



Piaggio Vehicles launches Apé NXT+ : The Mileage Ka Raja

Pune (Voice news service):- Piaggio Vehicles Pvt Ltd (PVPL), a 100% subsidiary of the Italian Piaggio Group and India's leading manufacturer of small commercial vehicles today launched an innovative new product in the Passenger Segment – the all new Apé NXT+.

The Apé NXT+ is a high mileage three-wheeler giving an Industry Best Fuel Efficiency of upto 50km/KG for the CNG version. The indigenously researched and developed vehicle is equipped with very stylish aesthetic elements which provide it a contemporary and refreshed look compared to other brand offerings in the industry.

Piaggio is the only fuel agnostic three-wheeler brand in India with a product portfolio in Petrol, Diesel, CNG, LPG and Electric for both



cargo and passenger segment.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Diego Graffi, Chairman & MD, Piaggio India Pvt. Ltd. said, "At Piaggio, we are thrilled to launch another three-wheeler passenger vehicle with CNG, LPG and Petrol fuel variants. The rising demand of alternate fuel options and the need to control pollution is giving an impetus to CNG powered vehicles.

The Government of India is

taking path breaking steps to promote alternate fuel options, which in turn is also helping OEMs like us to innovate with our product portfolio to cater to larger customers.

The new Apé NXT+ is designed and developed in India for the Indian market and will also be exported to markets overseas. With the launch of this Apé NXT+ we aim to further strengthen our position in the alternate fuel segment space."

Mr. Saju Nair, EVP and Head Domestic Business CV (ICE) & Retail Finance, Piaggio India Pvt Ltd. said, "Piaggio is proud to include Apé NXT+ to its diverse fleet of three-wheeler cargo and passenger vehicles.

The Apé NXT+ has been developed after thorough research and extensive customer feedback. With the increase in the fuel costs, we understood our customers' need for higher mileage with cost saving approach

and, therefore, Apé NXT+ was born. This new Apé provides the highest in class fuel efficiency, higher comfort, and more space with minimal maintenance costs. Apé NXT+ comes with contemporary design elements which makes it the most stylish product on offer. The 3-valve technology engine is designed for powerful pick-up and exceptional driving experience.

We certainly believe that with the CNG network increasing in many cities in India, the Apé NXT+ will help us deliver that extra value to the customers who have been looking for a new CNG product in the market."

The Apé NXT+ comes at an attractive introductory Ex-showroom pricing of Rs. 2,35,811 onwards for the CNG variant and is available at all Piaggio Authorized dealerships across India.

Samsung India Launches Galaxy M13 Series with RAM Plus, Auto Data Switching



Pune (Voice news service):- Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, announced the launch of Galaxy M13 5G and Galaxy M13 today.

The latest additions to the popular Galaxy M series promise unprecedented style and unmatched experiences to meet the needs of aspirational Gen-Z consumers. Galaxy M series is one of Samsung's most popular smartphone brands in India, selling over 42 million units in the country since its launch in 2019, according to

Counterpoint Research.

"Galaxy M series is a testament of Samsung's commitment to enhance the lives of our consumers. Since its launch in 2019, Galaxy M series has garnered the love of millions of consumers. To take forward Galaxy M legacy, we are launching Galaxy M13 series in India.

Galaxy M13 5G comes with 11 5G Band support, making consumers ready for the future. With segment-leading features like Auto Data Switching, 12GB RAM with RAM Plus

and massive 6000mAh battery, Galaxy M13 series is set to deliver 'More than a Monster' performance," said - Aditya Babbar, Senior Director and Head, Product Marketing, Samsung India.

More than a Monster Performance, More than a Monster Connectivity, More than a Monster Power, More than a Monster Display, More than a Monster 50MP Camera, More than a Monster Security, More than a Monster Design. More Variants, Price and Availability: Galaxy M13 5G is priced at INR 13999 for 4GB+64GB variant and INR 15999 for 6GB+128GB variant while Galaxy M13 is available for INR 11999 for 4GB+64GB variant and INR 13999 for 6GB+128GB variant. Additionally, as part of special launch offer, ICICI Bank card users can avail instant discount of INR 1000. Galaxy M13 5G and Galaxy M13 will be available on Samsung.com, Amazon and select retail stores starting July 23.

Logo of BIAG Drone Race & Drone Weightlifting Championship unveiled at Pune

MIT Academy of Engineering to host the championship from 28th - 30th July



Pune (Voice news service):- The logo and colour of the T-Shirts for upcoming BIAG Drone Race & Drone Weightlifting Championship were unveiled at an event at Deccan Gymkhana Club.

The logo was unveiled in presence of presidential board members of BIAG Prof. Anil Sahastrabudde. Chairman AICTE , Prof K.K Agarwal Chairman NBA , Dr Amita Dev, Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women, Government of Delhi, Lt. Gen K.J. Singh, Member Presidential Board and an Ex Indian Army Commander, Prof K.V. Kale VC SPPU, Prof. Sandeep Sanchit V.C Marwadi University, Rajkot, Gujarat , Dr Velraj VC Anna University, Dr Ranjana Bhaskar Scientist ZSI, Dr Sitharam Director

IIT Guwahati , Mr Sampath Vice President & CEO - Defence & Aerospace, Adani Group & Prof Karisiddappa VC VTU Bangalore who were present virtually along with Mr Ashu Gupta, Executive Director, BIAG and President, Organizing Committee & Director MITAOE, Dr Mahesh Goudar.

The championship is being hosted by MIT Academy of Engineering from 28-30 July 2022.

The competitions being organised includes

- 1) Drone Race (Nano/Mini) (500 gm Drone + 300 gm Batteries = Total 800 gm.)
- 2) Drone Weightlifting (1.5 kg including Batteries.)

In Drone Racing, the participants will have to go through some obstacles without crashing or without touching the obstacles which are in the

form of squares, Rectangle, Cross Fitted Square, and circle-shaped objects.

The obstacles in the arena will necessitate the participants to manoeuvre the drones horizontally as well as vertically.

For Drone Weight lifting the participants will have to lift objects of certain dimensions and carry them up and down and take a circular turn and put the piece at the desired location.

The intercollegiate competition will have teams with one to five members each. Undergraduate students of any stream (Technical & Nontechnical) are eligible to participate.

Mr Ashu Gupta, Executive Director, BIAG, India informed that the Board of International Aviation Games, India is an integral part of ASFU has designed a series of various projects and now starting activities in India for the youths, as suggested by the World federation for India which includes Computer sports,

(AI, Robotics & UAV and soon adding more). Those who are triumphant in these competitions will get to participate in forthcoming international & world UAV/ Drone championships in coming time.

Prof K.K Agarwal Chairman NBA said that drones are an emerging technology and the competition will give students an experience of how new technology can be used to solve common problems. This is an apt example of 'Learn by doing, fun by doing'

Prof. Anil Sahastrabudde, Member, Board of Directors, BIAG and President, AICTE, said that the use of technical knowledge in such competitions would also help the students to know the importance of teamwork.

Also such competitions will help students to learn the importance of management and skill development.

SPPU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Karbhari V. Kale thanked BIAG for organizing such a national level event in Pune and appealed to all colleges in Pune to participate in it.

Dr Mahesh Goudar, Director, MIT AOE, Pune, said that around 50 teams from in and around Pune are expected to participate.

Syngenta India kicks off 10,000 km Drone Yatra; To educate farmers on drone spraying across 13 states



Pune (Voice news service):- Terming technology as next big driver of agriculture, Syngenta India on Friday announced a unique Biodiversity Sensor Project, world's first biodiversity monitoring technology, featuring a centralized, biodiversity data repository that can be shared and tracked, with the goal of accelerating the accuracy of biodiversity measurements across the planet.

Country Head & MD of Syngenta India Susheel Kumar and Chief Information & Digital Officer, Syngenta Group Feroz Sheikh announced this breakthrough Make in India innovation to tackle global agriculture problem. The two leaders also flagged off India's first Drone Yatra, that will travel 10,000 kms to create awareness on drone spraying among 10,000 farmers. The Yatra will travel to 13 states to demonstrate and educate farmers on use of drones. Syngenta is first private company to get approval from Central Insecticide Board, Government of India to use drones for spraying of its product Amistar on paddy to protect the crops against fungal infections, Blast & Sheath Blight.

