

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. The road has white dashed lines and a solid white edge line. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

www.upschacks.com

DAILY NEWS DECODE

29.11.21

Indian Railways Constructing World's Tallest Pier Bridge in Manipur



- The Indian Railways is constructing the tallest pier railway bridge of the world in Manipur.
- The ambitious project of the Railways in Manipur is part of the Jiribam-Imphal railway line, which ultimately is part of a new broad gauge line being constructed to connect the northeastern state with the rest of the country.
- Currently, the tallest pier bridge record is held by 139-metre high Mala-Rijeka viaduct built at Montenegro in Europe.

Skyroot test-fired India's 1st Privately Built Cryogenic Rocket Engine "Dhawan-1"



- Skyroot Aerospace, a space technology startup based in Hyderabad, has successfully test-fired Dhawan-1, India's first privately developed fully cryogenic rocket engine.
- This will power the upper stages of its upcoming Vikram-2 orbital launch vehicle. The rocket engine Dhawan-1 is named after Satish Dhawan, an Indian rocket scientist.
- Dhawan-1 is a completely 'Made-in-India' cryogenic engine, developed using 3D printing with a superalloy. The engine is fuelled by liquefied natural gas and liquid oxygen—a high-performance, low-cost, and clean rocket fuel.

IN-FLIGHT WIFI



- Three years after the Department of Telecom permitted WiFi services on commercial flights, it is yet to become a reality for domestic air travellers as airlines grapple with the huge installation costs and the impact of COVID-19 on passenger demand.
- Domestic carriers have been slow in offering the service because retrofitting aircraft with the required antenna is an expensive affair that takes nearly 12 hours. Airlines find it difficult to pass on the costs to the passengers in an extremely competitive market for the cheapest ticket.
- However, international airlines such as Lufthansa, Air France and Emirates have started offering the service, though earlier they were switching it off on entering India skies.

- The equipment costs ₹3 crore to ₹4 crore for one aircraft, which is the entry barrier because it is difficult to recover the cost from passengers.
- Full-service carrier Vistara is the only Indian airline to offer it since September 2020. www.upschacks.com

www.upschacks.com

KONGTHONG VILLAGE



- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed gratitude to the people of Kongthong for a special tune in his honour and in appreciation of Government of India's efforts in promoting the village as a prime tourism destination.
- Meghalaya's Kongthong village, which is also known as the "whistling village", recently honoured Prime Minister Narendra Modi by making him part of a unique tradition that goes back centuries.
- In this village, located in the lush, rolling hills of the northeast state, everyone's name is a melody as mothers compose a special tune for each child when it is born.

- Everyone in the village, inhabited by the Khasi people, then addresses the person with the individual little tune or whistle for a lifetime. They have conventional "real" names too, but they are rarely used.
- The custom of assigning tunes to residents here is known as "jingrwai lawbei", meaning "song of the clan's first woman", a reference to the Khasi people's mythical original mother.
- The Ministry of Tourism recently nominated the village for the UNWTO Best Tourism Villages Contest from India. To thank the PM for his efforts, a tune was composed by a woman in the village in his honour. www.upschacks.com

www.upschacks.com