

UK royal couple's 'rejuvenation break' in B'luru

Rakesh.Prakash @timesofindia.com Bengaluru: UK's King Charles III and Queen consort Camilla paid a quiet visit to Bengaluru over the weekend, giving media glare a skip. The royal couple's "super private visit" saw them spending four days in India's tech hub on their return journey to the UK from Samoa, where the 75-year-old King Charles participated in the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2024 as the head of the Commonwealth bloc of 56 countries.



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King Charles and Camilla had embarked on their maiden Oceania tour on Oct 18, visiting Australia and Samoa, and wrapped up the trip on Oct 26. It was the king's first overseas

trip since being diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. Sources in the state protocol and police said that on their return journey, "They decided to take a rejuvenation break at Soukya Health and Wellness Centre in Bengaluru's Whitefield, with their private jet landing at HAL airport Saturday (Oct 26) night". The couple appreciated Dr Issac Mathai Nooranal's unique treatment model that integrates different systems of medicine. Soukya was founded by Dr Mathai, the holistic health consultant for the British royal family. Sources said a doctor at- tached to the royal family accompanied the couple. "Since it was a private visit, there was no formal welcome from state govt. They are scheduled to leave Bengaluru early hours Wednesday," a source said... Even traffic was regulated in Bengaluru in a way as to not evoke any curiosity about the VVIP movement. Dr Mathai and Soukya staff were not reachable when TOI tried contacting them. In Australia, King Charles interacted with a 10,000-plus crowd that had come to see him in the backdrop of the Sydney Opera House.

Customs duty cut, slash MRP of 3 cancer drugs, pharma cos told

New Delhi: The govt has asked pharmaceutical companies to pass on the benefits of customs duty exemptions and GST reductions on three anti-cancer drugs to consumers by lowering prices. In line with govt's commitment to ensure the availability of drugs at affordable prices, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority directed manufacturers to reduce the MRP on the anti-cancer drugs - Trastuzumab, Osimertinib and Durlavalumab. This is in pursuance to a Budget announcement on exempting these medicines from customs duty, the ministry of chemicals and fertilisers said. The department of revenue issued a notification dated July 23 reducing the customs duty on the drugs to nil. "Accordingly, there should be a reduction in MRP of these drugs in the market and benefits of reduced taxes and duties should be passed on to the consumers." TNN

PM: Historic Diwali in Ayodhya as Ram in temple after 500 yrs

Launches Infra Projects Worth Nearly ₹13k Cr



Preparations are on in full swing as 25 lakh diyas will be lit along the banks of the Sarayu during 'Deepotsav' in Ayodhya

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Tuesday said Diwali will be historic this year as after a 500-year wait, thousands of lamps will be lit on the festival in the temple built at the birthplace of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya. Modi made the remarks after launching development projects worth nearly Rs 12,850 crore and extending his govt's flagship health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above. "Many of us have seen many Diwalis, but this Diwali is historic," Modi said. An idol of Ram Lalla was consecrated at the Ayodhya temple in Jan this year. "Such an opportunity

has come after 500 years... when thousands of lamps will be lit in the temple of Ram Lalla built at his birthplace in Ayodhya... This will be such a Deepavali, when our Ram has returned to his home once again. And, this time, the wait has not been of 14 years, but of 500 years," the PM added. Legend has it that Diwali is the day Lord Ram, the eldest son of king Dashrath of Ayodhya, his wife Sita Devi and brother Lakshman returned to their homeland after 14 years in exile. The people of Ayodhya illuminated the kingdom with diyas (earthen lamps) and fireworks to celebrate their return. Earlier, Modi addressed a 'Rozgar Mela' and distributed appointment letters for govt jobs to more than 51,000 people. There, he said, this will be the first Diwali when Lord Ram is seated in his grand temple in Ayodhya. He said several generations have waited for this Diwali, while many have "sacrificed their lives".

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