

Telecom Secretary K. Rajaraman releases TEC Report- “Rollout of Small Cells for 5G Networks by leveraging Street Furniture”

Chennai, March 28 2022: In order to achieve the objectives of timely, hassle-free rollout of 5G services; and development of standardized ecosystem for Smart Cities in the country, Secretary (Telecom) in presence of Member (Technology), Member (Services) and other senior officers of Department of Communications (DoT) & Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) has released today two reports namely:

Rollout of Small Cells for 5G Networks by leveraging Street Furniture

IoT/ICT Standards for Smart Cities

These reports have been prepared by the respective divisions of Telecommunication



Engineering Centre (TEC), Department of Telecommunications, Govt of India, with multi-stakeholders' consultation.

With the 5G networks expected to be rolled out in the country soon, the need for small cells will become even more critical due to the introduction of higher spectrum bands, which necessitate denser network deployments to support

larger traffic volumes per unit area. The report on Rollout of Small Cells for 5G Networks by leveraging Street Furniture will facilitate a standard approach for the proliferation of denser small cell infrastructure in the country.

The Technical Report on IoT/ICT standards for Smart cities has covered the national and

international guidelines and standards related to the development of IoT/ICT based smart infrastructure in various verticals of Smart Cities. The report has also covered the standards released by ITU on IoT and Smart cities; and the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for assessing the smartness of the cities. This TEC report may be a good reference document for the stakeholders involved in developing the standard based ecosystem for Smart Cities.

Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) is the technical arm of Department of Telecommunications which plays a key role in the Standardization and related aspects in the Telecom Sector.

NAVY OPEN LASER AND BAHIA SAILING CHAMPIONSHIP - 2022

Chennai, March 28 2022: Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre (INWTC), Karwar conducted the Navy Open Laser and Bahia Sailing Championship - 2022 from 22 to 26 March 2022 under the aegis of Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA). Yachtsmen and women from all three Commands of the Indian Navy viz., Western Naval Command, Eastern Naval Command and Southern Naval Command, seven INWTCs, Army Yachting Node (Mumbai) and Cadets from National Defence Academy honed



and demonstrated sailing and watermanship skills in Karwar harbour. Nearly 50 participants took part in the event, competing in three different classes of boats to facilitate enhanced team spirit and instill leadership qualities amongst the participants.

A sail parade by all participants was also conducted off Karwar on 26 Mar 22 to commemorate the 75th year of India's Independence 'AzadikaAmritMahotsav'.

The championship

was conducted in three different classes of boats namely Laser (Standard), Laser (Radial) and Laser Bahia and 36 races were conducted in a span of four days with 12 races for each of the three categories. The Chief Guest, Rear Admiral Atul Anand, Flag Officer Commanding Karnataka Naval Area presented medals to winners in each of the three categories. He complimented the Naval Yachtsmen and women for setting high standards and displaying excellent sailing skills in the myriad weather conditions.

Direct flight between Indore and Jammu flagged-off Indore is connected with 22 cities now

Chennai, March 28 2022: Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia and Minister of State for Civil Aviation Gen (Retd) V.K Singh inaugurated the direct flight between Indore and Jammu by Indigo today.

The inaugural event was graced by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Science, MoS for Prime Minister's Office, Personal, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, Shri Tulsiram Silavat Minister - Water Resources, Fisheries Welfare and Fisheries Development, Govt of



Commenting on the importance of Indore, the minister said "In the last 6 months, we have given more importance to Indore by starting the work of 3 new aerobridges, 15 new parking bays and parallel taxi tracks and international cargo terminal. By this year, we are going to establish domestic cargo terminal and perishable goods terminal in Indore. I have given the permission to convert a state hangar in the old terminal into a VIP state hangar."

Shri VK Singh congratulated the team and further said that "We have seen a steady increase of flights from Indore. It is a delightful news for the people of Indore to have a direct flight connectivity with Jammu and it will boost the city in terms of economic growth. I would like to appreciate and thank management of Indigo for their full cooperation."

The people of Indore and its adjoining areas will be benefitted by getting a direct air connectivity to Jammu which will facilitate seamless movement of passengers between Indore and Jammu and vice-versa. With these new commercial flights, common people will get multiple options to travel between these places which will boost the tourism potential and increase the economic activity of both regions.



Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shankar Lalwani Member of Parliament, Indore, Smt. Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Chairman, Airport Authority of India (AAI), Shri Sanjay Kumar, Chief Revenue and Strategy Officer, Indigo and many other dignitaries.

The airline will be deploying its A320, a 150-seater twin turbofan engine passenger aircraft and is primarily used on Domestic routes. With the launch of direct flight between Indore and Jammu, Indore will now have 28 daily flights. 632 weekly flights will be operating out of Madhya

Pradesh.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia said, "Today marks an important day in history of Indian Civil Aviation as the crown of India will be connected with the heart of India. Indore is a city of many firsts in terms of education, history and cleanliness and was declared India's first "Water Plus City" previous year. It is the only city in India where two renowned international academic institutions are present - IIM & IIT. My aim is to develop 1 or 2 cities in every state which is full connected with the entire country and in Madhya Pradesh, Indore has achieved this. Previously,

Indore was connected with 12 cities but in 6 months, we have connected Indore to 22 cities such as panaji, Kishangarh, Raipur, Belgaum, Gwalior, Pune, Nagpur etc. Apart from Jammu, we have also connected Indore with Visakhapatnam and Chandigarh from today onwards."

