

# Vice President calls for taking higher education to rural areas to make it more inclusive and equitable

Chennai, May 01 2022: The Vice President, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu today called for taking higher education into the rural areas and making it more inclusive and equitable.

This dimension of inclusiveness and equitable access to education to rural youth is critical because education plays a key role in human development, nation-building, and creating a prosperous and sustainable global future, the Vice President stressed.

Speaking at the Centenary celebrations of the Delhi University, Shri Naidu emphasised that Universities must come out with innovative and out of box ideas to address the pressing problems of the society. He also said that the ultimate aim of the research should be to make people's lives more comfortable and happier.

Pointing out that India has the world's largest

youth population, the Vice President called for harnessing the collective power of our human resources for nation building. Describing the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) as a far-sighted document which is set to revolutionize the educational landscape of the country, he said that its emphasis on imparting education in one's mother tongue when implemented in schools, colleges and universities will prove to be a game-changer. Calling for providing basic education in a child's mother tongue, Shri Naidu said the local language must be the main mode of communication in the administration and courts. "Every gazette notification and government order should be in the local or native language so that the common man understands it," he added.

Shri Naidu reminded the gathering that ancient India had enjoyed the



reputation of being a Viswaguru and was a renowned cradle of culture. He said reputed centres of knowledge, among the earliest known to humanity, like the universities of Nalanda, Takshashila, Vikramshila, Vallabhi and Odantapuri bear ample testimony to

this fact. Declaring that it is his deep-seated wish to see Indian Universities ranked among the top 10 universities of the world, the Vice President asked all stakeholders to work with this aim in mind.

Observing that education is not merely for employment, he said it was

for enhancement of knowledge and enlightenment. Education is a lifelong process of learning and does not end with mere acquisition of degrees. He exhorted the students to dream big, aim high and work hard to succeed in life.

Emphasising the

importance of peace for achieving all-round progress, the Vice President said that one would not be able to pay attention to anything if there is tension.

Stressing the need for Indianization of our education system, the Vice President wanted the

educational institutions to promote Indian culture and traditional values such as respect for elders, respect for teachers and love for nature. Referring to the increasing frequency of extreme climatic events like the ongoing heat wave, he urged everyone to respect and live in harmony with nature.

Shri Naidu also advised the students to give equal importance to sports and games or yoga for physical fitness and avoid a sedentary lifestyle. He also wanted them to eat properly cooked traditional food as prescribed by ancestors according to our bodily needs and climatic conditions.

On this occasion, the Vice President also released the Commemorative Centenary Stamp, Commemorative Centenary Coin, Commemorative Centenary volume and the

Delhi University Undergraduate Curriculum Framework- 2022 (Hindi, Sanskrit & Telugu versions). He also launched the Centenary Website of the University and felicitated Ms. Kritika Khinchi, student of Gargi College and creator of the Centenary Logo for the University of Delhi.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Prof. Yogesh Singh, Vice Chancellor, Delhi University, Prof. Shri Prakash Singh, Director South Delhi Campus, Ms Manju Kumar, Chief Postmaster General, Delhi Circle, Prof. Balram Pani, Dean of Colleges, Dr. Vikas Gupta, Registrar, Prof. Rajni Abbi, Proctor, Prof. Nerra Agnimitra, Convener, Centenary Celebrations, faculty, staff, students and other dignitaries attended the event.

## GST Revenue collection for April 2022 highest ever at Rs 1.68 lakh crore

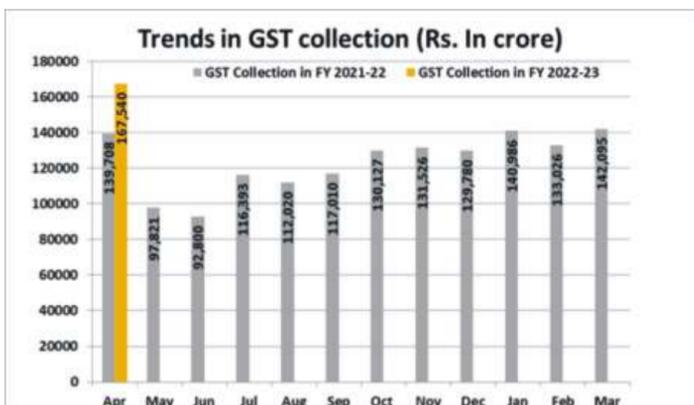
Chennai, May 01 2022: The gross GST revenue collected in the month of April, 2022 is Rs 1,67,540 crore of which CGST is Rs 33,159 crore, SGST is Rs 41,793 crore, IGST is Rs 81,939 crore (including Rs 36,705 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 10,649 crore (including Rs 857 crore collected on import of goods).

The gross GST collection in April 2022 is all time high, Rs 25,000 crore more than the next highest collection of Rs. 1,42,095 crore, just last month.

The government has settled Rs 33,423 crore to CGST and Rs 26962 crore to SGST from IGST. The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of April 2022 after regular settlement is Rs 66,582 crore for CGST and Rs 68,755 crore for the SGST.

The revenues for the month of April 2022 are 20% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year. During the month, revenues from import of goods was 30% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 17% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

For the first time gross GST collection has crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore mark. Total number of e-way bills generated in the month of March 2022 was 7.7 crore, which is



13% higher than 6.8 crore e-way bills generated in the month of February 2022, which reflects recovery of business activity at faster pace.

Month of April 2022 saw the highest ever tax collection in a single day on 20th April 2022 and highest collection during an hour, during 4 PM to 5PM on that day. On 20th April 2022, Rs 57,847 crore was paid through 9.58 lakh transactions and during 4-5 PM, almost Rs 8,000 crore was paid through 88,000 transactions. The highest single day payment last year (on the same date) was Rs 48,000 crore through 7.22 lakh transactions and highest one hour collection (2-

3PM on the same date last year) was Rs 6,400 crore through 65,000 transactions.

During April 2022, 1.06 crore GST returns in GSTR-3B were filed, of which 97 lakh pertained to the month of March 2022, as compared to total 92 lakh returns filed during April 2021. Similarly, during April 2022, 1.05 crore statements of invoices issued in GSTR-1 were filed. Till end of the month, the filing percentage for GSTR-3B in April 2022 was 84.7% as compared to 78.3% in April 2021 and the filing percentage for GSTR-1 in April 2022 was 83.11% as compared to 73.9% in April 2021.

