



Shashi Tharoor @ShashiTharoor

Honoured to receive the Sahityotsav Puraskaram of the Samastha Sunni Students Federation, which over the years has been given to some of Kerala's foremost litterateurs. Even more honoured that the eminent theologian Ponnala Abdul Qadir Musliyar Sahib, despite ill-health, travelled personally to Thiruvananthapuram to hand it to me. Minister Antony Raju & former @inKerala chief Ramesh @chennithala MLA graced the occasion & made marvellous speeches in honour of my literary contributions.

Travel paperless from Kochi airport with DigiYatra from Tuesday

Facility to be launched at six more airports, including Mumbai and Kochi, in August

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

MAKING travel more convenient for passengers, Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) will begin the DigiYatra facility at the airport starting Tuesday. CIAL has been running the paperless entry with a face recognition facility as a trial with limited airlines since February 2023.

"Starting Tuesday, the DigiYatra facility will be operational

at Kochi airport. Passengers using DigiYatra can clear the security check-in at one go. The software was developed by CIAL's IT department," said a CIAL official. CIAL has already started DigiYatra facilities for passengers with Air India, Air Asia, and Vistara airlines. From August 15, all passengers having the app can utilise the service," the official added.

On Friday, the Centre notified that the DigiYatra facility

HASSLE-FREE ENTRY

- System to facilitate passengers' entry to terminal by showing their bar-coded boarding pass at the kiosks
- The software was developed by CIAL's IT department
- CIAL has started DigiYatra facilities for passengers with Air India, Air Asia, & Vistara airlines
- Facility is available at seven airports, including, Delhi, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad

Delhi Airport has long lines everywhere, right from security check-in to the boarding gate. However, DigiYatra App has made things easier with priority check-in and no more waiting in long queues wasting time

Shilpa Raj, passenger

will be launched at six more airports, including Mumbai and Kochi, in August. The facility is available at seven airports, including, Delhi, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad. "DigiYatra has helped save a lot of time at airports. Delhi

Airport has long lines everywhere, right from security check-in to the boarding gate. However, DigiYatra App has made things easier with priority check-in and no more waiting in long queues wasting time," said Shilpa Raj, who recently travelled from Delhi to Kochi.

According to the Civil Aviation Ministry, airports in Mumbai, Kochi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, and Guwahati are set to launch the digital service, which will be installed in a phased manner. With facial recognition tech-

nology, passengers can have contactless, seamless movement at various checkpoints at airports. The system will facilitate passengers' entry to the terminal by showing their bar-coded boarding pass at the kiosks.

Passengers will be automatically scanned based on the facial recognition system at checkpoints like entry-point checks, entry-to-security checks, and aircraft boarding. It will also facilitate self-bag drop and check-in, using facial recognition to identify passengers and data recall.



KEEPING WITH TRADITION

After 34 years, Paradesi Synagogue in Kochi bore witness to Bar Mitzvah, an important ceremony in the Jewish community, on Saturday. Two 13-year-olds, Shem Kareem from the UK and Menahim Ryan Pallivathukkal heralded their religious adulthood at the synagogue

Govt nod to start work on Kakkanad metro station

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE delay in starting construction work of the metro station at Kakkanad Junction has been resolved with the state government giving permission to start the work.

Ever since the KMRL decided to construct a station at Kakkanad Junction questions were raised about the safety and privacy of the inmates of the children's home situated nearby.

The order issued by Santhosh Kumar V T, Additional Secretary, however, directed the KMRL to carry out the construction only after ensuring the safety of the children's home near the site.

As per the order, KMRL will be allowed to acquire only 13.92 cents of land for the station, and no windows should be erected on the metro station facing the children's home. "The construction of the new underground water tank at the home has to be completed before starting the construction work on the metro station. Along with this, the construction of a 17-ft-high boundary wall between the proposed metro station and home has to be completed," the order reads.

The order also directed the KMRL to maintain the existing entrance



PWD has been designated as the nodal agency to monitor the work. The collector also directed KMRL to ensure the safety of the children's home

A revenue officer

gate as it is, and only relocate the security cabin.

Meanwhile, a meeting convened by district collector NSK Umesh, the other day, directed the police to ensure patrolling on the premises until the completion of the metro station work. "PWD has been designated as the nodal agency to monitor the work. The collector also directed KMRL to ensure the safety of the children's home," said a revenue officer.