The minister further emphasized that "We have opened international flights from yesterday onwards after a break of 2 years due to Covid-19 pandemic and from today onwards, 1748 foreign airlines flights and 1440 domestic airlines flights are connecting India globally."

Aim to make India content sub-continent of the world- Anurag Thakur Indian content is going to explode globally: Ranveer Singh

Chennai, March 28 2022: On the 3rd day of his visit to Dubai Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shri Anurag Thakur today held a conversation with Shri Ranveer Singh on 'The Global Reach of Indian Media and Entertainment Industry' at the India Pavilion at Dubai Expo 2020.

The Minister said Indian people in Dubai are the real brand ambassadors of India. The India Pavilion has been a huge crowd puller with 1.7 million visitors. The Minister added that the country is celebrating 75 years of India's independence and the celebrations are taking place not just in India but abroad also.

Acknowledging the contribution of films in India's soft power projection, the Minister said India is a land of storytelling and the film industry has left a great impact on people of foreign countries who identify India for its films. The Minister said his aim is to make India the content sub-continent of the world. This can generate millions of jobs in India and help create content for the whole world. The Minister acknowledged the acting talent powerhouse that is Shri Ranveer Singh recalling his acting from various movies.

Shri Ranveer Singh said Indian content is on the cusp of making its presence felt on world stage. Indian entertainment is going to explode globally he added. Our stories resonate with people and transcend cultural boundaries and



Indians abroad connect with India through films.

Ahead of the lively discussion the Minister along with Shri Ranveer Singh took a tour of the India Pavilion at Dubai Expo 2020.

Earlier during the day The Minister held a discussion with Mr. Issam Kazim, CEO of Dubai Corporation for Tourism and Commerce Marketing on various strategies adopted by

Dubai in respect of tourism sector to make it a preferred tourism destination for the World. During the meeting the Minister commended Dubai for organising the Expo which has been a great success despite the pandemic. Highlighting the importance of Dubai on tourism map of the world, the Minister remarked that Indians have preferred to fly to Dubai over western capitals like London during these pandemic years.

Mr. Issam Kazim mentioned that Dubai's success has been possible owing to the decisive leadership with a focused target. He talked about Dubai Authority's strategy during COVID when the city was shut down in March 2020. The authorities adopted a completely new strategy and ensured restrictions and protocols. Vaccinations and PCR tests were made mandatory for travellers and that Dubai was the first city to open up for tourists.

Mr. Kazim mentioned that Dubai is targeting to get 25 million tourists by 2025 and becoming the world's most visited city. The city focuses on aspects like marketing Dubai so that people feel comfortable to come, making it easier to set up businesses, promoting Dubai as the best city to live in, promoting FDI, inviting tech companies, improving connectivity through Emirate airlines and infrastructure development. He also mentioned that Dubai is also exploring the crypto currency space, although it is risky and unregulated for now.

Mr. Kazim highlighted that India has great potential in tourism. India can utilize the unique aspects of key cities/Stater and focus on their strengths. Also, India's IT talent benefits the global industry which can be promoted as strength.

Shri Anurag Thakur extended a warm invitation to Mr. Kazim to India to discuss further on collaboration opportunities in tourism and media and entertainment sector.

இ-சேவை மையம்
 ஸ்டார் ரெயின்போ சர்வீசஸ்
 11,SOUTH PERUMAL KOIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI - 600 026.
8148231942 / 8144337349
பொது இ-சேவை மையம்
ALL ONLINE SERVICES

Petascale Supercomputer Param Shakti inaugurated at IIT Kharagpur under National Supercomputing Mission

Chennai, March 28 2022: PARAM Shakti, a Petascale Supercomputer "at IIT Kharagpur, has been dedicated to the nation under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) - a joint initiative of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Department of Science and Technology (DST). The supercomputer was inaugurated on March 27, 2022 by Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Honourable Governor, West Bengal in gracious presence of Prof V K Tewari, Director, IIT Kharagpur; Dr. Sivaji Chadaram, Director, DST; Col A.K Nath (Retd), Director General and Executive Director, CDAC; Prof Amit Patra, Deputy Director, IIT Kharagpur; Shri Arvind Kumar, Group Coordinator, NSM- HPC Division, MeitY; Shri S A Kumar, Advisor NSM, MeitY, along with senior officials from MeitY, DST, IIT Kharagpur and C-DAC. P A R A M S h a k t i supercomputing facility is accelerating the research and development activities in multidisciplinary domains of computational and data sciences as it provides large-scale



computing power to the user community of IIT Kharagpur and neighbouring academic and R&D institutes.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between IIT Kharagpur and Centre for Development in Advanced Computing (CDAC) in March 2019 to establish this state-of-the-art Supercomputing Facility with 17680 CPU cores along with 44 GPUs. This facility has pioneered in using RDHX based efficient cooling system to obtain a high power usage effectiveness. This system has been tested extensively by both IIT Kharagpur and CDAC for commercial, open-source and in-house software pertaining to diversified applications.

