

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense, lush green forest. Several cars are visible on the road, including a white car, a blue car, and a white van. The road has white dashed lines for lane markings. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the road and the surrounding trees.

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DAILY NEWS DECODE

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India's first long-range nuclear missile tracking ship INS Dhruv commissioned



- India's first nuclear-missile tracking ship, named INS Dhruv, has been commissioned from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

- The 10,00 tonnes satellite and ballistic missile tracking ship has been built by the Hindustan Shipyard Limited in collaboration with the DRDO and National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO).
- INS Dhruv is capable of tracking nuclear missiles at a long range, which makes it useful to provide early warning of attacks by ballistic missiles launched from Pakistan and China.
- India now joins an elite list of countries consisting of France, the US, the UK, Russia, and China, who possess and operate such ships.

India's largest open air fernery opened in Uttarakhand



- India's largest open-air fernery has been inaugurated in Ranikhet of Uttarakhand.
- The new centre will serve the dual objective of 'conservation of fern species as well as 'create awareness about their ecological role and promote further research.
- The fernery is home to a large number of fern species, some of which are endemic to the state, some hold medicinal value while some are threatened species that demand care and conservation.
- The fernery has the largest collection of fern species, second to only Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram.
- However, it is the country's first open-air fernery in natural surroundings which is not under any poly-house/ shade house.

- **The Ranikhet fernery has around 120 different types of fern, spreads over four acres of land at an altitude of 1,800 metres.**
- **The facility has been developed under Central Government's Compensatory Afforestation Management Funds Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) scheme, by the Research Wing of Uttarakhand Forest Department over a period of three years.**

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Armed robot that can patrol battle zones unveiled by Israeli firm



- **Israel Aerospace Industries, a state-owned defence contractor, has unveiled a remote-controlled armed robot that can patrol battle zones, track infiltrators and open fire.**
- **The four-wheeled robot, 'REX MKII', is operated by an electronic tablet and can be equipped with two machine guns, cameras, sensors.**
- **It can gather intelligence for ground troops, carry injured soldiers and strike nearby targets.**

Who are the four people flying into orbit in the world's first all-civilian mission?



- For the first time on Wednesday, SpaceX is sending four civilians into orbit in a mission called 'Inspiration4'.
- These four people are Jared Isaacman, billionaire CEO of Shift4 Payments and a private pilot, Hayley Arceneaux, a cancer survivor who now works as physician assistant, Dr Sian Proctor, a geoscientist and US Air Force veteran and Lockheed Martin engineer Chris Sembroski.

Battle of Saragarhi



- The Battle of Saragarhi is considered one of the finest last stands in the military history of the world.
- Twenty-one soldiers were pitted against over 8,000 Afridi and Orakzai tribals but they managed to hold the fort for seven hours.
- Though heavily outnumbered, the soldiers of 36th Sikhs (now 4 Sikh), led by Havildar Ishar Singh, fought till their last breath, killing 200 tribals and injuring 600.
- Saragarhi was the communication tower between Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan.
- The two forts in the rugged North West Frontier Province (NWFP), now in Pakistan, were built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh but renamed by the British.

- **Though Saragarhi was usually manned by a platoon of 40 soldiers, on that fateful day, it was being held by only 21 soldiers from 36th Sikh (now 4 Sikh) and a non-combatant called Daad, a Pashtun who did odd jobs for the troops.**
- **Saragarhi helped to link up the two important forts which housed a large number of British troops in the rugged terrain of NWFP.**
- **Fort Lockhart was also home to families of British officers. The wife of the commanding officer of 36th Sikh, Lt Col John Haughton, was at the fort till May 1897 when she went home to deliver a baby.**
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- **The wife of the commanding officer of 36th Sikh, Lt Col John Haughton, was at the fort till May 1897 when she went home to deliver a baby.**
- **In 2017, the Punjab government decided to observe Saragarhi Day on September 12 as a holiday.**
- **Even today the Khyber Scouts regiment of the Pakistani army mounts a guard and salutes the Saragarhi memorial close to Fort Lockhart.**
- **The British, who regained control over the fort after a few days, used burnt bricks of Saragarhi to build an obelisk for the martyrs.**
- **They also commissioned gurdwaras at Amritsar and Ferozepur in their honour.**
- **Now Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee has named a hall after Saragarhi.**