"Use of drones, and a host of other technology-led innovations, are in keeping with our commitment to help Indian farmers improve their yield, increase their profitability and grow more sustainably. For 94 years of our existence in India, we have been at the forefront of innovation, and served Indian farmers with quality crop protection products, seeds and solutions that are produced entirely in India for India," said Kumar.

Kumar further informed, "We believe through partnerships with the best-in-class research institutions like Indian Institute of Technology we will be able to

identify, develop and scale a series of innovative, breakthrough transformations in the agriculture sector. Through these partnerships with research and academia, we also wish to bring in young talents to pursue the field of agriculture which will enable the world's farmers to increase yields while increasing environmental sustainability".

Syngenta Global also announced a collaboration with IIT Ropar iHub - AWAADH. "We wish to work together in a collaborative manner to pursue the development and commercialisation of products in agriculture and water to solve global and local problems in agriculture," informed Sheikh.

"We are happy to partner with Syngenta to contribute in designing technological solutions for farming community," said Pushpendra P Singh, Associate Professor - Experimental Nuclear Physics Dean, DST Technology Innovation Hub - AwaADH (Agriculture and Water Technology Hub) and Associate Dean (R & D). IIT Ropar and Syngenta will be engaging in future internship programs, research and develop new technologies and explore the grower problems in India, Singh added further.

Outlining other India-centric innovations, Kumar announced that Syngenta India will soon launch a Grower App that gives digital agronomy advice for nine

crops including cotton, wheat, vegetables, rice and maize in multiple languages. It is a unique app, which digitally empowers small holders.

Kumar informed that "the Grower App will consist of a personalized crop calendar based on farmer's sowing date, planting method, planting material, and soil nutrition status; weather-based advisory or alerts; nutrient recommendations; image-based disease diagnostic model; and an interactive community platform where farmers can share their stories and queries to be answered by experts."

"The app is built using our Cropwise technology platform, and tailored to India, and with that we are bringing our global innovation in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to create benefits for the Indian farmers," informed Sheikh.

Syngenta is committed to tackling the global challenge of feeding the world while respecting the earth. "We've been investing \$1.4 billion a year in R&D, and we have about 6,500 employees working in R&D globally. One of our primary goals is to identify, develop and scale a series of innovative, breakthrough transformations that will enable the world's farmers to increase yields while increasing environmental sustainability — including the enhancement of biodiversity," added Sheikh.

Tata Motors extends the Nexon portfolio with XM+ (S) variant

Pune (Voice news service):- Celebrating its leadership position in the SUV segment, Tata Motors, India's leading automotive brand, today introduced a new variant enriching the Nexon portfolio - the XM+(S). Placed between the XM (S) and the XZ+, this newest addition is loaded with features and will be available at an attractive starting price of INR. 9.75 lakhs (ex-showroom, Delhi). Available in Calgary White, Daytona Grey, Flame Red and Foliage Green colour options, the Nexon XM+(S) will come equipped with an electric sunroof, 7" floating infotainment system with android auto and apple car play, 4 speaker system, cooled glove box, rear AC vents, rain sensing wipers, auto headlamps, digital instrument cluster, multi drive modes, 12 V rear power socket and a shark fin antenna.

According to Mr. Rajan Amba, Vice President, Sales, Marketing and Customer Care, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd., "We are elated to witness the continued affinity of our consumers with the Nexon brand.

The upward trajectory of

Nexon sales in the country is backed by its immense popularity, recognition and our promise to deliver the best to the customers. With more than 3,50,000 Nexons on the road, it has successfully marked its place as the #1 SUV in India and has undoubtedly been the flagbearer of Tata Motors' commitment to safety, paving the way for other segment-defining products from our stable. Taking this momentum ahead, we are happy to introduce the feature-rich XM+(S) variant, which will certainly diversify our Nexon portfolio further and draw newer customers to our showrooms."

Recently featured as the 4th top-selling car in India, the Nexon has multiple awards to its name. Launched in 2017, the Nexon has stood the test of time with best in class safety, stunning design and top rated performance along with aspirational and segment-defining feature additions. With 33 petrol and 29 diesel variants on offer for the customers to choose from, the Nexon portfolio stands strong with a total of 62 variants, catering to a wide spectrum of consumer needs.

Vitesco Technologies inaugurates its plant of the future at Talegaon, Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- Vitesco Technologies, a leading international manufacturer of modern drive technologies and electrification solutions, on Friday inaugurated its plant of the future at Talegaon, Pune. Klaus Hau, Member of the Executive Board at Vitesco Technologies, and Anurag Garg, Managing Director & Country Head of Vitesco Technologies India Private Limited attended the event.

The all-new facility is spread across 20 acres and contains more than 17,580 m2 of manufacturing space, including over 900 employees. The first series of productions will be for the two-wheeler market, followed by various Powertrain Solutions products such as engine management systems, sensors, and actuators, as well as exhaust management compo-



nents for passenger cars and commercial vehicles.

The company will concentrate its efforts at this facility on the growing demand for highly efficient, low-emission technologies for internal combustion engines, as well as electrified and all-electric drive systems.

"Building this factory was a major milestone for Vitesco Technologies, allowing us to provide better value to our clients in the Indian market," said Klaus Hau, Member of the Executive Board, Vitesco Technologies, during the inauguration event. He continued by stating that India plays a central part in our global growth strategy.

The country's automotive industry is currently undergoing what is possibly the most significant transformation in its history. The objective is to achieve a twin technological transformation: from fossil



fuels to renewable energy, and from analogue - to - digital technology. We embrace this transformation and have already begun to design our strategic course. Also, with the new facility, we will be able to better respond to market demands and developments in the future.

Anurag Garg, Managing Director & Country Head of Vitesco Technologies India Private Limited said: "Our mission is to develop highly efficient, low-emission technologies for all types of vehicles in India. For this, we build a futuristic plant, one that is intelligent, sustainable, and predictive. With these key characteristics, we were able to construct this plant of the future in Pune. Several creative projects have been completed at this facility. These projects

Truecaller announced the launch of Open Doors



Pune (Voice news service):- Truecaller, the world's leading global communications platform, today launched a brand new app for safe, secure and private audio conversations: Open Doors.

The app is a labour of love, built over many months by a dedicated international team.

After building Truecaller that safeguards people in their digital lives, and the free app Guardians for personal safety, the Swedish company is now setting sights on a new target: enabling fun, impromptu, global private conversations. Open Doors will be completely free to use and

available globally on the Google Play Store & Apple App Store.

The app works seamlessly across both smartphone platforms.

"Thanks to Truecaller being 13 years in the business, we've spent a great deal of time learning about how people communicate. said Nami Zarringhalam, Co-founder of True Software Scandinavia AB. Our new app Open Doors was born out of a simple question - how can we help people make new connections without being intrusive? And this is what we want to do: to bridge the world using the most natural form of communication, our voices."



Top 10 songs to listen to this monsoon on Wynk Music

Pune (Voice news service):- Airtel's Wynk Music, India's #1 music streaming app, today announced the top 10 monsoon songs across languages which people are listening to on the Wynk Music App. The top 10 Marathi songs that India is listening to since monsoon started on the Wynk Music app are

'Kadhi Tu RimjimzaraNari', 'Man Dhundpavsaali', 'Pos Hatujhania Maza', 'Mala Pavasanbhajavala', 'Jhunjunmunjur', 'Chimibhajaale', 'Dhan Aaj Baarse', 'Tum Phir se phir se payasa', 'Rimjimrimjim', 'Unaadpaasmi'. Users are listening to the content in their regional languages such as Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Oriya and Malayalam, hence

driving the popularity of the Wynk Music app. Nuvvosthanante is the top Telugu song, Pudhu Velai Mazhai is the top Tamil song, Mungaru Maleye is the top Kannada song, Pavizha Mazha is the top Malayalam song, and Kadhi Tu Rimzim Zaranari is the most popular Marathi song. As of November 2021, Wynk Music had

Ultimate Kho Kho inaugural season to kick off from August 14 in Pune

Multi-Language broadcast on Sony Sports Network and SonyLIV



Pune (Voice news service):- The much-awaited opening season of the Ultimate Kho Kho will roll out on Sunday, August 14 in Pune, where six teams will engage in gripping action that will culminate with the title clash on September 4. India's first-ever franchise-based professional Kho-Kho league will host its matches at the sprawling Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Pune. The inaugural season will witness six teams in the shape and form

of Chennai Quick Guns (KLO Sports), Gujarat Giants (Adani Sportstline), Mumbai Khiladis (Badshah & Punit Balan), Odisha Juggernauts (Government of Odisha), Rajasthan Warriors (Capri Global) and Telugu Yoddhas (GMR Sports) competing for the inaugural season over 21 days.

