



Pune (Voice news service):- The first G-20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) meeting under G20 India Presidency is scheduled to be held during 16th-17th January 2023 in Pune. The forum will bring together the IWG member countries, guest countries and international organisations invited by India to discuss the 2023 Infrastructure Agenda under the Indian G20 Presidency. The meeting will be hosted by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India along with Australia and Brazil as

the co-chairs. The G20 Infrastructure Working Group deliberates on various aspects of infrastructure investments, including developing infrastructure as an asset class; promoting quality infrastructure investment; and identifying innovative instruments for mobilizing financial resources for infrastructure investment. The outcomes of the Infrastructure Working Group feed into the G20 Finance Track priorities and promote Infrastructure Development. The Indian G20 Presidency's theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' sets the tone for the

G-20's First Infrastructure Working Group Meeting in Pune on January 16-17, 2023



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ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

2023 Infrastructure Agenda under the 2023 Indian G-20 Presidency. The theme underlines the message of equitable growth and aptly ties up with the central agenda of the discussions which is building resilient, inclusive and sustainable urban infrastructure. In the Pune meeting, discussions will focus on the agenda for the Infrastructure Working Group under the Indian Presidency. The flagship priority to be discussed in this

meeting is "Financing Cities of Tomorrow: Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable". The theme will focus on various

facets of making cities economic centres of growth, financing urban infrastructure, building future-ready

urban infrastructure, directing fiscal investments for unlocking private financing for energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable infrastructure and mitigating social imbalances. On the side-lines, the Pune meeting will also be complemented by a High-Level Workshop on "Financing of Cities of Tomorrow". The Workshop will discuss relevant themes pertaining to technical and managerial ca-

capacity needs to build the Cities of Tomorrow, Investors' considerations in increasing private financing and the financial capacity needs of Cities of Tomorrow. The G20 meeting was preceded by a number of Jan-Bhagidari initiatives by the Pune Municipal Corporation and other Pune city stakeholders, including lectures on G-20, seminar on 'Making Cities Future Ready and Importance of Urban Development', a G-20 cyclothon, a motorbike rally on National Youth Day, swachhata drive and model G-20 discussions in the educational institutions.

The initiative aims to involve people from all walks of life in the whole discussions happening around the G20 meeting. During India's G-20 Presidency, the G-20 Infrastructure Working Group will be used as a forum to discuss the challenges that cities face and opportunities that cities will bring in the near future and chart out a course that makes cities more liveable. The Ministry of Finance will steer the G20 Infrastructure agenda to ensure that the G-20 acts as a global prime mover to envision new ideas and accelerate collective action.

Annual residential sales at nine-year high; office transactions rise 36% YOY in 2022; Knight Frank India

Pune (Voice news service):- Knight Frank India, in their latest report, noted that 312,666 residential units were sold across top eight markets of India in 2022 (Jan - Dec) registering a growth of 34% year on year (YoY). New home launches also witnessed a significant rise of 41% YoY in 2022 with the addition of 328,129 units in 2022. Mumbai led residential sales in 2022 with 85,169 units, followed by the National Capital Region (NCR) (58,460) and Bengaluru (53,363). The office sector in India saw a strong recovery in demand despite the geopolitical challenges, recording gross office leasing of 51.6 million square feet (mn sq ft), a rise of 36% YoY. New office space completions also grew by 28% YoY to 49.4 mn sq ft in 2022. In terms of the office space demand, Bengaluru led with 14.5 mn sq ft followed by NCR with 8.9 mn sq ft transacted area during the year 2022. Shishir Bajjal, Chairman and Managing Director, Knight Frank India said, "For the first time in over a decade we have seen simultaneous growth in all major real estate segments. Office, residential, warehousing and retail, all registered significant increase in activities in 2022. Factors like change in attitude towards home ownership, return to work and increased hiring and proliferation of e-commerce etc. backed by economic stability, allowed India's real estate sector to benefit last year. This pace of growth is expected to largely remain in the new year owing to continued domestic economic growth. Having said that, India will have to remain cautious of the global geopolitical and economic challenges as that can cast a shadow on the pace of growth for India." Knight Frank India today launched the 18th edition of its flagship half-yearly report - India Real Estate: 2022 - which presents a comprehensive analysis of the residential and office market performance across eight major cities for July-December 2022 (H2 2022) period.

ALL INDIA RESIDENTIAL UPDATE: H2 2022 (JULY - DECEMBER 2022) SALES VELOCITY STRENGTHENED DESPITE RISING HOME LOAN RATES
2022 can be considered a watershed year for the residential sector across the top eight cities of India as after a significant period of decline, there was a substantial rise in sales, setting new decadal benchmarks. Annual sales that saw a rise of 34% YoY with sales of 312,666 units recorded a 9-year high. Encouraged by this sales velocity, launches also saw a commensurate rise in 2022. A total of 328,129 units were launched across the eight markets registering a rise of 41% YoY. Mumbai remained the largest market by volume both in terms of sales as well as new launches, followed by National Capital Region (NCR) and Bengaluru. Apart from Kolkata, that saw a slowdown in sales of residential by 10% YoY in 2022, all markets registered growth in both sales as well as new launches. In terms of 12-month residential price change, Mumbai, NCR, Bengaluru and Pune registered increments of 7% each. Chennai and Hyderabad witnessed a significant increment of 6% while Kolkata and Ahmedabad witnessed an increment of 4%. A marginal rising of prices is a positive indication of a strengthening market but remained benign so far as impact is concerned as demand was adequately met by supply keeping market dynamics stable. Commenting on the residential sector performance for the year 2022, Shishir Bajjal, Chairman and Managing Director, Knight Frank India said, "The residential sector was an exceptional story of growth in 2022, as despite numerous inflections, the pace of growth remained largely intact. This momentum is the result of a definitive shift in attitude in favour of home ownership that has ignited the latent demand. The shift is so strong that despite some worsening in affordability on account of rising home loan interest rates, sales momentum has remained buoyant. Demand for homes has been further strengthened by continued economic growth, financial and income stability and moderately growing prices. Further, we estimate the pace of sales to remain unchanged in the new year, as most parameters are expected to remain favourable, including levels of inflation that is expected to

start stabilising by mid of 2023." **MARKETS REMAIN STRONG IN H2 2022 DESPITE REGULAR RISE IN HOME LOAN RATES**
H2 2022 (July - December 2022) was the second best half-yearly period following H1 2022 in terms of sales volume in the last 18 half year blocks (9 years). Housing sales across top eight markets in India were recorded at 153,961 units in H2 2022, registering a 15% YoY growth. With central banks raising policy rates to fight inflation, and making mortgages more expensive, residential markets in India saw marginal sequential decline in volumes. Similarly, 167,323 units were launched during H2 2022 registering a 30% YoY growth in H2 2022. Mumbai registered the highest sales of 40,969 units accounting for 19% YoY growth in H2 2022. Hyderabad witnessed the highest home sales growth (in terms of percentage growth) at 32% YoY followed by Ahmedabad at 25% while NCR and Mumbai grew at 24% and 19% YoY respectively. Kolkata was the only market to record a slowdown in sales. With steady momentum in sales volumes in H2 2022, residential prices also grew in the range of 1% to 3% across markets in H2 2022 compared to H1 2022. Bengaluru and Mumbai recorded 3% rise in average residential prices while prices in Kolkata remained stable during the period. The high end and mid segment housing gained share in sales at the cost of the affordable segment in 2022, indicating some impact of deteriorating affordability at the price sensitive segment. However, sales volume also improved in comparison to the past period. The share of sales in the INR 5 - 10 mn segment grew from 35% in H2 2021 to 37% in H2 2022 while units above INR 10 mn also witnessed a growth from 23% in H2 2021 to 28% in H2 2022. Conversely, the share of sales for units below INR 5 mn category witnessed a decline from 42% in H2 2021 to 35% in H2 2022. The strong uptick in sales also brought the Quarters to Sell (QTS) level down to 7.2 quarters from 10.2 quarters in H2 2021. **ALL INDIA OFFICE UPDATE: H2 2022 (JULY - DECEMBER**

2022) RECORDS SECOND BEST YEAR FOR OFFICE TRANSACTIONS
Top office markets of India registered total gross leasing activities of 51.6 mn sq ft in 2022 which was higher by 36% YoY over last year. This is historically the second-best year for office transaction volume with the peak achieved in 2019. While the last quarter of the year was marred with some uncertainty owing to global economic disruptions, the stronger domestic economic environment allowed the office market to remain buoyant. Additionally, as more corporations push for return-to-work policy, demand for office has been steadily rising. New completions have also seen a rise in 2022 with 49.4 Mn sq ft new office space delivered recording a YoY rise of 28%. Bengaluru (15.6 mn sq ft), Hyderabad (11.2 mn sq ft) and NCR (7.9 mn sq ft) were the top markets to receive new office spaces. Shishir Bajjal, Chairman and Managing Director, Knight Frank India said, "The office market has made a significant recovery in 2022 despite concerns of a looming recession in the developed economies. The evolution of the office as an enabler of productivity continued with more corporations recalling their staff to office. Addition of staff, especially by Indian corporations also added to office space demand in 2022. However, occupiers increasingly favoured flexibility which in turn has helped managed office spaces to recorded substantial growth in 2022. The uncertainty in the global economies is expected to continue for a couple of more quarters which can cause sentiments to remain subdued while corporations work towards realigning around the same, post which we can expect an uptick in leasing activities. Having said that, the domestic economy is expected to remain in growth mode which should help office space maintain healthy momentum." **STEADY TRANSACTION PACE CONTINUED IN H2 2022**
Despite significant headwinds, especially in Q4 2022, 26.3 mn sq ft of office space was transacted during H2 2022 compared to 25.3 mn sq ft during H1 2022. On a year-on-year basis, H2 2022 observed a marginal growth of 2% in comparison

