects of banking, he emphasised the holistic approach needed to drive sustainable growth and resilience in the financial sector.

Reflecting on the bank's momentous milestone, **PNB Non-Executive Chairman K. G. Ananthakrishnan** highlighted the bank's evolution from its humble beginnings as the first Swadeshi Bank to its current status as a leading public sector bank.



Eating Avocado May Lower Diabetes Risk, Especially for Females



Avocado may be your first choice food at brunch thanks to its creamy texture and documented benefits on heart health. Now, new research has found that this popular food may lower your risk of diabetes. A cross-sectional study published in the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics investigated the relationship between avocado consumption and diabetes in adults.

This study examined a large sample of more than 28,000 adults of varying ages included in the Mexican National Health and Nutrition Survey.

The researchers found that compared to those who did not consume avocados, avocado-consuming females showed a lower risk of diabetes.

Females who ate avocados (30-38 grams/day) had significantly lower odds of diabetes, even after adjusting for various factors such as age, education level, body weight, physical activity, and more. However, while the study revealed a lower risk of diabetes for females who ate avocados, no significant association was observed in males.

Avocados and diabetes risk. What's the link?

Registered dietitian and doctor of public health Wendy Bazilian, who was not involved in the study, said this study has important implications for the population included in it.

"Given what we know about the nutritional profile of avocados – they have good unsaturated fats, a good source of fiber, and a multitude of vitamins, minerals, and phytonutrients, I'm not surprised to see these findings suggesting that eating avocados may play a role in lower diabetes risk," she said. When it comes to the exact mechanisms at play, Bazilian said avocados offer an "ideal trifecta" for diabetes risk reduction. Firstly, they're rich in fiber.

"Eating foods with fiber helps with blood sugar management and satiety," Bazilian explained. "As fiber makes its way through the digestive system, it slows down digestion which does two things: it makes us feel fuller for longer and also prevents rapid rises in blood glucose after we eat a meal." Both are important for reducing your risk of diabetes.

Secondly, avocados are high in unsaturated fat. "Like fiber, fat slows digestion which can help promote blood sugar management and satiety," Bazilian noted.

Another important aspect of the duo of unsaturated fats and fiber is that both these nutrients support heart health. "Diabetes and heart disease are closely linked because their risk factors are similar," Bazilian explained. "Avocados are a heart-healthy food, and the unsaturated fat and fiber found in avocados can help to maintain healthy LDL cholesterol levels, which can help reduce the risk of heart disease."

According to Bazilian, "what's good for the heart is good for diabetes risk, blood sugar, and metabolic function and control." Finally, you might be surprised to learn that avocados are actually fruits. "A healthy eating pattern that is predominantly plant foods, including fruits and vegetables, is associated with a reduced risk of type 2 diabetes and related CVD risk factors," Bazilian pointed out. "It's also important to recognize that, unlike most other fruits, avocados contain no naturally occurring sugars and do not affect the glycemic response," she added. "Why avocados may help lower diabetes risk in females and not males Interestingly, while the study found that eating avocados seems to reduce the risk of diabetes for females, no significant observations were shown in males.

Why might that be?

"The researchers point out that the difference in findings in men vs women may be attributed to the different lifestyle factors between men and women," Bazilian noted. "Specifically, more men in the study tended to be smokers (~38%) compared to women (~12%), and smoking can increase the risk of developing diabetes."

Registered dietitian nutritionist Kristen White agreed that differing lifestyle factors could be at play. Additionally, she said it's possible that hormonal differences between males and females could contribute to variations in how avocados affect metabolic health.

While this particular finding is intriguing — maybe even confusing — Bazilian said it's important to remember that sometimes we can't always explain the results we see in nutrition research. "This is why it's important to both continue doing research and looking at the body of evidence on a topic and what other studies have shown," she said.

Simple ways to include more avocado in your diet

If the findings of this study have inspired you to eat more avocado, Bazilian said there are some swaps you can make that are "very doable."

She believes that slightly less than one serving of avocado per day is a healthy amount that's achievable for most people.

"One way to include more avocado in your diet is to swap mayo or butter on sandwiches with mashed avocado for a creamy, nutrient-rich spread," White suggested. "You could also replace store-bought salad dressings with a homemade avocado dressing. Simply combine avocado, lemon juice, olive oil, and herbs."

Another suggestion?

"Instead of using sour cream or cheese as toppings, use sliced avocado to add creaminess and flavor to tacos, burritos, or salads," White advised.

Avocados are also a great addition to smoothies.