Promoted by Mr. Amit Burman, Chairman Dabur India, in collaboration with the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI), the league aims to revolutionize this indigenous sport with a modern twist both on-air & on-ground. Ultimate Kho Kho CEO, Mr. Tenzing Niyogi said, "We would like to thank all our Six Team Owners and Sony Sports Network, who have shown their support and faith in our vision as Ultimate Kho Kho. Our objective has always been to transform Kho Kho and bring forth the new



avatar in front of the masses of India to make our country a multi-sport nation". A total of 34 matches will be played with two matches per day in Season 1, during the league stage. The knockout matches will be played in an exciting playoff format which will consist of a qualifier and eliminator matches. The Live broadcast will begin at 7:00 pm (IST) and continue until 10:00 pm (IST) on each match day. The revamped format of Ultimate Kho Kho promises to be

an exciting and engaging game for not only the Kho Kho players but also sports enthusiasts and viewers. India's leading sports broadcasting network, Sony Sports Network will take the LIVE nail-biting action of Ultimate Kho Kho to the living rooms of the viewers and fans as the official broadcasters for the league. Ultimate Kho Kho will be LIVE on Hindi (SonyTEN 3), English (SonyTEN 1), Tamil, and Telugu (SonyTEN 4) and be available on SonyLIV.

Chhota Bheem to be manufactured in India by Funkskool



Pune (Voice news service):- Funkskool India Ltd., India's leading domestic toy manufacturer has made a landmark move by acquiring the license to manufacture and distribute the popular action figure Chhota Bheem and other seven characters from the famed cartoon animation series. Funkskool has obtained the license to launch the series of action figures from Green Gold Licensing & Merchandising India Private Limited. Green Gold Animation, a

pioneer in creating original Indian animation content has over the years transcended and established as a prominent player in Licensing & Merchandising, Movie Production & Distribution, Digital Business, Retail Stores and Events. Chhota Bheem, the famous cartoon animation character has always struck a chord with Indian Children and Funkskool through the manufacturing of the Chhota Bheem & Friends action figures in India has once again

proved that India is moving towards being "Atma Nirbar" in manufacturing of quality toys. Funkskool has been leading the way in pro-actively and consciously choosing to promote the Make-In-India programme and the acquisition of Chhota Bheem & Friends has been a step in the right direction. Commenting on the latest launch, R Jeswant, CEO - Funkskool India Ltd., said, "We are excited to add Chhota Bheem to our well es-

tablished manufacturing and distribution capabilities. Our existing scale and distribution network establishes an ideal platform to achieve the full potential of Chhota Bheem in India and will address the significant unmet needs of the portfolio of products." Samir Jain, Executive Director & COO - Green Gold Animation Private Limited., said, "When it comes to manufacturing high quality and toxin free toys for children, there is no substitute for Funkskool in India. We are immensely pleased with licensing Funkskool India with manufacturing and distributing Chhota Bheem and other 7 action figures. With its expansive distribution network prowess, we are confident that Chhota Bheem Action figures will reach to every child in the country".

JAGUAR TCS RACING AIMING FOR FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK



Pune (Voice news service):- Jaguar TCS Racing's driver line-up have seen success in New York previously with Mitch Evans scoring a podium finish in 2019 and Sam Bird storming to victory from pole position last year in Brooklyn, his third victory in New York. The New York City E-Prix hosts one of the shorter tracks at just 2.3 km long but with sharp, tight corners, walls either side and varying tarmac and camber, it provides an exciting challenge for the team. Jaguar TCS Racing are fourth in the teams' standings with 156 points while in the drivers' standings, Mitch Evans is

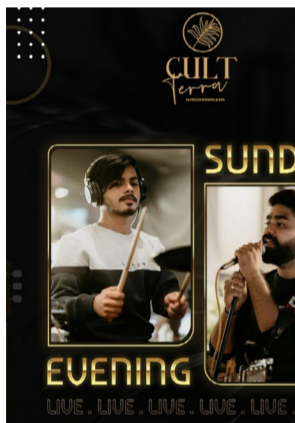
fourth just fifteen points behind the leader and Sam Bird is twelfth. James Barclay, Jaguar TCS Racing Team Principal: "The New York City E-Prix is a real Formula E street circuit in one of the most iconic cities in the world. In the past it has seen thrilling racing and an excellent spectacle for the fans. As a team we enjoy racing stateside and we have seen success in the past with a brilliant comeback win from Sam last year and a podium finish for Mitch in 2019. The streets of Brooklyn provide a unique challenge for all teams but we're looking forward to returning to the track and we are hard at work to try and deliver another strong points haul." Mitch Evans, Jaguar TCS Racing driver #9: "New York is one of my favourite tracks on the race calendar. We've achieved some great results

here and seen some incredible racing action. Last year a very late brush with the wall compromised what was looking to be a really strong result. This year I'm coming back even more focused and determined to push for a podium result again. The championship fight is on, so we need to maximise every opportunity." Sam Bird, Jaguar TCS Racing driver #10: "I'm really excited to head back to New York; it's a circuit I've performed really well at in the past with three wins in total including last year. It's always a demanding weekend in New York but I'm looking forward to the challenge and hopefully another strong result for the team." Phil Charles, Jaguar TCS Racing Technical Manager: "The New York City E-Prix takes place on a prime example of a street track. It has a plethora of tight and twisty sections



where the walls are ready to catch you out if you make any small error. On top of that, being that it's not a permanent venue, there is significant track evolution throughout the race weekend. You need to push pretty much right from the off if you want to be really in the groove by the time of qualifying where the brave are rewarded. The races normally give plenty of excitement too with lots of overtaking and batteries nearing their temperature limit towards the end." Rounds eleven and twelve of the 2022 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship will take place on Saturday 16 July and Sunday 17 July at 13:00 EDT.

Bring in the Weekend Vibe at The Cult (Terra & House)!



Pune (Voice news service):- Get ready for the weekend bash at The Cult. Enjoy some melodic tunes and dancing music to dance on this weekend for the perfect vibe. Enjoy the Thursday Acoustic live evening with Shivangi and Vicky on 14th July, 7 pm onwards. Come with your gang to dance at The Cult's Soiree featuring DJ Jacky and a sup-

ported act by Shroull on 15th July, 7 pm onwards. Saturday night calls for some BollyDhoom session. Cult presents Deni D Mor and VJ Rafta on 16th July, 7 pm onwards. End your weekend with a perfect note some Sufi rock-funk retro lives singing with the FiratLive band. This Sunday 17th July, 7 pm onwards.

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Earth Films gets Silver Remi Award at The Houston International Film Festival

Pune (Voice news service):- Earth Films' mega production - 'The Tails of Boo-Boo & Cuddly Poo' are turning heads everywhere. After earning citations at the latest editions of the Dada Saheb Phalke Film Festival and the Kalakari Film Festival, the documentary has now gone beyond boundaries - more specifically to Houston, USA - to win a WorldFest Silver Remi Award for Film & Video Productions in the Category 'Animal Welfare'. A galaxy of celebrities weighed in on the project, including actors, musicians, stand-up comedians and influencers. The project at-

tracted the likes of Shradha Kapoor, Jim Sarbh, Amrita Puri, Samir Kochhar, Shibani Dandekar, Cyrus Broacha, Maria Goretti Warsi, Sapna Bhavnani, Shaheen Bhatt, Anushka Manchanda, Atul Khatri, Abhishek Upmanyu and Scherezade Shroff, amongst several others. Animal lovers, all! Speaking on her experience, Bollywood star Shradha Kapoor said: "I loved being a part of the documentary and hope this brings awareness to the plight of stray animals especially since the monsoons are coming up. Shyloh is such an integral part of my life and I can't imagine my life with-

out her, I would want everyone to have that happiness in their life." The honour came at the 55th Annual WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival recently. The oldest independent film festival in the world, WorldFest-Houston helped legendary moviemakers like Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, Ang Lee, Ridley Scott and Oliver Stone find their way into the spotlight by conferring them with their very first awards. Founded in 1961, the festival evolved into a competitive, global format in 1968. Ever since, it has been the platform for independent filmmakers

from all around the world to showcase their creative brilliance. The 10-day festival attracts over 4500 entries from more than 75 countries every year. By winning a Silver Remi at WorldFest-Houston, The Tails of Boo-Boo & Cuddly Poo has laid down a significant marker. A quirky take on a very serious matter, the film attempts to sensitize society to the plight of stray animals by deftly training the spotlight on cruelty, abandonment, rescue and love. The entire project ran pro bono, with every single person - in front of or behind the camera.

