



Samsung to Launch New Foldables on July 9 in New York

Pune (Voice news service):- For years, Samsung has designed its devices around what people truly need, such as better performance, sharper cameras and smarter ways to stay connected. And, with Galaxy AI, it goes beyond what devices can do — it's about how people interact with them. As AI rapidly becomes the new user interface, it's redefining our relationship with technology. No longer just a collection of apps and tools, the smartphone is evolving into a smart companion that understands user intent and

responds in real time. This transformation moves us from reaction to anticipation — where, as AI becomes the UI, intent becomes instant. The next-generation Galaxy devices are being reimagined around a new AI-powered interface, supported by breakthrough hardware built to unlock their full potential. This future is already unfolding, and the best of Galaxy AI and Samsung craftsmanship is about to be unveiled. On July 9, Samsung Electronics will host Galaxy Unpacked in Brooklyn, New York to launch its next foldables.

“Impact of Upskilling on Performance Appraisals”

Pune: As India's workforce redefines its approach to career growth, a new study by Team-Lease Edtech reveals that a significant majority of professionals are taking charge of their learning journeys. The report ‘Impact of Upskilling on Performance Appraisals’ highlights that only 23.9% of employers offered full sponsorship for upskilling, while 46% of professionals chose to self-fund their most recent learning initiatives. Based on responses from over 14,000+ employees across functions like technology, finance, sales, operations, and human resources, the report brings to light the evolving expectations around performance, learning, and advancement. An overwhelm-

ing 84% of professionals reported engaging in some form of upskilling over the past year, driven by long-term career planning and a desire for future readiness. Shantanu Rojo, Founder and CEO, TeamLease Edtech, stated, “This study makes one thing very clear. The professionals who take initiative, especially those who invest in their learning, stand to gain not just skills but also recognition, responsibility, and real career momentum. For organizations, this is a wake-up call to invest more strategically in structured upskilling paths that align with performance cycles. For employees, they need to act now, learn smart, and think long-term.”

Management Graduates to Be ‘Duty-Prone Citizens’ and Nation-Builders for an ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’, Jharkhand Governor Gangwar

PIBM Pune Celebrates 15th Convocation at Pirangut Campus

Pune: The Pune Institute of Business Management (PIBM) celebrated its 15th convocation ceremony for the 2022-24 batches today at its Pirangut campus, marking a significant milestone for the graduating class. The event was distinguished by the presence of notable guests, including Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Governor of Jharkhand; Rekha Sharma, Rajya Sabha MP and former Chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW); Arvind Goel, Chairman of Tata Autocomp Systems Ltd.; Sandeep Varganti, CEO, Reliance GeoMart; and Neeraj Dhawan, Managing Director of Tata Motors Finance. In the afternoon session, Sandip Singh Gill, Superintendent of Police, Pune Rural, Adv. SK Jain, Senior Advocate, Mr. Vinayak Pai (MD and CEO, Tata Projects), Mr. Arindam Banerjee, Executive VP & Country Head, State Street, Hon. Shri. Subhas Sarkar (Former Minister of State for Education of India) was felicitated and gave guidance to the students. Jharkhand Governor Santosh Kumar Gangwar addressed the graduating class, urging them to embrace their roles as “duty-prone citizens” and actively contribute to nation-building for the vision of an “Aatmanirbhar Bharat” (self-reliant India). He emphasized that the true value of their degrees extended beyond personal achieve-



ment, highlighting the importance of sensitivity towards others and a willingness to uplift those in need. Governor Gangwar asserted that PIBM had set a benchmark, and the certificates represented an undertaking to strengthen society. He encouraged graduates to maintain clear thinking and make decisions that positively influence others, seeing their strengths as the future of the nation. He commended PIBM for its robust corporate connections. Echoing the theme of national development, the Governor underscored Prime Minister Modi's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, emphasizing that the focus should be on the nation's future, not solely individual success. Raman Preet, Chairman & Executive Director of PIBM Group of Institutes, extended a warm welcome to the dignitaries and the graduating students. He reflected on PIBM's journey since its establishment in 2007, reiterating the institution's commitment to bridging the gap between academia and the corporate

world, thereby nurturing future leaders. During his address, Mr. Preet announced, “Soon, PIBM is going to be a Digital University, and we are working tirelessly towards this aim to make it a world-class university.” He further advised students to “think big to achieve big,” aiming for them to be among the “3 percent of students who have vision and others follow them.” He underscored the importance of risk-taking ability and moving beyond one's comfort zone as keys to success, concluding with best wishes for the graduates' future endeavors. Arvind Goel, Chairman of Tata Autocomp Systems Ltd., delivered a compelling address, urging graduates to embed ethical practices at the core of their professional lives. He particularly highlighted the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI). “Our job is to navigate the opportunities in AI. It is time to accept this next big trend. It's going to make a massive disruption in the world [and] is going to come much faster,”

Goel stated. He reassured the graduates that while AI would bring significant changes, it would integrate digitisation into work processes rather than diminishing job markets. Goel cited examples like “robo doctors” and “robo lawyers” as potential benefits for India, stressing the critical need for continuous learning and adaptation to new trends as a hallmark of true leadership. Rekha Sharma, Rajya Sabha MP, lauded Prime Minister Modi's initiatives aimed at empowering students. She emphasized the importance of time management and maintaining a work-life balance, advising graduates to dedicate time to their families. Sharma encouraged persistence in the face of setbacks and urged them to “dream big,” aspiring to become job creators rather than mere job seekers, aligning with the government's support for startups. She also mentioned “Mission Karmyogi” as an avenue for civic service. Acknowledging AI's disruptive nature, she shared her personal use of AI in research and called for the emergence of human-centric leadership. Sharma also highlighted the increasing role of women in management and corporate sectors, stressing the significance of integrity as a personal asset and urging students to contribute to the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India).

Hyundai Motor India Limited announces Nationwide Monsoon Service Camp

Pune (Voice news service):- Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) today announced a special monsoon camp with exclusive service and discounts across all Hyundai workshops in India. The Monsoon camp aims to educate the customers about the importance of preventive maintenance during the Monsoon season while offering exclusive benefits and discount offers to enhance vehicle performance and ensure safer driving in the rain. As part of this initiative, HMIL is offering a comprehensive 70-point vehicle health check-up, including detailed inspection of brakes, front & rear lights, tyres, wipers, battery, electrical systems and underbody components, all critical for safe and reliable driving during monsoon conditions. Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Tarun Garg, Whole-Time Director & Chief Operating Officer, Hyundai Motor India Limited, said, “At HMIL, we are committed to deliver impec-

cable driving experience through thoughtful and proactive customer care. The Monsoon Service Camp is designed to offer complete peace of mind to customers by ensuring their vehicles are ready for the rainy season. We urge all Hyundai owners to take advantage of this initiative and drive safe and worry-free this rainy season.” Customers can avail special offers on services during the monsoon camp: 70-point vehicle health check-up including brakes & electrical system, suspension etc. Upto 35% discount on Extended Warranty. 15% discount on: Mechanical labour - Periodic Maintenance Service Interior & Exterior beautification Underbody (anti rust) coating. 10% discount on selected wear & tear parts like Brake pad, clutch & suspension 10% discount on Head Lamp, Tail lamp, Indicator, Bulb, Wiper Blade 10% discount on labour of Cowl Panel Cleaning & Sunroof lubrication

IFCCI and Hager Group Launch Transformative School Adoption CSR Initiative in Maharashtra



Pune: Hager Electro Private Limited, — in collaboration with The Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI), has officially launched one of its most impactful Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives to date—the School Adoption Project—at Hari Udhav Dhore Madhyamik Vidyalaya, located in Phulgaon, Pune, Maharashtra. Serving over 700 students and 20 staff members, this initiative is aimed at transforming the educational landscape of underserved communities by improving infrastructure, promoting hygiene, and enhancing the overall quality of learning environments. As part of the project, Hager Group has committed to refurbishing school facilities and constructing new sanitation blocks to ensure a healthy,

clean, and inclusive atmosphere for students and faculty alike. The broader goal is to create a physical and emotional environment conducive to learning and personal development. The scope of this CSR initiative goes beyond infrastructure enhancement. It focuses on holistic development, including the introduction of modern teaching aids, access to learning resources, and initiatives to address health and hygiene. It also aims to foster strong community engagement by involving parents, local authorities, and grassroots stakeholders to build a truly sustainable educational ecosystem. This project reflects the shared vision of IFCCI and Hager—to create long-term social impact through meaningful partnerships and re-

sponsible business practices. Mr. Atulya Chandra, Managing Director, Hager Electro Private Limited, said: “At Hager, we believe in the power of education as a catalyst for social transformation. This school adoption initiative reflects our dedication to building a more equitable and sustainable future by investing in the potential of our youth. This initiative in partnership with IFCCI underscores Hager's broader vision of responsible corporate citizenship and its unwavering commitment to contributing meaningfully to the communities it serves.” “Driven by our belief in responsible growth, Hager is proud to support meaningful change beyond the business sphere. Through this collaboration with IFCCI, we are channelling our resources towards building safe, clean, and inspiring learning environments. Empowering students with access to quality infrastructure and holistic support is our way of contributing to a brighter, more equitable future. This initiative reflects our core belief that every child deserves the right environment to grow, learn, and thrive,” commented Mr. Amol Pujari, Director Human Resources, Hager Electro Private Limited. “As part of Hager's ongoing

commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), we are proud to support the enhancement of educational infrastructure by contributing to the refurbishment of school facilities and the construction of new sanitation blocks. This initiative aims to create a more conducive and hygienic learning environment for students, particularly in underserved communities. We believe that every child deserves access to quality education in a safe and supportive setting, and we are honoured to contribute to this meaningful cause,” Mr. Narendra Gundeli, Head Finance and Accounts, Hager Electro Private Limited, said on this occasion. Ms. Payal S. Kanwar, Director General, IFCCI, said: “We are proud to partner with Hager Group on this meaningful initiative that strengthens the foundation of education in India's underserved communities. The School Adoption Project is not just about infrastructure—it's about investing in dignity, opportunity, and the future of every child who walks into these schools. At IFCCI, we believe in leveraging our CSR partnerships to create scalable, sustainable impact, and this project is a testament to that vision.”

