

Sunday

Date 7th January 2024

Union Minister Of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Flags Off 'Kaushal Rath' to Empower Odisha's Youth with Market Relevant Skills

Pune (Voice news service):- In a bid to develop the potential of the younger generation in building 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, Union Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the "Kaushal Rath", a bus providing skills on wheels. This transformative initiative, led by NSDC, aims to provide accessible and hands-on skill training to foster growth and innovation.

These specialized mobile buses are designed to provide skill training and certification to aspiring candidates across Odisha's Sambalpur, Angul & Deogarh districts.

Equipped with state-of-theart tools, facilities, and certified trainers, these buses will offer training and certification across course modules including Digital Literacy, Financial Literacy, Retail & Entrepreneurial Skills, amongst others. All these courses can be undertaken on Skill India Digital (SID) which is specially designed and developed to skill, reskill and upskill Indian individuals through an online training platform. The Kaushal Rath will traverse multiple districts in Orissa, fostering connections with the youth by providing training opportunities for employment self-employment. and Equipped with computers, tools, facilities, and quali-

vice):- Knight Frank India in its latest report. India Real Estate 2023 cited that Pune's residential market witnessed substantial growth in the sales volume by 13.5% YoY in 2023, recording 49,266 housing units in the year. The weighted average price of residential units in Pune increased by 5% YoY to INR

4,507 per sq ft. In terms of office market per-

Rath will journey through the districts of Angul, Sambalpur, and Deogarh. During this phase, it will deliver skill training to the youth in these regions. The event was graced by Shri Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and MD, NSDC International. Speaking at the launch, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a clarion call to make India a developed nation by 2047 with a \$30 trillion economy. However, in the coming days, as AI and ML become a part and parcel of our daily lives, it is imperative that we train our youngsters in digital literacy and financial literacy so that they are empowered to thrive in the

flourishing realm of digital fied trainers, the Kaushal financial services. Moreover, with the nation swiftly transitioning towards a formidable digital payment ecosystem, exemplified by India's dominance in accounting for Rs 45 out of every Rs 100 in digital transactions. our local youth must be well-versed in digital literacy and contemporary technologies. It is my firm belief that this Kaushal Rath initiative will play a pivotal role in educating rural communities, especially women and children, in digital literacy and new-age technology, ensuring that every citizen is well-equipped in this digital era."

National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the aegis of and the leading IT company HP India extended the skill development opportunities to the youth residing in the remote areas of Bhuwane-

eight metros in the country.

The city witnessed a growth

of 93% YoY in the INR >10

mn segment. The ticket size

of below INR 5mn saw a drop

of -10% while that of between

INR 5mn-10mn was 23%.

The QTS metric in Pune ex-

hibited a decline from 4.6

quarters in 2022 to 3.4 quar-

ters in 2023, showcasing ro-

bust market demand and

Vilas P

shwar, Orrisa as part of the 'Kaushal Rath' initiative, a customized bus promoting the 'Skill India Mission'. HP has so far contributed 43 of such large IT vehicles and 27 small ones in various states of India.

Kaushal Rath's overarching objective is intricately woven into the fabric of the Government's Skill India mission, where its primary aim is to extend the transformative impact of skill development to even the remotest corners of the nation, effectively closing the skill gap. This initiative goes beyond by dismantling barriers that impede the journey towards skill proficiency, ensuring that opportunities reach the last mile.

Kaushal Rath achieves these goals by providing inclusive access to skill training for learners, emphasizing practical, hands-on training experiences that

actions, leasing approximate-

ly 6.7 mn sq ft of office space.

The IT-ITeS sector remained

the primary driver of demand,

leveraging Pune's status as a

significant hub for IT and en-

gineering talent. Anticipated

enhancement in connectivity

seamlessly align with the ever-evolving demands of the rapidly changing technical environment. By doing so, the initiative opens doors to improved employment prospects for

individuals, transcending geographical boundaries and socio-economic constraints. Furthermore, it serves as a catalyst for raising awareness about emerging skills within specific domains or industries, ensuring that individuals remain well-equipped and adaptable to the demands of the future.

multifaceted This approach not only enhances employment opportunities but also nurtures a culture of awareness, ensuring that individuals are not just employable today but well-prepared for the skill demands of tomorrow. Under the guidance of Shri. Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, and Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister, Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India- the 'Kaushal Rath' initiative

was launched in the month of September'2023 to enable a large number of youths to take up industrv-relevant skill training that will improve their theoretical as well as practical knowledge and help them in securing a better livelihood by bringing necessary synergy, oversight,

market. This architecture has been meticulously designed to enable class leading efficiencies, maximizing space, battery capacity and enhancing the overall levels, with a growth rate of driving experience. acti. 2% YoY. Rents reached INR ev is a global ready, fu-73.9 per sq ft, per month in ture-facing pure electric 2023 from INR 72.0 per sq architecture that enables ft per month in 2022. The the implementation of softupturn in rental rates can be attributed predominantly to ware oriented features, heightened transactions, givensuring that our vehicles en the limited office supply in are not only technologically advanced but also future-proof.

Tata Passenger Electric Mobility launches its first Pure EV architecture – 'acti.ev'

Power of Voice / POVNews **Page 1** YouTube Page 1

Pune (Voice news service):- Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM), the pioneer of the EV evolution in India, today introduced its first advanced Pure EV architecture - acti.ev (pronounced as active). acti. ev stands for (Advanced Connected Tech-Intelligent Electric Vehicle) and will underpin future products from the TPEM portfolio. Punch.ev will be the first product based on this Pure Electric Architecture, which will spawn a variety of products with multiple body styles and sizes. Starting today, customers can book their Punch.ev by visiting their nearest Tata Motors showrooms authorized for EV sales or Tata.ev stores by making a payment of just ₹21,000.

Bookings can also be made online at https://bit. ly/punchev-bookingsopen. Commenting on this aspirational introduction, Mr. Anand Kulkarni, Chief Products Officer, Head of HV Programs and Customer Service, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd., said, "As leaders of the EV evolution in India, we are proud to enter 2024 with a groundbreaking development in the form of acti.ev - a made-in-India advanced Pure EV architecture that promises to be a trendsetter in the country's rapidly developing EV

km.



tiple body styles with a

reinforced body structure

capable of meeting future

GNCAP / BNCAP safety

protocols. acti.ev maximis-

es cabin space and stor-

age with a flat floor without

a transmission tunnel, and

an added frunk, therefore

allowing more space for

occupants in the cabin.

Its lower center of gravity

helps in improved driving

Layer 3 - Electrical Archi-

safety and navigation ca-

Its 5G readiness allows for

advanced network speeds

with seamless connectiv-

ity. The architecture will

Load (V2L) and Vehicle

Layer 4 - Cloud Architec-

ture: This architecture is

based on future ready

scalable cloud architec-

ture that promises an en-

hanced user experience,

with Arcade.ev, an in-car

pabilities.

technology.

dynamics and handling.

"With this, we are doubly excited to announce the unveil of the first product made on this advanced, multi-layered architecture - the Punch.ev. The Punch.ev is our introduction to the next generation of EVs from TPEM. As has been the case with our current portfolio of EV products, we are confident that future products made on the acti.ev architecture will continue to spark delight in our ever growing community.'

tecture: acti.ev is a future The acti.ev architecture is ready scalable architecbased on the key pillars of ture with higher computing Performance, Technolopowers and ADAS level gy, Modularity, and Space 2 capabilities. The archi-Efficiency and consists of tecture is ready for ADAS L2+ capabilities - ensurfour layers: ing higher standards of

Layer 1 - Powertrain: acti. ev features an optimised battery pack design, with cells tested to advanced global standards – leading to 10% improvement in energy density.

This battery pack design also support Vehicle to also offers multiple range options from 300 km ~ 600 to Vehicle Charging (V2V)

The architecture also allows for modularity in choosing the right drivetrain option for the appropriate product, between AWD, RWD, and FWD. acti.ve can support 7.2kW to 11kW on board charger for AC fast charging and DC Fast Charging upto 150kW - thereby adding ~100 km range in just 10 minutes. Layer 2 - Chassis: The

app suite. Furthermore, acti.ev is loaded with cutting-edge solutions that not only promise superior connectivity but advanced overthe-air updates for soft-

and effective coordination. Pune achieves historic peak in residential sales nearing 50k mark ing housing destination." rents, in 2023, rents in Pune's office market experi-In terms of office market performance, Pune witnessed a enced modest growth, nearsubstantial increase in transly returning to pre-pandemic

formance, the period from January to December 2023 witnessed growth in transaction volumes. 2023 recorded YoY growth of 9% with 6.7 mn sq ft, highest in terms of total area transacted till date. The heightened transactions led to an upturn of over 5% in rentals during 2023. New office completions saw a decline of -46% YoY to 3.6 mn sq ft during the same period. Completions are expected to improve in the coming months with new projects nearing completion. Of the total transactions in 2023, GCC transactions registered 49% of share in the city's office space transactions. **Residential Market Highlights**

of Pune

dential market in Pune experienced a strong influx of new YoY increase.

project launches in 2023. with a total of 42,437 units introduced, indicating a 10%

Pune (Voice news ser- In 2023, Pune's real estate housing across the leading

market displayed contin-

ued growth recording the

best residential sales since

2013. A considerable seg-

ment of homebuyers in Pune

consists mainly of migrant

workers, particularly salaried

individuals seeking hous-

ing mortgages. Despite the

elevated home loan rates,

their outlook on the market

remains optimistic. The resi-

The share of property sales in the INR 5-10 million ticket size range increased from 43% in 2022 to 46% in 2023. Concurrently, properties below INR 5 million experienced a decrease in sales from 48% to 38% YoY in 2023. Moreover, there was a notable increase in the share of properties exceeding INR 10 million, rising from 9% in 2022 to 15% in of 2023, indicating a growing demand for high-value properties.