Players showcase exciting format of Ultimate Kho Kho in exhibition match ahead of players draft

Pune (Voice news service):- In an exhibition match held on Thursday at the Balewadi Stadium in Pune, Ultimate Kho Kho provided franchisees with a glimpse into what lies ahead for indigenous sport Kho-Kho as it prepares for a major transformation. An all-out battle of Kho Kho, a new avatar of the game, electrified the entire stadium. Ultimate Kho Kho is the professional Kho-Kho league, promoted by Dabur Group Chairman Amit Burman in collaboration with the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI). Six teams representing Odisha, Gujarat, Chennai, Mumbai, Telangana, and Rajasthan will play in the inaugural season of Ultimate Kho Kho from August 14 to September 4. Ultimate Kho Kho CEO Tenzing

Niyogi said, "Bringing the best talent together to showcase their skills on such a global platform is in itself a big task. However, at Ultimate Kho Kho we have diligently worked with our partners to identify, nurture, and present them today in front of all our esteemed franchisees. To put up an exhibition match like this has never been done before, and we are the first to show-

case a few gems in front of everyone to preview a thrilling and exciting 21 days ahead, which is set to air next month onwards. As owners get a preview of the season ahead, they would definitely be able to make a balanced team by picking players wisely based on skills, stats, and feedback from coaches during player drafts scheduled for this afternoon."

The level of energy, quick reflex actions, and overall format of the match won everyone's hearts. Despite coming from different regions and backgrounds, the players in the squad shared the same passion. Players will be drafted today evening from a pool of 240 registered players, and each franchise will have to pick a minimum of 20 players from the eligible lot. This draft will begin the new era for the Indian Kho-Kho with the much-needed professional touch. The official broadcaster of the Ultimate Kho Kho, Sony Sports Network, will bring the LIVE action to you. Ultimate Kho Kho will be telecast on Hindi (SonyTEN 3), English (SonyTEN 1), Tamil, and Telugu (SonyTEN 4) and be available on SonyLIV.

FOOD & RESTURANT

A Sizzle-licious July at DoubleTree by Hilton Pune-Chinchwad as they host a 'Sizzler and Pizza Pop Up food festival!



Pune (Voice news service):- Whether you're an ardent fan of the monsoons or not, there is one thing that brings everyone together during this season and that is indulging in some soulful, piping hot comforting meals with their loved ones. The monsoons have finally set in, and this July DoubleTree by Hilton Pune-Chinchwad is super stoked to welcome you all to their 'Sizzler and Pizza Pop Up' food festival!

With the slight nip in the air, sumptuous sizzlers and piping hot pizzas sound like a perfect comfort treat. The smoke swirling in the air and the sound of that sizzle off the sizzling hot iron plate loaded with wholesome veggies, meat, rice, etc. is a feast to the eyes as well as the stomach. The chef and his team of culinary experts have curated some lip smacking dishes which will satiate all your cravings this monsoon. You can explore options such as the Nasi Goreng - an Indonesian street style fried rice, prawn Crackers, chicken satay salad and sambal sauce, Lamb Shank Tagine - Confit lamb shanks served with chickpea stew and couscous pilaf, Barbequed Cottage Cheese Steak - Cottage cheese served with herbed rice pilaf

Enjoy a perfect evening to chill along with Unlimited Liquid Buffet starting INR 1499*
Immerse yourself in the intense fusion of Food, Love and Laughter from 15th July 7:30pm onwards only at DoubleTree by Hilton Pune Chinchwad. To know more call us at +91 84110 32434

and Corn on the Cob, and much more in sizzlers. Not just that, but you can also indulge in some thin crust pizzas such as Pizza Ala Funghi - Assorted mushrooms, mozzarella, tomato sauce, truffle oil, Pizza Calzone - Tomato, buffalo mozzarella, pesto and basil, etc. in veg and Fruite de Mer - Seafood, mozzarella and tomato sauce, Pizza pepperoni, Barbequed Chicken, and much more in the non-veg.

The options at this delectable food festival are simply too irresistible to miss out on. Gather your close ones and head to DoubleTree by Hilton Pune-Chinchwad this July to relish some delicious, wholesome preparations and be delighted by taste, sight, and aroma! DATE: 15th July Onwards, TIME: 7:00 pm-11:00 pm, VENUE: Alfresco, DoubleTree by Hilton Pune-Chinchwad

Ultimate Kho Kho Mumbai franchise announce Team Name and Head Coach

Pune (Voice news service):- The Ultimate Kho Kho Mumbai franchise announced its team name - Mumbai Khiladis and also their Head Coach - Rajendra Sapte for the upcoming Ultimate Kho Kho 2022 on Tuesday. Rajendra Sapte has enormous experience in Kho Kho coaching with 21 years of service. He started his coaching journey in Ratnagiri district and has

worked with several players, who have participated in Sub Junior, Junior, Senior State Level, National as well as All India University Tournaments. Sapte was also the coach of the Indian Men's Team, which won the Gold Medal at the 3rd Asian Championship in April 2016 and the International Kho Kho Championship in 2018. Speaking about being appointed as the Head Coach, Sapte said, "I

am very excited to be the Head Coach of the Mumbai Khiladis. I think the Ultimate Kho Kho will be a revolution for Kho Kho and it will inspire many youngsters to take up the sport. The Ultimate Kho Kho will also provide a fantastic platform for the current Kho Kho players in India." Punit Balan expressed, "It's an absolute honour to have Rajendra Sapte as our team's coach. He is a very successful Kho Kho coach and I am certain that his experience will be very handy for our team."

Meanwhile Rapper Badshah said "Mumbai has always been known for its fantastic sports culture and therefore we wanted to show the spirit of sports in Mumbai by naming the team Mumbai Khiladis. I am sure our team will give it their best in every match."

Chouhan, Rakshitta took the lead after five rounds at MPL 51st National Junior Open (Under-19) & 36th National Junior (Under-19) Girls Chess Championships 2022



Pune (Voice news service):- Vrashank Chouhan of Rajasthan and International Master Rakshitta Ravi of Tamil Nadu emerged sole leaders in the boys and the girls category at the end of

the fifth round at the MPL 51st National Junior Open (Under-19) & 36th National Junior (Under-19) Girls Chess Championships 2022 being organized by Pune District Chess Circle in association with Maharashtra Chess Association Under the aegis of All India Chess Federation and sponsored by AICF's Official National Championships Sponsor

MPL, Amanora and h2e Systems and played at the PYC Hindu Gymkhana, Pune. Chouhan and Ravi won all their matches till the end of the fifth round to ensure 5 points. In the Major Upset of Round 5 Gujarati's Dhyey Agarwal upset International Master VS Raahul of Tamilnadu. Raahul played a very fine



game in Exchange variation of French Defense and was having the better position. Until he blundered on move number 21 resulting in Back Rank checkmate. The game ended in 23 moves.