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow: Inspiring Young Innovators in Maharashtra and Gujarat

Pune (Voice news service):- From the dynamic classrooms of Pune to the imaginative spaces of Kolhapur and the inquisitive minds of Vadodara, the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow roadshows have sparked a surge of creativity and purpose across Maharashtra and Gujarat. Launched on April 29, 2025, Samsung Solve for Tomorrow is a pan-India competition that empowers students with tools, mentorship, and resources to address real-world challenges through technology. With guidance from Samsung leaders, IIT Delhi faculty, and support for prototyping, the programme awards INR 1 crore to the top four teams. However, its true essence lies in motivating young minds to dream ambitiously and act decisively. Recent roadshows at DPS



School and Munsukhbhai Kothari School in Pune, SPSMBH College of Architecture and NIT Sabhagruh in Kolhapur, and New Era School and Anand Vidya Vihar School in Vadodara highlighted the programme's transformative influence. In Pune, Aakash, a class 11 student, arrived with a vague concept but left with a clear vision for sustainable packaging. “Samsung Solve for Tomorrow showed me I can turn this idea into reality,” he expressed.

In Vadodara, Rohan from Anand Vidya Vihar designed wireframes for a mobile app aimed at making education accessible for remote learners. “I want to ensure children like my cousin aren't left behind,” he shared. In Kolhapur, architecture student Ishan found inspiration in leveraging technology to revive local crafts. “It's about connecting the past with the future,” he explained. Throughout the sessions,

students proposed innovative solutions — from smart agriculture tools to mental health platforms and affordable solar innovations. What united them was a shared commitment to driving change and a belief in their potential. “These ideas are driven by empathy,” remarked a teacher at the Pune event. “They're creating solutions to help others, not for recognition.” The roadshows introduced design thinking, encouraging students to question, empathise, define, and prototype. It was about understanding the ‘why’ behind the ‘what’. As Samsung Solve for Tomorrow continues to grow, its impact is evident: it's not just fostering innovation but shaping a future where classroom ideas can transform the world.

Force Motors partners with Zoho to power end-to-end digital transformation across its dealer networks

Pune: Force Motors Limited, a key automotive player and India's largest van manufacturer, has announced a strategic partnership with Zoho Corporation to upgrade its customer experience and dealer management systems. This collaboration marks a major milestone in Project DigiForce, Force Motors' digital transformation program aimed at driving innovation, improving productivity and enhancing customer satisfaction through class-leading technologies across the value chain. As part of this initiative, Zoho's Advanced Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and Dealer Management System (DMS), along with a suite of 12 AI-powered front-office applications, will be deployed across Force Motors' nationwide network. This integrated, cloud-based solution will replace legacy systems, bringing in cutting-edge capabilities to modernize marketing, sales, service, customer engagement, and internal collaboration. By streamlining dealer operations and creating a unified platform for teams, dealers, and customers, the new solution is set to significantly elevate the overall customer experience at every



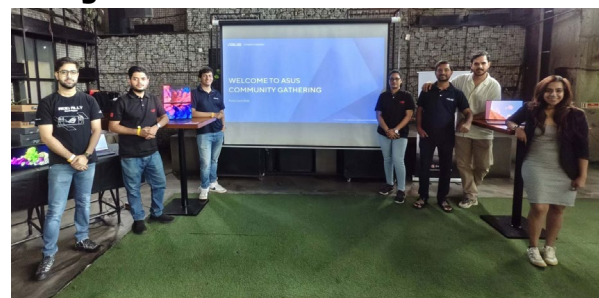
stage of engagement. Force Motors operates a vast network of over 200 dealerships, 70 authorized service centers, and 30 parts centers across India, supported by international distributors in more than 25 countries. The new CRM-DMS solution will enable these dealer and distributor partners to operate more efficiently by enhancing sales and service productivity, improving customer satisfaction across every touchpoint and supporting more professional, data-driven business operations. Talking about the strategic significance of this partnership, Mr. Prasan Firodia, Managing Director, Force Motors said, “Through Project DigiForce and our partnership with Zoho, we are aiming for a significant

transformation in the way we deliver customer experience. The technology solutions from Zoho will also enhance the capabilities of our dealers and distribution partners in India as well as in our global markets. Our collaboration with Zoho, a global technology leader rooted in India, aligns perfectly with Force Motors' commitment to advocate innovation and technology development in India.” “Force Motors has long been a symbol of indigenous engineering excellence, backed by a strong nationwide dealer network and a growing global footprint. With Project DigiForce, they are complementing that legacy with a forward-looking digital vision to transform customer engagement across the entire lifecycle—from discov-

ery and purchase to service, support, and ownership. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to reimagining customer experience as a strategic driver of growth. Together, we are building a connected ecosystem where technology simplifies operations, strengthens collaboration, and delivers contextual, intelligent engagement at every touchpoint,” said Mani Vembu, CEO, Zoho. “We are thrilled to partner with Force Motors on their digital transformation journey. The Zoho platform brings modularity, vertical depth, and agility to the core of this evolution. It is a collaboration we deeply value as Force Motors enters its next phase of growth,” he further added. This strategic initiative reinforces Force Motors' commitment to delivering exceptional customer experiences while equipping its dealer network with future-ready tools to drive growth and efficiency. With this collaboration, Force Motors takes a significant step forward in its digital transformation journey, setting a new benchmark for technology adoption in the Indian automotive sector.

ASUS Scales Community Engagement with Second City Chapter of ‘Beyond Incredible with ASUS’ in Pune

Pune: ASUS, the Taiwanese tech giant, hosted the second chapter of its flagship community initiative, ‘Beyond Incredible with ASUS’, in Pune. Bringing the gaming community together with a power-packed Community Meet-up at Antisocial, Pune, the day-long interactive session saw a wave of attendees interacting with the brand and its latest innovative offerings. Building on the enthusiastic response to its previous chapter, ASUS plans to take this initiative to more cities, creating a vibrant, hands-on platform for real-time immersive product experiences, feedback exchange, and community-building. The Pune edition gave attendees a chance to dive deep in the latest innovations by ASUS, including the powerhouse ROG Zephyrus G14, the most sought-after ROG Flow Z13, the newly launched Vivobook 14 Flip, and the Snapdragon-powered Zenbook A14



amongst others. The event delivered a high-energy experience featuring live gaming battles, exclusive product demos, creator sessions, and interactive engagement with the creators. Gamers and creators alike enjoyed hands-on access to the latest ROG laptops and accessories powered by cutting-edge tech designed for pro-level gameplay, streaming, and content creation. Addressing the event, Mr. Arnold Su, Vice President, Consumer and Gaming PC, ASUS India, said, “With ‘Beyond Incredible with ASUS’,

our mission is clear to cultivate genuine and meaningful tech-conversations across our community. This initiative is all about listening to the people's aspirations and expectations, so we can develop products that don't just meet the needs of today but also resonate with today's ever-evolving lifestyle. At ASUS, we see our community not just as customers but as collaborators, and with this initiative, we aim to get closer to the people who continuously shape our brand journey.” Building on the success of the inaugural ‘Beyond Incredible

with ASUS’ community meet held in Bangalore, ASUS brought the second edition of the initiative to Pune. The first-of-its-kind engagement platform, which debuted in Bangalore with over 85+ attendees comprising community members, creators, and regional media, set the tone for a deeper connection with the ASUS ecosystem. The Pune edition further strengthened this vision by bringing together the local community to experience ASUS' latest innovations, participate in knowledge-led sessions, and engage meaningfully with the brand. ASUS plans to further strengthen its community with plans to roll out editions of ‘Beyond Incredible with ASUS’ in other metro cities throughout 2025. The initiatives are designed to offer customized experiences, collaborative platforms, and early access to ASUS innovations, fostering and nurturing an engaged and empowered tech community.

Get Ready to Capture: OnePlus Nord 5 Packs Dual 50MP Sensors and a Stunning Ultra-Wide Camera

Pune: OnePlus, a leading global technology brand, recently announced the OnePlus Nord 5 and the OnePlus Nord CE5. The new OnePlus Nord 5 brings significant performance enhancements and elevates the imaging capabilities to meet the evolving demands of today's smartphone users. Building on OnePlus's legacy

of innovative camera technology, the OnePlus Nord 5 comes equipped with a 50 + 50 MP camera along with flagship-grade camera sensors on both the front and back, ensuring stunning details and lifelike colours in every shot, no matter the lighting conditions. **Flagship-grade Imaging System for Every Moment:** The OnePlus

Nord 5 introduces a dual 50MP Ultra-Clear camera system on both the front and rear. The rear camera boasts the advanced LYT-700 sensor, previously exclusive to the flagship OnePlus 13 series, bringing flagship-level imaging to the Nord lineup. Leveraging the OnePlus 13's HDR algorithm, the OnePlus Nord 5 ensures lifelike color reproduction and exceptional de-



tail retention, even in low-lighting conditions. Calibrated for precision, the OnePlus Nord 5 also excels in portrait and group photography.



A Confluence of Poetry, Languages & Words in Pune



Pune (Voice news service):- The Poetry Cosmos, Pune's vibrant poetry collective, is proud to announce Adabi Darbaar, a unique mul-

tilingual poetry gathering celebrating the rich diversity of languages and artistic expressions. The event is scheduled for 5th July 2025 (Saturday) from 5 PM to 7 PM at Innishari Studio, Vishal Nagar, Pune. Entry is free. Adabi Darbaar is not just a poetry event, it is a heart-felt confluence where Urdu, Hindi, Marathi, and English seamlessly intertwine, creating a shared space for literature, languages, and soulful reflections. It promises to be an evening where words transcend boundaries, and languages become bridges

instead of borders. The carefully curated lineup features passionate poets from diverse linguistic backgrounds: Anand Singh (Urdu), Rashmi Mardi (Marathi), Saad Ahmed (English), Arohi Shrivastava (Hindi), Jawwad Sayyed (Urdu), Shounak Kulkarni (Marathi), Kamlesh Biswas (Urdu), Sonali Rasal (English), Satyam Shrivastava (Hindi). These poets will bring their unique voices to the darbar, offering poems that speak of love, longing, identity, and the shared human experience. "Let's come together where languages don't divide,

they dissolve. Where words from different worlds sit next to each other and feel like home." - The Poetry Cosmos. The event will be held at Innishari Studio, a cozy and artistic space known for supporting local art and culture. With free entry, the event invites poetry lovers, language enthusiasts, and curious hearts to experience the beauty of words beyond linguistic confines. Event Details: Date: 5th July 2025 (Saturday), Time: 5 PM to 7 PM, Venue: Innishari Studio, 405, Water's Square, Vishal Nagar, Pune - 41102, Entry: Free

Tree Plantation Is Our Moral Duty: DIG Vaibhav Nimbalkar

Pune: "Trees give us the oxygen we need to live. It is nature's priceless gift. Planting and protecting trees is not just a social responsibility but a moral duty of every individual," said DIG of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Vaibhav Nimbalkar. He was speaking at the conclusion ceremony of a large-scale tree plantation drive held at the CRPF Group Centre in Talegaon Dabhade. The drive was organised by Shree Kalpataru Sansthan in collaboration with Padma Pratishthan and was launched on the occasion of World Environment Day. As part of the initiative, over 5,000 saplings of native species were planted within the campus, with



a pledge taken for their care and conservation. The event was attended by notable personalities, including 'Tree Man of India' Vishnu Lamba, Shree Kalpataru Sansthan; Shashikant Kamble, President of Padma

Pratishthan; Additional Commissioner of Police Pravin Patil; social activist Milind Bhoi; educationist Dr Mahesh Thorve; entrepreneur Vrushali Gosavi; and Mayur Padalwar. Speaking on the occasion,

Shashikant Kamble informed that the campaign was jointly implemented by Shree Kalpataru Sansthan, Padma Pratishthan, Inner Wheel Club, and Nirman Greens. The initiative focused on planting over 5,000 trees belonging to more than 100 indigenous species. Senior IPS officer Pravin Patil lauded the effort and suggested that an environment-focused campaign similar to the ongoing 'Khaki Warriors' initiative in Rajasthan could be launched in collaboration with the Pune Police. A delegation from the foundation is expected to meet Pune Collector Jitendra Dudi soon to explore the possibilities of such a partnership, mentioned Vishnu Lamba.