This shows clear improvement in the compliance behaviour, which has been a result of various measures taken by the tax administration to nudge taxpayers to file returns timely, to making compliance easier and smoother and strict enforcement action taken against errant taxpayers identified based on data analytics and artificial intelligence.

The chart below shows trends in monthly gross GST revenues during the current year. The table shows the state-wise figures of GST collected in each State during the month of April 2022 as compared to April 2021.

## India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) enters into force

Chennai, May 01 2022: The historic India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which was signed between the two nations on 18 February 2022, officially entered into force today. Secretary, Department of Commerce, Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, flagged off the first consignment of goods comprising of Jewellery products from India to UAE under the India-UAE CEPA at a function in New Customs House in New Delhi today.

In a symbolic gesture operationalizing the landmark Agreement, Shri B V R Subrahmanyam, Hon'ble Commerce Secretary to Government of India, handed over Certificates of Origin to three exporters from the Gems & Jewellery sector. The aforementioned consignment which will now attract zero customs duty under this Agreement is expected to reach Dubai today, 01 May 2022.

Gems & Jewellery sector contributes a substantial portion of India's exports to the UAE and is a sector that is expected to benefit significantly from the tariff concessions obtained for Indian products under the India-UAE CEPA.

Overall, India will benefit from preferential market access provided by the UAE on over 97% of its tariff lines which account for 99% of Indian exports to the UAE in value terms particularly from labour-intensive sectors such as Gems and Jewellery, Textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural and wood products, engineering products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and Automobiles. As regards trade in services, Indian service providers will have enhanced access to around 111 sub-sectors from the 11 broad service sectors.

CEPA is expected to increase the total value of bilateral trade in goods to over US\$100 billion and trade in services to over US\$ 15 billion within five years.

Speaking at the ceremony, Commerce Secretary said it was a momentous occasion. Highlighting the immense potential for strategic partnership between the two nations, he said that the agreement is a trendsetter because of the short time in which it was negotiated.

He added that although the agreement had envisioned a target of USD

100 billion worth of trade, given the size of India's market and the access that UAE would give to India, much more could be achieved. Noting that the agreement was an outcome of the vision of the leaders of the two nations, the Commerce Secretary said that for India, UAE would be a gateway to the world.

Underscoring the need for India products to be competitive in the international market, the Secretary said that there was a need to build and augment our capacities. He also added that the government was working on reducing the logistics cost so that the products from hinterland could also be competitive.

The Commerce Secretary informed that India was negotiating trade agreements at a very fast pace with complementary economies and that talks were ongoing with UK, Canada and EU.

He also spoke of the need to communicate the benefits of such trade agreements to the exporter community in layman's language so that they understand the provisions of the agreement and make the best possible use of it. Highlighting the need for market intelligence and data analytics, which the

government would be focusing on in future, the Secretary urged the exporters to take advantage of free trade agreements.

Stating that USD 670 bn of exports (goods and service) during last fiscal year constituted 22-23% of the GDP, Shri Subrahmanyam said that exports are an important engine of growth in every economy and added that the world was looking to India as a reliable partner.

Conveying a vision for India's future in 2047, the Secretary said that we would be a USD 40 trillion economy in the next 25 years. He asserted that the Department of Commerce has also been strengthening itself to be future ready and meet the challenges of tomorrow with focus on trade promotion.

Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director General of Foreign Trade; Shri Surjit Bhujbal, Chief Commissioner of Customs; Shri Sanjay Bansal, Commissioner of Customs; other senior officials from Department of Commerce; and representatives from Industry/Exporters Community and media fraternity witnessed this ceremony.

**இ-சேவை மையம்**  
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## Join hands and Quench the thirst of needy Animals and Birds

Chennai, May 01 2022: People For Cattle in India (PFCI), launched the Water Bowl Challenge 2022 at SPP Gardens today (April 30th). PFCI is an NGO formed by the Animal Lovers to promote Animal Welfare and prevent Animal Cruelty in India. PFCI has been conducting the Water Bowl Challenge since 2014.



Global warming has caused rising temperatures and hotter summers. Animals face distress due to lack of water and suffer from parched throat and dehydration. The objective of the Water Bowl Challenge is to encourage people to place water bowls in their houses, terrace, balcony, garden, office, streets and wherever possible to quench the thirst of birds and animals.

Water Bowl Challenge 2022 was launched by Director / Producer Aishwarya Rajinikanth, Actor Iswarya Menon, Actor Smruthi Venkat and others. Aishwariya Rajinikanth says that

humans can quench their thirst and easily have access to clean drinking water. She however voices her concern for animals and birds that are dehydrated in this blistering heat and are unable to alleviate their parched throat. She encourages people to place a bowl of clean water on their balconies and homes to become a Good Samaritan to their neighborhood animals and birds. Popular actress Iswarya Menon will be this year's campaign brand ambassador. She urged people to put out a bowl of water for the animals & birds. Clean access to water is a privilege for community animals that otherwise have to depend

on unhealthy source of water to quench their thirst, which in turn can lead to diseases.

To take up the water bowl challenge, one has to collect his/her water bowl, click a picture with an animal/bird drinking water from the bowl they had collected from PFCI and challenge 5 people to do the same. The participants have to use the hashtag #WaterBowlChallenge2022 when they post the pictures on social media. The 5 most creative entries will be qualified for surprise gifts from the PFCI Team.

Arun Prasanna, Founder of PFCI requests people to place water bowls for animals to help them tide over these hot

summer months. This year's Water Bowl Challenge was partnered by reputed pet food brand, Royal Canin and Mr Govind Suryawanshi of Royal Canin said, "Dogs & Cats across India suffer from dehydration during summer. Royal Canin is extremely happy to associate with NGOs for the Water Bowl Initiative that helps quench the thirst of Animals"

PFCI has been distributing water bowls since 2014 & in 2021, had distributed 1500 bowls and this year intends to distribute 2000. In the past, The Water Bowl Challenge has witnessed celebrities, industrialist & bureaucrats participating and spreading awareness in the past few years. This year too, we expect a good participation from the animal lovers and general public alike. Together we can make a difference!

Sign up to collect a free PFCI bowl and participate in the challenge. Bowls are allotted on a first come first serve basis.

