

J&K admin's initiatives keep tourism afloat amid pandemic

As the global tourism crisis has hit Covid, the Covid vaccination sector has sought to make decisive policy interventions to keep the tourism industry afloat by prioritizing Jammu and Kashmir – where tourism supports a significant portion of the population. Thanks to the initiative, 80% of its tourism service providers have been vaccinated and are safe to welcome travellers from far and wide, eager to strike J&K off their bucket list. Interestingly, the Union Territory received the highest number of tourists between November 2020 and April 2021 and is looking for tourism in Jammu and Kashmir. As part of efforts to create a vibrant film ecosystem at J&K, the UT government plans to establish a nationally competitive infrastructure; provide administrative support to make filmmaking easier at J&K; establish attractive schemes for financial assistance and relief; and provides local talent to help make films.



(Source: www. timesofindia.com)

Promoting science education at Gujarat Science City



Gujarat Science City Ahmedabad is a state government initiative to promote science education among the communities of Gujarat. It is, effectively, a science-based theme park where visitors learn through interaction and play. Featuring a range of attractions including an IMAX 3D theatre, an energy park, a hall of science, an amphitheatre, a life science park and dancing musical fountains, it has been undergoing a programme of revitalisation, with the addition of new features. For instance, an Aquatic Gallery, a Robotic Gallery and also a Nature Park. The Astronomy and Space Science Centre is due to open in 2022. India's first Robotic Museum which is now open has more than 170 working and static robots. They are all real-life robots that feature across many industries. The second project at Gujarat Science City is India's largest Aquarium and Nature Park, also now open. Work on the Astronomy and Space Museum, currently in progress, started in 2019.

(Source: www.blooloo.com)

Govt in talks with many countries for mutual recognition of vaccine certifications

The Central Government informed the Parliament that the country is in talks with various nations for mutual recognition of coronavirus vaccination certifications. Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan stated that there is no plan currently to introduce Covid-19 vaccine passports. There is no multilateral protocol on travel currently for those vaccinated against COVID-19, Muraleedharan added. "Most countries require a negative COVID-19 report, along with compliance with country-specific Covid protocols," he said. "Since some countries have specified their position in regard to vaccines that would exempt travellers from quarantine, India is engaging various nations for the mutual recognition of vaccination certifications," the minister added.



(Source: www.livemint.com)

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65 lighthouses to be developed into tourism destinations

Lighthouse tourism in India set to get a boost! Lighthouses are an interesting tourism feature all over the world, and it is time that the feature catches up in India as well. Since lighthouses are usually located close to the coastline, they provide a scenic view of the spot to tourists. And now, the Parliament has passed the Marine Aids To Navigation 2021, which would lead to the development of lighthouses as tourist destinations. According to an Expression of Interest document of the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, 65 lighthouse sites have been identified to be developed into tourist spots in public private partnership mode.

The ministry has undertaken the initiative with the objective of enhancing and developing the existing lighthouses into maritime landmark as well as unique tourist destinations, while identifying and developing the tourism infrastructure components to boost the lighthouse tourism and exploring the possibilities of undertaking these projects in the PPP mode. The identified lighthouses are spread across Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(Source : www.financialexpress.com)

World's first 'Meme Museum' opens in Hong Kong

Memes have now become an integral part of social conversations, irrespective of the medium. But some people took it seriously, serious enough to build a museum for it. Hong Kong's meme museum is creating a buzz on social media. The world's first meme museum is built in Hong Kong's K11 mall and features all the latest meme templates from across the world. It is a great initiative to put all cultural snapshots under one roof. These memes are proof of how we communicate in the twenty-first century. The exhibition of memes is being organised by 9GAG and K11 mall and showcases over 100 memes. The Meme Museum has seven zones that are themed around with different viral content, including the "Troll Face," "Doge," "Disaster Girl," "Drake" and "disappointed Pakistani fan."

(Source: www.republicworld.com)



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Chicago Museums Change COVID-19 Policies, Requiring All Visitors to Wear Mask

In accordance with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, many Chicago museums altered their COVID-19 policies earlier this week. The CDC updated its guidance recently, recommending that fully vaccinated individuals wear masks in public indoor settings, if located in an area of "substantial" or "high" transmission. Chicago and most of Illinois' northwest region moved into a "substantial" transmission area, with Cook County reporting 2,923 positive cases in the past week, according to the CDC's latest report.

Before the update many museums recommended visitors wear a mask if they were not vaccinated, but now many of them are requiring masks for everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

(Source: www.nbcchicago.com)

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