



13 July 2024

Kerala Regional News

<p>Development of Vizhinjam Seaport</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan, announced that the second, third, and fourth phases of the Vizhinjam Seaport will be finished by 2028. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These expansions signify a significant investment of Rs 10,000 crore, aimed at transforming Kerala into the country's hub for container business. The project is expected to generate over 5,000 new jobs, with plans to establish a specialized port-based job training center costing Rs 50 crore. <p>Financial Distribution and Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of the total project cost of Rs 8,867 crore, the state government is contributing Rs 5,595 crore, emphasizing Vizhinjam as a state-supported initiative. In contrast, the central government's contribution is limited to Rs 818 crore, with additional state expenditures amounting to Rs 100 crore for rehabilitation efforts. A request for a substantial Rs 5,000 crore allocation in the central budget underscores the project's strategic importance for Kerala's economic development.
<p>Malayalam language models</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IBM is actively pursuing the development of large language models (LLMs) tailored for Malayalam, marking a significant step towards enhancing AI capabilities in regional languages. This initiative was highlighted during the International GenAI Conclave held in Kochi. <p>Key Developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gen AI Innovation Centre: IBM's efforts are centered around its Gen AI Innovation Centre in Kochi, leveraging InstructLab technology developed in collaboration with Red Hat. This



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	<p>technology aims to empower LLMs by integrating client-specific data, utilizing IBM's watsonx.ai platform, and AI assistant technologies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enterprise Solutions: The initiative promises to enable clients to customize and deploy fine-tuned language models suited to their specific enterprise needs. This approach emphasizes the practical application of AI in various sectors.
<p>Space Exploration and Technology</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Steve Smith, a former astronaut with four missions to the International Space Station (ISS), reflects on the advancements marking the Space 2.0 era at the GenAI Conclave. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● He describes space as a captivating realm, a lifelong dream fulfilled through perseverance and dedication. <p>Space 2.0 Era Advancements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Smith highlights the current era as Space 2.0, marked by significant technological advancements in space missions. ● He praises the Indian space programme for achieving remarkable milestones, surpassing even those of developed nations. <p>Generative AI and Future Prospects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Smith marvels at the rapid evolution of Generative AI (GenAI), labeling it as the fastest-growing technology, outpacing even the internet. ● He speculates on humanity's potential as an interplanetary species, emphasizing the importance of forward-thinking in shaping future possibilities. <p>Challenges and Future of Space Travel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussing interplanetary colonization, Smith cautions against hasty migration away from Earth, advocating instead for responsible stewardship of our planet. ● Addressing practical challenges, he notes the complexities of space travel, highlighting the vast distances to Mars and the technological advancements needed for faster propulsion systems.



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EnviStats report : Kerala leads in cattle slaughter and meat production

Context:

- The Union Government's Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation recently released the **EnviStats** report, shedding light on the number of animals slaughtered and the quantity of meat production in the country

Key findings:

- Kerala leads in cattle slaughter with 1,434.74 thousand animals, followed by Assam (57.15 thousand), Manipur (105.70 thousand), Meghalaya (230.14 thousand), and Mizoram (34.18 thousand).
- Kerala leads in cattle meat production with 1,434.74 thousand tonnes, followed by Assam (57.15 thousand tonnes), Manipur (105.70 thousand tonnes), Meghalaya (230.14 thousand tonnes), and Mizoram (34.18 thousand tonnes).

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