IIT Kharagpur has been

following the mandate of NSM towards development of computationally efficient software for supercomputing platforms and applications for large-scale industrial and scientific problems. IIT Kharagpur is also one of the NSM nodal centres for training in HPC and AI and working on development manpower required for the Supercomputing Research across the nation. This centre has been organizing courses, workshops, bootcamps etc. in various domains pertaining to fundamentals of supercomputing and data sciences and their application to diversified fields including Agriculture, Astronomy, Biology, Mechanical Engineering, Material Sciences etc. IIT Kharagpur has also established the Centre for

Computational and Data Science with a mandate to train the researchers in Supercomputer accelerated R&D. The new high-performance computational facility would aid researchers to solve large-scale problems of different fields of Science and Engineering. Some of the identified focus areas in which this supercomputing based research will be of great value addition are: Computational Fluid Dynamics, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data Analytics, Climate Change & Digital Earth, Computational Biology, Cryptography & Security, Smart Infrastructure & Sustainable Cities, Smart Materials etc. Furthermore, NSM has sponsored a number of application research projects using this Supercomputing facility involving researchers for IIT Kharagpur and other Indian institutes and industries. Overall, this Supercomputing facility will provide a major boost to the research and development initiatives in Indian academia and industries to reach a position of global esteem.

Dr. Singh instructed officials of all attending departments to hunt and search for start-ups rather than waiting for start-ups to reach out to them

Chennai, March 28 2022: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh today chaired a monthly meeting of Secretaries of Science Departments at Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi.



Report (ATR) on 16 actions identified during the last meeting.

While reviewing the draft of the proposed National Science Conclave, Dr. Jitendra Singh suggested that thematic and state-specific discussions could be included in the Conclave involving states, industry representatives and other stakeholders. He opined that integration of various departments and avoiding overlapping activities will certainly result in better output of every department.

Dr. Singh also gave directions on the issue of delayed disbursement of fellowships. The Union Minister directed the

officials of all attending departments to hunt and search for start-ups rather than waiting for start-ups to reach out to them. He said that the departments should be able to identify and locate the eligible start-ups based on certain guidelines in order to support them.

The Union Minister also asked the departments and officials present to showcase success stories of the start-ups and promote them wherever possible. Issue of setting up of an inter-ministerial Integrated media Cell for all S & T departments at Vigyan Prasara was also discussed at length and it was decided that further discussion is

required on the same.

Under the draft of STIP, issues like, inviting public suggestions for adding words related to start-up and innovation, adopting ways to put India among top 5 in terms of quality of research outcome by year 2030, targeting 30% participation of women in science by year 2030, taking India within top 3 global leaders in STI by year 2030 and how can India achieve Aatmanirbharta in technology by year 2030, were thoroughly deliberated upon.

The meeting was attended by Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, Secretary, D/o Space, Secretary, M/o Earth Sciences, Secretary, D/o Biotechnology, Secretary, Technology Development Board and representatives and senior officials of other science departments.

Dharmendra Pradhan calls for making Pariksha pe Charcha, a public movement to ensure stress-free exams

Chennai, March 28 2022: Union Education Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan today said that the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi will be interacting with the students, teachers and parents all over the world during the 5th edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha on 1st April, 2022. Pariksha Pe Charcha is a much-awaited annual event in which the Prime Minister responds to questions related to examination stress and related areas posed by students in his uniquely engaging style in a live programme, he added.

Terming Pariksha pe Charcha, a public movement, Minister Pradhan outlined the importance of this year's PPC in wake of the country coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and exams shifting back to offline mode. Underlining the importance of initiatives like PPC in building the knowledge-based economy of 21st century, he said that PPC is becoming a formal institution through which Prime Minister interacts directly with the students.



parents. The Minister mentioned that PPC will be streamed, not only across India, but also in other countries reaching out to the Indian diaspora. He also called for support from media in making this program a mass movement and ensuring stress-free exams for the students.

Shri Pradhan highlighted that Pariksha Pe Charcha is part of the larger movement - 'Exam Warriors' - led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to create a stress-free atmosphere for youngsters. It is a movement that is driven by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts to bring together students, parents, teachers and the society to foster an environment where the unique individuality of each child is celebrated, encouraged

the Prime Minister.

This event has been organized successfully for the last four years by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education. The first three editions of PPC were held in New Delhi in a town-hall interactive format. The 1st edition of Prime Minister's Interaction Programme "Pariksha Pe Charcha 1.0" was held on 16th February 2018. The 2nd edition of the said Interaction Programme with school and college students "Pariksha Pe Charcha 2.0" was held on 29th January 2019 and the 3rd edition on 20th January 2020. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the fourth edition was held online on 7th April 2021.

The event will be live telecast on Doordarshan (DD National, DD News, DD India), radio channels, TV channels, digital media including YouTube channels of EduMinofIndia, narendramodi, pmoindia, pibindia, Doordarshan National, MyGovIndia, DDNews, RajyaSabha TV, SwayamPrabha.

1ST Meeting of Consultative Committee of MPs attached to The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways on "Road Safety"

Chennai, March 28 2022: Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways conducted 1st Meeting of Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways on "Road Safety" on 24th March, 2022 to discuss various issues related to Road Safety. The meeting was chaired by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways. Gen. (Dr.) V.K.Singh, Minister of State for the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways was also present in the meeting. The meeting was attended by the Committee Members from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Secretary (MoRTH), and officials from MoRTH, NHAI, NHIDCL, TRW and PIB.

The Committee Members expressed their concern about the high number of accidents and deaths on road. It was emphasised that the number of road accidents and fatalities on roads across the country needs to

be reduced through engineering, awareness and measures of enforcement. The important issues discussed during the meeting were rectification of black spots, requirement of widening of roads, provision of ambulance facilities and Trauma Care Facilities on National Highways, GPS system to alert drivers, payment of compensation to the road accident victims, maintenance and repair of roads, need to impart driving training (both to the existing and aspiring drivers), etc.