## S4S Technologies announced as winner of The/Nudge Prize | Cisco Agri Challenge

Chennai, May 01 2022: S4S Technologies was selected as the winner of the 'The/Nudge Prize | Cisco Agri Challenge', and Bioprime Agrisolutions emerged as the runner-up of the contest, which had called for 'solutions to enhance the profitability of small scale farmers', with 10-million-lives potential. The winners were identified by a grand jury aided by the Monitoring and Evaluation exercise conducted by Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA); and felicitated by Shri Manoj Ahuja, Agriculture Secretary, Government of India.

Cisco and The/Nudge Institute announced the challenge in December 2020 in partnership with the Office of the PSA, Govt. of India, with an aim to mobilize agri startups working towards income generation and sustainable livelihoods for small/marginal farmers, while delivering positive economic, social, and environmental value.

The Grand Finale revealed the winning ideas and celebrated the work of these exceptional agri entrepreneurs. While the winning organization took home a prize money of INR 1 crore, the runner-up bagged Rs 25 lakhs, in addition to the milestone grants, further access to investors, mentors, knowledge and technology partners, and policy circle advisers, over the 18-month period of the program.

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, commended 'The/Nudge Prize| Cisco Agri Challenge' program, saying, "It is heartening to see the leading technology company Cisco Systems and The/Nudge Institute driving innovation programs like Cisco Agri Challenge. Through this initiative, young Indian entrepreneurs are bringing innovation and affordable technologies to farmers. The Cisco Agri Challenge has successfully brought together private sector investors, government, citizens, society, and agriculture experts, apart from providing financial support to startups. The Central Government has also launched the Digital Agriculture Mission for



providing technology-led solutions in the agriculture sector and the work of Cisco and The/Nudge Institute is a welcome step in this direction. I would like to congratulate the teams for this commendable work."

Harish Krishnan, Managing Director & Chief Policy Officer, Cisco India and SAARC congratulated the participating start-ups and said, "I congratulate S4S Technologies and Bioprime, who have won the Cisco Agri Challenge. The objective of Cisco Agri Challenge is to inspire innovation that will enhance the profitability of small-scale farmers. This aligns with Cisco's purpose to power an inclusive future for all. I want to thank the Principal Scientific Advisor's office and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare for their guidance and support. I would also like to thank The/Nudge Institute to have partnered with Cisco in organizing this challenge."

Sudha Srinivasan, CEO, The/Nudge Centre for Social Innovation shared that, "The Cisco Agri Challenge drew talent, technology, capital, and attention to the most pressing land, crop, infrastructure, market fulfillment, and social protection issues of small farmers, spurred by the pandemic. The challenge has spotlighted innovative ideas that will empower India to leapfrog in developing sustainable solutions for an inclusive economy, biodiversity preservation, environmental conservation, climate change, and regenerative agriculture. Congratulations to the winners of the challenge."

The finalists, over the course of the challenge, have raised over ₹30 Crores from investors. In

addition, many of them have won international awards and accolades. Takachar, which is on a mission to fight climate change and increase farmer incomes by drastically scaling the productive utilization of crop residues, was the recipient of the prestigious Earthshot Prize. Similarly, S4S Technologies, which is working on building a full-stack food processing platform, was recently awarded the Zyed Sustainability Prize.

Commenting on winning the prize, Nidhi Pant, Co-founder, S4S Technologies said, "Accepting the prize on behalf of our women farmers, team, partners and customers. We rise by lifting others - with any of our wins. At the end, our smallholder farmer gains. We are thankful to Govt. of India, The/Nudge Team and Cisco for all the support". S4S Technologies is a food preservation company powered by UN award-winning solar drying technology. The majority of farmers in India face the issue of proper storage post-harvesting period, as a result of which their crop isn't sold and eventually deteriorates. S4S technologies accept grade B and grade C produce from farmers to produce preservative-free, dehydrated food having one year of shelf life. On one side, S4S provides chemical-free, nutritious products to consumers, and on the other side, it has created a positive impact on a farmer's livelihood helping them increase their income by over 50%. The runner-up, Bioprime, offers relief to farmers worldwide, struggling with crop loss, temperature fluctuations, drought, resilient insects and diseases. To achieve this they are developing effective & affordable Agri biologicals with time-

proven biomolecules, life-friendly chemistry, smart material and energy use.

Notable attendees at the event included Prof. Dharmendra Saraswat from Purdue University, Mr. Arun Seth (Chairman, NASSCOM Foundation), Mr. MK Khan (Chairman, I C F A), Mekhala Krishnamurthy (CPR, Ashoka), Mr. Ajai Choudhary (cofounder HCL), Dr. Chintan Vaishnav (Mission Director- AIM, NITI Aayog), Srivalli Krishnan (Sr. Program Officer - Global Development - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), Vijay Mahajan (CEO, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation), Hemendra Mathur (Bharat Innovation Fund), members of the Brazilian embassy and 50+ guests representing the agri / Innovation ecosystem.

Throughout the program, participants were supported by an eminent circle of partners and experts like Mark Kahn (Managing Partner, Omnivore), Anil Kumar SG (Founder & CEO, Samunnati), Samit Ghosh (Founder, Ujjivan) and Shamika Ravi (Non-resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution). Knowledge and Technology Partners include NSRCEL, IIM Bangalore, Purdue University and Sattva Consulting.

Through the mentorship and guidance offered as part of the challenge, the eight finalists (Bioprime, Takachar, Ecozen, S4S Technologies, Whrri, Khethworks, Dvara E-Dairy Solutions, Emertech Innovations) have gone on to accelerate their learning, refine their solutions and pivot their operations model to bring a stronger focus on smallholder farmers. From using blockchain technology to improve the agri value chain; to using clean-tech and IoT for precision agriculture, storage and market-linkage; and enabling affordable agri biologicals, these agri startups are setting the stage for scalable, breakthrough innovation in the agriculture sector, with sharp focus on the small/marginal farmer (86% of India's farming community).

## Prime Minister's Departure Statement ahead of his visit to Berlin, Copenhagen and Paris

Chennai, May 01 2022: I will be visiting Berlin, Germany on May 2, 2022 at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Olaf Scholz, Federal Chancellor of Germany following which I will travel to Copenhagen, Denmark from May 3-4, 2022 at the invitation of H.E. Ms. Mette Frederiksen, Prime Minister of Denmark to hold bilateral engagements and also participate in the Second India-Nordic Summit. On the way back to India, I will make a brief stopover in Paris, France for a meeting with H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of France.