SOS Children's Villages of India facilitates productive employability for 154 youth (2021), in Pune, through skilling



Pune (Voice news service):- SOS Children's Villages of India, India's largest self-implementing child-care NGO, SOS Children's Villages of India, has facilitated productive employability for 154 youth (2021), in Pune, through skilling. Youth, across the country, have been assisted with employability in a wide variety of domains like Digital Marketing, Computer Applications, Financial Accounting, Engineering, Nursing, Nutrition, Hotel Management, Beauty Assistant, Network-

ing Administration, Supply Chain Management, Fashion Designing and Apparel Construction, to name a few. Skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling are vital, especially in post pandemic times, owing to loss of jobs; emerging jobs in the market, post the pandemic; and reduction of salaries. Education and Skilling are an important part of the Basket of Care Solutions that SOS Children's Villages of India has designed in order to deliver customised solutions to the most pressing challenges the country faces. The impetus for the initiative in India stands enhanced, also because of the country's rich demographic dividend. Under its programme, the NGO has set up Vocational Training Centres to help young people upgrade themselves with necessary skills, and has stepped in with financial support, re-skilling and up-skilling opportunities, which have facilitated employment

opportunities and better sources of income. Mr. Sumanta Kar, Secretary General, SOS Children's Villages of India, said, "In the last two years, we have witnessed a hike in unemployment rate due to the pandemic which has highly impacted vulnerable communities. SOS Children's Villages of India has been assisting youth across the country by offering necessary skill upgrades through Vocational Training courses under our skilling programme. In Pune, we witnessed an incredible response, with app. 170 youth benefiting from the programme, and over 150 youth securing productive employment in the sectors of their interest. We have received constant support from both, government bodies and corporates to train, and help with employment opportunities, allowing youth to adapt to the changing work environment."

Somnath Nimhan, a beneficiary, Youth Skilling programme, said: "Both my parents are physically challenged due to which we have faced hardships all our lives. My father sits with a weighing machine to earn a living. Struggling through the years, I somehow managed to pass class XII from a government school. I had to leave my education to support my family, but wanted to secure respectable employment, and a change for myself and my family. Through a friend, I came to know about SOS Children's Villages' s youth skilling programme, through which I was supported. I later opted for a one-year diploma course in Radiology, as a Technician, from VIVO Healthcare Institute, Pune; subsequently, I was placed part time to support my family. I am grateful to SOS Children's Villages of India for supporting me with the course."

CollegeDekho announces Assured; to address India's skilling gap in the higher education space

Pune (Voice news service):- CollegeDekho, India's largest college admissions and education services platform, has launched CollegeDekho Assured, an online learning platform offering a series of live, interactive courses across multiple streams such as technology and management. The programme aims at upskilling and enhancing the employability of India's 38.5 mn college students* while also helping those with limited access to an industry-focused curriculum. CollegeDekho Assured is designed to complement India's National Educational Policy 2020 and address the current skill gap in the higher education space. A ManGroup's report released in the year 2022 highlights that while nearly 63% of employers expect to increase their staffing levels, however, 83% of them feel it will be difficult to fill the open positions owing to a

massive talent shortage. "With 20 mn students** globally opting for both short-term and long-term online courses and over 65% of students agreeing how these digital courses are helping them understand subjects better, digital learning can play an important role in helping India achieve its Education 4.0 vision. At CollegeDekho, we and our students have already seen some phenomenal results from the courses we have designed alongside the industry experts and academia. We are optimistic that Assured will take this a notch up with courses being offered at an affordable cost alongside assured internships and jobs," said Mr. Ruchir Arora, Co-Founder & CEO, CollegeDekho. The programme will give college students access to a curated curriculum to be job-ready and flexibility to customise the course. Students will also be aided with in-

dustry-focused skills through Project-based immersive learning and real-world exposure through industry visits and its Advanced Placement Ready Courses. CollegeDekho Assured will also assist students with resume and profile building alongside 100% internship and placement assurance with top companies. In the pilot phase, 1200 students have already been placed across top organisations like Motilal Oswal, Trantor, Stratemis HR Technologies, and CloudQ. College students begin their Assured journey from the first semester onwards as spreading the 300 hours of study material across 4-6 semesters will help them better focus on their college curriculum as well as enhance their academic performance by learning from industry experts. Alongside customization of courses and flexible learning hours with CollegeDekho As-

sured, students will also get unlimited access to recorded lectures, videos, and reading materials prepared by industry experts and academia. This will help them with self-paced learning and revisions. To enable wholesome learning, students will also get live interaction sessions with the faculty members and a 24x7 operational forum for doubt clarification and discussions. Students will also be provided access to questions from previous editions of relevant exams in case they plan to apply for their masters or specialised courses. CollegeDekho receives more than 25 cr of yearly student traffic on its platforms, which is about 50% of all college searches in India. Since its beginning, the company has successfully guided more than 44 lakh students across India while securing around 70,000 admissions to various streams, colleges, and nations.

A whopping 2157 students of Aakash BYJU'S score an impressive 95 percentile and above in the first session of JEE Mains 2022

Eight students become State Toppers

Pune (Voice news service):- Marking a stupendous result in the first session of JEE mains 2022, 2,157 stellar students of Aakash BYJU'S, the national leader in test preparatory services, from across the country have inked an impressive score of 95 percentile and above. Eight remarkable students have become State toppers making the institute and their states proud by scoring an impressive 99 percentile and above. The results were announced by the National Testing Agency on Monday. This was the first out of the two Joint entrance exams for Engineering scheduled to be held this year and around 9 lakh students registered for the same from across the country. The state toppers are Dheeraj Kurukunda from Telangana, Mrinal Garg from Punjab, Hemanshu Garg from Delhi, Ashutosh Agarwal from

West Bengal, Gautam Arora from Uttarakhand, Chetan Kukreja from Himachal Pradesh, Jahnabi Roy from Maharashtra and Utkarsh Lohiya from Uttar Pradesh. The students Hemanshu, Gautam, Chetan and Utkarsh Lohiya joined Aakash BYJU'S in a two-year classroom programme to crack IIT JEE while Dheeraj, Mrinal, Ashutosh Agarwal and Jahnabi are DLP/Digital learning students. 51 students of Aakash BYJU'S have secured 100 percentile in Physics, 14 students have secured 100 percentile in Chemistry and 6 students have secured 100 percentile in Mathematics. JEE is considered the world's toughest entrance exam. The students attributed their entry into the elite list of top percentiles in JEE to their efforts in understanding the concepts, and their strict adherence to their learning schedule. "We are

grateful that Aakash BYJU'S has helped us with both. But for the content and coaching from the institute, we would not have grasped many concepts in different subjects in a short period of time," they said. Congratulating all the students, Mr. Aakash Chaudhry, Managing Director, Aakash BYJU'S, said, "We congratulate all the state toppers and the students who have scored exemplary percentiles. Their achievement speaks volumes of their hard work and dedication as well as the support of their parents and faculty at Aakash BYJU'S. We wish them all the best with their future endeavors." He added that during the pandemic-hit academic years, Aakash BYJU'S walked the extra mile to turn students into top percentile scorers in JEE. "We stepped up our digital presence to be always available for our students. We made

study materials, and question banks accessible online. We conducted several virtual motivational sessions and seminars on exam preparation and time management skills. It is heartening to see our efforts paying off, as evident from the score sheets of our students, many of whom are well on their way to get admission in a top IIT or NIT or a central government's engineering college to pursue higher studies of their choice." JEE (Main) is conducted in two sessions to give multiple opportunities for students to improve their scores. While JEE Advanced is only for admission to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), JEE Main is for admission to several National Institute of Technologies (NITs) and other centre-aided engineering colleges in India. Students must appear for JEE Main to sit for JEE Advanced.

Maharashtra Police and PETA India Displays Dozens of Seized Spiked Bits Used to Control Horses

Pune (Voice news service):- As monsoon season floods Mahabaleshwar, Matheran, and Panchgani with tourists, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India and Maharashtra police displayed over 100 seized spiked (or "thorn") bits at the collector's office in Pune on 12 July 2022, calling on everyone to enjoy their weddings and visits to the hill stations without using horses. Police had confiscated the bits - which deliberately lacerate animals' mouths - from horse owners in Kolhapur, Mahabaleshwar, Matheran, and Panchgani. It's common to use these contraptions to control horses,

including those used for wedding ceremonies, through pain, even though this violates Rule 8 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Draught and Pack Animals Rules, 1965, and the circular issued by Maharashtra's Department of Animal Husbandry, which directs authorities to enforce the ban. "Spiked bits control horses through pain, bloodying lips and tongues. They inflict psychological trauma and lifelong damage," says PETA India Advocacy Associate Natasha Ittyerah. "PETA India is urging tourists to sightsee without harming animals and asking everyone to leave horses out of

weddings, because these animals deserve happiness and a pain-free life, too." PETA India - whose motto reads, in part, that "animals are not ours to abuse in any way" and which opposes speciesism, a human-supremacist worldview - held a similar law-enforcement drive in April with Delhi police. The group has launched a nationwide campaign aimed at helping police enforce the ban on using spiked bits. After being contacted by PETA India, Maharashtra's Department of Animal Husbandry issued a circular on 19 March 2020 directing the collector and district deputy commissioner of animal husbandry

to enforce the ban and also requested the chief secretary of the state to notify rules to prohibit the manufacture and sale of spiked bits. Several other states and union territories - including Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh - have also issued orders mandating the enforcement of this prohibition. PETA India is campaigning not only for police to search for and confiscate the illegally used devices but also for legislation to be introduced to close a loophole that still allows the manufacture and sale of these devices. PETAIndia.com, Facebook, or Instagram.

