

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Initiates Health Check drive for over 10,000 School Children in Ramanagara

Pune (Voice news service):- Building on the success of prior healthcare initiatives such as, A Behavioural Change Demonstration (ABCD) and Community Health Centre (CHC), Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) announced the continued success of the Toyota Shaale Arogya Program (TSAP) in Ramanagara district, with special focus on child health and community well-being. Initially launched in 2019, TSAP has evolved as an important initiative in TKM's comprehensive approach to healthcare and hygiene awareness among government school students, considering children are country's future. Under TSAP, the students undergo comprehensive medical checkups with focus on early detection and resolution of health issues. The initiative addresses concerns such as anaemia, malnutrition, visual and hearing impairments among school students, and depending on the diagnosis, they are provided with appropriate corrective measures like spectacles, hearing aids, healthcare supplements, or referred to a tertiary healthcare center. In addition, the program has health and hygiene awareness sessions, aimed at equipping students with the knowledge necessary for main-



taining good health. So far, this program has reached over 10,000 children in more than 180 schools within Ramanagara district. Furthermore, TSAP program is also extended to the community through the Health camps. These camps provide an array of medical checks like random blood sugar tests, vision and dental examinations, ECGs, along with the distribution of essential medicines. This program provides health care facilities to the villages making it accessible for all community members. In this current year, TKM has conducted health camps in 18 villages and positively impacted more than 1100 individuals. Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Vikram Gulati, Country Head and Executive Vice President, Toyota Kirloskar Motor said, "In line with our commitment for community well-being, the Toyota Shaale Arogya Program, alongside our other healthcare endeavors like Community Health Centre and Water Purifications Units reflects our dedica-

tion to making a meaningful difference in the lives of community members, especially focusing on the well-being of children, fostering a brighter future. As we navigate the path ahead, our pledge to create a healthier society and nation, remains resolute as we are driven by the belief that sustainable progress begins with the well-being of our children and communities." Demonstrating a broader dedication to healthcare, TKM goes beyond the realms of TSAP. Some of the recent initiatives include a Community Health Centre in Bidadi, Karnataka with exclusive oxygen-generating plant, delivering specialized care. Additionally, school-based health and hygiene programs like ABCD, and installation of water purification units, have significantly enhanced the health outcomes within the community. In the fiscal year 2022-23 alone, TKM made a positive impact of over 65,000 individuals, contributing to a cumulative outreach of more than 11,16,365 individuals.

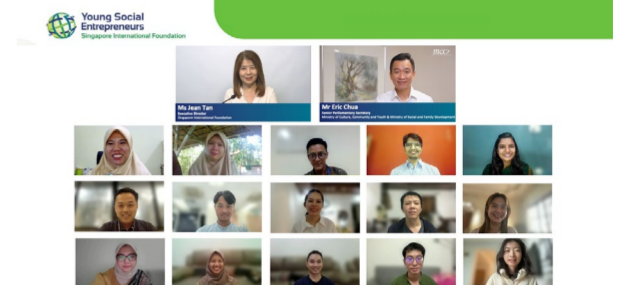
ExxonMobil elevates India's motorsports scene by powering first F4 Championship and Season 2 of Indian Racing League



Pune (Voice news service):- ExxonMobil is elevating India's fast-growing motorsports sector by powering the Indian Racing Festival this year, which features the first-ever F4 Indian Championship in the country and the second season of the Indian Racing League (IRL), being held at Chennai's Madras International Circuit (MIC) and the new Formula Racing Circuit (FCR). This year will also mark another first in India and South Asia – an exciting calendar of night races at the FCR, located around the Island Grounds in the heart of the city. This is part of ExxonMobil's second consecutive year of partnership with Racing Promotions Pvt Ltd (RPPL), underpinned by its commitment to elevate the popularity and reach of motorsports in the country and make it more affordable for all passionate racers. The partnership with IRL was celebrated at the IRL Pre-Season Test at MIC, Chennai. At the event, drivers showcased Mobil 1TM products, in addition to Mobil 1TM branding displayed prominently across the venue. ExxonMobil is lending confidence to the racers with Mobil 1TM, which has an exceptional track-record in providing outstanding engine performance – which is central to racing. India's first franchised-based motorsports league, the IRL Season 2 brings together sev-

er seamless performance for their powerful machines. In addition to building a strong community of motorsports enthusiasts, we are highlighting the values of confidence and true sportsmanship and empowering more young people to pursue their passion for motorsports. The event will further spur the popularity of motorsports in the country." Akhilesh Reddy, Director MEIL and Chairman, RPPL, added: "IRL has defined its credentials as the country's only one-of-its-kind racing championship – not only encouraging and inspiring more young people to follow motor sports but also shaping a new ecosystem of gender-neutral racing for the first time in the world. We are proud to collaborate with ExxonMobil for the second consecutive year, reflecting our commitment to provide racers with the confidence they need on track that Mobil 1TM assures for any model of racing car. With this, we are also highlighting what goes into powering these machines – lubricants and other products that lend energy and zest to the racers. The partnership will further build a strong motor-racing culture in the country, especially by providing youngsters opportunities to pursue motorsports as a career opportunity." ExxonMobil brings a strong heritage in developing products that meet the needs of top-tier race teams. Since 1915, ExxonMobil has tested its lubricant technology in racing, helping riders improve performance and lap times. Most recently, Mobil1 turbo-charged the inaugural MotoGP Bharat for the 2023 Grand Prix.

15 YOUTHS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES TRIUMPHED AT YOUNG SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS BACKED BY STRONG MENTORSHIP SUPPORT



YSE Global 2023 - Pitching for Change

Pune (Voice news service):- Six social enterprise teams from five countries emerged as winners at this year's Young Social Entrepreneurs (YSE) Global Programme organised by the Singapore International Foundation (SIF). The teams were represented by 15 youths from China, India, Indonesia, Laos, and Singapore. They presented the strongest business ideas that addressed social and environmental causes including mental health services, water conservation, the provision of skills and technology for underserved communities, and women empowerment. The YSE Global Programme also enjoyed the highest level of mentorship support in its 14-year history. A total of 82 volunteer mentors spent more than 330 hours working with participant teams this year, a 32 per cent increase in hours compared to the previous year. Mentorship support began at the YSE Global 2023 Workshop held from 7 to 10 June. The mentors comprised business professionals and established social entrepreneurs and they helped 46 teams to strengthen their business fundamentals and strategies. A total of 15 teams from the June workshop advanced to the next phase of the programme and were assigned up to three mentors from July to October. The volunteer mentors comprised leading business consultants from McKinsey & Company, Temasek International, Bain & Company, and seasoned industry professionals. During this four-month phase, the volunteer mentors played a crucial role in guiding participants on running a social enterprise. They also helped prepare the teams for an event called Pitching for Change, scheduled for November, which serves as the finale and closing event for YSE. During this event, the teams presented their refined business plans to a panel of judges to secure funding. Ms Mahdiyah Ardina, a member of Rumah Briket and YSE 2023 participant from Indonesia said: "YSE Global has been an intensive boot camp for our team as we are still new in our business. We thank our mentors for their experience and input. They have been invaluable these past few months. They imparted critical knowledge based on years of professional experience and provided fresh perspectives on our business plans." Rumah Briket created a zero-waste solution that processes organic and non-organic waste and converts it into charcoal briquettes and paving blocks. Dr Yoke Pean Thye, co-founder of WISE, a non-profit organisation that works towards a sustainable and equitable Southeast Asia, and mentor to Rumah Briket, said: "It has been my privilege to support the team. Having benefited from a YSE Regional workshop myself several years ago, I am grateful for the opportunity to give back and help Rumah Briket reflect on and refine their business model. I was heartened and inspired by their passion to address the waste management crisis in Indonesia, dedication to their social enterprise and benefiting the community, as well as motivation to learn and challenge themselves." She also encouraged more people to sign up as mentors for YSE Global. She said: "It is a meaningful avenue for people who are keen to share their experience with youths who are figuring out their social impact journey." Mr Lian Wee Cheow, SIF Vice-Chairman and Lead Judge of YSE Global 2023 said: "Mentorship is a key component of YSE Global. Our YSE mentors, who are industry leaders with vast experience, have committed their time to share their expertise and networks with our aspiring changemakers. This broadens the horizons of our young participants who are at an early, critical juncture of their journey as a so-

