

10K Tiago.evs delivered in less than four months

Pune (Voice news service):- Tata Motors, India's leading automobile manufacturer, announced the achievement of the 10K delivery mark for the Tiago.ev, making it the Fastest EV to achieve this milestone in less than four months. This announcement comes shortly after the Tiago.ev became the 'Fastest Booked EV in India', receiving 10K bookings in just 24 hours and 20K bookings by December 2022.

Living up to its promise of democratizing the EV driving experience and spreading the quest for safe, clean and green mobility, the Tiago.ev has successfully made its way to 491 cities, covering a total of 11.2 million kms and saving 1.6 million grams of CO2 from emitting into the atmosphere.

The Tiago.ev has not only become a segment disrupter that offers premium-ness, safety and technology features and an eco-friendly footprint but it is also a fun electric trendsetter that provides its users with a superior driving experience. Tiago.ev owners have embarked on longer, intercity trips with their car, proving the confidence and the reliability it provides to them. More than 1200 Tiago.evs have each been driven over 3000 kms with 600+ cars having each clocked 4000+ kms on Indian roads - a strong testament on the superiority of the product. The DC fast charging availability which can add 110kms of range in just 30mins makes these long journeys even more convenient. Furthermore, the low cost of ownership acts as an added advantage to the whole package.



With almost 90% of the charging being done at home, all customers put together have already saved over INR 7 crore when compared to the running cost of ICE cars. Commenting on this remarkable journey, Mr. Vivek Srivatsa, Head, Marketing, Sales and Service Strategy, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd., said, "The Tiago.ev since its launch has been creating milestones. From becoming the 'Fastest Booked EV in India' to becoming the fastest EV in India to achieve the 10K delivery mark, this electric hatch has left no stones unturned. The Tiago.ev was launched with an aim to democratize the EV experience. It was a result of our ambition to fast forward the ongoing evolution towards the future of mobility by introducing a car that would encourage rapid adoption of EVs. And, we are so happy to

see our vision realise as 10K families said yes to Go.ev with the Tiago.ev. The trust in our offering is evident from the healthy demand the product witnesses, especially amongst young, career starting customers, who are well exposed to the recent developments in tech. Latest trends also showcase the affinity of young women drivers towards our car for the ease of driving it provides." "We would like to thank our customers as they are our biggest strength and the backbone of our EV community. Their constant support and trust has made us the leaders in this space and we promise to keep putting our best foot forward to make this community stronger going ahead." Based on the high-voltage state of the art, Ziptron technology, the Tiago.ev stands strong on 5 key pillars - Performance, Technology, Reliability, Charging and

Comfort. It offers a digital drive, an ultimate customized driving experience with multi-mode regen, and two drive modes - City & Sport. The Tiago.ev has been particularly appreciated for its premium and convenient features such as the fully automatic climate control as standard, projector headlamps, cruise control, electric ORVMs with auto fold, Auto Headlamps and Rain Sensing Wipers, among others - features that are usually reserved for higher segment cars. Boasting of multiple connected features as well, the Tiago.ev is the first in its category to offer telematics as standard feature on all trims. The ZConnect app offers 45 connected car features which include Remote AC ON/OFF with temperature setting, Remote geo fencing & car location tracking, Smart watch connectivity, Remote vehicle health diagnostics, Real-time charge status, Dynamic charger locator, Driving Style analytics amongst others. In addition to the above, customers will also enjoy an 8-speaker Harman Infotainment System with Android Auto and Apple Car Play connectivity. The Tiago.ev is offered in various combinations of IP67 rated battery packs (water and dust resistant) and charging options including a 24kWh battery pack, delivering a Modified Indian Driving Cycle (MIDC) range of 315km for longer daily driving needs and a 19.2kWh battery pack for short and frequent trips, delivering a MIDC range of 257km. Keeping all stress at bay, the liquid cooled battery and motor also come with best in class warranty of 8 years or on completion of 160,000 kms.

Valvoline™Flags off 'Happiness Truck 4.0' Initiative, aims to Empower and Educate Mechanics



Pune (Voice news service):- Valvoline Cummins Private Limited ("Valvoline Cummins"), the Original Engine Oil maker and a leading global lubricant manufacturer in association with Motor India, flagged off its 4th edition of 'Happiness Truck' an initiative which began its all-India tour for next 30-35 days across the length of the country Kashmir to Kanyakumari, spreading happi-

ness among mechanics, channel partners, fleet owners and drivers along the way. The 'Happiness Truck' was flagged off from Fruit Mandi, Srinagar with full celebration. The objective of Happiness Truck is to reach out and connect with mechanics, Fleet owners, and other service providers and involve them by empowering and educating them on the latest technologies.

Besides this, at every pit stop there will be an engagement program and light entertainment along with educational sessions. Speaking on the association, Mr. Sandeep Kalia, Managing Director, Valvoline said "At Valvoline, we believe in appreciating and empowering all our mechanic partners & engaging our fleet operators. The 'Happiness Truck' also follows the same philosophy of empowering and spreading happiness wherever it goes. Valvoline has been part of this initiative for 2 years now throughout which we have been able to connect with mechanics, service providers, and fleet owners and empower them with the knowledge and tools they need to succeed in the industry and has proved to be very successful in the past, and this year, we are committed to making it even more successful." "Mechanics have always played a key role in keeping the world

turning. We, at Valvoline express immense gratitude to mechanic workers in keeping India turning and forever steering towards growth and development" said Ipshta Chowdhury, Head of Marketing, Valvoline Cummins. "Through this initiative, we are reaching out to mechanic communities and making them aware of our various benefit programs and attempting to give back to the mechanic community", she added. This is the initiative of Motor India, where in the 'Happiness Truck' will be crossing the cities of Srinagar, Jammu, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Karnal, Delhi, Agra, Jhansi, Nagpur, Nizamabad, Hyderabad, Anantpur, Bangalore, Madurai and more covering a total of 26 locations across the country. Started by Motor India, the Happiness Truck initiative has been taking place for the last three years.

Castrol expands portfolio, launches range of premium Auto Care products



Pune (Voice news service):- Castrol, India's leading lubricant player, today announced expansion of its portfolio into the Auto Care segment, with a variety of products. With this foray, the company continues to

deliver on its promise to offer superior service satisfaction to vehicle owners. The new range of products include, Castrol Chain Cleaner, Castrol Chain Lube, Castrol 3-in-1 Shiner, Castrol 1-Step Polishing Compound and Castrol Anti-Rust Lubricant Spray. The company will continue to explore inclusion of other Auto Care products to cater to customer needs. Excited about the new launch, Mr Sandeep Sang-

wan, Managing Director, Castrol India Limited, said "Our foray into Auto Care is driven by our intent of moving onward, upward and forward with Castrol. The auto care segment is growing at a rapid pace with today's consumers being increasingly invested in the care of their vehicles, thereby creating a need for reliable and trusted brands. Castrol's range of autocare products will cater to this requirement. From fighting

rust to dissolving oil and grease, our range is a new way to look after the parts that matter." The company will leverage on its extensive network of distributors, modern trade partners, e-commerce channels and Castrol Auto service outlets & Bike Points to reach consumers. With this bold step, Castrol reinforces its commitment to innovation, growth, and delivering unparalleled value to our partners and consumers.