ITeS hub, coupled with the During 2023, Pune accountgovernment's emphasis on ed for the highest YoY perinfrastructure development, centage growth in luxury positions Pune as an emerg-

through ongoing infrastrucswift property transactions. ture projects such as the Menon, National Diexpansion of the metro rail. rector. Occupier Services. are expected to bolster real Capital Markets & Branch estate growth, particularly in areas along these new metro Head, Pune, Knight Frank India said, "Pune's real estate lines. From the sector-wise market witnessed continuous transaction split in 2023. growth in 2023, fuelled by Pune's office market remains improved market sentiment. robust, drawing Global Ca-The city's evolution as a pability Centres (GCCs) bethriving IT hub, bolstered by cause of its strong workforce the government's continued and improving infrastructure. infrastructure development, The market is adjusting to evolving dynamics, partichas firmly established Pune as a pivotal housing destiularly by embracing trends nation. The notable uptick in such as flexible workspaces property sales above INR 10 and sustainability. million reflects rising buyer's Pune market witnessed maconfidence. The city's emer-

jor leasing activity by GCCs capturing 49% of the area transacted followed by India facing business at 26% of the area transacted, respectively. From the aspect of office

the city. Vilas P Menon, National Director - Occupier Services. Capital Markets & Branch Head – Pune at Knight Frank India said, "Pune's status as a prominent hub for IT and engineering talent continues to drive demand in the IT-ITeS sector, making it the preferred choice for companies seeking a skilled workforce. The city's resilient office market, attracting GCCs due to its robust workforce and improving infrastructure, reflects an evolving landscape. Embracing flexible workspaces and sustainability as pivotal emerging trends underscores Pune's adaptability in meeting evolving

second layer of this archiware and other features

"Ram Mandir, Rashtra Mandir -Ek Saajhi Virasat: Kuchh Ansuni Baten", Book **Release- Geeta Singh and Arif Khan Bharti**

A historic event unfolded at Delhi Akashvani Rang Bhawan Auditorium, marking the release of the book "Ram Mandir. Rashtra Mandir - Ek Saaihi Virasat: Kuchh Ansuni Baten", co-authored by Geeta Singh and Arif Khan Bharti, with a foreword by RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat. The book release witnessed the presence of dignitaries, including Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan, RSS National Executive Member Indresh Kumar, VHP National President Alok Kumar, and Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra (Trust) Ayodhya Treasurer Govind Dev. Intellectuals from diverse backgrounds, including representatives from the Muslim community and Ladakh's Buddhist community, graced the occasion. The English version will be translated by Dr. Shailesh

राम मंदिर = राष्ट मंदिर = एक साझी विरासत 1111 (कुछ अनसुनी बातें)



such a figure is essential to

of tireless endeavours by

restrained ambitions.

ition.

that man, being inherently the RSS and its affiliates ambitious, tends to beto foster unity between the come immoral in pursuit Muslim community and the of his desires. He emphawider social fabric. Offering enlightening insights, sized the necessity of an ideal figure like Maryada dispelling misconceptions, and revealing untold sto-Purushottam Ram, who serves as a guide to limit ries of collaboration and shared values, the book and channelize these ambitions. According to Khan, provides a comprehensive

prevent unchecked and uncated efforts. Author Prof. Geeta Singh shared that the book holds Dr. Hiranandani, the visionary founder of Pancham numerous untold stories and aims to dispel myths. It Dham, a culmination of two decades of unwavering sheds light on the sincere efforts of the Sangh in nurresearch, has been instrumental in safeguarding the turing the spirit of nationalessence of Sanatan Dharism within Muslim society ma. His significant contri-Co-author Arif Khan Bharti expressed his views, highbution played a crucial role in bringing this book to frulighting the foundational spirit of the country based Released by Kitabwale on Vasudhaiva Kutum-Publishing Group, this book bakam, championed by delves deep into 30 years Maryada Purushottam

Ram

exploration of these dedi-

Southern Cities Score Big in the 2nd edition of Top Cities for Women in India Index Pune (Voice news ser-Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kol-The 113 cities have been diical and social factors along

gence as a thriving IT and

vice):- Avtar group, India's pioneer in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) solutions, released the second edition of 'Top Cities for Women in India (TCWI)' index.

Data obtained from various governmental sources including Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS July 2022-June 2023), national census and crime records were assimilated apart from Avtar's primary research on women's employment.

The research comprised an open survey and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) between July 2023 and December 2023 in which over 1200 women from across the country participated. The metrices derived from both the survey and governmental data were put together to arrive at the comprehensive City Inclusion Scores (CIS). Chennai, Bengaluru, Pune,

kata, Ahmedabad, Delhi, Coimbatore, and Jaipur emerge as Top 10 Cities for Women in India in the Category 1 that lists cities with a population of more than one million.

The national capital makes a debut in this edition of Top 10 by positioning itself on the 8th rank. The performance of Tamil Nadu state capital Chennai is commendable it cemented its position as the top city for women to retain its number 1 ranking. Tiruchirappalli. Vellore. Thiruvananthapur-Kochi, am. Shimla. Salem. Erode. Tiruppur, Gurugram and Puducherry feature in the Category 2 (with a population of less than one million) of Top Cities for Women. A total of 113 cities were identified for the study based on the role these cities play in the economic growth of the country

vided into two categories in the listing. Category 1 covers 49 cities

with a population of more than a million and category 2 covers 64 cities with less than a million population. The City Inclusion Score (CIS) which determines the rankings of the cities is based on three pillars - Social Inclusion Score (SIS), Industrial Inclusion Score (IIS) and Citizen Experience Score (CES). While Social Inclusion Score focuses on external social environment. Industrial Inclusion Score evaluates the extent to which organisations include women in their workforce. The data collated from women across India through FGDs and surveys were used to create the CES. While building inclusive and equitable cities is still work in progress in India, Southern cities that have strong histor-

with enabling government policies are contributing to gender-progressive living environments helping the cities feature in the index. Tamil Nadu cities dominate in both population-wise categories with Chennai topping the million plus category and Tiruchirappalli topping the less than a million category. As many as 8 cities out of 10 in the less than a million-population category are from the Southern part of India - Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur and Puducherry. Only two cities - Shimla and Gurugram are from the Northern region. Tamil Nadu with Chennai and Coimbatore, and Maharashtra with Mumbai and Pune are the only states with two cities each in the million-plus category, that have made it to the Top 10 index. Speaking at the announcement, Dr Saundarya Rajesh, Founder-President, Avtar group said, "Vibrant employment opportunities, good quality of life including educational and healthcare facilities, well-connected transportation networks, experience of safety are defining attributes of inclusive cities for women. Avtar's annual index, Top

market dynamics in the office

space.'

Cities for Women in India is a clarion call to create equitable pathways to increase women's workforce participation in the country. Our data-driven and evidence-based understanding of the ethos of Indian cities towards women's inclusion will help in making our country a developed nation by 2027 - as envisioned by our Honorable Prime Minister. Creating environments where women thrive, lead, and contribute their fullest potential is crucial in this pursuit.

Lachu Hiranandani, the book will also be translated into various other languages

During the event, Indresh Kumar expressed that understanding the language of the voiceless is akin to understanding God-He is in those who hear the unspoken. He proposed that all disputes could find resolution through dialogue in the future, urging all religions to come together and contemplate this prospect. Following the book release, Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan remarked



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Seven Marathi films to feature in the International Marathi Film Competition at PIFF 2024

Pune (Voice news is given a 'Sant Tukaram' service):- In the 22nd edition of the 'Pune In-(PIFF)', Seven films have been selected to compete in the International Marathi film competition category, announced Dr Jabbar Patel, director of the Festival. Today (January 2, 2024) at 2 PM, information about these films were displayed on the official website of the festival www.piffindia. com.