cial entrepreneur." He added: "Since 2010, YSE Global has been nurturing a growing network, which now comprises more than 1,400 youths of 43 nationalities, representing 674 social enterprises. By providing mentorship, capacity-building workshops, and regional learning opportunities, YSE supports budding social entrepreneurs to kickstart their journey." Winning Teams Announced at YSE Global 2023 - Pitching for Change Six out of the 15 shortlisted teams were announced as winners when they gathered virtually at Pitching for Change on 17 November. They were chosen based on the impact and scalability of their business ideas, as well as their commitment level. They are (in alphabetical order): 1. Anubhuti Samiti (India) 2. China House (China) 3. HomePal (Singapore and China) 4. LeLao (Laos) 5. Reservoir (Indonesia) 6. Rumah Briket (Indonesia) Each team was awarded funding of up to S\$20,000 to launch or scale up their social enterprises. A mentor will be assigned to guide them on how to use the funds and to support their development for the next one-and-a-half years. Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Singapore's Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Social and Family Development, was the Guest of Honour at the event. In his speech, he applauded the determination of the teams who tackled tough problems with creativity and resilience. He said: "These teams advocated for social causes they care deeply about. They presented an exciting range of ideas – from access to mental health services, to sustainable practices, educational equity, and support for vulnerable communities. Many spoke passionately on creating meaningful change in society. I am humbled by their passion in wanting to serve others, and their dedication in looking beyond immediate needs to innovate solutions for the wider community. This is no easy feat." Mr Lai Hoi Bing, co-founder of HomePal from Singapore, said: "YSE Global has been a positive and enriching experience like no other. The business clinics and training workshops have provided my team with relevant skills and knowledge such as the use of the social enterprise business model canvas tool to refine our go-to market strategy and social impact calculation. We hope to apply these new learnings to propel our social enterprise to the next level. We look forward to scaling up our social enterprise with the grant." HomePal is a social enterprise from Singapore and China that supports the elderly through the development of an Internet of Things (IoT) system using privacy-preserving home monitoring and safety solutions. Ms Manithip Vongphachanh, co-founder of LeLao from Laos, was inspired by other YSE Global teams. She said: "The programme introduced me to a global network of like-minded peers who are doing amazing work to make a positive difference for the society. My favourite part of the programme was when we exchanged ideas and learned new facts about our respective communities. I felt less alone and more inspired to keep pursuing our work in empowering vulnerable communities through eco fashion." LeLao's employees produce affordable and sustainable fashion products recycled from fabric waste and the products are designed to showcase the rich cultural heritage of Laos. The YSE Global programme seeks to inspire, equip, and enable youth of different nationalities to launch or scale up their social enterprises in Singapore and beyond. The programme is chronicled on social media with the hashtag #sifyse.

Kotak's Global Service Account – a Comprehensive Current Account, Addresses a Range of Banking Needs of the Service Export Sector

Pune (Voice news service):- Kotak Mahindra Bank ("KMBL"/ "Kotak") announced the launch of 'Global Service Account' (GSA) as a comprehensive current account to meet the unique banking needs of the Service Export Sector. This proposition will enable businesses with international presence, clients and employees, access a wide suite of products and services such as prioritised customer service with a dedicated Relationship Manager, Advisory Services on Forex Markets and Trends, access to Trade Experts and Digital Solutions and Lending solutions for on-time salaries, vendor payments, among others. As per India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF), a Trust established by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, the Service Export1 sector contributes to 40% of the total exports in India with a growth rate 26.8% in FY'23 as compared to FY'22, reaching \$323 billion in FY'23. Kotak aims to simplify customer experience by offering key banking products and services for global businesses

within one current account, without having to opt for services separately. Global Service Account will cater to global services in sectors such as Consultancy, Software, BPO, E-commerce, Tour & Travel, Hospitality, and Transport, with increasing international operations. Rohit Bhasin, President - Retail Liabilities Product and Chief Marketing Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank said, "Our Global Service Account will augment banking and finance related transactions for businesses with their international operations in a comprehensive and seamless manner. In an effort to be customer-centric, we continue to develop solutions that prioritize the needs of our customers, making it delightful to bank with us." The 'Global Service Account' offers two Current Account variants: 'Global Service Account Ace' and 'Global Service Account Elite'. Both variants provide exclusive and preferred pricing for Trade and Forex Transactions, granting access to a Business Platinum Debit Card with exclusive VIP airport lounge privileges through Priority Pass. Fur-

thermore, it also offers flexibility in maintaining Average Quarterly Balance (AQB) or quarterly throughput¹, ensuring that businesses can tailor the banking experience to their unique needs. Global Service Account customers have access to a suite of power-packed solutions to give their business an edge: Current Account Payment Solution: Simple and secure business payments with a bulk upload facility for easy and faster transactions Trade and Forex Solutions: Execute end-to-end forex transactions, protect against currency fluctuations, and access seamless, paperless trade portals. Lending Solutions: Key offering includes lending solutions for on-time salary and vendor payments with unsecured overdraft limit of up to ₹2 crore. Other offerings are Clean Overdraft, Hedging Limits, Foreign Currency Term Loans, Export Finance Solutions. Corporate Salary: Benefit from zero-balance salary accounts for employees and Priority Banking offering for employees², enticing brand offers, complimentary insur-

ance covers, program perks for employees, and lifetime access to premium credit cards. Corporate Credit Cards: Special offers like cashback, fuel surcharge waivers, lounge access, and more along with a dashboard for expense control and monitoring ActiviMoney: Earn FD-like interest of up to 7%* p.a. on the idle funds in your Current Account above a minimum three hold Convenience Banking: Experience hassle-free banking through Kotak's integrated ERP solutions and Access banking on-the-go through Kotak's Net, Mobile, Phone, and SMS banking facilities, along with Kotak FYN, a one-stop digital portal for seamless account services. For Global Service Account Elite, AQB of Rs. 1 lakh or quarterly throughput more than or equal to USD 1,00,000 needs to be maintained. For Global Service Account Ace, AQB of Rs. 2.5 lakh or quarterly throughput more than or equal to USD 2,50,000 needs to be maintained. For employees with salary of Rs. 1 lakh and above per month

"Satellite in Your Hand" Event showcases the Synergy of Space Technology and Digital Mapping for Community Development



Pune (Voice news service):- In a ground breaking initiative, ISRO, NRSC and Earth Sight Foundation hosted a "Satellite in Your Hand" workshop in Pune to highlight the transformative potential of space technology and digital mapping in advancing rural and urban development. The day long program dwelled into the practical applications of space technology for community development and understand how digital maps are becoming powerful tools for planning and decision-making. The event was held under the aegis of ISG, and ISRS, and supported by Symbiosis and Bharti Vidyapeeth University along with outreach partner Deepastambha Charitable Trust. Dr. Prakash Chauhan, Director National Remote Sensing Centre

(NRSC), Dr Erach Bharucha, Director Bharati Vidyapeeth Institute of Environmental Education and Research (BVEER), Dr. Shirish Ravan, founder of EarthSight Foundation, Ameya Joshi, President of Deepstambha Charitable Trust and other dignitaries were present on the occasion. Around 225 people including CSR heads of leading companies, NGOs, Sarpanch, Gram-sevaks, Government officials participated in the workshop. Key themes explored included Space Technology, GIS for Informed Decision-Making, Monitoring Water Resources, Assessing and Mitigating Disaster Risks. The event showcased a special 'Space on Wheels' vehicle to learn more about India's successful space missions and research.

CII Pune hosts the 11th Edition of West Tech Summit 2023



Pune: More than 150 delegates converged at the Hyatt Regency Pune to discuss role of innovations and new technologies and resultant disruptions across sectors and geographies. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Pune in association with organizing the 11th Edition of West Tech Summit 2023 focused on the theme "Technological Innovation & International Expansion" in Pune at Hyatt Regency on 30 November 2023. The conference was supported by 'The Embassy of Republic of Korea' and Korea-Trade Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA)

India-Korea Business Cooperation Center. His Excellency Chang Jaebok, Ambassador of Republic of Korea to India in his key note address said that this year holds particular significance for both India and Korea-India relations, marked by India's G20 presidency and the 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties between our nations. He extends his heartfelt congratulations to India for the successful G20 leaders meeting in New Delhi. He highlighted the ongoing digital transition in the global economy is entering a new phase,

characterized by non-linear technological advancements. Artificial Intelligence (AI), exemplified by innovations such as Chat GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer), is reshaping the global business environment in unprecedented ways, presenting both challenges and opportunities. He also stated that it is crucial to emphasize that the economies of Korea and India are complementary. Korean companies bring state-of-the-art technologies and efficient manufacturing expertise, honed through a rich history of economic development. Simultaneously, Indian firms possess abundant natural and human resources, fortified by unwavering governmental support for nurturing domestic industries. He firmly believes that collaborative efforts between Korean and Indian entrepreneurs are pivotal to navigating the challenges of the current global economic environment and securing prominent positions in global supply chains. Mr. Shekhar Singh, IAS, Hon'ble Commissioner Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation said that industry has been forefront of new technologies. These are also crucial for public services. There are a lot of things that we have started to leverage in terms of technology in cities. Citing various examples like digital payments, technologies used by urban bodies like IoTs, drone mapping he said that there have been lot of innovations that have come through to improve public services. He added that seamless integration of research institutes and industries would be helpful to come up with many solutions. Mr. Pradeep Bhargava Chair-

man, CII GreenCo Council and Chairman, MECF Ltd. talked about the journey of yesterday and drivers through various stages of growth. He said that today India is not being looked only as a market but also major supplier. Mr. Shujaul Rehman, Chairman, CII Pune Zonal Council and Chief Executive Officer, Garware Technical Fibres Ltd, said that today we stand at the crossroads of technological revolution that is reshaping industries and creating unprecedented opportunities. Innovation serves as a corner stone of sustainable growth and stands as a transformational force. To stay at the forefront of technological innovations companies must invest in research and development and collaborate with academia. Mr. Sanjeev Fadanavis, Chairman West Tech Summit 2023

and Chief Executive Officer Nitor Infotech India Pvt Ltd said that this platform has been a springboard for lot of companies and thought leaders to come together and think of innovative processes. Every year a theme is picked up on a subject which is a core to businesses. Mr. Kiran Acharya, Vice Chairman, CII Pune Zonal Council and Managing Director & CFO, Sandvik Coromant India Pvt Ltd in his closing remarks for the inaugural session said that technologies are now more just tools they are drivers of growth. They are transforming businesses. Technology innovations and business expansions are complementary to each other, they are not just strategies but a way of conducting business. They are catalyst for progress.

