

TRANSITIONING TO SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR TAMIL NADU LEATHER INDUSTRY

Chennai, June 24 2022: development partner Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre along with its partners - Politecnico Internazionale per lo Sviluppo Industriale Economico (PISIE), Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters Association (IFLMEA), Council for Leather Exports, Tata International Limited and the European Union (EU) today launched an EU-India sustainability project for the leather clusters in Tamil Nadu. The project 'Promoting circularity in the Tamil Nadu leather clusters for solid waste management' is a 42-month initiative funded by the European Union under its SWITCH-Asia Programme, which promotes sustainable consumption and production across the Asia-Pacific region.

The project was launched by Hon'ble Minister, Thiru Siva. V. Meyyanathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Tamil Nadu and H.E Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India. The event also brought together a number of participants from India and EU including, Council for Leather Exports, key industry leaders and the representatives from

development partner Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre along with its partners - Politecnico Internazionale per lo Sviluppo Industriale Economico (PISIE), Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters Association (IFLMEA), Council for Leather Exports, Tata International Limited and the European Union (EU) today launched an EU-India sustainability project for the leather clusters in Tamil Nadu. The project 'Promoting circularity in the Tamil Nadu leather clusters for solid waste management' is a 42-month initiative funded by the European Union under its SWITCH-Asia Programme, which promotes sustainable consumption and production across the Asia-Pacific region.

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environmental footprint of the tanneries but also improve health and safety conditions of the workers and taking India a step closer to fulfilling SDGs." With large number of tanneries located in Tamil Nadu, it is the key centre for the leather industry in India. The industry mainly processes semi-finished leather into finished and value-added products for export. The project, supported by the European Union, will follow four key approaches:

- Solidaridad will work with its partners and technical experts to demonstrate series of circular tanning and waste

to value technologies at cluster level.

- Tannery workforce will be capacitated on better tanning practices, solid waste management and occupational health and safety through training-of-trainers programme.
- Sectoral cooperation and market linkages for 'waste to value' products will be facilitated by engaging with potential national and international off-takers. A digital portal as Sustainability Matrix for the betterment of the industry will be introduced.
- A public-private

partnership platform will be established that represents the interests of key stakeholders. These stakeholders will come together to create a roadmap for improving waste management at the cluster level.

Hon'ble Minister Sh. Thiru Siva V Meyyanathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Tamil Nadu highlighted that addressing the environmental challenges in the state, mainly polluted water bodies and waste management is a priority. This project is targeting waste management and it focus

on promoting circularity has come at an opportune time, this will complement with the ongoing initiatives of the Government. On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, he assured to extend his utmost support and cooperation to achieve the project goals.

His Excellency Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of European Union to India highlighted that this initiative is indeed a strong expression of commitment to adopt cleaner production processes in the Tamil Nadu leather clusters. European Union has made Sustainable Consumption and Production a priority, thus this project is relevant.

Leather Industry is one of the highest forex earners and generates high employment. He said that that the project will be very beneficial to the leather stakeholders in Tamil Nadu.

His Excellency Vincenzo de Luca, Ambassador of Italy in India mentioned that this project will enhance the partnership between Italy and Tamil Nadu specifically towards technology know-how and circular economy in leather sector. Leather is equally important for Tamil Nadu and Italy. He mentioned that this project is particularly important as Italy is a part of the consortium through PISIE.

Ms. Supriya Sahu, Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, mentioned that the state has planned to assess the industrial sector's environmental sustainability features through green rating mechanism. An index based assessment shall be brought in place to achieve desired goals. It will be developed in consultation with the department of industries, Government of Tamil Nadu and industry stakeholders. The aim of

green benchmarking is to incentivize willing industries to move towards green and clean technologies. This initiative will be implemented through a consulting mechanism.

The event gave a special tribute to Mr. Mohamed Hashim Malack, who is the Doyen of Indian Leather Industry and Chairman, KH Group. He acknowledged that this is one of the most important projects for leather sector in Tamil Nadu.

Padma Shri Mr. Rafeeqe Ahmed, Chairman, All India Skin and Hide Tanners and Merchants Associations (AISHTMA) highlighted that waste management needs to be critically looked at for the sustainability of the leather sector. Thus, technological viable interventions are need of the hour, which the project will introduce through its initiatives.

