

## Kerala on high alert after threat letter received against PM Modi's visit

Chennai, April 23 2023: The letter that threatened a suicide attack during PM Modi's visit to Kochi contained the name and other details of the sender.

Kerala has been put on high alert after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state office received a threat letter against the upcoming visit of Prime Minister

Narendra Modi. The letter, which contained the name and other details of the sender, threatened a suicide attack during Modi's visit to Kochi scheduled for April 24.

Police have identified the man mentioned in the letter, but he has denied any involvement claiming that his name was used by his opponents to

frame him. Security measures have, however, been tightened and central probe agencies have sought additional details.

Meanwhile, a letter from the Additional Director General of Police outlining security drills was leaked to the media. The ADGP's letter also highlighted several



other serious threat perceptions, including one from the banned Popular Front of India (PFI). Minister of State for external affairs M Muraleedharan, who hails from Kerala, raised concern over the leak, calling it a serious

lapse on the part of the state police.

BJP state chief K. Surendran has maintained that all scheduled functions will take place.

Modi is expected to arrive on April 24 in Kochi and the following day in Thiruvananthapuram to inaugurate the state's first Vande Bharat

Express.

Detailing the Prime Minister's programme during his visit, Surendran had earlier said that the top BJP leader will conduct a roadshow and address a public meeting.

"Prime Minister's visit to Kerala will give impetus to the state's development. There is a great expectation

among the people of Kerala for this visit. PM Modi will hold a road show. People will come voluntarily to receive him. 'Yuvam' will be the conference that would mark the beginning of Kerala's political change. The youth who want the development of Kerala beyond party politics will participate in this," he said at a press conference.

## Dr Jitendra Singh addresses World Earth Day celebrations, reiterates 'LiFE' movement launched by PM Modi Union Minister says, India is committed to furthering sustainable development in line with our culture of living in harmony with nature

Chennai, April 23 2023: Addressing an event organised by the Ministry of Earth Sciences to celebrate World Earth Day here today, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh reiterated the "LiFE" (Lifestyle for Environment) movement launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said, India is committed to furthering sustainable development in line with our culture of living in harmony with nature.

United Nations

Ambassador and Grammy Award Winning Indian music composer and environmentalist, Rickey Kej was the special guest of the day whose new music composition on 'Earth and Environment' was launched by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh.

Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement in June 2022 and stressed that the need of the hour is to solve the challenge faced by our planet using human-centric, collective efforts and robust action that further sustainable development.



Earth Day is an annual event observed on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first held in 1970. The theme for World Earth Day 2023 is 'Invest In Our Planet. This ongoing theme encourages us all

to invest in a better future for our planet by tackling environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity, and waste reduction.

The Minister mentioned that the idea of LiFE was introduced by the Prime Minister during COP26 promotes

an environmentally conscious lifestyle that focuses on 'mindful and deliberate utilisation' instead of 'mindless and wasteful consumption'.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) holistically addresses all the aspects relating to

Earth System Science for providing weather, climate, ocean, coastal state, hydrological and seismological services. The services include forecasts and warnings for various natural disasters like tropical cyclones, storm surge, floods, heat waves, thunderstorm and lightning; alerts for Tsunamis and monitoring of earthquakes etc. In addition, the ministry also has the mandate of making ocean survey and exploration for living and non-living resources and exploration of all the three poles (Arctic, Antarctic and Himalayas).

The Minister added that the services

provided by the ministry are being effectively used by different agencies and state governments for saving human lives and minimizing damages due to natural disasters.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Ministry of Earth Sciences has been supporting celebration of Earth Day / Ozone Day for the purpose, of spreading awareness and sensitizing the general public on the issues concerning to Earth and Earth Sciences in the country. MoES is also supporting celebration of Earth Day at more than 75 places / schools / colleges / Institutions across the country with a focus on Girls students / Differently abled students and aspirational

districts.

The Minister said the across India, more than 7500 students / volunteers are participating in the activities comprising sowing the seed and seeing them grow as plants / plantation / slogan / rallies / paintings, etc. as part of Earth Day 2023. Moreover popular lectures are being organized at different Institutes including at MoES HQ.

Dr M Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, also spoke on the occasion and reiterated the Ministry's commitment to furthering "LiFE" movement and sustainable development in India.