KALATMAKTA 2023 EVENT BY INIFD KOTHRUD SHOWCASE NEW TALENT IN FASHION



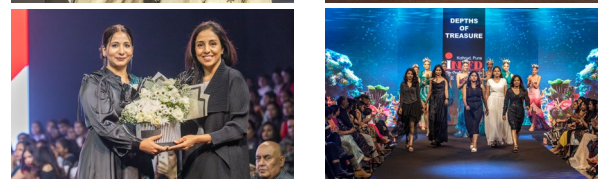
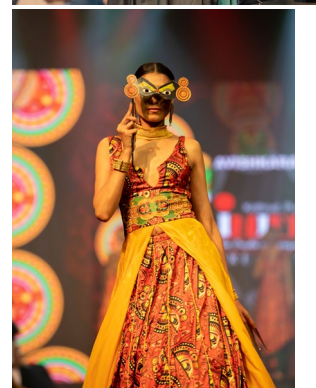
Pune (Voice news service):- INIFD Kothrud successfully hosted the enormous Kalatmakta 2023 event. The successful event saw budding designers showcase their creations on the runway. Held on May 6, it displayed and brought the visions of young talents to life. Kalatmakta 2023 saw prominent names make their presence felt at the event. The esteemed guests at the event were Nivedita Saboo, Sundeep Kocchar, Anil Khosla, and Hemant Trevedi. Trevedi is renowned for designing for some of the most significant personalities in Bollywood, including Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Priyanka Chopra Jonas. He mentored the design of each

collection. Noted concepts and ornamentation graced the runway. They told the stories of art and tradition, from narratives of the oceans to Tribal Sahyadri paying homage to Warli art & artists. The young designers paid tribute to the military forces through their collection. There was also a stunning blend of Indian craftsmanship and the Pantone 2023 in Viva Magenta. Students created prints presented in I Sea U, Ottakku, and Avishkaram. Behind the Veil grabbed attention for the creatively macramé outfits with ribbons. Ombre corporate clothing was featured by tonal tranquility. The event ended with the award ceremony for collections. Every collection



had at least one unique saree variation. The best innovation in the saree award was won by Victorian Indulgence. Avishkaram received two awards: the most original collection & best tribute to India. It grabbed the show with its spectacular collection inspired by Kerala's Kathakali. Tribal Sahyadri got acknowledged as the most sustainable collection. The Kalatmakta 2023 event hosted by INIFD Kothrud was overall a successful affair.

The event on May 6 saw imagination come to life on the runway & big names in fashion grace it



Mother's Day Mr. Abrarali Dalal, Director and CEO Sahyadri Hospitals



Pune (Voice news service):- "As we celebrate Mother's Day, it's important to remember the strength and resilience of mothers everywhere and prioritize their health and well-being. At Sahyadri Hospitals, we believe in making the journey of motherhood

special and memorable through our 'Mom Story' initiative, which brings all women's health services under one roof. From pre-marital counseling to witnessing the magical moment of the baby's arrival, our initiative supports mothers every step of the way. Our human milk bank extends services to not only inborn neonates but also other hospitals, going the extra mile for every mother and baby. We believe every mother deserves a unique story captured and cherished forever. Let's celebrate amazing mothers and continue prioritizing their health and happiness not just on this special day, but every day of their lives." - Mr. Abrarali Dalal, Director and CEO Sahyadri Hospitals

Mother's Day - Mrs. Smitha Yadav, HRBP, Head at CDK Global

Pune (Voice news service):- "At CDK Global, we believe that every day is an opportunity to recognize and enable mothers for their valuable contributions. As a Top 50 Women's Workplace, recognized by GPTW, we understand that working women bring unique perspectives and experiences to our organization. We offer a range of benefits and policies to support working mothers under

our I&D initiative, SuperMom - Balance for Success programs such as buddy at work, post-maternity support, paid parental leave, and comfortable workspace for expecting mothers. By investing in the success and well-being of mothers, we are investing in the future of our businesses and communities. This Mother's Day, we want to celebrate motherhood as we pledge to create a workplace where all employees can thrive and succeed"

Swati Gaikwad won the title of SuperGlobal International Miss India



Pune (Voice news service):- Swati Gaikwad from Pune has won the title of SuperGlobal International Miss India. This spectacular and especially breathtaking ceremony was held at Sairaj

Beach Resort in Goa on behalf of Flame Fire Media Production Surjaya Moni Doloi is the event organizer also in this competition Models came from all over the world Dubai, Russia, Kuwait, Indo-

nesia, America, Pune, Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Noida, Kolkata, Kerala, Assam, Guwahati. Poonam Raut, Zaheera Sheikh, and Varsha Asalkar are the judges of this Competition. Swati has successful professional life and works in a food corporation of India in Pune. She is the 5th runner up of Pune's Next Top Model which was held at Pune. Swati belongs to a working-class family and spent her childhood in Gwalior Madhya Pradesh. Ever since childhood, Swati has been fascinated by modeling and the fashion industry. Swati mentioned her mother Mrs. Mohini Gaikwad encouraged and motivated her to fulfill her aspirations of becoming a strong independent woman. Swati also mentioned that her own desire is to now represent India for the World Championships in the coming days.

AGILITY THAT INSPIRES WITH THE Z 8



Pune (Voice news service):- Nikon India Private Ltd. introduces the Z 8, an agile mirrorless camera made for creative-filled narratives in videos and stills. Condensing the advanced performance of the flagship Nikon Z 9 into a compact and portable body, whilst also maintaining reliability and uncompromised func-

tionality. "The Z 8 is a hybrid camera offering best of both the worlds for Photographers as well as Videographers. Powerful yet compact, Z 8 is a complete package which offers features like in-camera 8K video with 12bit N log, High performance Auto Focus with special AI in-

corporated algorithm, 24bit Pro audio quality and newly introduced features like HL-G (HEIF) format for 10bit still images, Pre-capture release mode making it easy for photographers to capture those decisive moments" said Sajjan Kumar, Managing Director of Nikon India Pvt. Ltd.

99acres.com's 'Insights' is helping consumers make the right property decision

Pune (Voice news service):- Property portal 99acres.com, has launched a one-of-its-kind feature, 'Insights', to help customers make the right property decision. This innovative real estate intelligence solution helps consumers

make their home search & research journey seamless, by providing a holistic understanding about localities, prices, resident reviews and much more. Speaking on the same, Sumeet Singh - CMO, InfoEdge said, "Our endeavour is to help con-

sumers make the right property decision and cater to their requirements effectively. We launched 'Insights' to provide accurate and transparent information to consumers and transform their home search and research journey. We have received

positive response for 'Insights' so far and are confident that we will be able to serve our consumers and customers better with this innovative solution." 99acres.com recently rolled out the #HarKoiExpert campaign focused on 'Insights'.

Thums Up teams up with Disney+ Hotstar for the all-new show Thums Up Toofani Biryani Hunt

Pune (Voice news service):- For the first time ever, Thums Up, launches season one of "Thums Up Toofani Biryani Hunt" in association with Disney+ Hotstar. This exclusive content series features Celebrity Chef Ranveer Brar and Telugu Anchor Ravi. Thums Up and Biryani are both favourites in India, and the brand beautifully paired them together in the previous campaign that featured Shah Rukh Khan and Vijay Deverakonda. Now, Thums Up is taking the campaign to the next level with a web series in association with Disney+ Hotstar, that celebrates the iconic combination of Biryani and Thums Up. Shot in the heartland of Biryani, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana, the series brings six episodes on six iconic Biryani restaurants. From the spice and flavours of the biryani to the fizz of Thums Up, the series promises to be a treat for food lovers and Thums Up fans alike. Conceptualized and created by Disney+ Hotstar Creative-



Works, it also carries forward Disney+ Hotstar's commitment to offering customized branded content solutions to brands, placing them in the hearts of their target audience. Ranveer Brar the loved Indian celebrity chef teams up with the anchor of Telugu films Ravi, to bring out the Toofani Biryani series to thrill foodies across India through their unique duo. Commenting on the new campaign, Tish Condono, Senior Category Director, Sparkling Flavors, Coca-Cola India & Southwest Asia, said, "We are thrilled to launch our 'Thums Up Toofani Biryani Hunt' exclusive content series with Disney+ Hotstar, celebrating the iconic combi-

viewers on a savory journey with Thums Up." Speaking on this fantastic concept, Celebrity Chef Ranveer Brar said, "There's nothing quite like the delicious combination of spicy Biryani and the refreshing kick of Thums Up. It's a match made in culinary heaven, and I am thrilled to be a part of this unique show that will take us on a journey through legendary biryani trails." Expressing his excitement in being a part of the pathbreaking show, the anchor Ravi said, "The combination of Thums Up and Biryani is truly unmatched. This web series is not just about the food, it's about the culture and stories behind each Biryani. It will showcase Thums Up's ideal pairing with its bold and refreshing taste that complements the spicy and flavourful notes of biryani." This homegrown brand is a remarkable illustration of how it showcases resilience and persistence living by its legacy and establishing itself as one of the leading sparkling brands across the country.