My visit to Berlin will be an opportunity to hold detailed bilateral discussions with Chancellor Scholz, whom I met at G20 last year in his previous capacity as Vice-Chancellor and Finance Minister. We will co-chair the 6th India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations (IGC), a unique biennial format which India conducts only with Germany. Several Indian ministers will also travel to Germany and hold consultations with their German counterparts.

I see this IGC as an early engagement with the new government in Germany, within six months of its formation, which will be helpful to identify our priorities for the medium and long term.

Germany commemorated 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations and have been strategic partners since 2000. I look forward to exchanging views with Chancellor Scholz on strategic, regional and global developments that concern us both.

The long standing commercial ties between India and Germany form one of the pillars of our Strategic Partnership, and Chancellor Scholz and I will also jointly address a Business Roundtable with the goal of energising our industry to industry cooperation, which will help strengthen the post-Covid economic recovery in both countries.

Continental Europe is home to over one million persons of Indian origin, and Germany has a significant proportion of this Diaspora. The Indian Diaspora is an important anchor in our relations with Europe and therefore I will take the opportunity of my visit to the continent to meet our brothers and sisters there.

From Berlin, I will travel to Copenhagen where I will have a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Frederiksen which will provide an opportunity to review the progress in our unique 'Green Strategic Partnership' with Denmark, as well as other aspects of our bilateral

relations. I will also participate in the India-Denmark Business Roundtable as well as interact with the Indian community in Denmark.

Apart from the bilateral engagements with Denmark, I will also take part in the 2nd India-Nordic Summit along with Prime Ministers of Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Sweden and Norway where we will take stock of our cooperation since the First India-Nordic Summit in 2018. The Summit will focus on subjects like post-pandemic economic recovery, climate change, innovation and technology, renewable energy, the evolving global security scenario and India-Nordic cooperation in the Arctic region.

On the side-lines of the Summit, I will also meet the leaders of the other four Nordic countries and review the progress in India's bilateral relations with them.

Nordic countries are important partners for India in sustainability, renewable energy, digitisation and innovation. The visit will help in expanding our multifaceted cooperation with the Nordic region.

During my return journey, I will stopover in Paris to meet my friend, President Macron. President Macron has very recently been re-elected, and



my visit just ten days after the result will not only allow me to convey my personal congratulations in-person, but also reaffirm the close friendship between the two countries. This will also give us the opportunity to set the tone of the next phase of the India-France Strategic Partnership.

President Macron and I will share assessments on various regional and global issues and will take stock of ongoing bilateral cooperation. It is my firm belief that two countries that share such similar vision and values for the global order, must work in close cooperation with each other.

My visit to Europe comes at a time when the region faces many challenges and choices. Through my engagements, I intend to strengthen the spirit of cooperation with our European partners, who are important companions in India's quest for peace and prosperity.

## India's Pharma exports grow by 103% since 2013-14

Chennai, May 01 2022: Indian pharma exports witnessed a growth of 103% since 2013-14, from Rs. 90,415 Crores in 2013-14 to Rs. 1,83,422 Crores in 2021-22. The exports achieved in 2021-22 is the Pharma Sector's best export performance ever. It is a remarkable growth with exports growing by almost USD 10 billion in 8 years.

Highlighting the achievement in a tweet, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal said that Under the active leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi India has been serving as the 'pharmacy of the world'.

Building on the

outstanding performance in the previous FY 2020-21, Indian pharma exports once again registered a healthy performance in 2021-22. The pharma exports in 2021-22 sustained a positive growth despite the global trade disruptions and drop in demand for COVID related medicines. The trade balance continues to be in India's favour, with a surplus of USD 15175.81 Million.

Indian pharma companies enabled by their price competitiveness and good quality, have made global mark, with 60 per cent of the world's vaccines and 20% of generic medicines coming from India.

India ranks 3rd worldwide for production

by volume and 14th by value. Behind India's pharma success story is our world class manufacturing excellence, robust infrastructure, cost-competitiveness, trained human capital and innovation. The current market size of the Indian pharmaceutical industry is around USD 50 billion.

The share of pharmaceutical and drugs in our global exports is 5.92%. Formulations and biologicals continue to account for a major share of 73.31% in our total exports, followed by Bulk drugs and drug intermediates with exports of USD 4437.64 million. India's top 5 pharma export destinations are USA, UK, South Africa, Russia and Nigeria.

It is also noteworthy that around 55 % of our pharma exports cater to highly regulated markets. Indian pharma companies have a substantial share in the prescription market in the US and EU. The largest number of FDA approved plants outside the US is in India.

Even in the year, 2020-21, Indian drugs and pharmaceuticals had registered a sharp growth amid the COVID despair, achieving an export of USD 24.4 Bn with a YoY growth of 18%.

The extraordinary exports growth in 2020-21 was achieved braving the frequent lock downs, global supply chain disruptions and the depressed manufacturing sector. Indian pharma industry played a pivotal

role in fighting against the COVID pandemic and demonstrating to the world that we continue to be a reliable and dependent partner when it comes to dealing with a global health crisis.

Indian vaccine industry developed Covid vaccine with indigenous technology in collaboration with India's research institution like ICMR and NIV with in shortest time on par with highly developed countries like America and EU. India provided 115 million doses of vaccines to more than 97 countries.

As part of the trade agreements, India also signed cooperation agreement with UAE and Australia which will give enhanced access to Indian pharma products to these markets.



## Wipro GE Healthcare Launches 'Made in India' CT System to Strengthen Access to Quality Healthcare Across India

Chennai, May 01 2022: Wipro GE Healthcare, a leading global medical technology and digital solutions innovator, today, announced the launch of its next generation Revolution Aspire CT (Computed Tomography) scanner. Revolution Aspire is an advanced imaging solution designed and manufactured end-to-end in India, at the newly launched Wipro GE Medical Devices Manufacturing plant, in line with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. The CT system is equipped with higher imaging intelligence to improve clinical confidence when diagnosing diseases and anomalies.

India faces a dual challenge of urban-rural divide and disease burden. Even though a major proportion of the population lives in rural areas, the majority of health facilities are concentrated in select large cities. India also depends on imports for higher-end medical products such as cancer diagnostics, medical imaging tools, amongst others. With the Government emphasizing early diagnosis of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and self-reliance, through Ayushman Bharat, there is an increased demand for advanced medical devices. The Revolution Aspire CT aims to address this need and enable access to quality medical equipment across India, including tier 2 and tier 3 cities.

