



21 December 2024

Kerala Regional News

<p>Mullaperiyar dam</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The water level in the Mullaperiyar Dam is set to be raised to 152 feet following the strengthening of the baby dam, as confirmed by Tamil Nadu's Minister for Water Resources, S. Duraimurugan. • This decision comes after addressing obstacles such as the removal of trees hindering the strengthening process. • The increase in water level aligns with a Supreme Court ruling and aims to enhance water storage capacity. • The minister emphasized that the adjustments will be made in compliance with established safety protocols and regulations. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mullaperiyar dam is a source of both irrigation and friction. • Location: Idukki district, Kerala (dam) & Tamil Nadu (irrigated region) • Built: 1887-1895 • Purpose: Divert Periyar River water eastward for irrigation in Tamil Nadu • Capacity: 299 million cubic meters • Lease: A 999-year agreement grants operational control to Tamil Nadu
<p>Kerala Institutional Ranking Framework</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kerala Institutional Ranking Framework (KIRF) has released its first rankings for higher education institutions in the state for 2024. • The Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) topped the list among universities. • This initiative, launched on May 3, 2023, by the Kerala State Higher Education Council, aims to continuously evaluate and improve the performance of educational institutions. <p>Key Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Institutions Ranked: 449, including universities, arts and science colleges, and engineering colleges. • Unique Parameters: KIRF incorporates state-specific factors like scientific temper, secular outlook, and social inclusiveness alongside national frameworks. • Data Collection: Institutions submitted their data through a dedicated online portal, which was operational from July 5, 2023, to May 10, 2024. <p>About:</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kerala Institutional Ranking Framework (KIRF) is a state-level initiative designed to evaluate and rank higher education institutions (HEIs) within Kerala <p>Key Features of KIRF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-Specific Parameters Data-Driven Approach Multi-dimensional Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching, Learning, and Resources (TLR) Knowledge Dissemination and Research Excellence (KDRE) Graduation Outcomes (GO) Outreach and Inclusivity (OI) Scientific Temper and Secular Outlook (STSO)
<p>International Film Festival Kerala (IFFK)</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the 29th International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK) 2024, the Brazilian film “Malu”, directed by Pedro Freire, won the prestigious Suvarna Chakoram (Golden Crow Pheasant) for Best Film, accompanied by a cash prize of ₹20 lakh. The film explores complex family dynamics and relationships in Rio de Janeiro. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additionally, the Malayalam film “Feminichi Fathima”, directed by Fasil Muhammed, received multiple awards, including the People's Award for Best Film. <p>Other notable awards included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Director: Farshad Hashemi for Me, Maryam, the Children and 26 Others. Best Debut Director: Cristóbal León and Joaquín Cociña for Hyperboreans. Special Jury Mentions: Anagha Ravi (Appuram) and Chinmaya Siddi (Rhythm of Dammam) for performances. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK) is a prestigious annual film festival held in Thiruvananthapuram It was established in 1996 and is hosted by the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy on behalf of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Kerala. IFFK is renowned for showcasing a diverse range of films from around the world, including international, regional, and Indian cinema.
<p>Gaganyaan-G1 mission</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unnikrishnan Nair, Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) has said that the Gaganyaan-G1 is designed to mimic - end to end - the actual flight and validate critical technologies and capabilities including the Human-rated Launch Vehicle Mark-3



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(HLVM3).

About:

- **Gaganyaan-G1** is the **first uncrewed mission of the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Gaganyaan** program.
- **Objective:** To test and validate critical systems like the crew module, launch vehicle, and mission control systems before sending humans into space.
- **Launch Vehicle:** The mission will utilize the LVM3 (Launch Vehicle Mark-III), a powerful three-stage rocket, specifically modified for human spaceflight.
- **Crew Module:** The mission will carry a crew module with life support systems and other critical components for human spaceflight.

Key Objectives:

- **Crew Module Performance:** To assess the performance of the crew module during launch, re-entry, and splashdown.
- **Launch Vehicle Performance:** To validate the performance of the LVM3 rocket and ensure its reliability for human spaceflight.
- **Mission Control Systems:** To test and validate the ground systems and mission control procedures.

(VSSC):

- The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (**VSSC**) is one of the major centres of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) **located in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.**
- It is primarily responsible for the design, development, and launch of India's rockets and satellites.

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