The Gera Pune Residential Realty Report January 2023 highlight

An overall increase of 10.85% in home prices and new launches rise by 17% in 2022



Pune (Voice news service):- Gera Developments, the pioneers of real estate business and the award-winning creators of premium residential and commercial projects in Pune, Goa and Bengaluru, today released the January 2023 edition of their bi-annual report, titled "The Gera Pune Residential Realty Report". It is based on primary and proprietary research conducted by Gera Developments and covers all existing projects in a 30 kms radius of the city center. The report is an outcome of the longest-running, census-based study of the residential realty market of Pune. According to the latest Gera Pune Residential Realty Report for the period June 2022 to December 2022, on the surface, all parameters look very strong. Home prices at an average rate of Rs. 5,461 per sq. ft. are not even 8% above the previous peak of Rs. 5,096 in December 2015. The salary increases over this period have more than compensated for the increase in interest rates. Home prices have seen an increase of 10.85% in 2022. The average rates have increased from Rs. 4,926 per sq. ft. in Dec '21 to Rs. 5,461 per sq. ft. in Dec '22. Fresh supply launched in the last six months remains at an elevated level however, compared to the six-monthly period ended Dec '21, fresh supply has decreased by 22% and compared to the six-monthly period ended Jun '22, it has decreased by 13% indicating that new launches are happening at a healthy level but not at the furious pace seen in the past. Overall inventory for sale is healthy at 72,129 homes i.e., 23.21% of the total inventory under development which is at 310,725 homes. This gross inventory number has been reasonably stable since Dec '15. The replacement ratio is also stable at 0.95. Inventory overhang is at an all-time low of 8.37. Talking about the findings of The Gera Residential Realty Report January 2023 edition and the latest trends in Pune's residential real estate market, Mr. Rohit Gera, Managing Director, Gera Developments, said, "The Pune real estate market has had a good 2022 - this is in line with

other real estate markets across the country. Rising interest rates have not had much of an impact on the overall market adversely; while some sales may have been affected, the salary increase over this period has more than compensated for the increase in interest rates. The future, however, has greater uncertainty due to macro-economic and global factors. We see increased global headwinds and layoffs affecting employment in the IT sector. We believe a larger issue in addition to affordability (which at the present time is not a cause for concern), is job security. "Regardless of affordability, job insecurity may cause people to put off their decision to make a large purchase like a home. While thus far India seems relatively less affected, and we are being touted as a beacon of hope for the rest of the world, layoffs in the tech sector and a corresponding erosion of sentiment would have an impact on the sales of homes." "The introduction of the unified development control rules has led to a substantial increase in the development potential across the Pune Municipal Corporation and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation jurisdictions. One of the outcomes of this is the increased sizes of projects." He further added, "The big impact of this increased development potential will be seen once the unified DC rules are made applicable in the PMRDA region. The PMRDA has the largest area under its jurisdiction. These areas have lesser development, and the rates are generally lower. Higher densities lead to greater cost of construction as densification effectively leads to taller buildings, additional parking created in podiums, etc." He also underlined the increase in the cost of construction for developers and said, "The increased densification will therefore lead to an increased cost of construction as well as potentially increased supply. Thus far, supply is running in tandem with demand and hence the market continues to be buoyant. On the surface of it, things look very good. Time will tell which, whether job security and over supply, take the market down."

Here are the key highlights of The Gera Pune Residential Realty report, encompassing trends from July 2022 to December 2022: **# New launches rise by 17% on an annual level** The supply squeeze that was prevalent in the Pune residential real estate space during both COVID phases has led to developers launching new units to meet demand for residential real estate. Fresh supply launched in the last 6 months remains at an elevated level however, compared to the six-monthly period ended Dec '21, fresh supply has decreased by 22%, and compared to the six-monthly period Jun '22, it has decreased by 13% indicating that new launches are happening at a healthy level. At an annual level, new launches have grown by -17% i.e. 102,332 homes were launched in the last 12 months compared to the growth rate of 49% from 2020 to 2021 again underlining the fact that growth rates are normalizing as the market reverts to sustainable levels. However, if the last 12 months is any indication, the new launch pipeline remains strong and operational metrics like the replacement ratio and inventory overhang don't point to any red flags in the near term. **# Inventory available for sale increases marginally by 0.5%** The current inventory available for sale at 72,129 homes is classified into 4 stages based on construction status. I.e., Early, Mid, End and Ready. Early-stage inventory constitutes ~31% of all available units for sale as on Dec '22. The early-stage inventory, at ~30% a year ago, has roughly remained at the same levels. The reduction in the number of apartments is the most in the early-stage projects which at peak add 45,000 homes available for sale has come down to approximately 23,000 homes currently. **# Luxury seeing a +71% growth and PremiumPlus seeing a +21% growth in new homes being added** Looking at the last 12 months of new launches by price segments, the trend of Luxury (Prices Rs 8,261+ per sq. ft.) and PremiumPlus (Prices between Rs 6,610 per sq. ft. and Rs 8,261 per sq. ft.) seeing growth continues with Luxury seeing a +71% growth and PremiumPlus seeing a +21% growth compared to last year. The Budget (<Rs 4,406 per sq. ft.) segment has also picked up steam clocking a 31% growth albeit on a lower base. While on an overall basis and compared to last year, new launches across the market have shown a growth of 17%, the Value (Rs 4,407 per sq. ft. to 5,507 per sq. ft.) & Premium (Rs 5,508 per sq. ft. to 6,609 per sq. ft.) segments have been laggards showing a muted growth of 2% and 9% respectively. **# Sales have increased by 11% on a yearly level** Comparing sales velocity in H2 2021 to H2 2022, there is a 4% decrease in

offtake (from 52,227 units to 50,036 units). Sequentially (compared to H1 2022) the offtake has dropped by 7%. However, Volume remains comfortable above 50,000 units for the last 3 six monthly periods indicating no red flags. As was the case with new launches - the single-digit degrowth is attributable to the markets becoming more normalized and sustainable. The Budget and Value segment continues to lose favour with customers - both these segments have decreased by -11% and -19% - while Premium, PremiumPlus and Luxury segments continue to find favour displaying positive growth. In the Premium-Plus segment growth is marginal while the Premium and Luxury segments have high double-digit growth of 15% & 29%. Clearly, the Budget and Value segment is the one pulling down the sales growth rate while the other segments remain unaffected. **# Market continues its trend towards larger projects** The number of large projects (those with more than 500 units) as on Dec '22 is 167. This number has increased from 123 projects in Dec '18 to 167 now. In Dec '18, these 123 projects constituted 3.5% out of the total of 3,525 projects being developed. In Jun '22, the 167 projects constituted 7% out of the total of 2,509 projects being developed. **# Affordability reduces for the first time to 3.71x annual income after more than 8 years** Homes have become less affordable however, on an overall basis, affordability continues to be very strong at 3.71x annual income. Over time interest rates have decreased, while incomes have risen thereby increasing affordability significantly. However, this cycle may have bottomed out with home prices as well as interest rates rising significantly. Input costs for developers have forced developers to raise prices. Increasing interest rates and inflation get the home buyer less per rupee, and hence the affordability equation though still healthy can still create headwinds for developers. As per the report, in Jun '11, the salary needed to buy a 1,000 sq. ft. home was 4.83 times the cost of the home. This peaked in Dec '14 where the salary needed to buy the same 1,000 sq. ft. house at the increased salary and increased rates was 5.27 times. Since Dec '14, the consistent reduction in interest rates and home prices along with the salary increments have led to a situation where the house cost for a 1,000 sq. ft. home is now at 3.71 times the salary. However, affordability has decreased compared to Dec '21 from 3.56 to 3.71 primarily due to the combined increase in interest rates from 7.7% in Dec '21 to 9.6% in Dec '22 and prices from Rs 4,926 per sq. ft. to Rs 5,461 per sq. ft.