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Pune Boys and Girls teams in quarterfinals of Deccan Gymkhana State level Under 13 basketball tournament



Pune: Pune District Boys team thrashed Akola 86-5, while the Girls team thrashed Jalgaon 68-0 to enter the quarterfinals of the Under 13 State Championships basketball tournament organized by Deccan Gymkhana Club in association with Maha Basketball Association and Pune Ad-hoc Committee and played at Deccan Gymkhana Club

Basketball Courts. In the Boys section Beed, Akola, Nagpur, Thane, Mumbai City, Washim, Kolhapur, Dhule, Nashik districts made it to the pre-quarterfinals while in the Girls section Nashik, Kolhapur, Satara, Sangli, Jalgaon, Mumbai City entered the last 16 stage. Following are the results: League Round: Boys: Pune:



86(Daksha Sharma 24pts, Samarth Sutar 16pts) bt Akola: 5(Yuvraj Solanki 3pts); Beed:32(Rajveer Rakh 8pts, Omkar Maindar 8pts) bt Jalgaon: 13(Chaitanya Pawar 7pts); Nashik: 25(Naitik Sonar 12pts, Dhruv Bora 6pts) bt Kolhapur: 18(Krishnaraj Gokhale 8pts), Mumbai City: 41(Veer Vikram 8pts, Kevin Nadar 6pts) bt Thane: 14(Ri-

yaan Shaikh 4pts); Mumbai Suburban: 39(Barish Chaudhary 10pts) bt Dhule: 09(Harsh Pawar 4pts); Nagpur: 70(Urjit Deogade 12pts, Anirudha Mudhada 10pts) bt Sangli: 04(Ayush Patil 2pts); Solapur: 25(Sarthak Thorat 6pts) bt Amaravati: 9(Devansh Chakule 4pts); Girls : Pune:68 (Vaishani Pardeshi 10pts, Saloni Patil 4pts, Anusha Sontakke 6pts) bt Jalgaon: 00; Mumbai Suburban:42 (Ananya Patil 12pts, Ayuashi Mohite 8pts) bt Nanded:6(Ananya Kade 3pts); Nagpur: 33(Palak Panchbudhe 12pts) bt Kolhapur: 13(Amruta Banchode 4pts, Sanskruti Jadhav 6pts); Solapur: 18(Zara Khan 8pts, Bhumika Sonkusare 4pts) bt Ahmednagar:9(Arputa Timkare 4pts); Chatrapati Sambhajnagar: 18(Shreya Sanap 4pts, Ketaki Dhangade 2pts) bt Thane : 07(Saisha Watia 4pts).

India joins celebrations of historic 1000th MotoGP race with exciting bike rally from New Delhi to Gurugram

Pune (Voice news service):- Super bikes, flashy skills and burnouts were at display when close to thousand riders gathered in the capital city on Saturday to celebrate the 1000th MotoGP race landmark with an exhilarating bike rally as the motorcycle racing fever begins to grip India ahead of its first-ever MotoGP race, scheduled to take place at the Buddh International Circuit in Noida from September 22-24.



This weekend's French Grand Prix marks the significant achievement in the history of MotoGP since the first feast of speed was held 74 years ago. Motorsports enthusiasts and bike riders joined in numbers to pay tribute to the sport's remarkable milestone and made rally the talk of the town. The exciting rally, hosted by Fairstreet Sports, a leading sports management company, and convened by xBhp, is the first of many such events being organised in the build-up to the historic MotoGP India round - the "MotoGP Bharat". Riders gathered at

the JLN Stadium to begin the rally and showed flashy burnouts before moving to Gurugram where they also displayed top-notch skills with super bikes. The Hon'ble Vice Chairman of New Delhi Municipal Council, Mr Satish Upadhyay graced the occasion along with the executive team of Fairstreet Sports and had a message for the bikers and the audience. "It was a wonderful event today. I would like to congratulate the Fairstreet Sports team and wish them great success as they gear up for the upcoming Moto GP Bharat.

MotoGP is a big name in the world and the way you have started here is fantastic. We have to encourage such events a lot more and I assure you we will do everything to help you in future as well. In India, Motorsport is often regarded as a stunt game but this is not a stunt, this is a serious sport and we have to take it seriously. Security and safety is also very important and it is necessary for bikers to adhere to the rules and do the racing," commented Satish Upadhyay. Pushkar Nath Srivastava, COO, Fairstreet Sports said: "We are thrilled to have or-

ganised the MotoGP milestone celebration with a bike rally event that brought together the passion, excitement, and unity of the motorcycle racing community in the capital city. As India gears up for the first-ever MotoGP Bharat, this was a remarkable experience to witness the joy on the faces of fans and riders alike. This rally not only celebrated the milestones of MotoGP's history but also gave glimpses of the excitement of fans for the historic event later this year." The on-going MotoGP 2023 season, which witnesses 20 races across 17 countries, will visit India for its 13th race as the country makes its debut on the racetrack. Indian fans will get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the exciting action where 11 teams and 22 riders will be in action which includes Francesco Bagnaia of Ducati, Marc Marquez of Repsol Honda Team, Marco Bezzecchi of Mooney, Brad Binder and Jack Miller of Redbull KTM, Jorge Martin of Prima and many more.

Letter from Producers of Farhana



Pune (Voice news service):- Our company, which has been producing quality films that entertain people as well as make them think, has always been functioning with great social responsibility and work ethics.

Our films has spoke about religious harmony, social unity and love. But the controversies created by a few people about Farhana, which has been duly censored by the government body, has pained us greatly. Farhana is not against any religion or their sentiments. Our aim is only to provide good movies and we never vouch for contents that are against a particular religious sentiments and beliefs.

And we have never allowed, nor we want stories that are against humanity and humanness. We wish that our brothers and sisters who are creating controversies about our movie should understand this. Our Tamil Nadu is a paradise for religious harmony. A soil that highly values works of art. It is not proper to oppose a censored film before its release due to misconceptions

and create controversies based on it. It will only show that the opposers have no proper understanding. A film is made with contribution of several hundred people. We hope Tamil fans will support a film that is flawless in its intentions. Like in India, even in certain foreign countries, if a film has content that hurt religious sentiments, it'll be very difficult for the film to get past censorship.

FOOD & RESTURANT

Unleash Luxury and Cheer with Asilo Pune's special cricket offers



EPune (Voice news service):- Experience the ultimate luxurious cricket experience at Asilo Pune with their ongoing IPL offers. Watch live matches in style with exclusive beverage packages starting from Rs 1500 + tax for groups of 10+. Indulge in special snacks and refreshments as you cheer your favourite team. And for those looking to enjoy a cold beer while enjoying the edge-of-the-seat match action,

Asilo Pune has beer bucket deals starting from Rs1000. Grab this opportunity and elevate your cricket viewing experience with the luxurious amenities and stunning views at Asilo Pune. Book now for a truly unforgettable cricket experience. Where: Asilo Pune When: Monday to Friday from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM | Saturday and Sunday from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM and 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Chérie: Pune's Newest High-End Lounge Raises the Bar for Premium Dining and Cocktails



Pune (Voice news service):- Chérie, Hinjewadi's newest all-day dining and high-end bar, has taken Pune's dining scene by storm with its chic interiors and uniquely curated menu. The all-day dining and high-end bar made jaws drop as the chic interiors left their mark. An unmatched gastronomical adventure, Chérie, one of Hinjewadi's most premium and classy lounge was welcomed with open arms and the response was overwhelming to say the least. Chérie's uniquely curated menu is nothing short of a culinary treat to your senses. With dishes like Truffle

Edamame Cremeux - made of avocado mousse, phyllo basket, edamame, chives and jalapenos truffle oil and Gambas Caliente - Pan tossed shrimp, spicy garlic and paprika glazes served with bun, chef Shivraj Shendre raises the bar of Pune's dining scene. These delectable dishes are best paired with their signature cocktails like Anchor Point - a coffee bitter with sour, Lacto Love - a cocktail with a creamy and saffron twist. Pair your meals with signature cocktails, mixed to perfection with artisanal recipes, measured to bring out the best of the ingredients.