The Wonder School Hosts Udayan Sammelan, Celebrating a New Generation of Young Changemakers

Pune (Voice news service):- The Wonder School, Pune, in collaboration with Chiranjeev Gurukul, successfully hosted the Annual Udayan Sammelan recently at its campus. This gathering marked the culmination of the six-week Udayan Bhaarat Leadership Bootcamp — an intensive, community-rooted learning journey for students aged 14 to 23, rooted in ancient Indian wisdom and modern leadership tools.



participate in the growing Udayan Movement. Speaking about the event, Anamika Dasgupta, Founder & Principal of The Wonder School, said, "With Udayan Bhaarat, we are building more than a program. We are crafting a new blueprint for education itself. An education that doesn't isolate the learner, but weaves them into the fabric of the community. Co-created by The Wonder School and Chiranjeev Gurukul, Udayan Bhaarat merges eternal wisdom with modern management — and anchors it in a vital third pillar: the larger community. This is how we raise leaders who grow with society, not at its expense." The event also hosted a thought-provoking panel discussion on shifting education from rote learning to real-world leadership. The panel explored why ancient Indian frameworks like Ekatri and Arthashastra are increasingly relevant, and how design thinking and safe, inclusive learning spaces can empower every child - neurodiverse or neurotypical - to discover their purpose and voice. Moiz Attani, Learning and Development Facilitator, said, "When we equip young minds

with the courage to question and the tools to build, we see real transformation. The Udayan Movement brings together shastra and karma — knowledge and action, in a way that empowers learners to design solutions that are as empathetic as they are effective." Saurabh Sharma, Founder, Potters Earth Foundation — a foundation which has incubated and nurtured The Wonder School with its commitment to build meaningful learning ecosystems, said, "In a country with so many young people, we urgently need spaces that build not just skills, but a sense of citizenship. The Udayan Movement helps students step out of their silos and start seeing themselves as contributors to the community. That's the future we must all invest in." The day featured participation from notable guests including Pankaj Mathur, MD of Aster Technologies; Jayesh Shah, Founder of Swatantra Housing; and Praful Chandawarkar, Founder of Malaka Spice and Head of NRI Pune Chapter — each of whom interacted deeply with the young Udayans. Praful Chandawarkar, Head

of NRIAI, Pune, said, "As entrepreneurs, we are constantly looking for ideas. But this movement reminded me that what we also need are idealists — young people who are connected to their roots and willing to solve problems without shortcuts. Mentorship isn't just about giving advice; it's about walking with them." Pankaj Mathur, MD, Aster Technologies said, "The Mittracharya model is one of the most unique aspects of this initiative. It builds an ecosystem where generations listen to one another. I am honoured to be part of a movement where collaboration replaces hierarchy and learning is mutual." Guests also included the Mittracharyas — patrons and mentors who will accompany the Udayans over the coming months. Not just funders or well-wishers, these Mittracharyas are collaborators, walking alongside the students as they take their ideas into the real world. The Sammelan concluded with a symbolic ritual — every guest added a piece to a communal puzzle, reinforcing the belief that this movement belongs to no single person or institution. It is a collective call for families, educators, mentors, and communities to re-imagine learning as a shared journey. "I saw my daughter present with confidence, and I saw a community cheer her on. As a parent, I was deeply moved. This is the kind of education I had always wished for her — one that is not just about marks, but about meaning," said a parent of an Udayan participant.

Race against time: Team work of District Women's Hospital, Amravati and P.B.M.A's H.V. Desai Eye Hospital, Pune helps save vision of 45 day baby girl

Pune: A team work of District Women's Hospital, Amravati and P.B.M.A's H.V. Desai Eye Hospital, Pune helped save the sight of a 45 day old baby girl diagnosed with Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP). A baby weighing 990 grams, who had been undergoing treatment for 45 days at the Special New-born Care Unit (SNCU) of District Women's Hospital, Amravati, was tested for Retinopathy of Prematurity on June 12. The diagnosis triggered a rush to perform eye surgery on the baby, as the surgery needed to be done within just 2 to 3 days. Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) is a serious eye condition in premature babies. This condition is seen in babies born before 34 weeks and weighing less than 2000 grams. If not diagnosed early, it can lead to permanent blindness. If left untreated, the retina separates from the surrounding tissues (retinal detachment). This can cause vision impairment or blindness.

But the medical condition was not the only challenge. Since the child's parents were from a tribal community, their language was not understood by others. Not only were they in poor financial condition, they did not have the documents to qualify for government schemes, but time was of the essence. Considering the seriousness of the situation, Dr. Preeti Ingle, Head of the SNCU Department at Amravati Women's District Hospital, immediately contacted Dr. Sucheta Kulkarni, Medical Director of P.B.M.A's H.V. Desai Eye Hospital, and asked if she would provide free treatment. Dr. Kulkarni immediately agreed and asked to send the child to Pune immediately. However, since the parents' financial situation was very poor, they did not even have money to even buy a travel ticket. The staff of the District Women's Hospital started counselling the father of the baby but he was not ready due to lack of

money. He was saying that his village (Temru, Chikhaldara, Dist. Amravati) was also very far and he did not have money to go back even there. Prakash Khadke of the district administration contacted Dr. Tilottama Wankhede, a senior officer in Melghat, and Dr. Aishwarya Wankhede of the Primary Health Center in Katkumb. They immediately helped financially and transferred an amount of Rs 5000. On June 12, the parents missed the train scheduled for 10.45 pm departure as they were not ready. However, the staffs and administration continued their efforts and arranged for the father of the baby to travel by purchasing a ticket for June 13. They accompanied him to the station and made him sit in the train. On June 14, at 7 am, the father and the baby reached Pune station and there on, Mr. Vishnu from H.V. Desai Eye Hospital arranged for a rickshaw. The baby was operated and on the same day, Mr.

Vishnu accompanied them to the railway station at 6.30 pm. After talking to the T.T, he arranged a proper and a comfortable seat and on return to them. Prakash Khadke of the district administration contacted Dr. Tilottama Wankhede, a senior officer in Melghat, and Dr. Aishwarya Wankhede of the Primary Health Center in Katkumb. They immediately helped financially and transferred an amount of Rs 5000. On June 12, the parents missed the train scheduled for 10.45 pm departure as they were not ready. However, the staffs and administration continued their efforts and arranged for the father of the baby to travel by purchasing a ticket for June 13. They accompanied him to the station and made him sit in the train. On June 14, at 7 am, the father and the baby reached Pune station and there on, Mr. Vishnu from H.V. Desai Eye Hospital arranged for a rickshaw. The baby was operated and on the same day, Mr.

Eagle Nashik Titans soar to clinch MPL title



Pune: Eagle Nasik Titans aced the stiff chase of 191 against Raigad Royals to clinch the title of the Adani Maharashtra Premier League (MPL) by six wickets at the MCA International Stadium here on Sunday. This is Nashik's first title after losing last year's final against Ratnagiri Jets. India U-19

World Cupper Arshin Kulkarni had blown hot and cold this season, but he delivered in the crunch fixture with a scintillating knock of 77 in 53 balls with five fours and four sixes. Along with opener Mandar Bhandari (28, 22b, 3x6s), Kulkarni put on 62 runs in seven overs to give Nashik a brisk opening, despite a brief

rain interruption when Nashik were 44 for no loss after five overs. Kulkarni single-handedly maintained the required run rate until he perished on the fourth ball of the 18th over, bowled by Tanay Sanghavi. Atharva Kale, who was dropped at deep midwicket by Neeraj Joshi on the very next ball, made Nashik pay dearly. Kale was given another life when he was on 10. Kale (23*, 7b, 2x4s, 2x6s) and Ranjit Nikam (31*, 13b, 3x4s, 2x6s) applied the finishing touches as Eagle Nashik Titans overhauled the target with five balls to spare. Earlier, Siddhesh Veer came agonisingly close to his second

hundred of this MPL season with a brilliantly constructed unbeaten innings of 99 (59 balls), laced with 11 fours and four sixes. Veer was ably supported by Harsh Mogaveera (48, 39b, 2x4s, 3x6s) as the duo put on 111 runs for the second wicket after Nashik's left-arm pacer Mukesh Chaudhary (2-42) removed Vicky Ostwal on the first ball of the match. "Brief scores:" Raigad Royals: 190 for 4 in 20 overs (Siddhesh Veer 99*, Harsh Mogaveera 48; Mukesh Chaudhary 2-42) Eagle Nashik Titans: 191 for 4 in 19.1 (Arshin Kulkarni 77, Ranjit Nikam 31*; Tanay Sanghavi 2-31) by six wickets.

Tanvi Sharma, World No. 1 Bhargava-Viswa Tej to Lead India's 19-Member Squad for Asian Junior Badminton C'ships

Pune: Badminton Asia Women's Team gold medalist Tanvi Sharma, Junior World No. 1 men's doubles pair Bhargava Ram Arigela & Viswa Tej Gibburu will spearhead a power-packed 19-member In-

dian squad for the Badminton Asian Junior Championships 2025, Team & Individual, set to be held in Solo, Indonesia from July 18 to 27. With the team event scheduled from July 18-22 and

individual events from July 23-27, the Asian Juniors will serve as a critical benchmark for India's next generation of talent. The championships are also viewed as a key stepping stone toward the BWF

Junior World Championships, which will be held at the state-of-the-art National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati later this year. The full squad will report to a national preparatory camp at NCE Guwahati.