Indian Composites Industry Eyes To Touch the US\$ 2.01 Billion Mark in 2027; To Cross The Global Average Growth in the Next Five Years

Pune (Voice news service):- The \$ 1.26 billion Indian Composites Materials Industry, better known as reinforced plastics, is eyeing growth at a CAGR of 6.9% over the next five years to reach US\$ 2.01 billion in 2027. With a volume growth globally, it is set to cross the global average of 4.7% by volume and touch the mark of 6.1% in the next five years, says a Report 'Indian Composite Materials Market - Current Status & Forecast - 2027' launched by the FRP Institute, an apex trade body of the Indian Composites Industry. According to the Report, the Indian Composites Material Industry is taking the consumption from 511900 tons of composites materials in 2021 to 768200 tons in 2027. The FRP Institute released this Report on the sidelines of The International Conference and Exhibition on Reinforced Plastics (ICERP 2023), which will bring together all stakeholders of Indian Composites Industry on one platform. ICERP 2023 will be conducted from 18th to 20th January, 2023 in Mumbai. **Current Consumption Status:**

The Report further observes that India still has a lower per capita consumption of composites at merely 0.37 kg in 2021 as compared to matured markets such as the USA with 11.5 kg, which has the highest per capita consumption and Germany with 7.7 kg. Even countries like the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Spain and Asian countries like Taiwan, Japan have per capita consumption of composites ranging between 4 to 9 kg. As per this, India has the highest opportunities in terms of composites consumption. Out of the total Composites Materials Market in India (which is 511900 tons in 2021 by material type) Matrices and Reinforcements together represented 86.7% share in 2021 while fillers and other composites occupied the rest of the share. Glass Fiber, Polyesters, and Epoxies remained as dominant materials and collectively represented 77.7% share in 2021. With further push on infrastructure and logistics by the Government, the sectors like ground transportation, building and construction, infrastructure development collectively accounted

for approximately 50.8% share in 2021, in terms of volume. **Forecast - 2022 to 2027:** Ground Transportation, Construction and Infrastructure are likely to remain the key markets for Composites Materials by 2027. From 2022 to 2027, in terms of volume, the sectors such as Renewable Energy will see the highest CAGR of 8.6%, Aerospace and Defense will clock a CAGR of 8.2%, Construction and Infrastructure will witness a CAGR of 6.5% and CAGRs in others such as Telecom (5.8%), Electrical and Electronics (5.5%), Ground Transportation (5.4%), Pipe and Tanks (5%) and other sectors at 4.7%. The future of Indian composites market looks attractive in the wake of increasing consumption opportunities for composites material in the industries like electrical and electronic, particularly due to emergence of electrical vehicles, wind energy, mass transportation and construction industries. The major drivers for growth would be the rise in demand for electrical and electronic, wind energy, and pipe and tank

applications due to increase in the number of Government projects like smart cities development, eco-friendly energy generation, hydrocarbon opportunities, freshwater transportation, sewage treatment system, rehabilitation of water and sewage pipelines. The Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative will further augment the prospects on a global level. The industry overcame the COVID pandemic, revived operations faster and is hoping to accelerate the pace to cross the global average and exploit the untapped potential. With lower consumption levels compared to matured markets, the industry participants seek more impetus from the Government to bolster growth and bridge the gap. The increased cost of freight from China has turned the focus to India as a sourcing destination. The Russia - Ukraine War has caused an increase in manufacturing costs in Europe thereby making India an attractive alternative for manufacturing. The war has also caused a momentum growth in the defense sector

Residential demand in Pune increased 9.6%, supply grew 0.4% in 2022 reveals Magicbricks PropIndex Report (Oct-Nov), 2022

Pune (Voice news service):- Pune's residential demand increased 9.6% YoY and 3.2% QoQ, and the supply grew 0.4% YoY and 4.2% QoQ revealed Magicbricks' latest PropIndex Report (Oct-Nov), 2022. The report further observed that the average property rate in the city increased 4.0% YoY and 1.5% QoQ and rates of Ready to move apartments increased 2.6% QoQ. Homebuyers continued to prefer affordable properties with compact units, and demand for 2BHK configurations dominated the residential market in the city, commanding 47% share of demand and 50% share of the supply. Moreover, proposals of several town planning schemes and infrastructural projects such as Intermediate Ring Road, High-Capacity Mass Transit Route (HCMTR) and Pune Metropolitan Region (PMR) Ring Road are expected to drive demand and supply. Elaborating on the trends, Sudhir Pai, CEO, Magicbricks comment-

ed, "In 2022, residential demand, supply and prices recovered, and the year bode well for both under-construction and ready-to-move-in houses. Despite consecutive hikes in the Repo Rate and home loan rates in the past quarters, end-users remained keen on home buying, encouraging developers to accelerate new project launches while delivering their existing projects. Overall, we are optimistic that the residential demand will be largely sustained in 2023 as well."

The report concludes that localities on western periphery of Pune, such as Wakad and Baner, continue to garner interest of customers due to their proximity to IT hubs, and their physical and social infrastructure including intra-city connectivity through public transportation. The report also states that the residential demand across 12 major Indian cities tracked by Magicbricks grew 19% YoY.

Amazing singer Dilbagh Singh makes Lohri Di Sham an evening to remember



Pune (Voice news service):- Global Singer Dilbagh Singh entertained hundreds at Lohri Di Sham at Lokhandwala Grounds, Andheri (W) on Jan 12, organized by Kiran Phadnis and Seema Sodhi of Kuckoo Tales, Gurpreet Kaur Chadha of Punjabi Global Association. Besides singer Dilbagh Singh who set the floor afire, Kiran Phadnis, Gurpreet Kaur Chadha, Seema Sodhi, Dr. Jaspinder Narula, Upasana Singh, Navin Prabhakar, Deepshikha Nagpal, Nanak Singh, Harpreet Kaur, Ridima Tiwari, Jaskaran Singh, Abhishek Awasthi, Nilu Kohli, Karan Singh Chhabra, Rakesh Bedi, Rajesh

Puri, Basant R Rasiwasia, Raja Sagoo, Arvinder Singh, Rupali Suri, Ananya Chadha, Ganany Chadha, Jatin Suri, Sahil Mulyt Khan, Kanchi Singh, Rajiv Thakur and Dr Anusha Srinivasan Iyer of Naarad PR and Image Strategists (Media Directors) and Vishal Kapoor, GM, Hotel Radisson Blu (Hospitality Partner) were present at the event. Dilbagh is known for his hit numbers "Thodi Jinni Peeti Hai", "Mari Gali" from Tanu Weds Manu: Returns among many others. Echo organisers Kiran Phadnis and Gurdip Singh, "this event was very special to us as it aimed to bring back joy and laughter with dance and



some sumptuous fare with Lohri. Everyone is longing for some fun and this festival with an entertainer like Dilbagh Singh was the best way to dance your way happily into the year that comes!" "Dilbagh is popular among youth and seniors alike. He can make you dance like there is no tomorrow, and in a matter of moments transport you into another romantic world. Such is his prowess. I am sure everyone was looking for a way to herald the new year with celebrations and Lohri was another reason to come together and have a ball," concludes Gurpreet Kaur Chadha, the driving force behind Punjabi Global Association.

FanCode to stream FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup in India

Pune (Voice news service):- India's premier sports streaming platform FanCode has announced that it will stream the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela live on its platform in India. All 44 matches will be streamed on the FanCode app (Android, iOS, TV) and its website www.fancode.com, starting January 13.

India is hosting this edition of the World Cup, with the flagship tournament set to be played in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, Odisha. Sixteen nations will vie for glory in the World Cup, with the final on January 29. FanCode provides seamless access to live sports from across the world for core sports fans in India. The platform had earlier streamed

the FIH Hockey Nations Cup (Men's and Women's) live, which was held in South Africa and Spain in November-December 2022. The Indian Women's Hockey Team won the tournament, thus qualifying directly for the FIH Hockey Women's Pro League for the 2023-24 season. The Indian Men's Team goes into the World Cup as host, on

the back of its inspiring performance in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The team bagged Bronze, ending a four-decade-long wait for an Olympic medal. India is placed in Pool D in this World Cup, along with England, Wales, and Spain. India last won the World Cup over four decades ago, in 1975, and fans will be pumped to watch them in action on home soil.

FanCode is also streaming marquee events in other sports, with the HSBC Rugby Sevens, and the Kooyong Classic exhibition tennis tournament in Melbourne, Australia. It is also currently streaming Bangladesh's marquee T20 contest Bangladesh Premier League, the Kerala Premier League, and the Goa Professional League (both football).



Have A Retro Brunch With Sandra's Classic Tunes At Zyzzyva - All Day Dining



Pune (Voice news service):- Turn back the sands of time this Sunday with Sandra's retro pop and classic rock tunes at Zyzzyva - All Day Dining. Have an old-school brunch and enjoy classic dishes like Paneer Tikka Biryani or Malvani Fish Curry Rice, and more. The brunch menu also includes timeless desserts like Gajar Halwa and Tiramisu. Pair your meal with the refreshing drinks of your choice. Come have a rocking Sunday at Zyzzyva!

