NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- India contributes over $15 mn to India-UN Development Partnership Fund;
- Inaugural ‘Kisan Rail’ flagged off;
- Maharashtra government ties up with Google to start virtual classes for over 22 million students;
- India’s first snow leopard conservation centre to come up in Uttarakhand.

MISSION'S ACTIVITIES

70 Years Anniversary
Indonesia & India
Diplomatic Relations 1949 - 2019

150 YEARS OF CELEBRATING THE MAHATMA
India contributes over $15 mn to India-UN Development Partnership Fund

India has contributed USD 15.46 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, underscoring the country’s commitment to supporting developing nations in its developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals. India’s Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador T S Tirumurti, handed over a cheque of USD 15.46 million to the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) Director, Jorge Chediek, at a low-key ceremony held at the Permanent Mission of India to the UN on Tuesday. The tranche of USD 15.46 million includes USD 6 million to the overall fund, in which all the developing countries are eligible for partnership, and USD 9.46 million dedicated to the Commonwealth countries.

Source: The Indian Express

Inaugural ‘Kisan Rail’ flagged off

The first ‘Kisan Rail’ train to transport perishable goods with refrigerated coaches to assist farmers was flagged off from Deolali in Maharashtra to Danapur in Bihar. It is aimed at ensuring a fast transportation of agricultural produce across the country. The train will operate from Deolali to Danapur. Central Railway’s Bhusawal Division is primarily an agriculture based division. It is expected that this will reduce transportation costs by Rs 1000 per tonne compared to roadways and reduce travel time by around 15 hours. The train was flagged off via video conferencing by Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and railway minister Piyush Goyal. On this special occasion, Goyal said, “This train will serve as a milestone in doubling farmers’ income. Indian Railways and farmers have been at the forefront in the battle against Covid-19 and the challenges it led to. Foodgrains freight was doubled during the period. Interest of Indian farmers is being looked after like never before.

Source: Hindustan Times

Maharashtra government ties up with Google to start virtual classes for over 22 million students

Maharashtra government on August 06, 2020 tied up with Google to provide online education to students in the state. Students and teachers will get access to Google Classroom and G Suite for Education that will provide solutions to support remote learning. The tools allow interactive sessions, which will allow teachers to explain lessons, and students can also ask their doubts while sitting at home. Homework can be uploaded, and teachers can check them online. The project will cover over 109,000 government, private, aided, and unaided schools, and benefit over 22.03 million students. Maharashtra is the first state in the country that is launching such a project.

Source: Hindustan Times

India's first snow leopard conservation centre to come up in Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand state forest department will open India’s first conversation centre for snow leopards in Uttarkashi district. The centre will be constructed at Lanka in Bhairoghati area of Uttarkashi forest division. The decision will help to conserve the precious species. According to estimates, Uttarakhand has around 86 snow leopards. The state forest department is expected to start snow leopard estimation process with the help of camera traps from September this year. The exercise which is being termed as the first-ever in the country by experts. In Uttarakhand, snow leopards are found in Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, Gangotri National Park, Askot Wildlife Sanctuary and other places of altitude between 3000-4500 meters in total geographical area of around 13,000 square kilometres. The animal is considered to be one of the most enigmatic wild cat species due to its reclusive nature which has earned it the title of ‘Ghost of the Mountains’.

Source: The New Indian Express
FLAVOR'S OF INDIA
DAHI ANJEER KE KEBAB

How to Make Dahi Anjeer Ke Kebab:

- Take hung curd in a bowl, add grated paneer, ginger, green chilli, green coriander, garam masala, elaichi powder, roasted jeera powder and salt;
- Mix all neatly and fold this, mix with soft hands with roasted chana powder and bread crumbs
- Make balls and stuff it with Anjeer, flatten the stuffed balls and shallow fry on slow fire;
- Serve with mint chutney.

About Dahi Anjeer Ke Kebab:
A simple and quick vegetarian kebab recipe that you can easily prepare at home. Dahi anjeer ke kebabs are super soft with a melt-in-mouth texture and can be served at dinner parties as well as evening snacks when unexpected guests arrive. Packed with spices, mixed with cottage cheese, hung curd, chillies and goodness of figs, this kebab recipe is a must try.

Source: food.ndtv
Madammakkulam Waterfalls near Peermedu: Hidden amidst the lofty peaks of Peermedu Madammakkulam Waterfalls in Idukki district. It is a natural pond under a gushing waterfall, encircled by deep woods. Madammakkulam Waterfalls is a wonderful picnic location, frequented by cool breezes and smaller wildlife, carefully lurking and greeting all new visitors.

Getting there:
Nearest railway station: Kottayam, about 75 km
Nearest airport: Cochin International Airport, about 121 km

Source: https://www.keralatourism.org/
Cheeyappara and Valara Waterfalls, Idukki: The Cheeyappara and Valara Waterfalls are among the best trekking locations in Idukki district. Many people come across these waterfalls on the way to Munnar and it is slowly turning into a tourist hotbed. There is a dense growth of trees all around and several rare species of plants and animals can be seen in the vicinity. The Cheeyappara Waterfalls gush down in seven tiers and area truly spectacular sight to behold. Valara Waterfalls are known for the lush greenery surrounding it and is a lovely picnic location.

Getting there:
Nearest railway station: Aluva about 108 km and Angamali, about 109 km is from Munnar. The Waterfalls are located around 42 km from Munnar, on Aluva-Munnar Rd
Nearest airport: Cochin International Airport, via Aluva - Munnar Rd, about 108 km from Munnar

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