The Revolution Aspire CT scanner empowers clinicians with increased operational efficiency with upto 50% higher throughput\*. The rotation time in Revolution Aspire CT scanner has been increased by 20%, enabling clinicians to provide faster diagnosis\*. That along with a significantly improved cooling rate, the scanner allows a higher rate of continuous scanning and can handle higher patient volumes per day. The CT scanner also comes with a new detector design and algorithm, along with smart features such as Smart MAR, that enables up to 30% improved image quality\*. As one of the most powerful systems in its segment, the system is redesigned to deliver higher performance through tube capacity, tube current, and X-ray generator power while maintaining the same footprint. Additionally, it provides intelligent IQ to provide exceptional clinical outcomes, besides reduced radiation dosage for patients and clinicians' safety.

Commenting on the launch, Dr. Devi Shetty, Chairman and Senior Consultant Cardiac Surgeon said, "Access to healthcare has been deeply asymmetric in India and innovative medical technology products will help bridge this gap. We are witnessing this change with cutting-edge, locally manufactured, and affordable products such as the Revolution Aspire CT scanner helping

democratize the market, taking quality healthcare to tier 2 cities and beyond. It is critical for all health centres, big and small, to have access to quality diagnosis. I applaud Wipro GE Healthcare's endeavour to empower India's healthcare infrastructure with this revolutionary product for improved patient care delivery."

Dr. Shraavan Subramanyam, Managing Director, Wipro GE Healthcare said, "We at Wipro GE Healthcare are committed to India's vision of self-reliance. With Revolution Aspire CT system we aim to cater to the underserved markets and bridge the access gap to quality healthcare. We look forward to aligning closely with the government and will continue to invest medical devices 'made in India, for India and for the world'; and advance our mission of enabling 'healthcare for all.'"

Srikanth Suryanarayanan, Head Imaging, GE Healthcare, said, "We are very proud to launch the Revolution Aspire CT scanner our 'made in India' product. It is one of our most efficient CT scanners and has been designed with accessibility in mind. With an increasing burden on the healthcare sector following the impact of COVID-19, healthcare institutions need advanced medical devices - more than ever before, for faster and more accurate diagnosis. Our new CT, is a

powerful system that empowers the clinicians as well as the patients with greater efficiency, better results and higher comfort."

The Revolution Aspire CT scanner is developed to ensure that the patient experience is seamless and stress-free. The scanner is equipped with a 70cm gantry bore aperture that can accommodate a diverse set of patients and an enhanced user interface which reduces preparation time and improves comfort. It is also incorporated with GE Healthcare's ASiR technology which supports a lower radiation dose by 40%\*, keeping patient safety in mind. Created as a future-ready product, the Revolution Aspire CT is built to be scalable with evolving needs of healthcare institutions.

The Revolution Aspire CT scanner has been manufactured at the recently launched Wipro GE Medical Device Manufacturing factory (MDM). The factory is one of 15 medical device manufacturers approved under the government's PLI Scheme. Aligned to the National Agenda of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', Wipro GE healthcare has invested a little over INR100 crore in this facility and aims to further boost local manufacturing of medical devices in India. The plant is a 100% subsidiary of Wipro GE Healthcare and has been setup as a green field legal entity.

## Titan Eye+ launches 100th store in Tamil Nadu at Pondy Bazaar, Chennai

Chennai, May 01 2022: Chennai, On its mission to become the biggest and best eyecare destination for Indian consumers through 1000 stores across the country, Titan Eye+, expands its footprint in Tamil Nadu and launches its 760th store in Chennai. The novel store at Pondy Bazaar, Chennai was inaugurated by Mr. Saumen Bhaumik, CEO and Mr. A. R Srinivasan CSRO EyeCare Division, Titan Company Limited on April 27th.

The store located at Apex Chamber, Pondy Bazaar is spread across 1500 sq. ft and brings the best of eyecare. It offers an enhanced shopping



experience and is equipped to suit the varied needs of the customer. The brand offers a range of innovative products such as Titan EyeX - its latest smart eyewear, anti-fog and anti-viral lenses amongst many, all of it at the starting price of just Rs 999. The store

also provides high precision Titan lenses and customized powered sunglasses. Customers can avail the facility of Free Zero Error Eye Testing, conducted by optometrists who are trained and certified by the world famous Sankara

Nethralaya. Mr. A. R Srinivasan, CSRO EyeCare Division, Titan Company Limited said "With the launch of the Pondy Bazaar store in Chennai, we have hit the 100th store mark in Tamil Nadu and are heading rapidly towards our plan of 1000 stores across 400+ cities. Through our expertise and experience, we have strived to reach more consumers in Tamil Nadu and provide them with the best services in eyecare.

The store is located at: Apex Chambers, 20/35 Ground Floor, Sir Theagaraya Road, T Nagar Chennai-17

## DD National Pet Show wins ENBA Award 2021

Chennai, May 01 2022: Yet again, proving its mettle when it comes to production of quality content that matters, Doordarshan has won ENBA Award 2021 for the best in-depth Hindi series. TV series based on pet care 'Best Friend Forever' on Doordarshan has won big at the 14th edition of the Exchange4media News Broadcasting Awards (ENBA).



Best Friend Forever is half-an-hour weekly live phone-in show on DD National, wherein two pet experts guide people on how to take care of their pets, about their food, nutrition, routine health check-ups, vaccination

and other pet related issues. Objective of the show is to maintain a two way communication where viewers can directly call and talk to the experts, and share their worries and experiences. From the first day, phone calls started pouring in

from across the country. Apart from other age-groups, youngsters and kids engage the most with the show.

The show also features stories which explain unique relationship one develops with their pets

and how pets not only take the modern day stress away but are also life-savers. The show is aired every Sunday at 7 pm and is also available on the YouTube channel of DD National. Click on the given link to watch all the episodes so far - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUimfS6qzIMzRVOMb92wfgGf22hgVo8p6>

The coveted ENBA awards celebrate remarkable work done by individuals and leaders in the media industry who are responsible for shaping the future of Television broadcasting in India.

## Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) wins 'Green Brand of The Year' Award at the IAA Olive Crown Awards 2022

Chennai, May 01 2022: Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Power won the 'Green Brand of The Year' title at the prestigious Olive Crown Award 2022, organised under the India chapter of the International Advertising Association (IC-IAA). EESL has been conferred the award for 'Now or Never' campaign, which was aimed at encouraging people to transition to sustainable and energy efficient practices, and increase awareness about EESL's programmes and offerings under the energy efficiency domain. Gracing the event with his august presence was Shri Aaditya Thackeray, Minister for Environment and Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra, who was also the Chief Guest for



the event.