Date: Sunday, Jan 15, 2023
Time: 12:30 PM onwards
Address: Behind Nyati Evolve, B.G. Shirke Road, Magarpatta Rd, Mundhwa Industrial Area, Mundhwa, Pune, Maharashtra 411036
Brunch Package:
1. Food Package: Rs 950/-
2. Sangria/Beer Package: Rs 1800/-

Padma Shri Sudharak Olwe's Firefly, an ode to Lavani danceform



Pune (Voice news service):- The 45 photographs that are documented over 20 years by Sudharak Olwe attempt to capture the 'lavanya' (beauty), struggles and journey of the social lives of these folk artists and look beyond the popular perception of the traditional dance form. "I want share their art and life in my photos," elaborates Sudharak who still continues to photograph the Lavani artists. More about Sudharak Olwe, who has been marking a new global space for Indian photography, with exhibitions in Malmö (Sweden), Lisbon, Amsterdam, Los Angeles, Washington, Dhaka, Mumbai and Delhi among others. Olwe is known for his extraordinary work capturing in both rural and urban communities, presenting tales of resilience, courage, and change. In 2005, Olwe was one of the four awardees for National Geographic's "All Roads Photography Program: In 2016, he received the Padma Shri, one of highest civilian awards awarded by the Government of India. In the current exhibition, Sudharak Olwe's timeless frames pay a tribute to this traditional art form that has contributed tre-

mendously to the development of Marathi folk theatre. Prominent Lavani traditional folk artists from Solapur will be honoured at the event the Lavani artists will share their stories through their energetic performance as well. The proceeds will help education of children of Lavani dancers. Along with the photographs by Sudharak Olwe, artefacts curated by Gourmoni Das will also be on display. For the uninitiated, 'Lavani' is a traditional dance form that originated in Maharashtra in the 18th and 19th centuries. Lavani is performed on public stage, and is a performative tradition practiced by a certain set of communities consisting of interactive gestures, and songs, and noted for its biting dialogues often toned with socio-political satire. The dancers are always agile and attentive to the audience's reactions. The exhibition Presented by Nine Fish Art Gallery & Dot Line Space Art Foundation. About Nine Fish: Located within the charming precincts of a historic textile mill in Central Mumbai, Nine Fish Art Gallery seeks to explore connections between multiple art-related endeavours and create a stimulating space within the larger art ecosystem



for emerging art practitioners of exceptional talent from across South Asia. Established in 2015, Nine Fish has since exhibited both national and international artists. It has consistently and independently provided Art Residencies and studio space to upcoming young artists as well as hosting five consecutive Art35 events over the years. About Dot Line Space: Dot Line Space is an art platform started in 2015 in Mumbai with the aim to Create, Curate, Collaborate and Celebrate art in diverse forms started by graduates from the prestigious Sir J.J. School of Art. We believe in bringing together different art movements from around the globe and creating spaces which become talking points of historically diverse visual expressions. Our curation formats are imbued with sensitivity and debate, as we try to bring the regional arts and crafts of our country to the forefront. We aim to unleash each artist's true essence with absolute integrity. Firefly, the photo exhibition by Sudharak Olwe at Nine Fish Art Gallery, Byculla continues from 13th January to 18th February 2023 from 10.30am to 7.30pm.

Asilo to dazzle Pune with its jazz nights



Asilo Pune, the iconic rooftop lounge at The Westin Pune is set to jazz up your Wednesday nights with their signature cocktails and palatable dishes.

The night will bring together the city's beloved jazz queen - Sonia Saigal on January 18, 2023 who will be performing her famous tunes with her troupe. Bring in your loved ones and groove to the blues of the night away with the magic of jazz at Asilo, Pune.

When: Every Wednesday
Time: 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM
Where: Asilo, Pune

Through the power of the mind, Change in life is possible- Mr Sudarshan Sabat



Pune (Voice news service):- If you want to succeed in any field, you must first have the will to do it. Willpower is very important in human life. Everyone deserves to live a happy and fulfilled life. Just like medicine has an expiry date, every problem in our life also has an expiry date. Individuals, societies and organizations can succeed by using the power of the mind. For this, famous mind trainer Mr Sudarshan Sabat announced in a press conference that besides preparing more than 1000 trainers in the next 5 years, he has an ambitious dream of starting the world's

first "Mind Power College". India's Best Mind Trainer Mr Sudarshan Sabat is the Founder and Chairman of "The Sudarshan Group of Companies". He has developed 11 businesses in the first half-decade of his career. He has won more than 50 National and International Best Mind Trainer Awards. Hence, he approved the title 'Influencer' more than any other title. He is the author of the books "Mind Winner World Winner", "Rich Mind Blueprint", and "Dare Your Mind To Think Beyond". His other 21 books in English, Hindi, Odia, Gujarati and Marathi languages will be published in 2023. Speaking at the Mind Power Training program organized in Pune, Mr Sudarshan Sabat said that mind training programs have increased the power of positive thinking and transformed many people's lives. Over the years, people have achieved amazing things through the Mind power training program. In this training program, Mr

Sudarshan Sabat teaches people how to face their problems and overcome obstacles in life. Mr Sudarshan Sabat explains the problem to the solutions in career and life and gives knowledge about how to be successful and make dreams come true. Mr Sudarshan Sabat is one of the most demanding mind trainers in India. So far, he has done hundreds of training programs. Many have achieved great success in their lives due to their training. Mr Sudarshan Sabat conducted many Mind power workshops to help people find and achieve their goals. Mr Sudarshan Sabat's success in various industries, extensive experience, and deep understanding of people's behavior has inspired many. Mr Sabat founded the Aryan Foundation to break the cycle of poverty through education. Aryan Foundation provides education to children as well as help to women, youth and the elderly and vocational skills training to reduce poverty in India.

Archana Puran Singh's serious turn with Kumud Mishra in Mahesh Nair's Hum Dono

Pune (Voice news service):- Journalist turned documentary and feature filmmaker Mahesh Nair's short film Hum Dono starring Archana Puran Singh and Kumud Mishra sees laughter queen Archana Puran Singh in a totally different avatar. The 12-minute short tackles a very serious issue and is currently streaming on Apple TV. Goaded by the reaction to the film, Mahesh Nair is now planning to extend the short now into a proper feature film. Nair has a personal reason to choose this subject. Says he, 'as my parents grew old, I realised that medical issues and companionship are the thoughts that mostly occupy their mind. Since most of us now live in nuclear families and far away from our parents, how do old couples deal with loneliness? And what can one partner do for the other if he or she is no longer alive? This thought along with reports in newspapers talking about how a Rs 200 crore scam was unearthed in Haryana and its neighbouring states, gave me the reason to make Hum Dono.' The reports shocked Nair as it mentioned people claiming benefits of personal accident policies when actually the patient had died of cancer or killed themselves as they could not afford treatment. "I wove both these issues and that's how Hum Dono the story was born. Also I am a fan of the songs from Dev Anand's old Hum Dono film. That title seemed appropriate here." For his short film, Nair was sure about two things. The story should be gripping and should

have a twist. Secondly, the actors needed to be excellent and if possible, surprising. The entire story of Hum Dono is narrated through the perspective of Saroj, a woman in her 50s in Hisar, Haryana. Says Nair, "I wanted to tell it through someone who people knew, but would be shocked to see her play this character. I thought why not Archana Puran Singh? Everybody knows her for her laughter in the Kapil Sharma Show. Nobody has seen her act for a long time. Why not cast her, completely against her popular image, as a sombre Haryanvi woman?" Incidentally, both Kumud and Archana lived in Nair's neighbourhood. "When I met Archana I told her I have a role for her where she will not be laughing or cracking jokes. where there will be no make up, no hairstyle, where she will wear rustic clothes. She was eager to hear the story. She loved the role and agreed to do it instantly. Look at the fabulous way she acts in the film. She is such a wonderful talent!" gushes Nair. As far as casting for the male protagonist Ajitpal Mann goes, Kumud Mishra was again Nair's first choice. "We used to go for our regular morning walk during the Covid lockdown days. I popped the idea and he said, why not? He has got only two scenes and you can see in those two why he is one of our finest actors!" Nair wanted his first scene to be the perfect set up and the subsequent ones to have no errors of information as the film has a surprising reveal.

Maintains No. 1 position in global premium segment, doubles electric sales



Pune (Voice news service):- The BMW Group significantly accelerated its ramp-up of electromobility once more in 2022. As previously announced, the BMW Group was able

to more than double its BEV sales from 2021 (+107.7%) with a total of 215,755 fully-electric BMW and MINI vehicles delivered to customers. A major milestone was

reached when the BMW Group handed over its 500,000th fully-electric vehicle to its new owner towards the end of last year. "Our strong product line-up is the best response to a challenging environment - and enabled us to more than double our sales of fully-electric vehicles again in 2022," said Pieter Nota, member of the Board of Management of BMW AG responsible for Customer, Brands, Sales. "We are confident we can build on this success in 2023, as we continue to see particularly high order intake for our fully-electric models," Nota added.

Plain Gold Jewellery Exports Witness Strong Growth Post India-UAE CEPA

Pune (Voice news service):- FTAs with UAE and recently with Australia is working in favour of gem & jewellery exports from India. Post the India-UAE CEPA, India's Plain Gold Jewellery

exports for the period April - December 2022 (9MFY2023), grew 20.98% to ₹24242.91 crores. For December 2022, the total gross export of Plain Gold Jewellery grew 21.31% to ₹2,369.74 crores (10.97%

in dollar terms to US\$ 287.46 million) as compared to ₹1,953.46 crores (US\$ 259.05 million) for the same period last year. For the cumulative fiscal year-to-date period of April - December 2022.