The competition of Marathi films is judged by an international jury. The best international Marathi film

award of Rs 5 lakh by the Government of Mahaternational Film Festival rashtra. Awards such as 'Best Director', 'Best Actor', 'Best Actress', 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Cinematographer' are given Rs 25,000 each by the Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal. Dr Patel further expressed that Marathi films selected every year at the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) are produced by young filmmakers from different parts of Maha-

rashtra and they receive

success at the internation-

al level. Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) 2024 will be held from January 18 to 25.

Movies will be shown on a total of 11 screens at three locations: PVR Icon (6 screens) at Pavilion Mall on Senapati Bapat Road, Inox (3 screens) at Camp area and Cinepolis Cinemas at Westend Mall (2 screens) in Aundh area. The online registration process for the festival has started from Friday, December 23 on the official website of the festival www.piffindia.comand the

spot registration process at theaters will start from 5th January. The registration fee for the entire festival is just Rs. 800 for all. Marathi Cinema Competition: 1. Valli - Director: Manoj Shinde, 2. Sthal (A Match) - Director: Jayant Digambar Somalkar, 3. Bhera (Deaf) - Director: Shrikant Prabhakar, 4. Shyamchi Aai - Director: Sujay Sunil Dahake, 5. Naal Bhag 2 - Director: Sudhakar Reddy Yakkanti, 6. Chabila - Director: Anil Amrut Bhalerao, 7. Gypsy - Director: Shashi Chandrakant Khandare

Ankur Joglekar Memorial Inter IT Cricket Championship Cup 2023-24 Pune (Voice news service):- Infosys Pune, TCS started their campaign on winning note in their league matches at 18th edition of "Ankur Joglekar Memorial" Inter IT Cricket Championship Cup 2023-2024 which is being organized by Ankur Joglekar Memorial Foundation in association with IDeaS a SAS Company and played at Dilip Vengasarkar Cricket Academy Ground. In the opening league

matches, Infosys Pune trounced Ideas a Sas Company by 46run, Tarunkumar Rai put up an all round performance scor-

ing 25runs and claiming 6wickets in just 11runs. In second match, Tata Consultancy Services registered a 9 runs win over Veritas Pune.

The tournament was inaugurated by the presence Wing Commander of Uday Joglekar, President, Ankur Joglekar Memorial Foundation & Father of Ankur Joglekar, Mr. Vijay Joglekar, Vice President, Ankur Joglekar Memorial Foundation & Uncle of Ankur Joglekar, Mr. K. S. Prashant, MD of IDeaS a SAS Company, Mallika James, Finance Head IDeaS India, Mr. Raiiv Nashikkar, Ex- MD & VP

IDeaS India Operations, Wing Commander Vidyakant Kala, Ex-Director IDeaS a SAS Company. Results: League Round: Infosys Pune: 149/7 in 20Overs(Sandip Sanghai 71(42,10x4,2x6)), Tarunkumar Rai 25, Sagar Birdawade 17, Nikhil Rokade 13, Arun Singh 3-21, Raunak Taunk 2-17, Pravin Nimodiya 1-27) bt Ideas a Sas Company: 103 for all out in 19.20vers(Prasad Kunte 47(45,5x4,1x6), Pravin Nimodiya 12, Tarunkumar Rai 6-11, Suraj Gupta 3-19, Harshad Tidke 1-14);MOM-Tarunkumar Rai; Infosys Pune won by

46 runs: Consultan-Tata cy Services: 175/6 in 20Overs(Praveen In-44(33,3x4,3x6), gle Uday Galande not out 31(19,5x4,1x6), Shubham Kabadi 26, Aditya Lahane 18, Purab Gajinkar 18, Amrit Alok 1-23, Sumit Dighe 1-24, Ashutosh Deshmukh 1-36) bt Veritas Pune: 166/6 in 20Overs(-Suraj Jha 39(43,5x4), Sumit Dighe 37(33,1x4,2x6), Swanand Bhagwat 17, Amrit Alok 13, Sushant Mulay 10, Sunil Babar 3-36, Pravin Raut 1-23, Akash Prince 1-28);MOM-Sunil Babar; Tata Consultancy won by 9 runs;

The Fashion+Jewellery combination can make India a coveted and preferred wedding destination for the world

Pune (Voice news service):- Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated the New Year's first and largest-ever India International Jewellery Trade Show --- IIJS Signature Gem & Jewellery Trade organised by the country's apex trade body. the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC).

The 16th edition of GJEPC's IIJS Signature will witness 30,000+ visitors (including international buyers) from 800 Indian cities and 60 countries. The show boasts of 1,500+ exhibitors occupying 3.000+ stalls across a sprawling 1.25 lakh sq. mt. of exhibition area.

For the first time ever, the New Year's first top-of-theline design centric jewellery trade show along with the India Gem & Jewellery Machinery Expo (IGJME) is being held at two venues in Mumbai: JIO World Convention Centre, BKC (4-7 January) & Bombay Exhibition Centre, NES-CO, Goregaon (5-8 January). This expansion aims to offer exhibitors and visitors more space, fosterconducive to productive to build global competibusiness interactions. Gracing the momentous occasion along with Chief Guest Shri Piyush Goyal were Shri Joy Alukkas (Chairperson, Joyalukkas); Shri Vipul Shah, Chairman, GJEPC; Shri Kirit Bhansali (Vice Chairman, GJEPC); Rajesh Kumar Mishra, IRS Zonal Development Commissioner, SEEPZ-SEZ; Shri Anoop Mehta, President, GJEPC; Shri Nirav Bhansali (Convener, National



Exhibitions, GJEPC); Shri Sabyasachi Ray (ED, GJEPC), along with oth-

ers.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution & Textiles, Govt. of India, said, "Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guidance India can become the global epicentre of the gem & jewellery industry with a holistic ecosystem encompassing all diverse constituents and elements. Massive investments are being made to create a world-class infrastructure including the 20-acre India Jewellery Park in Navi Mumbai and a common facility centre in SEEPZ Mumbai with most modern machinery and equipment. The infrastructure impetus can empower MSMEs in the ing a relaxed environment gem & jewellery industry

and jewellery into an unbeatable & desirable combination. The emphasis

has to be on making India the design destination of the world for fashion and jewellery. The fashion+jewellery combination can make India a coveted and preferred wedding destination for the world. The Surat Diamond Bourse has already become a benchmark globally and this competitive spirit that will take Indian industry to greater heights. India has the potential to become the world's largest gem jeweller, proficient lab grown diamond maker, impeccable design centre and technologicaladvanced machinery lv manufacturer all under one platform. It's time we embark on the journey to realise our true potential and show our prowess to the world."

Shri Vipul Shah, Chairman, GJEPC, said, "India Thanks to the very efficient is today a powerhouse of jewellery manufacturing and the domestic gem & jewellery market, which is currently valued at USD 44 billion will grow to USD 134 billion by the year 2030 with CAGR of 17.35%. The Indian gem & jewellery industry shares our beloved Prime Minister's dream of becoming a USD 5 trillion economy by 2030 and a first world nation by 2047. To take

"Viksit Bharat", GJEPC on behalf of the gem & jewellery sector recently submitted the work plan to the Ministry of Commerce to touch USD 75 billion exports by the year 2030 and USD 100 billion by 2047." "Honourable Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal, following the success of the India-UAE CEPA bilateral trade agreement, the gem & jewellery sector is looking forward to trade agreements with GCC, the UK, EU and Canada to happen soon under your leadership. And we will grow India's share in world exports of gems & jewellery from 4.6% to more than 10% by 2030," added Shah.

part in that Sankalp to be

Shah said, "Building worldclass infrastructure in the gem & jewellery business will entail an investment of more than Rs. Two Lakh crore within the next five years. As an industry, we are doing our bit in nation building and creating national assets.

Mr. Joy Alukkas, Chairperson, Joyalukkas Group, said, "We should be very proud the way India is progressing as one of the top economies in the world.

Akash Nakhare Aditya Garg, Avinash Deoskar and Jaanya Bisnoi most expensive players at The Poona Club Golf League 2024

Infosys Pune, TCS make winning start at 18th edition of



Pune (Voice news service):-Akash Nakhare Aditya Garg, Avinash Deoskar and Jaanya Bisnoi were the most expensive players traded at the Players Auction Day for the Poona Club Golf League 2024 which will be played at the Poo-

na Club Golf Course. In a statement issued by President of Poona Club Sunil Handa, Vice President Mr. Gaurav Gadhoke Captain of the Golf Course Mr. Ikram Khan (and the PGL 2024 Chairman Mr.

stat-

Indraneel Mujgule

ed that 16 teams will be participating in the event this year. 316 players were looking for a spot in the tournament, the Auction Day facilitated team owners in selecting their preferred golfers among three divisions - Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Each team had a notional amount of Rs. 2 crores to spend during the auction, resulting in an intense bidding war, particularly in the Gold division where over 90 players found their teams. A total of 240 players were



Gadhoke) AutoMech Bak-

Pinaaki Warriors(Mr. Sunil

Gutte), Vascon The Holey

Ones:(Mr. Vasudevan Ra-

mamoorthy), Manav Pari

Pin Seekers(Mr. Rupesh

Banthia; Mr. Ranjit Date)

Amit Kothari), Polo Wealth

Demand Farm Asset Ac-

ers (Mr. Abhijit Gangoli,

Mr. Vinay Rathi), AAd-

vani Super Kings(Mr. Anil

Advani), Kirloskar Lim-

itless Rangers(Mr. Vinod

Kumar), Maximum Mav-

ericks (Mr. Rajiv Sangtani,

Mr. Lalit Solanki), Shub-

KK Kothari Royals(Mr.

ers(Mr. Átin Agarwal)

baan Sunrisers(Mr. Yashwant Zanjage), Shirke (

Mrs. Padmaja Shirke, Mr. Jay Shirke), Vijay Advani Fairway Titans (Mr. Vijay Advani), Softcell Swingers (Mr. Sunil Dalal) and Event Dynamics Par-Tee Tigers(Mr. Rakesh Wadhwa).