Mr. K.R Vijayan, Chairman, Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters Association appreciated Solidaridad for making efforts to address the issues of waste management and resource efficiency in the leather sector for Tamil Nadu.

Glo sales go data-driven with Zoho Analytics - Hagan Walker Chief Executive Officer, Glo



Chennai, June 24 2022: Challenges: Multiple applications, one BI tool Hagan Walker, the CEO of Glo, wanted to be able to track the performance of his business.

Glo uses multiple systems—CIN7 as their inventory management system, and QuickBooks as their finance app. Walker was looking for an advanced BI platform that could integrate and blend data from all systems, and thereby having more control over their business.

He was in need of an overall picture that would show the performance of his business end-to-end, and help him identify

potential opportunities for his company.

Glo wanted a solution that could:

- Import and blend raw data from multiple applications
- Get actionable reports through reports and dashboards
- Provide collaborative analytics with user-based permissions
- MS Excel had limited options

"Bringing all data sources together was the need. We had lots of data stored in Cin7 and QuickBooks, and we wanted one BI solution that could blend data from all

our applications and provide insights out of it."

Hagan Walker
Chief Executive Officer, Glo

Solution: Sales analytics through Zoho Analytics

Glo was using Microsoft Excel to bring in data from all their applications for analysis, which took up lot of their time. Moreover, the output was inaccurate, with a high level of errors.

The company started looking for a BI solution and considered various options, including Power BI and Tableau, but decided Zoho Analytics was the ideal solution for them. They were quickly wowed by Zoho Analytics' seamless unified data blending capability with QuickBooks.

The integration between Zoho Analytics and QuickBooks was fast and seamless. They were able to integrate, blend, and generate reports, like the productivity levels of sales agents, sales reports, ad spends, and much more—comparing multiple aspects of the business, all in one place. The data from Cin7 is also imported into Zoho Analytics using an API

integration.

Walker likes the user interface of Zoho Analytics, as well as features like the variety of data visualizations, filtering, ability to use queries to join tables, the formula engine, unified data blending, seamless data sync, collaboration, and interactive reports.

Glo used Zoho Analytics to create sales dashboards including:

- Agent performance metrics like sales run rate per agent, by product, by category, by region, by agent, and more
- Sales metrics, like monthly sales orders, previous day sales, order value with zip code, revenue trends, invoice generated trends, etc
- Unified data blending is the key

"Zoho Analytics gave us more control over our business. Our sales orders are generated in Cin7 and invoices are pushed in to QuickBooks later on. We have to maintain parity between these two applications and Zoho Analytics helps us do that, as well through unified data blending. We are now able to view, track, and compare the sales vs invoices within Zoho

Analytics, instead of going to two separate apps."

With Zoho Analytics, insights about the company's sales are communicated to each sales agent, where they can log in and see their performance and sales trends for that week or month. This was critical in determining performance and identifying weak areas for the sales team.

Since most of the analysis work is now done through Zoho Analytics, the company is saving 4-5 hours/week, which were previously spent on manually doing data analysis. Walker is also now able to easily visualize complex data in a very meaningful way.



The dashboards created with Zoho Analytics are shared with 10+ users, including senior management and finance heads.

Benefits & results

- Glo saves 4-5 hours/week using Zoho Analytics
- Enables visualization of complex data in very

meaningful ways easily

- Provides insightful unified dashboards
- Facilitates end-to-end business insights.

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Real development is to bring change in the lives of the most vulnerable - Tomar

Chennai, June 24 2022: The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has said that when it comes to development, our vision should be all-round. "Development does not only mean building roads or houses, but it should bring about positive change in the lives of the most vulnerable sections of the society, only then there is the real development. After a long period, in the form of Shri Narendra Modi, the country has got the leadership of such a Prime Minister who has the aspiration to do something, he has the vision of 'Shreshtha Bharat' (India, the Best) and has the passion to make it a reality," he said.

Shri Tomar said this at the India Sustainability Conclave. The Union Minister of State for Agriculture, Shri Kailash Choudhary was the special guest. Shri Tomar said that there is a large population in our country, so a developed India will be possible only when all the people are provided opportunity and they contribute together in this. "All should shoulder the responsibility, all march step by step, every individual, every sector contribute together in this.



Human life should be devoted to the benefit of society, protecting nature, serving the nation and taking the country continuously towards excellence," he said.

