



**ETIHAD AIRWAYS
TAKES OFF WITH
BOLLYWOOD ICON
KATRINA KAIF
ONBOARD AS NEW
BRAND AMBASSADOR**

Sunday

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Emotional support is needed for those with suicidal thoughts

Pune (Voice news service):- Emotional support is very much needed for those with suicidal thoughts, says Shilpa Tambe, Outreach & Awareness Coordinator at Connecting Trust. She also mentioned that Connecting Trust supported & saved the lives of 19832 people in 2022-23 with distress helpline & prevention programs. Shilpa Tambe said, Everybody in their entire lifespan, at some point in time, comes across a blind turn or experiences tunnel vision. For a few seconds, a few days and months together there isn't a single ray of hope in sight. Many find it difficult to realize they need support and find it difficult to gather the strength to reach out for support. We need to recognize and support those who are under stress. Further, she said that 10th September is observed as 'World Suicide Prevention Day' throughout the globe. The theme for the year 2023 is 'Creating Hope Through Action'. As the saying goes 'Ummid pe duniya kaayam', what do we understand by the word 'hope'? Which actions can 'create hope'? Every effort, every time to just stay, to hold on creates hope, isn't it? Understanding that I need support, accepting that it is okay not to be okay, reaching out, trying to explain, trying to understand, listen, to support, giving the non-judgmental

and non-advisory space, acknowledging the efforts, being present, being there unconditionally...are the actions that create hope! Connecting Trust is a Pune-based organization founded in 2005 by Mrs. Arnava Daman and some like-minded people. It is a volunteer-based listening service working in the field of suicide prevention for the last 18 years. We are committed to creating a caring and compassionate world where everyone is connected to life, to prevent suicide by creating awareness and to provide support to those who are in emotional distress, and/or have lost someone to suicide or attempted suicide," she added. Connecting Trust believes in the strength of individuals and communities to co-create a common vision, address their own challenges, act, and adapt. Through the Distress Helpline, the Email service, through Suicide Survivor Support number, and through walk-in service, we offer a safe listening space to people in distress. It is most rewarding for our trained volunteers when they see a shift in the level of distress from where the conversation starts and ends. If you are feeling low, and/or suicidal or know someone who is going through this, do reach out, save our contact details, and encourage your loved ones to do so, she appealed.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurates the Robotic Urology Centre Country's 3rd largest Urology Hospital, UroKul- Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- Hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the robotic urology center at India's 3rd largest urology hospital, UroKul-Kulkarni Uro Surgery Institute Pune, today. Member of Legislative Assembly Bhimrao Tapkir was also present at the event. Sudha Mhaikar & Jayant Mhaikar of Mhaikar Foundation, Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni & Dr. Jyotsna Kulkarni, the founder of UroKul Hospital, Dr. Rajesh Deshpande, President of Baner-Balewadi Doctors Association were present on the occasion. The center named 'Dattatray P. Mhaikar Robotic Urology Centre' is well equipped to provide urological healthcare of the highest quality, with the installation of 4th generation robotic technology, the Da Vinci X, by US-based Intuitive. This significant step highlights UroKul Hospital's

commitment to providing compassionate, world-class healthcare in the field of Urology to all segments of society and addressing critical healthcare needs in Maharashtra and in the country. Nitin Gadkari said, "Medical science is changing rapidly due to the introduction of technology and the research that is taking place day by day. In earlier times, one had to go to Delhi or other cities for treatment of serious diseases. Now modern facilities are available in every district. Advanced technology has made complex surgeries easier and cheaper. The Robotic Urology Center set up at UroKul Hospital will make surgery for urinary disorders more convenient and will benefit patients here. The Mhaikar family has contributed a lot to the social sector. I had very close relations with Dattatray Mhaikar since I was PWD minister in the state government.



It is a good thing that they donated this robotic center to UroKul Hospital to do surgery on serious diseases like urinary disorders. Many needy patients will benefit from this. A good example of this is public-private partnership. 90 percent of my focus is on social work. So far 40 thousand heart surgeries, 10 thousand people have been given artificial legs. A hospital is being built in memory of my mother, through which the poor will get treatment at a low cost, he added. Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni emphasized, "The utilization of robotic-assisted technology in urological surgery is pivotal for advancing medical science and delivering enhanced patient care. UroKul Hospital has consistently strived to offer the best technology and better patient outcomes in the field of urology. Since its inception, UroKul has always aimed to provide timely, advanced

treatments to all our patients. With the launch of Dattatray P. Mhaikar Robotic Urology Centre and the installation of Da Vinci X, we are confident that patients across the region can now seek effective surgical solutions for their urological conditions at our hospital." Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni has traveled to more than 50 countries, teaching arthroplasties. These features have attracted many patients from all over India and the globe to this institute. UroKul is the only center outside the USA and UK that is recognized for its training of Urologists in urethroplasty via a one-year fellowship program of GURS (Society of Genito Urinary Reconstructive Surgeons). Their offerings include surgeries for Penile Urethra, Panurethral Stricture, Bulbar Urethra, Pelvic Fracture Hypospadias etc. UroKul has performed the most number of urethroplasty



surgeries in the world. Commenting on the installation of Da Vinci X at UroKul, Mandeep Singh Kumar, VP & GM - Intuitive India, said, "We are glad to collaborate with UroKul hospital for this significant step to make this advanced surgical technology accessible to urology patients from this region. The demand for robotic-assisted surgery has been on the rise in India over the last few years. This demand has been driven not only by the potential for improved patient outcomes that robotic-assisted surgery can provide but also by the enthusiasm of passionate and skilled surgeons in India for adopting newer technologies and techniques. We are encouraged to see an increasing number of healthcare providers ready to invest in the latest technology for robotic-assisted surgery, particularly the Da Vinci, for its improved patient and clinical outcomes."

Dr. Jyotsna Kulkarni said, "The hospital is equipped with over 5 Operation Theatres, 10 ICUs, 10-bed Hemodialysis facilities, 10 OPD rooms, and 10 outpatient rooms, and is constructed in an area of over 82000 sq ft. The hospital offers treatments at concessional rates, and free for deserving patients. The Da Vinci technology, known for its better patient outcomes, is also associated with lesser pain, less blood loss, shorter hospital stays, and even minimal post-operative complications in certain cases. In addition to that, Da Vinci brings across some innovative features including voice and laser guidance systems, a lightweight endoscope, and the same control console and 3D optics system that lets surgeons see into the patients as they operate the device. These benefits go a long way in enabling the surgeon and care teams to provide life-enhancing care for their patients.

Sterling Generators launches Retrofit Emission Control Device for a greener tomorrow



Pune (Voice news service):- Sterling Generators Private Limited (SGPL), a Sterling and Wilson Group Company and one of India's leading genset players, today announced that it has launched an innovative clean air solution, Retrofit Emission Control Device (RECD), in collaboration with Pi Green Innovations. RECD is built on filter-less technology and based on Electrostatic Precipitation fundamentals.

It captures Particulate Matter (PM) from the engine exhaust with more than 70 percent efficiency. Commenting on the product launch, Mr. Sanjay Jadhav, CEO, Sterling Generators Private Limited said, "We are happy to collaborate with Pi Green Innovations for their RECD technology. This collaboration provides an excellent opportunity to expand and enhance the product offerings we offer to our cus-

tomers. The newly launched RECD is highly efficient in improving air quality and provides a viable solution for our customers to meet the PM compliance requirement, as per pollution control board norms." "At Sterling Generators, we believe that environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility, and this collaboration reflects our dedication to finding cleaner, more efficient solutions for our customers and our planet. Together with Pi Green Innovations, we aim to redefine how the industry addresses air pollution, setting a new standard for cleaner energy solutions", he further added. Speaking at the launch event, Mr. Irfan Pathan, Founder & CEO, Pi Green Innovations said, "We are honoured and proud to partner with a prestigious brand like Sterling Gener-

ators. This partnership not only gives a boost to the DG retrofit (RECD) industry in India but also adds impetus to Pi Green's vision of A Pollution Free Tomorrow." The RECD is installed after the DG exhaust (muffler/silencer), and no modifications to the engine/DG set are required. What sets this technology apart is its ability to transform the separated particulate matter/ byproduct and reuse it as a high-value raw material in paints, dyes, toners for laser printers and copiers as well as in a vulcanization process to treat rubber, thus eliminating the need for disposal and secondary contamination. The product is all weatherproof, needs minimal maintenance with a simple, efficient, and sturdy construction that provides constant performance and long operational life.