Chhandashree International Diwali Magazine Awards on July 1

Pune: The Chhandashree International Diwali Magazine Awards, instituted in memory of Kamalabai Rasiklal Dharival, will be presented on Tuesday, July 1, in Pune. The awards aim to honour excellence in the publication of Diwali, Christmas, and Ramzan-themed special issues across India and abroad. As part of the initiative, a four-day exhibition of over 300 festive publications will be held from July 1 to 4 at the Art Gallery of Balgandharva Rangmandir, from 11 am to 8 pm daily. The exhibition will be inaugurated at 11 am on July 1 by noted scholar and former Marathi Sahitya Sammelan president Dr Sadanand More, along with Prakashsheth Dharival, Managing Director of Dharival Industries. The award ceremony itself will be held at Ganesh Sabhagruha, Tilak Road, at 5 pm on the same day. It will be attended by actress and academic Dr Nishigandha Wad, Milind Joshi, president of the All India Marathi Sahitya Mahamandal, writer Cecilia Car-



valho, and former Sammelan president Bharat Sasane, according to organiser Dinkar Shiledar of Denmark Publications. Literary figure Madhav Rajguru will also be present. **Diverse entries, global participation** Now in its ninth year, the competition received 234 entries, including two from the United States. In addition to Diwali-themed magazines, this year's entries also include special editions published on the occasion of Christmas and Ramzan. These include Pashihar and Kadaudi, magazines in the Kadaudi language published from Vasai, and Nabz, a Marathi-language publication brought out annually during Ramzan by Minaj Latkar from Pune. Shiledar explained that the inclusion of diverse linguistic

and cultural issues reflects an effort to promote literary expression across festivals. "Kadaudi, a language developed during the Portuguese presence in India 500 years ago, continues to be used among select communities. This year, we've extended the platform to accommodate such unique voices," he said. Plans are underway to include Bengali-language Durga Puja editions in the next edition of the awards. **Focus on literary merit, not religious identity** Shiledar clarified that the selection process and exhibition are not based on religion but on the strength of literary content. "This is an effort to strengthen the reading culture. There is no intention to offend any faith or sentiment, but if anyone feels hurt, I apologise in

advance," he said. He added that the exhibition has been curated with the support of Shrikant Bhutada of Poonam Agencies, and is likely to be the first of its kind in India to feature such a wide cross-section of festival-themed literature. **Award winners** This year, Sakal Media Group's 'Avtaran' and 'Agrowon' have jointly won the top honours for Best Diwali Issue. The Lokmat Group's 'Deepotsav' has been awarded for Best Cover Design, with credit given to renowned illustrator Chandramohan Kulkarni. In total, 42 awards will be presented, including first, second, and consolation prizes. Publications such as Maharashtra Times, Loksatta, and Divya Marathi have also received recognition for their contributions. The event offers Pune's literary audience a rare opportunity to engage with the diversity of festival-centric literature from across the country and beyond — a convergence of tradition, creativity, and contemporary commentary.

Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre Makes History with India's First Bilateral Lung Transplant on a Serving Army Soldier

Pune: A 30-year-old serving Indian Army officer from Jammu & Kashmir, suffering from a rare and life-threatening lung condition, has been given a new lease on life after a successful bilateral lung transplant at Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, Pimpri, Pune. This landmark surgery marks the first successful bilateral lung transplant in India performed on a serving Army soldier, reinforcing DPU's reputation as a centre for critical care excellence and advanced transplant science. The officer was diagnosed with Pulmonary Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis (PLCH), a rare interstitial lung disease that led to progressive respiratory failure. As his condition worsened, he became completely oxygen-dependent and bed-bound. Following his referral from the Cardiothoracic Centre of Command Hospital, Pune, he was evaluated and registered for a transplant at Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, Pimpri, Pune on 20th March 2025. On 14th April 2025, a complex 12-hour surgery was performed. The patient's recovery was remarkable - off oxygen within a week and discharged in just over two weeks, walking unaided and breathing freely. Hon'ble Dr. P. D. Patil, Chancellor, Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Pimpri, Pune, said, "This transplant reflects the strength of our healthcare ecosystem where advanced infrastructure, experienced clinicians and a deeply committed support team come together to make the extraordinary possible. We are proud that Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, could support a serving soldier's journey to recov-

ery with the highest standards of care. My heartfelt gratitude to every individual who played a role - from the transplant and rehabilitation teams to the coordinators, nursing staff and the authorities who made the green corridor possible." Hon'ble Dr. (Mrs.) Bhagyashree P. Patil, Pro-Chancellor, Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Pimpri, Pune, added, "Every life we touch through our hospital is a reflection of our commitment to healing with purpose. Supporting a soldier's recovery through such a complex procedure speaks to the values we hold close - compassion, excellence and service to the nation. To care for someone who has served the country is a privilege we hold with deep respect. Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre stands as a centre of advanced care, where clinical excellence is matched by empathy and national responsibility." Dr. Sandeep Attawar, Lead Transplant Surgeon, DPU Super Specialty Hospital, Pimpri, Pune, said, "PLCH is a rare and complex disease. This transplant required clinical precision, coordination and above all, trust. Seeing the patient recover so rapidly is a result of every unit working in perfect sync." Dr. Rahul Kendre, Transplant Pulmonologist, DPU Super Specialty Hospital, Pimpri, Pune, added, "It was an honour to care for someone who has served the country. His determination, supported by strong teamwork and timely care, made this outcome possible." Dr. Rekha Arcot, Dean, Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, said, "This life-saving lung transplant on a brave, serving officer of the Indian Army is

more than just a medical milestone for us—it is a tribute to the spirit of service and sacrifice. We are deeply honoured to have played a role in giving a soldier a second chance at life. Our team's dedication is driven by a profound respect for those who serve our nation, and this successful transplant is a moment of pride, gratitude and hope for us all." The Intensive Care Unit team, led by Dr. Prashant Sakhwalkar (Intensivist), ensured clinical stability and recovery, with support from Dr. Asir Tamboli, Dr. Swapnil, Dr. Sagar, Dr. Viren and Dr. Amey Sable. Physician Assistants Dr. Sangapriya, Dr. Pratiksha and Dr. Shifa provided daily clinical coordination between departments. Dr. Ranjith Joel and Dr. Ashok managed the patient's rehabilitation and physiotherapy, ensuring full functional recovery. The transplant was equally supported by an expert operations team. In the Operating Theatres, Sijo Rajan, Rijo Kuniakose, Rohini and Wamik facilitated organ retrieval and implantation across dual OT setups. Halimath, Vishal and Suneel managed organ perfusion and ECMO support, while Mr. Bagwat Patil, Bronchoscopic Technician, ensured smooth pre-operative diagnostics. The ICU nursing team - Ganesh Munde, Pooja, Preeti, Nayna, Vaishali, Sonali and Kavita played a central role from pre-operative care to discharge, providing vigilant, compassionate support. Transplant coordination including documentation, ZTCC compliance and clinical matching was expertly managed by Mr. Arun Ashokan and Ms. Vasanthi, who ensured timely execution of every step. Overseeing the full institution-

al framework and ensuring operational readiness was Dr. H. H. Chavan, Medical Superintendent, DPU Super Specialty Hospital, Pimpri, Pune. His guidance and oversight helped align medical, surgical and administrative teams with precision and purpose. The final and most time-sensitive part of this transplant - the transfer of donor lungs was executed with military precision. With approvals from the Zonal Transplant Coordination Centre (ZTCC), facilitated by Ms. Aarti, a green corridor was established for the organ to travel from Dombivli to Pune in under two hours. This mission was led by Mr. Pramod Patil, Administrative Head of DPU Super Specialty Hospital along with Mr. Parthasarathy Shanmugam, Administrative Head, Organ Transplantation and executed with the support of the Traffic Commissioners and the city traffic authorities across districts who ensured swift passage of the organ transport. Thanks to the exceptional teamwork, clinical expertise and visionary leadership at Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, a serving soldier of the Indian Army now breathes freely and looks ahead to life with renewed strength and dignity. The hospital remains steadfast in its mission to advance transplant science and raise nationwide awareness about the life-saving impact of organ donation. Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, Pimpri, Pune has successfully performed over 460 transplants including 32 bilateral lung transplants, 4 combined heart and lung transplants, 4 standalone heart transplants, and 1 combined heart and kidney transplant - reaffirming its position as a leader in the field of organ transplantation

Pune records 11,930 property registrations in May 2025

Pune: Knight Frank India, in its latest report, highlighted that Pune recorded 11,930 property registrations in May 2025, contributing INR 421 crore in stamp duty revenue. Registrations saw a marginal 3% year-on-year (YoY) decline, while stamp duty collections dipped by 4% YoY. On a month-on-month (MoM) basis, registrations and collections fell by 17% and 23%, respectively. This is the lowest volume for of registration since October 2024.

However, from a year-to-date (YTD) perspective (January – May), Pune's property market appears stable, recording its highest property registrations and stamp duty collections for the first five months of the year in the past four years at over 99,300 units. Compared to the same period last year, property registrations rose by 16%, inching towards the 1 lakh mark, while stamp duty collections saw an 20% increase. The share of homes priced above INR 1 crore rose from 14% in May 2024 to 19% in May 2025, highlighting growing interest in premium housing. However, with properties priced up to INR 1 crore still accounting for the overwhelming majority at 81%, the overall demand remains largely anchored in the up to 1 crore

segment, indicating a market that is expanding at the top while staying broad-based at its core.

Shishir Bajjal, Chairman & Managing Director, Knight Frank India, stated, "In May 2025, Pune's residential market recorded a 3% YoY decline in property registrations, primarily due to slower momentum in the INR 1–5 crore price segment. However, on a year-to-date basis, the market remains on a strong footing — registrations rose 16% YoY to 99,339 units, just shy of the 1 lakh mark, while stamp duty collections surged 20% to INR 3,687 crore."

In May 2025, Central Pune—including Haveli Taluka, Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC), and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC)—maintained its lead in residential transactions, accounting for 75% of the market. However, this represented a slight decline from the previous year as emerging developments in other parts of the city catered to evolving homebuyer preferences. West Pune, which includes Mawal, Mulshi, and Velhe, held the second-largest share at 14%, while North, South, and East Pune collectively contributed 10% of transactions during the same period.