Shri Tomar said that India being an agricultural country, the role of farming is important. "If we move away from the agriculture sector, even if we have money, agricultural products will not be available. At the time of India's Independence, the contribution of agriculture sector in GDP was fifty percent, which gradually decreased while the rest of the sectors increased, that was the situation then," said Shri Tomar, adding, "Today we have to realise that the agriculture sector in the country is extensive and about sixty percent of the population is dependent on agriculture and the livelihood of majority of our populations is dependent

on agriculture, eighty-six percent are small farmers, for whom it is necessary to adopt technology into farming, increase production quality at par with global standards and also make it a remunerative avenue."

Shri Tomar said that today agriculture sector is being upgraded through technology like drones, Digital Agri Mission and promoting private investment etc. "During the previous governments, Agriculture did not get the required priority and the attitude towards agricultural development remained subdued, due to which the income of the farmers did not increase and adequate resources were not available to them, but now under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, farmers are being empowered," he said.

Shri Tomar said that in the changing face of India

today, Rs. 6,000 is credited every year into the bank accounts of 11-and-a-half crore farmers from the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi. "It is the largest programme in the world. So far, more than Rs 2 lakh crore has been given to the farmers, without any pilferage, the entire Rs. 6,000 is directly deposited in the bank accounts of farmers," he said.

Shri Tomar said several concrete steps have been taken like the promotion of Agri Startups, distribution of KCC and Rs.16 lakh crore worth of short-term loans. "Even during the Covid-19 pandemic, the farmers ensured food security as India not only emerged a world leader in food production, but we were also able to supply food grains to the world while 80 crore poor people have also been given free ration by the Center," he said.

Shri Tomar said that the farmers or the peasant should not be looked down upon, rather this skilled labour, this manpower is the biggest strength of our country.

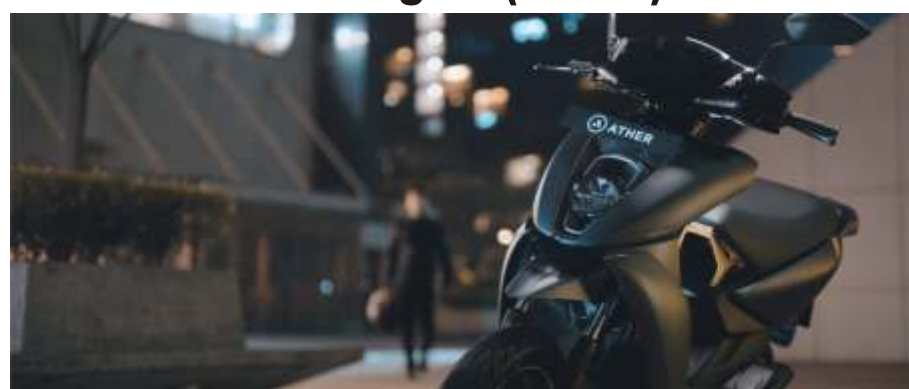
During the programme both the ministers presented awards to the institutions and companies for their exceptional achievement.

Ather Energy becomes the associate partner of Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL) 2022

Chennai, June 24 2022: India's leading electric scooter manufacturer, Ather Energy, has joined hands with the Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL), as an Associate Sponsor for the Orange Cap & Purple Cap. Both entities have signed a deal for TNPL 2022, the 6th edition of India's biggest regional cricket league. The association with TNPL aims at reiterating Ather's commitment towards making EVs mainstream in the country.

Instituted by the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association in 2016, TNPL is the most successful regional cricket league in the country. This association will provide Ather Energy with an avenue to increase familiarity in Tamil Nadu, its 4th largest market today.

Ather Energy has been at the forefront of the EV revolution in India. Buoyed by strong demand for EV scooters in the country, Ather Energy has surged ahead, registering 25% quarter-on-quarter sales growth over the past year. To cater to the growing demand, Ather Energy is expanding its retail presence across the country. The company today has 41 Experience Centres (retail outlets) across India, and by March 2023, it plans to open 150 Experience Centres in 100



cities. In Tamil Nadu, Ather Energy operates in the cities of Chennai, Coimbatore and Trichy with 40+ Ather Grids, Ather's fast charging network.