Surya Hospital launches Human Milk Bank in Pune to support non-lactating mothers and pre-mature babies



Pune (Voice news service):- Globally, 15 million babies born preterm, 1/5th are born in India. Given that prematurity is the leading cause of death in children under 5 years across the globe, there is no doubt that India has a huge need for neonatal critical care facilities. Human milk feeding, when compared to formula feeding significantly reduces the risk of mortality, serious infections and duration of hospital stay in premature babies.

In a move to strengthen outcomes for non-lactating mothers and new-born babies at its healthcare facilities, Surya Hospital inaugurated Human Milk Bank at its Wakad in-patient facility. Leading TV and film actress

Mrinal Kulkarni inaugurated the facility, which will help prevent feed intolerance and facilitate early recovery for preterm babies.

As per WHO, increasing breastfeeding to near-universal levels could save more than 8,00,000 lives every year, the majority being children under six months. Breastfeeding decreases the risk of mothers developing breast cancer, ovarian cancer, Type 2 diabetes and heart disease. It is estimated that increased breastfeeding could avert 20,000 maternal deaths each year due to breast cancer.

While speaking at the launch of the Human Milk Bank, Ms. Mrinal Kulkarni, leading TV and Film actress said, "As most of the sick newborns and premature babies do not

"The milk bank will encourage new-mothers to donate excess breastmilk to the milk-bank which will support growth for premature, low birthweight and other at-risk infants in the Surya Hospital's NICU"

get mother's milk in the first week of life, human milk banks are boon to them. It helps prevent many diseases in children, including cancer. Even mothers are protected from ovarian and breast cancer. This is a good initiative taken by Surya Hospital to set-up a human milk bank as it will be a blessing to many. This will be beneficial to many new-born babies."

Addressing the media on the dais, Dr. Sachin Shah, Director - Neonatology & Paediatric Intensive Care Services said, "Our neonatal unit caters to nearly 700 new born babies each year, including intramural and extramural births. Our estimates are that up to 90% of our admissions are preterm and 60-70% of the admissions are of a gestational age of less than 32 weeks. These are the babies who can only be fed mother's milk. We are committed to breastfeeding and ensure that every newborn is on mother's milk. The daily human milk

requirement in our NICU is approximately 3 litres. We firmly believe that every Neonatal Intensive Care Unit should be equipped with human milk banking facility." Essentially every mother can breastfeed. Due to some exceptional circumstances like postnatal depression, serious illness and hormonal changes, some mothers cannot produce enough milk. Traditionally such babies who do not have access to mother's milk are given infant formula milk or cow's milk. Highlighting the importance of Human Milk Bank Dr. Manisha Khalane, Lactation Consultant at Surya Hospital said, "We want nursing moms to give their breast milk because all premature babies who are underweight need an ongoing supply of breast milk. We have been utilising formula milk up until now, which is not a substitute for human breast milk. Such milk is not nutritious and also increases the risk of certain medical

and surgical problems in neonates, especially preterm babies. Breast milk, on the other hand, contains anti-infective cells, antibodies, and growth hormones."

Human Milk Banks at Surya Hospital receive milk from donor mothers with excessive milk production after meeting the needs of their own babies and having undergone careful screening for underlying health conditions. Expressed milk is then refrigerated in special containers. This milk is then pasteurized, screened for infections, and stored in a deep freezer. When the need arises, the frozen milk is thawed and fed to the newborn. Exclusive breastfeeding has the potential to prevent 13 per cent of under-five deaths globally each year. Early initiation of breastfeeding within the first hour of birth in addition to exclusive breastfeeding can cut down 22 per cent of all new born deaths worldwide.

Gourmet meat products from MeisterWurst, ready to be delivered in Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- If you want to enjoy the authentic flavours of German Sausage sitting in Pune, then you have got to order from MeisterWurst, who have recently expanded in Pune markets.

The brand was conceived in the year 2017, with a single-city presence in Bangalore. They deliver mouth-watering German-flavoured sausages, bacon, meatloaf, cold cuts, and tenderloins. But now, as a Pan India expansion, the brand is all set to deliver in Pune.

Pune is a growing market with a demand for high-quality prepared foods. It also witnessed this recent surge in demand for processed foods. And to meet this growing demand, merchants and home delivery services require dependable suppliers. The market for processed meat products in Pune

is huge and it is expanding at a rate of 9-10% annually.

MeisterWurst is one such brand catering to this demand and supply, by delivering high-quality processed German sausages all over India and now in their recently expanded markets in Pune.

According to Mr. Arthur Maurer, Founder MeisterWurst: "Pune is one of the most evolving markets especially in terms of food. I have been doing business in India since the mid 90ties and know the place! We plan to offer high-quality food products in Pune and customized according to the local palate. The authenticity of the flavor which is available in European countries is served to the Indian people.

We offer products from Europe but made in India. We are now set to expand our online presence by introducing our

products Pan India.

With its recent expansion in Pune, MeisterWurst will continue to stand as a market leader in the Food Processing Markets, our years of expertise and state-of-the-art innovativeness will extend to every store shelf, on every top restaurant table, in every home kitchen, and of course, in every flavorful bite! MeisterWurst supplies products ranging from top-quality processed meats to cold cuts and authentic German spreads. We popularly distinguish ourselves from the rest of the variants available in the market as the cutting-edge pioneer in German processed meats.

We use modern machinery and the best cold storage facilities to bring top-quality products to our consumers. The brand offers top-notch top-notch made-in-India cuisine at par with the flavours from Europe.

Drive.Ahead, a vision of an innovative, sustainability-led future, unveiled by MG Motor India at Auto Expo 2023



Pune (Voice news service):- MG Motor India today showcased its vision for future mobility. Drive.Ahead, at the Auto Expo 2023.

The company unveiled a line-up of 14 production-ready vehicles

from its portfolio that communicate the brand's focus on sustainable, conscious, and innovative technology as part of MG's vision in India.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Rajeev Chaba, President, and Managing

Director, MG Motor India, said, "We believe in working towards a world that is sustainable, humane, and driven by intuitive technology. Our aim is to build an ecosystem where mindfulness and consciousness, are a way of life. Our EV and NEV range of products displayed here demonstrate MG's commitment and endeavours toward faster adoption of green and sustainable mobility in India." The company also unveiled two technologically advanced, high-safety, and zero-emission electric vehicles (EVs) supporting its stance as an Auto-tech brand during the show. The two vehicles are the MG4, a pure-electric hatchback EV, and the MG EHS, a plug-in hybrid SUV. Both these vehicles

underscore MG's resolute commitment to strengthening EV adoption in the country.

The two vehicles, just like the other ones that are part of the line-up at the MG Pavilion, are futuristic and are a blend of innovation and vision in terms of technology and their environmental footprint and echo both MG's theme for the Auto Expo this year, 'Drive.Ahead' as well as the expo's focus on 'EVs'. Both vehicles come with advanced safety features and enhanced driving comfort. The MG4 EV hatchback, which comes with spacious interiors, ensures driving convenience through its five different charging options. Since its launch in 2022, the MG4 EV hatchback is sold in more than 20 European

markets including Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Norway, and Sweden. The MG EHS Plug-in Hybrid brings together efficiency and performance along with spacious interiors and a sporty exterior. The MG EHS Plug-in Hybrid truly offers the best of both worlds. The drive system offers an electric motor, a battery pack and a powerful petrol engine that work seamlessly together for optimum efficiency, power and range. "Today, at the Auto Expo 2023, we are delighted to bring to our customers, these two globally acclaimed vehicles from our portfolio. The launch of these vehicles would be based on consumer research and market feedback," he further added.

SOUTHERN COMMAND FELICITATES ITS SOLDIERS AND UNITS URING INVESTITURE CEREMONY CONDUCTED AT BENGALURU

Pune (Voice news service):- Southern Command Investiture Ceremony was conducted at Madras Engineers Group & Centre, Bengaluru under the aegis of HQ Dakshin Bharat Area from 12-13 January 2023. Lieutenant General Ajai Kumar Singh, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, General Officer Commanding in Chief, Southern Command presented the gallantry and the distinguished awards to 40 Army personnel and 24 Units of Southern Command for their outstanding contribution in various field.

The grand Investiture Ceremony witnessed an impressive

all to continue their pursuit for excellence. He also encouraged all ranks to emulate the valour, courage and the dedication displayed by the award winners to make the nation & the Indian Army proud. The Army Commander highlighted the critical role of Southern Command being the oldest and the largest Command of the Indian Army covering nearly 40% of Indian landmass and spread over nine States & three Union Territories. He also mentioned that Southern Command has withstood the test of time and successfully participated in numerous operations with distinction.

Snapchat launches exclusive AR kite game, localised lenses and much more to kickstart harvest festivities in India

Pune (Voice news service):- The celebration of the harvest festivals holds immense significance in India. Keeping the festive spirit at the pinnacle, Snapchat has launched an AR gaming lens and a host of new AR lenses to celebrate the spirit of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Magh Bihu, Pedda Panduga, Poush Parbon, and Pongal in a fun and interactive way. These new regional lenses are set to capture the joy of this festive period, the onset of spring, and express our gratitude for the opulent harvest for the year.