The Poona Club Golf League 2024 promises an enthralling spectacle, showcasing not just competitive golfing prowess but also the camaraderie among passionate golf enthusiasts and team owners.

Bridgestone sponsors Golf Tournament to raise funds for NGOs

To raise funds for Indian Cancer Society and Chandigarh Spinal Rehab

Pune (Voice news ser-

hit their drives, the best play-

tiveness and expand their business in a very modern and efficient environment. After the success in Dubai post the India-UAE CEPA, we are planning to open a new India Exposition Centere in Hong Kong to gradually spread our wings to capture world markets across borders. Jewellery design should become our next big export. Our young, talented and skilled workforce and help us merge fashion

leadership of our country. Honourable Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal is doing everything for our gem & jewellery trade. The initiatives of GJEPC is also worth mentioning and commendable. Over a period of time the IIJS Signature has become a significant jewellery exhibition in the world. I am very optimistic about the future of our industry and I feel very proud to be a part of this."

Zuno General Insurance unveils Zuno HealthPlus Policy: An Affordable & customisable Health Insurance plan

Pune (Voice news service):- Zuno General Insurance, a new-age digital insurer, introduces its latest health insurance policy - Zuno HealthPlus Policy. This innovative health insurance plan is designed to provide tailored coverage and benefits for individuals and families at an affordable premium.

inflation-adjusted This product allows coverage for up to 9 family members under a single policy, streamlining the process of managing multiple policies.

Zuno HealthPlus Policy caters to diverse needs, allowing individuals and families to choose from 20 different relationships for coverage. Product where a bachelor can insure themselves with a basic health insurance and opt for adventure sports optional cover. Young couples can go for plans with maternity benefits and newborn covers. Looking at rising infertility, intending couples may also opt for infertility and surrogacy covers. A family with children can choose to go with Outpatient and worldwide covers. With no maximum entry age barrier, this policy offers cover to senior citizen In addition to these fea-

tures, to make it even more accessible, policyholders can enjoy up to 20% zone-based discount based on their geographical location. Additionally, the policy offers long term discount of up to 10% and incentivise an existing cus-

tomer with 5% discount on purchasing this policy. Not only this, but you also get a discount of 15% if you purchase directly from our website.

Announcing the launch of the new policy, Shanai Ghosh, MD & CEO of Zuno General Insurance said, "Zuno HealthPlus Policy reflects our commitment to innovation and customer-centric solutions. We

believe in making insurance simple, easy to understand and accessible to all. Zuno HealthPlus Policy is a significant step in that direction. With high sums insured, no room rent capping, no sublimit or disease wise capping including modern treatments and comprehensive

coverage, it's not just an insurance ----it's peace of mind"

The new policy will primarilv be accessible through its network of channel partners. Zuno HealthPlus Policy also gives leverage to its customer when it comes to medical screening. There will not be any medical test for coverage up to 20 lakhs, age of 55 years without extreme

> health conditions. Zuno HealthPlus Policy ensures hassle-free healthcare with an extensive network of over 10.000 cashless hospitals. In times of emergency, the vast network eliminates the concern of

finding a suitable facility. In case of admission to a non-network hospital, Zuno makes efforts to onboard it for cashless facilities. For reimbursement claims, Zuno offers "Cash in Advance" facility, where Zuno pays an advance payment to the customer providing immediate support in emergencies. The 24 x 7 Claims Concierge provides expert guidance throughout the claims process ensuring prompt and seamless support to the policyholders making the customer experience stress-free.

Zuno General Insurances is confident that Zuno HealthPlus Policy will set a new standard for health insurance products, combining innovative features with a commitment to affordability and a customer-centric approach. For more information on Zuno HealthPlus Policy and other insurance products, please visit our website https://www.hizuno.com/

vice):- Bridgestone India. part of the Bridgestone Corporation, a global leader in tyres and rubber, announced today the title sponsorship of the 4th edition of Nirmayan Charity Pro Am Premium Golf Tournament.

Besides sponsoring this event, the Company has also provided support of Thirty Lacs Rupees towards Indian Cancer Society and Chandigarh Spinal Rehab for causes identified through this association. "Bridgestone Corporation's

founder believed that a simple profit seeking business will never thrive, but a business that contributes to its society and country will be forever profitable.

It is this philosophy that guides our association with this tournament. We believe in serving society through our quality product offerings as well as supporting issues and causes that are dear to our communities.

We are pleased to associate with Nirmayan for the third time enabling us to support noble causes" said Mr Apurv

Pune (Voice news service):- Odisha Juggernauts became the third team to make it to the semifinals of Ultimate Kho Kho Season 2, scoring a narrow 30-27 victory over Gujarat Giants at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack on Sunday. Odisha Juggernauts won an encounter that was too close to call till the final whistle, with Rohan Singade frustrating Gujarat Giants attackers in the final turn and making the difference.

Ultimate Kho Kho, promoted by Amit Burman in collaboration with the Kho Kho Federation of India, became the first Indian sports league to secure Series A funding,

1 2 Choubey, stone's association with Nir-CHRO. Bridge stone India mayan has given it a good impetus and I would like to

The Golf tournament will be held at The Poona Club Golf thank the Bridgestone team Course. Another highlight of for their continued support. I the event will be the auctionam also thankful to have the ing of personal sports items support of India's best pro golfers who take out time to including that of Olympian, play for this noble cause. This PV Sindhu.

The proceeds from the event will go to Indian Cancer Society and Chandigarh Spinal Rehab. Chandigarh

This year's tournament will see 108 players (27 Professionals, 81 Amateurs) participate in the tournament along with star golfers like Anirban Lahiri, Shiv Kapur, Shubhankar Sharma, SSP Chawrasia. "Over the years, Bridgeis selected. The other three players pick up their balls and move them to the spot of the best drive. The second shots for all four

players are played from that location. This process continues until the ball is holed.

er's ball of the four drives

Indian Cancer Society is a non-government, non-profit, national organization for awareness, detection, and providing cure and treatment for cancer patients in India.

Chandigarh Spinal Rehab is a non-government, non-profit organization supporting and encouraging paralympics athletes by providing the required equipment and infrastructure to support better performance and quality of training for national and international sporting events.

Mudita - An Alliance for Giving is a Pune-based registered trust associated with Nirmayan. Established in 2016 Mudita was conceived with the idea to bridge the gap between well-intentioned & philanthropically-minded donors and deserving & needy beneficiaries.

Odisha Juggernauts reach semifinals with victory over Guiarat Giants in Ultimate Kho Kho Season 2

courtesy the UK-based BNP Group.

Guiarat Giants won the toss and chose to defend first. Their first batch of Suyash Gargate, Faizankha Pathan and Abhijit Patil managed a dream run point, a feat that the next batch of K Ram Mohan. V Subramani and Raivardhan Patil emulated. Turn 1 finished 14-2 in favour of Odisha Juggernauts.

Turn 2 started with an amazing defensive show by Odi-Juggernauts. Their sha first batch of Gowtham MK, Vishal and Dilip Khandavi managed to stay on the pitch for five minutes and 13 seconds, scoring a whopping five dream run points. With Manoj Patil staying unconquered among the second batch, Odisha Juggernauts went into the second innings with a 19-14 lead.

association will also enable

us to raise substantial funds

which will be used for the

benefit of organisations like

Guiarat Giants' first Turn 3 batch of Akshay Bhangare, Deepak Madhav and Shubham Thorat managed two dream run points and their second batch carried on the good work. Both Suyash Gargate and Abhijit Patil remained unconquered while netting a dream run point. That meant that Odisha Juggernauts only had a ten-point lead to defend in the final

turn. Odisha Juggernauts needed to emulate their first innings defensive show to salvage

the match. Their first batch of Dipesh More, Nikhil B and Omkar Sonawane managed a dream run point. leaving Gujarat Giants with five points to get in little over three minutes. Singade

though had other ideas. Sunday's matches will see Mumbai Khiladis take on Raiasthan Warriors, and Odisha Juggernauts take on Telugu Yoddhas.