"Blend avocado into smoothies for a creamy texture and added nutrients, or use it as a base for desserts like avocado chocolate pudding," White suggested.

Climbing Stairs May Improve Heart Health and Help You Live Longer



The benefits of exercise are well-known, from better heart health and lower blood pressure to improved mood.

There are many ways to be active on a regular basis, such as taking the stairs. According to the authors of a new study, climbing stairs is associated with improved heart health and longevity.

"One of the main motivators behind this study was that I was often seeing people take the lifts at work rather than taking the stairs — even medical students 10 years younger than myself," Sophie Paddock, MD, of the University of East Anglia and Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Foundation Trust, in the United Kingdom, told Healthline. "I'd like to think that we can now use the results of this study to encourage people to incorporate more physical activity into their daily lives. We hope that our research will influence policy makers and health care professionals to promote physical activity and stair climbing." The research is being presented at the European Society of Cardiology's Preventive Cardiology conference April 25–27 in Athens, Greece. The study has not yet been published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

Climbing stairs promotes heart health, longevity

For this study, researchers conducted a meta-analysis, examining nine studies with 480,479 participants.

Participants included healthy adults ages 35 to 84 and adults with a prior history of heart attack or peripheral arterial disease.

Following the analysis, researchers found that stair climbing was linked to a 24% reduced risk of death from any cause and a 39% lower risk of death from heart disease. Climbing stairs was also associated with a reduced risk of cardiovascular events, such as heart attack, heart failure, and stroke. According to the authors, the next steps for the research will be to objectively evaluate the optimal number of stairs people should be climbing each day and at what intensity.

"The current research is heavily reliant on patients recalling their day-to-day activities, which can lead to bias," Paddock explained.

Regular exercise helps prevent heart disease

John Higgins MD, a sports cardiologist at McGovern Medical School at UTHealth in Houston, not involved in the study, told Healthline exercise strengthens the heart muscle and improves vascular function, among other positive effects, such as:

- improved nitric oxide production · improved vascular endothelial function · reduced cardiovascular risk factors

Cardiovascular disease affects the heart and blood vessels. Aerobic exercises such as walking, running, biking, and swimming can help strengthen the heart and improve its ability to function.

"Aerobic exercise can help the heart pump blood more efficiently, reducing the risk of heart failure," Benjamin Boudreaux, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in Columbia's Center for Behavioral Cardiovascular Health, told Healthline. Boudreaux was not involved in the study.

"Climbing stairs is a form of aerobic exercise, which provides numerous heart health benefits," Boudreaux noted.

Regular aerobic exercise helps lower blood pressure over a 24-hour period, which increases flexibility in the blood vessels and reduces the risk of high blood pressure (hypertension), Boudreaux explained. Exercise also increases levels of "good" HDL cholesterol, he said, which helps reduce "bad" LDL cholesterol and the risk of atherosclerosis, he said.

In addition, Boudreaux noted that exercise helps regulate blood sugar and improve insulin sensitivity, which helps reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes and related blood vessel damage.

How many stairs should you climb each day?

The new study did not make a specific recommendation for stair climbing frequency.

According to experts interviewed for this article, aiming for three to six flights of stairs per day (assuming each flight is 10 to 15 stairs) is a good goal for overall health.

A 2023 study suggests climbing more than five flights of stairs (or 50 stair steps) daily may reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases, such as stroke, heart attacks, and blood clots.

"When you increase your heart rate through stair climbing, it helps strengthen the heart muscle and makes it more efficient at pumping blood, so the heart works less now to complete its daily mission of pumping blood packed with nutrients and oxygen throughout your body," Higgins explained.



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PRCI prestigious SAMVAAHANA AWARD To Dr.Y.Nageshwar Rao

On the occasion of 20th National level Foundation Day Celebrations of Public Relations Council of India (PRCI), Hyderabad Chapter honoured to bestow the prestigious SAMVAAHANA STATE AWARD to Sr.Journalist Dr.Y.Nageshwar Rao in recognition of his excellent contribution in the field of Journalism. Chief Guest. Ajay Mishra, IAS (Retd.),Virahat Ali, President, Telangana Union of Working Journalists, Anupam Reddy, and took part as the distinguished Guests. M.B.Jayaram, Chairman Emeritus, PRCI presided. Shakeel Ahmed Chairman, PRCI Hyderabad Chapter conveyed the gratitude.



JITO Youth Conclave

JITO Hyderabad planned ‘Youth Conclave’ followed by many part events filled by lot of learnings,masti & joy. Actor & VJ Ranvijay presence and his chit-chat with the members was a high light.