Snapchatters can now give an exciting AR spin to the festival of kites, with the launch of a new AR kite game, Kite Mania, created by Snap Lens Creator Tanishqua. This fun gaming lens will allow Snapchatters to create their own kite and fly it while collecting the ball of strings and dodging obstacles in the form of scissors and birds that come their way.

To give a more personal touch to celebrations, Snapchatters can also use the celebratory Makar Sankranti-themed lens featuring the popular Til Ladoos and vi-

brant kites panning the blue sky.

Localizing the app experience for the Indian Snapchatter community has been a constant focus for Snap Inc. Snapchat is all geared up to welcome the warmth of the Lohri and the sweetness of West Bengal's Poush Parbon with vibrant AR lenses created by Snap Lens Creator Ishpreet Singh, capturing key regional elements like Bonfire for Lohri and a big bowl of Rasgulla for Poush Parbon.

Furthermore, for Pongal, celebrated in Tamil Nadu,

Snapchatters can send wishes to their loved ones through a bright lens with beautiful motifs, featuring the decadent pots of delicious staple Payasam.

Snapchat, this year has taken localization of its lenses to the next level with the introduction of new and special celebratory lenses allowing Snapchatters to enjoy regional festive elements from their favorite harvest festival. From lenses on Assam's Magh Bihu festival to Andhra Pradesh's and Telangana's Pedda Panduga, Snapchat is taking festivities to newer heights.

To all political leaders, organizations, and commercial establishments

Pune (Voice news service):- We write to you seeking an immediate intervention and direction to remove the unauthorized and unwanted political & commercial hoardings, flex boards, advertisements, cutouts, buntings, hangings, billboards, etc., mushrooming in many areas in and around our premises, causing visual pollution, inconveniencing citizens, and irrevocable damage to the environment. We strongly condemn this act as these illegal hoardings/flex not only affect pedestrian movement causing problems for citizens but are also non-biodegradable and an environmental

hazard. The Citizens of Pune abhor such displays and are unwilling to accept such sights that are eyesores. **In wake of the upcoming G20 conference in the city,** Swachh Survekshan, followed by other crucial delegations and visits, such illegal structures present a negative image of the city and its stakeholders. As members of the Pune Platform for Collaborative Response, we appeal to all political leaders, organizations, commercial establishments, individuals, public or private organizations, and institutions, to ensure the immediate removal of all such illegal hoardings/flex/promotions. Our

appeal is supported by thousands of individuals, NGOs, Resident Welfare Associations, Housing Societies & Mohalla Committees, who have showcased their indignation through written appeals and social media. This act is against the spirit of our city and is damaging our cultural fabric. As 'Punekars', we stand united to make Pune the best city to live in and are committed to holistic growth. Your swift action will instill confidence in citizens toward political leadership, which is crucial at this point as residents/citizens are ready to vote and extend any support to establishments and parties that

propagate or promote such illegitimate activities against the city and citizens at large. We regret to convey that if we do not see immediate action in the removal of these illegal hoardings/cutouts before 31st January 2023, we will be obligated to take legal actions against the involved political party, sponsor, facilitator, as well as the individual showcased in the illegal flex/cutout/hoarding. However, we strongly believe that given your citizen and development-focused leadership, you will take necessary actions immediately and issue directions across your political party to ensure compliance.

NueGo Forms Strategic Partnership with Paytm for online bus ticket booking

Pune (Voice news service):- NueGo, India's first premium electric inter-city coach services brand, today announced the strategic partnership with Paytm, India's leading payments and financial services company and the pioneer of QR and mobile payments, launching a convenient bus ticket booking facility for its customers. This partnership would allow commuters to digitally reserve the seat of their choice in all NueGo buses across India, providing a seamless digital booking experience. Paytm will enable commuters to book tickets without being physically present inside the bus or at the ticket counter, making

the travel experience even more seamless. The tickets can be bought using various digital payment methods including Paytm Wallet, Paytm UPI, net-banking, and credit/debit cards. These tickets can be pre-booked as per the convenience of the commuters.

NueGo, the flagship inter-city electric mobility coach brand of GreenCell Mobility is currently plying across India primarily on the Bhopal-Indore, Delhi-Chandigarh and Delhi-Jaipur routes. NueGo aims to provide exceptional ride quality and in-cabin experience for the inter-city travelers while ensuring a safer and greener ride.

Aimed at the new age traveler, the association with Paytm will enable NueGo customers to avail the Paytm ticketing service across all operational routes delivering an augmented travel experience.

Speaking on the occasion, Sumit Mittal, COO & Director Finance, GreenCell Mobility said, "We are happy to partner with Paytm, India's leading payments and financial services company and the pioneer of QR and mobile payments, for online bus ticket booking service for NueGo. We at NueGo aim to create and endorse the mobility solutions that are future ready. We believe that digitizing the

process will help us provide a holistic travel experience with our world class electric coach services. The digitalization will help us ensure and promote safe, seamless, contactless travel and reduced congestion on ticket counters."

Paytm Spokesperson said, "For millions of users, Paytm is the go-to app for all their travel ticketing needs. Our endeavour is to enable convenient travel for our users and provide them with a wide range of bus service operators that they can choose as per their suitability. Now, with NueGo onboard, we can also offer our users sustainable travel options."

GreenCell Mobility bags order of Electric Buses from CESL under National E-Bus Program Phase-I

Pune (Voice news service):- GreenCell Mobility Ltd (GreenCell), a leading pan-India shared electric mobility player has bagged order from Transport Department, Government of NCT Delhi for 570 electric buses. The tender was floated by Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL), a Government of India undertaking, under National E-bus Program (NEBP). This contract for 6,465 E-Buses under Gross Cost Contracting (GCC) basis is the largest tender for E-buses ever floated in India.

GreenCell had bid for 1,900 12-metre low floor e-Buses, in the tender floated by CESL. This lot was one of the most competitive and highly contested one, with GreenCell emerging as a winner, with allocation of 570 buses to be deployed over the next two years. This bid expands the B2G portfolio of GreenCell by more than 60% and expands GreenCell's presence across India with the marquee counterpart such as the Government of Delhi. GreenCell aims to become a

leading pan-India shared electric mobility player by leveraging proven global experience, developments in e-mobility technology, and the Government of India's strong push for electrification of transportation in India. GreenCell is implementing close to 1,500 E-buses in the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, New Delhi, and Madhya Pradesh of which more than 700 E-buses are operational across 23 cities. Speaking on the occasion, Mr.

Sumit Mittal, COO & Director - Finance, GreenCell Mobility said, "We are delighted to be among the winners of this tender which is part of larger goal of Government of India to deploy 50,000 E-buses on Indian roads in the next few years while modernizing and strengthening green public transportation in India. GreenCell Mobility has always lived up to the extraordinary quality and safety standards and the same shall be extended for this mandate."

The 22nd ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance 2022 given in Mumbai

Pune (Voice news service):- The Institute of Company Secretaries of India organized the presentation ceremony of the ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance 2022, in Mumbai. The Awards were instituted in the year 2001 to acknowledge

the impeccable efforts of Corporates and Professionals in promoting good governance and sustainable growth in the Indian corporate sector.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam, Former Chief Justice of India graced the 22nd edition of the Awards ceremony this

year as the Chief Guest, while Professional Tennis Player and World Record Holder, Mr. Leander Paes, was the Special Guest. Justice P. Sathasivam, was also the Chairman of the Jury for the Awards. Expressing his delight as the Chair of the Jury for the Awards for the 2nd consecutive

year, Justice P. Sathasivam said "Inculcating good corporate governance in every sector is a prerequisite for becoming a preferred nation for global investment and ICSI is standing at every step in alignment with this vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Mastercard, LEAF and BASIX digitally empower over one million smallholder farmers in India

Pune: Mastercard announced that it has reached the milestone of benefiting over one million smallholder farmers in India through Farm Pass, its scalable rural and agriculture digitization solution. Leveraging Farm Pass, Mastercard processed agricultural produce sales worth nearly INR 180 crores in 2022. Working with Lawrenceleda Agro Processing India (LEAF) and BASIX Social Enterprise Group, the payments technology firm has now set a target of covering 10 million

farmers by 2025. Since 2020, Mastercard, LEAF and BASIX have partnered to improve digital access and financial inclusion for farmers in four Indian states: Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. With its rich experience and expertise in digital and payments technology as well as agritech, in 2023, Mastercard will extend its Farm Pass solution to five more states including Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Telangana, and West Bengal.

Tara Nathan, Executive Vice President, Humanitarian & Development, Mastercard, said, "Community Pass, which includes Farm Pass, is designed to help smallholder farmers get paid more and faster. Mastercard is proud to have supported one million farmers in India last year. In line with the Government of India's vision to ensure financial inclusion and double farmers' income, Community Pass addresses the barriers smallholder farmers face when trying to ac-

cess reliable markets and financial services." Palat Vijayaraghavan, Founder & CEO, LEAF, said, "Leveraging our deep expertise in agritech, this partnership with Mastercard has led to the development of several digital products and solutions that have transformed the lives of smallholder farmers. Through comprehensive training and capacity building programs, we will continue to further empower farmers and make them more resilient."