Ramesh Bais, Governor of Maharashtra Releases Dada Vaswani's Commemorative Postage Stamp

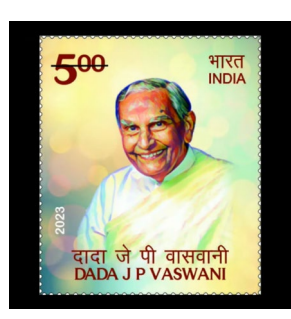
Pune (Voice news service):- In a historic ceremony for India and the Sadhu Vaswani Mission, the Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Ramesh Bais released a commemorative postage stamp in honour and homage to Dada J.P. Vaswani. Gracing the event as the Guests of Honour were esteemed ministerial dignitaries including the Minister of State for Communication Shri Devusinh Chauhan and Shri Shankar Lalwani MLA. Before the commencement of the ceremony, the Hon'ble Governor and dignitaries visited the Darshan Museum – a state-of-the-art museum that depicts the life and teachings of the great saint, Sadhu T.L. Vaswani. The ceremony began with the singing of the National Anthem followed by the State Song. All dignitaries on the dais came together for the lamp lighting. A felicitation of the Hon'ble Governor and other dignitaries at the hands of Didi Krishna Kumari, Executive Head of Sadhu Vaswani Mission was held. Following this an AV on Dada J.P. Vaswani was played. Didi Krishna Kumari gave a wel-



come address. She expressed her sincere gratitude to all the dignitaries for the efforts that led to the fruition of the postage stamp. Speaking on Dada, she said, "Dada's life is his message. He did not teach or preach but he bore witness to every ideal in deeds of daily living. His message to us was two-fold – make God the centre of your life. Build your life in Him." This was followed by a recorded AV of Dada J.P. Vaswani. It highlighted the message of love. He said, "The nations and individuals alike must love another or perish! Bear witness to love in everyday life! Unfold the seven colours of love – patience, kindness, humility, forgiveness, desirousness, sacrifice, universality". Next, the Minister of State for Communication Shri Devusinh Chauhan addressing the gath-

ering said, "We feel blessed that today India Post has the opportunity to release a commemorative stamp in homage to Dada. Dada's persona is such that thinking of him makes us want to bow down before him. Dada's talks tell us that despite this age of technology and advancement, there is a spiritual evolution that is most needed. His teachings continue to remind us that regardless of the material wealth we gather, it is important that we work on our spirit. His life is an inspiration. Our true tribute to him would be to walk the way of his teachings and ideals." Finally, at 12:50 hrs, the milestone moment arrived; the Hon'ble Governor officially released the commemorative postage stamp on Dada J.P. Vaswani. He also released books authored by Dada – Nark

Se Swarg Tak, a translation of 'From Hell to Heaven' and 'Swath Saksham Bana', a translation of Empower Yourself. Taking to the podium, the Chief Guest for the ceremony, the Hon'ble Governor, Shri Ramesh Bais in his address to all said, "The land of Maharashtra has seen the birth of several revered saints. Dadaji, like Swami Vivekananda, was the messenger of peace and harmony in Maharashtra. His Mission serves one and all regardless of caste, creed, or race. Today, we are all gathered to reflect on his teachings and pay homage to him through the issue of this commemorative postage stamp. I offer my obeisance to him and salutations to his humanitarian works."



Britannia kicks off National Nutrition Month 'Poshan Maah' by launching My Plate, My Nutrition campaign



Pune (Voice news service):- To celebrate the National Nutrition Month 'Poshan Maah', Britannia Nutrition Foundation (BNF), launches the 'My Plate, My Nutrition' campaign in its 9 implementation locations around Britannia Factory. As a part of the campaign, BNF launched extensive month-long on-ground field engagement activities focused on promoting nutrition and health behavior practices in rural parts of India. With this activity, BNF aims to cover 1000+ Aanganwadi centers and schools across 9 locations of Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Assam, Madhya Pradesh & Tamil Nadu. The focus of the initiative is to address the issue of malnutrition among children (0-5 & 6-9 years), adolescents, and pregnant & lactating women, and create widespread awareness about the nutritional contents of various locally produced fruits & vegetables and healthy eating practices. Company spokesperson at Britannia Nutrition Founda-

tion, said, "The Britannia Nutrition Foundation takes pride in doing its part to contribute to the GoI's flagship initiative 'Poshan Maah' and its theme - 'Suposhit Bharat, Sakshar Bharat, Sashakt Bharat.' The efforts taken by our 'Nutrition Champs' & 'Suposhan Sakshis' in educating their peers about the importance of a balanced meal, consuming the right nutrients, and maintaining health & hygiene are commendable. The IEC (Information, Education & Communication) Booklet that we have launched today is a plethora of information, helping our volunteers and Aanganwadi workers in conveying essential information to the communities in Ranjangaon and other regions." In Ranjangaon, Maharashtra, BNF installed bulletin boards in schools communicating on the importance of nutrition especially on the issue of Anemia. Additionally, Nutrition corners are set up at the school to provide access to height, weight & BMI calculation, and sessions are



organized on raising awareness about growth monitoring. These sessions are being conducted by Nutrition Champions, who are 10-18 year-old students from the schools that BNF works with and trains these volunteers. Awareness sessions with women who are pregnant & lactating are planned at the local community level & at the Aanganwadi center. Mr. Vinod Londe, Child Development Project Officer, Srignoda unveiled the Information, Education, and Communication Flip Book (IEC) developed by the BNF team to be used by field workers and volunteers during their visits in remote regions to promote the agenda of nutrition, health, and hygiene. "We are very grateful for the transformative role played by the Britannia Nutrition Foundation in our community. Their unwavering commitment has not only removed malnutrition (Kuposhan) and anemia among our children but has also sparked hope for a healthier future. Year af-

ter year, they have tirelessly worked across 100 Aanganwadis, 37 villages, and 3 blocks in Ahmednagar district, freeing a substantial number of our children from the grasp of these health challenges. This remarkable effort truly embodies the spirit of 'Meri Thali, Mera Poshan' and serves as an inspiring example of how collaborative efforts can create lasting positive change in the lives of our next generation," says Mr. Vinod Londe, Child Development Project Officer, Srignoda. As a part of the activity, BNF also recognized mothers that were practicing good Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, children who were able to put together a balanced plate, as well as schools that are serving nutritionally balanced mid-day meals. In addition, the campaign also hosted a plantation drive in the rural Maharashtra region and planted 1000 trees of citrus fruits in local schools, Aanganwadi centers & Britannia factories.

Suryadatta College of Physiotherapy ranked 30th in India by the Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) 2023

Pune (Voice news service):- Suryadatta Institute of Health Sciences' Suryadatta College of Physiotherapy, Pune is ranked 30th in India, 4th in Maharashtra, and 6th in Western Zone in the Physiotherapy college rankings 2023 released by Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF), presented and published by Education Post magazine. The IIRF ranking is based on concrete analysis by experts and stands as the most diverse and authentic ranking in India accepted by the corporate world. The ranking is based on 7



performance indicators - Employability, Teaching Learning and Resources, Research, Industry Income and Integration, Placement Strategies and Support, Future Orientation,

and External Perception and International Outlook. Suryadatta College of Physiotherapy offers full-time Bachelor of Physiotherapy (B.PTh) courses affiliated with MUHS,

Nashik, and MSBVEE affiliated Diploma in Physiotherapy, Diploma in Naturopathy, Certificate courses in Nursing Care, Dental Assistant, and Ophthalmic Technician. It follows a unique pedagogy of Interactive, Experiential, Collaborative, & conceptual learning. Along with regular academics, it offers value-based modules for students' holistic development such as Health & Fitness through Yoga & Meditation, foreign languages, soft skills, personality development, cognitive learning, innovation & incubation, etc.



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Elegance Unveiled Country Club Mrs PUNE 2023 Mrs. Sunita Khan Winner of “Country Club Mrs. Pune 2023”



Pune (Voice news service):- Country Club Undri, synonymous with excellence in promoting MICE and Clubbing experiences. COUNTRY CLUB MRS PUNE -2023, a dazzling spectacle graced the prestigious Country Club Undri Pune. In association with the seasoned event pioneers, Jazzmatazz-world, boasting 31 years of Entertainment Industry expertise, this is an event you won't want to miss. MRS PUNE 2023 Season 17 promising contestants the highlight of the year, featured the city's most elegant queens competing for the ultimate crown. Following are the winners: **1ST RUNNERS UP**

DR.JYOTI BORSE. 2ND RUNNERS UP -RADHIKA RATHOD. MRS GORGEIOUS-SEEMA ROY. MRS POPULAR-ARMIN IRANI. MRS PHOTOGENIC -ASHVINI LONDE. MRS TALENTED-MAMTA BOT. MRS PERFECT-LAXMI The show's director, the accomplished Ms. Dipali Khamar, promises a night filled with glamour and excitement. Country Club, as the exclusive host and hospitality partner, has elevated this event to international heights, leveraging its vast global network of Member Families. Country Club has a rich history in the fashion industry, with its Honourable



Chairman & MD, Y. Rajeev Reddy, having previously honoured iconic figures such as Ms. Sushmita Sen and Ms. Yukta Mookhey during their triumphant reigns as Miss Universe and Miss World, respectively, in 1994 and 1999. Beyond fashion, Country Club has been a pioneer in promoting sports, health, and fitness among young talents, with legendary figures such as Mr. Kapil Dev, Mr. Sunil Gavaskar, Mr. Syed Kirmani, and Mr. Roger Binny joining hands to encourage sportsmanship and fitness among its members. Additionally, esteemed athletes like Ms. Sania Mirza, Ms. PV Sindhu, and Mr. Azharuddin, hailing from Hyderabad, have contributed significantly to the world of sports and are proud members of the Country Club family.

