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AYUSH visa soon for travellers seeking medical treatment in India



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that to promote the traditional medicine industry, India will soon launch 'AYUSH mark' which will give authenticity to quality AYUSH products made in the country.

Speaking of "Heal in India", he also announced that a special visa category will be created soon for those who want to travel to the country to avail of AYUSH therapies. "Traditional medicine helped increase tourism in Kerala. This power is in the whole of India, in every corner of India. 'Heal in India' can become a big brand of this decade. Wellness centers based on Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, etc., can be very popular," the PM said. The special "AYUSH visa" will help those who wish to seek traditional treatments in India, he said.

Caravan Tourism has tremendous potential in Maharashtra: Valsa Nair Singh

In order to boost tourism in Maharashtra the state government has introduced Caravan Policy. Talking about this, Valsa Nair Singh, IAS-Principal Secretary, Tourism, EXcise & Civil Aviation, Government of Maharashtra,



said that there are many scenic places in the state which fall under CRZ (Coastal Regulatory Zone), forest or forest buffer area or irrigation zone (near dam) where construction is not allowed. "However, in such destinations parking of Caravan is allowed and here comes in our Caravan Policy playing a great role. We are helping the caravan players to tie up with hotel groups," she said. According to her, Caravan tourism has tremendous potential in Maharashtra, as the state has very good roads.

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Tamil Nadu seeks revenue share in privatisation of airports

With the Central government looking at privatisation of airports, the Tamil Nadu government has taken a policy decision that it should have a share in the revenue realised by the former while transferring the airport.



According to the policy note presented by the Tamil Nadu Industries Minister Thangam Thennarasu to the Assembly, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is actively pursuing the policy of privatisation of airports.

"Therefore, a decision has been taken that in the event, the State government acquires and transfers the lands to the Airports Authority of India at free of cost. Airports Authority of India or Government of India transfers the assets to a third party. The value realised/revenue accrued thereby, must be proportionately shared with the State Government reflecting the huge investment in land being made by the State Government," the policy note states.

Go First stops Srinagar-Sharjah flight citing lack of bilateral rights

Go First said it has stopped operating the Srinagar-Sharjah flight from March 27 as it does not have the requisite bilateral rights. "We were operating Srinagar-Sharjah-Srinagar flight under air bubble arrangement that was in place till March 26, 2022. All air bubble arrangements were cancelled when India resumed scheduled international passenger flights on March 27, 2022," a Go First spokesperson said.

"Go First stopped operating Srinagar-Sharjah-Srinagar flight from March 27 as it does not have the requisite bilateral rights. Once we have the bilateral rights, we will resume operating flights on this route," the airline said.



UP approves proposal for 4 heliports for tourism

The UP Cabinet approved a proposal to develop heliports in four places to boost tourism. A proposal to this effect was presented by the UP Tourism Department and the Cabinet approved development of the projects on PPP basis. Briefing reporters, Departmental Minister Jaiveer Singh said, "Cities to have a heliport include Lucknow, Prayagraj, Mathura and Agra. In Lucknow, the heliport will come up at the Ramabai Rally Ground." He added that the heliports will create job opportunities as well.

Vietjet set to open four more routes between India and Vietnam

Vietjet has announced four new services linking India and Vietnam, including Mumbai – Hanoi, Mumbai – Ho Chi Minh City, New Delhi – Phu Quoc and Mumbai – Phu Quoc, marking the airline's post-pandemic return and continued expansion in the country.

"We are thrilled to continue connecting Vietnam with India, the country of 1.4 billion population via six direct routes, and re-energise our operations right in the post pandemic environment," said Dinh Viet Phuong, MD, Vietjet.

Cathay Pacific appoints Rakesh Raicar as Regional GM for South Asia

Cathay Pacific has appointed Rakesh Raicar as Regional General Manager for South Asia, Middle-East and Africa. "Based in Mumbai, India, Raicar would be responsible for the growth of the airline's business and operations in the said regions," Cathay Pacific's statement said. Raicar has over 30 years of experience working with Cathay Pacific, it mentioned. Cathay Pacific is the flag carrier of Hong Kong and it had 193 aircraft in its fleet by the end of 2021.