Mr. Arun Kumar Mishra, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), EESL, said "We are honored to win this recognition for our energy efficiency initiatives. We firmly believe it's 'Now Or Never' to actively work towards the transition to clean energy. The campaign is representative of the urgency of transition to sustainable and energy efficient lifestyle."

Mr. Animesh Mishra, Chief General Manager, EESL said, "Winning the Green Brand of the Year title is symbolic of our dedication and

commitment to lead India towards a sustainable and energy secure future. It gives me immense pleasure to be a part of India's journey towards sustainable practices. EESL is committed towards bringing a positive transformation in the energy consumption habits of people in India."

As part of the Now or Never campaign awareness campaign, EESL created an engaging strategy to educate and urge people to adopt energy efficient appliances like LED bulbs and lights, BLDC

fans, Super-Efficient ACs and IE3 motors (for industries). Additionally, the campaign was also focused on increasing awareness about some of the most successful programmes of EESL — like Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP), Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA), Smart Metering National Programme (SMNP), National E-Mobility Programme, Decentralized Solar Power Plant Programme and Building Energy Efficiency Programme. All these programmes have helped in reducing an annual energy consumption by 57 billion units and avoided peak demand of 11,200 MW. They have also helped in reducing our CO2 emission by 45.5 million tonnes annually, which showcases EESL's commitment to accelerate India's path towards carbon neutrality.

## The purity of stainless steel and convenience of non-stick with TTK Prestige's new Platina non-stick range

Chennai, May 01 2022: Elevate your cookware with the Platina non-stick range, which is an elegant addition to the stainless-steel non-stick cookware range. Home-cooks can enjoy the purity of stainless-steel coupled with the convenience of non-stick. The Platina is a unique four layer non-stick coated stainless steel cookware range that uses less oil, is scratch resistant and metal spoon friendly. Its sturdy heat resistant handles allows for easier handling while cooking. Superior in every way, the Platina Non-Stick is the perfect addition to your kitchen.



TTK Prestige has left no stone unturned, even equipping the cookware

range with a unique impact forged bottom to ensure that food cooks fast and evenly. The toughened glass lid and the heat resistant handles make it a must-have for every Indian kitchen. The Platina non-stick range is specially designed to avoid burning and uneven cooking. For added convenience, the Platina

works both on gas stoves as well induction cooktops. The range consists of kadais with lids and frying pans.

Over the last 66 years, TTK Prestige has emerged into the go-to innovative kitchen appliances brand for home-cooks across the country. In fact, it is estimated that there exists a TTK Prestige

product in nearly every Indian kitchen. The brand operates on the pillars of trust, safety and Innovation, which forms the basis of every TTK Prestige product. Right from inception, the brand has addressed the pain points of home-cooks across the country. With the launch of the new Platina non-stick range, TTK Prestige is driving innovation in the cookware segment.

There is a five year warranty on the product and a one year warranty on the non-stick. The new range is available for purchase at Prestige Exclusive stores, select dealer outlets, the exclusive e-store [www.prestigexclusive.in](http://www.prestigexclusive.in) and other leading ecommerce sites.

## Chennai revels in traditional food delicacies this Ramzan, shows Swiggy order analysis

Chennai, May 01 2022: Ramzan is a very special time for the people of Chennai. The food fosters a sense of community, as families and friends break their day-long rozas and share a meal of mouth-watering delicacies.

Analysis of the orders placed on Swiggy in Chennai during Ramzan this year show that traditional favourites like chicken biryani, haleem, niharis, samosas, rabdi, malpua, and others continue to top the popularity charts.

Chicken Biryani flies high as ever: At the very centre of the food revelry was Chicken Biryani, with thousands of them being ordered in Chennai during this Ramzan. Chicken Biryani was closely followed by Chicken Fried rice.

Chennai numbers for Swiggy this Ramzan:

Chennai's



ordered two times the Bhajiya than they did last year during Ramzan!

Generous Chennai gifted the most number of Iftar Boxes on Swiggy this year

Chennai ordered nearly 4 lac plates of Biryani

The favorite desserts were Rasmalai,

Gulab Jamun and, Choco Lava Cake

Breaking their fast with Haleem: Swiggy witnessed a spike in the orders for haleem and niharis during Ramzan as compared to previous months.

While Nihari was ordered almost 38 times more this Ramzan when

compared to last year, Haleem was ordered nearly 24 times more this year as compared to last year during the month of Ramzan. Some of the popular haleem types ordered this year were Mutton Haleem, Special Haleem, and Chicken Haleem.

Comfort foods found a place among Ramzan dinner favorites: Other than Chicken Biryani, Chicken Fried rice and Haleem, orders placed during Iftar (between 5-7 PM) included dishes such as Dosa, Idly and Paneer Butter Masala.

What is Iftar without a Samosa? The most popular Iftar snacks included samosa, pav bhaji, bhajiya, bhel puri and French fries.

Note: The above findings are based on analysis of orders placed on Swiggy from April 2-22, 2022.

## THIS AKSHAYA TRITIYA, TANISHQ LAUNCHES AN EXTENSIVE BANGLE COLLECTION, 'KALAI' WITH EXCITING OFFERS

**\* To revel in the festivities, Tanishq offers Rs. 100\* off per gm on any gold jewellery & upto 20%\* off on Diamond jewellery value \***

Chennai, May 01 2022: Gold has riveted various cultures around the world and it signifies auspiciousness, grandeur and purity. It has an equal appeal for both adornment as well as investment. On the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Tritiya, Tanishq, India's most trusted jewellery brand from the house of Tata re-establishes belief in the significance of our 'Hands' that have the power to create, love, nurture and bless. Witness the wonder brought by our 'hands', with the extensive range of Bangles, 'Kalai' along with attractive offers this Akshaya Tritiya. Tanishq is offering Rs. 100\* off per gm on any gold jewellery and up to 20%\* off on Diamond jewellery value. The offer is valid for a limited period only.

'Hands' have a power of resurrecting the present and building the future. They have the ability to translate and deliver multitude of emotions. It has a touch of grace, mirrors feelings

and reinforces partnerships. It's the 'hand' that is often used in every auspicious activity followed by traditions.