Notably, Country Club welcomes another boxing legend, Ms. Mary Kom, Bharat Ratna and Padma Shri awardee, to their esteemed ranks, alongside Ms. Nikhat Zareen, further emphasizing their commitment to sports and fitness promotion. Addressing the media, Country Club Chairman and MD Mr Y Rajeev Reddy remarked that “Entertainment and Fashion Plays a Vital role in developing Overall Personality by Enhancing Physical and Mental fitness which is very important Post COVID to live a strong and healthy lifestyle. The future of fashion industry is very bright and we have proved this in our recent performances when Ms Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu made our nation proud by winning Miss Universe 2021 pageant.”

ETIHAD AIRWAYS TAKES OFF WITH BOLLYWOOD ICON KATRINA KAIF ONBOARD AS NEW BRAND AMBASSADOR

Pune (Voice news service):- Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, has announced its partnership with Bollywood superstar Katrina Kaif as the new brand ambassador. This collaboration marks an important milestone as Etihad strengthens its presence in the Indian market and reunites with one of India's most celebrated Bollywood stars. Katrina Kaif, renowned for her global appeal and elegance, embodies the shared commitment to excellence as she reunites with Etihad. Her association with the airline will be unveiled through a captivating series of videos to be showcased across Etihad and Katrina's social channels. Katrina Kaif shares her excitement about the association: “I am thrilled to be back with Etihad Airways, a brand synonymous with world-class travel experiences. The airline's commitment to excellence and its dedication to bringing people together resonate with my own values. I am excited to be part of a team that aims to create thoughtful connections and memorable experiences. I

look forward to representing Etihad and being a part of their journey.” Amina Taher, Vice President of Brand, Marketing and Sponsorship at Etihad Airways, explains the significance of this collaboration: “We are thrilled to welcome Katrina Kaif to the Etihad Airways family as our brand ambassador. Our partnership with Katrina is far from ordinary, it embodies the spirit of innovation and sophistication our airline represents, while celebrating our commitment to uniting cultures and communities. With her remarkable journey and global recognition, we're not only showcasing Etihad's offerings, but also fostering authentic connections that genuinely resonate with Indian travellers and celebrating our commitment to India.” The new partnership builds on Katrina's collaboration with Etihad in 2010 when she was featured as a discerning traveller showcasing Etihad's travel experience. Her prior partnership showcased her appreciation for the airline's commitment to comfort and top-notch service. Returning to partner again,



Katrina and Etihad are showcasing Etihad's strengthening relationship with Indian communities both domestically and in significant global markets such as the UAE, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada. As the brand ambassador for Etihad, Katrina will be featured in a series of creative and engaging campaign videos that highlight the airline's commitment to unparalleled comfort, flawless service, and seamless global connectivity. Her partnership with the airline bolsters its foothold in the Indian market, where it currently serves 8 Indian cities, further solidifying Etihad as

the preferred choice for travellers and aligning seamlessly with the airline's strategy for sustained growth in India. The first video from the collaboration to be unveiled features Katrina Kaif on board Etihad's newest A350 aircraft, offering a cinematic journey filled with emotions akin to a Bollywood film – featuring drama, love, and delightful surprises. The film also highlights the exclusive Armani-Casa dining wear, luxurious bedding, and complimentary in-flight Wi-Fi service, beautifully encapsulating the very essence of Etihad's unwavering commitment to excellence.

Yoga Bar has a brand-new baby - ‘Yoga Baby’

Pune (Voice news service):- Yoga Bar, one of India's leading health food brands, is expanding its differentiated product portfolio with a heart-warming addition to their product family. Say hello to Yoga Baby - a wholesome new range, thoughtfully crafted to meet the unique nutritional needs of the youngest members of families. This new range of delectable porridge mixes comes in five variants – Sprouted Ragi & Mango, Sprouted Ragi Strawberry, Sprouted Ragi, Saffron & Oats and Oats, Dates & Millets.



their own wants and needs, and the attention naturally goes towards the well-being of their little ones. In the journey of keeping a child healthy, happy, and growing, numerous factors come into play. Yoga Baby, is inspired by traditional recipes handed down from mothers and grandmothers. The range incorporates millets that have long been an intrinsic part of our heritage over centuries. Each element of the product has been meticulously and ethically

sourced. Blending these nutrient-rich combinations using classic whole grains such as millets, oats and ragi, Yoga Baby enters the market with a deep commitment – to encourage mothers and parents reconnect with their roots to give their children a boost of nutrition. Suhasini Sampath, a devoted mother and Co-Founder & CEO of Yogabar, created Yoga Baby for her little daughter. Launching the product line for wider audience she said, “My aim is simple. I want

to help provide mothers and parents everywhere with the means to offer their little ones the nourishment boosts that their developing minds and bodies truly deserve, without worrying about access to quality ingredients.” “We're incredibly proud and excited to introduce Yoga Baby to families everywhere. As a mother to my little girl, I understand and appreciate the thought and careful planning that goes into each meal. Unfortunately, this often takes away from precious moments with the little one. Yoga Baby will ensure that parents devote less time to meal planning and invest more time in creating beautiful memories with their children.” she further added.

Ganesh Chaturthi Celebrations with Amazon Alexa!

Pune (Voice news service):- Ganesh Chaturthi is right around the corner, and it's time to start preparing for the festival! With Alexa, you can plan your celebrations better by staying on top of your to-do lists, setting shopping reminders for puja necessities, preparing festive meals, playing Ganesh bhajans and aarti, and more. “Alexa, Ganesh Chaturthi kab hai?” Just Alexa, Ganesh Chaturthi kab hai?” and it will help you stay updated

on the dates. You can also get an instant countdown by asking, “Alexa, how many days to Ganesh Chaturthi?” and can have all the information you need to plan your festivities. “Alexa, play Ganesh aarti” You can listen to Ganesh aarti by just saying “Alexa, play Ganesh aarti” What's more? You can also listen to festive stories by saying “Alexa, Ganesh Chaturthi ke katha sunao.” “Alexa, wake me up at 6am to start Ganesh mantras”

You can start your day with bhajans by asking Alexa to wake you up at 5am to Ganesh mantras and prayers. “Alexa, turn on the lights in the puja room” Do you know you can control smart lights in your puja room with Alexa? All you have to do is say “Alexa, turn on the lights in the puja room” or “Alexa, dim the puja room light.” “Alexa, modak ki recipe batao” Ganesh Chaturthi is incomplete without modak. So, if you want to try your

hand at making modaks, just say “Alexa, Modak ki recipe batao” and you'll get easy-to-follow steps to make these tasty treats. You can also take Alexa's help to set shopping reminders for puja necessities and groceries. As you prepare for Ganesh Chaturthi, you can take Alexa's help to add more convenience and joy to the festivities. Try it out today and enjoy a hassle-free Ganesh Chaturthi!

Pune players dominate at Interdistrict Squash Championships

Pune (Voice news service):- Pune players won four out of eight titles at the Interdistrict Squash Championships being organized by Maharashtra State Rackets Association in association Poona District Squash Rackets Association which concluded at Maharashtra Squash Academy and Evolve Squash Courts NIBM Road Pune. In the Girls under 17 Final Pune girl Howra Bhanpurwala outplayed Shruti magdum of Sangli 11-01, 11-02. Arnika Dubey outplayed Kuhu Parekh 11-01, 11-0 in a all Pune finals in the Girls under 15 event. In the Boys Under 13 Final Round Vivaan Khanna registered a 11-04, 11-08 win over Vinay Shinde Osmanabad in the girls event Dhruv Dubey put out Parth Gadekar of Aurangabad 11-03, 11-03; In other finals in the Girls under 11 Final Round in all Aurangabad match Isha Shelke snuffed out Isha Ambekar 11-06, 11-04; Rudrasingh Badgujar of Amravati ousted Pratik Tak of Parbhani 11-07, 11-06 to win the Boys under 17 title while his sibling Indransingh Badgujar defeated Siddhant Chaud-



hary Osmanabad 11-08, 11-0 for the Under 15 title Vasundhara Nagre of Osmanabad won the Girls under 13 title outplaying Drishti Khatri of Pune 11-04, 11-04. The prizes were given away at the hands of Mr. bhausaheb Patare, senior inspector Wanowari Police Station, Mr. Mayank Gupta, Senior Manager Indian Oil Corporation, Mr. Anil Chormule, Deputy Director Maharashtra Sports, Mr. Chetan Amin, Member of SRFI, Dr. Dayanand Kumar, Joint Secretary of MOA, Dr. Pradeep Khandre, President Maharashtra Squash Rackets Association, Adv. Anand Lahoti, Secretary of Pune District Squash Racket Association, Mr. Nakul Chavan and Mr. Sagar Pawar. Mr. Surendra Karwa, Mr. Satish Potdar, Dr. Rakesh Badgujar, Me. Rishikesh Bajaj, Mr. Dat-

tatray Thange, Mr. Pawan Raut, Priyanka Mantri were present on the occasion. Following are the results: Boys under 11 Semifinal Round: Parth Gadekar (Aurangabad) bt Vivaan Roy (Pune) 11-09, 09-11, 12-10; Dhruv Dubey (Pune) bt Viraj Jadhav (Pune) 11-01, 11-03; Final Round: Dhruv Dubey (Pune) bt Parth Gadekar (Aurangabad) 11-03, 11-03; Girls under 11: Final Round: Isha Shelke (Aurangabad) bt Isha Ambekar (Aurangabad) 11-06, 11-04; Boys Under 13: Final Round: Vivaan Khanna (Pune) bt Vinay Shinde (Osmanabad) 11-04, 11-08; Girls under 13: final Round: Vasundhara Nagre (Osmanabad) bt Drishti Khatri (Pune) 11-04, 11-04;

