

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 vibrant and scenic.

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# DAILY NEWS DECODE

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# **India's 1st grass conservatory inaugurated in Ranikhet, Uttarakhand**



- **India's first 'grass conservatory' or 'germplasm conservation centre' spread over an area of 2 acres was inaugurated at Ranikhet in Almora district of Uttarakhand.**
- **This conservatory is funded under the Central Government's CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) scheme and is developed by the research wing of the Uttarakhand Forest Department.**
- **To create awareness about the importance of grass species, promote their conservation, and facilitate research in the field.**

# **Telangana's Pochampally selected is one of the best tourism villages**



- Pochampally village in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district of Telangana, known for its famous hand-woven Ikat saris, was selected as one of the best tourism villages by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).
- The award will be given at the 24th session of the UNWTO general assembly on December 2, in Madrid.
- The best tourism villages by the UNWTO pilot initiative aims to award those villages which are outstanding examples of rural destinations and showcase good practices in line with its specified evaluation areas.

- It also aims to support villages to enhance their rural tourism potential through training and access to opportunities for improvement
- Pochampally is about 50 km from Hyderabad and is often referred to as the silk city of India for the exquisite sarees that are woven through a unique style called Ikat.
- This style, Pochampally Ikat, received a Geographical Indicator (GI status) in 2004 and is also known as Bhoodan Pochampally to commemorate the Bhoodan movement that was launched by Acharya Vinobha Bhave from this village on April 18, 1951.

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# Centre approves new Rajya Sainik Board for Ladakh



- The Centre has approved a new Rajya Sainik Board (RSB) for Ladakh. The Board will be an effective link between the Centre and the Ladakh Administration.
- Rajya Sainik Board will play an advisory role on the matters relating to the ex-servicemen, war widows, widows and non-combatants, including serving soldiers and their dependents.
- Zila Sainik welfare offices of Leh and Kargil will function under the newly constituted Rajya Sainik Board.
- The Board provide access to the welfare schemes under the Raksha Mantri Ex-servicemen Welfare Fund and welfare and resettlement of ex-servicemen.

- **Approximately Sixty thousand retired and serving army personnel would get benefit from the establishment of the Rajya Sainik Board in Ladakh.**
- **Ladakh Scouts Regiment Center will avail maximum benefit from the welfare schemes extended through the Rajya Sainik Board.**

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# India's first Digital Food Museum in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu



- Piyush Goyal launched India's 1st Digital Food Museum in Tamil Nadu
- It is a 1,860-sqft museum co-developed by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museums, Bengaluru (Karnataka) with an estimated outlay of Rs 1.1 crore.
- The museum is the first one-of-its-kind effort to depict India's food story from the beginning to India becoming the largest food grain exporter in the country.

# Earth's first landmass emerged in Singhbhum



- Researchers have found sandstones in Singhbhum with geological signatures of ancient river channels, tidal plains and beaches over 3.2 billion years old, representing the earliest crust exposed to air.
- Patches of the earliest continental land, however, exist in Australia and South Africa, too.
- They have found the age by analysing the uranium and lead contents of tiny minerals and studied the granites that form the continental crust of Singhbhum region.



- According to them, these granites are 3.5 to 3.1 billion years old and formed through extensive volcanism that happened about 35-45 km deep inside the Earth and continued on-and-off for hundreds of millions of years until all the magma solidified to form a thick continental crust in the area.
- The researchers believe the earliest emergence of continents would have contributed to a proliferation of photosynthetic organisms, which would have increased oxygen levels in the atmosphere.
- This study was conducted by researchers from India, Australia and the US.
- The researchers also aim to understand the evolution of India's three other ancient continental fragments — Dharwar, Bastar and Bundelkhand regions.