Stepping into Chérie is nothing short of a wonderland experience, with pastel hues adorning walls and a perfect blend of wood, ceramics and cane, creating a unique and memorable vibe. The scattered plants make the dining area a lot more lively and the experience one for the books. The venue also provides a gorgeous set up for music lovers and artists with a calm yet energized atmosphere. Every nook and corner of Chérie is designed in a way to host food enthusiasts, party lovers and for the ones who would like to relax with a bowl of comfort food and a beverage of their choice.

On the launch of Chérie, Mr Rohan Nimhan, Founder of Chérie, said "We wanted to create a one-of-a-kind dining experience for Puneans, where they could indulge in exquisite cuisine, relax with a signature cocktail, and bask in the beauty of their surroundings. Chérie's unique ambiance and delectable menu have been a hit with locals and we're thrilled with the response we've received so far." Line up your next date, a pampered evening aura much-deserved treat at Chérie, Hinjewadi, and experience the best of dining, in style.

India storms into female CS:GO Asian Championship; outclasses Sri Lanka in South Asian qualifiers

Pune (Voice news service):- Living up to their name, India's female CS:GO team performed to the best of their abilities to convincingly prevail against Sri Lanka in the South Asian Qualifiers and advance to the IESF Asian Championship which is set to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from July 10-17, 2023. Led by team captain Swayambika Sachar (Sway) the vibrant team comprising Nidhi Salekar (Stormyyy), Shagufta Iqbal (xyaa), Dilraj Kaur Matharu (COCO), and Aastha Nangia (CrackShot) made lightwork of Sri Lanka by defeating them by 16-3, 16-0 in the best-of-three matchup.



With an efficient and flawless display on both maps, the team lost only three rounds in the entire series courtesy of the individual brilliance of their roster that helped them thoroughly dominate the opposition. Speaking on the result, Swayambika Sachar, captain of the female Indian CS:GO team said, "We are extremely proud to have secured our spot in the Asian qualifiers and to represent India amongst all the elite teams from the continent. It is a remarkable achievement for all of us, and I couldn't be happier with our scintillating performance

against Sri Lanka in the South Asia regionals. The team has improved significantly in the last few months and we are constantly working on improving our gameplay by strategizing and practicing rigorously. We want to be at our very best when we compete in the offline qualifiers in Riyadh and are determined to secure a spot for the Grand Finals in Romania." The five-member team created history by becoming the very first all-female CS:GO team to qualify for the South Asian regional qualifiers by defeating Team Purr-ple in the finals of the National Esports Championships (NESC) 2023, conducted by

the Esports Federation of India (ESFI) earlier this year. They will now take on the female CS:GO outfits from Saudi Arabia and Hong Kong in a bid to qualify for the 15th World Esports Championships (WEC) in Iasi from August 24 - September 4, 2023. "Our female CS:GO team has grown leaps and bounds as a unit since the NESC 2023 and their success in the South Asian qualifiers is a testament to that. Their journey so far has been inspiring for all the women gamers in India that seek a career in Esports. As they embark on the upcoming Asian Championship, we extend our heartfelt

wishes for their continued success and firmly believe in their ability that will help them advance to the 15th WEC," said Vinod Tiwari, President, Esports Federation of India. India's DOTA 2 team comprising skipper Manav Kunte (mnnz), Vishal Vernekar (HBK), Abhishek Yadav (Abhi-), Shahbaz Hussain (PinkMaN), Krish Gupta (Krish'), and substitute Jaikishan Malik (KaEL) shall be commencing with their South Asian qualifiers from May 15 onwards. The Indian CS:GO (Open) team comprising of team captain Harsh Jain (I1red-up), Jaspreet Singh (SpawN), Sadab Khan (SK wow^), Piyush Kalwania (clouda), Nikhil Kathe (N1kace) and substitute Omkar Thube (omkar09) already secured their place for the Asian Regionals on May 8. The country's well-renowned Tekken 7 professional Abhinav Tejan and eFootball athlete Ibrahim Gulrez have already secured their qualification at the 15th WEC that has a whopping prize pool of \$500,000 (INR 4.12 crore), and is set to be the largest edition of the tournament to date with at least 130 countries participating in eFootball, DOTA 2, Tekken7, Mobile Legends, PUBG: Mobile and CS:GO.

The Body Shop Gifting range for Mother's Day

Pune (Voice news service):- Mothers take on many roles in our lives - friend, confidant, frenemy, mentor, stylist... these are only a few examples. They work hard to take care of us and often forget to take care of themselves. So, this Mother's Day, why not gift these super-women some much-needed TLC?

The Body Shop, a Britain-born international, ethical beauty brand, has an extensive Mother's Day gifting range. The products in its collection are infused with handpicked

ingredients like British Rose that emanate a refreshing floral scent and are ideal for year-round use. What's more, is that The Body Shop's gifting range comes at varied price points. So, there's something for every budget.

Bloom & Glow British Rose Mini Gift, INR 1395: At the end of a long day, everyone deserves to indulge themselves, and your mother is no exception. Let her skin soak up the goodness of hand-picked English roses with The Body Shop's Bloom & Glow British Rose Mini Gift.

KK Eye Institute receives prestigious All India Ophthalmology Society award



Pune (Voice news service):- Pune-based KK Eye Institute has received a Special Appreciation award from the AIOS (All India

Ophthalmology Society), a national body of more than 26,000 ophthalmologists. The prestigious award event was held at the Annual Meet of

Ophthalmologists, Kochi on May 12, 2023. The award was conferred in recognition of the high standard of eye care services that KK Eye Institute has been rendering to the community of Pune and peripheral areas. Located at Koregaon Park, KK Eye Institute has earned a name for its commitment towards a value based, ethical approach while providing affordable access to the highest international standard of eye care services. The credo of the Institute is 'uncompromising care' which

adheres to the principles of Sadhu Vaswani and Dada JP Vaswani. The CEO of the K K Eye Institute, Ms Renu Wadhwa stated, "This Award is a manifestation of our Beloved Sadhu Vaswani and Beloved Dada Vaswani's Grace and Blessings. Power, popularity, possessions and pleasures were not a priority for Them. They chose to tread the path of service. I hope and pray that the K K Eye Institute continues to walk this way of patient care and service".

Zell Education hosts its first Finance Frontiers Conclave

Pune (Voice news service):- Zell Education, India's leading finance and accounts Ed-tech, recently hosted its first edition of Finance Frontiers Conclave 2023 on 6th May at Sheila Raheja Auditorium, Mumbai. The event brought together an exclusive opportunity to build a niche community led by industry leaders. It was orchestrated over multiple sessions, including keynote, panel discussion, open Q&A and networking sessions. The event kick started with

a keynote and a welcome speech by Pratham Barot, Co-founder and CEO of Zell Education, followed by a Panel discussion on "From Accounting Student to CFO: Career Progression in F&A". It highlighted the esteemed panelist from of the industry, namely, Keyur Shah Partner & Leader of the Financial Services Tax practice at EY; Vivek Soni Partner & National Leader of Private Equity Services; Nidhi Sony, Talent Director at EY and Parth Gandhi Founder and CIO at Bombay Capital.