Boys Under 15: Semifinal Round: Siddhant Chaudhary (Osmanabad) bt Anshuman Sonone (Amravati) 11-08, 11-08; Indransingh Badgujar (Amravati) bt Harshavardhan Rajale (Aurangabad) 11-04, 11-06; Final Round: Indransingh Badgujar (Amravati) bt Siddhant Chaudhary (Osmanabad) 11-08, 11-06; Girls Under 15: Semifinal Round: Arnika Dubey (Pune) bt Aarya Deshpande (Jalgaon) 11-01, 11-01; Kuhu Parekh (Pune) bt Anushka Wani (Jalgaon) Final Round: Arnika Dubey (Pune) bt Kuhu Parekh (Pune) 11-01, 11-00; Boys Under 17: Semifinal Round: Rudrasingh Badgujar (Amravati) bt Khush Phalak (Jalgaon) 11-00, 11-01; Pratik Tak (Parbhani) bt Swayam Shah (Sangli) 11-02, 11-02; Final round: Rudrasingh Badgujar (Amravati) bt Pratik Tak (Parbhani) 11-07, 11-06; Girls under 17: Semifinal Round: Shruti magdum (Sangli) bt Maitree Ahire (Nahik) 11-09, 11-05; Howra Bhanpurwala (Pune) bt Vasundhara Bajaj (Pune) 11-01, 11-03; Final Round: Howra Bhanpurwala (Pune) bt Shruti magdum (Sangli) 11-01, 11-02.

Sanghvi Shooters scrape past The Whirlwinds at second edition of the Poona Club Billiards and Snooker League

Pune (Voice news service):- Sanghvi Shooters edged out The Whirlwinds 3-2, while Manisha Royals pulled out a 4-1 win over Jaguara 'to register their third win on a trot in Group encounters at the second edition of the PCBSL (Poona Club Billiards and Snooker League being played at the Poona Club Snooker Hall. Following are the results: Group League Round: Group A: Manisha Royals bt Jaguars 4-1 (15 Red Handicap

Snooker: Angad Sahaney bt Ashish Mehta 68-41; 15 Red Handicap Snooker Doubles: Minoo Karkaria/Rohinton Irani lost to Tushar Aswani/Rajesh Jandial 64-97; Handicap Billiard 200 Pts: RK Sharma bt Sham Rathi 200-162; 6 Red Handicap Snooker: Kunal Vasvani bt Sanjay Didee 52-20, 55-64, 45-31; Blue Shot: Angad Sahaney/ Kunal Vaswani/Minoo Karkaria/Rohinton Irani/RK Sharma bt Ashish Mehta/Rajesh

Jandial/Sanjay Didee/Tushar Aswani/Sham Rathi 5-2; Group B: Sanghvi Shooters bt The Whirlwinds 3-2 (15 Red Handicap Snooker: Sanjay Sanghvi lost to Vighnesh Sanghvi 51-92; 15 Red Handicap Snooker Doubles: Shahbehram Rabbani/Ashraf Parwani lost to Sunil Asher/Kapil Samant 61-84; Handicap Billiard 200 Pts: Dhiraj Kochher bt Sahil Handa 200-178; 6 Red Handicap Snooker: Girish Damle bt Kartik Nagrani 64-40, 65-47; Blue



Shot: Ashraf Parwani/Girish Damle/Shahbehram Rabbani/Sanjay Sanghvi/Dhiraj Kochher bt Kapil Samant/Sunil Asher/Rusi Marolia/Vighnesh Sanghvi/Sahil Handa 3-2).

Ratnagiri Jets ropes in FleetGuard Filtrum as sponsors for the next 2 seasons

Pune (Voice news service):- Maharashtra Premier League 2023's champions Ratnagiri Jets ropes in FleetGuard Filtrum as their sponsors for the next 2 seasons. Owned by JetSynthesys, the team had shown promising gameplay in the last season by staying on top of the table throughout the tournament. The signing took place at the 'Ratnagiri Jets Ring Ceremony' where they also bestowed each player with a prestigious championship ring along with an additional prize money to honour their excellence in the tournament.



Talking about this celebratory day, Rajan Navani, CEO and Founder, JetSynthesys said, “We at JetSynthesys have been committed to promoting cricket in India and giving ambitious cricketers a platform to ascend to the pinnacle of their careers. We are glad to partner with FleetGuard Filtrum as they also offer a similar perspective to the team, and I look forward to a long-term relationship with them. Of course, winning the Maharashtra Premier League championship in our first season was a huge victory for us. And this ring ceremony was exactly how we meant to recognise the noteworthy performance of our

players. We are thrilled to see what the upcoming seasons hold for us with our star players and prestigious sponsors.” Adding to this, Rakesh Navani, Joint Managing Director 'Chief Investment Officer, Jetline Group of Companies said, “The iconic win of Ratnagiri Jets in this year's MPL has filled our hearts with pride and we are grateful for the entire team's effort. This has

enabled us to strengthen our portfolio across cricket and sports in India. We are committed to investing in building the next generation of grass-root sports champions for India. The Ring Ceremony celebration was not just a reunion but also a motivation to rise stronger and come back as champions in the next season.”

Additionally, there was also a heartfelt commitment to doing good and making a difference. In a remarkable gesture, the players decided to donate 5 percent of their prize money to the Jetline Foundation, a noble initiative that aims to foster the development of sports in Maharashtra. This act of generosity makes another step towards giving back to the community and nurturing young talents in the state.

Elevate Your Festive Look with Metro Shoes

Pune (Voice news service):- As we gear up to celebrate the much awaited festival of Ganesh Chaturthi, Metro Shoes is excited to introduce the Maristella collection that seamlessly blends tradition and style with your festive outfits for the season. Each piece is crafted with skills blending modern aesthetics and traditional crafts-

manship. Presenting to you a curated selection of footwear that embody the spirit of the occasion while offering unique gifting options for your loved ones that can be incorporated with a hint of glamour into your ethnic outfits. These shimmering pieces will make you and your loved ones shine through the Ga-

nesh Chaturthi 2023 festivities. For women, the collection offers a plethora of choices from strapped and slide stilettos to stunning see-through block heels that are fashion's current favorite. The gorgeous color palette includes hues of purple, blue, yellow, green, gold and silver along with the classic white

and black. The intricate detailing, sequins and embellishments make the collection a luxurious and elegant must-have to add panache to one's sartorial choices. For men, the stylish moccasins, loafers and ethnic slip-ons in classic black, blue, tan and brown make them timeless additions that can keep up with the celebrations.

Mother's Recipe launches new website, Embracing direct-to-consumer Model



Pune (Voice news service):- Mother's Recipe, India's leading food brand, is proud to announce the grand launch of its redesigned website. This exciting transformation marks a significant step forward in the brand's mission to become the largest Indian food brand, offering an ex-

tensive range of high-quality products that cater to the diverse needs of its valued customers. Mother's Recipe has just unveiled its revamped website, ushering in a fresh and modern look coupled with an enhanced shopping experience. The website's new design boasts a contemporary aesthetic, making navigation and product discovery more intuitive and visually appealing. Customers can now explore an expanded range of offerings with ease, providing an all-round improved experience. Furthermore, the

website has been optimized for mobile, tablet, and laptop devices, ensuring that shoppers can access their favorite products conveniently from any device, all while enjoying faster loading speeds. Ms. Sanjana Desai Executive Director, Mother's Recipe commenting on the new launch said “Our existing business naturally progressed into the ever-evolving and rapidly growing eCommerce space due to its increasing acceptance among a larger target group, especially millennials for their daily needs. The new digital platform is designed to

provide our customers with an improved buying experience. It aims to blend the speed and convenience of e-commerce transactions with the trust and reliability that comes with the Mother's Recipe brand.” Mother's Recipe boasts a robust presence in both retail and online stores, including giants like Amazon, Blinkit, and Big Basket, ensuring that our delicious products are easily accessible to all, anytime and anywhere. Mother's Recipe is currently offering a flat 25% discount on select products for a limited time, with conditions applying.