Dr.Vipin Goel Releases MR’s April edition

Midnight Reporter ‘s April edition is out with a bang released by well-known Doctor Dr.Vipin Goel, Clinical Director and HOD, Dept of surgical oncology, Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgeon,Star Hospitals, Hyderabad. Click the link for the epaper : https://midnightreporter.com/April_2024.pdf



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Wishing them all the best and looking forward to their further successes!



Women Power

La Winspire Founder, writer & life coach Dr.Madhurima Reddy, was graciously invited, awarded, and participated as a distinguished panelist at the Times Power Women 2024 Awards event. She has shared the panel with Shilpa Reddy, Entrepreneur, Priya Gazdar, Chairman of FICCI FLO, and Manisha Saboo, Head of Infosys Foundation. Distinguished Guests of Honor, including Smt. Seethakka, Minister of Women & Child Welfare, Smitha Sabharwal IAS, Shika Goel IPS, Film Actress Tabu, & Telugu Folk Singer Mangli were also present.The award was in Mental Health & Human Behavior Sciences Entrepreneurship.



Dr.Harshad : Owsome Orthopedic Surgeon

Dr.Harshad Jawalkar , Director, Consultant Shoulder and Upper Limb Orthopaedic Surgeon at The Shoulder Centre is one of the happening young doctor.As per his social media update “Delighted to be a faculty at the Shoulder Arthroscopic Surgery Cadaver Workshop at Arthrolab, Ramaiah, Bengaluru! Had an opportunity to interact and teach 8 Orthopaedic Surgeons from all over the country.” Experience matters !



Happy birthday Deepa

Rhea Melwani is back ! Occasion, its Deepa Gupta’s birth day. Melwani & Manju Aggarwal posted a picture with Deepa to wish on her birth day.Baar-baar din ye aaye...! So, where the party took place. Any idea ! We dint get the invite, hope it was a close aide party.Koi khabar !!



Happy 25th Anniversary

Congratulations to the beautiful couple Naveen & Sushma in their 25th Wedding Anniversary. It was a grand celebration with interesting rituals.The guests & family members had a good time. Can say fun filled event of the month.

hub n home

Living Room Interior Design Trends 2024

In the world of interior design, staying up-to-date with the latest trends is essential to keep your living space stylish and functional. As we step into 2023, a new wave of living room interior design trends is emerging, promising to redefine the way we experience our living spaces. Whether you're looking for fresh inspiration or planning a complete living room makeover, the trends for 2023 are sure to leave you captivated.

Sustainable Living: In 2024, eco-consciousness is at the forefront of interior design. Sustainable materials and furnishings are gaining momentum. Embrace furniture made from reclaimed wood, recycled metal, and organic fabrics to create an environmentally friendly living room space.

Biophilic Design: The 'bringing the outdoors in' concept continues to flourish. Incorporate natural elements like plants, water features, and natural light to establish a soothing and harmonious living room environment.

Earthy Tones: Earthy color palettes, including warm browns, soft greens, and calming blues, are dominating the scene. These colors help create a cozy and inviting atmosphere in your living room.

Multi-Functional Furniture: As homes become more versatile, multi-functional furniture pieces are essential. Look for sofas that double as beds, coffee tables with built-in storage, and modular seating to adapt to various needs.

Tech Integration: Smart living rooms are here to stay. From voice-activated lighting to integrated entertainment systems, technology is seamlessly woven into the fabric of your 2023 living room.

Texture Play: Mixing textures such as velvets, silks, and natural fibers adds depth and character to your space. Texture plays a key role in creating visual interest in your living room.

Living Room Ideas 2024- If you're searching for specific living room ideas in 2023, here are some suggestions to implement these trends:

Incorporate Sustainable Decor: Look for furniture and decor made from recycled and sustainable materials. You can also add a few indoor plants to infuse your living room with the beauty of nature.

Embrace Earthy Colors: Repaint your walls in warm, earthy hues or add throw pillows, rugs, or curtains in these shades to bring nature indoors.

Living Room Decor Ideas 2024 - When it comes to living room decor in 2023, consider the following:

Biophilic Accents: Enhance your space with biophilic elements, such as a living wall or a tabletop water feature, to establish a connection with the natural world.

Tech-Friendly Design: Invest in smart lighting and audio systems to create a tech-savvy living room that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing.



