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Kerala Regional News

<p>Beyepore Water Fest to feature IAF air show, drone display, musical extravaganza</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fourth edition of the Beyepore International Water Festival is scheduled for January 4 and 5, offering an array of thrilling attractions, including an air show by the Indian Air Force (IAF). • Helicopters from the Southern Air Command in Thiruvananthapuram will perform an exhibition. • The Navy and Coast Guard will also participate in the festival. • The festival will also feature a captivating drone show at Beyepore Beach. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Beyepore International Water Festival is a vibrant annual event held in Beyepore, Kozhikode, Kerala. <p>Key Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Sports Galore: It's a celebration of water sports, featuring a wide range of exciting activities like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kayaking • Canoeing • Water polo • Parasailing • Speed boat racing • Yacht racing • Wooden log racing • Timber rafting <p>Cultural Performances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The festival also showcases Kerala's rich cultural heritage with traditional music, dance performances, and cultural exhibitions. <p>Culinary Delights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A food festival is held alongside, offering a delectable array of Kerala's culinary delights.
<p>Kerala state budget</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kerala state budget is likely to be presented on February 7, 2025. • This budget session is anticipated to address various financial priorities and developmental plans for the state, reflecting the government's strategies for economic growth and welfare initiatives <p>Key Points:</p>



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- The Indian Constitution outlines specific provisions related to the Union Budget, ensuring transparency, accountability, and parliamentary oversight.

The Key articles governing the budget are:

- **Article 112:** This article mandates the presentation of the Annual Financial Statement (Union Budget) before Parliament on the last day of February or the first working day thereafter.
- **Article 113:** This article provides for the general discussion of the budget in both houses of Parliament without any voting.
- **Article 114:** It requires the government to present a separate statement of expenditures deemed necessary for the service of the Government of India.
- These are non-plan expenditures crucial for the functioning of the government.
- **Article 115:** This article allows for supplementary grants or additional appropriations during the year if required.
- These grants are subject to the approval of Parliament.
- **Article 116:** It permits the withdrawal of money from the Consolidated Fund of India only after Parliament has authorized it through the Appropriation Act.
- This ensures financial control and prevents unauthorized spending.
- **Article 117:** This article empowers the President to authorize expenditure during the period between sessions of Parliament if necessary. However, such expenditure must be subsequently approved by Parliament.

Kerala to launch 'BESS' in New Year

Context:

- Kerala is all set to step into the realm of battery-stored electricity with plans for a 125 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

About:

- Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has invited tenders for this project.
- The BESS will be installed at locations designated by the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB).
- This revolutionary system allows electricity stored during the day to be utilised at night.
- Prominent players in this sector include Tata and Adani.

Key Points:

- On an average, the state surrenders about 150 crore units of surplus electricity per year.
- This surrendered electricity incurs a fixed charge of approximately ₹4 per unit, amounting to an annual loss of around ₹600 crore.
- By storing this electricity in BESS, such losses can be avoided.

About:

- A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a collection of



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	<p>batteries connected together to store electrical energy.</p> <p>How it Works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charging: When electricity supply exceeds demand (e.g., during peak solar or wind generation), the excess energy is stored in the BESS. ● Discharging: When demand exceeds supply (e.g., during peak hours or when renewable energy sources are unavailable), the stored energy is released back into the grid.
<p>Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar sworn in as Kerala Governor</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar has been sworn in as the Governor of Kerala. ● His appointment marks a significant development in the state's political landscape, as he takes on responsibilities to oversee the administration and governance in Kerala <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article 153: It states that there shall be a Governor for each state. ● Article 155: It states that the Governor of a State is appointed by the President of India by warrant under his hand and seal. ● Article 156: It states that the Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President ● Article 159: It outlines the oath or affirmation that a Governor must take before assuming office.
<p>Student dropout rate decreases in State</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● According to the UDISE+ report from the ministry of education, the state achieved zero percent dropout rates in preparatory and middle schools, a significant improvement from 2.62% and 1.85% respectively, in the previous year. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dropout rates in secondary schools also decreased significantly, falling from 4.71% to 2.18%. ● This improvement comes against rising national dropout rates. ● Kerala's gross enrolment rate stands at 99.9% for middle school and 93% for secondary school, significantly higher than national averages of 89.5% and 66%, respectively. ● As per the report, Kerala also excelled in key areas such as access to drinking water and pupil teacher ratio.

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