'Pravaha', the NCPA's forthcoming dance festival, set to premier acclaimed Indian and international choreographies in Mumbai

Pune: Join us at the NCPA for an immersive experience of celebrated Indian and international dancers who will exhibit their applauded choreographies for the first time in the city. From a solo performance that takes a contemporary stance on the ancient classic of Sophocles' Antigone to a duet between Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi; Pravaha's line-up features diverse dance forms. The festival's objective is twofold; the first is to enable various artists and art at the NCPA and the second is to provide the audience in Mumbai with an opportunity to explore traditional as well as emerging dance styles from various parts of the world.

gone in a mesmerizing solo performance that explores the strength and vulnerability of the body as a tool for resistance and civil disobedience. Day 2: "Manodarpan" by Odissi exponent Sharmila Biswas and troupe showcases the captivating stories, portraying all the human weaknesses and strengths, each expressing a certain emotion and its intricacies. It elevates us to a spiritual level, without any reference to gods and goddesses or mythology. Followed by the duet "Converse" - seamlessly blending Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam with Amrita Lahiri and Pavitra Bhat respectively. Day 3: Performance by danseuse Mahati Kannan, the grand-niece of noted Bharatanatyam exponent



Padma Subrahmanyam. Born into a family of musicians and dancers, Kannan is an excellent artiste in her own right. We also witness Bharatanatyam duo Parvathy Menon and Shijith Nambiar in "Dhi - Our Thoughts," a performance that explores the inner psyche as - "Dhi is a manifestation of our thoughts. Every thought born in one's mind starts to slowly begin its journey to create a magical world." Mark your calendars to experience a dance festival which promises an exclu-

FROM STREETS TO THE STADIUM: INAUGURAL EDITION OF INDIAN STREET PREMIER LEAGUE TO BEGIN FROM MARCH 2ND ONWARDS

Pune: In a pioneering move to bring the thrill of cricket from the streets to the stadium, CCS Sports LLP is delighted to announce the launch of the Indian Street Premier League (ISPL), India's first-ever T10 tennis ball cricket tournament that will be held inside a stadium. The inaugural edition will get underway from March 2nd - March 9th, 2024. This unique initiative, that will feature 19 high-octane matches in Mumbai, is set to captivate fans and provide aspiring cricket talent an unprecedented opportunity to showcase their talents on the grand stage.

Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Kolkata (West Bengal), and Sri-nagar (Jammu and Kashmir). These matches will be conducted within full-fledged stadiums, adding to the flair and grandeur for players and fans. At the heart of ISPL lies the vision to empower the vast community of players who dream of playing cricket in top-tier stadiums like their idols. Recognising the constraints and economic challenges faced by many such talented players, ISPL aims to bridge the gap between the streets and the stadium. This tournament serves as a platform for these players to hone their skills, showcasing their potential on a national stage. Hon. BCCI Treasurer Ashish Shelar, Core Committee Member of the Indian Street Premier League said, "ISPL is not just a tournament; it's

a transformative journey for aspiring players. Participants will not only compete in a dynamic T10 format but will also receive invaluable coaching tips and advice from seasoned Ranji Trophy players. This mentorship opportunity aims to elevate the skills and understanding of the game among the players, creating a pathway for their future success in the world of cricket." Hon. Mumbai Cricket Association President Amol Kale, Core Committee Member of Indian Street Premier League, "The ISPL not only brings a dynamic and entertaining cricket format to the forefront but more importantly, it opens the gates for extraordinary talent that often goes unnoticed. It provides a vital platform for those players who dream of playing inside the stadiums, allowing them to showcase their exceptional skills to a wider audience." Ravi Shastri, Chief Mentor, Indian Street Premier League said, "The ISPL will offer the cricketing dreams of many a chance to flourish on a big stage. I commend the organizers for their vision and commitment to nurturing grassroots talent, and I look forward to witnessing the success stories that will undoubtedly emerge from this exciting venture." The Indian Street Premier League promises to be a cricketing carnival, merging the spirit of the streets with the grandeur of stadium cricket. Fans, players, and cricket enthusiasts alike are invited to witness the birth of a new era in Indian cricket. **Players are invited to register for the tournament here before December 20th, 2023: www.ispl-t10.com**

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to India, H.E. Chang Jae-bok inaugurates the King Sejong Institute at Indo-Korean Center Pune

Pune (Voice news service):- Taking another step to strengthen the ties between India and Korea for mutual benefit, the King Sejong Foundation under the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of the Republic of Korea inaugurated the King Sejong Institute at Indo-Korean Center Pune on Tuesday. The institute aims to teach the Korean language to Indian students aspiring to work in Korean companies. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to India, H.E. Chang Jae-bok, and the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Mumbai, Kim Young-og. Sanjib Ghatak, the Founder of the Indo-Korean Centre, Dr. Eunjoo Lim (Director of IKC King Sejong Institute Pune), and Dr. Pradip Bavdekar (Chairman & Managing Trustee of Youthbuild Foundation) also marked their presence. In his address, H.E. Chang Jae-bok mentioned that the close friendship between India and Korea has grown over the years. In the last five de-

cade, this friendship has also contributed to the flourishing of the economies of both nations. Ambassador Chang discussed ways to promote Korean language education and Korean studies in various regions of India. He pledged to strive towards enhancing education between Korea and India and expressed hopes to make the institute a key center for Korea-India relations. The celebration of the golden jubilee of this relationship is underway. Looking ahead, there is a shared vision for further enhancing mutual relations across all fronts between the two countries. Chang Jae Bok highlighted that just a few years ago, the trade between the two countries amounted to 400 million dollars. However, there has been a remarkable surge in trade over the past two decades, reaching an impressive 28 billion dollars in 2022. Esteemed Korean companies such as POSCO and LG Electronics are thriving, generating employment opportunities. Learning the Korean



language, to some extent, has become a pathway to employment, contributing to the rising trend of people choosing to acquire this language skill. Looking forward, there is a possibility that Korean universities may establish an academic complex in India, and discussions about this prospect are currently underway. Praising India Chang Jae Bok added that India did a great job handling the COVID-19 crisis, and people noticed. When India led the G-20, it showed off its culture and progress to the world, spreading a positive message. It looks like India is on track to become one of the top countries globally, Chang Jae Bok said. The trajectory suggests that India is poised to become one of the leading countries worldwide. Dr. Pradeep Bavdekar, Sanjeeb Ghatak also spoke about the relationship between the two countries and the contribution of the Indo-Korean Centre. Dr. Eunjoo Lim welcomed and briefed about the King Sejong Institute. She also gave information about the online and offline courses offered by the institute. The second part of the program was a visual treat for the attendees. Korean and Indian Cultural Dance performances captured the essence of the heritage of both nations. Indian classical and Korean pop sensations brought the vibrancy of modern and traditional culture to the forefront. The air was filled with the melodious tunes of singers and dancers from both countries.

Pune's entrepreneur Dr. Rajendrakumar Sharma conferred with the 'Achievers World Leadership Award-2023, at the British Parliament

Pune (Voice news service):- City-based entrepreneur and scientist Dr. Rajendrakumar Sharma, CMD Spel Technologies Private Limited, Pune was conferred with the 'Achievers' World Leadership Award-2023' as an acknowledgment towards his incredible work on Supercapacitors and advanced energy storage devices which has established India on World map of Supercapacitors. London, Achievers' World Magazine, in collaboration with the Indian Achievers' Forum and Global Indian Organization-UK culminated the prestigious Eurasian Business Summit recently, at the House of Commons (British Parliament), Westminster London. Dr. Rajendrakumar Sharma is referred to father of Supercapacitors in India. This award is conferred to acknowledge individuals and organizations



that have established a remarkable presence in various fields, upholding the Indian flag with distinction globally. The Award was presented by the Honorable Member of Parliament (UK) Virendra Sharma (longest-serving Parliamentarian in the UK since 2007). This occasion was graced by the presence of Thomas Chazikadan, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), Kottayam - Kerala, H.E. Nimisha Madhva,

High Commissioner of the Republic of Uganda to UK & Ireland, Lok Nath Mishra (MD & CEO ICICI Bank UK), Mahendrasinh C Jadeja (Vice President of Global Indian Organization UK), and Harish Chandra (Editor Achievers World). The event was a testament to global collaboration, witnessing over 100 delegates, including eminent professionals, diplomats, bureaucrats, and corporate leaders. Summit provided an unparalleled platform for exchange and discourse on international trade, business relations, and innovations. In his address, Virendra Sharma underscored the criticality of augmenting trade and business collaborations between India and the UK, emphasizing the significance of bilateral relationships in a global context. Sangeeta R Sharma, Director of Spel Technologies Pvt. Ltd expressed that it is a proud moment to receive the 'Achievers World Leadership Award 2023' for accomplishments in upholding the pride of India globally. Thomas Chazikadan passionately articulated the narrative of India's multifaceted development & highlighted the invaluable contributions of Indians worldwide, and extended his heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees.