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दुबई में बन रहा दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा एयरपोर्ट, 35 अरब डॉलर खर्च करेगा UAE



UAE के दुबई में दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा एयरपोर्ट बनने जा रहा है। इसका नाम अल मखतूम इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट होगा। अल जजीरा के मुताबिक इसे बनाने में 35 अरब डॉलर, यानी करीब 2.92 लाख करोड़ रुपए का खर्च आएगा। UAE के प्रधानमंत्री शेख मोहम्मद बिन राशिद अल मखतूम ने रविवार को सोशल मीडिया पर खुद इसकी जानकारी दी।

उन्होंने बताया कि नया एयरपोर्ट दुबई इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से 5 गुना बड़ा होगा। हर साल यहां से 26 करोड़ पैसंजर यात्रा करेंगे। यह प्रोजेक्ट दुबई के अल मखतूम इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर शुरू होगा। यहां 5 पैरेलल रनवे होंगे, यानी एक साथ 5 विमान यहां से टेकऑफ या लैंड कर सकेंगे। इसके अलावा एयरपोर्ट पर 400 टर्मिनल गेट होंगे।

10 साल में बनकर तैयार होगा अल मखतूम एयरपोर्ट— प्रधानमंत्री ने बताया कि नए एयरपोर्ट के डिजाइन को मंजूरी दे दी गई है। इस एयरपोर्ट का कुल एरिया 70 स्क्वायर किमी होगा। अगले 10 साल में इसे बनाने का टारगेट रखा गया है। प्रोजेक्ट पूरा होने के बाद दुबई इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट के ऑपरेशन को नए अल मखतूम हवाई अड्डे पर ट्रांसफर कर दिया जाएगा।

इस प्रोजेक्ट के तहत दुबई साउथ में एयरपोर्ट के चारों ओर एक पूरा शहर बसाया जाएगा। इससे 10 लाख लोगों के हाउसिंग प्रोजेक्ट का काम भी पूरा होगा। दुबई एयरपोर्ट इस वक्त दुनिया का सबसे व्यस्त अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट है। साल 2022 में इस एयरपोर्ट से करीब 6.6 करोड़ यात्री गुजरे थे।

दुबई एयरपोर्ट पर भीड़ को संभालने के लिए फैसला लिया – रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, कोरोना के बाद यह आकड़ा घटा है। महामारी से पहले साल 2019 में इस एयरपोर्ट से होकर करीब 8.7 करोड़ लोगों ने यात्रा की थी। वहीं साल 2018 में यहां से 9 करोड़ पैसंजर गुजरे थे। ज्यादा भीड़ की वजह से इस एयरपोर्ट पर कई बार ऑपरेशन संभालने में परेशानियां आती हैं। इसी को देखते हुए अल मखतूम प्रोजेक्ट पर काम किया जा रहा है।

अल जजीरा के मुताबिक UAE सालों से दुबई एयरपोर्ट के ऑपरेशन को अल मखतूम एयरपोर्ट पर ट्रांसफर करने की प्लानिंग कर रहा है। हालांकि मंदी की वजह से 2009 में UAE में आई आर्थिक तंगहाली से उबरने की कोशिश में यह टल गया था।

टाइटेनिक पर सवार सबसे अमीर शरक्स की घड़ी नीलाम



कहानियां जुड़ीं –

नीलामकर्ता एंडर्बू ने कहा, 'ये ऑक्शन इस बात के सबूत हैं कि बिकने वाला सामना कितना अनोखा है। साथ ही ये दिखाता है कि लोग आज भी टाइटेनिक की कहानी को लेकर उत्साहित रहते हैं। 112 साल पहले जो जहाज डूब गया, उसकी बातें आज भी होती हैं। इस जहाज के डूबने से उन 2200 लोगों की कहानियां भी जुड़ी हैं, जो इस पर सवार थे।'

BBC न्यूज के मुताबिक, टाइटेनिक के डूबते वक्त घड़ी के मालिक जॉन जेकब लाइफबोट के जरिए जाने बचाने की जगह जहाज पर मौजूद दूसरे लोगों के साथ बातचीत कर रहे थे। दरअसल, पहले जॉन को अंदाजा नहीं था कि जहाज पर कितना बड़ा खतरा है।

बिजनेसमैन जॉन के शव के साथ मिली थी घड़ी—

हालांकि, बाद में टाइटेनिक डूबने लगा और कैप्टन लोगों को लाइफबोट के जरिए जहाज से निकालने लगे। जॉन ने जब तक खतरे को भांपा, तब तक बहुत देर हो चुकी थी। ऐसे में उन्होंने चौथी लाइफबोट के जरिए पहले अपनी पत्नी मैडेलिन ऐस्टर को भेज दिया और खुद जहाज पर ही रह गए।