Kufos teams up with IIT, offers online course in seafood value addition

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (Kufos) has entered into a partnership with the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL), a common platform of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), to deliver online courses in food technology, with a special

focus on seafood value addition. The programme is coordinated by IIT Madras and the courses will commence on August 21.

Under the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) scheme, Kufos and NPTEL will offer courses in food packaging technology, canning technology and value addition of seafood.

Enrolment to these courses is open to all and the registration window will remain active until August 21. Candidates will be required to register, actively engage in assignments, and undergo final evaluations to earn their certificates. For more information and registration, visit <https://online-courses.nptel.ac.in/>.

55-year-old run over by container lorry, dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

A 55-YEAR-OLD man died after being run over by a container lorry at Vallarpadam on Friday night. The deceased is Sibi, of Mulavukad.

The accident occurred on the compound of Gateway Distriparks Kerala Ltd (GDKL) around 8.30pm. Mulavukkad police have registered a case of culpable homicide against the lorry driver after it was found that he was under the influence of liquor.

According to police, the lorry driven by the accused reached GDKL to load goods on Friday night. After loading goods, the accused negligently moved the lorry ahead without noticing Sibi standing in front of the vehicle.

Though Sibi was rushed to the hospital, he succumbed to injuries. Police will record the arrest of the driver soon. The body was handed over to relatives after a postmortem examination.

10 years after heart transplant, Sruthi leads 'beautiful' 2nd life

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

10 YEARS AGO, on this day (August 13, 2013), 24-year-old Sruthi was in a hopeless state as she was suffering from cardiomyopathy, a condition that affects the heart muscles.

However, on World Organ Donation Day (August 13) in 2013, a call from Dr Jose Chacko changed her life and now she is living a healthy life. 34-year-old Sruthi became the first person in the state to live for 10 years after a heart transplant surgery.

The decision of Kottayam native Lalichan's family gifted her with a second life. Lalichan was declared brain dead at the Kottayam Government Medical College Hospital. His family immediately decided to donate his organs. Within an hour, his heart was transported to Lisie Hospital from Kottayam. "I am grateful to



Elsamma James hugging the donee of her brother's heart, Sruthi. Dr Jose Chacko Periyapuram, cardiac surgeon, actress Anna Ben and Fr Paul Karedan, director of Lisie Hospital, are also seen | A SANESH

the family of Lalichanchettan. I was struggling and did not expect to live a happy life. Their decision to donate his organs gave me this life," said a teary-eyed Sruthi. The transplantation surgery was conducted under the leadership of Dr Jose Chacko Periyapuram.

Sruthi, who came back to normal life after the surgery, is now working as a beautician. At the event organised by Lisie Hospital to celebrate her second life, Sruthi

thanked everyone who helped her out. "The doctors and nurses gave me much confidence. Even my neighbours helped me financially. I am grateful to each one of them," she said. Elsamma, Lalichan's sister listened to her brother's heartbeats after 10 years at the event. The event was attended by actress Anna Ben, Dr Jose Chacko Periyapuram, HOD of the department of cardiothoracic surgery and Fr Paul Karedan, director of Lisie Hospital.

QUICK READS

Youth dies after pvt bus hits scooter

KOCHI: A youth died after a private bus hit the scooter in which he was riding pillion at Kumbalangi on Saturday. The deceased is Josmi, 22, of Kumbalangi. The accident took place near Priyadarsini bus stop. Josmi's brother Jackson was driving the scooter when the private bus -- Shikha, plying between Perumpadapu and Ezhupunna -- hit their vehicle. Josmi succumbed to injuries while Jackson is still undergoing treatment at the hospital. Police have registered a case against the bus driver and started a probe.



'Anayoottu' (feeding of elephants) organised at Kodanad elephant rehabilitation centre on Saturday on the occasion of World Elephant Day | EXPRESS

Basilica representatives meet papal delegate

Kochi: In a bid to resolve the issues in the Ernakulam-Angamaly Archdiocese and bring in uniform mass, the women representatives and parish council members met the special papal delegate Mar Cyril Vasil. The representatives told the delegate that the majority of the members of the parish obey and follow the Syro-Malabar Church. Mar Cyril said his mission was to do what the pope has instructed and requested the cooperation of the members.

മഹാദാഹ്യാം ! കേരള സർക്കാർ

മെഗാ സമ്മാനങ്ങൾ.. തിരുവേനം ബന്ധു ഭാഗ്യക്കുറി 2023 BR-93

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