The Phoenix Mills Limited announces opening of “Phoenix Mall of the Millennium,” at Wakad, Pune

This expansive retail destination, serving as Pune’s

Pune (Voice news service):- The Phoenix Mills Limited (PML), India’s leading destination retail mall developer and operator, has opened the gates to its second mall in Pune, “Phoenix Mall of the Millennium”. This sprawling retail destination spread across 16 acres and encompassing over 12 lakh square feet (sq. ft.) of gross leasable area, is located in the key consumption centre of West Pune in Maharashtra. The mall has been developed by PML under its joint venture with Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (“CPP Investments”). PML is today India’s leading destination retail mall owner and operator with an operational retail portfolio of over 1.1 crore sq. ft. of leasable area across 12 retail consumption hubs in 8 gateway cities of India. Says Atul Ruia, Chairman, The Phoenix Mills Limited, “In 2006, we embarked on a transformative journey by acquiring our first site in Pune’s eastern enclave at Viman Nagar. This move laid the cornerstone for what would evolve into a remarkable retail destination. Phoenix Market-City Pune, operational since 2011, swiftly established its position as a crown jewel in our portfolio. The people of Pune embraced it with open arms, transforming it into an iconic landmark that defines the city. Today, with great pleasure,



we unveil our second retail destination in Pune, Phoenix Mall of the Millennium at Wakad. This new retail destination is poised to resonate with hearts, mirroring the resounding success of Phoenix Market City Pune. At Phoenix Mall of the Millennium, we stay true to our philosophy of creating ‘WOW’ moments. We’ve intricately woven atriums, adorned with open-plan restaurants, laying the foundation for immersive experiences. The three resplendent atriums – Plaza Flourish, Rains of Nourish Atria, and Opulent Atrium – stand as tributes to the harmonious fusion of art and architecture. We have created a unique, one-of-its-kind, indoor Fan Park to host grand events and celebrate the synergy of live sports and music. The architecture of our mall is eloquently punctuated by an enchanting musical fountain and colossal, larger-than-life installations that adorn its spaces. Each floor tells a unique tale, inviting

patrons to explore a realm where design becomes a narrative, and the journey unfolds as an unforgettable experience. Vehicular access points on multiple levels ensure grand arrival moments across multiple levels of the mall, embracing innovation that complements aesthetics. We extend our gratitude to the people of Pune for their unwavering support and with their continued endorsement, we are confident that our latest world-class, new-age retail destination, Phoenix Mall of the Millennium at Wakad Pune, will etch its place in the city’s heart.” Says Shishir Shrivastava, Managing Director, The Phoenix Mills Limited, “Phoenix Mall of the Millennium at Wakad, Pune perfectly matches our philosophy of creating unparalleled city-centre, retail-led destinations and solidifies our position as owners, developers, and managers of iconic consumption hubs of India. We launched this development with Phoenix Mall

of the Millennium spread over ~12 lakh sq. ft. of leasable area. Additionally, we have under-construction, modern commercial office space with approx. the leasable area of ~14 lakh sqft, expected to become operational in FY25. The unrivalled ease of access from all corners of Pune and neighbouring towns and cities, accessible via the expressway, will make Phoenix Mall of the Millennium the epicentre of shopping, entertainment, and experiential activities for patrons in the region. With the development of IT and biotechnology park at Hinjewadi, integrated development and with the establishment of some of the biggest residential complexes, the area of Wakad has witnessed significant infrastructure development in the past decade. The strategic location on the Golden Corridor area, which extends from Pune to Nasik and Ahmednagar, will establish this destination as a regional consumption centre. This is the second of our retail destinations to become operational under our joint venture (JV) with CPP Investments, with Phoenix Citadel Indore being the first retail destination in the JV to become operational in December 2022. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the entire team at CPP Investments for their support through the journey of delivering yet another remarkable retail destination.

Tasva Achieves 56th Store Milestone; Strengthens its Retail Presence with the Grand Opening of its Second Store in Pune

Pune (Voice news service):- Tasva, the Indian menswear brand by Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd and celebrated designer Tarun Tahiliani, is pleased to announce the launch of its second store in Pune. With this feat, Tasva has achieved the milestone of 56th stores across the country. The new store, strategically located in MG Road, a bustling and vibrant shopping street in Pune, will cater to the discerning clientele of the city and surrounding region, offering a wide range of meticulously curated wedding and occasion wear with its new perspective, seamlessly blending comfort with style. Tasva’s second store in Pune marks a significant milestone in the brand’s journey, emphasizing its growth and continued commitment to delivering unparalleled fashion and lifestyle products. The new store of the brand is spread across 3,188 sq. ft. and presents a remarkable range of kurtas, bundis, sherwanis, bandhgallas, achkans, churidars, aligarhis, and



accessories such as safas, brooches, pocket squares, shawls, stoles, mojaris and more. The elegant ambience of the store complements the exceptional collection. Tasva’s team of knowledgeable stylists is dedicated to understanding customers’ unique preferences and providing personalized assistance. Each garment reflects Tarun Tahiliani’s signature style; expertly crafted with impeccable attention to detail to create the Tasva fit. Tasva uses fabrics such as silk, banarasi brocade, velvet, and cotton that celebrates the rich heritage of Indian textiles. Traditional em-

broidery such as zardozi, aari, chikankari, and gota work have been used extensively across the collection, combining the elegance of Indian craftsmanship with contemporary silhouettes for the global Indian. Sharing his thoughts on the unveiling of the new store, Tarun Tahiliani, the Chief Design Officer, Tasva, said, “Tasva has been a long-held dream of mine, made possible via Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail. The name itself represents the finest version of oneself, which we have worked hard to accomplish through the brand. For the longest time, I’ve heard that ethnic wear is uncomfort-

able, and Tasva is an attempt to rectify that. We have designed garments that provide our consumer, the Indian Man, with a fabulously made, internationally.” Commenting on the launch, Ashish Mukul, Brand Head, Tasva remarked, “Tasva has over the last year created a strong customer connect with its best-in-class product offering and unique store experience for men’s Indian wear buyers. With a complete product offering across Indian occasion & wedding wear apparel and accessories for Men, we believe a strong market like Pune offers tremendous potential for us to take this brand to many more consumers. From our current network of 56 stores in 34 cities, we plan to accelerate our store expansion to a network of over 90 stores by the end of this financial year.” Store Address: - Tasva, Near Vasupujiya Swami Maharaj Temple, 658 Sachapuri Street, MG Road, Camp, Pune – 411001 Timings: 11:00am – 9:00 daily

Niharika Is The Pune Chapter Winner Of The TiE Women’s Global Contest

Pune (Voice news service):- The chapter finals held on August 25, Volar Alta, a drone aggregator start-up founded by Niharika Kolte, was declared the winner by a panel of four eminent judges: Ankita Vashisht, founder of StrongHer Ventures; Arvind Chinchure, board member of Deshpande Start-ups; Madhura Bhatia, managing partner of Pentathlon Ventures; and Pravin Bhagwat, founder of 14 Trees Foundation. TiE has been holding a Global Contest for female-led start-ups for the past three years.

This year, the contest witnessed a record participation of all 61 chapters across the globe. Like every year, TiE Pune saw an increase in the number of companies that participated, to a total of 71. Niharika, who was elated at this win, said, “This has been really good for my company. After being declared the winner, I was approached by two VCs who are now interested in evaluating us. I must thank my mentors, Ramesh Maheshwari and Vineet Patni, as well as Kiran Deshpande and Vivek Gupta, who helped me refine

my pitch deck and presentation. I will now be allocated other mentors for the global pitch.” Speaking at the event, Ankita Vashisht said, “I believe that women must have access to capital to succeed and should develop a strong network. Look around you, and you will see the Boys’ Club that fosters networking. Women too need this, which is why I strongly advocate this for women entrepreneurs.” The first runner-up was Jilma Perungvat, and the second runner-up was Manasi Khasnis.

9 in 10 PuneKars feel confident about using AI in their jobs: LinkedIn

Pune (Voice news service):- According to new research from LinkedIn, the world’s largest professional network, generative AI innovations are prompting professionals to adapt to new ways of working in Pune. More than 8 in 10 (84%) professionals believe that there will be ‘significant’ change to their jobs in the next year as a result of AI. While this has created some uncertainty with 47% of professionals in Pune worried that they won’t be able to keep up with AI developments sweeping through the workplace, the majority of the city’s workforce are willing to embrace the shift. More than 6 in 10 professionals (66%) say they want to learn more about

AI, even if they don’t know where to start. In fact, 63% of Pune’s workforce admits to already using generative AI in their job, with more than 1 in 2 professionals (55%) trying out generative AI tools like ChatGPT. Across the country, Millennials (54%) are leading the usage of ChatGPT followed by GenZ (46%) professionals. Professionals in Pune are also demonstrating greater curiosity and enthusiasm for the future ahead with 71% feeling they should know more about AI. This need to appear ‘in the know’ might be stemming from the fact that 63% believe their colleagues are better versed in AI than they are.