Harping on the emerging trend with Bangles and to celebrate the auspiciousness brought by our 'hands', Tanishq launches 'Kalai', comprising of extensive designs and craftsmanship crafted in 18K to 22K gold. The wide spectrum of design inspiration is derived from various traditions including, gheroo finish south style bangles, antique bangle with charm of traditional workmanships like stamp work and enamelling, moon shaped elements and flowers, heritage architectural domes, statement piece with pearl bunching and a fine mix of workmanships like textured sheets, enamel, piroi reflecting grandeur of Rajasthan.

As per a consumer research undertaken by Tanishq, the increase in gold price is not likely to dampen the enthusiasm of gold buying this festive season as majority of

consumers have expressed an intent to purchase despite an increase in gold price. Keeping the rising gold prices in check, Tanishq recently introduced 'Hi-Lites' platform that offers jewellery that is substantially lighter in weight while offering the same look and feel at a lesser price. Tanishq has been able to achieve 15-25% reduction in weight with the help of help of extensive product engineering processes such as design reconstruction, technological innovations, and use of gold alloy with enhanced hardness and strength.

As a run up to Akshaya Tritiya, Tanishq has also launched Gold coin ATM's called '24K Xpress' to make it convenient for consumers to purchase gold coins during Akshaya Tritiya. The '24K Xpress' gold coin ATM facility will be available in Tanishq flagship stores across select markets.

Speaking on the importance of the occasion, Mr. Arun

Narayan, Vice President, Category, Marketing and Retail, Tanishq at Titan Company Limited says, "Customers are enthusiastically looking forward to celebrating Akshaya Tritiya after a gap of two years. We are seeing this in our stores and in our consumer sentiment track wherein 54% of consumers have expressed an intent to buy jewellery this Akshaya Tritiya. To celebrate the auspiciousness and emotions associated with the festival we are delighted to launch a very exciting collection of bangles called 'Kalai'. Kalai features over 150 designs across various craftsmanship like Nakashi work, Jali Cut, Closed setting, Stamp work, Filigree and many more to adorn & celebrate the hands that have the power to create, love, nurture and bless."

The Kalai collection is available at select Tanishq stores and on Tanishq's e-commerce enabled website <https://www.tanishq.co.in/akshaya-tritiya>

## This Akshaya Tritiya, #AddTheKalyanSparkle with exquisite jewellery from Kalyan Jewellers

**The jewellery brand brings to you 5 easy and convenient ways of investing in the yellow metal to mark the occasion Aims to enhance shopping experience and cater to varied range of customers through its hybrid model**

Chennai, May 01 2022: Kalyan Jewellers, one of India's leading and most trusted jewellery brand, has announced that it will be celebrating the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Tritiya by introducing 5 unique ways of investing in gold jewellery to patrons in India and the Middle East.

Basis the robust understanding of consumer preferences and distinctive jewellery-buying patterns in regions across India, Kalyan Jewellers has at display an extensive range of popular house brands such as Tejasvi (Polki jewellery), Mudhra (handcrafted antique jewellery), Nimah (Temple jewellery), Rang (precious stones jewellery), Glo (dancing diamonds) and many more across its 150+ showrooms globally.

Akshaya Tritiya offers exclusively on showroom purchases:

Customers visiting the showrooms can register instant savings and maximize benefits on jewellery purchases by availing the Kalyan Jewellers Special Board Rate. Additionally, customers are entitled to avail flat 25% off on making charges across all design categories in gold, diamond and precious stone jewellery at display across any Kalyan Jewellers showrooms in India. In addition, 300 lucky winners will stand a chance



to win the Special Edition gold coin from Kalyan Jewellers.

Kalyan Jewellers Digital Gold powered by Augmont

Among one of the latest offering by the jewellery brand is the Kalyan Jewellers Digital Gold powered by Augmont, which allows customers to purchase 24-karat pure gold, digitally. Customers looking to make systematic purchases in gold, can start buying gold for as low as Rs.100 on the platform through this safe, easy and reliable method. For more information on this and to avail the facility, please log on to the below link:

**L I N K :** <https://kalyan.augmont.com/buy>

Gold Ownership Certificate Initiative

The pioneering initiative, which has received widespread popularity over the past couple of years has been

re-launched by the jewellery brand as a convenient option to invest in gold on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya. With the Gold Ownership Certificate Initiative, customers can purchase gold virtually with the facility of Rate Protection Plan at zero convenience charges. The additional facility allows customers to lock-in the price of gold, thereby providing supplementary protection from any further fluctuations. Customers can further redeem their certificates against physical gold, in the form of coins or jewellery basis their convenience at any Kalyan Jewellers' showroom in India. For more information on this and to avail the facility, please log on to the below link:

**L I N K :** <https://kalyan.augmont.com/buy>

Kalyan Jewellers eGift Cards and Vouchers

Kalyan Jewellers' patrons can further opt to

send eGift cards to family and friends with personalized greetings on the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Tritiya. The quick and convenient gifting option can be availed on the Kalyan Jewellers website. Click on the below link for more information:

**L I N K :** <https://kalyanjewellers.yougatagift.com/>

Gold Coins

Symbolic of good luck and prosperity, gold coins are one of the most-preferred gifting and investment option among customers. Kalyan Jewellers offers gold coins in a variety of weights that can fit in any budget. With no additional making charges and high resale value, patrons can opt to purchase gold coins either from Kalyan Jewellers' showrooms across the country or online at [www.candere.com](http://www.candere.com)

At Kalyan Jewellers, the varied collections offer jewellery designs that are a perfect blend of India's artisanal heritage and craftsmanship as well as a celebration of the varied traditions followed across the country. The jewellery pieces encompass region specific, hyper-local design choices. Let's take a look at some of the most popular festive jewellery styles that are trendy this season.

## Moj to help content creators earn INR 3,500 crore by 2025

**Through Moj For Creators, Moj envisages developing over 1M superstar creators**

Chennai, May 01 2022: Moj, India's number one short video app, today announced its plans to facilitate creator earnings worth INR 3,500 crore (over USD 450M) through the 'Moj For Creators' program. This program is Moj's flagship creator initiative that builds a path for accelerated growth for Moj creators at different stages in their journey. Targeting creators from every region of India, the program is an ambitious step towards building a robust monetization model for creators and driving engaging content on the platform in the long term.