Indian Cancer Society and Chandigarh Spinal Rehab." -Rajiv Datar, Nirmayan Founder and Professional Golfer. The tournament is a modified Texas Scramble, which involves 1 Pro and 3 Amateurs. After all four team members

Date 7th January 2023



Clean water, wastewater technology, and renewable **AIRTEL AFRICA PLC ANNOUNCES** LEADERSHIP CHANGE

Pune (Voice news service):- Airtel Africa plc has today announced the retirement of the Chief Executive Officer, Olusegun "Segun" Ogunsanya, with effect from 1 July, 2024. Mr. Ogunsanya, who joined Airtel in 2012, ran the Nigeria Operations of the Telecommunications and mobile money company for nine years before his appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the Group in 2021

With local knowledge of the African landscape and deep distribution experience he led the company in maintaining double-digit revenue growth over many quarters and to deliver new, innovative products to its customers across the continent.

Building on the work undertaken during his time as CEO, including the launch of the Company's first Sustainability Strategy, and given his deep experience across Africa, Mr. Ogunsanya will become the Airtel Africa Charitable Foundation's inaugural Chair. The Charitable Foundation

will accelerate the Company's commitment to its sustainability initiatives and charitable

operations across its locations in Africa. The Charitable Foundation's objectives will focus on promoting digital inclusion, financial inclusion, access to education, and environmental protection. The Charitable Foundation will be a separate legal entity and be independent of the Airtel Africa Group

Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman of Airtel Africa plc said: "On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Segun Ogansanya for his commitment and significant contribution to Airtel Africa plc as Chief Executive and before that as

Managing Director and CEO of Nigeria, our largest market in Africa. "I am pleased Segun has agreed, following his retirement, to assume the new role as Chair of the Airtel Africa Charitable Foundation, where he will bring his visionary leadership to this new philanthropic initiative to advance development and prosperity across Africa. Segun will retire from the Board with our very best wishes and sincere appreciation for everything he has achieved.

energy exhibition held in Pimpri-Chinchwad (Voice news Pune service):- Considering the need for clean water, an exhibition on modern technology and renewable energy has been organized on water and wastewater. The "India Water Show and Renewable Energy Expo" will be held from January 10 to 12 at the Auto Cluster

Exhibition Center in Pimpri-Chinchwad. The exhibition will mainly showcase water and wastewater treatment plant systems and technologies, ozone generation systems, testing equipment, RO plants, alkaline water, filters, evaporation systems, rooftop solar, and renewable energy equipment such as solar panels. Organizers Sadiq Sheikh and S Shankar informed that Sanjay Kulkarni, Municipal Engineer (Environment) of Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation will inaugurate the exhibition.

exhibition, the conference will be inaugurated by Rajendra Pawar, Chief Engineer of Mahavitaran. In this seminar. MSED-CL engineer Dr Santosh Patni will guide about the government's new solar energy policy and regulations. Sanjay Kulkarni, former president of MASMA, will guide the introduction of hydrogen energy. Masma president Shashikant Wakade and ex-president Rohan Upasani will be present on this occasion.

The exhibition has been organized in collaboration Pimpri-Chinchwad with Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra Solar Manufacturing Association (MAS-MA), Sustainability and Energy Practitioners Association (SEPA), and on behalf of Propel Enterprises, Mumbai. Veteran experts, manufac-

turers, and vendors from Maharashtra and other On the second day of the states will participate in this



exhibition. Demonstrations of products and services will be presented at this time and guidance from various experts on new products and technologies will be provided at this time. As the population grows rapidly, the supply of water is limited. More water is being used for industry, agriculture, and daily use. Similarly, wastewater can be a valuable resource in large cities. In addition to reducing stress on limited freshwater supplies, wastewa-

ter recycling can improve

Wastewater can be reclaimed for crop and landscape irrigation, groundwater recharge, or recreational purposes. Organizers Sadig Shaikh and S Shankar informed that this exhibition has been organized to promote new technologies in the field of wastewater and renewable

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T.O. Power and Voice

The 23rd ICSI National Awards for **Excellence in Corporate Governance**

Pune (Voice news ser-

vice):- The Institute of Company Secretaries of India organized the 23rd edition of the ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance, on 5 January 2024, in New Delhi in the august presence of Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, as the Chief Guest.

Instituted in the year 2001, the Awards recognize the enduring contribution of professionals and corporates for having imbibed and inculcated good corporate governance practises.

Acknowledging the efforts of the Institute in promoting the cause of Good Corporate Governance, Shri Om Birla said that "The ICSI and its members have a major role to play in the formulation of Corporate Governance Structure of the country as the wisdom and expertise of Company Secretaries is required for the better formulation of corporate laws". He further added that, "The ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance is a furtherance to the Institute's efforts of establishing a trans-

Bharti Foundation's Changemaker

Awards celebrates excellence in

parent, accountable and ethically right Corporate India for global investors"

The 23rd ICSI Lifetime Achievement Award for recognizing leadership in instituting Good Corporate Governance into reality, was conferred on to Mr. Venu Srinivasan. Chairman Emeritus, TVS Motor Company.

Highlighting the importance of the ICSI National Awards, CS Manish Gupta, President, The ICSI, said, "With Governance moving beyond the confines of Board Rooms, Corporate Stewardship and Corporate Citizenship have become the focal areas for Businesses world over.

As one of the pioneers in promoting Good Corporate Governance, the ICSI not just develops professionals who steer corporate action in the right direction, but has also been acknowledging and awarding the unwavering efforts of Corporates and Professionals in powering and promoting ethical, social and ecological responsibilities through the ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance.

Raintree Foundation partners with Srushti Conservation Foundation to facilitate a Certificate Course in Peoples' Biodiversity Register Development for Masters' students at Fergusson College, DESPU

Pune (Voice news service):-Raintree Foundation in partnership with Srushti Conservation Foundation (SCF) is facilitating a 15-Day Certificate Course in Peoples' Biodiversity Register (PBR) development for Masters' students at the Fergusson College, Deccan Education Society Pune University (DESPU). The People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) is an essential participatory tool for documenting the local community's traditional knowledge about the region's biodiversity and human interaction with ecological svstems

Human actions like habitat destruction, pollution, overexploitation, climate change, and invasive species threaten biodiversity, causing ecosystem disruptions, habitat loss, and straining community resources.

Urgent conservation is munities and their natural management plans. While

across multiple post-graduate specializations including Botany. Zoology. and Environmental Science are enrolled in this course. The course will include classroom sessions and on-field activity in Sakhar and Gunjawane villages in Pune, providing hands-on experience as well as course credits for the students under the National Education Policy.

The program will commence from 1st Jan 2024 till 15th January 2024. It will include theory sessions conducted by SCF at the Fergusson College and on-field data-collection organized by the Raintree Foundation at Sakhar and Gunjawane villages. The course will offer practical exposure to the students of the respective departments, helping raise their awareness towards the ground reality of biodiversity management, and the importance essential for rural com- of PBR in creating village

Empowerment in Action: The Lexicon International School,

Kalyani Nagar, Guides the Path with Women's Safety Training

for sustainable development, conservation effort and benefit-sharing. Commenting on the initiative, Ms. Namita Dan-

dekar, Chief Operating Officer, Raintree Foundation said, "Documentation of traditional knowledge is critical not just for understanding the community's generational interaction with their natural resources and heritage but is also important for ensuring greater community participation and ownership of biodiversity conservation efforts. Through this experiential educational programme in partnership with Srushti Conservation Foundation and Fergusson College, Raintree Foundation will offer practical, on-ground exposure to students interested in working in environmental conservation, while also working with community resource persons to develop documentation of local oral traditions and knowledge that are rapidly fad-



DESPU students from January 1st to January 5th, 2024. These theory sessions will be led by Srushti Conservation Foundation, Pune. The sessions will cover topics such as a general introduction to climate change and biodiversity, discussions on documenting traditional knowledge and natural resource systems, an introduction to the PBR concept including its importance, history, general structure, purpose, and application. Additionally, there will be discussions

On-field data-collection -January 6th - 15th, 2024: On-field data collection is scheduled in Gunjavane and Sakhar villages from January 7th to January 15th, 2024. This nine-day activity comprises five days of fieldwork, involving visits to Guniavane and Sakhar, documenting oral histories of local biodiversity, which are gradually fading, preparation of documentation and awareness materials, collation, compilation, and editing of the PBR document. On the final day,

the quality of streams and lakes by reducing the amount of wastewater they receive.

energy

Changemaker

Awards, hosted by Bhar-

ti Foundation recently,

brought together corpo-

rates and individuals who

The

Corporate Social Responsibility

children from slums. lenged background with education, career oppor-

payroll giving for the noble cause for more than 3 years in a row.

Del Monte Foods continuously engaged with Bharti Foundation and encouraged more than 80% its employees.