## Introduction of Vande Bharat Express between Thiruvananthapuram Central and Kasaragod PM to flag off the inaugural service of Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express

Chennai, April 23 2023: Prime Minister will flag off the inaugural Service of Vande Bharat Express between Thiruvananthapuram Central and Kasaragod on 25th April, 2023 (Tuesday) from Thiruvananthapuram Central Railway Station. Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri AshwiniVaishnaw, Hon'ble Union Minister of Railways, Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and other dignitaries will grace the occasion.

Vande Bharat Express is a trendsetter in redefining rail travel in our country. In order

to provide an opportunity to children, rail enthusiasts and general public to get a glimpse of the prestigious train service, the inaugural special of Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express will have stoppages at 14 railway stations enroute. Further, Souvenir passes for travel in the inaugural special Vande Bharat Express have been issued to press & media, rail fans and school children, among others.

The schedule of the inaugural service of Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express on 25.04.2023.

Composition :Vande Bharat rake of 16 coaches



General public are welcome to join the festivities at the above stations during the inaugural run.

Regular Services of Train No. 20633/20634 Kasaragod - Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express as detailed below:

As notified by

Railway Board, the service of Vande Bharat Express will be introduced as Train No. 20633 / 20634 Kasaragod - Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express as detailed below:

Train No. 20633 Kasaragod -

Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express (Except Thursdays) will leave Kasaragod at 14.30 hrs on and from 26th April, 2023 and reach Thiruvananthapuram Central at 22.35 hrs, the same day

In return direction, Train No. 20634 Thiruvananthapuram Central - Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express (Except Thursdays)

will leave Thiruvananthapuram Central at 05.20 hrs on and from 28th April, 2023 and reach Kasaragod at 13.25 hrs, the same day  
 Composition: Vande Bharat Rake of 16 Coaches.

Advance Reservation for the above Vande Bharat Express Services will be notified later.

**E-Sevai Maiyam**  
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## Dedication of 254 4G Towers to Nation; Uninterrupted Telecom Connectivity to 336 villages

Chennai, April 23 2023: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, in response to people's reaction to development of Arunachal Pradesh, said, "The people of Arunachal Pradesh are exceptional. They are unwavering in their spirit of patriotism. It's an honour to work for this great state and help it realise its true potential."

In joint effort of Government of India & Government of Arunachal Pradesh, 254 4G mobile towers have been dedicated to the Nation on April 22, 2023 in the presence of Union Minister for Communications, Railways and Electronics & IT Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw; Union Minister for Law and Justice Shri Kiren Rijiju; Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu Union Minister of State for Communications Shri Devusinh Chauhan and Arunachal Deputy Chief Minister Shri Chowna Mein along with senior officials from the Central and State Government.

The towers will cover 336 villages and benefit thousands of residents in Arunachal Pradesh. The beneficiaries shall be able to access to high-speed network connectivity to residents which ensure various digital services in sectors like education, health, e-commerce, and agriculture leading to socio-economic development.

Over 1,310 Gram Panchayats have been connected with optical

fibre under Bharat Net scheme and over 1,156 more Towers have been planned to bring digital inclusion. The 5G services have been recently launched in Itanagar and shall be extended to other areas.

One of the beneficiaries was also connected virtually from village in Lower Dibang Valley expressed happiness on Telecom Connectivity

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Chowna Mein, Arunachal Pradesh praised that in past 8 years, Government of India's efforts have brought great connectivity for railways, road and telecommunications bringing overall connectivity in the State.

Shri Devusinh Chauhan, Union Minister of State for Communications appreciated efforts to bring connectivity overcoming all challenges and also mentioned about creation of national postal hub in Itanagar and various initiatives for bringing postal connectivity in the state.

Sh. Pema Khandu, Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh mentioned today to be historic day. He mentioned since 2014, there has been infrastructural change in Arunachal Pradesh and has resulted in transformation. The digital inclusion has helped in removing corruption and e-governance. He also mentioned, 100% e-office is being used and Arunachal Pradesh

assembly has implemented e-vidhan project. He added, focused coordination and all out efforts are required to complete by covering remaining sites before timeline. He focussed on model of convergence of one plus one as eleven, not two. Arunachal Pradesh is not only referred to be as land of rising sun but also land of rising development.