टाइटेनिक के डूबने के करीब 1 हफ्ते बाद समुद्र में जॉन का शव मिला था। उनकी जेब में सोने की घड़ी रखी हुई थी। जॉन उस जहाज पर मौजूद सबसे अमीर शरक्स थे। उस वक्त उनकी 725 करोड़ थी, जो आज कई अरबों डॉलर के बराबर होगी। जॉन के बेटे विल्लियम ऐस्टर ने पिता की घड़ी उनके ऐंजीक्यूटिव सेक्रेटरी के बेटे विलियम डॉबिन को दे दी थी।

लापता मलेशियाई विमान MH370 का नया VIDEO



मलेशिया के लापता हुए विमान MH370 से जुड़ा एक नए वीडियो सामने आया है। इसे MH370 का ड्रोन वीडियो कहा गया है। वीडियो में विमान के बेहद करीब कुछ उड़ता नजर आ रहा है। इस पर एक यूजर ने लिखा, 'प्लेन के इतने करीब उड़ते गोल ऑब्जेक्ट किसी ऑपरेशन का हिस्सा लग रहा है। गोले की चारों तरफ प्लाज्मा क्षेत्र है, जो ग्रेविटी की तरह है।'

सोशल मीडिया पर तेजी से शेयर हो रहे इस वीडियो पर टेस्ला के CEO एलन मस्क का बयान सामने आया है। मस्क ने कहा कि उन्होंने अब तक एलियन से जुड़ा कोई सबूत नहीं देखा है। अगर उन्हें इसकी जानकारी मिलेगी तो वे जरूर साझा करेंगे।

वीडियो से जुड़े पोस्ट पर कमेंट करते हुए एलन मस्क ने कहा, 'स्पेसएक्स के करीब 6 हजार सैटेलाइट्स अंतरिक्ष में मौजूद हैं। इसके बावजूद हमें अब तक एक बार भी एलियन के करीब से गुजरना नहीं पड़ा है।'

एक्सपर्ट्स का दावा— कैप्टन ने विमान को क्रेश किया—

मलेशियाई एयरलाइंस का लापता विमान MH370 पिछले 10 साल से रहस्य बना हुआ है। विमान को लेकर अक्सर नई थ्योरीज और दावे सामने आते रहते हैं। करीब एक महीने पहले एक्सपर्ट्स ने आशंका जताई थी कि प्लेन के कैप्टन ने विमान को क्रेश करने की योजना बनाई थी। एक्सपर्ट और ब्रिटिश बोइंग 777 के पायलट साइमन हार्डी ने कहा था, 'फ्लाइट MH370 समुद्र की गहराइयों (समुद्र में बनी खाई) में है। कैप्टन जहारी अहमद शाह ने इसे क्रेश करने की प्लानिंग की थी। फ्लाइट के प्री-डिपार्चर डॉक्यूमेंट्स से यह साबित होता है।'

वहीं अमेरिका के टेक्सास राज्य की एक कंपनी ओशन इन्फिनिटी ने दावा किया था कि उनके पास MH370 विमान की क्रेश लोकेशन है। कंपनी ने मलेशियाई सरकार के सामने हिंद महासागर में नए सिरे से खोज शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव भी रखा था।

एक्सपर्ट्स ने किया दावा— जल्द मिल सकता है MH370 विमान—

सितंबर में ब्रिटेन की रॉयल एरोनॉटिकल सोसाइटी में एरोस्पेस एक्सपर्ट जीन-लुक मरचंड और पायलट पैट्रिक ब्लेरी ने रिसर्च के बाद उस नए क्षेत्र की जानकारी दी थी, जहां प्लेन के गायब होने की आशंका है। उन्होंने कहा था कि इस इलाके में 10 दिन के अंदर छानबीन पूरी की जा सकती है।

एक्सपर्ट के मुताबिक— जिसने भी प्लेन हाईजैक किया वो बेहद अनुभवी था। उसने पूरी प्लानिंग के साथ इसे अंजाम दिया। प्लेन के कोबिन में दबाव को खत्म कर दिया गया, ताकि मलबा ज्यादा न हो और इसे ढूंढा न जा सके।