60% employees from Beetel Teletech Ltd. participated in payroll giving

program. Individual Philanthropy International: Harifidy Rakotobe (Airtel Madagascar S.A.), Michael Opwonyo (Airtel Uganda Ltd.) and Anne Njeri (Airtel Kenya Networks Limited) Besides, Airtel Nigeria, Airtel Kenya Networks Limited, Airtel Tanzania Limited, Airtel Networks Zambia PLC and employees from various Airtel circles in India received the award for their exemplary contribution towards Sustainable Development Goals. Ms. Mamta Saikia, CEO of Bharti Foundation. expressed her thoughts the Changemaker Awards, stating, "At Bharti Foundation, we believe in the power of transformative practices that are sustainable. Changemaker Awards stand as a testimony of the collective efforts of individuals and corporates in creating a positive impact on society through their exemplary work. Their commitment towards corporate social responsibility serves as an inspiration for others in various industries." Established in 2008, the Changemaker Awards extend acknowledgment to the commendable efforts of individuals at national and international level besides corporates towards Sustainable Development Goals. The award provides a common platform for applicants to showcase their work in community transformation, environmental initiatives and volunteering programs, thereby making a meaningful difference in the society.

have undertaken initiatives and/or are working on projects focused on creating a better world for the current and future generations. Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Co-Chair-100% employees through donation and supporting man at Bharti Foundation

(Vice Chairman, Bharti Poornima Kapoor from Enterprises), Ms. Mam-Bharti Airtel Limited won ta Saikia, CEO at Bharti Special Jury award in the Foundation, Lt. Col. Vijay for supporting students from economically chal-Chadda, Member of the Governing Board of Bharti Foundation, Mr. Akhil limited access to quality Gupta, Vice-Chairman at Bharti Enterprises, leadtunities and guidance. ers from Bharti Group Social Initiative National: Companies and partner Sumitomo Mitsui Banking organisations, along with Corporation for their proisupporters and volunect Medical PODS, conteers of the Foundation ceptualised for regions where health infrastruc-This year, the awards ture is in deficit.

heritage. The People's Biodiversity Register (PBR), mandated by the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, documents, and helps preserve local bio-resources along with traditional knowledge. A total of 27 students

Pune (Voice news

service):- In a bold

stride towards fostering

a secure and supportive

community, The Lexi-

con International School,

Kalyani Nagar, hosted a Women's Safety Training

Session, catering to both

students and parents. This

impactful event aimed to

at its core the PBR is a ing away document which contains Programme comprehensive informa-Classroom Sessions/ Thetion on the locally available ory Sessions - January bio-resources, their me-1st – 5th, 2024 The Dept. of Environmendicinal use and traditional knowledge, it has the potal Science at the Fergustential to be used to foster son College will organise community stewardship the Theory sessions for

on PBR do's and don'ts, an introduction to Partic-Details: ipatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques, and activities focusing on awareness generation among people, ground preparation for PBR development, and daily games.

students will be required to take an exam for certification. The program will conclude with certificate distribution and submission of the prepared PBRs to the Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board for approval.

Lexicon Rainbow Students Shine **Bright in Annual Concert, Celebrating Equal Opportunities for Every Child**



Pune (Voice news service):- The students of Lexicon Rainbow Therapy and Child Development Centre were whole heartedly given a chance and much appreciated in the annual concert of The Lexicon International School, Kalyani Nagar. Mr. Pankai Sharma, President, The Lexicon Group of Institute, Chairman and MD-Pune Times Mirror, Civic Mirror & MultiFit believes in the motto of Inclusive Education for All", and work towards it. Dr. Isha Soni, Senior Occupational Therapist and Centre Head at Lexicon Rainbow addressed a large audience of 1000 plus parents about different services offered for children who show any developmental delay. She firmly believes that. Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. Childhood is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace which is right for each individual child. This year's theme was 'Festivals - A Musical Extravaganza of Cultures Indian and International. 'The students

of Lexicon Rainbow Child Development Centre put up a fabulous show by dancing and celebrating festivals like Diwali, Halloween, Caloundra Music. Golden Mask and La Tomatina festival.

A lot of hardwork and dedication was put in by the entire team of therapists and special educators from ideation to execution. Children with neurodiverese needs have difficulty coping with different situations. costumes, stage lights, loud sounds, wearing props around them due to sensory sensitivities. During the preparation, the team had to constantly tweak according to the child's tolerance level and adaptability.

It was phenomenal for these children to stand in one place, imitate the actions (dance steps) of their teacher and follow the rhythm.

Mrs Monisha Sharma, Co-Founder Director, The Lexicon Group asserted. It is extremely cruical for us as a society to be aware and sensitive towards neurodiversity and contribute our own bit to help them lead a fulfilled life.

received 85 nominations under 6 award categories ranging from

graced the occasion.

Employee Engagement for Bharti Group Companies, Social Initiatives -National & amp;

International to Individual Philanthropy – National & International. The nominations boast of positive impact made on society through strategic, innovative, and sustainable practices in various sectors - education, environment, healthcare to livelihood, sports, etc. This year's winners include: Individual Philanthropy National:

Popat Chandu Rasal from Sterlite Technologies Limited planted more than 20,000 indigenous trees in Aurangabad, Maharashtra in 2022-23 alone Sathyanarayana K from HP Inc. has been volunteering for hunger mitigation in children and enabling better infrastructure in Government Schools in Bangalore, Karnataka.

Another winner from HP Inc., Arundhati Bhattacharya, volunteered for IAHV (International Association for Human Values), positively impacting 200+ women through mental well-being classes and counselling sessions. Sudarshan Bengani from Airtel Payments Bank Limited for his regular contribution towards community services such as blood donation, supporting bird hospitals, food

Signify Innovations India Limited's project, 'Khel Jyoti,' encourages sports in rural areas by providing safe and well-lit spaces for children. Avaya India Pvt. Ltd.

for their initiative 'Road to Career,' providing skill-building opportunities and increasing employability of marginalized vouth and adolescents. Indus Towers' 'innovative project, 'Digital Transformation Van' under their flagship CSR program 'Saksham', has brought digital literacy on wheels to isolated and disadvantaged groups in rural and urban parts of India.

ECI Telecom India Pvt. Ltd.'s initiative 'Right to Education for Every Child' supports capacity building of school run by a grassroot NGO, benefitting more than 2,000 underprivileged students. Ericsson India Pvt. Ltd. won Special Jury Award in the category for its initiative, 'Ericsson's Centre of Excellence,' that addresses skill gaps in Telecom Industry through training students on 5G and emerging technologies along with ensuring their job placements. Employee Engagement Award (recognising efforts of Bharti Group Companies towards volunteering and payroll giving towards supporting

education for underprivileged children from rural parts of the country): Bharti Realty engaged

equip attendees with essential skills, knowledge, and confidence to enhance personal safety. The comprehensive training focused on pivotal aspects such as situational awareness, effective communication, practical self-defense techniques, and the cultivation of presence of mind and mental and emotional stability. With a commitment to ho-The listic education. The Lexicon Schools recognized the importance of empowering its community members with the tools to navigate the complexities of personal safety. "The Women's Safety

Training Session at The Lexicon International School exemplifies the institution's commitment to cultivating a community that thrives on empowerment. It underscores the belief that empowerment isn't a passive state but



an ongoing journey, urging safety all to embrace the skills "Safety isn't just a destiand knowledge needed for nation; it's a mindset we personal safety with courcultivate. The Women's Safety Training session age and conviction," says Mr. Pankaj Sharma, Presserved as a pivotal guide, ident, The Lexicon Group empowering us to proof Institutes, Chairman & actively prepare for any MD, Pune Times Mirror, situation and ensuring Civic Mirror, and MultiFit. we thrive in a secure and session supportive environment. fostered This commitment to safety fosters a culture where individuals can flourish with confidence," says Mr. Nasir Shaikh, Group Chief Executive Officer, The Lexicon Group of Institutes, EduCrack, & EasvRecruit+. By championing these principles, The Lexicon Schools are not only nurturing academic

A significant takeaway from the event is the call to be safe, secure, and balanced and to spread awareness about women's

active participation as students and parents engaged in hands-on training, gaining essential skills to navigate various safety scenarios effectively. The notion that empowerment lies in proactive preparedness rather than reactive vulnerability was a key theme throughout the session.

excellence but also fostering a community that values and prioritizes the well-being of its members.



T. O.

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Power and Voice

Electronics will host Un-

Join us as we unveil the

based on years of rigor-

packed in San Jose.

HERO MOTOCORP'S GURUGRAM MANUFACTURING FACILITY WINS CII NATIONAL AWARD FOR WATER MANAGEMENT

Pune (Voice news Gurugram facility. service):- The stateof-the-art manufacturing facility of Hero MotoCorp, situated in Gurugram in Harvana, has been conferred with the CII National Award for Excellence in Water Management, and rated as the 'Winner' in the 'Within the Fence' catego-

This is a recognition of the Company's innovation and excellence in water management and the positive outcome of the water man-

As an organization, Hero MotoCorp is well on its way to achieving its committed target of being 500% water positive by 2025. Hero MotoCorp – the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters - is currently saving close to 3.8 million kiloliters of water everv vear.