Tata Motors launches Ace Pro: India's Most

Affordable 4-Wheel Mini-Truck, starting at ₹ 3.99 lakh Heralds a New Era in Cargo Mobility to Empower India's Next Wave of Entrepreneurs

Pune: Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, creating a new milestone in cargo mobility with the launch of the all-new Tata Ace Pro, heralding a transformative era in small cargo mobility. With an unbeatable starting price of just ₹3.99 lakh, the Tata Ace Pro is India's most affordable four-wheel mini truck, delivering exceptional efficiency, unmatched versatility, and superior value.

Designed to empower a new wave of entrepreneurs, the Tata Ace Pro is available in Petrol, Bi-Fuel (CNG + Petrol), and Electric variants — providing customers with the flexibility to choose the ideal solution for their business needs.

Customers can book their preferred Ace Pro variant at any of Tata Motors' 1250 commercial vehicles sales touchpoints across the country or on Fleet Verse, Tata Motor's online sales platform. To make ownership of the Tata Ace Pro convenient, Tata Motors has collaborated with leading banks and NBFCs to offer hassle-free financing solutions, including quick loan approvals, flexible EMI options, and enhanced funding



support, tailoring to diverse customer needs.

Launching the Ace Pro, Mr. Girish Wagh, Executive Director, Tata Motors, said, "The launch of Tata Ace had revolutionised cargo mobility in India. Over the past two decades, it has successfully empowered more than 25 lakh entrepreneurs to become a symbol of progress and possibility. With the all-new Tata Ace Pro, we are building on this legacy with renewed purpose for a new generation of dreamers. Engineered for stability, safety, and profitability, the Ace Pro unlocks greater earning potential to fulfil the ambitions of aspiring entrepreneurs ready to take charge of their future."

Speaking about the Tata Ace Pro, Mr. Pinaki Halder, Vice President & Business Head

– SCVPU, Tata Motors Commercial Vehicles, said, "The purposeful Tata Ace Pro has been developed with deep customer insights and engineered to meet a diverse range of applications. It has undergone rigorous testing across various terrains and weather conditions, covering lakhs of kilometres. With its multi-fuel options, easy affordability and enhanced drivability, the Tata Ace Pro delivers superior value across diverse use cases. It's a strategic addition to our portfolio that strengthens Tata Motors' commitment to enabling entrepreneurs and small businesses with dependable, future-ready mobility solutions. As one of India's foremost commercial, e-commerce, and logistics hubs, Maharashtra offers a fertile land-

scape for the Ace Pro Bi-Fuel and EV variants.

Customers across the state are uniquely positioned to capitalize on these offerings, thanks to a robust CNG infrastructure and early adoption of electric mobility that support sustainable transport solutions.

Urban centers across Maharashtra—such as Mumbai, Pune, and Nagpur—are particularly well-suited for Ace Pro EV's fixed-duty cycles in sectors like FMCG, fleet logistics, dark stores, and beverage distribution, where high-density delivery networks demand efficiency and reliability. Meanwhile, regions like Konkan, Vidarbha, and Marathwada host a thriving ecosystem of agri-based industries and MSMEs. In these areas, the Ace Pro's high load capacity, compact dimensions, and fuel-efficient drivetrains provide a practical and profitable solution for navigating narrow roads and optimizing last-mile delivery. By aligning with Maharashtra's progressive mobility landscape and diverse commercial needs, the Ace Pro delivers a compelling blend of operational efficiency, adaptability, and long-term value."

Dee Development Engineers

Limited Secures USD 10 Million

Pune: DEE Development Engineers Limited (BSE: 544198 | NSE: DEEDEV), a leading engineering solutions provider specializing in high-precision process piping systems, has secured a major international order valued at approximately USD 10 million.

The order pertains to the fabrication and export of critical piping spools with complete material responsibility, marking another significant milestone in the company's global growth trajectory.

Awarded by a prominent international entity, the contract scope includes fabrication of piping spools along with Non-Destructive Testing (NDT), Post Weld Heat Treatment (PWHT), blasting & painting, and export-ready packaging and transport up to the FOB port. The order is slated for completion by February 28, 2026.

Commenting on the win, Mr. Krishan Lalit Bansal, Chairman & Managing Director, DEE Development Engineers Limited, said, "This order is a testament to DEE's continuous efforts in delivering complex piping solutions that meet global standards. We expect to sup-

ply best-in-class capabilities in engineered fabrication and process expertise to our client. We are also proud to contribute to the Make in India mission by manufacturing world-class solutions from our facilities in India for critical applications across international markets."

This latest international contract further underscores DEE's commitment to quality, timely delivery, and engineering excellence. Recently, the company has received a multimillion-dollar order from a leading US-based oil & gas major and inked a strategic partnership to deliver modular green hydrogen systems across India and Thailand.

Adding to this, Mr. Bansal shared, "With these wins, we are expanding our export portfolio and reinforcing DEE's positioning as a preferred partner for high-specification piping projects serving global energy, oil & gas, and infrastructure majors." These milestones collectively underscore DEE's accelerating global momentum and growing role in critical energy infrastructure, marked by a strong May 2025 order book closure at INR 1,255.92 crore.

Sanjay Ghodawat International School (SGIS),

Pune Hosts India's First AFS Global STEM Innovators Cohort

Pune: Sanjay Ghodawat International School (SGIS), Pune, the education arm of Sanjay Ghodawat Group, successfully hosted India's first-ever in-person AFS Global STEM Innovators Conference.

The conference took place from June 21–24, 2025, in association with AFS Intercultural Programs India. Over 100 students from 15 schools across India came together for immersive learning, vibrant exchange of ideas, innovation, and cultural exchange, all centered around the theme "Be the Voice for a Better Tomorrow."

This four-day conference marked a significant milestone for both SGIS and AFS, with the inaugural Indian cohort participating in a hands-on immersive experience focused on STEM education and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Hosted on SGIS's scenic hilltop campus, the conference was a blend of learning, team-building, and cultural celebration.

With an impressive 70% participation from girl students, the conference strongly reflected the growing presence and leadership of young women in science and technology. Over four days, participants explored critical global issues, proposed sus-



tainable solutions, and connected across cultures. Sasmita Mohanty, Director, Sanjay Ghodawat Group of Schools, expressed her thoughts, "STEM education plays a pivotal role in shaping tomorrow's leaders. Hosting the first-cohort AFS national conference at SGIS Pune has been both an honour and a learning experience. The enthusiasm, curiosity, and creativity witnessed by our students reaffirms the importance of creating such opportunities where young minds can think, explore, and innovate freely."

Ms. Diya Badgel, National Director, AFS Intercultural Programs India, shared her thoughts, "Seeing students from diverse backgrounds come together to ideate, problem-solve, and build meaningful connections truly brought the spirit of global citizenship to life. SGIS Pune's exceptional hosting, combined with their commitment to global learning, created the ideal setting for young minds to thrive and

lead with purpose." The agenda included impactful keynote sessions that broadened students' understanding of real-world applications of STEM.

Mr. Balaji Ramanujam delivered a powerful address on "Build Your Human Skills in the World of AI", where he highlighted the importance of emotional intelligence, adaptability, and human-centric skills in an increasingly automated world.

Mr. Shekhar Jain led a session on "Renewable Energy & STEM Careers", encouraging students to explore the vast and growing opportunities in green innovation and sustainability-focused careers. In another engaging session, Drone Sports India introduced students to Drone Soccer—a high-energy game that merges fun with critical skills like teamwork, strategic thinking, and problem-solving.

A powerful panel discussion on "STEM and Gender Equality – Encouraging Diversity in Science and Tech-

nology" prompted students to reflect on the role of inclusivity in driving innovation and better problem-solving. The conference also featured team-building activities, cultural performances, and paper presentations, creating space for collaboration beyond the classroom. Students shared creative solutions to global challenges—from climate change to gender equity—demonstrating their ability to apply knowledge with empathy and purpose.

SGIS Pune is a fully residential school with state-of-the-art infrastructure, offering IGCSE (Cambridge) and IB curricula. Located on a scenic 55-acre hilltop, the campus is a pure vegetarian environment that promotes mindful living.

The school offers 10+ sports facilities, including a cricket ground, basketball court, horse riding arena, archery zone, and a swimming pool. Built on the belief in holistic education, SGIS combines academic excellence with strong values and essential life skills.

It nurtures physical development alongside intellectual growth and is committed to inspiring young minds to become responsible global citizens—empowered to lead, innovate, and transform society for the better.

NEET UG 2025 Toppers from Pune at Champions of Aakash Event, Symbolizing the 'Problem Solver' Spirit



Pune:Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparatory services, has once again exhibited its academic excellence by empowering students to rise above challenges and emerge as true problem solvers. Despite the increased difficulty level and changes in the NEET UG 2025 examination pattern and format, AESL students across the country showcased yet again stellar performances, guided by the institute's focused problem-solving approach.

Aakashians have bagged 5 ranks in Top 10 of NEET UG 2025 namely AIR 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10. There are 35 rankers from Aakash in Top 100 and 11 Aakashians have become State Toppers in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Jammu

and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Goa and Daman and Diu. Says Mr Deepak Mehrotra, MD and CEO of Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), "At Aakash, we teach our problem solvers how to adapt to new situations. That's why we have so many rankers this year too. NEET 2025 format was not just different, it was tough too. But be it new formats or new challenges, Aakashians have proven yet again, that when you learn the skill of problem solving you can ace any test." One such shining example from Aakash Pune is Krishang Joshi from AESL's 3-Year Classroom Program, who has achieved AIR 3 and scored an outstanding 681 out of 720 in NEET UG 2025.

Krishang was felicitated and honoured today by AESL at the Champions of Aakash event organized here for his outstanding result and for

exemplifying the spirit of a true problem solver — someone who stayed focused and overcame every hurdle with preparation and clarity. His achievement not only brings pride to his city and state but also stands as a testament to the impact of the right strategy, mentorship, and perseverance.

Addressing the event, Dr. H. R. Rao, Chief Academic and Business Head, Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), said, "Krishang's success is a moment of immense pride for all of us at AESL. At Aakash, we believe in enabling every student to become a problem solver, someone who remains calm, focused, and solution-oriented even in the face of new challenges, such as this year's exam changes. Our consistent results year after year reflect our strong academic foundation, person-

alized mentorship, and our commitment to shaping future-ready learners. We congratulate both the students and all our achievers who have made us proud."

The toppers shared valuable insights on how students can prepare for exams like NEET in a better way. They also shared tips on time and stress management.