Interactive Edtech platform Collegify Simplifies Overseas Admissions for Indian students with Personalized Profile Development Services

Pune (Voice news service):- India is quickly becoming a significant contributor to global growth in student mobility for higher education abroad. There is a growing number of Indian students seeking quality education and cultural experiences at foreign destinations. It is reported that in 2022, 6.5 lakh Indian students went abroad for higher education, surpassing pre-pandemic numbers.

Moving abroad for education can be complex for Indian students, but a customized mentoring approach can help them create a comprehensive profile to increase their chances of being accepted into the best colleges. Collegify is helping Indian students and their parents with a comprehensive approach,

from preparing for scholarships to placement in reputed universities in the USA, UK, Canada, Singapore, Hong Kong, etc. and providing the family with a good return on investment.

As a first-of-its-kind e-learning platform, Collegify helps students excel on the SAT/ACT through personalized video lessons, lesson plans, practice questions, and mock tests. This has earned them a spot in the Forbes Business Council. Collegify also supports scholarship applications annually, securing at least \$20 million in aid for students over the past decade. Collegify offers a unique and personalized end-to-end profile and skill development service, including career mapping and admission services, to cater to the specific

needs and ambitions of each student. Through one-to-one counseling, Collegify helps students find the best academic program and improve their profiles.

A strong profile for college admission should include good academics, positive letters of recommendation, a good standardized test score, and a demonstration of leadership, online courses, community service, independent research, internships, and well-presented essays. Collegify helps students create an all-around profile to stand out in competitive applicant pools.

According to Rohan Ganeriwala, Director & Co-founder of Collegify, "As talented Indians are leading global industries, the student community in India is recognizing

the potential of seeking quality higher education from reputable overseas destinations. While they know they want to go overseas, they often lack guidance on where to go and how. Collegify helps them develop a robust profile through a personalized approach to increase their chances of being accepted into the best universities abroad."

In 2021-22, Collegify's students were accepted into top universities, including Cornell SC Johnson College of Business, The University of Chicago, Wharton University of Pennsylvania, University of Michigan, NYU, Duke University, REED College, University of Toronto St George, The University of British Columbia, Boston University, UC San Diego, and many more.

IBM Unveils the Watsonx Platform to Power Next-Generation Foundation Models for Business

Pune (Voice news service):- IBM (NYSE: IBM) at its annual Think conference, announced IBM watsonx, a new AI and data platform to be released that will enable enterprises to scale and accelerate the impact of the most advanced AI with trusted data. Enterprises turning to AI today need access to a full technology stack that enables them to train, tune and deploy AI models, including foundation models and machine learning capabilities, across their organization with trusted data, speed, and governance - all in one place and to run across any cloud environment.

Also at Think, IBM is announcing further planned advancements, including a GPU-as-a-service infrastructure offering designed to support AI-intensive workloads, an AI-powered dashboard to measure, track, manage, and help report on cloud carbon emissions, and a new practice for watsonx and generative AI from IBM Consulting that will support client deployment of AI. With watsonx, IBM is offering an AI development studio with access to IBM-curated and trained foundation models and open-source models, access to a data store to enable the gathering and cleansing of

training and tuning data, and a toolkit for governance of AI into the hands of businesses that will provide a seamless end-to-end AI workflow that will make AI easier to adapt and scale. "With the development of foundation models, AI for business is more powerful than ever," said Arvind Krishna, IBM Chairman and CEO. "Foundation models make deploying AI significantly more scalable, affordable, and efficient. We built IBM watsonx for the needs of enterprises, so that clients can be more than just users, they can become AI advantaged. With IBM watsonx, clients can quick-

ly train and deploy custom AI capabilities across their entire business, all while retaining full control of their data." Clients will have access to the toolset, technology, infrastructure, and consulting expertise to build their own - or fine-tune and adapt available AI models - on their own data and deploy them at scale in a more trustworthy and open environment to drive business success. Competitive differentiation and unique business value will be able to be increasingly derived from how adaptable an AI model can be to an enterprise's unique data and domain knowledge.

The Lexicon School Hadapsar organises a workshop on the importance of millets, CEO of AgroZee Organics addresses school students



Pune (Voice news service):- The Lexicon School Hadapsar, an educational institution in Pune, recently organized a workshop on "The importance of millets" to educate students about the significance of incorporating millets into their diets. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Mahesh Londhe, Founder and CEO of AgroZee Organics Pvt Ltd, who has been actively working on reducing malnutrition and increasing the bioavailability of iron in millets.

Established in 2013, The Lexicon School at Hadapsar is a leading educational facility in Pune, Maharashtra, giving students a complete educational experience that places a strong emphasis on their entire growth. The workshop was aimed at developing well-rounded individuals who can flourish in a

world that is changing quickly by placing a high focus on health in addition to academics, extracurricular activities, and value-based education. With the United Nations designating 2023 as the International Year of Millets, the workshop was said to align with the school's theme for the year: Health, Fitness, Happiness, and Gratitude. Mr. Mahesh emphasized the importance of incorporating millets into daily meals, urging the students to include them in their lunch boxes. He further emphasized that consuming millets regularly contributes to overall fitness, promotes an active lifestyle, and strengthens muscles.

Dr. Annapurna Lilly Bipinraj, Principal of The Lexicon School, Hadapsar, emphasized the importance of the workshop, stating that "Our goal at The Lexi-

con School is to empower our students to become responsible and mindful citizens who are aware of the impact of their choices on their health and the environment. This workshop on the health benefits of millet is a step towards achieving that goal. We believe that by educating our students about the value of incorporating millets into their diets, we are not only promoting their physical well-being but also encouraging them to make informed and sustainable choices. We are grateful to Mr. Mahesh Londhe for his invaluable contribution to creating a healthier and more conscious generation of students. During the workshop, the students had the opportunity to observe the different types of millets and explore various food products made by AgroZee. This hands-on experience allowed them to understand the versatility and potential of millets in culinary applications. The students learned that millets are highly nutritious and address important health needs. With a low glycaemic index, millets help reduce blood glucose levels, lowering the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. They are rich in iron, calcium, zinc, and

fibres, making them a smart choice. The students learned that millets grows quickly and the crop matures in almost half the time required for rice and wheat. In today's fast-paced world dominated by fast food and advancing technology, it is crucial for students to connect with their roots and explore alternative sources of healthy food. Mr. Mahesh addressed the students, highlighting the benefits of millets and their role in building a healthy lifestyle. Millets, come in 9 different types - Pearl Millet, Finger Millet, Sorghum Millet, Brown Top Millet, Foxtail Millet, Barnyard Millet, Kodo Millet, Little Millet, and Proso Millet, he added.

The presence of magnesium in millet can also alleviate the effects of migraines and heart attacks. Additionally, millets are gluten-free and non-allergenic, making them suitable for individuals with dietary restrictions. Their high protein content makes millet an excellent addition to a vegetarian diet. By raising awareness about millets and their benefits, the school is encouraging students to make conscious and sustainable choices for both their health and the environment.

Driving the future of engineering: thyssenkrupp scales up its Technology Center, inaugurates a new state-of-the-art office in Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- thyssenkrupp, an internationally operating group of companies, has announced the inauguration of its new facility for Technology Center India (TCI) in Hinjawadi, Pune. The state-of-the-art facility will drive technological innovation to shape the future of engineering and manufacturing worldwide and establish India as a knowledge hub for digital excellence for the group globally.

