

Health Ministry to launch 'Heal in India and Heal by India' portal to boost Medical Tourism

The Union Health Ministry is all set to launch 'Heal in India and Heal by India' – a new portal which is likely to be announced by the Prime Minister (PM) on August 15 that aims to give impetus to medical tourism. Developed under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, the portal will have a repository of healthcare professionals, hospitals services to help overseas patients seeking medical help in India. With the two top-of-the-line health initiatives, the government's immediate focus is to push medical tourism in India via its upcoming one-stop tech-heavy portal Heal in India.



Under Heal in India, via an online portal, foreigners or those seeking medical help will be able to locate the list of hospitals in the country available to provide their choice of medical treatments. It will provide details about the treatment package cost. They will also be able to apply for visas from the same platform. Hospitals and visa offices will get in touch with the patients once they receive the request through the online platform.

HC bans tourism & trekking In 30 peaks of Uttarakhand

The Uttarakhand High Court has banned tourism activities on 30 new peaks and trekking routes in the Himalayan region of the state until further notice.



A bench of Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice RC Khulbe gave this order while hearing a public interest litigation filed by Almora resident

Jitendra Yadav with regard to plastic waste. The court has also asked the Pollution Control Board (PCB) Dehradun to submit a comprehensive audit report in terms of environment in four weeks.

The court was told on behalf of the petitioner that 30 new peaks and routes have been opened for the purpose of promoting adventure tourism by the Uttarakhand Tourism Department. This will increase the number of domestic and foreign tourists in the high Himalayan region and increase the revenue, but no concrete measures have been taken by the government for waste disposal.

Rajasthan to announce Rural Tourism Policy next month

The final draft of Rural Tourism Policy for Rajasthan is on the verge of completion and will be announced next month, Chief Secretary

Usha Sharma has said.

The policy is likely to be announced during the annual



convention of the Indian Heritage Hotels Association (IHHA).

Sharma said that in the forthcoming 'Invest Rajasthan' programme in October, tourism will be a thrust sector which will play an important role in attracting investments.

She said the state government stands committed to making enabling policies for the promotion of tourism in Rajasthan as well as attracting investments in the sector.

Akasa Air to start Ahmedabad-Bengaluru & Chennai-Mumbai flights



Akasa Air has announced two new routes as it looks for pan-India connectivity. The airline said that it will soon fly flights on Ahmedabad-Bengaluru and Chennai-Mumbai routes.

The Ahmedabad-Bengaluru flight will start from August 23 while the Chennai-Mumbai route will be activated from next month. "Introducing new routes: Bengaluru – Ahmedabad from August 23 and Mumbai – Chennai from September 15," Akasa Air tweeted. The company has also

announced to increase the frequency of the flights on the already existing Bengaluru-Mumbai route from August 30. "More daily flights on existing routes: Bengaluru – Mumbai from August 30," the airline tweeted.

NTCA bars new construction in core areas of Tiger reserves

During the recent meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), it was decided to keep the core areas of tiger reserves inviolate. "Chaired the 21st National Tiger Conservation Authority

meeting at Tadoba Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra in the presence of Shri @AshwiniKChoubey.

To strengthen tiger conservation, the meeting decided to

keep the core areas inviolate and focus on stakeholders' capacity building," tweeted Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav. "The meeting also decided to provide greater thrust to technology and to work harder for inclusive infrastructure growth in sync with wildlife conservation and promoting diversification of tourism," he added.



7 of 20 busiest int'l air travel routes were from India to Dubai in May

Seven of the 20 busiest international air travel routes from India in May were to Dubai, according to data provided by aviation analytics company Cirium. In May 2019—before the COVID-19 pandemic

dramatically impacted the global aviation sector — only two of the top 20 international air travel routes from India were to Dubai, according to the data.



Emirates was one of the first airlines to deploy full capacity on routes to India, taking a lot of traffic to the European Union, Russia and North America, he noted. COVID-19 had significantly curtailed international travel since the beginning of 2020 to the beginning of this year. Its impact is now receding and airlines across the world have largely resumed their international flights. In May 2019, the busiest international air travel route from India was Kolkata-Dhaka with 301 flights, the data mentioned.