Shri Kiren Rijiju, Union Minister for Law and Justice, has emphasized on Whole of Government Approach which requires joint efforts of Central and State government officers for implementation of all projects. For remaining 1,156 4G towers planned under USOF, locations have already been identified. As part of another scheme, i.e 4G saturation scheme, 2,424 4G site sites are to be installed, which includes 270 sites through OFC, 1,237 sites through microwave and 917 through VSAT to bring more connectivity. Further, satellite communications shall also be used for proper connectivity. He added, Vibrant village program and frontier highway shall bring a comprehensive development and change lives of the citizen. He appreciated State Government efforts and urged that work is to be done in mission mode so that no village is left unconnected by March, 2024. He also mentioned that border areas shall have major contribution to achieve the vision of

Government of India is working relentlessly in accordance with "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas" to provide world class connectivity to every remotest village and to every person in Arunachal Pradesh.

making India a developed country by 2047.

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Communications, Railways and Electronics & IT, in his address informed that installation of these towers in difficult terrain, practical difficulties is clear example of Sabka Prayas. He added, importance of communications open doors and opportunities for all. He also mentioned on how difficult was to impart benefits to beneficiaries in other countries during covid times, however, in India with the effective utilization of India Stack i.e. UPI, Aadhar, Telecom Network Infrastructure disbursement and all other services were managed digitally and on a click of a button. He emphasized on overcoming challenges of difficult terrain by quoting an example of installation of a tower in Tawang which is at height of 12600 ft. He concluded by thanking defence forces, district administration, service providers, different agencies of central and state government officials for achieving this feat.

Government of India is working relentlessly in accordance with "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas" to provide world class connectivity to every remotest village and to every person in Arunachal Pradesh.

## Piyush Goyal holds sixth interactive meeting with the Textile Advisory Group in Rajkot to review initiatives for cotton value chain

Chennai, April 23 2023: Union Minister of Textiles, Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, Shri Piyush Goyal presided over the sixth interactive meeting with the Textile Advisory Group (TAG), on 22nd April, 2023, to review the progress of initiatives for cotton value chain, as part of the Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam which is being conducted under the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' Initiative in Gujarat in Rajkot.

Shri Piyush Goyal noted the progress in the project on Traceability, Certification and Branding of Kasturi Cotton India and lauded that branding of Indian Cotton will add great value to the entire cotton value chain from farmers to end users.

He pointed out that the quality of Indian cotton is beneficial for farmers and industry both. Meetings of Steering Committee and Apex Committee have taken place and the funds for project have been released and the work on Traceability, Certification and Branding of Kasturi India Cotton has begun.

He appealed to TEXPROCIL to make aggressive efforts to brand Kasturi cotton as premium cotton in domestic and international markets.

Final approval for Holistic plan to enhance cotton productivity by targeting the technology of HDPS, Closer Spacing and ELS with an amount of Rs. 4186.85 lakhs was obtained from MoA & FW under NFSM. Cluster-wise

identification of villages/farmers has been finalized in Rajasthan and the same is in progress in all the remaining cotton growing states where sowing will be taken up for the ensuing cotton season 2023-24.

Shri Goyal emphasized the need for strengthening certification systems for organic cotton and requested industry for active participation in promotion of organic cotton production amongst cotton farmers. Hon'ble Minister advised to form a working group of experts, representative from industry, respective Ministries & other stakeholders to have detailed plan of action to boost organic cotton production on cluster based approach.

Smt. Darshana V.

Jardosh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles and Railways and TAG Chairman Shri Suresh Kotak also guided the TAG meeting.

Smt Rachna Shah, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, appealed to all cotton value chain stakeholders to work together in a cohesive manner to achieve the Hon'ble PM's dream of five F's from Farm to Foreign in the Cotton Textile Value Chain and regain Supremacy in Cotton to enhance value returns to producers.

Representatives from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, CCI, APEDA, BIS, other senior officials from related Ministries and stakeholders from entire cotton value chain were also present during the meeting.

## Environmental, social and governance Task Force in the Textiles sector soon dedicated to Sustainability: Goyal

Chennai, April 23 2023: An ESG (environmental, social and governance) Task Force in the Textiles sector will be created keeping in mind India's commitment towards sustainability, said Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Textiles, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Commerce and Industry during soft launch of e-commerce website of Ministry of Textiles dedicated to handloom and handicrafts in Rajkot, Gujarat today. The event was a part of 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' in which Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel also participated.

During two days event in Somnath and Rajkot, the Union Minister attended the Chintan Shivir in which along with officers from the Ministry of Textiles, deliberations on various aspects of the sector was done.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Goyal said there has been fruitful discussions for making textile sector more vibrant. He added that the some of the manufacturers & exporters are ensuring twice the value upon receiving Environmental, social and governance (ESG) compliance certification. Efforts are being made to ensure this certification for more manufacturers & exporters.