The first-ever BMW G 310 RR launched in India

Pune (Voice news service):- BMW Motorrad India launched the first-ever BMW G 310 RR in India today. India is the first country to welcome the third and latest member of highly successful BMW 310 model series. The bike is available at BMW Motorrad India dealerships from today onwards. The BMW G 310 RR has been jointly developed by BMW Motorrad and cooperation partner TVS Motor Company. The BMW G 310 RR is locally produced in India along with BMW G 310 R and G 310 GS by TVS Motor Company in Hosur. Mr. Markus Mueller-Zambre, Head of Region Asia, China, Pacific & Africa at BMW Motorrad said, "In just under five years, the G 310 R and G 310 GS have become immensely popular and are in high demand all over the world. The introduction of a third member further diversifies the G 310 range with R - a roadster, GS - an adventure bike and now the first-ever BMW G 310 RR - a true road racing sports bike. The BMW G 310 RR's performance, agility, precision and raring-to-go flair reveals racing attitude. We are glad to launch it first in India which is one of the fastest growing markets for BMW Motorrad." Mr. Vikram Pawah, President, BMW Group India said, "The first-ever BMW G 310 RR is the sportiest and most desirable sports bike in the sub-500 class. This bike proudly inherits the original



road racing genes that have fascinated sports bike enthusiasts with unlimited adrenaline rush on tarmac. With the combination of a stunning superbike design and modern technology, it is an ultimate riding machine - your best companion on racetracks and city roads alike. With the RR, you never stop challenging." The first-ever BMW G 310 RR will be offered in two variants. The ex-showroom prices are as follows: The BMW G 310 RR - INR 285,000, The BMW G 310 RR Style Sport - INR 299,000 *Prices prevailing at the time of invoicing will be applicable. Delivery will be made ex-showroom. Ex-showroom price (inclusive of GST and compensation cess) as applicable but excludes Road Tax, RTO statutory taxes/fees, other local tax / cess levies and insurance. Prices and options are subject to change without prior notice. For further information, please contact your local authorized BMW Motorrad Dealer. The new BMW G 310 RR has been launched in two colors - The standard Black storm

metallic paintwork emphasizes the dynamic overall appearance. The other option is the Style Sport in Light White Uni, Racing Blue Metallic and Racing Red Uni colors. The G 310 RR inherits the DNA of the S 1000 RR and will be the entrance to the BMW Motorrad sport bikes family. Nimble and agile in the city, confident and powerful on the road. For ease of ownership, BMW India Financial Services is offering a complete package to own the first-ever BMW 310 RR. Benefits include low down payment, monthly payment starting INR 3,999 and the option to fund insurance and accessories. For complete peace of mind, BMW Motorrad bikes come with a standard warranty for three years, unlimited kilometres. The warranty can be extended to fourth and fifth year at an attractive cost. Road-Side Assistance, a 24x7 365 days package further ensures prompt services in case of breakdown and towing situations. The BMW G 310 RR's aero-

dynamic design makes an extremely sporty appearance with its road racing DNA: full fairing and RR branding/graphics. Its uncompromising superbike design and motorsport colours make a clear classification in the road-race segment. The aerodynamic design is optimized by the full fairing, intelligent dimensions as well as lighter materials that work together to offer agile and precise handling. Thanks to the Ram Air intake, the oncoming air flow is ideally used, and the gill vents ensure that the hot air is channelled away from the engine. The bike has an aggressive and sharp face with full-led headlights, large transparent visor and pure-black handlebars. The entire fly line is front-wheel oriented. The dynamic front, tank-hugging seating position and a pulled-up short rear visually underline closeness to the racetrack. New high-end details such as the standard gold upside-down fork, aluminum swingarm, handlebars with controls and excellent workmanship reflect the finest within the segment and underscore the stable wheel control with sensitive and precise feedback. The standard Michelin Pilot Street radial tyres fit perfectly with the character by providing ample grip and control. The first-ever BMW G 310 RR is fitted with a water-cooled single-cylinder four-stroke 313-cc engine with electronic fuel injection.

AIBEA To Protest Bank Privatization Bill



Pune (Voice news service):- The center is proposing to privatize nationalized banks in the country. This bill is expected to be tabled in the forthcoming parliamentary session to start on 18th July. Bank employee unions are fighting against the privatization of nationalized banks. We will go to the masses and educate them for striking down this bill, said Comrade C.H.Venkatachalam, General Secretary - All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA) while talking to the press in the city on Saturday. He also informed to stall agitation at Jantar Mantar from

the 21st of July in case the bill gets passed. Venkatachalam was accompanied by Comrade Devidas Tuljapurkar - General Secretary - Maharashtra State Bank Employees Federation, Chandresh Patel - Vice-President, Maharashtra State Bank Employees Federation, Shirish Rane - President Pune District Bank Employees Association, and General Secretary Shailesh Tilekar. Venkatachalam said, "Banks have two main jobs - 1) To secure citizen's money and 2) To finance agriculture, small industries for national development. Government should think over the fact whether nationalized banks or private

banks will be more trustworthy in delivering these jobs. Only the issue of service is put forth in the name of privatization. We accept lagging in service but considering the huge numbers of customers, it is unavoidable for nationalized banks. Private banks recruit employees on less salaries while employees are recruited at higher pay and permanent jobs in nationalized banks. It is ultimately beneficial for the laymen therefore we are demanding more recruitment in the nationalized banks. The reverse proportion of customers and employees ruins the planning of work. We firmly believe that nationalized banks secure the funds of laymen and there is no option to secure it other than the nationalized banks, hence we oppose privatization. Venkatachalam said, "With privatization, common man's fund of 165 lakh crores will become insecure. Mass

banking will be transformed into class banking. There is a danger of deceiving the poor and vulnerable by banking and also financing agriculture and small businesses. To date, about 120 lakh crores of loans have been distributed. All these possibilities are not mere myths they are backed by various surveys conducted from time to time. We are demanding speedy recovery of loans from big fishes in the market but the government is backing them up with more and more bail-out packages. **9 Associations to participate nationwide** We are fighting on this issue since 1992 and we had held agitations 32 times on the same issue. If this bill gets passed 10 lakh bank officers and employees will stall agitations immediately. Nine associations will be participating in these agitations including AIBEA, AIBOC, NCBE, AIBOA, BEFI, INBEF, INBOC, NOBW, and NOBO informed Tuljapurkar.

Explore Art Integration in Education with SILICA Institute



Pune (Voice news service):- Art Integrated Learning (AIL) is a teaching-learning approach that is based on learning "through the arts" and "with the arts"; it is a procedure in which art serves as the teaching-learning medium and a key to comprehending

topics in any curricular subject. Through a variety of artistic mediums, students engage in creative exploration while making connections between distinct themes. It enables age-appropriate options for learners who can explore at their own pace can be accommodated by the flexibility of the arts. The experiential learning approach is in line with this. Mr. Chiranjeet Rege, Director, SILICA said "As per National Education Policy, 2020, Art appreciation and art integration are recommended in the core subjects like physics,

history, math, etc. The Indian education system is unfortunately not interdisciplinary and each specialization, including art institutions, remains in isolation, hesitant to handshake with allied and non-allied areas. Art integration in education can lead to innovative changes in our curriculum, which will open art-based inquiries, investigation, and exploration to an individual. It is likely to lead to critical and creative thinking in the students, making education holistic, multi-disciplinary, and learner-centric" SILICA Institute is among

the leading institutes discovering, developing, and preparing students for design courses. SILICA acts like a bridge between the industry and design-based colleges/schools, taking academic inputs from the industry to help improve the students' prospects in design education. Design to SILICA is a method of solving problems, including design thinking, and creates a user-centric approach, an essential skill for all careers of the future. Design education, unlike other education courses, evolves as a solution to the human challenges faced at that time.