Earmarked for the next three years, Moj plans a myriad of growth and development initiatives for all creators at different levels. The program includes grooming through preliminary and advanced genre-based training courses, mentorship, spotlight program, boot camps, influencer townhalls, one-on-one coaching, and in-depth workshops on industry trends. These initiatives will enable Moj creators to emerge as strong influencers across different genres and languages. Furthermore, as the creator community expands, Moj For Creators will assist creators in bolstering their reach through unique community activations like Moj Madhouse, Moj DayOuts, Talk Shows, Moj on Wheels, Ambassador Programs, and Night Outs. These events have had tremendous success with creators and have seen



thousands participate.

Commenting on Moj's vision for creators, Ankush Sachdeva, CEO and Co-founder, ShareChat and Moj, said, "Our creators are the heart and soul of Moj, and it has been our constant endeavor to encourage them and celebrate their talent. We acknowledge the value and potential of Indian creators, and 'Moj For Creators' represents our commitment to their success. Our investment will provide equal opportunity to every creator and help to not only fully discover their talent but also help them monetize it. By 2025, we envision having over one million superstar creators on Moj through this program and, at the same time, create India's widest range of most engaging multi-lingual short video content."

Moj For Creators will

investment will also include scouting and supporting new short video superstars across different genres and languages, creating a conducive platform, and effectively leveraging their reach.

How can one be a part of the Moj For Creator Program?

As a homegrown Indian short video platform, Moj provides creators, from metro cities to the remotest regions of India, the opportunity to post content in 16 different languages. Creators interested in joining the Moj for Creators program will have to download the Moj app, post a minimum of five videos exclusively on Moj, and can then register themselves on <https://mojapp.in/moj-for-creators>. Once selected, the creators will become members of the 'Moj For Creator' Community, where they will get access to cohort-based Moj Creator Training Modules and Performance Insights. They will have the option to learn from some of the best creators in their domain and network with other aspiring creators. The creators also gain access to the Moj in-house team, who will support them in earning through their content and provide brand collaboration opportunities. Apart from the benefits mentioned above, creators under 'Moj For Creators' will also get a chance to receive unique badges on their Moj profile, surprise rewards, and invitations to exclusive Moj events such as Moj Madhouse and Moj Day Out.

## Hiplomacy: Hip-Hop Group THE INVISIBLES To Perform in Chennai May 2

Chennai, May 01 2022: American hip-hop group THE INVISIBLES will perform a live concert at the Quadrangle Open Air Stage, Jubilee Building, Loyola College, Chennai on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7 p.m. The Chennai leg of the all-India tour is presented by the U.S. Consulate General in Chennai, in association with nonprofit American Voices, and produced by Teamwork Arts. Monday's Bridging Cultures Through Hip-Hop features internationally acclaimed American hip-hop artists

Carl "DJ Invisible" Hollier (@dj\_invisible), beatboxer Richie "Robot" Steighner (@richardrobot), lyricist Miz Korona (@mizkorona), professional dancer and choreographer Hans Pierre (@rememberhans), and emcee and rapper Khary Kimani Turner (@kharykimani).

Commemorating 75 years of U.S.-India relations this year, people-to-people ties are at the heart of the U.S.-India relationship. To highlight these ties and showcase the unique and diverse flavors of Indian

music, hip-hoppers selected through an India-wide competition will join THE INVISIBLES onstage. Talented students trained in the Indian hip-hop style and South Indian traditional folk art forms like parai, oyalattam, karagam, silambam, marakkal, silaa, and vedarattam will perform a fusion with THE INVISIBLES, exhibiting the cultural richness of American and Indian dance on a single platform.

Concert Date: Monday, May 2, 2022

Venue: Quadrangle Open Air Stage, Jubilee Building, Loyola College, Chennai Time: 7:00 p.m. onwards

Appropriate COVID-19 protocols will be followed to provide a safe environment for attendees. The concert is free and open to audiences over 16 years.

For details and registration, please visit: <https://teamworkarts.com/american-voices-hip-hop>

Walk-ins welcome but must register at the venue.

## DBS Bank partners with Headstart and Anthill to support promising startups

Chennai, May 01 2022: In line with its vision to support entrepreneurs and innovators, DBS Bank India has partnered with startup venture capital fund Anthill Ventures and evangelist network Headstart Network Foundation to launch DBS Business Class foundED. This forum will be held across cities in India and will celebrate modern-day founders, innovators, and game-changers to foster co-innovation and collaboration in the startup ecosystem.

The first event of DBS BusinessClass foundED was recently hosted in Hyderabad with actor, entrepreneur and investor Rana Daggubati as the keynote speaker. It was attended by a curated set of top-notch founders, investors and tech ecosystem partners and provided a platform for them to collaborate on new business models that addressed the pain points in the ecosystem.

Speaking at the event, Rana Daggubati said, "To change the ecosystem, we need founders who can drive their teams and instill the message that we are here to build products or services for the world. The initiative has to



come from fearless investors who are ready to invest in diverse opportunities."

He further emphasised the importance of networking through initiatives like foundED. "This is the first step towards educating young startups about who's around and what's possible. We need more forums like foundED where government or business units like DBS can come forward to educate young entrepreneurs and help them network."

The Indian metaverse firm Ikonz, backed by Daggubati and Anthill Ventures, has recently secured funding from Village Global, which has investors like Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos.

DBS BusinessClass is a DBS Bank initiative that helps SMEs grow their business and network with key business influencers, receive the latest market trends and gain exclusive access to a knowledgeable community of Asia's business masterminds. foundED takes DBS' vision further by bridging the gaps in the technology and capital spectrum of the startup ecosystem by bringing the right stakeholders across the table to co-invent and innovate. Subsequent editions of foundED are planned to be held in Bangalore, Chennai and Mumbai.

Speaking on this partnership, Divyesh Dalal, Managing Director & Head-Transaction Banking, DBS

Bank India, said, "At DBS, we strongly believe that technological solutions and innovation will play a key role in empowering the growth of startups and SMEs. It is imperative for banking partners to offer embedded solutions across ecosystems to these entities. Our partnership with Headstart and Anthill is an effort in this direction, as we want to better integrate our banking solutions in the existing startup ecosystem and provide enabling solutions to startups."

Sudarshan Chari, Executive Director & Head-Business Banking, DBS Bank India, said, "DBS SME Banking is committed to providing a host of value-added services apart from tailored banking solutions. We're excited to initiate our partnership with Anthill and Headstart with foundED, where startups would benefit from insights and connections to build their business and sharpen their competitive edge. The forum will also allow us to partner in their growth journey and reach out to the startup community across key business hubs."