Yakii - Asian Tapas Bar & Restaurant Celebrates Grand Opening in the Heart of Deccan, Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- Yakii-Asian Tapas Bar & Restaurant, a groundbreaking culinary destination, is thrilled to announce its grand opening in the bustling heart of Deccan, Pune. The restaurant aims to redefine the city’s dining landscape by offering an unparalleled Asian gastronomic experience. Yakii is a novel culinary haven that stems from Hrishikesh Baravkar’s deep-rooted understanding of Pune’s evolving culture and burgeoning desire for Asian cuisine. The restaurant seamlessly blends tropical beachside allure with Dubai desert elegance, offering a truly global experience on native soil. Designed by architectural visionaries Hrishikesh Baravkar and Shashank Shirole, Yakii boasts an interior palette of warm, earthy tones meticulously chosen to kindle a cozy ambience. The restaurant harmonizes wood, steel, and bricks in an artful dance, complemented by century-old plants and trees in its sprawling open-air section. The fusion of small and large plates, alongside robata grills cooked over live heat, defines Yakii’s exceptional culinary offerings. The carefully curated drinks menu boasts a refreshing twist and a generous splash of alcohol, complementing the flavors. Yakii takes pride in its curated menu that features a range of signature dishes and cocktails, designed to tanta-

lize the palate and elevate the dining experience. Guests can indulge in mouth-watering options like Korean Chicken, Tori Karaage, Togarashi Hummus, Kunji Lamb and the unique KFC Chicken Truffle Oil Roll. To complement the culinary offerings, Yakii presents an exquisite cocktail menu featuring the Kuwa Sour, Kohi Press, Guava Tinkle, Yakii de la Casa and Laccha Sting. Each dish and drink have been crafted with meticulous attention to detail, promising an experience that’s as bold, contemporary, and unparalleled as Yakii itself. “Yakii is not just a restaurant; it’s a culinary journey that transcends borders and traditions,” says Hrishikesh Baravkar, the visionary behind Yakii. “Rooted in the vibrant pulse of Pune, we’ve created a sanctuary where the exotic flavors of Asia meet the warmth of Deccan hospitality. We invite you to not just dine with us, but to become a part of our ever-evolving narrative,” added Hrishikesh Baravkar. Yakii operates from 12:30pm to 1am and offers a 160-seater expanse spanning 6,000 sq. ft. Guests are welcomed into a casual yet luxurious atmosphere, accentuated by earthy Mediterranean hues and rustic decor.

Address: Yakii, Behind Champion Sports (main road), Next to R Deccan Mall, Deccan Gymkhana, Opposite Indian Overseas Bank, Pune-411004

Business opportunities for Indian companies in Nigeria

Pune (Voice news service):- After India assumed the presidency of the G-20, Prime Ministers and Presidents of leading countries from around the world are gathering in India for this conference. Representatives of Africa are also present at this conference. To create business opportunities for Indian companies in Nigeria, the founder and chief operating officer of Enyimba Economic City Development (EECD), Mr. C. Darl Uzu, is currently in Delhi for the G-20 meeting. Vishal Jadhav, founder and managing director of Crescendo Worldwide, informed that Uzu’s visit to Pune is from September 10 to 13 to encourage Indian investors. EECD - Enyimba Economic City Development (EECD) a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) under the Made in Nigeria for Export (MINE) programme of the Federal Government of Nigeria with a Free Trade Zone status. Enyimba Economic City Development (EECD) is a transformative initiative in Nigeria aimed at creating a vibrant and sustainable economic hub. This ambitious project is designed to drive industrialization, innovation, and economic growth, positioning Nigeria as a key



player in the global marketplace. EECD Founder and Head of Operations Mr. C. Darl Uzu’s visit to Pune from the 10th to the 13th of September 2023 will encourage investments from Indian investors keen on exploring Nigeria and the EECD in particular. Making provisions for generous incentives from local, state, and federal governments for Indian companies doing business in the EECD is at the heart of the India – Nigeria trade facilitation. Crescendo Worldwide, India’s leading International Trade & Foreign Direct Investment supporting organization has successfully introduced more than 46 companies coming from across a plethora of

sectors willing to expand in EECD. These companies also aim at doing re-exports to other African countries considering Nigeria as a strategic location. Mr. Vishal Jadhav, (Founder & Managing Director at Crescendo Worldwide) stated that EECD provides a platter of investment opportunities for companies interested in urban infrastructure development and for investment companies wanting to be a part of EEDC as investors. “Indian investors planning to invest for a brighter future in sectors particularly related to Automotive, Healthcare, Packaging, Electronics, and Electricals should grab this golden opportunity.” Mr. Kaushal Shah (Associate Vice President, Crescendo

Worldwide) said. In continuation of flourishing India-Nigeria trade relations over the last few years Crescendo Worldwide has been an exclusive associate business partner of EECD and is supporting Indian companies to expand their operations in Nigeria. As a part of investment authority and support, Crescendo Worldwide will also have a delegation of 13 companies visiting EECD Nigeria to overview the facility and discuss and finalize the next plan of action for their investments. During the fiscal year 2022, India ranked among Nigeria’s top 5 trading partners. The bilateral trade volume between these two nations reached a significant US\$ 11.8 billion in FY22. Specifically, India’s exports to Nigeria amounted to US\$ 5,159.44 million, while imports from Nigeria reached US\$ 6,692.65 million in the same period. Furthermore, Nigeria hosts more than 135 companies with Indian ownership and/or operation, boasting an estimated investment of approximately US\$ 19.3 billion. These Indian enterprises are actively engaged in various sectors, including pharmaceuticals, power and transmission, manufacturing, consumer goods retail, construction, and air services.

Fino Bank’s innovative “Bank on Wheels” initiative to provide banking, Aadhaar and PAN card services in rural Maharashtra

Pune (Voice news service):- In order to create awareness about banking as well as provide access to related services in Maharashtra, Fino Payments Bank (“Fino Bank”, “the Bank”) today announced the launch of a mobile van-based initiative called “Bank on Wheels” (BoW). Chief guest Mr. Amol Balwadkar (Corporator) flagged off the initiative from Fino Bank’s zonal office located at Radha Chowk in Pune’s, Baner area. The event was attended by Mrs. Sundari Shivkumar, (DGM) NABARD as well as officials of Fino Bank Mr. Himanshu Mishra, EVP (South & West), Mr. Sangram Patil, Zonal Head (MH-2) and the bank’s local staff. The 90-day BoW initiative aims to take the benefits of technology led banking closer to the masses deprived of access to financial knowledge and services. The mobile van will pass through 29 districts of Maharashtra from 14th September to 12th December, covering more than 2042 villages. Flagging off the initiative Mr. Amol Balwadkar (Corporator) said, “It is important that benefits of technology reach villages. Around 55% of the state’s population that lives in rural areas finds it difficult to access banking and other related services. I am certain an effort such as Bank on Wheels will greatly benefit local masses and lead to increased participation in formal financial services. I congratulate Fino Bank for taking the initiative and urge people to make use of this opportunity to financially empower themselves.” Himanshu Mishra, EVP (South & West), Fino Pay-



ments Bank said, “There is immense potential to expand banking services in the interiors of Maharashtra. We already have around 67,000 banking points across all the 36 districts of the state. In addition to bank accounts, Aadhaar number and PAN card are important to be part of formal financial services. Through our BoW initiative it is our endeavour to bring all these services closer to rural masses in a hassle-free manner. Introduced earlier in Telangana, the BoW project resulted in encouraging response as people across

more than 3000 villages benefited. Our aim is to bridge the banking access gap in rural Maharashtra as well.” The BoW mobile van carrying Fino staff, banking equipment and Aadhaar enrolment devices will tour the districts of Pune, Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Ahmednagar, Satara, Kolhapur, Sangli, Solapur, Osmanabad, Latur, Beed, Jalna, Buldhana, Akola, Washim, Hingoli, Parbhani, Nanded, Yavatmal, Amravati, Wardha, Chhindrapur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Bhandara, Nagpur. As per 2011 census Maharashtra’s population stood at 12.63 crore, with the 29 mentioned districts accounting for majority of rural population. BoW will provide Financial Literacy, Aadhaar (new as well as update), PAN card application along with banking services. With the people bank in their village, mobile can also open new Fino Bank account, do deposit and withdrawal using Aadhaar (AePS) and Micro ATM, transfer money, pay utility bills, recharge and purchase health, life and motor insurance.

Pune: With just 10 days to go, motorsport fans across the globe are eagerly awaiting to witness history in the making at MotoGPTM Bharat. Hosted at the renowned Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida on September 22-24, the race aims to shatter the highest speed record in the history of motorsport. The Buddh International Circuit has been homologated making it suitable for motorcycle racing for the first time ever.

International Gemological Institute (IGI) announces its laboratory in Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- International Gemological Institute (IGI), a global authority in diamond and gemstone certification Institute proudly announces the opening of its 30th laboratory in the heart of Maharashtra, Pune. IGI Headquarters in Antwerp (Belgium) provides close to 50 years of expertise in diamond, coloured stones & jewelry certification. To mark the inauguration & commencement of its laboratory in Pune, Mr. Tehmasp Printer CEO (International Gemological Institute) welcomed prominent Jewelers to grace this occasion. The inauguration event was initiated with the ceremonious lamp lighting, followed by the Ganesh Puja - an auspicious commencement of the Pune laboratory and education institute & a welcome address by Mr. Printer. With Pune, IGI has now 30 labs worldwide with 19 labs in India. Mr. Tehmasp Printer expressed – his delight to bring IGI’s services to Pune and explained how the city along with other trade is a promising jewelry market with increasing young working population.