He also talked about the export target of USD 100 Billion for textile sector by 2030 and overall target of USD 250 Billion for textile sector by 2030.

He said that five commitments of Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi also includes that we have to go back to our roots to progress with confidence. He said that both Tamil Nadu and Gujarat are connected with history and culture but are also connected due to having strong traditional and modern Textile sector.

He said that due to strong belief of PM in 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' is being organized in Gujarat. A large number of women from Tamil Nadu reached the state. He said that he interacted with them and found that they were excited and joyous. The Union Minister said that it reflects that the cultural heritage of our country is in Unity. He said that 'Saurashtra



Tamil Sangamam' is an effort to unify India.

Shri Goyal said that the two days Chintan Shivir various subjects related to Textiles sector like Technical Textile, Cotton Textile, Sustainability, how to increase and better production of farmers, how to better branding of cotton were discussed.

During the 'Textiles Conclave' held under the aegis of Kashi Tamil Sangamam in Varanasi during 14th-15th December, chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, it was decided to constitute a Textile Advisory Group- an informal body- to deliberate and recommend on the issues pertaining to the development and expansion of MMF value chain.

Accordingly, the TAG on MMF was constituted vide Ministry of Textiles' OM dated 17th January 2023.

TAG comprises stakeholders of MMF value chain including:

Industry Associations including Association of Synthetic Fibre Industry (ASFI), Association of Man-Made fibre industry of India (AMFII), Chemicals & Petro Chemicals Manufacturers Association (CPMA)

User Industry representatives including Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA), Indian Spinners Association (SIMA)

Textiles Export Promotion Councils including Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) & Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPCC)

Leading domestic manufacturers' / exporters & users and representatives of Government ministries/ departments.

The first meeting of TAG on MMF was held on 14th February 2023 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Textiles.

The TAG on MMF

deliberated upon the concerns of the industry stakeholders' including:

Anti-dumping duty (ADD) on Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF)

Enforcement of QCO for Polyester value chain viz. Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA), Monoethylene Glycol (MEG), Polyester fibre and yarn to curb cheap and non-essential imports

Pricing of Manmade Fibre

Notably, the total export of MMF based textiles and apparels of India in FY 2022-23 was USD 8,465 Million and exhibited a de-growth of (-) 11% over the preceding financial year.

Overview of textiles industry of Gujarat

Gujarat state has established itself as the "Textile State of India". Gujarat's exports of textiles and apparel in FY 2021-22 was US\$7.36 Bn and showed substantial growth of 45% over the preceding year (US\$5.08 Bn in the 2020-21).

Gujarat has the presence of the entire textiles and apparel (T&A) value chain, starting from availability of raw material, yarn production, fabric production, up to apparel and made-ups manufacturing units.

Almost 30 per cent of India's mill sector production of fabric comes from Gujarat. Gujarat also has significant number of medium and large textile processing houses.

Overview of textiles industry of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu has share of 20% of total T&A export including Handicraft from India for FY 2021-22.

RMG export from Tamil Nadu makes up around 33% of the total T&A export including handicraft from India for FY 2021-22

Cotton Textile export from Tamil Nadu makes up around 17% of the total T&A export including handicraft from India for FY 2021-22

RMG Export from Tamil Nadu has grown

by 34% in FY 21-22 compared by FY 20-21

RMG export makes up around 61% of the total Export of T&A including handicraft from Tamil Nadu as per Export Data of FY 2021-22

Status of QCOs

QCO on Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) came into force w.e.f. 29th March 2023

QCO on Polyester Staple Fibres (PSF) came into force w.e.f 3rd April 2023

Enforcement date of QCOs on Polyester Continuous Filament Fully Drawn Yarn (IS:17261:2022), Polyester Partially Oriented Yarns (IS:17262:2022), Polyester Industrial Yarn (17264:2022) and 100 Percent Polyester Spun Grey and White Yarn (IS:17265:2022) extended by 3 months i.e. Upto 3rd July 2023

Enforcement date of QCOs on PTA - Terephthalic Acid and MEG-Ethylene Glycol extended by 3 months i.e. upto 22nd June 2023 & 28th June 2023 respectively

QCOs for 31 items of technical textiles consisting of 19 Geo Textiles and 12 Protective Textiles have been notified in gazette of India on 10th April 2023. The QCOs shall come into force on the 180 days its publication in the Official Gazette.