विजय माल्या को फ्रांस के जरिए वापस लाने की तैयारी



भारत सरकार भगोड़े शराब कारोबारी विजय माल्या को देश लाने की कोशिश कर रही है। इसके लिए सरकार ने फ्रांस के अधिकारियों से बिना शर्त माल्या को भारत को सौंपने की मांग की है। द इंडियन एक्सप्रेस ने रिपोर्ट में इसकी जानकारी दी।

माल्या अभी ब्रिटेन में है, लेकिन भारत इस वक्त हर उस देश से संपर्क कर रहा है, जहां माल्या की प्रॉपर्टी है। ऐसा इसलिए, अगर माल्या ब्रिटेन छोड़कर दूसरे देश भागता है तो उसे वहां से भारत लाने में ज्यादा समय न लगे। फ्रांस ने शर्तों के साथ प्रत्यर्पण का ऑफर दिया—

रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, भारत और फ्रांस के बीच में माल्या के प्रत्यर्पण पर बातचीत 15 अप्रैल को काउंटर-टेररिज्म के वर्किंग ग्रुप की एक बैठक के दौरान हुई। हालांकि, इसकी जानकारी अब सामने आई है। फ्रांस ने इस बैठक में कुछ शर्तों के साथ माल्या के प्रत्यर्पण का ऑफर दिया, लेकिन भारत ने उनसे शर्तें हटाने को कहा है।

इस बैठक में भारत की तरफ से विदेश मंत्रालय के जॉइंट सेक्रेटरी केंडी देवल शामिल हुए थे। इसके अलावा बैठक में इंटेलिजेंस एजेंसी के कई अधिकारी भी मौजूद रहे। किंगफिशर एयरलाइंस समेत कई कंपनियों के मालिक रहे भारतीय बिजनेसमैन विजय माल्या पर देश के 17 बैंकों के करीब 9 हजार करोड़ रुपए बकाया है।

2019 में विजय माल्या को भगोड़ा घोषित किया गया—

माल्या 2016 में देश छोड़कर ब्रिटेन भाग गया था, जहां से भारत सरकार उसे देश लाने का प्रयास कर रही है। माल्या पर फ्रॉड और मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग के केस चल रहे हैं। 5 जनवरी 2019 को अदालत ने विजय माल्या को भगोड़ा घोषित कर दिया था।

पिछले साल जांच के दौरान CBI ने दावा किया था कि माल्या ने साल 2015-16 के दौरान ब्रिटेन और फ्रांस में 330 करोड़ रुपए की संपत्तियां खरीदी थीं। उस वक्त उसकी कंपनी किंगफिशर एयरलाइंस घाटे में थी। माल्या ने खुद बैंकों को कर्ज नहीं चुकाया था। साल 2020 में ED की अपील पर फ्रांस ने वहां मौजूद माल्या की 14 करोड़ की प्रॉपर्टी को सीज कर लिया था। किंगफिशर कंपनी के बनने और दिवालिया होने की कहानी—

पिता विट्ठल माल्या के निधन के बाद विजय माल्या ने साल 1978 यूनाइटेड ब्रूज (UB) कंपनी के अंडर किंगफिशर प्रीमियम नाम से बियर कंपनी लॉन्च की थी। 44 साल की उम्र में माल्या यूनाइटेड बुअरीज ग्रुप के चेयरमैन बन गए थे। माना जाता है कि अपनी बियर को और ज्यादा प्रमोट करने के लिए माल्या ने साल 2005 में किंगफिशर एयरलाइंस लॉन्च की।

इसके बाद प्ले टीम से लेकर फॉर्मूला वन टीम खरीदना तक को किंगफिशर के एक्सटेंडेड मार्केटिंग स्ट्रेटजी की तरह देखा गया। माल्या ने किंगफिशर के नाम से कैलेंडर निकालना भी शुरू किया था, जिसमें मॉडल्स को प्रेजेंट किया जाता था। साल 2011 से किंगफिशर एयरलाइन घाटे में जाने लगी। 2012 तक हालात इतने खराब हो गए कि कुछ विमानों की उड़ान रोकनी पड़ी। कर्मचारियों को सैलरी मिलनी बंद हो गई। धरना प्रदर्शन होने लगे।



Religious Tourism spots like Varanasi and Ayodhya may soon outshine Goa and Agra: Data

According to the Ministry of Tourism data, last year 8.5 crores of tourists visited Varanasi (Kashi), around 4.5 crore people visited Prayagraj and more than 1.5 crores of people have visited Ayodhya Ram temple since the consecration ceremony. Many experts feel Varanasi will outdo Goa, Agra, and Shimla. During the COVID period when the temples were closed down, our Prime Minister thought let's make the temples a place where everybody would like to visit. So we came up with the idea of having the Kashi Vishwanath corridor. It has changed the entire tourism scenario of the state and in year 2023 we had more than 10 crore tourists" said Preeti Srivastava, Deputy Director, Department of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh to ANI.