HARMAN AND FINAU SHARE THE LEAD AT HERO WORLD CHALLENGE, WOODS HOLDS ON DESPITE LATE STRUGGLE



Pune: The Open champion, Brian Harman, made a strong debut at the Hero World Challenge. First off the blocks he came back with a 5-under 67, which was matched by Tony Finau. The two were co-leaders after the first day. Playing for the first time in almost eight months since the end of the second round of the Augusta National, Woods admitted to "soreness" all over after his 3-over 75. For the first 14 holes, he was still in red numbers at 1-under. Then came trouble and he crashed to 3-over. Yet, he seemed to have seen a few things to work on and get better with each step, which at times indicated a limp. Considering all he has been through, he showed enough to suggest a good meaningful comeback. Jostling for attention with the flashes of class was lot of rust and signs that the mind and the body were not in sync. He seemed to tire and struggle in the closing stages, but still smiled and hugged Justin Thomas at the end of 18 holes in conditions that were not very easy. Harman may not have found many greens, but he scrambled really well. He said, "Yeah, I think it's a really tough golf course. The wind was blowing. I got out of position a few times, made some really nice up-and-downs. I'm going to go hit a few, see if I can tighten my iron game up a little bit. Putted nicely other than the bogey on the last,



pretty good." On his scrambling, he said, "Last time I played the RSM, my short game wasn't very good, so I worked a little bit on it in the couple weeks. Glad that I chipped a couple close." Finau made gains on the first and the third holes, but gave one of them on the tenth. Then in a span of five holes, he picked four birdies to surge to the top. He said, "That was a nice start. I made some crucial par saves, I would say. I made a lot of six, seven footers whether it was after a chip or a bad first putt. That just kind of kept the momentum throughout the round." Jordan Spieth rode a roller-coaster with two eagles, six birdies, four bogeys and a double bogey. His final tally of 4-under put him one behind Harman and Finau. Woods was doing fine, but following up on each of his birdies with an immediate bogey. That happened three times but a fourth birdie on the 14th had him at 1-under for the fourth time. He was never better than 1-under, but still under par after 14. Then a double bogey on the Par-5 15th and two more bogeys on the next two holes. He closed with a birdie try from 25 feet and then tapped for par. Woods gave away four shots in a span of three holes, starting the 15th. A wayward left tee shot landed under a large clump of bushes. He stabbed at it and moved it only a foot



and lost a shot. He even toyed with the idea of a left-handed attempt but then punched it backwards into the fairway. The third shot, a 3-wood, came short and an average pitch left him a 12-foot bogey putt, which he missed for a double-bogey. From one-under he went to 1-over. On 16 he missed the green in regulation and missed a 20-footer for par and on the Par-3 17th, he found the green, but was 50-plus feet away for. He went six feet past and missed the comeback putt. The obvious question was about how he felt after the round? And, where did he feel sore? Woods shot back, "Everywhere". The persistent question, Where is the most? "My leg, my back, my neck. Just from playing, hitting shots and trying to hold off shots. It's just different at game speed, too." He said, "I'm sore, there's no doubt about that. We've got some work to do tonight. Tomorrow (we) get back in the gym and activate and get ready for it. Hopefully hit some better shots. And now I know mentally what I need to do better. I think that's something that physically I knew I was going to be OK. Mentally, I was really rusty and made a lot of errors in the mind that normally I don't make." Overall, summing up, he said, "Yeah, you know, I got off to a decent start. I didn't play the par 5s particularly well all day. I had really a lack of

commitment through most of the middle part of my round and finishing. I just didn't quite commit to what I was doing and feeling." Woods' playing partner and friend, Justin Thomas, got a big hug at the end of the round, in which Thomas rallied from 3-over after four to finish 2-under. Spieth describing his round said, "Yeah, it was an electric factory out there, for sure. Some rusty putting, a couple toe balls and then a lot of really, really good stuff. So all in all I would have probably signed for 4 under when I was warming up today, I just didn't think I'd get there this way." He had just five pars in 18 holes. Cameron Young, Scottie Scheffler, Collin Morikawa and Max Homa brought in 3-under 69 each for tied fourth. Both had eventful rounds. Young had six birdies against one bogey and one double, while Scheffler, trying to better his second place finishes in the last two editions, had six birdies and three bogeys, as did Homa and Morikawa. Two-time defending champion Viktor Hovland had three birdies in a row from fifth and a fourth one on 14th, but he also gave away three bogeys and a double on Par-3 17th for a 73. It was his first round above 70 in the Hero World Challenge, which he has won in both his previous starts. **ROUND 2 PAIRINGS:** From Tee 1: 10:51 am: Wyndham Clark (76) and Will Zalatoris (81); 11:02 am: Rickie Fowler (74) and Tiger Woods (75); 11:13 am: Justin Rose (72) and Viktor Hovland (73); 11:24 am: Sepp Straka (72) and Keegan Bradley (72); 11:35 am: Sam Burns (71) and Jason Day (71); 11:46 am: Justin Thomas (70) and Lucas Glover (71); 11:57 am: Max Homa (69) and Matt Fitzpatrick (72); 12:08 am: Scottie Scheffler (69) and Collin Morikawa (69); 12:19 am: Jordan Spieth (68) and Cameron Young (69); 12:30: Brian Harman (67) and Tony Finau (67).

India's first Paralympic gold medalist Murlikant Petkar to be felicitated

Pune (Voice news service):- India's first ever gold Paralympic medalist Padma Shri awardee Murlikant Petkar will be felicitated in a function. The event will take place on December 3 at 11 am at Raga Palace, Pimpri on Sunday. The felicitation programme is being organised by The Sport Climbing Association of Maharashtra, in collaboration with the Event Organising Committee. Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh

AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, GOC-IN-C, the Southern Command will attend the event. Raman Gangakhedkar and Kantilal H. Sancheti are also likely to attend the function. Raman Gangakhedkar is an Indian public health expert and epidemiologist. He served as Head Scientist of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases at the Indian Council of Medical Research before retiring on 30 June 2020. He received the 2020 Padma Shri award, the fourth

-highest civilian award in India. Kantilal H. Sancheti is an orthopaedic physician who invented India's first indigenous knee implant, the Indus Knee, and founder of Maharashtra's first orthopaedic dedicated specialty hospital. The Government of India presented him with its highest civilian awards: the Padma Shri in 1991, the Padma Bhushan in 2001 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2012. The occasion is the 51st anniversary of Petkar winning India's first-ever Paralympic gold medal. Petkar won the gold in 50m freestyle swimming with a world record of 37.33 seconds, which he set in the 1972 Paralympics in Heidelberg, Germany. The ceremony will see Petkar sharing his memories of Paralympic Gold. At the same event, Petkar also competed in javelin, precision javelin throw and slalom disciplines and was a finalist in all three of them.

LIGHTS, ACTION, LE PANGA: HISTORIC PRO KABADDI LEAGUE SEASON 10 KICKS OFF IN GRAND STYLE ON A CRUISE

Pune (Voice news service):- There has always been a strong connection between kabaddi and the people of India for several years. However, the sport only gained prominence and popularity since the advent of the Pro Kabaddi League in 2014. The founders of Mashal Sports implemented innovative rules such as 30-second raids, Do-or-Die raids, super raids and super tackles to make the game engaging for the sports fans in India. Furthermore, the broadcasters of the league packaged the sport brilliantly to attract millions of followers. On the cusp of a historic milestone of completing 10 editions, the Pro Kabaddi League kicked off Season 10 in grand style in Ahmedabad on Friday. The Head Sports Leagues, Mashal Sports and League Commissioner, Pro Kabaddi League Mr. Anupam Goswami launched the special season along with PKL Season 9-winning team Captain Sunil Kumar (Jaipur Pink Panthers) and the Season 10 opening game Captains Pawan Sehrawat (Telugu Titans) and Fazel Atrachali (Gujarat Giants). Speaking during the press conference as the cruise



took a round of the Sabarmati River, Mr. Anupam Goswami expressed, "Going back to the 12-city caravan format is the landmark moment for Season 10. We will be reactivating at least nine geographies, which have not seen the Pro Kabaddi League in their own region since 2019. Hosting the league in 12 cities helps the league to form a strong connect with the communities in each of the franchise's home regions." The Gujarat Giants will be going up against Telugu Titans in the blockbuster opening game of PKL Season 10 at the EKA Arena by TransStadia on Saturday. The Titans' Captain and the most expensive player in the history of the Pro Kabaddi League - Pawan Sehrawat expressed that his team is all geared up for the first game, "I am very excited to step on the mat. It was

tough for me to miss out on the last season. However, I have saved up a lot of energy for the upcoming season and I am also eager to face Fazel in the first game. Our players have trained very well for the season through the training camp. We are absolutely ready for our first game against Gujarat Giants." Meanwhile, the most expensive defender in the Pro Kabaddi League and Gujarat Giants' Captain Fazel Atrachali said, "I am very excited to be a part of the Pro Kabaddi League Season 10. This is the best kabaddi tournament in the world. We can't wait to start the season. I am very happy to play for Gujarat Giants this year. We have a lot of young talents and a good coach. I am looking forward to a good season." The Jaipur Pink Panthers clinched the Pro Kabaddi

League trophy after defeating Puneri Paltan in the final last season. Speaking about going into Season 10 as the defending champions, Jaipur Pink Panthers Captain Sunil Kumar expressed, "The trophy belongs to us at the moment and we have to ensure that it stays with us. We have trained even harder for this season. We implemented a great player combination last year and we'll continue to use the same combination this year. We've prepared quite well for the tournament." The Pro Kabaddi League Season 10 Ahmedabad leg will be played from 2-7 December 2023. Thereafter, the league will move in the following order of venues - Bengaluru (8-13 December 2023), Pune (15-20 December 2023), Chennai (22-27 December 2023), Noida (29 December 2023 - 3 January 2024), Mumbai (5-10 January 2024), Jaipur (12-17 January 2024), Hyderabad (19-24 January 2024), Patna (26-31 January 2024), Delhi (2-7 February 2024), Kolkata (9-14 February 2024) and Panchkula (16-21 February). Season 10 of the Pro Kabaddi League will be broadcast live on the Star Sports Network and for free on Disney+ Hotstar.

