



27 June 2024

Kerala Regional News

<p><b>Kerala Antimicrobial Resistance Strategic Action Plan (KARSAP)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The executive committee of the <b>Kerala Antimicrobial Resistance Strategic Action Plan (KARSAP)</b>, set up to prevent antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through the regulation of antibiotic abuse, has been expanded.</li> </ul> <p><b>About KARSAP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Awareness and Understanding:</b> The plan emphasizes improving awareness about AMR, rational antibiotic use, and the One Health approach.</li> <li><b>Knowledge and Evidence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KARSAP aims to strengthen knowledge and evidence related to AMR containment.</li> <li>This involves enhancing laboratory capacity for AMR surveillance and collecting data on AMR in humans, animals, and the environment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>What is Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)</b> occurs when microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites evolve to resist the effects of antimicrobial drugs (e.g., antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals, and antiparasitics) that were previously effective against them.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Kathirmani matta rice</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of its 2023-24 annual plan, <b>Kollam district panchayat</b> has <b>launched matta rice</b> under the <b>brand Kathirmani</b> in the market.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Kathirmani matta rice:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Objective:</b> The project aims to <b>cultivate fallow paddy fields in the district.</b></li> <li><b>Implementation:</b> It was carried out through <b>padasekara samitis, farmer groups, self-help groups, and library societies.</b></li> <li><b>Support Price:</b> The district panchayat offers a support price of ₹28.20 per kg of paddy.</li> <li>Additionally, <b>Kerala Red Rice</b> (also known as <b>Rose Matta Rice</b> or <b>Palakkadan Matta Rice</b>) is another <b>indigenous variety</b> grown in <b>Palakkad District.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>LIVE C2-Capital Catalyst programme</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Laboratory for Innovation Venturing and Entrepreneurship (LIVE)</b> at the <b>Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K)</b> has launched the <b>LIVE C2-Capital Catalyst programme</b> in collaboration with <b>YNOS Venture Engine.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This three-month programme <b>aims to accelerate the growth of early-stage start-ups</b> by providing resources, mentorship, investment opportunities, and <b>access to over 50 investors.</b></li> <li>The programme <b>will help start-ups obtain scale-up funds, market access, and investor connections,</b> along with <b>intensive mentorship from industry pioneers,</b> subject matter experts, and IIM-K faculty.</li> </ul>



**Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)**

**Why in the news?**

- The Kerala government decided to **establish an Institute for Organ and Tissue Transplant in Kozhikode** with a ₹558-crore project funded by the **Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)** in two installments.

**About Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB):**

- **Establishment:**
  - Founded in **1999** by the Government of Kerala.
  - **Reconstituted in 2016 to focus on large-scale infrastructure development.**
- **Purpose:**
  - To **mobilize funds for infrastructure development** in Kerala.
  - To **finance critical and large-scale infrastructure** projects in the state.
- **Governance:**
  - The **Chief Minister of Kerala** serves as the **chairman** of KIIFB.



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<p><b>Backwaters in kerala</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Public Works and Tourism Minister stated that <b>Kerala could achieve significant success in backwater tourism</b> by expanding beyond traditional destinations like Alappuzha, Kuttanad, and Upper Kuttanad to other parts of the state.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Backwaters in kerala:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Backwaters are a <b>network of interconnected canals, rivers, lakes, and inlets along the coast.</b></li> <li>These are typically found in <b>low-lying areas</b> where <b>freshwater from rivers meets the saltwater</b> from the sea.</li> <li><b>Major Backwater in kerala:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Alappuzha (Alleppey):</b> Known as the "<b>Venice of the East.</b>"</li> <li><b>Kumarakom:</b> Famous for bird sanctuary and houseboat cruises.</li> <li><b>Kuttanad:</b> Known as the "<b>Rice Bowl of Kerala</b>" with paddy fields below sea level.</li> <li><b>Vembanad Lake:</b> The <b>largest lake in Kerala</b>, spanning multiple districts.</li> <li><b>Ashtamudi Lake:</b> Known for its scenic beauty and traditional houseboats.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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