Traditionally as well jewelry is an integral part of Maharashtrian culture. IGI is committed to providing authenticity to purchases & instills trust to our end consumers. IGI Pune commenced its operations from 15th September, 2023. About IGI: The International Gemological Institute (IGI), a Blackstone portfolio company. IGI has 30 laboratories and 19 education facilities in major diamond and jewelry centers around the world. For close to 50 years, IGI has provided the fine jewelry community and consumers with a broad range of services including natural and laboratory grown diamond reports, colored stone grading and origin reports, as well as jewelry identification and appraisal reports. With the increase of lab grown diamonds in the marketplace, IGI screens millions of natural and lab grown diamonds in order for the industry and consumers to receive the product they expect. Regardless of location or marketplace, an authentic IGI Laboratory Report is the common language of trust and confidence in the gemological world.

Indian Army Quiz 2023 ‘Battle of Minds’

Pune (Voice news service):- National Cadet Corps, with its extensive network comprising over 15,000 schools across the country, has advised its units to encourage schools in its network to participate in the Indian Army Quiz 2023 – ‘Battle of Minds’. The NCC sees this as an opportunity to enhance skill development among the students they serve. This participation aligns perfectly with the quiz competition, which commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Kargil War victory and aims to foster knowledge and inspire the youth of India. All 17 Deputy Director Generals, representing 17 regions under the NCC, has commended schools associated with NCC to register for the

Battle of Minds Quiz of the Indian Army, as per the directive of the Director General of the NCC. With over 15,000 schools across India hosting NCC units, this initiative reaches out to approximately 1.4 million students. Furthermore, NCC’s involvement in the Indian Army Quiz 2023 poises it to engage an even larger audience, contributing to the event’s overarching goal of igniting curiosity and nurturing intellectual growth among the youth. In an era of increasing inclusivity, it’s worth noting the rising participation of girls in NCC units, aligning with the vision of the quiz. Schools can register for participation of their team in the quiz at www.indianarmyquiz.com

Tata Motors launches ‘Truck Utsav’

Pune (Voice news service):- Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, announced the launch of 'Truck Utsav' – a unique customer engagement initiative. Truck Utsav is aimed at raising awareness of its latest vehicles and mobility solutions, showcasing innovative and technologically-advanced trucks with unique value-added services. Tata Motors also unveils the all-new LPT 1916 – a class-leading addition, engineered to set new benchmarks in customer profitability. Through Truck Utsav, customers will benefit through Tata Motors advanced mobility solutions, tailored to their specific needs, and also offer an opportunity to engage with financing partners for easy and convenient vehicle financing. Truck Utsav will be held in Delhi, Faridabad, Gurugram, Bengaluru, Jaipur and Chennai, among others. Unveiled at the Truck Utsav, the Tata LPT 1916 offers the highest payload in its segment, allowing higher income and profitability to the fleet owners. It is powered by the proved and fuel-efficient



3.3-litre diesel engine and comes with the walkthrough LPT cabin designed for driver comfort, in day and sleeper configurations. The LPT 1916 has been engineered to ensure highest profitability and reliability, and is equipped with latest features like cruise control, Gear Shift Advisor, dual-mode fuel economy switch, low-rolling-resistance tyres and engine brake. Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Rajesh Kaul, Business Head – Trucks, Tata Motors said, "At Tata Motors, our dedication to providing customer-centric mobility solutions drives everything we do. Truck Utsav, our latest programme, is an event that epitomises our commitment

to engaging with our valued customers and partners. The highlight of the show is the all-new Tata LPT 1916, which will set the highest standards in the segment for customer profitability, equipped with fuel-efficient powertrain and best-in-class features. Truck Utsav provides the perfect platform to engage with our customers, fostering invaluable insights and partnerships. We look forward to welcoming our customers for engaging conversations at this distinct event." Tata Motors range of trucks have been helping build the nation for over seven decades. The company has gone beyond the BS6 Phase 2 mandatory norms to up-

grade the vehicles 'bumper to bumper' with more features, efficient powertrains and richer value-adds. Beyond buying the best-in-class vehicle, fleet owners enjoy better fuel efficiency, lower operating costs, high vehicle uptime, real-time vehicle tracking and analytics for running the fleet efficiently. The company has also introduced several industry firsts – world-class cabins, vehicles with highest load carrying capacity in their segment, optimal body styles, longer decks, latest features, and multiple powertrains to offer the widest choice to the customers. The vehicles come with best-in-class fuel economy, performance and drivability, enhanced driver comfort, enhanced service intervals and fluid replacement frequency. With 4G-enabled connectivity and firmware over-the-air (FOTA) capability, the company has taken connectivity to the next level. All of this is supported by India's largest and most reliable sales and service network; manned by trained specialists and backed by easy availability of Tata Genuine Parts

New Nexon.ev, the game changer EV redefines advanced mobility

Pune (Voice news service):- Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, a subsidiary of Tata Motors and the pioneer of India's EV revolution, today launched the all-new Nexon.ev. A trail blazer by legacy, this latest avatar of India's bestselling EV marks a significant leap forward for the entire Indian auto industry. A bold digital design language; a futuristic, tech-inspired drive experience; and introduction of several intuitive and innovative features, easily accessible via gadgets; hallmarks the new Nexon.ev as a real game changer. Built on the Tata.ev brand values of Sustainability, Community and Technology, the Nexon.ev is available in three distinct personas– Empowered, Fearless and Creative, representing the personalities



and lifestyles of its audience. Available from an introductory starting price of INR 14.74 Lakh, the Nexon.ev will be re-tailed from authorized dealerships across the country. Launching the new Nexon.ev, Mr. Shailesh Chandra, Managing Director, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, said, "EV customers constitute a unique

community that is fast growing and distinguished by their evolved choices, hunger for next-gen technology, expectations of personalised experiences, and commitment to a greener tomorrow. The Nexon.ev aptly fulfils their evolving, astute preferences with a technologically advanced, on-the-move solution

that seamlessly blends with their contemporary way of life. This groundbreaking vehicle isn't just pushing boundaries; it is rewriting the rulebook by addressing several unstated expectations of customers as well. The sleek, futuristic, and digital design; an unwavering commitment to safety and sustainability; and smart life-style features that are best-in-class and only seen in vehicles several segments above, makes Nexon.ev a truly aspirational electric SUV." "With this launch, we are also transitioning into a new era that will be bolder and more innovative. We remain committed to lead the change and to shape the future of mobility towards an electric and sustainable tomorrow.", Mr. Chandra further added.

Thums Up, the official Beverage Partner of ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, Launches 'Thums Up FanPulse' with Disney+ Hotstar featuring cricket legends

Pune (Voice news service):- India's homegrown beverage brand from The Coca-Cola Company, is excited to announce the launch of 'Thums Up Fan Pulse', an innovative and immersive cricket experience in collaboration with Disney+ Hotstar. The Thums Up Fan Pulse introduces a new era of cricket engagement, amplifying every voice, fostering passionate discussions, with expert insights, and unparalleled fan participation. The first-of-its-kind endeavour is set to transform the cricket content landscape, resonating with the true spirit of Thums Up. 'Thums Up Fan Pulse' isn't just a platform; it's a vibrant space for fans to share opinions, interact with experts, and pose the pivotal question: "Will India Win?" The series featuring top experts, including Sourav Gan-

guly, Yuvraj Singh, Gautam Gambhir, Virendra Sehwal, Dinesh Karthik and hosted by the 'voice of cricket' – Harsha Bhogle will showcase the pulse of every cricket fan as they give unique insights about every aspect of the upcoming World Cup. By integrating data, tech, and social listening, Thums Up is revolutionizing fan engagement. It uncovers insights about players, team India, and the World Cup fueling a personalized content experience for every cricket enthusiast, through various channels - pack, digital, and OOH with enthusiasts enthusiastically participating and sharing their views on the platform. Commenting on the launch of 'Thums Up Fan Pulse' and the association with Disney+ Hotstar, Tish Condono, Senior Category Director,

Sparkling Flavors, Coca-Cola India, and South-West Asia said, "We're absolutely thrilled to announce the launch of 'Thums Up Fan Pulse,' an immersive experience that encapsulates the pulse of every cricket fan. With our unique series in collaboration with Disney+ Hotstar, we are honoured to feature cricket legends together on one platform. Our aim is to unite cricket enthusiasts, engage fans, and build up the excitement for the upcoming ICC World Cup." Ajit Varghese, Head of Network - Ad Sales at Disney Star, said, "Cricket may be a strategic sport, but it involves the heart and mind in equal measures. Be it calculating the possibilities of a six in an over or praying for the last ball to score a six, it is this mix of emotion that makes the game great. At Disney+

Hotstar, we are proud to partner with Thums Up to curate a unique series like Thums Up Pulse. It quenches our national thirst for cricket with logic & passion served by experts like Sourav Ganguly, Virendra Sehwal, Harsha Bhogle and other prominent names for the upcoming ICC Men's Cricket World Cup." The Thums Up Fan Pulse offers various content formats, from episodic series with Disney+ Hotstar to by-sized content. By sparking engaging conversations about the ICC World Cup, it keeps the excitement alive. Thums Up remains dedicated to enhancing cricket conversations and uniting fans through innovation. Consumers can purchase a Thums Up, scan the QR code on the pack and express their views to become a part of Thums Up Fan Pulse.

