

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.

[www.upschacks.com](http://www.upschacks.com)

# DAILY NEWS DECODE

29.09.21

# Cyclone Shaheen



- **The new cyclone is most likely to develop in the North Arabian Sea by Thursday morning, the India Meteorological Department said on Wednesday.**
- **This will be the second cyclone after Tauktae to develop in the basin of the Arabian Sea this year.**
- **The brewing cyclone will develop from the intensification of remnants of Cyclone Gulab, which had formed in the Bay of Bengal, crossed the Andhra Pradesh coast on September 26.**

# Fumio Kishida to become Japan's next PM



- Japan's former Foreign Minister, Fumio Kishida has won the ruling party's leadership election, virtually ensuring that he will become the country's next prime minister.
- Kishida won 257 votes in a runoff to defeat Taro Kono, a popular vaccines minister who previously held the positions of defence and foreign minister.
- The 64-year-old replaces outgoing party leader Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, who is stepping down after serving only one year since taking office last September.
- Kishida previously served as LDP policy chief and was foreign minister between 2012-17, during which he negotiated accords with Russia and South Korea, with whom Japan's relations are often frosty.

# ZOJILA TUNNEL



- Government is pushing to complete the massive Zojila tunnel, its showpiece infra project in Kashmir and Ladakh, before Republic Day, 2024.
- Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari inspected the west portal of the tunnel in Baltal.
- At 14.15 km, the Zojila tunnel will be India's longest road tunnel, and Asia's longest bi-directional tunnel.
- A connecting tunnel from Z-Morh on NH1 to the Zojila tunnel will be built in the Zojila Ghats between Sonmarg and Kargil.
- When complete, the Zojila tunnel will allow travel between Srinagar and Ladakh throughout the year.

- **The distance from Baltal to Minamarg will come down to 13 km from the present 40 km, travel time is expected to be cut by an hour and a half, and the journey is expected to be less strenuous.**
- **The project is expected to lead to integrated development of both Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.**

[www.upschacks.com](http://www.upschacks.com)

# KAPAS PLUCKER MACHINES



 UPSCHACKS

- **The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has so far distributed 5543 kapas plucker machines valuing around Rs. 4 crores to 5543 marginal and small farmers in all the cotton growing states (including aspirational districts) under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).**
- **Most of the cotton in India is manually picked which is a labour intensive operation.**
- **Unlike other major cotton producing Countries like USA, Australia etc, fully mechanized harvesting by big machines are not successful in India due to small land holdings of cotton farmers in India, sowing/picking pattern (3-4 picking) and different climatic condition in different States.**

- **Therefore, hand held kapas plucker machine is one of the option to bring down the cost for the farmers and a remedy for contamination at farm level due to manual picking.**
- **Hand held kapasplucker machine is a light weight (about 600 gram) machine which has a pair of rollers inside having small edged teeth on their outer periphery and is operated by a light weight 12 volt.**
- **Cotton gets entangled with the rollers and is collected directly into collection bag attached to it. Design of machine makes it easy to operate at field and affordable i.e. at nominal cost of Rs. 8000 per machine (approx.).**
- **Advantage of kapas plucker machines is that it reduces the risks of health hazards to cotton farmers in manual picking (i.e. risk of insect bite, back pains due to standing posture for long hours, bruises/cutting on legs & hands etc).**

# **Pune-based Giripremi's mountaineer scales world's 8th tallest peak**



- **Jitendra Gaware, a member of a Pune-based adventure group Giripremi, climbed Mount Manaslu, the eighth tallest mountain in the world.**
- **He had climbed Mount Annapurna-1 in April and Mount Everest in May this year.**
- **Mount Manaslu, which is at 8,163 metres above sea level, is located in the Gorkha region of Nepal.**



# **US to declare 23 species extinct, including ivory-billed woodpecker**



 UPSCHACKS

- The ivory-billed woodpecker and 22 more birds, fish and other species will reportedly be declared extinct by the US Fish and Wildlife Service on Wednesday.
- The government agency said it had exhausted every avenue for rescuing the animals and warned that climate change could make such disappearances more common.
- The extinctions include 11 birds, eight freshwater mussels, among others.

# **New lizard species with dark grey head discovered in Peru**



- **Scientists have discovered a new lizard species in Peru, the country's national conservation agency said on Tuesday.**
- **The new species, which is called *Liolaemus warjantay*, was found in the Peruvian Andes at an altitude of 4,500 metres (14,700 feet).**
- **The lizard's head is dark grey, and females have pale yellow eyelids.**