The Company is rapidly moving towards 'water stewardship' by not only reducing water usage and wastage; it is also creating agement initiatives at its access to water for com-

munities beyond its premises. At Hero MotoCorp, sustainability is a way of life, and this Award is a recognition of everything that the Company is doing to ensure that the future generations remain water secure

The Company has adopted an approach that reduces, recycles, recovers and recharges water through measures like replacing RO filtration with Ultra Filtration (UF), reusing machine RO reject water in cooling towers, increasing the efficiency of DM and R.O plants, and adopting cascading rinsing over continuous rinsing among many other water conservative programs.

Additionally, it is also invested in recycling domestic and process water and built 34 recharge shafts within the plant premises. In FY 2022-23, a total of 1.40.612 KLs of water was treated of which 96,139 KLs was recycled and 4,4473 KLs was reused for horticulture.

Galaxy Unpacked 2024: Opening a New Era of Mobile Al

Pune (Voice news create. The new Galaxy service):- A revolutionary mobile experience is coming. Get ready to discover a new era full of possibilities with the latest Galaxy innovations, designed to transform how you live, connect and

S series will set a higher standard for the most intelligent mobile experience yet. Experience the epic in everyday life like never before.

all-new mobile experience powered by AI. The event will be streamed On January 17, Samsung live on Samsung.com, Samsung Newsroom India, and Samsung's You-Tube channel beginning at 11.30 p.m. IST.

latest premium Galaxy innovations, providing an Stay tuned at News.samsung.com/india for all the upcoming teasers, trailers and news about Galaxy Unpacked 2024.

Samsung Opens Pre-Reserve for the **Next Galaxy Smartphone in India**

Pune (Voice news service):- Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, announced the pre-reserve of its next flagship Galaxy smartphone, which will be unveiled later this month. Pre-reserved customers will be eligible for early access and special offers on

purchasing the new Galbenefit worth INR 5000. axv devices. Since the introduction of Customers can pre-rethe first Galaxy flagship, serve the flagship Galaxy Samsung has been condevices by paying a token tinuously enhancing and amount of INR 2000 on innovating the flagship Samsung.com, Samsung experience for the consumers. With the next Exclusive stores, Amazon. in and leading retail outlets generation of the flagship, across India. Consumers offering enhanced devices

ous R&D and investment, Samsung aims to further drive the latest era of Galaxy innovation and consolidate its position as the industry leader.

Samsung will unveil its next generation of flagship devices at Galaxy Unpacked on January 17 in San Jose, California.

Anupam Kaura joins Kotak Mahindra Bank as its Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) business priorities such as leadership position in the to be a tech-enabled, cus-

Pune (Voice news service):- Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited ("KM-BL"/"Kotak") today announced the appointment of Anupam Kaura as Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) to spearhead organisational transformation, in the journey of 'accelerating change' at Kotak.

Anupam joins Kotak from CRISIL Ltd. London. UK where as Global Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) and overseeing Corporate Administration was responsible for various crucial aspects such as Talent Strategy, Performance and Rewards, Learning and Development (L&D), Culture Transformation, and overall organizational transformation efforts. In the past year, Kotak has made global hires for key

technology, customer experience and product. Anupam brings with him over 25 years of relevant experience in leadership roles across Indian and global banking and fi-

nance companies. He has an extensive background in strategic HR leadership, business partnering, compensation & benefits management, Boards and HR consulting. Anupam specialises in driving change agendas and transformative initiatives in large organisations.

At CRISIL Ltd. Anupam played a pivotal role in the rejuvenation and enhancement of the teams within the organisation, equipping them with the necessary skills to adapt to technological and digital disruptions.

acquisition of a fintech startup, overseeing the acquisitions and integration processes for companies based in the India, United States, United Kingdom, and Australia. Prior to CRI-SIL, he has held key HR roles in reputed organisa-

> tions such as IDFC Bank, Citi, AXA, and PWC where he managed diverse functions and led significant initiatives. Shanti Fkambaram Whole time Director, Ko-

tak Mahindra Bank said "We welcome Anupam to the Kotak family. Anupam has a unique blend of experience in strategic HR

leadership, change manadement, and technology integration. We believe his rich experience in leading large transformative initiatives

Additionally, he took on a align with Kotak's vision stitution for the future ". Anupam Kaura, President & Chief Human Resource Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank, said, "The Indian banking and finance sector is at an inflexion point of opportunities and growth and I am excited to partner with one of the most reputed and trusted brands that is transforming itself with technology, customer-centricity and talent at its core. I look forward to join the remarkable team at Kotak Mahindra Bank and contribute to its trans-

tomer centric financial in-

formation." Anupam has a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Delhi University and a Masters in Personnel Management & Industrial Relations from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS).a

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Announces **Additional Organisational Changes**

Pune (Voice news service):- Building on the recent developments, Tovota Kirloskar Motor (TKM), announced further senior management ele-

vations. Effective 1st January 2024, the following changes have been executed in support of TKM's business expansion plan in the country. - Mr. B. Padmanabha has

been assigned as Exec-

utive Vice President of Manufacturing Function. He will oversee production and related functions at the two plants.

who pre-reserve will get

- Mr. G. Shankara, Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resource Officer has been appointed as the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration. He will oversee functions including HR, financial and operational strategies.

Furthermore, Mr. Vikram Gulati will continue to function as Country Head and Executive Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Governance

Mr Gulati will oversee policy related matters aligned to national goals, External Communication including Public Relations and Corporate Governance. Mr. Yoshinori Noritake will hold the position of Executive Vice President for Technical and Purchase and Chief Technical Officer, looking after all technical and purchase related matters.

These developments are focussed on creating efficiencies, flexibility, future readiness and is aimed at driving long-term synergies between corporate goals and business expansion plans in order to fortify the company's operations in India.

folio.'

Škoda Auto India registers sales of over 1,00,000 cars across two years

Pune (Voice news service):- Škoda Auto India has maintained its sales momentum and reached an important milestone of selling over 1,00,000 cars over the last two years

This is a strong testament to its India-centric product strategy, which saw the launch of two world-class products. tailor-made for the Indian market - Kushaq and Slavia. instrumental in the achieve-



Both these models have been by continuous enhancements istered sales of 48,755 in the across our product range, year.

istered sales of 53,721 cars.

While the record was set on

the fresh launches of the

Kushag and Slavia across Q3

2021 and Q1 2022, the year

2023 has seen the company

further strengthen their prod-

ucts with the Kodiaq also

registering a jump of 100%

over 2022, and recording an

of the existing dealer partners have expanded their footprint with the brand, and share the company's vison of providing an unmatched sales and service experience to customers across the country

Safety: The year 2023 has further established Škoda Auto India on the safety front. October 2022 saw the Kushag become the first product to be crash-tested under Global NCAP's newer, stricter test protocols and earn a

vice):- Kinetic Green Energy and Power Solutions Limited, a leading manufacturer of electric two and three-wheelers in India, announced the recent appointment of Mr. S. Sundareswaran as the Director of Manufacturing & Operations.

With over three decades of experience in the automotive and auto component industries, Mr. Sundareswaran brings a wealth of expertise and a proven track record of success in leading manufacturing, operations and strate-

aic sourcing teams

Kinetic Green Appoints S. Sundareswaran as Director of Manufacturing & Operations Pune (Voice news ser-

and manufacturing engineering activities. Additionally, he will play a pivotal role in ensuring the implementation of manufacturing capacity augmentation strategies and instill advanced processes aligned with business objectives, focusing on price, guality and delivery targets.

Mr. Sundareswaran's distinguished career includes senior positions at renowned companies such as Ashok Leyland Ltd., Switch Mobility Automotive Ltd. and TAFE Ltd. He holds a Post Graduate degree in Senior Leader-

previously headed the successful creation of an electric vehicle plant capable of manufacturing 3000 chassis annually, complete with a 1000 MW Lithium ION battery manufacturing and charging facilities. Notably, he has demonstrated success in launching four new EV products. Expressing her delight, Su-

lajja Firodia Motwani, Founder and CEO of Kinetic Green, said. "I am excited to welcome Mr. S. Sundareswaran to Kinetic Green. Sundareswaran is a proven leader with a deep understanding ship from XLRI, Jamshedpur, of the manufacturing, quality and sourcing excellence process. We are confident that his expertise and leadership will be instrumental in driving our growth, help create advanced, high quality yet affordable EVs and spur innovation as we continue to expand our EV product port-

and environmentally friendly

solution. This initiative is a

significant stride towards our

commitment to innovation

and sustainability, and it un-

derscores our dedication to a

greener, more sustainable fu-

ture. We are excited about the

possibilities this partnership

opens up and are committed

to leading the charge in the

evolution of electric mobility."