"We are pleased to have Ather Energy on board as the Orange & Purple cap partner for the 2022 edition of the TNPL, taking our league to the next level. They are leaders in the electric 2-wheeler segment and we intend to jointly offer our loyal and enthusiastic fans a journey to remember", Hon. Secretary, TNCA, Shri. R S Ramasaamy said.

Speaking on the partnership Raveet Singh Phokela, Chief Business Officer Ather Energy, said "We are thrilled to partner with the Tamil Nadu Premier League for this edition of the tournament. As the biggest regional cricket league, TNPL has built a stellar reputation for quality cricket and high-stakes entertainment. The partnership provides us

with an opportunity to rapidly drive awareness and familiarity for the brand across the state, as we expand our footprint in the coming months. Cricket is followed by people across age and gender and gives us the advantage to educate the larger audience about the benefits associated with EVs and accelerate the adoption of EVs across the country".

Being a new age and fast-growing brand, Ather Energy is challenging established automakers in the highly competitive automotive sector across the country. This resonates well with the Tamil Nadu Premier League, an energetic tournament providing a platform for high-calibre youngsters to showcase their talent. Through this strategic partnership, Ather Energy aims to build a strong fan following across Tamil Nadu and accelerate the adoption of smart and intelligent EV scooters in the state.

Earlier this year, Ather Energy entered into a multi-year partnership with IPL champions, Gujarat Titans as their principal sponsors. The strategic partnership which started from the recently concluded IPL season saw the Ather Energy brand on the front of the Gujarat Titans' official team jerseys.

Over the next three years, Ather plans to increase its annual production capacity to one million scooters from four lakhs by the end of 2022, install 5,000 fast chargers across India, develop new products and increase its network to 600 stores.

Ather Energy is deeply invested in the charging infrastructure with its public charging network - the Ather Grid to provide a holistic experience to the rider community. With 310+ charging points across India, Ather Grid is one of the country's largest fast-charging networks for electric vehicles.

ICICI Prudential Life's Mobile App crosses 1 million downloads

Chennai, June 24 2022: The ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Mobile App has crossed a crucial milestone of 1 million downloads, signifying the convenience it provides to customers to stay in control of their policies. It is a testimony to the innovative and customer-centric features available on the App.

The Company has upgraded its mobile app to allow customers to access information on their policies as well as initiate and conclude service requests even in the absence of mobile network connectivity. Now, one out of every four service transactions by customers are carried out on the mobile app.

Mr. Manish Dubey, Chief Marketing Officer, ICICI Prudential Life

Insurance said, "The COVID-19 pandemic has provided a boost to transacting digitally. As a customer-centric organisation, we have been leveraging technology to increase engagement levels with our customers and satisfy their instant gratification needs. Our innovative and upgraded mobile app is an always-on service touchpoint to serve the needs of our customers.

We have always endeavoured to drive innovation using new-age digital solutions and empower customers. The innovative Mobile App provides customers a secure mode of accessing information to enable them to be in control of their policies. The mobile app has been downloaded over a million times, and 1 out of every 4 service requests

are managed by customers themselves through the app. To us, this signifies the convenience of anytime anywhere service it offers. The user-friendly interface has led to it being rated as one of the best rated apps in the Indian insurance industry on both the Android Playstore and iOS App store.

We have multiple layers of security and customers can login using the FACE ID, PIN or use the Fingerprint login route. The user-friendly mobile app is like a virtual branch in the hands of customers, allowing them to make premium payments, update contact details, intimate claims, and switch funds among other available service request options. The app has been designed in such a manner that customers can access

information and conduct self-help service requests even in the absence of mobile network connectivity."

ICICI Prudential Life began its digitalisation journey in 2010 and has been a pioneer in deploying new-age technology solutions powered by Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Robotic Process Automation and Optical Character Recognition. The digital technology solutions have enabled the Company to develop a robust platform which can be accessed from any hand-held device and approximately 96% of the Company's new business is logged in digitally in FY2022. Also, during the same period 92% of service requests are of self-help in nature.

IAF CONDUCTS CAPSTONE SEMINAR FOR THE FIRST 'WARFARE & AEROSPACE STRATEGY PROGRAM'

Chennai, June 24 2022: The Indian Air Force today conducted the Capstone Seminar at Air Force Auditorium, New Delhi, marking the culmination of the first Warfare & Aerospace Strategy Program (WASP). The seminar was conducted under the aegis of College of Air Warfare and Centre for Air Power Studies. Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff, delivered the keynote address on the occasion which was attended by senior officers from all three services, air power scholars, academia from principal think tanks and premier colleges of the country.