THE NEW RANGE ROVER VELAR: SOPHISTICATED ELEGANCE COUPLED WITH COMPELLING DESIGN



Pune (Voice news service):- JLR India has officially launched the new and enhanced Range Rover Velar in India. The Range Rover Velar is a pure expression of modern luxury, featuring the latest technology, trademark Range

Rover refinement and a dramatic, clean and reductive new design. The New Range Rover Velar is available in Dynamic HSE with two powertrain options - the 2.0 l petrol engine delivering a power of 184 kW and 365 Nm torque and a 2.0 l

Ingenium diesel engine delivering a power of 150 kW and 430 Nm torque. Rajan Amba, Managing Director, JLR India, said: "The New Range Rover Velar is a forward-thinking sanctuary with curated and refined elements that make it both intriguing and desirable. It has been carefully crafted for the transforming tastes of our discerning clients and is all set to elevate the bar for luxury travel in India. The New Range Rover Velar embodies effortless sophistication with a bold elegance and dramatic presence, and its latest tech-

nology and reductive design integrate seamlessly with our focus on modern luxury." The Range Rover Velar pioneers the brand's reductive design philosophy, with an updated exterior and a revamped interior. Its design features a new grille combined with the characteristic floating roof, unbroken waistline and flush deployable door handles. On the inside, a full suite of technologies promotes passenger comfort and wellbeing, making the midsize luxury SUV a preferred choice for comfort-conscious consumers.

MSME is the backbone of Indian economy for employment and development, says Dr. Bhagwat Kharad, MoS, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India



Pune (Voice news service):- The SME Finance Forum, a dynamic platform fostering SME financing, kick started its three-day conference today in Mumbai. The theme for this year's event is, "Digital Ecosystems and the Future of SME Finance". The conference is co-hosted by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Indian Bank's Association (IBA). Over the three-day, 700 participants will attend the event from senior bankers, tech luminaries, to thought leaders from 70 countries and 250 institutions, to discuss digital ecosystems and future of SME finance. Dr Bhagwat Karad, highlighted that, "MSME plays a very important role in the development of the Indian economy. Currently around 6.3 crore MSME enterprises are working in India and have generated around 11.1 crore employment opportunities. Around 30% of GDP comes from MSME and the growth rate every year is 10 percent."

He further added that, "The government of India under the leadership of Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi has been proactive in removing hurdles for the SME sector, and together with the banking sector, we strive to make financing easily accessible to fuel the growth of these vital enterprises." Mr. Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI, who joined virtually in the session titled Unlocking the potential of digital platforms for SME financing said, "In the last ten years, we have witnessed a significant transformation in our bank. There has been a prominent shift from a collateral based lending model to a data-based lending, which has further assisted us in reducing the bank's overall operational costs. Digitalization has also helped vendors in making faster and more convenient payments, streamlining the MSME loan process. Additionally, digital platforms have been instrumental in catering to the needs of SME customers and creating value for them."

Ms. Shalini Warriar, Executive Director, Federal Bank said during that same panel, "In the past, banking operations were primarily conducted manually. However, in recent years, a significant evolution has occurred, with digital technology taking the lead in the sector. One of the notable advancement is the convenience of online payments through QR codes provided by UPI apps. Nowadays, a substantial portion of transactions occurs digitally on a daily basis, surpassing other traditional payment methods." Thampy Koshy, CEO, ONDC, Matthew Saal, Principal Industry Specialist, IFC, and other eminent speakers discussed the role of marketplaces in the SME finance ecosystems. Key issues faced by the MSME sector in terms of flow of credit, ease of doing business and market facilitation were addressed and solutions through use of digital technologies were also mentioned.. Commenting on the Global SME Finance Forum 2023, Mr. Sivasubramanian Ramann, Chairman & MD, SIDBI, said, "I am grateful for the opportunity extended to SIDBI for hosting such a prestigious event that has witnessed tremendous participation of industry stakeholders across the world and encouraged discussions on very relevant issues and trends on the SME Sector. With India taking the presidency of the G20 for the first time, the coun-

try's views, and outlook on the MSME sector is of significance for the world. The strides made by the Government of India in developing a robust digital infrastructure and the consequent digital innovation by various players in MSME credit domain needs to be discussed, encouraged as also celebrated. Mr. Qamar Saleem, Incoming SME Finance Forum CEO, said, "I am thrilled to see the level of participation and richness of discussions during first day of Global SME Finance Forum here in Mumbai. We have more than 700 executives representing more than 70 countries and 250 institutions gathered here. It is also fitting that the event is hosted by India which is at the cutting edge of digital infrastructure and innovations steering SME finance. I am really excited as the event unfolds which would feature over 90 speakers across 15 panels, 10 study tours to leading institutions in India, our flagship SME finance annual awards, and brainstorming sessions on key thematic game changing topics. It has been a privilege to partner with SIDBI, IBA as cohorts and SBI as Diamond sponsors to the event and we thank them for all their support. SME finance Forum and IFC remain committed to supporting the private sector globally in playing a catalytic role to support SMEs as they drive economic growth and create jobs"

Demand for Paying Guest (PG) Accommodations in India Continues to Surge, Fueled by Urbanization and rising Millennial Population: Magicbricks

Pune (Voice news service):- The demand for PG accommodations in India is on the rise, driven by a confluence of factors, including the presence of educational institutions, business hubs, and urban job opportunities. According to "Exploring the current landscape of PG accommodation in India", a flagship report by Magicbricks, in the fiscal year 2022-23, NCR represented 24% of the total demand for accommodation and 25% of the total supply, and Bengaluru closely followed, contributing to 23% of the demand and 17% of the supply. In the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, the demand and supply for PG accommodation accounted for 16% each. The report further observed

that 68.5% of tenants across India expressed interest in double and triple sharing PGs while approximately 71% of PG listings on the Magicbricks platform featured double occupancy or larger setups. Monthly rents for triple-sharing accommodation is INR 4,800-7,700, double-sharing accommodations charge INR 6,800-10,000 per month and rents for single occupancy PG rooms are between INR 6,800-15,200 per month. Further, approximately 55% of the demand was for PGs catering to both men and women. According to Sudhir Pai, CEO, Magicbricks "The demand for PG accommodations in India is intricately tied to the rapid urbanization and

the pursuit of better education and career opportunities. Cities with a high concentration of students and working professionals have witnessed a surge in the PG market. At the same time, with 52% of India's total population being millennials, the demand for affordable and convenient accommodations such as PGs is expected to continue its momentum in the medium to long term. Another key driver of the growing popularity of PG accommodations is their cost-effectiveness. Rising rents in major cities have led tenants to seek alternatives, and PGs offer a more affordable option." For real estate investors, PG accommodations are becoming lucrative as the rental yields have far outstripped

those in the conventional housing market. While rental returns have remained stagnant at 2-3% within the conventional housing market, paying guest accommodations offer 50% - 75% more yields, accompanied by comparably lower risks. The report concluded that while demand and supply for PG accommodations generally aligned in most cities, there were deviations in some regions. For instance, Greater Noida faced a shortage of single occupancy PGs by 11.6%, while demand for double occupancy PGs exceeded supply by 10.4%. Cities like Thane and Kolkata experienced a demand for triple sharing PGs that was 7-9% higher than the available supply.

Nuvoco Secures Patent for Revolutionary 'Fibre Reinforced Cement Composition'

Pune (Voice news service):- Nuvoco Vistas Corp. Ltd., India's fifth-largest cement group in terms of capacity, proudly announces it has been granted a patent for its revolutionary product, the 'Fibre Reinforced Cement Composition,' branded in the market as 'Duraguard Microfiber Cement'. The patent, effective from the date of application - April 4, 2018, cites exclusive rights for the next 20 years. The concept of using fibres for concrete reinforcement emerged in the 1960s. Duraguard Microfiber Cement leverages this historical development to revolutionize the Indian cement market. This fibre-based cement signifi-

cantly enhances the bonding process, improves crack resistance, reduces permeability, improves impact strength and durability, and delivers a smooth surface finish. A distinctive feature of Duraguard Microfiber Cement is the visible presence of fibres in the product, which act as micro-reinforcing agents, enabling the cement to withstand seepage, dampness, cracks, shrinkage, and thermal stresses over the years. Manufactured from high-quality clinker with 48-52% Tricalcium Silicate (C3S) and low Tricalcium Aluminate (C3A), the cement contains high-quality electrostatically precipitated dry fly ash, meeting the highest

quality standards. Duraguard Microfiber Cement finds applications in every stage of construction, from laying foundations to plastering and roof-casting, providing long-lasting protection against micro-cracks. As a result, structures benefit from increased service life and reduced maintenance costs. On this momentous occasion, Mr. Jayakumar Krishnaswamy, Managing Director, Nuvoco Vistas expressed his delight, stating, "At Nuvoco, customer experience is paramount to our success, which is why we prioritize innovation. Our Construction Development and Innovation Centre (CDIC) is dedicated to creating

sustainable and innovative products that meet the highest global standards. The awarded patent validates our unwavering commitment to innovation and keeps us in the forefront of pioneering advancements in the cement industry delivering exceptional quality and responsible business practices."