"As we continue to drive thyssenkrupp's global digitalization and innovation efforts, we recognize the critical role that India will play in achieving our goals. With the large pool of highly skilled talent in Pune and its thriving IT ecosystem, TCI will accelerate the digital transformation

acting as a digital competence center and tapping into the incredible talent and expertise within India's digital ecosystem, thus adding to our ability to accelerate new product development in both global and local markets." Established in 2019, TCI has successfully delivered diverse digital solutions such as predictive maintenance for mining machines, optimising supply chains with data-driven algorithms, and building personalised virtual connections via chatbots, enhancing customer experiences.

The new office with the larger software employee base at TCI will continue accelerating thyssenkrupp's efforts to achieve its digitalization goals and drive consistent innovation in the engineering and manufacturing sectors globally.

Rohit Gupta, Head Technology Center India, thyssenkrupp, said, "Innovation and speed are key for robust growth in this digital era. The technology center in Pune will drive innovation for our group, enabling us to meet the ever-increasing demand for software engineering by

acting as a digital competence center and tapping into the incredible talent and expertise within India's digital ecosystem, thus adding to our ability to accelerate new product development in both global and local markets." Established in 2019, TCI has successfully delivered diverse digital solutions such as predictive maintenance for mining machines, optimising supply chains with data-driven algorithms, and building personalised virtual connections via chatbots, enhancing customer experiences.

The new office with the larger software employee base at TCI will continue accelerating thyssenkrupp's efforts to achieve its digitalization goals and drive consistent innovation in the engineering and manufacturing sectors globally.

Samsung Invites Applications for Solve for Tomorrow Innovation Competition

Pune (Voice news service):- At an education and innovation roadshow organized by Samsung India at Symbiosis Institute of Technology, 500 enthusiastic young college students said they want to solve some of the most pressing problems that people and communities across the state and the country are facing today.

This was a roadshow organized around the second season of Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition. Students in Pune, who came from various colleges such as Ajeenkya DY Patil University, DYPC Center for Automotive Research and Studies, D.Y. Patil College of Engineering, Dr. D. Y. Patil Institute of Technology, and D. Y. Patil International University said they want to solve real-world problems such as Social Inclusion through Employment Provision, Mental Health among the youth and Road Safety. At the event, which was organized to talk about Samsung's global CSR program Solve for Tomorrow, the students said they require platforms such as Solve for Tomorrow to guide and support them in turning their ideas into action. They spoke about the innovative tech they could deploy to find



solutions to the problems. Samsung had recently announced its partnership with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology's (MeitY's) Startup Hub and Foundation for Innovation & Technology Transfer (FITT), IIT Delhi for the second season of the national education and innovation competition Solve for Tomorrow. With Solve for Tomorrow, Samsung aims to usher in a culture of innovative thinking and problem-solving amongst the country's youth. The top three teams will win INR 1.5 crore to turn their ideas into action while other participants who reach top 30 and top 10 will be rewarded at various stages of the program. The second season of Solve for Tomorrow is inviting applications from youth in India aged 16-22 years under the themes of Education & Learning, Environment & Sustainability,

Health & Wellness and Diversity & Inclusion. Youth can apply for Samsung Solve for Tomorrow on www.samsung.com/in/solvefortomorrow starting April 04, 2023 till 5 pm on May 31, 2023. "At Samsung, harnessing the power of youth is priority for us. This is what drives us and our global CSR vision of 'Together for Tomorrow! Enabling People! Giving youth a voice in real-life issues affecting communities around them allows them to see firsthand the change they can create in the world. With Samsung Solve for Tomorrow, we want to give youth that opportunity and also play our part in strengthening the innovation ecosystem in the country, taking forward the vision of the Government and our own vision of Powering Digital India," said Mr. Hyun Kim, Corporate Vice President, Samsung Southwest Asia.

City-based innovator Vimal Panjwani, who is the Founder and CEO of AgriVijay, spoke to the students about the value of both success and failure. He also talked about how his start-up is working in the space of renewable energy to fight climate change and empower farmers in rural India. He urged students to look at problems that India faces and Solve for Tomorrow with their unique solutions. Samsung Solve for Tomorrow at a Glance

Who can participate: 16-22 year-olds, individually or in teams of up to 3

Application themes: Education & Learning, Environment & Sustainability, Health & Wellness and Diversity & Inclusion

What will they get: Online training, Bootcamp at IIT Delhi, mentoring & training from Samsung, IIT Delhi, and MeitY Startup Hub

What do winners get: Total of INR 1.5 crore to 3 winning teams and exciting Samsung products that will boost their productivity

Where can they apply: www.samsung.com/in/solvefortomorrow

From when: Starting April 04, 2023

Till when: Till 5 pm on May 31, 2023

ITC augments its millet portfolio Launches Sunfeast Farmlite Super Millets Cookies



Pune (Voice news service):- In line with the core purpose of 'Help India Eat Better', ITC Foods launched its first millet cookies as part of Sunfeast Farmlite.

Millets are now seen by experts as foods of the future. They are not only climate smart crops but a large body of scientific research recognises millet as superfoods. Earlier this year, ITC launched a dedicated initiative 'ITC Mission Millet' powered by a strategic 3 pillar model that encompasses development of a 'good-for-you' product portfolio, implementation of sustainable farming systems as well as

enhancing consumer awareness on the benefit of millets. The launch of Sunfeast Farmlite Super Millets Cookies is in conjunction with ITC Mission Millet initiative. Available in two variants - Multi Millet & Choco-chip Multi Millet, the millet cookies are made from a blend of millets, including ragi, jowar (sorghum) and contains no added maida.

The cookies are a source of iron, protein and fibre. Additionally, the inclusion of choco-chips in the Choco-chip Multi Millets variant adds a touch of indulgence. Both the variants have perfectly balanced the two key elements of taste and nutrition, making them a great snacking option for consumers.

Commenting on the launch, Mr. Ali Harris Shere, COO,

Biscuits and Cakes Cluster, ITC Foods Division said, "At ITC, we are committed to provide our consumers with nutritious and sustainable food choices. With Mission Millet, we have embarked on a journey to build a culture of millet consumption through an exciting range of 'good for you' product portfolio. The new millet cookies are an integral step towards that mission. With the goodness of millets and the unique flavours at the centre stage, we are sure that our consumers will enjoy this new range of biscuits. We believe that these millet cookies will not only satisfy the taste buds of our consumers but also have nutrients like protein and iron."

ITC Foods already offers a range of millet-based products such as Aashirvaad

multi-millet mix, Aashirvaad ragi flour, Aashirvaad gluten-free flour etc. Going forward, ITC is looking to expand its millet-based product portfolio with a slew of tasty and nutritious offerings across many segments. Both variants of Sunfeast Farmlite Super Millets Cookies come in packs of 75g, and are priced at Rs. 50 per pack. They are available in retail stores across Mumbai, Pune, Ahmedabad, Delhi + NCR, Kolkata, Chennai, Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Bangalore Kerala and ITCStore.in. The product will soon be available on e-commerce and quick commerce platforms as well.



Qutone Tiles is presented by "Most Trusted Tile Brand" by Actor Madhuri Dixit at GEA 2023

Pune (Voice news service):- Qutone Tiles, the luxury tile brand that has been offering innovations and numerous tile solutions under one roof, has won the Most Trusted Brand award at the Global Excellence Awards (GEA) 2023.

The award was presented by the renowned actress Madhuri Dixit Nene at a ceremony organized by Brand Empower Pvt. Ltd. in New Delhi. Qutone Tiles, present in over 60 countries across the globe, is a premium brand that provides a wide range of products for floors, walls, work surfaces, and external facades. The brand has always been committed to presenting consumers with something unique and classy, be it the products or the brand communication. Qutone Tiles prides itself on providing the best offerings and maintaining consistency in its services.

Winning the Most Trusted



Brand award is a wonderful achievement for Qutone Tiles as the company has always believed in building strong customer relationships. Trust is the foundation of any business, and Qutone Tiles has worked tirelessly to establish itself as a brand that customers can rely on. Being a tile company, it is essential for customers to trust the brand as they want a company that can truly be relied upon for quality and longevity. Sunil Manglunia, Managing

Director, Qutone Tiles, said, "We are extremely proud to receive the Most Trusted Brand award at GEA 2023. Winning this award is a validation of our brand's commitment to building trust and providing our customers with exceptional products and services.