During a meeting on Technical Textiles the way forward as discussed were

Research and Innovation - Quality research proposals in Technical Textiles/ development sustainable products/ practices needed- Funds available in NTTM

Skill Development - Industry to take advantage of SAMARTH and NTTM. Identification of Skilling needs in new areas

Indigenous development of Textile Machinery - Large imports, need indigenisation

Quality- Quality Control Orders are need of hour, industry to adopt.

Demand generation- Mandation of products by Line Ministries e.g. Fire Resistant (FR) in Public Buildings

Training program on textile clusters for transition of conventional textile industry to technical textiles.



## Saurashtrian Tamils experience the rich culture and warm hospitality of Gujarat at Saurashtra-Tamil Sangam

Chennai, April 23 2023: The Saurashtra-Tamil Sangam, organised by Government of India and Government of Gujarat, kicked off from 17th April, 2023 highlighting the historical relationship between Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. It was inaugurated in the presence of Hon'ble Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Bhupendra Patel and other dignitaries at Somnath. It aims to establish a synergy between the two states on the mantra of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.'

The Government of Gujarat, under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel has left no stone unturned in welcoming Saurashtrian Tamils and other guests for this confluence of art, literature and culture.

The guests from Tamil Nadu got a chance to perform the traditional aarti at Somnath Temple. They were provided with rudraksha beads, holy water, and other traditional items for performing the aarti. Smt. K.S. Nandini from Tamil Nadu was overwhelmed with the experience of this divine ritual.

There was a special event where senior ministers from Government of India and the Gujarat Government had direct interaction with Tamil guests in Gujarat. Hon'ble Union



Minister of Petroleum Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, while welcoming the guests said, "This event is a testament to India's Unity in Diversity." Events like Kashi-Tamil Sangam, and Saurashtra-Tamil Sangam, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will further strengthen the bond between various states and its culture." Talking about diversity, he added, "I am a Sikh and my wife is a Maharashtrian. My daughter is married in a Tamil family."

Hon'ble Finance Minister of Gujarat Shri Kanubhai Desai said, "This program is a confluence of two rich cultures. It will strengthen the bond between Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. Such events, under the inspiring leadership of Hon'ble PM, become touchstones for unifying India and its cultural revival."

Health Minister of Gujarat Shri Rushikesh Patel said, "India is a diverse land, with people from a diverse cultural background. But what makes it special is the fact that everyone has

Indianness in their heart. This furthers the mission of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' of the Hon'ble PM."

The guests also witnessed an enthralling performance by Tamil musicians and traditional dance forms, Bharatnatyam and Thapattam. They also caught a glimpse of traditional dance forms of Gujarat such as tippani. To add, Tamil artists performed Periya Melam on traditional music instruments such as Dhol, castanet etc. They also saw the Street Puppet Show

Various events are being held across Dwarka, Kevadia, Rajkot and other important places of Saurashtra. At Dwarka, the land of Lord Krishna, M.L.A Pabubha Manek welcomed more than 300 tourists from Madurai, Tamil Nadu in a traditional manner with the chants of 'Jai Dwarkadheesh' and traditional Gujarati music. The group visited the Dwarka temple as well.

More than 300 guests from Tamil Nadu were welcomed at the Veraval

Railway Station. Students from Somnath Sanskrit University welcomed them with Vedic chants and mantras. There was a team of medical professionals on the train to ensure that the guests are at ease during the journey.

The Shilp Mahotsav at Somnath, by Gujarat Lalitkala Academy, highlighted some fascinating figurines from sand art on the beach. More than 34 sand artists took part in the event and made sculptures of Lord Ganesh, Lord Natraj, G-20 etc.

Abhijeet Magdum, a Maharashtrian who is deputed at the Jamnagar defence station, said, "I visited the Somnath temple to worship Lord Shiva. I am fascinated to see the sand art and the overall arrangements at Somnath under Saurashtra Tamil Sangam.

A language exchange program was also organized at the Somnath Auditorium, between the students of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. During the event, Sairam Dave, a famous Gujarati artist, stressed on the importance of traditional medicines, lifestyle, food habits, etc for a healthy and long life. Shri Prem Kumar presented research on the Saurashtrian dialect which is still being spoken in the Saurashtrian Tamil families, even today.

