



## Enjoy 'French fries' with Indian potatoes soon

The Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI), Shimla, has released a new potato variety Kufri Frysona. This is the first ever potato variety from India suitable for preparation of French fries. The trials conducted on the variety have shown its suitability for cultivation in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. The variety produces long tubers having more than 20% dry matter.

The breeder seeds will be either by the state or committee. However, its as diseasefree in-vitro will be available to year.

Potato production was advent of several new high-Kufri Pushkar for the entire Indo-for Uttar Pradesh, Kufri Surya for warmer areas like Karnataka and Maharashtra. Looking at the estimated demand of nearly 50 million tonne (mt) of potato by 2020, for a population of 1.3 billion, these varieties would help meet the requirement.



produced after it is notified central variety release quality seed as well planting material farmers from next

increasing with the yielding varieties like Gangetic belt, Kufri Sadabahar

It is estimated that by 2010-11, nearly 10% of the total potato produced in the country will be consumed by the processing industry, which at present is merely 4.5%. This will provide good returns to the farmers on one hand and will also absorb excess supplies during a glut.

## 4 Things you probably never knew your mobile phone could do

**1. Emergency:** If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile; network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly this number 112 can be dialled even if the keypad is locked. 112 is the Emergency Number worldwide.



**2. Have you locked your keys in the car?** Does your car have remote keyless entry? This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone: If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their mobile phone from your cell phone. Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other 'remote' for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk).

**3. Hidden Battery Power:** Imagine your mobile battery is very low. To activate, press the keys \*3370# your mobile will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your mobile next time.

**4. How to disable a STOLEN mobile phone?** To check your Mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone: \* # 0 6 #. A 15 digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. When your phone gets stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody does this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones.

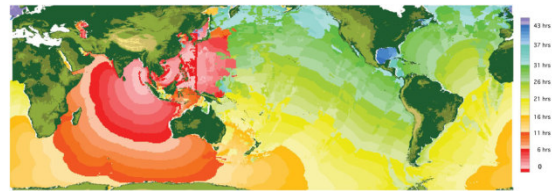
### ATM - PIN Number Reversal - Good to Know

If you should ever be forced by a robber to withdraw money from an ATM machine, you can notify the police by entering your PIN # in reverse. For example, if your pin number is 1234, then you would put in 4321. The ATM system recognizes that your PIN number is backwards from the ATM card you placed in the machine. The machine will still give you the money you requested, but unknown to the robber, the police will be immediately dispatched to the location. This information was recently broadcast on CTV by Crime Stoppers, however, it is seldom used because people just don't know about it.

Source: internet

## India's tsunami warning system one of the most modern'

India's Tsunami Warning System, using geo spatial system, is one of the most advanced in the world and can sound a warning not only to coastal districts in the country, but also other nations in the Indian Ocean. Addressing the 26th Convocation of Gandhigram Rural University here, Shailesh Nayak, Secretary in the ministry, said the state-of-the-art warning centre with all necessary computational and communication infrastructure had been established to enable reception of real time data from the Network of National and International Seismic Stations. A Tsunami bulletin is generated within 15 minutes of occurrence of an earthquake. Based on decision support rules, the bulletin is released to the authorities for action. The centre provides round the clock service.



Arrival Time of First Waves (sec) - 2004 12 26 Indian Ocean Tsunami Simulation

**Source:** [www.zeenews.com](http://www.zeenews.com)

## ePod to help rural students with studies

A tiny device, almost a look-alike of popular iPhone except for its larger screen, promises to bring about a paradigm shift in the way education is imparted in government-owned schools in rural areas. Called the ePod, the hand-held device aims to make available the fruits of the latest computing technology in the hands of millions of students.

Manufactured by Tidaldata, a storage devices company, based in California, the ePod had become a rage with the students in the US in 2008.



Nagaraj, 12, a student of Class 8 in the Government School in Sakalvara, a sleepy village nestled in the backyards of India's Silicon city, Bangalore, is happy using it. At evenings after school he just scrolls the screen for the day's lessons captured in video formats. He is one of the 30 children at the village who has been given the ePod.

Sakalvara village was the first place in the country where the ambitious project was launched last month by the local Rotary Club. Thirty ePODs, each costing about Rs 4,000 were distributed by the school's principal, says the journal Technology Review. Tidaldata is working with civil society groups and NGOs to reach out to thousands of school children in the country.

The lightweight device has a simple interface and can store up to 700 hours of video content. As availability of electricity to power the machine is a problem, the design has been tweaked to work on solar power. Every school in India where these devices will be distributed will also have solar panels to provide power outlets, as part of the project.

**Source:** [www.zeenews.com](http://www.zeenews.com)

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