Students got a first-hand opportunity to listen and get inspired by the impeccable academic track record of Krishang; How to manage time effectively; How to overcome challenges faced during preparation journey; Ways to keep up the motivation levels and Ways in which Aakash can help students achieve their career goals. The interactive session answered the queries of students and parents and helped students in clarifying their doubts.

NEET is conducted annually by National Testing Agency as a qualifying test for students who wish to pursue undergraduate medical (MBBS), dental (BDS) and AYUSH (BAMS, BUMS, BHMS, etc.) courses in government and private institutions in India and also, for those intending to pursue primary medical qualification abroad.

Tata Motors Announces Introductory Prices of the Harrier.ev

Pune: With bookings of the Harrier.ev starting from 2 nd July, below are the introductory prices for its personas powered by Rear-Wheel Drive (RWD). Prices of Quad Wheel Drive (QWD) dual-motor powered personas will be announced on

27 th June 2025. Commenting on the competitive pricing strategy of the Harrier.ev, Mr. Vivek Srivatsa, Chief Commercial Officer, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd., said, "With Harrier.ev we intend to unleash the true potential of an

SUV — delivering unparalleled supercar like performance, go-anywhere off-road capability, and indulgent technology with luxurious comfort. Vehicles—while surpassing them in performance, capability, technology, and safety.

Cummins India Limited Launches Battery Energy Storage Systems to Power India's Clean Energy Transition

Pune: Cummins India Limited ("Cummins"), one of the leading power solutions technology providers, today announced the launch of its Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), expanding its sustainable solutions portfolio in line with Destination Zero strategy. This state-of-the-art energy storage solution is designed to support India's clean energy transition and strengthen the reliability of country's power infrastructure.

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is emerging as reliable and efficient technology for addressing the energy transition requirements of key industries such as manufacturing, data centers, commercial realty, and mining. These systems enable seamless integration of clean, renewable, and intermittent energy sources like solar and wind with the existing power infrastructure.

This ensures that customers can maximize renewable energy use and optimize energy costs through peak shaving

and energy shifting.

Commenting on the launch, Shveta Arya, Managing Director, Cummins India Limited, said, "India's energy mix is undergoing a significant transformation, driven by ambitious climate commitments, rapid adoption of renewables, and a national focus on clean and inclusive growth. At Cummins, we recognize this pivotal moment as an opportunity to innovate with purpose. Our Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a crucial enabler in this transition. It offers a reliable, scalable, and sustainable foundation for the energy ecosystem of tomorrow. Through this launch, we are proud to support India's journey towards net-zero emissions by 2070 and power possibilities for generations to come."

Echoing this strategic vision, Pankaj Kapoor, Vice President, Distribution Business, Cummins India Limited, said, "As the demand for reliable power continues to grow across industries, custom-

ers are increasingly seeking smarter ways to manage energy costs and improve power quality. Backed by our global expertise, Cummins' BESS solutions are built to address these evolving needs while supporting our customer's sustainability goals. With the added assurance of our world-class service and support network, we remain committed to delivering dependable energy solutions that empower long-term success."

Key Features of Cummins BESS are: Modular and scalable designs: Cummins BESS products are available in two 10ft and 20ft containers delivering energy outputs ranging from 200kWh to 2MWh. The system features an optimized footprint with high energy density and complete AC output integration that can be easily scaled to meet varied energy requirements.

Advanced battery technology: Built on proven lithium ferrophosphate (LFP) batteries, known for high cycle life, safety, and reduced risk of thermal



runaway. Efficient thermal management: An integrated liquid cooling system ensures optimal battery temperature, improving performance and extending battery life. Global safety certifications: Cummins BESS is certified to meet the world's most stringent operational and safety standards and is equipped with a comprehensive three-tier fire safety system for added protection and peace of mind.

Plug-and-play functionality: The products are fully self-contained with plug-and-play functionality, for easy transportation, quick installation and flexible deployment. Cummins assurance: The products are backed by our world-class service and support network, ensuring reliable performance and long-term customer support.

Dabur Pudina Hara Launches 'Wonder Herb' Campaign Celebrates the Power of Mint



Pune: Continuing its mission to promote the benefits of Ayurvedic herbs, Dabur India Limited, the country's largest science-based Ayurveda company, has launched a campaign to recognize mint (pudina) as a wonder herb. The campaign was inaugurated at an event held in Pune.

Present at the launch were Dr. Kajal Koditkar, Dr. Nikita Jagtap and Dinesh Kumar, Manager, Corporate Communications, Dabur India Limited.

Speaking about the utility of mint, Dr. Nikita Jagtap stated that mint is rich in antioxidants and phytonutrients that can work wonders for the human stomach, especially during the scorching heat. With rising temperatures and frequent heatwaves, health problems during summer have become common. In view of potential health concerns in this intense season, Dabur recommends the use of mint for those who

experiences indigestion, gas, and acidity. Dr. Nikita Jagtap, Ayurvedic physician, added Ancient Ayurvedic texts hold deep insights for managing modern-day diseases. The historical use of mint goes back 3,000 years, and it has been

spend long hours in the sun and suffer from common summer ailments.

Addressing the event, Mr. Ajay Parihar, Head of Marketing for Healthcare at Dabur India Limited, said AS lifestyle trends and work patterns evolve, people today are multitasking more than ever and need effective, natural solutions. As the most trusted healthcare company, Dabur strengthens its commitment to delivering traditional Ayurveda for everyday health issues. Pudina Hara is a proven remedy for various gastric disorders. Considering the wide range of illnesses prevalent in the summer, Pudina Hara helps address digestive issues like indigestion, gas, and acidity.

Dr. Nikita Jagtap, Ayurvedic physician, added Ancient Ayurvedic texts hold deep insights for managing modern-day diseases. The historical use of mint goes back 3,000 years, and it has been

named a 'wonder herb' for its benefits to the human digestive system.

The menthol in mint stimulates digestive enzymes, relaxes stomach muscles, and reduces chances of indigestion and cramps. It is also known for its soothing effects on stomach spasms, acidity, and bloating.

Today, many antacids available in the market contain harsh chemicals like aluminum magnesium hydroxide, which can have harmful effects if taken regularly. In contrast, Dabur Pudina Hara, a century-old brand from Dabur, is an Ayurvedic remedy enriched with the goodness of mint extract. It offers quick and effective relief from stomach problems such as gas, indigestion, stomach pain, and acidity. Pudina Hara is available in various forms—tablets, liquid, powder, and the fizzy Pudina Hara Fizz offering a natural alternative to harsh chemical-based antacids.

Despite incompatible Blood Group,

Mother donates kidney to give new lease of life to ailing son

Pune: A mother in the mid fifties donated her kidney to give a new lease of life to her ailing son. The transplant was carried out at Noble Hospital, Pune by a team of doctors on 11 June 2025. The 31 year old recipient from Bangladesh and his mother are now fine and ready to go home.

Giving details about the case, Dr.Avinash Ignatius, Consultant Nephrologist and Transplant Physician at Noble Hospitals and Research Centre said that the patient was suffering from IgA nephropathy, also known as Berger's disease and was diagnosed after a biopsy was conducted. IgA nephropathy is a rare kidney disease that occurs when the body's immune system

produces an abnormal type of immunoglobulin A (IgA) antibodies that cause inflammation in the kidneys. This damages the small filters that remove waste and fluid from the blood.

Over time, the inflammation can make it harder for the kidneys to filter waste, potentially leading to kidney damage or failure.

The patient was on dialysis. Both the kidneys of the patient were damaged and transplant was necessary to save his life. Only his mother was available for donation in his family. However her blood group was AB + ve, but the patient's blood group was B+ve. He would have ideally required a donor with B or O

group.

So in such cases there is a high risk that the recipients' body will reject the kidney. So the recipient was tested for antibodies and special injections were given to prevent production of the antibodies. In addition a process called plasmapheresis was carried out to filter out existing antibodies from the blood. Rejection and risk of infection due to higher immunosuppression was the major risk in this procedure and requires special care in the pre and post transplant period. The transplant was successful and the creatinine level of the patient has come to normal.

The patient will have to take care for a few months before

getting back to routine work. The transplant team consisted of Nephrologists Dr.Avinash Ignatius and Dr. Rakesh Shinde, Transplant Surgeons Dr.Vikram Satav and Dr. Shashikant Bhangde, Dr.Shardul Date (Vascular Surgeon) and Anaesthetist team of Dr. Sangeeta Chandrashekhar and Dr. Nilesh Wasmatkar and Intensivist Dr.BD Bande.

Dr.Divij Mane, Director Noble Hospitals said that the case demonstrates the expertise and skills of our team in handling such complicated cases. With top experts, state of the art facilities and world class JCI accredited procedures, we ensure that the patient gets the best possible treatment for good outcomes.

Bajaj Finserv AMC Launches Small Cap Fund with a 3-in-1 Advantage: Quality, Growth & Value

Pune,: Bajaj Finserv AMC announces the launch of Bajaj Finserv Small Cap Fund, an open-ended equity scheme predominantly investing in small cap stocks, that offers quality, growth and value. The fund opens for subscription on June 27, 2025, and closes on July 11, 2025. The recent correction in small caps presents a compelling entry point for long-term investors. Even though over 80% of small-cap companies have posted strong profit growth of 38% and solid return ratios, most of them are still trading 15-45% below their 52-week highs. This recent market correction has opened up a clear gap between the true value of these companies and their current market prices. Coupled with structural tailwinds such as the 'Make in India' push, rising formalisation, and digital transformation across sectors, small caps are well-positioned to benefit disproportionately in the next growth cycle, making this an attractive investment opportunity. Bajaj Finserv Small Cap Fund is designed for investors aiming to build long-term wealth by investing primarily in equity and equity-related instruments of small cap companies. It goes beyond selecting

quality stocks by rigorously filtering out companies with weak governance, inconsistent fundamentals, or financial red flags. This disciplined approach narrows the universe of over 1,100 small-cap stocks to a focused set of high-potential businesses. A key part of the process is our internal forensic and risk-aware analysis, which filters out companies with weak governance or financial red flags. From a universe of around 300-400 small-cap stocks, this disciplined approach narrows the selection to a portfolio of 40-100 carefully chosen businesses. Speaking on the launch, Ganesh Mohan, Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv AMC says, "The launch of Small Cap Fund reflects our deep conviction in the long-term potential of India's dynamic small-cap universe. Small caps typically exhibit higher volatility than broader indices, underscoring the importance of active management in navigating market fluctuations and identifying quality opportunities. The strategy is built around discovering high-quality companies in the early phases of growth that are positioned to outperform over time. With the recent small cap correction, the NFO is poised to take advantage