THE AWARD-WINNING JAGUAR I-PACE IS NOW MORE DISTINCTIVE AND MORE DESIRABLE

Pune (Voice news service)- Since its debut the Jaguar I-PACE has won more than 90 global awards, including the unprecedented treble at the 2019 World Car of the Year Awards, winning World Car Design of the Year, World Green Car and World Car of the Year, reinforcing its status as the benchmark all-electric performance SUV.

With a low centre of gravity, advanced suspension systems and compact, efficient electric motors on each axle, I-PACE offers an unrivalled balance of all-wheel drive performance, refinement and agility – together with impressive real-world range and exceptional comfort and day-to-day usability. The vehicle's technology and features have continually improved using seamless software-over-the-air updates – with more still to come.

Now, I-PACE has been subtly enhanced, with a more distinctive design, richer specifications, the addition of R-Dynamic models and – for the first time – striking satin paints in a choice of two metallic colours. Nick Collins, Executive Director, Vehicle Programmes, said: "I-PACE has always offered a comprehensive package of performance, agility, technology and everyday usability that customers expect from a Jaguar, together with the smooth, quiet and effortless driving experience that electrification offers. We've delivered exactly that, and now it's our latest model to benefit from our approach of offering more curated, richer specifications."

"Looking to the future we're applying the know-how from our

electrified vehicle programmes and accelerated technological development enabled by our collaborative partnership with the Jaguar TCS Racing Team to reimagine Jaguar as an all-electric modern luxury brand from 2025."

Refreshed Design The I-PACE's cab-forward profile, short overhangs and taut, muscular haunches are instantly recognisable and set it apart from other all-electric SUVs. This award-winning design has now evolved, with subtle, carefully considered enhancements which deliver even greater presence. The front grille now has a smooth form, in striking Atlas Grey. Replacing the previous gloss black lozenge pattern, this gives a simpler, cleaner finish to the front of the vehicle while strengthening its inherently electric DNA. Atlas Grey is also applied to the vertical blades at the outside of the front apertures. A further detail change is the new black and silver Jaguar badge in the grille.

The front bumper finishers, lower door finishers and rear diffuser are now body-colour instead of Gloss Black. This treatment serves to simplify and refine the design while taking away visual mass.

All wheels offered on I-PACE as standard equipment are now diamond-turned with a Gloss Dark Grey contrast finish to complement its carbon fibre inserts. Perfectly complementing these updates is the exterior Black Pack. Now standard on all models from the R-Dynamic SE, the Gloss Black finish is applied to the grille surround, window

surrounds, door mirror caps and rear badges.

There's also the option of a contrast panoramic roof, which for the first time enables customers to specify a black finish for the rear section of the roof – until now body-coloured – to complement the sweeping glass panel. Customers can also specify satin paints for the first time. Offered in a choice of Eiger Grey or new Carpathian Grey, these finishes give I-PACE a sophisticated, contemporary look.

Performance and Dynamics I-PACE delivers a true Jaguar driving experience. With light, compact and efficient electric motors integrated into the front and rear axles, I-PACE can accelerate from 0-100 km/h in just 4.8 s.

Delivering comfort and agility without compromise is what has always made Jaguar unique. I-PACE's advanced double wishbone front- and Integral Link rear suspension are fundamental to this dynamic capability, together with the low centre of gravity and light, stiff aluminium body structure. Air suspension with Adaptive Dynamics electronically controlled damping enhances ride and handling still further.

Range and Charging Jaguar I-PACE clients in India will now get an 11 kW AC wall mounted home-charger complementary to the 24MY I-PACE. Customers with three-phase electricity and an 11 kW home wall box can fully charge their vehicles in approximately 9 hours**. Customers with single-phase electricity and using 7 kW wall boxes can

fully charge in approximately 13 hours**. I-PACE's 90 kWh Lithium-ion battery delivers a range of up to 470 km range (WLTP)3. Customers can also set charging to stop when the battery reaches a specific level – 80 per cent for example. This is especially useful when using public chargers because you can add only the range you need to reach your destination.

Preconditioning is another easy-to-use technology that enhances the driving experience. While the vehicle is plugged in it automatically heats or cools the battery to its ideal temperature and does the same for the interior, ready for the start of your journey. Using power from the mains instead of from the battery is more energy efficient and maximises range. Together with the timed charging functions, preconditioning can be set either using the vehicle touchscreen or the Jaguar Remote App – this has now been updated, making it even simpler to use.

Infotainment and connectivity Inside I-PACE's spacious interior there's all the technology you need to make every journey more enjoyable. Every model in the range has the fast, intuitive Pivi Pro infotainment system, offering seamless connectivity through wireless Apple CarPlay*, Wireless Android Auto** and what3words navigation. Pivi Pro – together with other systems throughout the vehicle – is always up to date thanks to software-over-the-air updates. The 2024 Model Year I-PACE range comprises: R-Dynamic S, R-Dynamic SE and R-Dynamic HSE.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Promotes Holistic Approach to Green & Clean Vehicle Mobility in the "Ethanol Pavilion" at Auto Expo 2023



Pune (Voice news service)- Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) is taking part at "Ethanol Pavilion" in Auto Expo'23, emphasising the significance of multiple energy pathway approach towards achieving carbon neutrality. The Pavilion organised by The Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) aims to promote awareness and accelerate the adoption of ethanol as an alternative fuel thereby helping the sector lower its dependence on fossil fuels.

The pavilion was inaugurated by Shri. Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs and Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar, Hon'ble Minister of State of Power and Heavy Industries – Government of India. As champions of sustainability, globally, Toyota is committed to Carbon Neutrality by 2050 and aims to achieve Net Zero Carbon in Manufacturing Operations by 2035.

Toyota is advancing greener mobility solutions with greater agility by introducing and supporting multiple clean technologies considering various factors such as India's energy mix, its unique consumer profile and needs, infrastructure readiness, and the Government's diversified efforts towards becoming 'Atma Nir-

bhar' in energy by 2047.

Sharing his expert views, Mr. Vikram Gulati, Country Head and Executive Vice President Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "Toyota will continue its relentless efforts and contribute to future innovations by sharing sustainable technological advancements in the green mobility space. Toyota believes that 'carbon is the enemy', and hence continues to offer wider choices to customers with various vehicle powertrain technologies, including Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (SHEV), Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV), Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV), Fuel-cell Electric vehicles (FCEV), Flex-fuel as well as Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FFV-SHEV), and other bio-fuel vehicles. Given the Indian context, we foresee a huge potential for ethanol as it is an Indigenous and clean energy source, that can significantly reduce fossil fuel consumption.

We are thrilled to be a part of the Ethanol Pavilion at Auto Expo 2023. Engaging in this inclusive initiative underlines the robust efforts by the Government and various key stakeholders in finding practical solutions that are best suited to promote energy security and green mobility in the country." He added further.

As one of the most appropriate options, ethanol holds tremendous potential for India as it is an Indigenous and renewable – clean energy source, that can significantly reduce fossil fuel consumption, the energy import bill and carbon emissions. Being agriculture based, higher use of ethanol as fuel will also increase farmer incomes and create new jobs, thereby boosting the agrarian economy besides increasing revenue for the Government. The Government also recently launched second-generation technologies for producing ethanol from agricultural residues like Agriculture waste (parali), which is currently otherwise burnt.

India has already achieved 10% ethanol blending five months ahead of schedule. The implementation of 20% ethanol blending in petrol by 2025-26 is expected to substitute 86 million barrels of Gasoline, thereby leading to forex savings of Rs. 30,000 crores for India, as well as reducing 10 million tons of carbon emissions.

Given the huge potential of ethanol production that exists up to and beyond E20, these benefits can increase multi-fold with the introduction of Flexi Fuel Vehicle (FFV) technology, that can flexibly use higher ethanol blends from 20% to 85%.

In India, Toyota recently launched the pilot project on Flexi-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FFV-SHEV) Technology and signed an MOU with the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The initiative marked Toyota's efforts to promote and create awareness on Ethanol as an important indigenous, carbon neutral energy pathway, along with the advanced Flexi-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle technology that can help India achieve true self-reliance and contribute towards the national target of

Carbon Net-Zero by 2070. The collected data will be shared with the prestigious Indian Institute of Science, for conducting a deeper study about the well-to-wheel carbon emissions of FFV / FFV-SHEV in the Indian context.

At display, at the Ethanol Pavilion, is Toyota's Flex-fuel Vehicle (FFV) offering. In addition, the Flex-fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FFV-SHEV) is also being displayed at Stall Number 10 at Auto Expo, 2023. We welcome one and all to visit the Toyota Booth at the Auto Expo 2023 and Ethanol Pavilion for an awesome experience with array of green and clean initiatives. The Indian automobile industry being one of the key contributors to India's energy security mission, represented at the Ethanol Pavilion with significant participation by leading OEMs, top industry leaders and experts. This important conference also witnessed the presence of various ethanol producers, world-renowned technology providers including Brazil and the United States.