Abhay Chhajed - President, Rajeev Kulkarni - Secretary, Rohit Ghag Treasurer of PDAAA

Pune (Voice news service):- Abhay Chhajed, Rajeev Kulkarni, Rohit Ghag have been elected as the President, Secretary and Treasurer of The Poona District Amateur Athletic Association (PDAAA) for the period 2023-2028.

The Poona District Amateur Athletic Association (PDAAA) was formed in 1979 & for the development of Athletics in Pune District. PDAAA having a history of organising many International, National & State level Athletic Events in the City.

For Development of Athletics, Athletes and the Athletic fraternity from Pune District, we have come together and resolved all the internal disputes carried at Charity Commissioner Office Pune.

The experienced personalities in the field of Athletics (Shiv Chhatrapati Awardees & National Players) formed 23 member Managing Committee for the next 5 years, the statement by PDAAA stated.

Avinash Bagwe, Manohar Yenkar, Ashok Kale, Gurbanskar Kamo and Ra-



ghav Ashtekar have been elected as Vice-President, Following is the New Managing Committee for the year 2023-2028

President: Abhay Chhajed
Vice President: Manohar Yenkar, Avinash Bagwe, Ashok Kale, Gurbanskar Kamo, Raghav Ashtekar
Secretary: Rajeev Kulkarni
Treasurer: Rohit Ghag

Joint Secretary: Sunil Shrivale, Vijaykumar Bengale, Kishorkumar Shinde, Chandrakant Patil, Sudhanshu Khaire;
Executive Members: Sangita Wakchaure, Sumant Waikar, Rohan More, Vishwanath Patole, Harshada Dube, Rekha Joshi, Ramdas Kudale, Anita Kudale, Shobha Nikam, Sachin Adegkar.

Orchids The International School hosted its Biggest Tech Carnival MECHATHLON '23 in Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- Showcasing sparks of brilliance, innovation and creativity of its students from across India, Orchids The International School, a leading K12 school chain of India, today held its biggest nationwide tech Carnival, MECHATHLON 2023. The fest became a veritable exposition of talent as it provided a dynamic platform where innovation met inspiration, and students enthusiastically pushed the boundaries of their knowledge. The Fest was

hosted in Pune Orchids Schools on December 2nd, Saturday. Grades & Campus as per 4 & 5 Tathawade, 6 & 7 Ambegaon, 8 & 9 Manjri The tech carnival offered a multifaceted learning journey, enabling students to enhance problem-solving skills, foster curiosity and originality, and apply mathematical and scientific concepts in practical settings. The students participated in a series of competitions thematically named Junior Model Making, apart from

a case study competition and an inquisitive quiz. The tech carnival buzzed with excitement as students unveiled their working models, demonstrating their ability to apply their knowledge to real-world challenges. Speaking about the participation of curious young minds, Mr. Shlok Srivathasa, VP Academic, Orchids The International School, said, "Our OCFP curriculum provides an early exposure to STEM that will motivate students and nourish their knowl-

edge foundation in Maths, Physics, and Chemistry. MECHATHLON 2023 has been a celebration of intellect, creativity, and the relentless pursuit of knowledge.

This fest stands as a testament to our unwavering dedication to holistic education. Our foremost objective is to develop scientific temperament, cultivate and develop critical evaluation, observation, skills, and knowledge of students in STEM. At Orchids, we aim to provide excellence in education by building an innovative learning space for students, where they can explore, innovate, and grow." MECHATHLON 2023, was bigger, better, and more tech-tastic and ignited the competitive spirit to all the students who embraced the challenges. The Fest made learning engaging and enjoyable, equipping students with practical tech skills crucial for their future endeavors. The Fest served as a remarkable platform for showcasing the exceptional abilities of young talents, offering inspiration, challenges, and recognition for their outstanding skills.

Inter-Collegiate research paper competition at Indsearch gets a good response



Pune (Voice news service):- The Ind-Search Prof. Pramod Parkhi Centre for banking, finance and insurance recently organized the 10th Inter-Collegiate research paper competition on the theme 'Futuristic Finance: Technology and Human Intervention' at its Bavdhan campus. The competition was inaugurated in the presence of Kedar Dixit, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Bharat Forge along with Dr. Ashok Joshi, Director General Indsearch, Dr. Aparna Tembulkar, Director Indsearch, Dr. Sunita Joshi, Dean UG program and head international relations and Prof. Devaki Jain, Chair-

man organizing committee.

In this competition, as many as 55 participants from 14 various colleges across Maharashtra participated and presented 32 research papers.

Pranav Urankar of AISSMS college Pune bagged the first prize while Urja Samwani from NMIMS Mumbai stood runner-up while team of Akansha Sakhare and Dhanashree Sapre from Indsearch and Samrudhhi Zhodge from Indsearch shared the third prize.

Dr. Satish Inamdar, Dr. Sanjay Kandalgoankar, Dr. Mrugakshi Rajhans and Dr. Vikas Peshwe were the jury for the competition.

Celebrating Excellence: MMU

(Mr. & Ms. University) Season 21 Winners Shine Bright!

Pune (Voice news service):- NIEM - The Institute of Event Management, Pune, recently concluded its much-anticipated Mr. & Ms. University Season 21, a dazzling spectacle of talent and beauty. The Pune Regional Finale witnessed participants from across the city, showcasing exceptional skills and beauty.

Organized by NIEM, this youth pageant celebrates the beauty and spirit of college life. Exclusive to students, it holds a special place in the Limca Book of Records as the world's only student beauty pageant. The event provides a one-of-a-kind platform for young and aspiring individuals to showcase their talents in the glamour world. These remarkable individuals not only display exceptional prowess but also embodied the dedication and passion synonymous with NIEM's commitment to fostering excellence and innovation.

After a thorough evaluation by a distinguished panel of judges, the winners emerged as true stars in their respective categories.

In the Ms. Universi-



ty category, Ms. Mohini Kshirsagar claimed the coveted title, with Ms. Tanisha Sathe and Ms. Ishwari Gondkar securing the positions of First and Second Runner Up, respectively. Meanwhile, in the Mr. University category, Mr. Prem Golande stood out as the winner, followed by Mr. Karan Maske as the First Runner Up and Mr. Aarush Bagade as the Second Runner Up. The College Idol Winners were also celebrated, with The Endless Crew taking the top spot, Angel's Crew as the First Runner Up, and Anand Broadway B Boyz securing the Second Runner Up position. Speaking of the occasion, Dr. Karna Upadhyay, Centre Head at NIEM Pune

and Franchise Head, All India, said, "The winners have not only showcased skills but also a deep understanding of the event industry, embodying the values that NIEM stands for." The event also featured esteemed guests, including Chief Guests; Sunny Nimhan (Owner of Sunny's World), Daisy Shah (Bollywood Actress), Vishal Malhotra (famous Actor and Model), Sharad Sankla (commonly known as Abdul from TMKOC) and Atharva Sudame (Digital Influencer) other Judges such as: Mr. Sandip Soparrkar (legendary Dance Choreographer), Mr. Pranav Misshra (Bollywood Actor - Kerala Story Fame), Ms. Priyadarshini Indalkar

(Hasya Jatra Fame), Mr. Shyam Mashalkar (Actor and Model), MR. Sandeep Dharma (Ace Fashion Choreographer) and Mr. Subhash Dhang (Ace Dance Choreographer) were also a part of the event. In conclusion, Mr. & Ms. University Season 21 not only crowned deserving winners but also reaffirmed NIEM's commitment to excellence and empowerment in the world of event management. The journey continues, promising more brilliance in the years to come. The institute remains steadfast in its commitment to providing a platform for talent to flourish, empowering the next generation of event industry leaders.