Government of Uttar Pradesh is promoting the new golden triangle of Prayagraj, Kashi and Ayodhya as a golden triangle of religious tourism.

"Now everybody is benefiting. Even the small washerman, he's also getting business because he's washing the linen of the hotels. The vegetable seller, everybody is benefiting. The rickshaw pullers, the flower sellers and local Prasad shops. Now the new golden triangle is coming up that is Ayodhya, Prayagraj and Varanasi" said Preeti.

The transformative impact of projects like the Kashi Vishwanath corridor, has revitalized Varanasi's tourism sector, leading to a substantial increase in tourist footfall and allied economic activities. The surge in tourism has not only boosted local businesses but also generated substantial revenue for the state. As per the data by the Ministry of Tourism 1,439 million people participated in religious tourism in India during 2022, it is more than double from 677 million in 2021. In 2022, religious tourism destinations earned Rs1.34 lakh crore in revenue, up from Rs65,070 crore in 2021. In 2022, Varanasi had 82 million visitors, which is almost four times the number of visitors in 2019. This number accounted for almost 26% of all arrivals in 2022, compared to less than 4 per cent in 2019. Varanasi's tourist footfall has surpassed Agra, which is home to the Taj Mahal, and has made it the most visited city in Uttar Pradesh.

PM Narendra Modi also mentioned in his address on the 103rd episode of radio program 'Mann Ki Baat' that "Now more than 10 crore tourists are reaching Kashi every year. The number of devotees visiting pilgrimages like Ayodhya, Mathura, Ujjain is also increasing rapidly. Due to this lakhs of poor are getting employment".

Madhya Pradesh to Boost Cruise Tourism



Recently, the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and the Government of Gujarat to elevate cruise tourism in Madhya Pradesh.

Key Points- · Under this collaboration, two floating jetties, known as pontoons, have been dispatched from Kolkata to Kukshi in the state. · The proposed cruise route is set to embark from Ekatma Dham (Statue of Oneness) in Omkareshwar, Madhya Pradesh, and voyage to the Statue of Unity in Kevadiy

· Gujarat. · According to the terms outlined in the MoU, IWAI is committed to providing two floating jetties to both Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. · Additional infrastructure and amenities for cruise tourism will be developed by the state government, fostering economic growth in the region and extending benefits to the local populace. · Cruise tourism promises not only to enrich the tourism landscape but also to offer tourists an immersive experience of the local culture, traditions, lifestyle, and cuisine amid the scenic vistas of the Narmada River.

Narmada River- · The Narmada River (also known as Rewa) serves as a traditional boundary between North and South India. · It is 1,312 km west of its origin from the Amarkantak peak of Maikal mountain. It flows into the Gulf of Khambhat. · It drains a large area in Madhya Pradesh besides some areas in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat. · It is a West flowing river of the peninsular region flowing through a rift valley between the Vindhya Range on the north and the Satpura Range on the south.

· Tributaries : · The predominant tributaries from the right are – Hiran, Tendori, Barna, Kolar, Man, Uri, Hatni, and Orsang. · The predominant left tributaries are – Burner, Banjar, Sher, Shakkar, Dudhi, Tawa, Ganjal, Chhota Tawa, Kundi, Goi, and Karjan. · Dams: · The Major dams on the river include Omkareshwar and Maheshwar dams.

Saudi Arabia is making a high-risk \$1 trillion bet on tourism



In Arabic, AlUla means "glory," and the kingdom envisions a lot for this historical region, which is the size of New Jersey. It will become one of the world's great tourist attractions—in the words of Melanie de Souza, AlUla's top marketing official, a destination for "lux seekers, wanderlust nomads, intrepid voyagers and silver foxes."

Along with developing resorts, shops, restaurants and a contemporary art museum with Paris' Centre Pompidou, the Royal Commission for AlUla is overseeing tourist-friendly archaeological excavations of colossal

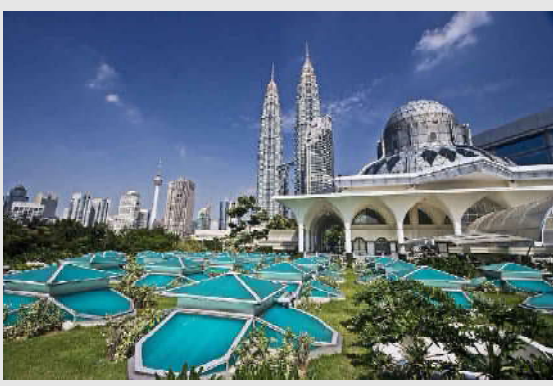
tombs that date to the first century B.C.