## DRDO & Indian Navy Conduct Successful Trial of BMD Interceptor from Naval Platform

Chennai, April 23 2023: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy successfully conducted a maiden flight trial of sea-based endo-atmospheric interceptor missile off the coast of Odisha in the Bay of Bengal on April 21, 2023. The purpose of the

trial was to engage and neutralize a hostile ballistic missile threat thereby elevating India into the elite club of Nations having Naval BMD capability.

Prior to this, DRDO has successfully demonstrated land-based BMD system with capability to neutralize

ballistic missile threats, emerging from adversaries.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO, Indian Navy and Industry involved in successful demonstration of ship based Ballistic Missile defence capabilities.

Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat complimented the teams involved in the design and development of the missile. He said that nation has achieved self-reliance in developing highly-complex network-centric anti-ballistic missile systems.

## INAUGURATION OF WATER SUPPLY FROM DELHI JAL BOARD AND A NEW ENTRANCE GATE

Chennai, April 23 2023: 22 April 2023 turned out to be a historic day for the Base Repair Depot (BRD), Palam with the inauguration of two major projects namely supply of fresh water by Delhi Jal Board and inauguration of a new entrance gate for the Depot for Air Marshal Vibhas Pande AOC-in-C, Maintenance Command. The project for supply of fresh water to the BRD initiated in 2009 reached its culmination on 22 April 2023. With the inauguration of the new entrance gate for the



Depot, the persistent issue of traffic congestion due to its close proximity to Palam Railway Crossing will now be eased. The personnel and their families can now access

the BRD without much of hassles.

Air Marshal Vibhas Pande expressed his satisfaction on commissioning of both the projects which would enhance the happiness

index of the air warriors and their families. He urged the BRD personnel to continue to work diligently towards fulfilment of its operational task with greater zeal and enthusiasm

Air Commodore SS Rehal, Air Officer Commanding thanked the officials of Delhi Jal Board, Delhi International Airport Ltd., Military Engineering Services and all the personnel of the Depot for contributing whole heartedly to make both the projects successful.

## Naturals Salon 733th outlet launched by Actress Neelima Rani, Veena Kumaravel & AR Pavithra at Madipakkam



Chennai, April 23 2023: Naturals Salon, India's No #1 Salon Chain launches its latest Salon in Madipakkam, Chennai

Naturals Salon will feature high-end hair and beauty services incorporating Premium brands like L'Oreal, Floractive, Brillare Skin Range etc.

Exclusive facials like Hydra Facial services will also be offered to the customers.

The event will mark the inception of the Naturals Salon's journey in Madipakkam.

Naturals Madipakkam

Iylah Complex 2nd floor, No.32, Bazaar Road & James St. Ram Nagar Madipakkam, Chennai - 600091 Phone: 73975 03999

MADIPAKKAM'S NEW BEAUTY DESTINATION IS HERE!

## Asia-Pacific Leaders' Conclave on Malaria Elimination will commence on April 24th at New Delhi

Chennai, April 23 2023: As a precursor to World Malaria Day, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Government of India will be organizing the Asia Pacific Leaders' Conclave on Malaria Elimination in New Delhi on April 24, 2023, in partnership with the Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA). The Conclave will be held under the guidance of Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers. The Conclave aims to reaffirm political commitment to galvanise action for malaria elimination by 2030.

The Conclave will provide a platform for leaders from the Asia Pacific region to discuss ongoing efforts towards malaria elimination and revitalise national and regional momentum



towards the goal of an Asia Pacific Free from Malaria by 2030. Sessions will include tracking regional and national progress, reaching at-risk populations, leveraging research, innovation, and new technologies to accelerate progress, and embracing a whole-of-government approach eliminate the disease

India has made remarkable progress towards malaria elimination in recent years and has been appreciated at the global level. Among

the 11 countries that are part of the World Health Organization's 'High Burden to High Impact' initiative, only India has reported decline in malaria cases during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Malaria cases and deaths also dropped by 85.1% and 83.6% respectively, from 2015 to 2022.

The Conclave will be presided by Dr V. K. Paul, Member Minister of Health, Republic of Fiji. Senior representatives from various government departments, development partners and corporates will also be in attendance.

Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, World Health Organization, SEARO, Health Ministers from APLMA member nations including Dr. Culwick Togamana, His Excellency Minister of Health, Solomon Islands and Dr. Antonio Lalabalavu, His Excellency Minister of Health, Republic of Fiji. Senior representatives from various government departments, development partners and corporates will also be in attendance.