NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- India, Indonesia Defence Ministers’ Dialogue held in New Delhi;
- Indian Railways exports 10 locomotives to Bangladesh;
- Government of India launches ‘Mausam Application’ for Weather Forecasting;
- Initiative launched to bring back native birds to Puducherry;
- Indian Air Force inducts first set of five Rafale fighter Jets;
- DRDO launches Dare to Dream 2.0

MISSION'S ACTIVITIES

26 July - 1 Aug 2020

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India, Indonesia Defence Ministers’ Dialogue held in New Delhi

Defence Ministers’ Dialogue between India and Indonesia was held in New Delhi July 27. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh led the Indian delegation while the Indonesian delegation was led by their Defence Minister General Prabowo Subianto. During the talks, Mr Rajnath Singh reiterated the long history of mutually beneficial interactions between the two countries with a tradition of close political dialogue, economic and trade linkages as well as cultural and people interactions. Conveying satisfaction on the military to military interactions, the Minister indicated that the defence cooperation between India and Indonesia has witnessed an upswing in the recent years. Potential areas of cooperation in the field of defence industries and defence technology were also identified by the two countries. Both the Ministers committed themselves to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in these areas and take them to the next level of deliverables.

Source: All India Radio

Indian Railways exports 10 locomotives to Bangladesh

Indian Railways handed over 10 locomotives to Bangladesh. Each of these WDM3D type broad-gauge (BG) locomotives has a 3300 HP engine. These locomotives have been designed for a speed of 120 kilometer per hour. These locomotives have a residual life of 28 years or more. The BG locomotives have the capacity for hauling both passenger and freight trains. These BG locomotives are equipped with a microprocessor-based control system. The technologically advanced locomotives provide more comfort for pilots or drivers. These locomotives also boost the safety of passengers by ensuring safer running. The ergonomic layout of the driver’s cab provides stress-free driving. This also improved visibility for safer running.

Source: Financial Express

Government of India launches “Mausam Application” for Weather Forecasting

Earth Sciences Minister Harsh Vardhan launched a mobile application which will provide city-wise weather forecasts, nowcasts and other warnings. The mobile application, Mausam, has been designed and developed jointly by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, and the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Mausam is available both on Google’s Play Store and Apple’s App Store. The app will provide current weather information, including temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, for 200 cities. The information will be updated eight times a day. It will also issue nowcasts, three-hourly warnings, for local weather phenomena, and their intensity for about 800 stations and districts. In case of severe weather, its impact will also be included in the warning. The app will provide weather forecast for the next seven days for around 450 cities in India. Weather information of the past 24 hours will also be available on the app. It also has a system which will issue colour-coded alerts (red, yellow, orange) for all districts twice a day for up to five days to warn people ahead of dangerous weather.

Source: NDTV
Indian Air Force inducts first set of five Rafale fighter jets

The first five of a total 36 Rafale fighter jets landed at the Ambala airbase on the 29th of July. The jets are the first imported fighter jets to be inducted into service since the Sukhoi-30 fighter jets from Russia in the late 90s. The jets will be joining the 17 Squadron. Mr. Rajnath Singh, the Defence Minister of India noted that the aircrafts have very good flying performance and its weapons, radar, and other system were among the best in the world. The five jets flew from France to India, covering a distance of 8,500 kilometres.

Source: The Hindu

Initiative launched to bring back native birds to Puducherry

For many living in urban dwellings, waking up to the chirping and tweeting sounds of native birds remains etched into their memory. In a concerted effort to bring back native birds, Puducherry-based Indigenous Biodiversity Foundation (IBF) in association with The Living Earth (a sustainable and responsible organisation for the conservation of the local biodiversity) has started the “Let’s Save Our Native Birds” project to offer an alternate habitat for the birds by distributing customised nest boxes at areas once frequented by the birds. According to K. Raman, the founder of IBF, an initiative was launched two years back to conserve the population of the House Sparrow. “As part of the programme, around 500 specially designed nests for sparrows were distributed to school children. The customised nest boxes - pipe-shaped for barbets, outdoor tree box with access panels for Barn owls and open-fronted boxes for robins are made from recycled wood abandoned by factories. The nest boxes are priced from ₹450 to ₹1,700, a portion of the amount from each box would be used for planting a native tree species that the birds generally reside.

Source: The Hindu

DRDO launches Dare to Dream 2.0

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) launched the Dare to Dream 2.0 innovation contest on the 28th of July. The contest was launched on the fifth death anniversary of renowned scientist and former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. Keeping in line with Narendra Modi’s push for ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ or self-reliant India, the innovation contest was launched to promote individuals as well as startups to use emerging technologies for innovation in aerospace and defence sectors in the country. The individual winner of the contest would be awarded with a prize money of Rs 500,000, while the winning startup would receive Rs 1,000,000 as the award money.

Source: Financial Express
MISSION ACTIVITIES

70 Years Anniversary
Indonesia & India
Diplomatic Relations 1949 - 2019

150 YEARS OF CELEBRATING THE MAHATMA
How to Make Ginger and Mulethi Wali Chai:

- Take a pan and start heating water on high heat;
- Once the water starts boiling, add black tea leaves, sugar, mulethi, and grated ginger;
- Keep it covered and boil it for 2 minutes and serve after straining.

About Ginger and Mulethi Wali Chai:
A perfect immunity booster, this ginger-mulethi tea is brimming with health benefits. A comforting tea that can come handy when dealing with cold and cough.

Source: food.ndtv
Adyanpara Waterfalls: Adyanpara Waterfalls are located in Nilambur in Malappuram district. It is among the most relaxing spots in the area. Adyanpara is an excellent spot for a nice swim and is easily accessible by road. The water itself is clean and pure and has had medicinal properties attributed to it. Located in Kurmbalangodu village (around 14 km away from Nilambur town), it is among the most picturesque destinations in the area.

Getting there:
Nearest railway station: Nearest Railway Station: Nilambur, around 16 km away
Nearest airport: Calicut International Airport, around 58 km in Nilambur - Gudalur Rd.

Source: https://www.keralatourism.org/
Chethalayam Falls, Wayanad: Chethalayam Falls is slowly garnering the attention of visitors in Wayanad for its stunning view and pristine surroundings. It is among the lesser known waterfalls in Northern Kerala and locals believe it to have some of the finest trekking trails in the area. One can also find a lot of exotic flora scattered across the area. It is a wonderful picnic spot with a gentle breeze that accompanies you the entire time.

Getting there:
Nearest railway station: Kozhikode, about 97 km by road from Sulthan Bathery
Nearest airport: Calicut International Airport, Kozhikode, nearly 120 km from Sulthan Bathery

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