Airtel deploys India's first private 5G network at BOSCH facility

Pune (Voice news service):- Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's premier communications solutions provider announced successful trial of India's first 5G Private Network at Bosch Automotive Electronics India Pvt Ltd (RBAI) facility in Bengaluru. Airtel's on-premise 5G Captive Private Network was built over the 5G spectrum allocated by the Department of Telecom (DoT). Airtel has implemented two Industrial grade use cases for quality improvement and operational efficiency at Bosch's state of the art manufac-

turing facility, utilising the trial spectrum. In both the cases, 5G technology such as mobile broadband and ultra reliable low latency communications drove automated operations ensuring faster scale up and reduced downtimes. Ajay Chitkara, Director and CEO - Airtel Business said, "Airtel is committed to India's digital transformation and supporting the development of its enterprise as they seek to acquire global scale. We believe that Airtel has the world class infrastructure, partnerships and expertise to

deliver Captive Private Network Solution in any part of the country and to enterprise of any size." Subhash P, Head of Technical Functions, Bosch Automotive Electronics India states: "The low latency and reliable connectivity provided by the Airtel Private 5G network at our facility which was experienced during the proof of concept is enabling us to enhance our efficiency and our productivity. Usage of 5G will significantly reduce IT wired infrastructure and enhance the operational efficiency."

Airtel is spearheading the 5G technology in India, testing various vertical industry use cases with multiple partners and at several locations as a part of its #5GforBusiness. Last year, Airtel successfully demonstrated India's first 5G experience over a live 4G network in Hyderabad. It has also demonstrated India's first rural 5G trial as well as the first cloud gaming experience on 5G. As part of #5GforBusiness, Airtel has joined forces with leading global consulting and technology companies and brands to test 5G based solutions.

Investing in upskilling can help professionals earn Rs. 1.1 Cr more than their peers over a period of 10 years: Great Learning Upskilling Financial Impact Report

Pune (Voice news service):- Great Learning, one of India's leading EdTech companies for higher education and professional training on account of World Youth Skills Day, released a report, titled, 'Upskilling Financial Impact Report.' The report reveals interesting trends and insights on the ROI of upskilling for professionals at every stage of their career and emphasizes the long-term financial impact of upskilling. The study compares the returns that working professionals can

get from upskilling, based on salary and salary increment data derived from primary and secondary sources as compared to professionals who do not upskill. It further illustrates the financial impact by making an intriguing comparison with asset classes including mutual funds, gold, and fixed-interest securities, among others. The increment rates considered in the released report are in line with AON India's Annual Salary Increase Survey. The report also refers to salary data of graduates and professionals prior to up-

skilling from Payscale. The salary data for those who upskill is based on the average salary drawn by Great Learning learners post completion of their programs. Commenting on the report, Aparna Mahesh, Chief Marketing Officer, Great Learning said, "There is no doubt that upskilling oneself is one of the best investments professionals can make in today's digital workplace. With this report, we have been able to quantify the financial impact of upskilling. People should make decisions about their careers

and the skills required to succeed just like they would make financial investment related decisions. This report will help students and professionals realize that keeping pace with technological advancements in the form of learning has measurable financial benefits and when they delay making this investment, they are also losing out on the returns. Millions of Great Learning learners are already on the path of building financial security by acquiring the right skills and building rewarding careers themselves."

Technology and flexible space operators drove office space leasing in Pune, with absorption of about 1.7 million sq. ft. recorded in Q2 2022

Pune (Voice news service):- CBRE South Asia Pvt. Ltd, India's leading real estate consulting firm, today announced the findings of its latest office report, 'CBRE India Office Figures Q2 2022'. Office absorption recorded in Pune was 1.7 million sq. ft in Q2 2022. The report observed that the office sector in India witnessed a strong performance in Q2 2022, as leasing activity grew by 61% Q-o-Q to touch a record high of 18.2 million sq. ft. Technology players drove leasing activity in Pune with a share of about 35%, followed by flexible space operators (32%) and engineering and manufacturing firms (14%). Small-sized deals dominated

the transaction activity, with 65% of absorption recorded in IT spaces, 19% in non-IT spaces, and 16% in SEZs. On the supply side, project completions were driven by IT spaces with a share of 51%, followed by non-IT with a share of 49%. A few key leasing transactions were recorded in Amar Madhuban Tech Park, Westend Icon / Westend Center IV / Gateway, and BR3-Avance (Tower - A) (NSPL). Among the major cities, on an H1 basis, office absorption stood at ~29.5 million sq. ft., recording a growth of 157% (Y-o-Y). In H1 2022, about 26.1 million sq. ft. of new completions were witnessed - increasing by 26% Y-o-Y. Bangalore, Del-

hi-NCR, and Hyderabad dominated absorption during the quarter, accounting for almost two-thirds of the transaction activity. Anshuman Magazine, Chairman & CEO - India, South-East Asia, Middle East & Africa, CBRE, said, "The office sector in India reflected a strong recovery in H1 2022 as occupier sentiments were uplifted due to the relatively reduced severity of the Omicron wave, the subsequent relaxation of restrictions, and improved economic activity. It is evident from the leasing activity that employees are resuming office with a flexible approach. CBRE's Asia Pacific Leasing Sentiment Survey recorded a significant surge in leas-

ing sentiments across most APAC markets in June 2022, with the highest rise witnessed in India. This also signifies that the outlook for annual space absorption for 2022 is likely to be higher than 2021." Ram Chandnani, Managing Director, Advisory & Transactions Services, CBRE India said, "As the recovery momentum remains upbeat, differentiated and high-quality institutional supply in core markets would continue to draw flight-to-quality absorption. In line with the expected demand, new investment-grade supply lined up across markets is expected to become operational in the coming quarters."

Tata Motors' SOUL community concludes the Iconic Himalayan Drive Journey to the Heaven on Earth



Pune (Voice news service):- Tata Motors SOUL (SUV Owners United League) community recently got together to embark on their first drive for this year - a 9 day Iconic Himalayan Drive to Spiti Valley. Organized between 25th

June and 3rd July, this drive was attended by Tata Motors' SUV owners from across the country and was flagged off from RSA Dynamic Motors, Chandigarh, in the presence of senior company officials. Culminating at Chandigarh, the SOUL convoy drove

across multiple terrains, covering a total of 1200+kms. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Rajan Amba, Vice President, Sales, Marketing and Customer Care, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. said, "SOUL has been an epitome of adventure and an exhilarating driving experience for our SUV owners' family. This continued fervor of our customers pushes us to curate intriguing drives for these enthusiasts on a regular basis to let them experience the

full potential of their SUVs. I congratulate all the SOUL members who participated in the Iconic Himalayan Drive and were able to witness magnificent landscapes of the Himalayas and traverse the roads less taken, in the company of like-minded people. I am confident that this extraordinary drive will boost the affinity of our customers towards their vehicles and reinforce the "Go-Anywhere" DNA of our true SUVs."

