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Harsh Vardhan inaugurates FSSAI's National Food Laboratory in Ghaziabad

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan inaugurated FSSAI's National Food Laboratory (NFL) in Ghaziabad on the occasion of 13th anniversary of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Note: This national lab is a result of a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP), the first-of-its-kind in the food laboratory sector. It houses state-of-the-art collaborative training centres, namely, The Food Safety Solution Centre (FSSC) and the Centre for Microbiological Analysis Training (C-MAT).

This NFL is one of the two premier referral laboratories under the direct administrative control of the apex food regulator named- Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI). The laboratory in Kolkata is also being upgraded.

FSSAI has also launched 'Food Safety on Wheels' (FSW), a mobile food testing lab for testing, awareness and training. This first-of-its-kind, innovative van will take food testing infrastructure to remote villages and far-flung areas, thus, instilling confidence among citizens.

Lucknow's iconic Hazratganj Chauraha becomes Atal Chowk

Lucknow's famous 'Hazratganj Chauraha' has been renamed as 'Atal Chowk' in memory of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the occasion of the first death anniversary of late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji, from August 16. He was a five-time Member of Parliament (MP) from Lucknow. A memorial named "Atal Smriti Upvan" will also be built on his name.

UP extends bilateral cooperation MoU with Netherlands in several fields

Uttar Pradesh government and Netherlands have extended the existing bilateral agreement of cooperation in several fields by another five years. A memorandum of understanding in this regard was signed by extending the cooperation between two countries till 2024.

About: The MoU, inked earlier, sought cooperation and exchange of the knowledge and techniques in the fields of solid waste management, spatial planning, water management including restoration of water bodies and mobility planning and also related to cooperation in fields of transport management, energy efficiency, development of smart cities in UP, cultural heritage and the cycle track infrastructure development in various cities of the state.

Noida girls win U.S. tech prize with App that connects old-age homes and orphanages

The App, called Maitri, aims at bringing together individuals suffering from loneliness and depression and those lacking the nurturing love of elderly role models, said the all-girl team



'Tech Witches'. Maitri allows old-age homes and orphanages to sign up and organise meetings, thus facilitating children and senior citizens to spend time together.

About: Technovation Challenge is the world's largest technology and entrepreneurship programme for girls, which runs across 100+ countries, supported by Salesforce.org, Google.org, the Adobe Foundation, Uber, Samsung, BNY Mellon as well as UNESCO, the Peace Corps and UN Women, according to its website.

Allahabad High Court bans DJs in Uttar Pradesh for flouting noise rules

The Allahabad High Court banned DJs all across Uttar Pradesh. If someone violates the order, he or she can be sentenced up to five years and may have to pay a hefty fine of Rs 1 lakh. Announcing its verdict, the court has asked the state government to ensure that no noise pollution rules are violated in the state.

The court said that violation of noise pollution laws were a violation of the fundamental rights of citizens, and directed all district magistrates to ensure compliance of the court order in their respective districts.

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