

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 at the top, a blue car, and another white car further down. The road has white dashed lines for lane markings. The overall scene is vibrant and scenic.

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DAILY NEWS DECODE

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AKASH PRIME MISSILE



- A new version of the Surface to Air Akash Missile - 'Akash Prime' has been successfully flight tested from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha on 27 September 2021.
- The missile intercepted and destroyed an unmanned aerial target mimicking enemy aircrafts, in its maiden flight test after improvements.
- In comparison to the existing Akash System, Akash Prime is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency (RF) seeker for improved accuracy. Other improvements also ensure more reliable performance under low temperature environments at higher altitudes.

WHITE SHIPPING INFORMATION



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- Indian navy and Royal Navy of Oman signed an MOU on white shipping information exchange.

- In shipping terminology, white shipping information is about the exchange of advance information on the identity and movement of commercial, non-military merchant ships.
- The signing of the MoU between Royal Navy of Oman and Indian Navy would facilitate information exchange on merchant shipping traffic, through IFC-IOR, India and MSC, Oman and contribute to enhanced maritime safety and security in the region.
- The MoU was signed at Maritime Security Center (MSC), Muscat. The MSC was commissioned in 2013.

4th Indo-US Health Dialogue Held in New Delhi



- Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar has led the Indian delegation at the 4th Indo-US Health Dialogue, held in New Delhi.
- The US delegation for the dialogue is led by Ms Loyce Pace, Director, Office of Global Affairs at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
- The two-day Dialogue is a platform to deliberate upon multiple ongoing collaborations in the health sector between the two countries.

- **The two-day Dialogue will be leveraged as a platform to deliberate upon multiple ongoing collaborations in the health sector between the two countries.**
- **The issues planned for deliberations in this round also encompass areas of concern pertaining to strengthening of epidemiological research and surveillance, vaccine development, One Health, zoonotic and vector-borne diseases, health systems and health policies etc.**
- **An MoU was finalised between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States of America, in the field of the health sector, covering issues like Health Safety and Security; Communicable Diseases & Non-Communicable Diseases; Health Systems; and Health Policy.**

Pantanal wetland



- A long-standing drought followed by devastating wildfires have posed a threat to Pantanal jaguars.
- The Pantanal is located at the geographical centre of the South American continent.
- It is a natural region encompassing the world's largest tropical wetland area, and the world's largest flooded grasslands.
- It is located mostly within the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso do Sul, but it extends into Mato Grosso and portions of Bolivia and Paraguay.
- It constitutes an enormous internal river delta, in which several rivers flowing from the surrounding plateau merge, depositing their sediments and erosion residues.

- **The vegetation of the Pantanal, often referred to as the “Pantanal complex”, is a mixture of plant communities—moist tropical Amazonian rainforest plants, semiarid woodland plants, Brazilian cerrado savanna plants and plants of the Chaco savannas of Bolivia and Paraguay.**
- **The apple snail is a keystone species in Pantanal’s ecosystem.**
- **The Pantanal is home to one of the largest and healthiest jaguar (*Panthera onca*) populations on Earth.**
- **Among the rarest animals to inhabit the wetland of the Pantanal are the marsh deer, the giant river otter, hyacinth macaw, the crowned solitary eagle, the maned wolf, the South American tapir and the giant anteater.**

Micro Fliers or Flying Microchips



- Recently, Engineers from Northwestern University, the USA have created an electronic microchip with the capability of flight.
- It is about the size of a grain of sand.
- The microflier does not have a motor or engine.
- Instead, it catches flight on the wind much like a maple tree's propeller seed and spins like a helicopter through the air toward the ground.
- These microflier as the "smallest-ever human-made flying structures".
- They have developed it to sense the environment for contamination monitoring, population surveillance or disease tracking.
- These microfliers also can be packed with ultra-miniaturised technology, including sensors, power sources, antennas for wireless communication and embedded memory to store data.

Goa gets a museum dedicated to feni



- Recently, Goa got a museum that is entirely dedicated to the locally brewed alcohol, Feni, which is Goa's one of the most loved features among the tourists.
- The museum has been named as 'All About Alcohol'.
- Spread across 13,000 sq ft in the beach village of Candolim, the museum offers a potent brew of history and Goan culture.
- Nandan Kudchadkar's latest venture, a museum dedicated to the "art of drinking" and offers a fresh perspective on India's unofficial 'party capital'.
- The sprawling five-room museum documents how feni, distilled from fermented cashew apples, has been produced, transported and consumed over centuries.

- Thousands of multi-coloured garrafões (large-bellied glass bottles), used to hold the spirit, line its walls.
- The museum also features its own cellar, which houses row upon row of cashew and coconut feni dating back to the 1950s.
- Feni is a traditional liquor distilled from the fermented juice of cashew apples.
- The name “feni” is derived from the Sanskrit word phena which actually means froth.
- It is due to the fact that bubbles form a light froth when the liquor is shaken in a bottle or poured in a glass.
- Feni is a part of Goa’s food tradition from the last 400 years.
- It got the Geographical Indication (GI) certificate in 2009.
- In 2016, the Goan government initiated the process of declaring it as a heritage drink.
- The two popular types of Feni Goa is known for are- Coconut Feni and Cashew Feni.
- In terms of production, Coconut Feni is older than Cashew Feni.