During his address, the CAS enumerated that the aim of WASP is to generate strategic thought and



understanding amongst IAF officers. He brought out that the program was designed to briefly expose the participants to key disciplines of a nation's Comprehensive National Power, which will enable them to understand the whole-of-government

approach and generate independent opinions. He stressed upon the need to reassess the IAF's strategic priorities and to realign actions to ensure that the service doesn't get left behind. He congratulated the participants and urged them convert the knowledge

gained into workable strategies, and to remember that their thoughts would channel not only air power related strategies but also contribute in making coherent military and national strategies. He also highlighted the fact that while a well-crafted strategy may not guarantee success, absence of a coherent and sustainable strategy will surely lead to failure.

The participants in the seminar presented papers on contemporary topics concerning application of air power in recent conflicts and the changing doctrinal precepts that establish the dominant role of air power in national security.

The seminar also included the release of the revised edition of IAF's Doctrine.

Ola Electric books over INR 500 crore revenue in first 2 months of FY 22-23

Chennai, June 24 2022: Ola Electric, India's largest EV manufacturer has surpassed INR 500 crore revenue in its first two months of FY 22-23, and is on track to surpass USD 1 billion run rate by end of this year.

Ola's rise to the top of the chart has been achieved on the back of strong consumer demand, scaling manufacturing and steady go to market, which has allowed the Bengaluru

headquartered firm to deliver to over 50,000 customers across different parts of the country. Ola currently commands a 50% revenue share of the entire EV 2W segment. Selling direct to customer Ola has been able to take the EV revolution to all corners of India, making it the first ever EV scooter to be amongst India's top 10 selling scooters.

Company Spokesperson said, "As

customers' confidence in EV continues to grow, the future forecast looks even stronger for Ola Electric. We have also been able to streamline our manufacturing capacity at the Ola Futurefactory, Krishnagiri to 1000 units per day. We have a strong order pipeline and will be ramping up further."

Ola has already announced its plans to launch its second EV scooter aimed at the mass-

market, and is on schedule to introduce the new model before the end of this year. Last week, Ola rolled out its much-awaited MoveOS 2 for all its customers at the Ola Futurefactory. With this, over 50,000 Ola S1 Pro, customers across the country will get an over-the-air (OTA) update making their scooter the most advanced and feature-rich 2W in the country.

123 lakh houses sanctioned and over 1 crore houses grounded under PMAY-U

Chennai, June 24 2022: The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) organised a virtual event on today to celebrate 7 years of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), which was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 25th June 2015. The event was presided by Shri Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, and attended by senior officials of the Ministry, Principal Secretaries of States/UTs, MDS of States/UTs and stakeholders from Central and State Governments.

A group of people sitting at desks in a meeting room, with a screen displaying the PMAY-U logo.

The seventh anniversary celebrations highlighted the important initiatives implemented under PMAY-U Mission, which is one of the largest urban housing



programmes in the world. At the outset, a video depicting the glorious 7 years journey of PMAY-U was showcased depicting how the Mission is fulfilling the dream of a pucca house for millions of Indians.

An e-Book encapsulating achievements of the Mission was then released by Secretary, MoHUA. The book takes the readers through the initiatives and reforms that have been undertaken by the Mission to transform the urban landscape of India and more importantly, the

impact it has had on the lakhs of beneficiaries of PMAY-U, who are proud owners of a pucca house with all basic amenities. The e-Book can be downloaded from PMAY-U website (<https://pmay-urban.gov.in/>).

At the event, winners of Khushiyon Ka Aashiyana Short Film Contest were also declared. The contest was launched by MoHUA as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. It was open to PMAY-U beneficiaries, students, youths, civil society

organisations, institutions and individual/groups above 18 years of age, during the period 1st July 2021 to 30th September 2021. The broad theme was 'Transforming Human Lives in Urban Landscape' through PMAY-U mission.