Shri Gadkari appreciated the efforts of Save Life Foundation for their initiative to create Zero Fatality Corridor on NHs (National Highways). CEO, Save Life Foundation presented strategies to rectify accident spots economically and efficiently and showcased a case study performed by their organisation. Shri Gadkari also requested all the Committee Members to conduct regular meetings of Member of Parliament of Road Safety

Committee (MPRSC) in their districts with the District Collector, police department, PWD and other State agencies. He directed Regional Officers and Project Directors of National Highways to attend the meetings regularly and provide appropriate road safety interventions in the ongoing projects.

The Minister also emphasised that an effective training of drivers is the need of the nation and the Committee Members were briefed about the initiatives taken by the Ministry in this regard. A detailed presentation on setting up of Institute of Driving Training and Research (IDTR), Regional Driving Training Centre (RDTC), Driving Training Centres (DTC) and Model Inspection & Certification Centres in India was also made. Shri Gadkari requested all the members present in meeting to send proposals to the Ministry for setting up of driving training institutes in their constituency.

Ministry also

showcased a video on the progress of Zojila Tunnel and briefed about the difficult conditions of working in these higher reaches. The efforts of the Ministry were highly appreciated by all the Members present. Members were also apprised about various road safety initiatives taken by the Ministry.

Shri Gadkari appreciated the commendable work done by the Ministry Officials including the work done by the NHAI, NHIDCL, TRW, etc towards road safety and urged the officials for even better contribution in this sector. He also motivated all the officials to put their best efforts towards building safer road infrastructure in the country and to save more lives on road.

Both Ministers thanked the Members for sparing their valuable time towards the noble cause of Road Safety and directed Ministry Officials to organize meeting of the Consultative Committee on a six month basis.

10-Lane, 117 km long stretch of the Bengaluru - Nidaghatta - Mysuru section of NH-275 in Karnataka to be completed by October 2022

Chennai, March 28 2022: The Bengaluru - Nidaghatta - Mysuru section of NH-275 is a 10-Lane, 117 km long stretch in the State of Karnataka. It is being developed at a cost of ₹ 8,350 Crore. The construction work is nearing completion and will be completed by October 2022. This information was given by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari in a series of tweets.



two important cities and provide an impetus to tourism and economy in the region.

Shri Gadkari said under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, various such

infrastructure projects have been announced with great responsibility and it is our unwavering commitment to complete them in a corruption free, transparent and timebound manner. This state of art project has multiple

structures like 8 km long elevated corridor, 9 major bridges, 42 minor bridges, 64 underpasses, 11 overpasses, 4 ROBs and 5 bypasses which will ease out traffic congestion and significantly reduce pollution.

More than 37,000 users joined UPI123 Pay since its launch on 8th March 2022

Chennai, March 28 2022: Various steps have been taken by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to expand the reach of UPI outside India. This was stated by Union Minister of State for Finance Dr Bhagwat Kisanrao Karad in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today. The steps are given below:-

NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of National Payments Corporation of

India (NPCI) is devoted for internationalisation of UPI. NIPL has undertaken various initiatives across nations to enable cross-border acceptance of BHIM UPI QR at merchant establishment. These partnerships will facilitate Indian travellers to make payments using the BHIM UPI QR for all their retail purchases at international merchant establishments.

Currently, BHIM UPI QR has gained

acceptance in Singapore (March, 2020), Bhutan (July, 2021) and recently with partners in UAE and Nepal (February, 2022). However, travel restrictions owing to the pandemic over the last two years have impacted overseas use of this facility.

In this regard, RBI has been facilitating engagements for the expansion of UPI in countries which have potential for

collaboration. Various models of engagements being explored are as follows:

Central Bank to Central Bank cooperation through an agreement or MoU;

Central Bank facilitated discussion and agreement between the network and the Central Bank / Government Agency; and

Network to network arrangement.

Piyush Goyal calls for practical climate funding programs by the developed world

Chennai, March 28 2022: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal today called for practical climate funding programs by the developed world.



Addressing the plenary session of 'Investopia- Emerging Markets: From frontiers to Frontlines' in Dubai today, the Minister said that even though the emerging markets of the world have been strengthening themselves consistently, if they are to meet climate goals, they would have to be supported by developed nations through practical funding solutions. Flagging the disparity in intention and action when it comes to climate change, he said that responsible governments would find success in tiding over the climate crisis.

Shri Goyal said that since 2014, India had been focussing on structural reforms and on strengthening processes and taking steps like accumulating greater forex reserves and stabilizing economy for a more secular growth. Various programs for the last 6-7 years have been focussed on improving the lives of the masses by securing elementary utilities like drinking

water, electricity, cooking gas, healthcare etc., he said.

The Minister said that on one hand the government was striving to improve the lives of people and on the other hand, improving economic stability, including energy security. India has the world's fastest growing renewable energy program and has helped bring down the cost of renewable energy with sheerscale.

Shri Goyal said that India has been able to recognize crisis in time and convert it into an opportunity. The Minister observed that during pandemics, those states which focussed on saving lives, saved their economies as well. He opined that the bold step taken by India of a complete lockdown, even though made things difficult for a quarter, have been beneficial in the long run with quick economic recovery and stabilization.

Speaking of India's success with homegrown

vaccines, Shri Goyal said that during covid, India announced a self-reliance program which did not close its doors but made way for more meaningful international engagement.