Skill India joins hands with Indian Armed Force for a Resettlement Training Program for enhancing employability of Ex-servicemen Personnel

Pune (Voice news service):- In a significant move towards boosting the endeavours of the Skill India Mission and towards enhancing the employability of Superannuating Armed Service Personnel, the Regional Directorate of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (RDSDE), Telangana, under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), has partnered with the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare (Ministry of Defence). The partnership aims to implement a comprehensive Resettlement Training Program focusing on sectors like aerospace and aviation (Drone technology), capital goods, and automotive. Under the partnership, the program will facilitate the reintegration of retiring service personnel into civilian life, specifically within high-demand sectors. The program is meticulously designed to cater to the diverse skill sets of armed service personnel including disabled soldiers, widows, and dependents, ensuring 100% employment opportunities for their successful resettlement. The programs shall be conducted in all the 33 NSTIs across India to ensure the gainful Re-settlement of 70,000 Armed forces personnel after their Superannuation from the services. Lauding the initiative, Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, said, "We take immense pride in leading initiatives dedicated to empowering our Armed Service Personnel as they transition into civilian life. This collaboration signifies a momentous step in that journey. Our focus on key sectors in high demand

underscores our commitment to delivering personalized Resettlement Training Programs for retiring service personnel. It epitomises our dedication to not just offering jobs but ensuring fulfilling careers for those who have courageously served our nation. By prioritising skill development, we aim to facilitate a smooth and seamless transition for our armed service members into the dynamic civilian workforce, supporting their personal growth while actively contributing to the prosperity of our nation. The decades of on-field experience of these personnel would be of commendable use for the industry. With this initiative, we can utilize the best minds for enhancing the quality of work across the high-demand sectors." The Resettlement Training Program offers a comprehensive curriculum for Armed Service Personnel, encompassing three specialized courses conducted at the National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) Vidyannagar and NSTI Ramanthapur. The Production Technology course, spanning three months at NSTI Vidyannagar, comprises four weeks of Welding Technology, one week of Metrology and engineering Inspection, three weeks of Auto CAD 2D & 3D, and four weeks dedicated to CNC Programming, Operation, and maintenance. Armed Service Personnel can also enroll in the Basics Of Automobile course, a three-month program at NSTI Vidyannagar. Furthermore, NSTI Ramanthapur is conducting a three-month Drone Technology course, equipping participants with specialized skills in drone technology.



The Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), an integral Inter-Service organization operating directly under the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare within the Ministry of Defence, plays a crucial role in supporting Ex-Servicemen. Its mission extends to training and equipping veterans with additional skills, placing a strong emphasis on aligning with the evolving needs of corporate and industrial sectors. The primary objective is to facilitate a seamless transition for Ex-Servicemen into a second career, ensuring their successful resettlement into civilian life. To further extend support towards DGR's mission, the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) has conducted 13 programmes for 455 participants in FY22-23 and 13 programmes for 413 participants in FY23-24. Besides, NIESBUD is undertaking 10 programmes for 297 participants, and these are being conducted in the areas of entrepreneurship, retail entrepreneurship, leading retail teams, Web Development, etc. These programs are approved by DGR to be conducted across Noida (UP), Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Kanpur (UP), Prayagraj (UP),

Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Howrah (West Bengal), Bengaluru (Karnataka), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Patna (Bihar), Jamshedpur (Jharkhand), and Chennai (Tamil Nadu). These programmes aim to impart entrepreneurial knowledge among the participants with support through Mentoring and Handholding services to set up and run the enterprises by the retired army personnel to become successful entrepreneurs. Last year, the Union Cabinet unveiled the Agnipath recruitment scheme, a transformative move to modernise the country's armed forces and prepare a ready pool of skilled youth who can contribute to India's defence preparedness and to the growth of the GDP. MSDE has been associated with the Agnipath scheme and is working closely with the Armed forces in the implementation of the programme as the country readies a future-ready army of young and motivated soldiers. The ministry is working collaboratively with various wings of the armed forces in the recruitment of candidates from ITIs and other technical institutions, with a focus on imparting skills to ITI students to make them better suited to these job roles.

The Lexicon Schools Celebrate MI Fest: A Showcase of different learning styles

Pune: In alignment with the belief that every child is unique and possesses distinct talents, The Lexicon Schools proudly organized MI 'Fest' across all its campuses over different time periods. The event, showcased the culmination of the school's commitment to the theory of Multiple Intelligences proposed by Howard Gardner.

All the campuses of The Lexicon Schools and Lexicon Kids participated on different themes like Herbal life, Space and Sustainability. At The Lexicon International School, Kalyaninagar, parents witnessed students from different classes presenting their understanding of "HERBAL LIFE" through all nine intelligences.

The presentations ranged from linguistic and musical intelligences to logical, visual, and naturalistic intelligences. Students engaged in activities like puzzles, word games, dramatization, songs and rap to express their appreciation for Ayurveda and Ayurvedic herbs.

The fest not only delved into the diverse world of herbs

but also explored topics such as Balanced Diet, Nutritional content, Colour Therapy, Acupressure, Yoga, Aerobics, Herbal Culture, Aromatherapy, Sound Therapy, and Chakra Healing. The event was not limited to academic exploration; it also touched upon Sustainable Development Goals, India's G20 presidency theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", and the significance of 2023 being the International Year of Millets.

The MI Fest successfully incorporated holistic development, encouraging students to showcase their talents and enhancing their confidence. The diverse array of presentations reflected the hard work and dedication of both students and teachers.

The Lexicon Schools continued its commitment to fostering diverse forms of intelligence with another edition of MI Fest themed around "Space and Technology" in November 2023 which was held at The Lexicon School, Hadapsar.

The fest began with a captivating dance performance by students, showcasing their



kinesthetic and visual-spatial intelligence. Distinguished judges from The Rajiv Gandhi Centre for IT and BT were present to evaluate the projects, and the event was inaugurated by Mrs. Anju Luthra, the Deputy Director of The Lexicon Schools. Ms. Monisha Sharma the Director of The Lexicon Group was praised and acknowledged for her role in fostering enthusiasm and scientific aptitude among the students as this MI fest is very close to her heart. The Lexicon Schools remain dedicated to providing a holistic education that nurtures individual talents and prepares students for the challenges of the future. The festival featured booths highlighting different forms of intelligences, following Howard Gardner's theory, and en-

couraged students to identify their strengths and passions. Performances, including musical renditions and Nukkad natak, showcased the artistic and creative talents of the students, emphasizing the interplay between arts and sciences. The 'Space and Technology' MI Fest provided an exceptional platform for students to explore their interests, fostering a passion for learning, innovation, and collaboration. The event received accolades from parents and teachers, highlighting the importance of nurturing young minds into future scientists. The third part of MI fest has been lined up on the theme "Sustainability" which will be conducted at The Lexicon International School, Wagholi in the month of December.

Benzer Paints now in a new look with more better quality

Pune: Dussera and Diwali are festivals of colour. We all paint out homes in different colours and try to give our homes a new look. Keeping in mind the rise in demand for paints Benzer Paints had introduced new offerings for its customers which consisted of a range of high quality paints with a new look, which received a warm welcome in the market. This has resulted in a significant rise in demand for Benzer Paints, said Mr Pradip Agarwal, Director of Benzer Paints. A rising star of the paints industry, Benzer Paints has changed its look and has focused on supplying higher quality products in the same price. This has brought in a higher demand for the company's products. Everybody wants his house to always look new and tries to keep it like new by using painting as a choice.



To make this effort successful the company has introduced a new range of paints. Products of Benzer Paints are sold in leading cities of Maharashtra such as Pune, Mumbai, Kolhapur and Nagpur and also in major Indian states including Karnataka, Kerala and Tamilnadu. Mr Pradip Agarwal said the company has plans to expand its business to other states in India. Commenting on the paints market in India Mr Agarwal said 70 per cent of the paints sold in the country are de-

stempers, acrylic external emulsion paint, powder putty, decorative paints, water based primer cement paints and external wall paints. The company has also introduced a special waterproofing paint which is best in class and lasts longer than all others. The company claims that using this paint will give a new strength to your ceiling and also relieve you of all worries about leakage and water seepage due to cracks for a longer time. Mr Pradeep Agarwal said the company is in operation for the last 40 years and has been striving to further strengthen the bond with its customers, proving their trust. The company always tries to give comfort and happiness to its customers. Benzer Paints has been conferred different awards that recognise the quality of its products. The company is always in the forefront of social service.

Škoda Auto India launches Elegance Editions in all new Deep Black colour for the Kushaq and Slavia



Pune (Voice news service):- Soon after introducing a slew of new and segment-first features in the Kushaq and Slavia, Škoda Auto India has announced a new, exclusive version of both these cars.

Christened the Elegance Edition, both cars will be produced in a limited amount and will be available exclusively with the 1.5 TSI engine. Speaking on the new product action, Petr Šolc, Brand Director, Škoda Auto India, said, "The Elegance Edition of the Kushaq and Slavia will be launched as a limited offering.

There has been a strong demand for a classic black colour on the Kushaq and Slavia. All our product actions are based on the evolving customer trends, in line with our customer-centric approach. The aesthetics, body colour and cosmetic aspects of the new, Elegance editions will appeal to customers with a keen design sense, while continuing to offer immense value and pride of ownership."