We have always believed in maintaining strong customer relationships, and this award is a testament to that. We thank Brand Empower Pvt. Ltd. and the esteemed jury

members for this recognition."

Qutone Tiles has been revolutionizing the tile industry with its innovative and unique offerings, and the brand's success can be attributed to its constant focus on research and development. With a range of exquisite and timeless products, Qutone Tiles has become the go-to brand for luxury tile solutions for discerning customers.

The Global Excellence Awards is an initiative by Brand Empower Pvt. Ltd. to recognize businesses, entrepreneurs, and service providers for their exceptional performance and accomplishments in their respective areas. The awards showcase businesses that have navigated tough conditions by innovating, creating jobs, achieving growth, and supporting their communities and the planet.

Kotak Unveils All New Privy League-an Exclusive Premium Banking Programme

Pune (Voice news service):- Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited ("KMBL"/"Kotak") announced the launch of all new Privy League programme – an exclusive premium banking programme with unique lifestyle privileges & bespoke financial solutions curated for high net-worth individuals.

As the flagship premium banking program of Kotak Mahindra Bank, Privy League has been crafted to celebrate the achievements of their customers by bringing to them unmatched lifestyle experiences and superior banking services.

The new value proposition provides multifaceted offerings to bring priceless experiences to its customers. It comprises privileges across travel with a complimentary MMT Black Elite Annual Membership. Flaunting of unparalleled luxury, it offers Lafayette

Luxury Concierge Services which facilitates incomparable experiences ranging from arranging private charters to getting front row seats to international sporting events. It also includes offers on dining with complimentary EazyDiner Prime Annual Membership & attractive discounts on Swiggy.

To top it off, the new Privy League Programme also curates distinguished experiences across health and wellness, culinary experiences, knowledge based sessions, and more.

With the Privy League programme, customers can get tailored portfolio and investment solutions catering to their diverse needs. The skilled specialists employ a meticulous approach to curate an investment portfolio based on the customer's risk profile and financial goals that could help grow their wealth.

Customers get access to a robust 3-in-1 Integrated Account featuring a Bank Account, Demat Account, and Trading Account. They can also enjoy exclusive access to personalized investment insights and research reports.

The Premium Metal Debit Card, designed by renowned artist Arunanshu Chowdhury, for the Privy League black tier lets customers enjoy luxury deals, complimentary airport lounge access among many other benefits. The Signature LED Debit Card, designed for Privy League Platinum tier is India's first LED card, which lights up the customer's transacting experience and is packed with features such as a 75% discount on Priority Pass. The programme offers an array of Business Banking solutions, and also provides preferential rates on loans, locker rentals, brokerage and other special-

ized products.

Mr Rohit Bhasin, President – Retail Liabilities Product and Chief Marketing Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd, said "Over the last decade, the consumer ecosystem has undergone a paradigm shift with higher disposable incomes, purchasing power and the new age consumer demanding personalization and superior product experience. Consumers today are increasingly staking claims to luxury products, brands and services on their own terms. In line with this, Kotak's Privy League programme is focusing on a value proposition that provides exclusivity and experiences beyond banking. We are excited to launch our flagship premium banking programme – Privy League in a new avatar of 'Building Exclusivity via Experiences' a value proposition that provides exclusivity and experiences beyond banking."

Avanse Financial Services witnessed steady growth in student loan demand during FY23

Pune (Voice news service):- Avanse Financial Services, a leading education-focused non-banking financial company (NBFC) in India, announced that at the end of FY23, its AUM stands at ~₹8,646 Cr. while total disbursement is ~₹6,143 Cr., 2.1x increase over FY22. The rise in the demand for education loans is primarily due to students' increasing desire to secure a degree from reputed foreign universities, access quality higher education, and a better standard of living, leading to enhanced careers and higher income opportunities. As the organisation embarks on its tenth year of making education financing seamless and affordable for every deserving Indian student, it has fulfilled the academic aspirations of more than ~3.5 lakh students and working capital to ~1.2K educational institutes catering to

over ~5-6 lakh students. Over the past few years, there has been a substantial rise in the number of students seeking higher education opportunities abroad. During FY23, the organisation witnessed a significant demand for student loans from tier II & III cities apart from metros and tier I cities. More than 60% of students funded by the company during this phase were from tier II & III cities.

Commenting on the company's performance and overall sector Mr. Amit Gainda, Managing Director & CEO, Avanse Financial Services, said, "India is a rapidly changing country in which inclusive, high-quality education is of utmost importance for its future prosperity. Education has always been an essential aspect of Indian culture, which has made education financing a multi-decade secular growth story in

India. The number of education loan applications to fund study abroad aspirations has nearly doubled in the last couple of years. Thus, the overall education financing segment has witnessed constant and structural growth in the demand for student loans. To cater to the requirements of these deserving students who entrust us with the responsibility of fulfilling their educational dreams, we have ensured that we successfully empower them to access their right to quality education so that they can achieve robust returns, reach their desired goals and thus, walk on the path towards upward mobility."

He further added, "During FY23, we experienced consistent and strong sequential growth in our assets under management, total disbursement and the overall net worth of the organisation. Throughout this phase, we

focused on balanced aggression in terms of investment and spending. While we judiciously focused on capital preservation and balance sheet protection, we also prudently invested in our people and strengthened our digital processes to be future-ready. As we embark on our tenth-year journey of fulfilling academic aspirations, we promise to multiply our efforts by ten. We will continue to focus on implementing the next phase of customer-centricity by being innovative and moving beyond all constraints, thus, enabling students to Aspire Without Boundaries." Avanse Financial Services has fulfilled the educational dreams of ~3.5 lakh academic aspirants across 3,000+ institutes and 30,000+ courses in ~50 countries. The firm has also provided growth and working capital to ~1.2K educational institutes catering to over ~5-6 lakh students.

MPOWER 'MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS QUOTIENT @WORKPLACE' SURVEY SHEDS LIGHT ON CHALLENGES FACED BY CORPORATE EMPLOYEES IN PUNE,

Pune (Voice news service):- Mpower, an initiative by The Aditya Birla Education Trust, in collaboration with IPSOS, revealed the results of a groundbreaking survey 'Mental Health and Wellness Quotient @ Workplace 2023' shedding light on the startling challenges faced by corporate employees in major metropolitan cities of India. The survey, conducted over a period of 5 months, examined the mental health status of 3,000 corporate employees from ten sectors across eight major Indian cities, including Pune. Pune-based employees were found to have several unique challenges that need to be addressed by corporates to improve their mental health.

Maintaining a healthy work-life balance is a significant concern for employees, and this trend has been observed across major cities in India, such as Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, and Pune where personal health, family, and personal time are the top obligations that tend to be affected for employees. In Pune, 81% of individuals find it difficult to strike a proper work-life balance.

This struggle is reflected in the city's higher number of reported sick leaves. Furthermore, the expectation for employees to work even when on leave persists in Pune, as it does in other cities. However, despite the challenges of maintaining a healthy work-life balance in Pune, the city has seen a significant rise in individuals who have found a way to achieve this goal. In contrast to other major cities such as Hyderabad (12%), Kolkata (11%), and Mumbai (14%), 19% of individuals in Pune have managed to balance their work and personal life effectively.

Furthermore, in line with the national trend, employees in Pune have experienced a loss of work productivity due to the increased adoption



of remote working. Moreover, lack of motivation and stress are major concerns among employees in Pune. The city's workforce has also been significantly impacted by pay cuts, affecting 48% of employees, while 46% of employees suffer from insufficient salary. In terms of health and well-being, back pain is a significant concern for individuals in Pune, with 46% of respondents reporting it as an issue. Additionally, 34% of individuals in Pune report knee pain. Despite these challenges, a large majority of employees (86%) in Pune report satisfaction with their professional growth over the past 3-5 years.