He added that during Covid, India had seen the highest ever foreign investment, highest ever merchandise exports and a sharp recovery in our service exports which stands at 250 billion which is nearly 20 percent more than highest ever figure so far. Highlighting India's relentless focus on public investment, the Minister said that the Budget 2022 announced large scale infrastructure projects.

Shri Goyal said that India was working with partners like UAE, with which it signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in a very short span of 88 days from start to finish of negotiations. He added that the India-UAE CEPA was not an interim agreement but a comprehensive one,

which was truly fair, equitable and balanced. The Minister also asserted that India was seeking to expand partnerships, encourage two-way trade and fast-track technology adoption with nations who believe in rules-based system, equity and transparency.

The Minister said that in the first 2 months of this year, 13 startups had become unicorns and said that it was a sign that the youth of the nation was rising to meet challenges.

Responding to a query, Shri Goyal said that world economies were much more resilient today and partnerships had been created between nations through which they supported each other. He observed that new technology helped nations by bringing down costs while saving people's lives.

Speaking of India's accomplishments in improving ease of living of its citizens, the Minister said that by 2019, within a span of 4 years, the government succeeded in taking electricity to each one of the 600,000 odd villages in India. India's food grain production has been on the rise and is enough, not only to feed every Indian but sufficient to feed other nation during their times of need too, he added.

India's aim is to become world's largest Startup destination: Piyush Goyal

Chennai, March 28 2022: Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal today said that the country aspires to become the largest Startup ecosystem in the world.



Addressing a session on 'Gateway to Growth - Roundtable on Indian Startup Ecosystem' in Abu Dhabi, UAE, Shri Goyal said, "Today we are the third largest Startup ecosystem, but our aspiration is to be the world's number one startup destination. The Startup bug has caught India's imagination. The entire innovation ecosystem that the Startup industry represents is giving a new direction, new momentum to India."

The session was co-chaired by the UAE Minister of State for Entrepreneurship & SMEs, Ahmad Belhou Al Falasi (virtual), Dr Thani Zeyoudi, Minister for International Trade, Mohamed Al Sharaf, Chairman, Abu Dhabi Economic Development Department. Representatives of

ADGM, ADQ, Mubadala, Masdar, ADIO, AD Residents Office, G42, Hub71, Ardent Advisory, Chimera Investment among others also participated in the session.

Shri Goyal said, "India offers one of the best ecosystems for Startups with a special 'jugalbandi' or blend between investors and entrepreneurs to get a balanced outcome and achieve a win-win solution for all. I have seen tremendous response from the Dubai Expo where our Startups have got the opportunity to raise finances, sign MoUs and get angel investments. All these aspects will help strengthen India's strong bond of friendship with the UAE."

The Minister appreciated the

promotion of Indian Startups by the India Innovation Hub platform under the India Pavilion. "I do hope that the 700 Startups that have showcased their innovation at Expo2020 Dubai would have all gone back enriched with newer opportunities and ideas for the future. I am sure that this initiative between India and the UAE on innovation and future technologies will power growth of businesses and take wings as we go forward," added the Minister.

He said that the Startups need to experiment, fail and learn from their experiences. "I would urge all of you from the Startup world to go extra mile and take the Startup story to all the remote places, villages, small towns, northeastern India and other regions," added Shri Goyal.

On the Government's role in promoting Startups, the Minister said that India aims to provide a level playing field and the best business ecosystem to the Startups.

"We have recently finalized the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the UAE, which is expected to further enhance bilateral trade, B2B engagement and explore attractive investment opportunities. I can assure you that we will take this partnership to newer heights in the areas of sustainability, aerospace, space technology, connectivity, AI, data analytics, 5G, Metaverse, etc. We look forward to leveraging each other's offerings and expertise," added the Minister.

Shri Goyal said that the UAE-India partnership is destined to play an important role in the global economy and in ensuring a better future for billions of people around the world. "This will be a defining partnership for the 21st century," added the Minister.

Ficci Flo Chennai Chapter the CHANGE OF GUARD Ceremony with the outgoing Chairperson, Ms. Jeyasree Ravi handing over the medal to the incoming Chairperson of the year 2022-23, Ms. Prasanna Vasnadu graced by Mr. Oliver Ballhatchet - British Deputy High Commissioner, Dr. G S K Velu, and Ms. Sudha Shivkumar

Chennai, March 28 2022: The Finale Event of FICCI Ladies' Organization, Chennai Chapter took place at ITC GRANDCHOLA.

THE CHANGE OF GUARD event with the outgoing Chairperson, Ms. Jeyasree Ravi, Founder of Palam Silks, handing over the medal to the incoming Chairperson of the year 2022-23, Ms. Prasanna Vasnadu, Co-founder & Director of VDerma and Founder of Tikitoro, had eminent personalities and



dignitaries like Mr. Oliver Ballhatchet - British Deputy High Commissioner as the Chief Guest, Dr. G S K Velu -

Serial Entrepreneur & FICCI Chairman Chennai, and Ms. Sudha Shivkumar, FLO Chennai Past Chair & Incoming National Vice

President as Special Guests.

Everyone guards a gate that can be opened only from within. An event to let the best suitable person in and take over from where you leave is an end to your journey in the organization and the beginning to the other.

The Formal Finale event with Members of the FLO Chennai Chapter ended with high-tea and a live music band which was truly a delight and a closure event to be remembered.