of this golden opportunity, enabling investors to participate in long term wealth creation as these businesses scale and contribute meaningfully to the economy." Bajaj Finserv Small Cap Fund is well-suited for those looking to benefit from the growth potential of fundamentally strong businesses that are currently trading below their intrinsic value. It also appeals to investors who want to diversify their portfolios by adding small-cap stocks with growth prospects. The fund is benchmarked to the BSE 250 Small-Cap Index TRI. Nimesh Chandan, Chief Investment Officer, Bajaj Finserv AMC adds, "Our new small cap fund will be a portfolio of quality businesses with scalability that trade below their intrinsic value. Many industries and subsectors are available exclusively in the small cap category. In essence, there are opportunities to pick up leaders in emerging businesses and challengers in others from this small cap space. The NSE small cap 250 Index is almost flat year on year. However, many companies generated strong profit growth last year. This allows us to invest in those small cap companies at valuations lower than last year after this time

correction." Bajaj Finserv AMC has demonstrated proven expertise in managing small-cap investments, with exposure to 78 unique small cap stocks across three differentiated strategies—Growth (Megatrends), Quality (Moat Investing), and Value (Contrarian). Reflecting its conviction in the segment, the AMC has increased its strategic allocation to small caps across its portfolios. Notably, the small cap allocation in the Bajaj Finserv Flexi Cap Fund rose from 21.8% in January 2025 to 26% in May 2025, while in the Bajaj Finserv Large and Mid Cap Fund, the allocation increased to 9% over the same period. The equity portion of the fund will be managed by Mr. Nimesh Chandan, CIO & Mr. Sorbh Gupta, Head - Equity, and the debt portion by Mr. Siddharth Chaudhary, Head—Fixed Income. The minimum application amount is ₹500 (Plus multiples of Re.1), with a minimum additional application of ₹100 (Plus multiples of Re.1). An exit load of 1% is applicable if the investment is redeemed within six months of the date of the allotment. The fund offers both Growth and IDCW (Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal) options.

OnePlus announces 'Campus Dominate – Road to BGMS': A nationwide college gaming tournament with a chance to compete in BGMS 2025

Pune (Voice news service):- OnePlus, a global technology brand, is announcing the launch of OnePlus Campus Dominate – Road to BGMS, a national gaming tournament for college students across India. This initiative opens the arena for young, aspiring gamers to compete for glory, a prize pool of ₹6 lakhs. Registrations are open from 26th June to 12th July 2025, and the tournament is open to

all colleges across India. The top two teams from Campus Dominate will earn a Chance to compete at BGMS 2025, India's premier BGMI esports league. Addressing the announcement, Marcel Campos, Director of Product Strategy, OnePlus India, shared: "Gaming is at the heart of OnePlus' community spirit. With Campus Dominate, we're empowering student gamers with a real chance to go pro. The tournament reflects our

commitment to high-performance devices like the Nord 5 and CE5, which bring top-tier gaming features to more users than ever before. "This is where the Never Settle spirit aligns with opportunity—reflecting OnePlus's continued commitment to empowering the next generation." OnePlus recently announced the OnePlus Nord 5 and OnePlus Nord CE5, set to launch on 8th July 2025. The OnePlus Nord 5 is powered by the

Qualcomm Snapdragon 8s Gen 3. Carrying the flagship Kryo CPU, paired with LPDDR5X RAM, delivers unparalleled performance in its class. It runs BGMI at 90fps, with frame interpolation boosting it up to 144fps for ultra-smooth visuals. Call of Duty Mobile also runs natively at 144fps, making every match fast, fluid, and competitive. Whether playing for fun or going all-in, the Nord 5 keeps up with your game.

Schneider Electric Highlights the Power of Open Automation at Pune Innovation Day!

Pune: Schneider Electric, the global leader in the digital transformation of energy management and automation, successfully hosted Innovation Day in Pune to drive greater awareness and accelerate the adoption of software-defined open automation across India's industrial ecosystem. Organised under the theme 'Rethinking Industrial Automation: Embracing Open, Flexible, and Sustainable Solutions for the Data-Driven Future', the event spotlighted how open automation can serve as the foundation for building agile, resilient, and future-ready industrial operations. As part of Schneider Electric's nationwide Open Automation Movement, the event convened industry leaders, OEMs, technology partners, and other key stakeholders to explore how software-defined automation is breaking down the limitations of legacy, hardware-bound systems. A high-impact panel discussion shed light on the digital

transformation journeys of leading industrial players. The conversation highlighted how adopting interoperable and scalable architectures enabled them to overcome operational bottlenecks, simplify system complexity, and achieve measurable improvements in efficiency and sustainability. Speaking at the Innovation Day, Mr. Arvind Kakru, Vice President – Industrial Automation, Schneider Electric India said, "This event reinforces our belief that Open Automation is not just a technology shift—it's a mindset shift. Through our EcoStruxure™ Automation Expert platform, we are enabling OEMs and end-users alike to architect modular, vendor-agnostic systems that boost interoperability and operational excellence. Today's discussions validate that the future of industrial automation lies in being open, collaborative, and data-driven." Adding to this, Mr. Rajat Abbi, Vice President – Marketing,

Greater India, Schneider Electric, said, "Open Automation represents not just a technological shift but a transformational opportunity for the entire industrial ecosystem. At Schneider Electric, we are committed to fostering industry-wide collaboration and knowledge exchange that empowers enterprises to embrace openness, flexibility, and software-driven innovation. Through platforms like Innovation Day, our aim is to empower customers and partners with insights and innovations that enable them to accelerate their digital transformation journeys and unlock new levels of efficiency, agility, and sustainability." Legacy systems, characterized by vendor lock-in and complex maintenance, are no longer fit for the dynamic demands of modern industry. Open automation offers a new paradigm that is defined by flexibility, seamless integration, and data transparency for empowering businesses

to transform with speed and confidence. Speaking at the panel, Amit Deshpande, Sr. General Manager Engineering Eastern, Aquatech Systems Asia Pvt Ltd said, "As industries evolve, agility and interoperability are no longer optional—they're essential. Embracing software-defined, open automation has allowed us to move away from rigid, vendor-dependent systems and build a more responsive, data-driven operation. This shift has helped us significantly reduce unplanned downtime, optimize resource utilization, and advance our sustainability goals." The Innovation Day in Pune is a testament to Schneider Electric's commitment to Pune, a city at the heart of India's industrial and manufacturing growth. This initiative aligns with the company's larger national movement to support enterprises in accelerating digital transformation through openness, flexibility, and innovation.

Suzlon Powers Ahead with Third Successive 170.1 MW Order from AMPIN Energy Transition

Pune: In a major boost to India's clean energy ambitions, two of the country's leading Make in India champions—Suzlon Group and AMPIN Energy Transition—have come together once again to fast-track the nation's transition to a low-carbon economy by decarbonizing DISCOMs. Suzlon has secured its third successive order from AMPIN for a 170.1 MW project to be developed in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh. This continued collaboration reflects a shared vision to enable Indian industry to transition towards a cleaner, more self-reliant energy future, driven by locally manufactured renewable energy solutions.

Together, Suzlon and AMPIN are playing a pivotal role in making green power both accessible and affordable for Indian businesses. As part of the contract, Suzlon will supply 54 of its advanced S144 wind turbine generators (WTGs) with Hybrid Lattice Towers (HLT), each with a rated capacity of 3.15 MW. The scope includes full project execution — from equipment supply and installation to commissioning and long-term operations and maintenance services. JP Chalasani, Chief Executive Officer, Suzlon Group, stated, "India's decarbonization journey will be won or lost at the distribution level. DISCOMs are the critical link between

renewable energy generation and everyday consumption—from industries to households. To empower them with reliable, cost-efficient clean power is not just a goal—it's a national imperative. Together, we're proving that clean energy isn't just viable—it's vital, scalable, and transformative for the power sector." Vivek Srivastava, Chief Executive Officer, India Business, Suzlon Group, added, "Three orders from AMPIN reflect the power of shared mission. Together, we're committed to a self-reliant, affordable and sustainable energy future by blending innovation, local manufacturing, and deep sectoral expertise in promot-

ing decarbonization of India's power distribution infrastructure." Pinali Bhattacharyya, Founder, Managing Director & CEO, AMPIN Energy Transition Limited, said, "Our continued partnership with Suzlon reflects our confidence in their deep expertise in wind energy and their alignment with India's self-reliance goals through local manufacturing. This project is a strategic step forward in AMPIN's journey toward a 25 GW renewable energy portfolio by 2030, reinforcing our commitment to delivering clean, dependable power to India's growing Commercial and Industrial sector."

Shiv Nadar University, Delhi-NCR Professor Wins 2025 Royal Society of Chemistry Horizon Prize for Breakthrough in Electrolysis

Pune: Professor Subhabrata Sen from School of Natural Sciences at Shiv Nadar University, Delhi-NCR, and his team has been awarded the prestigious 2025 Horizon Prize by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC). The award recognizes a ground-

breaking work in developing Alternate-Electrode Electrolysis (AEE) and its transformative applications in organic synthesis. This recognition makes them the first Indian team to be recognised by the award since its inception in 2020.

The Horizon Prize, one of the RSC's most distinguished honours, celebrates innovative discoveries that advance the frontiers of chemical science. Professor Sen's team has developed a novel and efficient strategy of organic electrosyn-

thesis, called Alternate Electrode Electrolysis (AEE) that switches the electrochemical reactions between two pairs of electrodes through a custom-built microcontroller, that enables precision-driven efficient electrochemical reactions.