And then there's the new Sharaan Nature Reserve, which showcases a repopulated world of rare beasts: the wild goats, known as ibex, with their long horns curving like scimitars; the striking black-and-white oryx antelopes; fleet-footed gazelles; and, one day soon, endangered Arabian leopards. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who chairs the commission, has camped here for several winters, hosting dignitaries such as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Senators Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina.

But on this day in March, the weather isn't cooperating for the Wangs. A huge storm brings torrential rain, wind gusts and even hail. At the resort where they're staying, guests' cars are stuck in wet sand. Multitudes of Southeast Asian workers shovel the soaked earth, to little avail. The Wangs are marooned in their hotel until the next day. When the sun reappears, they dig into a bowl of beetroot and feta at an outdoor cafe called the Pink Camel, and all is forgotten.

· "Stunning view and very friendly people," says Wang's mother, Qiuju, a retired nurse.

Malaysia sees promising growth for inbound tourism in 2024



Malaysia's tourism industry is poised for a remarkable rebound, with projections indicating a surpassing of pre-pandemic levels from 2019 and a promising trajectory for future growth, bolstered by strategic collaborations and partnerships within the airline sector.

Malaysia welcomed 20.1 million international tourists in 2023, generating a substantial revenue of 71.3 billion ringgit (US\$14.9 billion). Although this achievement exceeded the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture's target of 16.1 million arrivals,

it notably fell short of the robust figures seen in 2019, where 26.1 million international tourists contributed 86.1 billion ringgit to the country's economy.

Addressing the APG Network Annual General Meeting 2024, deputy tourism, arts and culture minister Khairul Firdaus Akbar Khan articulated the government's ambitious aspirations, setting a target of 27.3 million tourists and aiming for 102.7 billion ringgit in tourist expenditure for 2024. He stressed the ongoing promotional initiatives and events, particularly highlighting the state-focused campaigns in Melaka, Kelantan, Perak, and Perlis. Expressing optimism, he underscored Malaysia's commitment to surpassing pre-pandemic benchmarks, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Looking ahead, the government has set its sights even higher, with a tourism target of 31.4 million visitors and revenue of 125.5 billion ringgit slated for 2025. For *Visit Malaysia 2026*, an ambitious goal of attracting 35.6 million tourists is established, with an anticipated tourism revenue of 147.1 billion ringgit.

During his presentation at the event, Shahrin Mokhtar, director, strategic planning at Tourism Malaysia, highlighted the pivotal role of enhanced air connectivity in bolstering international arrivals to Malaysia. He elaborated on the availability of a matching grant designed to incentivise airlines to initiate new services, augment existing frequencies, or introduce charter services to Malaysia. Moreover, Tourism Malaysia is deepening its collaboration with local airlines flying on international routes, with a specific focus on promoting stopover programmes and seamlessly converting transit passengers at Kuala Lumpur International Airport into tourists, thereby harnessing the full tourism potential of the nation.

Japan wants you to spend more with 'luxury tourism'



Japan is gearing up to attract affluent tourists to lesser-known destinations, offering opportunities for an authentic experience of culture, craftsmanship and nature as a record number of foreign travelers come to the country.

The number of inbound travelers surpassed pre-pandemic levels for a sixth consecutive month in March, during which they spent an average of ¥209,000 (\$1,340) per person per stay. Now, the tourism agency wants to get inbound tourists to increase their spending by altering how they travel.

The Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) aims to increase the number of "luxury tourists" — defined as those who spend more than ¥1 million per person during their stay.

In 2019, this demographic comprised just 1% of overall visitors but they contributed to 14% of total spending. "From the perspective of increasing consumption in rural regions, we want to strategically attract visitors by refining the content we offer and building networks through which we can promote businesses," said JNTO director Rieko Nakayama.

Added Ryo Ito, a JNTO official in charge of the promotion of luxury tourism, "These luxury tourists tend to have high levels of curiosity and are interested in authentic experiences that are unique to specific areas, which goes hand in hand with (our goal of) promoting rural tourism."

"However, there are still some issues that need to be addressed in attracting visitors to these rural areas."