I was a picky eater, but when I started eating a balanced diet, I felt more energetic and my game improved: Avani Lekhara

Chennai, March 28 2022: "It is very likely to come across ridiculous comments and criticism from people. They may think that you cannot achieve something you want but if you keep at it, one day you will excel and they will see that too." This intense message was given by Avani Lekhara, India's first woman double medalist at the Paralympics, while she addressed students from 90 schools, among them a group of visually impaired students during the unique school-visit campaign, Meet The Champions, held in New Delhi's Shaheed Hemu Kalani Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya on Monday.

With cheers and applause, the shooter who created her own legacy in what was her debut Paralympics, was welcomed by students from South East District of New Delhi for a close interaction on Santulit Aahar (balanced diet), fitness and sports.

The ace shooter kicked off the programme by thanking the Prime Minister who came up with this unique initiative -Meet



the Champions and handed-over the responsibility of carrying the message of the importance of balanced diet to all Olympians and Paralympians.

Taking forward the programme with various interesting anecdotes, videos and questions with the students, 20-year old Avani shared her childhood memories related to diet, her fitness routine and academics. "I was very picky about food and fast food has been my favourite. But once I

started having a balanced diet I realised that I felt more energetic and my game improved. If you eat well, no matter what you do, whether you play sport or study you will do it better and you will be in a happier state of mind," said Avani.

She also stressed on the importance of having a good group of friends and supportive parents in life and said, "When you have good friends and supportive parents, it becomes easier for one to overcome challenges of

life and pursue the goal. As students, it is your duty to support one another. Don't make fun of your around you if they are weak in something, instead help them."

The Golden girl also spoke about her initial days in shooting and how people joked about how thin she was. "During my initial days in sports, I was very thin so people would joke saying how are you going to pick a 5kg rifle and shoot. But then I never gave up on what I determined to follow and with good diet, extreme practice and confidence, I fired my way to the top of the podium in Paralympics," she expressed.

Avani also carried the Rifle that fetched her gold medal at the Paralympics and showing the gun, she spoke about its functions and technicalities during the programme.

This unique initiative is being organized jointly by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Ministry of Education and is part of the government's 'Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

FLEET CARD-FUEL ON MOVE AN INITIATIVE TO SPEED UP IAF CONVOY MOVEMENTS

Chennai, March 28 2022: Indian Air Force in collaboration with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has taken a leap forward in fuel supply chain management by introducing a 'Fleet Card - Fuel on Move' for its varied fleet of vehicles. This innovative initiative taken by the Indian Air Force provides a paradigm shift to the logistics management of fuel.

'Fleet Card', the energy security for IAF vehicles on move, was launched by the Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of Air Staff at Headquarters Western Air Command, Subroto Park on 28 Mar 22 in the presence of Air Marshal S



Prabhakaran, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Western Air Command and Mr. SM Vaidya Chairman IOCL.

HQ Western Air Command was earmarked as lead agency in the implementation

and execution of this innovative concept of "Fuel on Move". Availability of Fleet Card will permit the convoy to refuel at any IOCL fuel stations thus increasing the pace of movement and reducing the lead

time for readiness at operational locations across the nation.

CAS complimented team WAC and IOCL for this initiative that has enhanced the operational preparedness and capability of the IAF.

Voltas recognised as the 'Most Trusted Brands of India2022' by Team Marksmen

The award reaffirms Voltas' strong brand values, dynamic leadership and unwavering commitment to its customers. Voltas also reinforces its undisputed market leadership position in the AC category. One out of four AC customers in India, is a proud Voltas customer

Chennai, March 28 2022: Voltas Limited, India's No.1 AC Company from the house of Tata's, and undisputed market leader for Room Air Conditioners in India, was the proud recipient of the 'Most Trusted Brands of India 2022' by Team Marksmen, in the Consumer Durables category. With a market leadership of 25.5%, Voltas has consistently remained at the top position in its industry, since 2012. The award was virtually received by Mr. Pradeep Bakshi, Managing Director & CEO, Voltas Limited, in the presence of Mr. Deba Ghoshal, Vice President and Head of Marketing.

The award was conferred on Voltas based on a unique industry-wide consumer study conducted

by Allegiant Market Research in 16 cities across India. In the preliminary stage, over 35 brands from across India were identified for the potential recognition of which 13 were shortlisted based on research parameters including brand trust quotient, business resilience, innovative thinking, digital transformation, and other key drivers; that keeps Voltas living up to its 'most trusted' status.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Pradeep Bakshi, Managing Director & CEO, Voltas Ltd said, "It is an honour to be recognised as one of India's Most Trusted Brands, 2022 by a reputed body like Team Marksmen. At Voltas, it has always been our endeavour to align our business ethos

with consumer insights. We have strived to become a brand that resonates with our customers. Our customers are at the heart of all our business decisions and this has helped us retain our leadership position as India's #1 AC Company for several years. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Voltas team for their hard work and consistent dedication in making Voltas a revered brand. It is the untiring efforts of the team that has helped us deliver great results even during these unprecedented times."

Deploying its 'Smart Thinking' philosophy, Voltas has consistently grown its brand equity and distribution reach across India over the past decade. Today, it boasts of over



24,000 consumer touchpoints, which has helped bring Voltas closer to its customers, making its products more accessible. And with the highest counter share in the category, we ensured that we became the most considered and preferred brand on the shop floor.