The contest received an overwhelming response from across India, especially from PMAY-U beneficiaries, who enthusiastically participated in the competition by sharing their life transforming experiences through films made by themselves. A total of 34 participants have been selected under three categories for recognition. The winners of the contest will get a cash prize and a certificate of recognition. The 1st Prize carries a cash reward of ₹ 25,000, 2nd prize ₹ 20,000 and the 3rd prize ₹ 12,500. The winners' names have been uploaded on PMAY-U website.

Tata Play teams up with Google to bring the battery-powered Nest Cam and Nest Aware to India as part of their foray into home security solutions

Chennai, June 24 2022: Tata Play (formerly known as Tata Sky), India's leading content distribution platform, today announced its entry into Home Security Solutions with the launch of Tata Play Secure and Tata Play Secure+. Close on the heels of its brand identity change, Tata Play's new proposition proposes to provide a safe home to its subscribers, paving the way for a better tomorrow.

For the Secure+ offering, Tata Play is collaborating with Google to bring to India the Google Nest security camera for its subscribers. Tata Play Secure+ is a bundled service that includes battery-powered Google Nest Cam, an annual Nest Aware subscription, and a Google Nest Mini. Google Nest Cam offers advanced features including Person/Animal/Vehicle alerts, on-device processing, two-way communication via the built-in microphone and speaker, weather resistance and more. Nest Cam is battery-powered, enabling the flexibility to be placed in



convenient locations and the ability to record even in the event of a power or Wi-Fi outage. Differentiating features of Tata Play Secure+ comprise the Nest Aware features such as familiar face detection and 30/60-Day event video history. Installation and maintenance services, after sales and customer care will be managed by Tata Play. Find out more about Nest Cam and Nest Aware here.

In the first phase of its launch, the offering will be available for Tata Play subscribers in 10+ cities including Mumbai + Navi Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata, Delhi + NCR, Lucknow, and Jaipur. The Nest Aware service that is sold with Nest Cam (battery) is priced at a basic plan starting at INR 3000, and premium plan starting at INR 5000 annually. Find more details on the plans

Google for the Tata Play Secure+ offering to bring to India a truly state-of-the-art home security experience."

Saurabh Arya, Head of Hardware Business Development, India & South Asia, Google, said "We are thrilled to collaborate with Tata Play to bring to India our new-generation Nest Cam and Nest Aware service. These deliver a great experience thanks to our deep innovations in on-device machine learning, an intuitive user experience, and the highest level of privacy and security that gives people complete control over the information they share. With features like the ability to detect people, animals, and vehicles, the ability to be used indoor and outdoor, HDR, two-way communication and more, we can't wait for people to experience enhanced smart security."

here.

Existing and new Tata Play subscribers in Mumbai + Navi Mumbai and Thane, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata, Delhi + NCR, Lucknow, and Jaipur can log on to www.tataplay.com or reach Tata Play customer care at 1800 208 6633 or 1860 500 6633 or give a missed call at 08066982700 to know more and avail this offering.

Commenting on the partnership Tata Play's Chief Commercial and Content Officer, Pallavi Puri said, "With the launch of Tata Play Secure and Tata Play Secure+, we aim to help our subscribers build a safe and secure ecosystem, be it home or workplace. This new offering is in line with our endeavor to provide experiences beyond entertainment. We are happy to partner with

Tata Play Secure, an alternate home security solution, will be available to the subscribers starting 28th June. To find out more details, log onto Best Home Security Surveillance Service in India | Tata Play.

years, including the large-scale adoption of electric vehicles in its supply chain, elimination of single-use plastic packaging, and introduction of paper packaging through sustainable forest-derived materials and development of warehousing infrastructure to reduce its carbon footprint.

In this endeavour, the Flipkart Group has joined hands with initiatives such as the Climate Group's EV100 initiative to deploy 25,000 electric vehicles across the country by 2030, and not-for-profit environmental organisation Canopy for responsible sourcing of sustainable packaging and man-made cellulosic fibres to offer sustainable products to millions of customers among other initiatives. As part of these efforts, it works with more than 250 ecosystem partners, including EV suppliers, manufacturers and brands across the country.

The Group's efforts have also been recognised by leading global organisations such as the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature and are being used to demonstrate best practices for large-scale deployment sustainability initiatives by way of case studies.