Yamaha Motor India Group Recognized as a Great Place To Work®; Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering People & Building a Thriving Workplace Culture

Pune (Voice news service):- Yamaha Motor India is proud to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious Great Place To Work® Certification™ for the year 2025-2026. This recognition reflects the organization's continued efforts to foster a positive, inclusive, and high trust work environment across the Yamaha Motor India Group of Companies. This milestone comes at a special time as Yamaha celebrates 40 years in India. Over the past four decades, Yamaha has not only built a strong presence in the two-wheeler market but has also nurtured a workplace where people

feel empowered, respected, and inspired. India has emerged as a strategic hub for Yamaha's global operations – spanning technology, manufacturing, R&D, innovation, and talent development. At the heart of this growth story lies a diverse and inclusive environment that enables employees to thrive and contribute meaningfully. The certification is based entirely on employee feedback and a comprehensive culture audit that assesses key dimensions like trust, respect, fairness, pride, and camaraderie. These results stand as a testament to Yamaha Motor India Group's ongoing commitment to creating a

workplace where positivity, inclusivity, and trust thrive—empowering employees and driving excellence at every level. Speaking on the achievement Mr. Atsushi Nagashima, Director, Yamaha Motor India said, "Yamaha is a Kando Creating Company – our mission is to deliver exceptional value and excitement, not just to customers and partners, but also to our employees. This certification reiterates our belief that a motivated and valued workforce is the foundation of sustainable success. We are deeply thankful to our employees for their trust, feedback, and commitment. We will continue to invest in a culture where everyone grows

together, driven by shared purpose and mutual respect." As Yamaha marks 40 years in India, this recognition holds special significance. It is a celebration of every individual who has shaped Yamaha's journey — past and present. Whether on the road or within the workplace, Yamaha remains committed to creating meaningful experiences, empowering its people, and moving forward together. The Great Place To Work® Certification™ also reinforces Yamaha's position as an employer of choice — helping attract, engage, and retain the right talent while continuing to build a high-performance culture for the future.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Culminates Environment Month 2025 with Strong Emphasis on Sustainable Business Practices and Eco-Conscious Living

Pune (Voice news service):- Reinforcing its commitment to environmental stewardship across the value chain, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today marked the successful culmination of Environment Month 2025, under the theme 'Sustainable Resource Management Drive' through 'Zero-Base Thinking' including plastic elimination efforts. This year's edition featured a series of impactful initiatives aimed at embedding sustainability into every facet of the organisation – from green logistics to promoting resource-conscious behaviour and driving community sensitization on environment protection. Engaging over 3,100 participants, the initiative united employees, partners (suppliers, dealers) and community members in collective commitment to sustainable practices – both within the workplace and across the broader community.

In a significant stride towards green logistics, 17 electric trucks of the logistic partner were flagged off at TKM, set to operate across five critical supply routes. This initiative aligns with the global Toyota's Environmental Challenge 2050 consisting of six challenges, announced in 2015, wherein TKM is accelerating the transition toward carbon neutrality, by going beyond products, embedding sustainable practices in manufacturing operations and across our entire value chain. In the above context, Challenge 1-3 is attributed to various clean technology-driven products and green manufacturing operations, aimed at bringing down carbon emissions to

as close to zero as possible in every stage of the vehicle lifecycle (production of materials/parts, vehicle assembly, logistic operations, energy consumption/conservation and adoption of renewable energy in manufacturing, etc.). Furthermore, TKM is also advancing their efforts under Challenge 4-6 which are aimed at minimizing water usage, promoting a recycling-based society, and fostering a future society in harmony with nature. As part of the company's broader commitment to minimizing environmental impact across the value chain, adoption of electric trucks for the company's logistics operations is set to significantly lower tailpipe emissions, improve energy efficiency, under its challenge 2 - Lifecycle Zero CO2 Emissions Challenge (Green Supply Chain, Eco-dealership, and Green Logistics).

TKM has made remarkable strides in enhancing its logistics activities with a clear focus on sustainability and innovation. Under this, 'Mixed Logistics Model' was implemented in collaboration with its group companies - optimizing vehicle delivery logistic routes and improving the operational efficiency therein. Continuing this commitment to eco-friendly logistics, TKM initiated 'Return Logistics Reduction' approach, significantly minimizing empty return trips lowering the carbon emissions. Furthermore, TKM strengthened its green logistics drive by introducing CNG trucks. Complementing various eco initiatives, undertaken during

the environment month, TKM hosted a green exhibition at its Bidadi plant under its 'Sustainability Hub' platform. The exhibition highlighted the vital role of corporate efforts in fostering environmental consciousness and driving grass-root impact. The stall featured a thoughtfully curated range of eco-friendly lifestyle products, including everyday essentials crafted from natural ingredients, biodegradable materials, and sustainable textiles—spanning personal care, home cleaning, food & grocery, and reusable packaging solutions. Additionally, a student-led eco exhibition was organized during this Environment Month, showcasing over 30 creative, sustainability-driven models on display, focused on themes such as waste, water, energy, and sustainable living. All models were developed using zero-cost materials and commonly available waste items. The models were conceptualized and built by students from the Toyota Technical Training Institute (TTI), under the mentorship and training of TKM expert trainers, with valuable support from the corporate environment team.

This initiative not only fostered hands-on, resourceful innovation but also helped instill strong environmental values among the students. Furthermore, the products on display across both exhibitions were natural, chemical-free, and eco-friendly, supporting to promote a healthier lifestyle by eliminating toxic substances that may impact overall well-being. Their adoption in daily life can significantly

reduce plastic waste, curb pollution, conserve water and energy, and foster more sustainable resource management. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. B. Padmanabha, Executive Vice President and Director, Manufacturing- Toyota Kirloskar Motor said, "At Toyota Kirloskar Motor, we view sustainability as a shared responsibility that extends beyond our product and manufacturing operations, includes the entire value chain driving collective eco-efforts with greater agility to realise the carbon neutral goals. From transitioning to green logistics and promoting eco-conscious living, to nurturing young changemakers and engaging communities, Environment Month 2025 reflects our integrated approach to sustainability stewardship. By embedding sustainable thinking and actions across our value chain, we are not only contributing to Toyota's global vision but also advancing towards India's national priorities of creating a more inclusive, resilient, and carbon-neutral future."

Additionally, the environment month also featured a range of sustainability-driven activities including expert eco-sessions & awareness campaigns, tree plantation drives, eco-idea contests, etc., aimed at deepening environmental consciousness across TKM's ecosystem and stakeholders. Moving forward, TKM remains steadfast in its commitment to sustainability by driving actionable changes, thereby enhance its contributions towards building a future where mobility, people, and the planet thrive in harmony.

AstraZeneca expands Bangalore Global Hub in India with ₹166 Crore Investment, creating 400 Jobs to boost R&D, global services and AI innovation

Pune (Voice news service):- AstraZeneca, a global, science-led biopharmaceutical company, today announced the expansion of its state-of-the-art Global Hub in Bangalore, strengthening its presence in India. The new facility will house nearly 1300 employees, including 400 new jobs, supporting the company's capabilities in AI-powered innovation across Research and Development, Global Business Services, IT, and Digital Health operations. This announcement represents AstraZeneca's second major investment in India within a year, following the expansion of its Global Inno-

vation and Technology Centre (GITC) in Chennai. The combined workforce now at AstraZeneca India Private Limited (AZIPL) will reach close to 4,000 employees, strengthening company's capability to deliver life-changing medicines to patients worldwide. "Our Global Hub in Bangalore is a strategic investment that will play a vital role in advancing AstraZeneca's bold ambition to deliver 20 new medicines by 2030 — by strengthening automated, scalable, data-driven, and patient-centric solutions. This step reflects our commitment to tapping into the world-class talent and ecosystem available in Karnataka to power

the next generation of scientific innovation. We are equally committed to decarbonize our operations and value chain, and the hub supports our net zero ambition", said Jackie Crockford, Vice President, Global Business Services, AstraZeneca. "This hub enhances our R&D capabilities by connecting us with India's exceptional scientific and technological expertise. The expansion will accelerate the development of innovative medicines and help us deliver across R&D, ultimately benefiting patients around the world", said Magnus Nord, Vice President, Global Patient Safety BioPharma, AstraZeneca.

The Karnataka government has welcomed the expansion as a validation of the state's position as a global innovation hub. "AstraZeneca's investment reaffirms India's leadership in science, technology, and healthcare, and is a testament to Karnataka's robust life sciences ecosystem. This expansion aligns perfectly with our vision to create high-value employment opportunities while fostering innovation in critical sectors, making Bangalore a global hub for biotechnology and R&D," said Honorable Minister Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka.

Stronger Borrower Profiles and Wider Credit Access Mark MSME Lending Trends, shows CRIF High Mark

Pune: CRIF High Mark, one of India's leading credit bureaus, has launched its MSMEx (Micro, Small, and Medium Exposure) Spotlight Report – June'25, offering a comprehensive view of India's MSME credit landscape. The report captures critical shifts in credit exposure, lender trends, borrower behaviour, and sectoral distribution, highlighting ecosystem evolving towards greater formalization and resilience. The Micro, Small and Medium credit exposure stood at ₹40.4 lakh crore as of March 2025, rising 20.1% year-on-year. This growth reflects the combined impact of policy support, digitalisation, and a sustained push for financial inclusion, which has expanded formal credit access across business segments. Micro credit businesses took a lead in loan volume, accounting for nearly 81.1% of all active loans, while small businesses made up the

largest share by value, contributing just over 39.9% of the total portfolio. A noteworthy trend observed is the steady shift towards formal business structures. Among micro credit borrowers, the share of proprietors – while still dominant – declined from 65% to 62.8% over two years, while the share of private limited firms increased from 5.5% to 7.3%. This change signals an encouraging move toward business formalisation, likely aided by digital onboarding and targeted schemes like Udyam Assist. As of May 2025, over 6.4 crore enterprises were registered on the Udyam and Udyam Assist platforms, with micro businesses forming the vast majority. On the lending side, public sector banks continue to lead in micro business lending, with 45% market share. In the small and medium business segments, private banks dom-

inate, accounting for about 50% of the outstanding credit. NBFCs have steadily increased their footprint across segments, benefiting from regulatory support that classifies on-lending to small enterprises under priority sector norms. Geographically, growth has been broad-based. Maharashtra leads in credit exposure, with a portfolio of ₹6.2 lakh crore as of March 2025, followed by Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh. All major states recorded double-digit growth, and most showed stable or improving asset quality. Tamil Nadu, for instance, saw its delinquency in the 91–180 days bucket improve from 2.4% to 2.0% over the year. Commenting on the findings, Sachin Seth, Chairman CRIF High Mark and Regional MD, India & South Asia, CRIF said: "Micro businesses continue to drive India's credit economy, accounting for 174 lakh ac-

tive loans as of March 2025. Their total credit exposure has grown by 19.7% year-on-year to ₹10.8 lakh crore. This momentum has been driven by lender confidence, expanding digital infrastructure, and focused government initiatives that are helping bring more businesses into the formal fold. We are seeing a gradual shift toward more formal entities and increased adoption of unsecured credit, particularly through digital channels. This points to a segment that is expanding in both scale and credit maturity." The MSMEx Spotlight is CRIF High Mark's flagship publication on India's MSME Credit Exposure landscape. Built on granular credit bureau data, it offers valuable insights for lenders, regulators, and policymakers to track sector health, understand borrower shifts, and support responsible credit expansion.