MEDLOUNGES JOIN HANDS WITH CRY; PROVIDES MEDICAL HELP TO THE NEEDY

Aims to create awareness among the Vyasarpadi residents to aware of their general health and protect the well-being of children

Chennai, March 28 2022: Medlounges, one of South India's leading family health and wellness centre in association with Child Rights and You (CRY), an Indian NGO working for child rights in India, today conducted a complimentary Medical Camp for the underserved group in and around area of Vyasarpadi, Chennai as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility.

The medical camp was organised in Vyasarpadi, Chennai. During the camp, a team of health experts consists of 5 doctors and 3 nurses along with their support staffs conducted a systematic examination for all the participants such as:

For Infants – a detailed examination conducted on the developmental milestones and malnutrition

For children above 2 years – Conducted a detailed screening such as; consultation, checking the medical history, dietary issues, anaemic, virals etc. and distributed complimentary medicines to the beneficiaries. Also, given health supplements and medications for the needy children as per requirements

The camp was



conducted by Medlounges in a collaborative effort with CRY, Chennai. The medical team were present to service over 400 children from the age group of below 1 to 18 years in the operational area covering six slums in Vyasarpadi. Apart from the above, the team also did consultation for the pregnant ladies who were present at the venue and prescribed medicine.

The main objective of this medical camp was to create awareness among the people especially parents in and around Vyasarpadi about the importance of knowing their children's health status and provide primary health care services including consultation to ensure holistic health and well-being. As a part of this medical camp, free medicines and vitamin syrups were also distributed to the children who came for

treatment in the medical camp.

Commenting on the Medical Camp, Dr. Joseph Thomas, Founder and the Medical Director, Medlounges said, "We are extremely happy to join hands with CRY, India's most trusted NGO that work towards making a difference to the underserved group across India. Through this combined initiative, our main aim is to make 'A vision of future ready Vyasarpadi' and a healthy place for the future generations."

He added, "This is our first step to address the issues and this combined initiative not only address the medical needs of the deprived children in and around Vyasarpadi but also further strengthen our relationship with CRY that has already existed in the past".

CRY works on the issues related to protection and education rights of the children particularly – Female Foeticide, Child labour from the bonded labour families and availability and accessibility of education.

Highlighting CRY's efforts in addressing issues of the most marginalised children, John Roberts, Regional Director – South of Child Rights and You (CRY) said, "CRY works with the most marginalised sections across India including Chennai. Children in these vulnerable communities are often deprived of their rights, be it access to good health, quality education or safe and protected environment. The CRY-Medlounges partnership is a step towards assessing the general health of the children and protect the well-being of children."

Overall, the complimentary medical camp received an overwhelming response from the locals. Our team observed that there is a lack of nutrition among these children as Covid-19 has almost increased the anxiety and stress of almost all the children due to social distancing, confinement increase and other issues.

Vicks Cough Drops unveil new campaign film with Brand ambassador Ranveer Singhto urge youth to speak their voice

~ Youth Icon Ranveer Singh comes together with Actor Ronit Roy in the latest Vicks commercial, asks the audience to leave behind their voice and reclaim the confidence in their voice

Chennai, March 28 2022: India's leading cold and flu brand Vicks, launched a new campaign film starring brand ambassador Ranveer Singh. The campaign film, which also features Ronit Roy, brings back Vicks' iconic message of leading a khich-khich free voice, through "Vicks kigolikhoh de boli". The objective of this film, conceptualised by Vicks India and Publicis Singapore, is to inspire individuals to stand up for their dreams and passions and showcase how a khich-khich free conversation can help people express themselves without hesitation.

Ronit Roy and Ranveer Singh, seen as a father-son duo respectively are discussing Ranveer's career. Ranveer wants to put his wishes forth but the khich-khich in his throat causes an interruption. Taking help from a 'Vicks kigoli', Ranveer informs his father about his choice



of career in his typical zealous manner. Ranveer explains how Vicks helped him eliminate the khich-khich and speak up confidently to follow his dreams.

Speaking on the campaign, superstar Ranveer Singh shared, "I support the message this campaign film is communicating to the youth. Vicks Cough Drops is a brand that has been a part of my childhood and continues to be my go-to even now. Together we can certainly encourage the world to be khich-khich free and be confident towards achieving what they want."

Commenting about his association with the brand, Ronit Roy, said, "Through generations, my family and I have been relying on Vicks to get rid of cough and cold which is why working on this film was a wonderful experience. I strongly believe the message that this film communicates and the idea it provides for youth to not let khich-khich hold them back from what they want to achieve."

Sahil Sethi, Senior Director, and Category Head, Personal Healthcare, Procter and Gamble, added, "Vicks cough drops have been relieving khich-khich for

generations of Indians. Relieving khich-khich and enabling one to speak with confidence is what we stand by. Through this campaign film, our aim is to highlight the confidence one Vicks kiGoli can bring in a person to speak up, without facing any throat irritation."

Talking about the campaign film, Mihir Dhairyawan: Creative Director, Publicis Singapore, said, "This lozenge clears the throat, so you can speak your mind. And Ranveer Singh is someone who is never too shy to express himself. So, you can already see the natural connect between our product and its ambassador. We were also keen to see what magic this chemistry between Ranveer and Ronit would dish out. And we were not left disappointed. Ranveer's energy that is in contrast with Ronit's poise is what makes this spot thoroughly enjoyable."

Tata Capital Healthcare Fund Raises its Second India Focused Lifesciences & Healthcare Private Equity Fund of INR 955 Crores (~US\$126 mn.)