TINDER'S 'LET'S TALK GENDER' NAVIGATES DATING BEYOND THE BINARY

Chennai, June 24 2022: Tinder, the world's most popular app for meeting new people, launched LetsTalkGender.in, a guide and glossary developed in partnership with Gaysi Family, encouraging conversations about ways in which individuals identify and express their gender. Tinder was the first dating app in 2016 to empower its members to identify themselves beyond the binary. Taking a cue from the 50+ gender identities and 9 sexual orientations available on the Tinder app, this dynamic, living guide and glossary, was developed with a diverse group of several contributors from the LGBTQIA+ community.

LetstalkGender.in explains what the binary is, why it is experienced as limiting, the importance and use of pronouns and what a partner's queerness means for someone who is dating them along with answers to frequently asked questions and curiosities. As one navigates through the microsite, it expands into a glossary of gender identities and descriptors based on lived experiences by members of the community. These identities, as also seen on the Tinder app, is a combination of umbrella terms, many of which are fluid while there are others that point to a combination of gender identities.

Sakshi Juneja, Co-Founder, Gaysi Family shared "The way we understand and experience gender is evolving and the only way to stay abreast of it is to keep having these



conversations. Not just within the community but in wider social spaces, because it also shapes our relationships - both intimate and otherwise, how we navigate consent, how we are able to access resources and institutions such as marriage. And it's important that brands like Tinder, who have a considerable influence and presence in society, support the creation of such spaces to engender and create an environment that's inclusive where such expressions can be freely explored."

"Let's Talk Gender is a long-term commitment for us that deepens our support to the Indian LGBTQIA+ community and encourages inclusive conversations in the dating ecosystem. This living glossary, developed by experts, provides a more personal understanding of identity and brings us closer to having a world where everyone is able to have complete autonomy over their choices and self-expression, values which Tinder holds close." Aahana Dhar, Director of Communications India, Tinder.

Tinder has always supported its members' freedom to explore their individuality and how they show up in the app and IRL. With more than half of Tinder members globally being 18-25 year old, and as the most fluid

of any generation ever, Tinder has revealed its LGBTQIA+ member base has grown at twice the rate of its overall membership, and that non-binary is the No. 1 "more genders" choice in the app. 'Let's Talk Gender' represents the fluidity that exists in the gender spectrum with voices from the LGBTQIA+ community keeping gender, sexuality and personal autonomy at the core. Indian Tinder members will see in-app cards on Tinder highlighting the Let's Talk Gender guide that they can click into to explore the glossary.

In app features

Tinder was the first mobile based dating apps that introduced sexual orientation to give people a feature that empowered them to identify beyond man or woman in 2016. We built this feature with the help of our transgender and gender non-conforming members and consultants, including Nick Adams and Alex Schmitter from GLAAD's Transgender Media Program, and filmmaker and trans advocate Andrea James. In India, this feature was built in partnership with Humsafar Trust to add gender orientations including indigenous identities. Tinder is also the only dating app to have a safety feature called Traveler's Alert created in partnership

with ILGA World to inform members of the LGBTQIA+ community of the risks inherent in using dating apps in countries that still have discriminatory laws marginalising the LGBTQIA community.

Community initiatives in India

Over the years, Tinder has supported the LGBTQIA+ community by including queer narratives across campaigns, content, and stories. In 2020, we launched the Museum of Queer Swipe Stories in partnership with Gaysi Family that captured the many moods and complexities of queer dating in India. Last year, we launched Queer Made in partnership with Little Black Book and Gaysi Family to provide a space dedicated to celebrating, supporting and amplifying businesses and products made, owned and/or run by India's LGBTQIA+ community. In order to encourage self-expression and being loud and proud of one's identity, we recently released a limited-edition 'All of a kind' capsule collection of 10 sneakers with FILA, hand illustrated by artists across India, highlighting the theme of identity, authenticity and diversity. We also launched Tinder Mixers for singles, exclusive curated IRL events, and partnered with Gaysi Family to organise a queer mixer in Mumbai. This year, Queer Made is going IRL in the form of Queer Made Weekend - a two day festival this pride month showcasing products and services from queer entrepreneurs and business owners.

Flipkart Group commits to Net Zero carbon emissions by 2040

Chennai, June 24 2022: The Flipkart Group, India's homegrown internet ecosystem, has committed to setting an ambitious Net Zero target, to decarbonise its own operations by 2030 and the larger value chain by 2040. This is in line with the global Science-based Targets initiative (SBTi) of keeping the global temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees Celsius per the Paris Climate Agreement, becoming the only Indian e-commerce company in India to commit to this environmental goal.