EKA Mobility shall be re-

sponsible for supply, sales,

and service of these buses.

along with delivering quality

certification reports to ensure

the highest standards in this

collaborative endeavor. The

supply of 1000 electric buses

are expected to have a large

and positive impact on our

environment. The associated

figures illustrate the potential

benefits, estimating annual

fuel cost savings of Rs 70

crores and the avoidance of

Mr. Sundareswaran also shared his enthusiasm about joining Kinetic Green, stating, "I am thrilled to embark on this exciting journey with Kinetic Green at a pivotal juncture in the company's growth. Kinetic Green stands as a leader in the electric vehicle industry and I am honoured to take on the role of Director Manufacturing & Operations. My commitment is to lead a team of highly skilled and dedicated professionals towards achieving operational excellence and fostering innovation Together with the talented team at Kinetic Green. I am confident that we will continue to set new benchmarks in the EV industry, driving not only operational success but also making meaningful strides towards a greener and more sustainable future."

ment of these volumes, which previously took the company more than six years to reach. The year 2022 was a record-breaking one for Škoda Auto India, following the two big launches of Kushag and Slavia. In 2023, the momentum was slightly hampered by supply issues and related constraints. While working towards a full recovery, Škoda achieved sales of 48,755 units in the period from January 1 to December 31, 2023. Speaking on the sales performance. Petr Janeba. Brand Director, Škoda Auto India. said, "It was extremely important for us to maintain our momentum through 2023 after the record-high of 2022. Our efforts in 2023 focussed on consolidating our position widening our network and improving the quality in sales and after-sales for more satisfied customers, connected through our Human Touch philosophy to cater to all our customer's needs.

Despite the supply challenges in the first half of the year, we have ensured that we ended the last quarter of 2023 on a positive note. For 2024, we have a mix

all-time high annual sales volof exciting product actions ume. India continues to be a on the existing range, new key market for Škoda Auto, product announcements. furand one of the largest marthering our growth through kets outside Europe. exports and expanding our Network and customers: network. And we will continue From 120 customer touchpoints in the beginning of with our laser-sharp focus on 2021 Škoda Auto India has customer delight, as we welcome new customers into the grown closer to its customers Škoda family." with 260 touchpoints at the

full 5-stars for adult and child This follows the record year of 2022 where the company regsafety.

The trend continued in 2023, with the Slavia achieving the same feat in April. With the Kodiag already having earned 5-stars in Euro NCAP, Škoda Auto India now has a complete fleet of safety-tested cars scoring a full 5-stars for adult and child occupants.

The year ahead: Škoda Auto India has already been exporting India-made cars to the GCC and other right hand drive markets. For 2024. products, parts and components from the company's Pune plant will play a vital role in the entry of Škoda Auto to Vietnam. The company has a slew of product actions and new product announcements on the anvil.

In his new role, Mr. Sundareswaran will spearhead the direction and monitoring of plant performance to support the organization's objectives. His responsibilities will encompass leadership in production, quality assurance,

supply chain management

a Masters in Science (M.S) from BITS, Pilani, an MBA (Finance) from IGNOU and a B.Tech. from the Indian Institute of Industrial Engineering. Recognized for his ability to cultivate robust relationships with customers and suppliers, Mr. Sundareswaran has

EKA Mobility & GreenCell Mobility sign MoU to roll out 1000 electric buses which is equivalent to growing

Pune (Voice news service):- EKA Mobility, a leading electric vehicles & technology company (with Mitsui Co., Ltd. & VDL Groep as equity partners), and GreenCell Mobility, a leading player in the electric mass mobility space, announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Under this collaboration, EKA Mobility will supply GreenCell Mobility with 1000 intercity electric buses in 12-meter and 13.5-meter category, in the next few years. EKA Mobility and GreenCell Mobility are committed to working closely together to drive positive change in the global automobile sector by producing industry leading electric buses to transform public transportation. Dr. Sudhir Mehta. Founder & Chairman of EKA Mobility, emphasized the strategic synergy, saying, "Our collaboration with GreenCell Mobility is strategically positioned to usher in a cleaner, more sustainable future through electric mass transportation. Public transportation, especially the intercity bus transportation is the primary mode of transport for more than 50% of Indians. Electrification of

streets, more efficient, conve-

nient, safer, and cost-effec-



are committed to developing sustainable, environmentally conscious, and profitable products. By combining our expertise, we hope to set new standards in the commercial electric mobility, contributing considerably to the nation's sustainability objectives."

In response to the MoU signing, Mr. Devndra Chawla, MD & CEO of GreenCell Mobility, commented, "We are delighted to announce our collaboration with EKA Mobility, a leader in the electric vehicle domain. This partnership not only strengthens our position in the market but also significantly aligns with our longterm vision for sustainable mobility. At GreenCell mobility as market leaders, we are setting a new benchmark in the industry. Our combined efforts are poised to transform public transportation, offering a cleaner, more efficient,

15 lakh trees. Furthermore, an estimated 6 lakh individuals will benefit every day from an improved and sustainable public transit infrastructure. Overall, this initiative is expected to result in a projected saving of 32400 Tonnes of CO2 emissions, greatly contributing to the reduction of tailpipe emissions and building a cleaner, more sustainable future.

EKA Mobility is one of the commercial vehicle manufacturers approved under the Champion OEM Scheme & EV component manufacturing scheme of the Government of India's Auto PLI policy. EKA is one of the only Indian companies offering end-to-end design, manufacturing & technology of electric new energy commercial vehicles from scratch in India. The company has set up a state-of-the-art research, development, engineering & innovation center in Pune, Maharashtra, and has significantly grown its order book, with more than 700 electric buses and 5000+ electric light commercial vehicle orders in the pipeline. All these vehicles will be completely designed & manufactured in India, at EKA's proposed & existing state-ofthe-art manufacturing facilities in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Sales: Škoda Auto India regend of 2023. A large number SIMPLILEARN AND PURDUE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATE THEIR

TENTH CONVOCATION, HONORING OVER 600 GRADUATES

Pune (Voice news ser-Simplilearn, the vice):world's #1 online boot camp for digital economy skills training, hosted its 10th convocation ceremony along with Purdue University for over 600 post-graduates.

Gracing the event with their presence were Professor Dimitrios Peroulis, Senior Vice President for Purdue University Online, and Mr. Kashyap Dalal, Cofounder and Chief Operating Officer, Simplilearn as the Guest of Honour.

The convocation ceremony was held to felicitate the meritorious students on their graduation. It was a joint celebration by Purdue University and Simplilearn on the successful completion of the various post-graduate programs of learners in the following categories: Post Graduate Program in Business Analysisl Post Graduate Program in Digital Marketing

Post Graduate Program in Digital Transformation |Post Graduate Program in Digital Supply Chain Management Post Graduate Program in Data Analytics | Post Graduate Program in Data Engineering Post Graduate Program in Al and Machine Learning| Post Graduate Program in Data Science

The convocation ceremony was filled with enthusiastic students full of energy and excitement. Congratulating the post-grad-

uates at the ceremony, Mr. Kashvap Dalal, Cofounder and Chief Operating Officer, of Simplilearn, said, "I am delighted to join in this convocation, surrounded by individuals who are passionately pursuing their academic and professional goals. Witnessing the successful academic journeys of our learners brings me immense joy, and I extend heartfelt congratulations to all who have completed their

postgraduate programs. On behalf of Simplilearn, I applaud your steadfast dedication and achievements. As you embark on your future endeavors, I encourage you to foster curiosity, embrace innovation, and aim to create a significant impact wherever your journey takes you. Remember, it is the perfect time to upskill, and those who take

charge of their careers are poised to reap the benefits of continuous learning and arowth."

A learner from the Post Graduate Program in Data Science, Ms. Malathi Govind shared, "The Simplilearn Post Graduate Program in Data Science was meticulously crafted and thoughtfully tailored to accommodate the schedules of working professionals like myself. The curriculum and content were both informative and engaging, and the culminating

inforced the concepts we had covered in class. The instructors were knowledgeable and demonstrated exceptional patience in explaining intricate concepts."

Another learner from the Post Graduate Program in AI & Machine Learning, Mr. Shady Saeed expressed, "Artificial Intelligence for me is much more than just a business tool

It had this mystical and philosophical nature and the Purdue - Simplilearn PG AI/ML course was very engaging. For someone who left programming in the '90s it was a bit hard in the beginning but with all the examples and the support of the faculty, have started to get along and eventually was able to complete projects and even move to elective courses. I would say this course was worth all the effort and an exciting Journey through the world of "Learning.'

public transportation will pave the way for cleaner air, quieter

projects in each module re-120 lakh gallons of diesel, tive travel for all. At EKA, we timesofpowerandvoice@gmail.com Web Site : WWW.timesofpowerandvoice.com Youtube & Facebook Social Media - Power Of Voice / POV News For More Information MOb: 9970340508