91% of Indian consumers prefer online payments; mobile wallets rivals traditional payment methods: Experian report

Pune (Voice news service):- The use of digital payments such as mobile wallets has increased significantly in India. According to the latest Experian Global Insights Report, digital payments have now overtaken credit cards with 91% of Indians preferring online payment methods for financial transactions. While the shift to online transactions is encouraging, it has also highlighted the need for stringent digital security measures. 45% of Indian consumers who were surveyed have expressed concerns regarding fraud and identity theft. Furthermore, 80% of consumers expect businesses to take necessary precautions to protect their information from fraudsters. Experian surveyed 6,000 consumers and 2,000 businesses across 20 countries, including

India, the United Kingdom, the United States, and other APAC markets on information related to consumer and business economic outlooks, financial well-being, online behaviour and more. This report is the latest study in a series exploring the significant shifts in consumer digital preferences and business strategy over the past seven years. The study further revealed that 'Buy Now Pay Later' or BNPL services are gaining traction in India. Over the last six months, the use of BNPL services increased by around 18% around the globe, while in India, the increase was 21%. BNPL has great consumer acceptance and facilitates financial inclusion. Given that businesses must follow fair practices and conform to regulatory guidelines. Neeraj Dhawan, Country

Manager, Experian India, says: "India is moving towards building a strong digital ecosystem where consumers can use digital solutions and services to manage their finances effectively. Businesses need to consider meeting the ever-changing demands of consumers while embracing technology and innovation at scale. A friction-free and secure digital experience will go a long way towards gaining consumer trust and loyalty. As an industry leader, Experian is committed to providing business solutions that are secure, easily scalable to meet emerging needs, enabling businesses to make fast and efficient decisions supporting their own business goals." **Key highlights for India from Experian's Global Insights Report: India is witnessing an increase in the use of AI-powered chatbots**

and virtual assistants. 34% of consumers trust AI more than humans. For digital transactions, 68% of consumers are willing to share their personal data like contact information, address, phone number, and so on. 58% of consumers highlighted protecting financial data, like bank account details, credit card details and more as a top priority. 60% of Indian consumers are concerned about fake/phishing emails, messages, or phone scams. However, 30% of consumers said that they have been victims of online identity theft. 29% of Indian consumers have fallen victim to their credit card/payment details being stolen. Security (92%) and privacy (92%) continue to be important factors in online transactions.

Sterling Generators announces strategic partnership with Moteurs Baudouin

Pune (Voice news service):- Sterling Generators Pvt Ltd (SGPL), a Sterling and Wilson Group Company, and one of India's leading genset players, is proud to announce a strategic partnership with Moteurs Baudouin, a French manufacturer of marine and power generation diesel and gas engines, that is expected to accelerate growth for both companies in the auxiliary power category. The partnership will leverage Baudouin's legacy of designing and manufacturing the highest quality diesel and gas engines and Sterling Generators' fuel efficient, smartly

designed auxiliary power solutions that is compliant with latest emission norms. Mr. Sanjay Jadhav, CEO, Sterling Generators (P) Limited said, "With Baudouin's global presence, fine legacy, and engineering expertise, it is strategically beneficial for us to have them as an engine partner. We are confident that we have a superior product in hand in terms of technology compared to other players in the industry. This collaboration will personify our commitment of providing discerning power consumers a smart, eco-friendly, cost-effective product backed by a strong aftermarket sup-

port." On this alliance, Gurunath Kulkarni VP India Operations Moteurs Baudouin said, "India being a strategic market, we are delighted to join hands with Sterling Generators. With a well-established distributor network and state of the art genset manufacturing facility, this partnership is the right platform for us to increase our footprint in India. He further added "We are confident that we will be able to serve our customers with latest technology products backed by robust on ground support and are fully geared to launch our next emission compliant

Power packs." According to reports, India's prime power diesel genset market size is predicted to grow at a 10.6% CAGR during 2022-2030. Government of India's emphasis on Make in India, backed by sustained economic growth, continues to drive high power demand in India. The extraordinary global development in residential, commercial, and industrial sectors across regions has increased the demand for uninterrupted power. SGPL along with Baudouin is perfectly poised to meet the growing demands in the genset industry.

EKA E9 successfully completes all certifications & approvals



Pune (Voice news service):- EKA, an electric vehicle manufacturing & technology company, and a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries, received the CMVR certification for its 9m pure electric, zero-emission bus, EKA E9, from ARAI (Automotive Research Association of India). The Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR) certification was handed over to Dr. Sudhir Mehta, Founder & Chairman, EKA, at the hands of Dr. Reji Mathai, Director, ARAI (Automotive Research Association of India). EKA successfully completed all the required functional and safety testing and approvals to achieve the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR) certification, which is a critical step for the company to start trials and sales of the 9m electric bus, EKA E9 to customers in the com-

ing months. Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Sudhir Mehta, Founder & Chairman, EKA by Pinnacle Mobility Solutions, said, "This is another milestone achievement for EKA as we are excited to see our customers start to operate our vehicles. We started EKA with a vision to bring sustainable, reliable, and efficient mobility solutions, starting with the electrification of commercial vehicles, and public transport, especially the bus sector. Having passed all certification tests in this short time frame is a truly monumental achievement by the whole team. We now look forward to ramping up our production and delivering our electric buses to our customers." The E9, EKA's first battery-electric bus, features a new streamlined vehicle de-



sign and maximized power & range due to its monocoque steel chassis and complete composite structure. With a Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) lower than existing Internal Combustion engine-powered buses, EKA E9 promises to deliver sustainability and profitability to all stakeholders. EKA E9 is committed to providing a solid platform for sustainable and efficient public transport in cities around the world, along with reliable and profitable operations for customers. With a capacity to seat 31 passengers and a driver, along with a standing capacity, EKA E9 also accommodates a wheelchair with a foldable ramp. With a 200-kilometre range on a single charge, the vehicle is also fuel

cell capable. EKA E9 runs a proprietary in-house developed operating system software which is tested for reliability and ensures application-based configuration of the vehicle. Its modular architecture makes the E9 the bus that can be configured for multiple applications such as city buses, staff carriers, and school buses. EKA is a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries Limited, India's leading automotive seating, interiors & specialty vehicles company, and is one of the only commercial vehicle manufacturers approved under the Champion OEM Scheme & EV component manufacturing scheme of the Government of India's Auto PLI policy.

Union Bank of India Donates Raincoats to Mumbai Police to Safeguard themselves during Monsoon

Pune (Voice news service):- Union Bank of India today donated Raincoats to Mumbai Policemen at the office of Additional Commissioner of Police, Armed Forces & Additional Commissioner of Police, Central Region for

Armed Police Personnel. As a gesture of gratitude for their hard work and to help support the heroic efforts of the Mumbai Police, Union Bank of India in collaboration with Yashlok Welfare Foundation donated Raincoats

to meet their needs during monsoon. These raincoats are made by underprivileged and unemployed men and women from urban and rural India, who was thus provided a sustainable source of employment.

Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) to expand New Zealand Operations - subsidiary Pristine Biologicals NZ inaugurates New Sterile Filtered Serum manufacturing facility in Dargaville, New Zealand

Pune (Voice news service):- Pristine Biologicals NZ Ltd, a subsidiary of Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) - one of the largest producers of vaccines in India, which belongs to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in India has inaugurated a new facility in Dargaville for the production of sterile filtered

serum. The facility was inaugurated by Shri Meenesh C. Shah, Chairman of Indian Immunologicals Ltd and National Dairy Development Board, in the presence of Dr. Jason Smith, the Hon Mayor of Dargaville, Dr. K. Anand Kumar, Managing Director, IIL, Dr. Vijay Dasari, GM and Director, Pristine Biologicals (NZ)

Limited and many dignitaries. Pristine was established in Dargaville, Kaipara District in 2015 for the production and supply of pharmaceutical grade bovine serum used to produce many vaccines and is considered a very successful venture. It is pertinent to note that the serum from New Zealand

and Australia have premium value since those countries are free from OIE listed diseases. Pristine has been able to produce and supply several hundred tonnes of Quality serum to Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) in India and other countries. The requirement for bovine serum from New Zealand

for use in biologics manufacture has gone up many folds and to meet the demands of the world markets, it is important to augment the capacities and also bring in more value-added products, the company feels. Many vaccine manufacturers in India have expressed difficulty in obtaining quality serum and have sought

the help of IIL through the Government. In a recent visit to IIL, Hyderabad, Secretary DADF requested IIL to ramp up serum production capacity at Pristine NZ and also make it available to Indian companies on a priority basis. Speaking on the occasion of the plant expansion, Shri Meenesh Shah, Chairman,

Indian Immunologicals Ltd and National Dairy Development Board, "I am glad that an investment made overseas by Indian Immunologicals has come good. The affordable vaccines made in India required a sustainable supply of quality ingredients made by Pristine." Speaking on the occasion

Dr. Anand Kumar (Managing Director) called Pristine a success story and said that plans are on the way to double the capacity soon as demands have gone up significantly. Dr. Vijay Dasari (Director) thanked the Chairman and other Directors for the constant guidance and support for this venture.