As part of this commitment, the Flipkart Group will take measures in its own operations to reduce 100% of emissions by 2030 by increasing energy efficiency at its Corporate office, supply chain facilities and powering its energy requirements through renewable sources such as solar. Recognising that the majority of the climate impact comes from Flipkart's extended value chain of suppliers, waste in operations, transportation and logistics, and product end-of-life, it will also work with its sellers, consumers and partners to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2040.

Kalyan Krishnamurthy, Chief Executive Officer, Flipkart Group, said, "We are proud to announce our



commitment to Net Zero emissions by 2040. This commitment is a significant undertaking in our journey towards building a sustainable business, and we want to play our part in adopting a proactive approach to create shared value across the ecosystem. As part of our Net Zero efforts, our sustainability initiatives will include the larger ecosystem, comprising our sellers, customers, and brands, to bring about an industry-wide shift. We recognise the importance of working collaboratively to reduce climate impact and will continue to steer our efforts towards this commitment and to decarbonise the e-commerce value chain."

To reduce the footprint, the Flipkart Group will be focusing on the following key areas of impact to achieve a clearly defined decarbonisation pathway:

A) Sustainable Platform: Drive consumer awareness and initiatives to support

sustainable products while creating circular business models.

B) Responsible Value Chain: Through electrification of logistics, incorporating renewable energy, environment-friendly packaging, waste management initiatives and responsible sourcing in business practices, the establishment of green infrastructure and supplier engagement and seller education.

C) Impact Positive Collaborations: Fostering industry partnerships on developing innovative solutions for creating a sustainable e-commerce model.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation have emerged as some of the most significant challenges in recent history. Transitioning to a net-zero world calls for a complete transformation of how we produce, consume, and move about. The Flipkart Group is committed to contributing to this cause and has taken several steps over the past several

Online Skill Gaming is NOT Gambling: Break the Bias

Chennai, June 24 2022: Despite the Supreme Court having ruled in favour of online games of skill, confusion still exists regarding its status. It's time to unshackle this sunrise sector from the bias that exists against it. The autonomy of misinterpreting the socio-economic role of this sector is certainly detrimental to its growth potential.

For decades now, various courts have distinguished between games of skill and games of chance. Therefore, the former cannot be classified as gambling. For instance, with reference to the State of Bombay v. RMD Chamarbaugwala, AIR 1957 SC 699: The Supreme Court of India held that - "It will suffice to say that we agree with the Court of Appeal that a competition in order to avoid the stigma of gambling must depend

upon the exercise of skill. Therefore, a competition's success which does not depend to a substantial degree upon the exercise of skill is now recognised to be of a gambling nature."

Besides, the Madras High Court condemned the Tamil Nadu government's amendment of the Gaming Act that allowed banning of online games with stakes. Chief Justice Sanjib Banerjee and Justice Senthil Kumar Ramamoorthy deemed this as unconstitutional and a violation of Article 19(1) (g) of the Constitution of India (right to practice any profession, or right to carry on any occupation, trade or business).

The juxtaposition between online games of skill and online gambling clearly establishes the former's integrity in terms of its

skill-based potential unlike the latter that is a sheer outcome of chance. The 'chance' factor in online games of skill is redundant as outcomes are featured by a participant's domain knowledge, logical analysis, and interpretative techniques—none of which are determinants of 'luck'.

From creating an entertainment space to generating employment, bolstering the growth of the AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comic) sector, online games of skill directly correlate with the Prime Minister's vision of building a 'Digital India'. In fact, following Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's announcement of a specialised task force being set up to monitor this sector, an Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) has come into

play where specific ministries will collaborate to ensure a centralised system of seamless regulation.

Further evidence of the credibility of online skill-based games was gathered through a study at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). A robust statistical framework was used for empirically evaluating the hypothesis of 'luck' to test whether outcomes are games of skill or chance. Interestingly, with existing data sets for millions of events in place, it concluded that selecting a team of fantasy sports requires significant levels of skill.

The digital nature of online gaming platforms fosters the growth of multisport ecosystems across social echelons. A blanket 'ban' is therefore definitely not the best solution.