The design The Elegance Edition offers a classic, all-new and stunning Deep Black paint in both the cars while

retaining the rich chrome elements all around. Further enhancing the aesthetics in both the cars is a Chrome Lower Door Garnish and a calligraphic 'Elegance' inscription on the B-pillars. The Slavia further has a chrome trunk garnish and a Scuff plate with 'Slavia' inscribed in it. The Kushaq gets a 17-inch (43.18 cm) VEGA Dual Tone alloy design that accentuates style and its rough terrain stance, while the Slavia's classic sedan lines are enhanced by the 16-inch (40.64 cm) Ving Alloy Wheels

The cabin Opening the doors will reveal the prominent brand logo projection from the Škoda genuine accessories puddle lamp that adds an element of class and utility when stepping in and out of the cars. Inside, the driver is greeted by the 'Elegance' badge in the steering wheel. Additionally, the footwell area houses sporty aluminium pedals.

Furthering the utility and aesthetics theme of the Elegance Edition, customers will get attractive textile mats and 'Elegance' branded cushions, seat-belt cushions as well as neck rests.

The exclusivity The Ele-

gance Editions of the Kushaq and Slavia will exclusively be powered by the 1.5 TSI turbo-petrol engine. Customers can choose to pair this with a 7-speed DSG automatic or the 6-speed manual. To ensure exclusivity for customers of this special edition, Škoda Auto India will manufacture a limited number of the Kushaq and Slavia Elegance Edition. They will be in the all-new Deep Black paint and are positioned above the fully-equipped, top-of-the-line Style variants.

The equipment Both the Kushaq and Slavia will get all the new features introduced by Škoda Auto India during the festive season like electric seats for the driver and co-driver and an illuminated footwell area.

The centre of the dash continues to be dominated by a 25.4 cm infotainment screen with Škoda Play Apps. The system links wirelessly with Apple Carplay and Android Auto. Also standard in the Elegance Edition is Škoda Sound with 6 Speakers + Subwoofer in the boot of the Kushaq and Slavia.

The 1.5 TSI The Kushaq -- introduced in July 2021 -- and the Slavia -- introduced in

March 2022 -- are based on the made-for-India, ready-for-the-world MQB-A0-IN platform and are being exported to other right-hand drive and GCC countries.

While the range also offers a 1.0 TSI, the Elegance Edition is powered by exclusively by the state-of-the-art 1.5 TSI. An advanced 1.5-litre EVO-generation powerplant, this four-cylinder turbo petrol engine makes 110 kW (150 PS) of power and 250 Nm of torque. The turbocharger in this engine features variable vane geometry, which produces more torque at a wider range of engine speeds. The cylinder liners are plasma-coated with a layer that measures just 0.15 mm, replacing cast-iron liners in the cylinder crankcase. This reduces internal friction, which lowers fuel consumption and emissions. Through better distribution and dissipation of heat in the combustion chamber, it also lowers the thermal load on the engine. The segment-first Active Cylinder Technology (ACT) in the 1.5 TSI automatically shuts down two cylinders under a low load, further reducing fuel consumption and CO2 emissions.

GODREJ & BOYCE CONTINUES TO SHAPE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES

Pune (Voice news service):- Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group, today, announced its transformative Sustainability targets for 2032. Rooted in a vision where profitability aligns seamlessly with conservation, the company aims to spearhead responsible choices for all Indians, setting a groundbreaking goal to derive 50% of its revenues from its Good & Green product portfolio within the next decade.

Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman and Managing Director of Godrej & Boyce, underscored the unparalleled economic opportunity that sustainability presents. He said, "Our vision isn't merely about growth but about sustainable progress in harmony with our planet, driven by meaningful collaborations

at all levels. In the last decade, we have achieved some critical milestones in our sustainable journey and have taken an equivalent stretch for the decade ahead. From moving towards a wholly green supply chain, improving our skilling programs to increase employability to generating atleast 50% of our revenues from Good & Green products, we are scaling up our sustainability targets, demonstrating our firm commitment to climate action and societal development"

Godrej & Boyce has further fortified its criteria for Good & Green products, emphasizing stringent environmental and social parameters. Green products champion resource efficiency, low carbon emissions, recyclability, and the use of sustainable materials while eschewing

toxic substances. Simultaneously, Good products align with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), championing vulnerable communities and supporting national programs in crucial areas such as infrastructure, clean energy, and resource safety.

As the company celebrates a decade of its Good & Green ethos, notable milestones include generating over one-third of revenues from this approach, facilitating over 600 green buildings, doubling energy productivity, and providing vocational skills training to over 180,000 youth. Most Godrej & Boyce factories have achieved CII-Green-Co certification, with 7** securing the prestigious 'Platinum' status, embodying the organization's sustainability-first mindset in design processes and operational practices.

The Sustainability targets for the next decade are set to redefine possibilities, including earning 50% of revenues through Good & Green Products, achieving a 60% increase in energy productivity, a 60% reduction in carbon intensity, a 40% share of renewable energy, 100% net-zero buildings, and 80% domestic buying from green suppliers. These amplified sustainability targets underscore the company's visionary perspective on economic opportunity and the holistic progress of the nation.

Godrej & Boyce's resolute commitment to sustainability is not just a corporate mandate but a transformative force charting the course for a sustainable tomorrow. For further details on the company's journey and the unveiling of its 2032

FADA Releases 42 Days Festive Period Vehicle Retail Data

Pune (Voice news service):- The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) today released Vehicle Retail Data for 42 days festive period.

Festive Period Retails Commenting on Festive Period Retails, FADA President, Mr. Manish Raj Singhania said, "During the 42-day festive period of FY2023 (which starts on 1st day of Navratri and

ends 15 days post Dhanteras), we reached a new milestone with vehicle sales climbing to 37.93 lakh, a 19% increase from last year's 31.95 lakh. Significant growth was observed in the two-wheeler, three-wheeler, commercial vehicles and passenger vehicles, with respective rises of 21%, 41%, 8%, and 10%. Conversely, the tractor segment experienced a slight decline of

0.5%. Record-breaking sales were reported in several categories, with rural areas particularly contributing to the surge in two-wheeler purchases. Despite initial underperformance during Navratri, particularly in the passenger vehicle sector, the situation improved by Deepawali, ending with a 10% growth rate. While SUVs were the highest demanded vehicles, invento-

ry levels for passenger vehicles remain a significant concern as OEMs continue to push further dispatch thus keeping the inventory rate at near to all time high levels. Tractors, which saw an 8.3% decrease in sales during Navratri, made a remarkable recovery, ending the festive period with only a 0.5% decrease. This turnaround highlights the robust purchasing power in rural India."

Vitesco Technologies publishes Reasoned Statement on the Public Tender Offer and enters into Business Combination Agreement with Schaeffler

Pune (Voice news service):- The Executive Board and Supervisory Board of Vitesco Technologies Group AG ("Vitesco Technologies") today published a joint reasoned statement pursuant to section 27 of the German Securities Acquisition and Takeover Act (Wertpapiererwerbs- und Übernahmegesetz - WpÜG) on the voluntary public tender offer of Schaeffler AG ("Schaeffler") dated 15 November 2023.

The reasoned statement considers the Business Combination Agreement ("BCA"), signed with Schaeffler today that sets out key parameters of the business combination and the framework for future cooperation between the two companies. In addition, Schaeffler today published an updated tender offer, which includes an increase of the offer price to EUR 94 per Vitesco Technologies share. The Executive Board and the Supervisory Board of Vitesco Technologies (the "Boards") agree with Schaeffler's view that the creation of a combined company can bring significant strategic advantages in certain areas. They favour the fact that the synergies envisaged by Schaeffler will be achieved primarily through growth and long-term value creation, rather than through site closures or job losses.

The Business Combination Agreement contains the following key points:

1. The combined company is to be managed from Herzogenaurach. The allocation of the remaining divisional headquarters will be discussed in

more detail between Vitesco Technologies and Schaeffler. Vitesco Technologies and Schaeffler are aware of the importance of the Vitesco Technologies locations for the combined company.

2. The combined company will consist of four focused divisions, with the E-Mobility Division combining the expertise of Schaeffler (E-Mobility) and Vitesco Technologies (Electrification Solutions Division).

3. It was agreed that Vitesco Technologies and Schaeffler would take into account the success factors of the Vitesco Group in the combined company when designing the organisational structure as part of the implementation of the business combination.

4. The terms of employment of the employees of Vitesco Technologies, in particular their remuneration or entitlement to other employer benefits, will not change in the combined company as an immediate effect of the closing of the transaction.

5. It was agreed that the E-mobility division of the combined company shall be managed by Vitesco Technologies executive Thomas Stierle. In addition, it is planned to adjust the composition of the Supervisory Board of the combined company taking its needs into account.

6. Furthermore, Vitesco Technologies and Schaeffler have agreed on common principles for filling leadership positions below the Executive Board for the E-Mobility and Powertrain & Chassis divi-

sions as well as for central functional areas in the combined company. On this basis, the Boards of Vitesco Technologies will constructively support the implementation of the tender offer and the business combination in accordance with the BCA. A joint integration committee with equal representation will be set up to coordinate the principles laid down in the BCA. Subject to an agreement on the exchange ratio and the merger agreement, the Boards will submit the merger to the general meeting of Vitesco Technologies for resolution and, if approved with the required majority, complete it. Vitesco Technologies will manage its business independently both until the completion of the tender offer and thereafter until a possible merger.