The pavilion also represented the special efforts by Government of India towards accelerating the clean energy goals.

On the side-lines, today, a day-long conference themed "International Symposium for Thriving Eco-Energy in Mobility (ISTEM)" was organised to bring together experts and various think tanks deliberate over the benefits and opportunities of ethanol, along with discussing the readiness of automotive ecosystem for decarbonization. Sessions also included experts sharing experiences on the holistic pathways adopted globally aimed at realising energy dependence, economic benefits of a widespread ethanol ecosystem, energy security through biofuels and thereby contributions to long-run sustainable growth.

Plastindia Foundation set to host Asia's largest plastic exhibition - the 11th edition of PLASTINDIA 2023

Pune (Voice news service)- Plastindia Foundation, an internationally recognized organization devoted to promoting excellence in the field of plastics is all set to host the 11th edition of the International Plastics Exhibition, Conference, and convention – PLASTINDIA 2023 from 01st to 05th February 2023, at newly revamped Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. Asia's largest plastic exhibition will bring together over 1800 Exhibitors from across the world. Besides India, Germany, Austria, Japan and Singapore are some of the key participating countries.

PLASTINDIA 2023 will focus on innovation, sustainability, and growth, facilitating modern techniques that will help to maintain the development of the plastics industry in India and will work towards developing India into a preferred sourcing hub for plas-

tics globally. The five-day event will provide an excellent opportunity for Exhibitors to showcase their new innovations in Processing, Machinery, Moulds, and Dies, Auxiliary Equipment, Printing and Packaging, raw material, and more.

Innovative products/ technologies to be showcased by leading participants like RIL, IOC, HEMEL, Alok Masterbatches, Fine Organics, Kuraray, OQ, SABIC, in raw material; Lohia, Mamata, Rajoo, Pelican, JP, Milacron, ASB, Husky, ENGEL, Rifenhauser, W&H, Bruckner in machinery; UFFLEX, ER-EMA, Starlinger in recycling equipment; Supreme, Vishakha, in Finished Products.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Jigish Doshi – President of Plastindia Foundation said, "We are delighted to present PLASTINDIA 2023. After an unwilling pause of

four years due to the pandemic, Plastics industry professionals from all over the world will again get a chance to present future perspectives and solutions for the plastic and polymer industry. The mega exhibition will be the biggest one till date and is expected to consolidate its position as one of the largest pure Plastics exhibitions in the global plastics scene." "This event will truly be an incredible platform and opportunity for Indian plastics industry. Not just the main exhibition itself, there will be a stunning bouquet of associated offerings that make Plastindia exhibitions a 'must not miss' affair for global plastics honchos," added Shri Doshi.

Shri Ajay Shah – Chairman, National Executive Council, PLASTINDIA 2023 said, "PLASTINDIA has grown into a global experience, covering the entire

gamut of plastics processors, processors and users of plastics, together with recyclers of plastics and it witnesses intense participation by both Indian and International Plastics Fraternity".

"This exhibition is likely to change the face of plastics as it will help create more awareness about sustainability and recycling. All the participants will be part of this change. If you are in the plastics industry, you simply cannot miss the opportunity of being in the show of such magnitude. I urge everyone from the plastics industry to come forth and be a part of PLASTINDIA 2023."

Over the years, the plastics industry has reinvented itself with advanced innovations and developed environment-friendly processing and utilization techniques that do not affect the environment.

Cummins Group in India unveils Commercial Vehicle Industry's first fuel agnostic platform and its diversified range of Hydrogen Technologies power solutions at Auto Expo 2023



Pune (Voice news service)- Cummins Group in India, leading power solutions technology provider unveiled Commercial Vehicle Industry's first Fuel Agnostic Platform and its diversified range of Hydrogen Technologies power solutions at Auto Expo 2023 today in India Expo Mart, Noida. At the product launch event organized in the Cummins Group in India booth situated in Hall Number 15 of AUTO EXPO 2023, the company brought its Destination Zero TM strategy to life by unveiling low-zero emission products focused on decarbonization. The launch event was presided by senior officials from Cummins Inc. and India where the leadership team reinforced that Cummins is actively working to transition its customers to products that ultimately eliminate carbon

emission and will have the right products to serve customers throughout the transition.

With over a century of experience as a global power leader and a 6-decade presence in India, Cummins is solidifying its commitment of providing comprehensive zero-emissions technology along with other intermediate low carbon solutions on a global scale. Its multipath decarbonization approach is based on the premise that adoption of new technologies must address diverse customer needs such as power requirement, payload, range, and total cost of ownership economics, along with infrastructure and resource availabilities. Hence, rather than a one-size fits all solution, Cummins believes there are multiple approaches and technologies that can help

ingressing toward the net zero goals.

Speaking at the launch event, Ashwath Ram Managing Director Cummins Group in India said, "We share India's vision of 'Energy for Sustainable Growth' and achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2070. With a promising combination of our strong, global technological expertise and

our deep understanding of the India market due to our 60 plus years legacy, we are well positioned to contribute toward India's aim of becoming a cleaner and greener 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. We understand that the road transport sector has a major role to play in helping reduce emissions so

India can meet its climate goals and we are deeply committed to play our part in powering nation's decarbonization journey. Our innovation can be seen in action through the range of solutions on display at AUTO EXPO this week and it reaffirms our commitment to Decarbonization. We will continue to work together with our stakeholders on low carbon and zero emissions solutions that further our shared goal of reducing our carbon footprint on the planet."

Srikanth Padmanabhan President Engine Business Cummins Inc. said, "Realizing a net-zero

future will require a range of technologies and no one understands that better than Cummins. Our Destination Zero strategy considers the significant diversity of applications in our industry. We power some of the world's most demanding and economically vital applications. There is not a single solution or path to zero that will work for all these applications considering the variation in duty cycles and operating environments and locations. We must advance solutions in a way that secures a sustainable future for the industries that keep the world running. That's why we have developed the broadest range of ultra-low and zero-emission technologies dedicated to the commercial vehicle industry, which is being showcased at the AUTO EXPO."

Destination Zero TM is part of the framework of Cummins' broader PLANET 2050 environmental sustainability strategy, which also includes a focus on improving the communities the company operates in and using natural resources in the most responsible way. At the Auto Expo, Cummins is showcasing the following solutions that demonstrates its commitment to power India's net zero ambitions and enable its customers in their energy transition journey.

pTron Republic Day Special: New game-changing smart watch just at 1199

Pune (Voice news service)- Homegrown Digital Audio accessories and lifestyle brand, pTron announced the launch of its feature-packed next-gen Smartwatch, the Force X12S with an ultra large color display, all-round health functions and a massive range of over 100 cloud based watch faces. Designed for maximum practical application the Force X12S is made from

2.5D curved glass in a scratch-resistant body with fully functional working crown for faster navigation. The large screen allows users an immersive view of all their health and fitness data and notifications like incoming calls, messages, reminders with absolute clarity making it the perfect everyday smartwatch for all. The slim and light-weight Force X12S comes with IP68 protection to

safeguard from sweat, dust & water. The Force X12S lasts up to 5 days on a single charge with typical usage. Speaking at the launch, Mr. Ameen Khwaja, Founder & CEO, pTron said, "We as a brand have been ever thoughtful about the tech & fashion needs of today's youth who seek more everyday. Our newest addition in the smartwatch category, the Force X12S is made to empower users

with a smartwatch that is bigger, better & more value for money in every aspect". The pTron Force X12S smartwatch comes with pTron's proprietary pTron Fit+ App for Android & iOS. Intuitive & effortless the pTron Fit+ app features smooth animations and a tailored smartwatch UI that, together, allow seamless navigation for better insights into users health data.

BYD India Unveils its Luxury Electric Sedan BYD Seal & Launches BYD ATTO 3 Limited Edition at Auto Expo 2023

Pune (Voice news service)-BYD, the world's leading new energy vehicle (NEV) manufacturer, presented at the Indian Auto Expo 2023 with its new luxury model BYD Seal and the limited edition of BYD ATTO 3 in its iconic color Forest Green soon after launching BYD ATTO 3 and opening a number of dealership and showrooms. With the All-New e6 and BYD

ATTO 3 already available in the Indian market, BYD Seal will be the third passenger EV released within two years and it will be launched in India by Q4 this year. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sanjay Gopalakrishnan, Senior Vice President of Electric Passenger Vehicles of BYD India, said, "The Indian Auto Expo is an extremely significant platform

for us. We are pleased to be able to showcase our products and technologies through our technological innovations for a better life. With the unveiling of the electric luxury sedan BYD Seal, and the launch of the Limited Edition of BYD ATTO 3, Blade Battery, and the e-Platform 3.0, we resonate our commitment to contribute to the growth of the Indian electric vehicle segment

with future EV technologies." Today, we are also very honored to announce that the first batch of BYD ATTO 3 delivery starts. This calendar year, we plan to sell 15,000 units of BYD ATTO 3 & All-New e6. The bookings of BYD ATTO 3 have been very encouraging, and we are all set to start the first deliveries from January 2023", added Mr. Gopalakrishnan.