Chennai, March 28 2022: Tata Capital Healthcare Fund II (TCHF II), sponsored by Tata Capital Limited, has announced the Final Close of its fund with Investor commitments of INR 955 Crores (~US\$126 million), meeting its target AUM of INR 950 crores (excluding green-shoe). This was a follow-up to the Tata Capital Healthcare Fund I which had raised INR 411 Crore (~US\$70 million) in 2012.

TCHF II has received commitments from domestic and international financial and strategic institutions including some of the global pharma, medical equipment companies, development financial institutions and large European Institutions indicating their support for the TCHF investment strategy. TCHF II is also privileged to receive commitment from the 'Self Reliant India (SRI)' Fund of the Government of India under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Visalakshi Chandramouli, Managing Partner of TCHF articulating the Fund's investment strategy said, "TCHF II will seek to achieve returns by principally taking equity positions in healthcare and life sciences related companies having significant business exposure to India. The investment strategy of TCHF II is predicated on the following two themes:

Domestic Healthcare and Life Sciences Consumption: Focused on the Indian consumption story in healthcare and life sciences related businesses. It is estimated that 60% of TCHF II's investments will cater to this theme.

Healthcare and Life Sciences Competency: Focused on leveraging India's expertise in the healthcare and life sciences sectors to deliver products / services to the world markets. It is estimated that 40% of TCHF II's investments will cater to this theme.

We remain grateful and would like to thank our investors for reposing faith and trust in the Tata Capital Healthcare Fund franchise"

Vamesh Chovatia, Partner of TCHF said, "TCHF II is seeking to invest across sub-sectors of Pharmaceuticals, Pharma & Allied Services, Healthcare Delivery, Medical Devices & Equipment's and Digital Health. The Fund has already made commitments to three companies in the areas of Domestic Pharma Formulations – Linux Pharma; Diagnostic Services – Atulaya Healthcare and Digital Health – Deeptek Inc. and expects to announce its fourth investment shortly. The Fund has a rich pipeline of deals and is expected to continue its deal momentum in the coming months. The Fund will typically look at committing \$5mn - \$15mn per transaction and a potentially a larger ticket size along with co-

investment support from its Limited Partners who have committed to invest in the Fund."

The USD 190+ billion Indian healthcare and life sciences market is estimated to grow at a compounded annual growth rate ("CAGR") of 14% over the next five years and it represents an attractive investment opportunity. Indian healthcare and life sciences market is the second fastest-growing market in the world. India's population of over 1.3 billion people provides a strong demand driver as there is a significant mismatch between supply and demand in the healthcare and life sciences sector. The team considers that this supply-demand mismatch, combined with the world class skill sets of India's healthcare and pharmaceutical professionals, make the healthcare and life sciences sector a compelling investment opportunity.

Triphala: A Cabalistic Herb in field of Healthcare!!!

Chennai, March 28 2022: Triphala, drug gifted by Ayurveda to the world which comprises a mixture of three plants mainly comprising of Emblica officinalis (Amalaki), Terminalia bellerica (Bibhitaki), Terminalia chebula (Haritaki) with the beneficial role in Dental and Medical area. Triphala has its own role in treating various health issues such as gastrointestinal, stress-induced disorders, diabetic, obesity, cardiovascular diseases. Various studies has also shown that Triphala has an antimicrobial, radioprotective, anti-neoplastic, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-aging Properties. In addition, strong antimicrobial properties have also been visualised in treating various dental issues like mouth ulcers, gingivitis, gum diseases etc. Hence Triphala is of high medicinal value as it is both affordable and accessible in developing countries like India. However, further research needs to be explored in order to understand the underlying mechanism of various therapeutic actions of Triphala which can pave a better way in the field of dentistry and as well in medicine.



Dr. Aravindha Babu, MDS, FICD (USA), Professor in Oral Pathology & Assistant Director of Centre of Oral Cancer Research, Sree Balaji Dental College and Hospital, Pallikaranai, Chennai and Dr. Jayalalitha S (PhD in Biotechnology) works for an MNC in India.

Strengthening Nari Shakti of North East Regional for A Sustainable Livelihood Implemented by Nercrms

Chennai, March 28 2022: Rice is one of the most cultivated grain crops in India; it is also the staple diet of a major part of the North East. The traditional hand method of cultivation and harvesting is still practiced. They range from low-lying lake areas to sloppy land of high hills in different rice growing seasons by adopting their age-old indigenous rice growing methods and practices for

their food and livelihood.

Smt. Arjun Pudi Chakma, D/o of Shri Chitra Bahu Chakma, Ujebong NaRMG, Village Jyotsnapur II, Diyun, Arunachal Pradesh. Due to family issues became homeless. The economic status of the family was inseparable. Without any hope for a better life, her life was in jeopardy. After one month, her relatives helped her build a small house.

Being a single mother and the sole breadwinner, she has endured a lot of hardship to support her family. She started working as a daily wage, earning a meagre amount of Rs 100/- or Rs 150/- only per day. With such an acute amount of money, she was unable to take care of her family's basic needs.

When NERC RMS came to light in the village in the year 2018, all the NaRMG members

from Ujebong NaRMG agreed to support her with a rice mill (small scale) under NERC RMS activity at a cost of Rs. 38000/-.

Her monthly income from the rice mill is Rs 6,000/-per month. She supports her two daughters for their schooling and family livelihood. She now has a decent standard of living and is continuously looking for ways to expand her business.