Commenting on the survey findings Dr. Neerja Birla, Founder and Chairperson of Mpower and Aditya Birla Education Trust, eloquently emphasises, "Corporate burnout and the mental health stress among employees have reached alarming levels in India, and we must take action to address this critical issue. At Mpower, we are committed to driving conversations around mental health and raising awareness to help destigmatize mental health

issues, and prioritizing employee well-being as a part of their organizational culture. This can improve the lives of employees while also boosting productivity, creativity, and overall success. On the mental health and Wellness 2023 Survey result Dr. Sneha Arya, Psychologist, Mpower The Centre Pune said "we have had an increase in the number of youngsters between the age of 24 to 40 years coming for counselling at our Pune centre. Work-related stress and the lack of work-life balance have become significant concerns for individuals in Pune in today's fast-paced corporate culture.

The constant pressure to perform, coupled with long working hours and an always-on work culture, is

leading to mental health issues such as burnout, anxiety, and depression. This not only affects individuals' work life but also their personal life, relationships, and overall quality of life. It is crucial for organizations to recognize the impact of work-related stress and prioritize their employees' mental health and well-being."

Adding to the mental health challenges in corporate employees pertaining to Corporate culture in Pune, which is a major corporate hub in India, has evolved to a point where work is no longer limited to just working hours. Pune is among the top ten cities in India with the highest job opportunities and highest number of professionals, which indicates the high pressure of work culture. Holidays have become extensions of workdays, and multi-tasking and cross-functional job requirements have become the norm. Pune has the highest stress levels among employees according to multiple work culture surveys including our Survey on Mental Health and Wellness@2023.

While the pandemic has brought mental health to the forefront, the competitive nature of the corporate world continues to add to the stress levels of employees. As a solution to this companies need to set up wellness centres for employees in Pune to provide counselling and other mental health services, provide policies that support Work life balance, engage with employees beyond just work and support them in emotional growth etc. A happy and healthy workforce is the foundation of any successful business, and organizations need to recognize the importance of prioritizing employee well-being in order to thrive in today's competitive corporate culture.

The constant pressure to perform, coupled with long working hours and an always-on work culture, is

leading to mental health issues such as burnout, anxiety, and depression. This not only affects individuals' work life but also their personal life, relationships, and overall quality of life. It is crucial for organizations to recognize the impact of work-related stress and prioritize their employees' mental health and well-being."

Mirae Asset's NBFC in pact with investment platform FundsIndia to lend against securities to investors

Pune (Voice news service):- Mirae Asset Financial Services (India) has inked a pact with FundsIndia to provide loan against securities on the FundsIndia platform through an entirely digital process. This credit facility is available on FundsIndia investor platform and soon will be released on their partner platform as well. FundsIndia partners will also be able to offer the product to their investors digitally via the FundsIndia partner platform. As part of the deal, investors will be able to pledge their mutual fund units of differ-

ent asset management companies (AMCs) with both CAMS and KFinTech – the Registrar & Transfer Agents (RTA) to avail loan against mutual funds. Customers can also pledge shares from a large list of approved shares held in Demat account with NSDL only.

The investors will get the option of creating an overdraft facility against their mutual funds and shares on the FundsIndia portal at 9% p.a. and with a fixed processing fee of Rs 999 plus taxes that will help them manage their liquidity without redeeming their investments.

"We have so far onboarded 400 plus mutual fund distributors as our channel partners and the business from them has grown significantly in the last quarter. Now with FundsIndia making available our product on their website and mobile app, we will be able to reach out to a large number of investors that they cater to, and I am confident that a large number of investors will take advantage and avail loan against mutual funds/ shares to take care of their short term money requirement. Currently, 30% of our clients are sourced by channel partners. I expect this number to

go up significantly with partners like FundsIndia coming on board," said Krishna Kanhaiya, Chief Executive Officer, Mirae Asset Financial Services.

Excited with the collaboration Mr. Giriraj Murugan, CEO, FundsIndia said, "We are delighted to announce that we at FundsIndia have partnered with Mirae Asset Financial Services to provide our investors with greater access to credit against their securities. This partnership marks a momentous milestone for both firms and is sure to benefit thousands of investors across India.

Dalmia Bharat Wins the Prestigious CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2022

Pune (Voice news service):- India's leading cement company and 4th largest cement manufacturer, Dalmia Bharat Ltd. has been conferred with the prestigious CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2022 for commendation in "Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility".

The recognition underlines the company's strong and intrinsic benchmarks for the welfare of communities and best sustainable practices in cement manufacturing.

Dalmia Bharat's community initiatives focus on key areas of Sustainable Livelihoods, Climate Action (Water and Energy) and Social Infrastructure. Their flagship programme Dalmia Institute of Knowledge and Skill Harnessing (DIKSHA) with its 15 centers provides placement-linked, short-term skill training to youth and women adding them to skilled work-



force for enhanced income. Till date over 10,500 trainees have completed their training earning an average monthly income of Rs. 12,000.

The company also promotes livelihood promotion through farm based and non-farm based skilling programmes for farmers and women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs) at the village level. By focusing on water harvesting techniques and renewable energy solutions

like solar power, Dalmia Bharat has been helping communities to become more self-sufficient, reduce their environmental impact, and improve their overall quality of life.

Commenting on this achievement, Dr Arvind Bodhankar said, "It's a huge honour for us to receive the CII ITC Sustainability Award industry once again this year. Dalmia Bharat is committed to the sustainable development of the community

and its people. Each one of us at Dalmia is conscious of our responsibility towards leaving behind a planet that is safe and can meet the need of our future generations. We follow all processes to ensure positive impacts and SRoI of our projects and measure them too. He further added, as a corporate citizen, we are committed to integrating economic, environmental and social objectives to foster inclusive growth in the regions we operate in. We aim to continue on this path to achieve bigger milestones and this recognition is a great encouragement for us." The coveted CII-ITC sustainability awards were constituted by the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development and have been in existence since 2006. The awards recognize India's most sustainable companies that have been successful in embedding sustainability in their business models.

Bank of Baroda launches Electronic Bank Guarantee on its Digital Platform

Pune (Voice news service):- Bank of Baroda (Bank), one of India's leading public sector banks, announced the launch of Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) on its BarodaNSTA platform, in partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL), which offers a platform for the issuance of Inland BGs through electronic mode.

NeSL is India's first and only Information Utility and is regulated by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) under the provisions of the Insolvency and Bank-

ruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC). With this launch, Bank of Baroda joins a select group of banks to issue Electronic Bank Guarantees – a start-to-end digital process across the complete lifecycle of a BG including issuance, amendment and closure resulting in substantial reduction in the turnaround time in issuing a BG, while at the same time bringing in greater security and accessibility.

Shri T. N. Suresh, General Manager, Head – Forex & Fee Income, Bank of Baroda said, "Electronic Bank Guarantee is a transformational reform as

we endeavour to make banking simpler, more secure and easily accessible for our customers.

Individual contractors, SMEs and large corporates are major applicants for bank guarantees and the move to e-BGs - a quick, seamless, transparent and completely secure process - will benefit them all."

Shri Debajyoti Ray Chaudhuri, MD & CEO of NeSL said, "Over the past few years, India has built a robust digital infrastructure and this is driving growth across all sectors in the economy. The banking industry in gen-

eral and BOB in particular has been at the forefront in making its products and processes available through the digital mode.

NeSL's e-BG meets a long-standing requirement of the banking industry for a digital product that addresses the challenges in the physical process of issuance of e-BGs. We are grateful to the Indian Banks' Association for their support in conceptualising this product and coordinating the numerous consultations with their members till the time the product was ready for launch."