Evaluation of the offer price The Executive Board and Supervisory Board have carefully and intensively analysed and evaluated the adequacy of the consideration offered. In doing so, the Boards have each made their own considerations as well as taking into account, among other factors, the inadequacy opinions of J.P. Morgan, Lazard and Perella Weinberg Partners. On this basis, against the background of their own assessment of the current situation and the development potential of Vitesco Technologies as well as the overall circumstances of the offer, the Management Board and the Supervisory Board also consider the increased offer price

per Vitesco Technologies share to be inadequate from a financial point of view. Shareholders who do not wish to retain a stake in Vitesco Technologies in view of the intended merger of Vitesco Technologies into Schaeffler may accept the tender offer or, in the event that the market price is higher than the offer price, sell their Vitesco Technologies shares on the stock exchange. Even if the cash consideration offered does not adequately reflect the long-term value of the company, the tender offer may represent a potentially attractive exit opportunity for risk-averse or short-term investors in the current market environment.

Shareholders who neither accept the offer nor sell their shares on the stock exchange will retain a stake in Vitesco Technologies but will receive shares in the combined company upon completion of the merger. The applicable exchange ratio will be agreed between Vitesco Technologies and Schaeffler at a later date. This agreement will be made on the basis of a determination of the enterprise values of Schaeffler and Vitesco Technologies prepared by an independent joint valuation expert in accordance with recognised valuation principles. The Executive Board and Supervisory Board of Vitesco Technologies emphasise that Vitesco Technologies shareholders must make their own decision as to whether and to what extent they accept the offer, taking into account their individual circumstances.

Manchester United legend Ole Gunnar Solskjaer to make first-ever India tour in December

Pune (Voice news service):- Football legend Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is all set for his maiden visit to India as the Manchester United fan and founder of Ace of Pubs, Tialak Gaurang Shah will be hosting the exciting three-city tour from December 15 to 17.

Solskjaer is a renowned name in the football world and enjoys a huge fanbase in India as well. The former Manchester United manager is also among the leading scorers for the club with 126 goals in 366 appearances for the club. His sensational last-minute winning goal in the 1999 Champions League final against Bayern Munich is still fresh in the memories of football fans across the world.

"I have heard a lot about Manchester United fans in India from Tialak and I simply had to experience the fandom myself. I'm thrilled to join the fans in Bengaluru, Mumbai and Delhi and looking forward to an unforgettable time. This marks my first visit to the beautiful country, and I can't wait to be here. Best wishes and see you soon!" Solskjaer expressed his excitement.

Manchester United fans in India will be treated with a life-time opportunity to get live glimpses of their favourite star as Solskjaer will ignite football fervour across the country when he lands in Bengaluru — the first city of his tour, on December 15. While Solskjaer's trip to India was finalised earlier this year, Tialak is confident of successfully hosting this exceptional tour and making it memorable for the Indian fans. Tialak, Founder of Ace of Pubs, said: "I have been an ardent Manchester United fan for more than two decades now and visit Old Trafford once every quarter for a regular dose of footballing entertainment. After talking to Ole about United's popularity in India, I knew his network and expertise could act as a catalyst in redefining football back home. Ace of Pubs aspires to infuse the Old Trafford fervour in India. The tour will start from Bengaluru followed by Mumbai and Delhi on December 16 and 17 respectively. This will be a momentous occasion not only for Manchester United supporters but also all

football fans in India." The football fever that accompanies the visit of the legendary icon Solskjaer will be nothing short of electrifying.

For Manchester United fans, it will be the best opportunity to get up, close and personal with Solskjaer, who will also share his favourite Premier League tales and every fan, attending the event, will receive an authenticated 1999 Champions League final jersey signed by Solskjaer himself. Ace of Pubs is India's largest quizzing company which conducts over 200 events per month across India and the UAE, and the bootstrapped startup company specialises in experiential events with a strong football fan network across all major cities in India and in Dubai. Making the moment even more special for the fans, the Platinum Ticket holders will get an opportunity to be part of an exclusive meet and greet with Solskjaer whereas all Platinum and Sapphire Ticket holders will get a chance to click a photo with one of the all-time greats. During his visit, Solskjaer will hold gala dinners with

fans in Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Delhi. Club ITC & ITC Hotels and Johnnie Walker have pledged their support as hospitality and celebration partners respectively. Ace of Trades has come on board as the Corporate engagement partner.

BookMyShow, Paytm Insider and Zomato Live will jointly facilitate ticket sales, and 12th Man Brewing has joined as gameday partners in Mumbai. Following his playing career, Solskjaer also collaborated with the iconic coach Sir Alex Ferguson, coaching the Manchester United first team strikers in the 2007-08 season. He also transitioned into management as he assumed the role of manager at the Old Trafford in 2019 succeeding Jose Mourinho. Popularly known as the baby-faced assassin, Solskjaer has also played 67 matches for Norway, scoring 23 times for his country. As per the Business YouGov report of 2022 measuring the popularity of Manchester United in multiple global markets, India boasts a staggering 38% of Manchester United fan base.

NueGo paves the way for women's safety; launches a dedicated helpline number



Pune (Voice news service):- NueGo, a trailblazer in India's inter-city bus travel, proudly announces the launch of a dedicated helpline number exclusively designed for women passengers. This initiative pioneered by the brand is one among others to make

bus travel safer and more comfortable for women commuters. These efforts underscore NueGo's commitment to inclusivity and customer-centricity in the Indian travel sector.

Mr. Devendra Chawla, CEO & MD, GreenCell Mobility remarks, "At NueGo, we are dedicated to enhancing the travel experience for every passenger, especially women. We feel that women passengers feeling valued, safe, and comfortable throughout their journey should be a norm and sacrosanct to the very nature of the business. We hope that this becomes a practice across the indus-

try to ensure women feel comfortable and safe while travelling." Key Initiatives that NueGo has launched and undertaken to make women passengers' journeys safe, comfortable and accessible, includes:

1. Dedicated Women Helpline: To assist women travellers before, during, and after their trip, NueGo has launched a special helpline number – 1800 267 3366. The helpline, operational 24/7, aims to ensure women have access to immediate assistance for any travel-related concerns.

2. Advanced Safety Features: NueGo buses are equipped with CCTV Surveillance, GPS Live Tracking, Driver Breath Analyzer Tests and more. In addition to that, the Driver Monitoring Systems and well-trained staff ensure a secure and pleasant travel experience.

3. Exclusive Discount for Women: NueGo has introduced a special program christened WoW (Women on Wheels) for women. Under this, all women passengers can avail a discount of 15% on tickets across all routes. This offer can be redeemed on NueGo's website & app, and OTA channels, including Redbus, Paytm, and Via.

Made in India Meditation and Mind Performance App, Level Supermind Wins 'App of the Year' at Google Play's Best of 2023 Awards

Pune: Level Supermind, the all-in-one mind performance app, co-founded by Ranveer Allahbadia aka BeerBiceps, Harshil Karia, and Aayush Anand is thrilled to announce its triumph at the Google Play Best of 2023 awards, where it clinched two prestigious titles - 'Best App in India' and 'Best for Personal Growth'.

This double win highlights the app's significant impact on the well-being and personal development of its users and the growing importance of Mental Health and Mental Fitness in India. Securing the title of 'Best App' positions the brand at the forefront of this year's stand-out applications on Google Play in India. This accolade reflects the app's commitment to excellence, innovation, and providing users with a seamlessly

enriching experience. Speaking about the win, Harshil Karia, Co-founder said, "We're beyond thrilled to receive these accolades at the Google Play Best of 2023 awards.

This win is an acknowledgment of the tireless dedication and innovative spirit of our entire team. It fuels our passion to continue redefining mind performance and mental fitness in India, making Level Supermind not just an app but a transformative guide for personal growth and well-being. The recognition inspires us to push boundaries and ensure that Level Supermind remains the go-to resource for individuals seeking a positive impact on their mental well-being." Ranveer Allahbadia, Co-founder expressed, "Being recognized as the 'Best App in India' is a deeply hum-

bling achievement for all of us at Level Supermind. It's a validation of our mission to empower individuals on their journey to a healthier mind and a more fulfilling life.

This win is a milestone in our collective pursuit of excellence, and it serves as a starting point for us to reach even greater heights. We are committed to evolving and enhancing Level Supermind to continue positively impacting the lives of our users and contributing to a global culture of mental well-being."

Aayush Anand, Co-founder shared his thoughts, "Securing the Google Play 2023 awards for Best Overall App and Top Self-Improvement App is a significant win for us and it highlights the dedication and passion of our tech-powered team, which enabled us to build an app

of global standard in just 1.5 years of our launch. Back when I graduated from IIT Madras 1.5 years ago, I could never have imagined leading such a young and dynamic squad to build India's premier app, committed to making mind performance and mental well-being accessible to all.

As a co-founder deeply involved in the daily grind of Level Supermind (LSM) alongside the team, I assure you we're just getting started. We're all about disrupting the scene, innovating for our users, empowering the world to reach its highest potential, and stepping up our game daily for our users. Team LSM is fully committed to making waves globally. This is just the introductory chapter of our journey; stay tuned for what's coming next!"