

## Ministry of Civil Aviation and FICCI organized Stakeholder Evaluation Workshop on Krishi UDAN 2.0

Chennai, July 01 2022: Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organised a stakeholder workshop for evaluation of Krishi UDAN 2.0. The conference brought together experts from Air Cargo Sector for highlighting the benefits of Krishi UDAN and how domestic air cargo players can work in convergence and creating a seamless transaction across the value chain.

The workshop was chaired by Shri Rajiv Bansal, Secretary, MoCA, and was moderated by Smt. Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary-MoCA. The Workshop was attended by Shri Piyush Srivastava, Senior

Economic Advisor, MoCA, Shri Saurabh Endley, Joint Secretary-MoD North-eastern Region, Shri Ashutosh Dey, Joint Secretary, DONER, Shri Ajay Kumar, CEO, AAICLAS, senior dignitaries from MoCA, AAICLAS, FICCI, MoA&FW, Department of Fisheries, 26 Airport Directors (APDs) across the country and various other stakeholders of Indian Air Cargo Sector.

Highlighting the importance of workshop on Krishi UDAN, Shri Rajiv Bansal, Secretary, MoCA said, "Such workshop helps in having a meaningful discussion and act a brainstorming session for new ideas. During the 2 years of Covid-19 Pandemic, there was a great realisation that the cargo



can play a major role in sustainable options of Airlines. Our country is a vast country which has diversified agriculture produce, and it is in the interest of the airline and the airport to facilitate the

transportation of agricultural products which will lead in creating a sufficient demand for local producers in domestic as well as international market. We (MoCA) are

willing to work on some pilot projects with the help of agricultural department and state governments regarding a transport subsidy scheme which will help in faster transportation."

Smt Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary, MoCA, made a presentation on "Krishi UDAN 2.0 Evaluation", highlighting the achievements, scope, impact on Agriculture

industry and future of Krishi UDAN. Performance of the scheme with respect to various airports was also deliberated. It was also informed that 5 new airports namely Belagavi, Jharsuguda, Jabalpur, Darbhanga and Bhopal are to add to the list of existing 53 list of Krishi UDAN airports. With this, 58 airports would be actively participating in Krishi UDAN.

Another presentation on domestic and international cargo in India was made by Shri Ajay Kumar, CEO-AAICLAS, which highlighted the growth and impact of AAICLAS on the Agricultural industry and how AAICLAS is helping in Krishi UDAN.

A Q&A session was also held after the presentations where various industry players give their suggestions on how to make transportation of agricultural and perishable products better and timely.

Krishi UDAN Scheme 1.0 was launched in August 2020, on international and national routes to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products so that it improves their value realization. Improving the scheme further, Krishi UDAN 2.0 which was announced on 27 September 2021 will focus on transporting perishable food products from the hilly areas, north-eastern states, and tribal areas.

## AAI signs agreement with Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for Operation & Management of Aligarh, Azamgarh, Chitrakoot, Muirpur, Shravasti Airports

Chennai, July 01 2022: Airports Authority of India (AAI) today signed an Operation & Management agreement for operationalization of five airports owned by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for a period of 30 years. These five airports are Aligarh, Azamgarh, Chitrakoot, Muirpur & Shravasti.

The agreement was signed by Shri N V Subbarayudu, ED (SIU) on behalf of AAI and Sri Kumar Harsh, Special

Secretary, Civil Aviation Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh on behalf of the State Government in presence of Shri Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh. The MoU was exchanged by Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Chairman AAI and Shri SP Goyal Additional Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh. Shri D S Mishra, Chief Secretary of UP, Shri AK Pathak, Member Planning (AAI) were also present.

As per the agreement,

AAI will operate and manage the airports and provide all necessary services. Communication Navigation Surveillance/Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) services will also be provided by AAI, for which State Government will enter into a separate agreement. Further, Reserved Services will be provided by respective GoI for which GoUP shall enter separate Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Civil

Aviation (MoCA), GoI. AAI will also be responsible for obtaining and maintaining of aerodrome license for these five airports.

As per the agreement, Government of UP will complete the initial capital works for making airports ready for commercial operation and hand over all moveable and immovable assets along with relevant approvals, document to AAI for operation & management. Government of Uttar

Pradesh will provide dedicated infrastructure for utilities like water, electricity and drainage connection etc. at the airport (to & within).

This is the first time AAI is entering into an O&M Agreement with the State Government for Operationalization of State Government owned airports. AAI being the largest airport operator and sole air navigation service provider is committed towards providing air connectivity across the country.



## Tamil Assn, AIA host reception to Thayanban

Chennai, July 01 2022: America Tamil Sangam and Association of Indians in America (AIA) New Jersey chapter jointly hosted a reception to Vijaya Thayanban, Member-Secretary of Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram, Tamil Nadu Government, who is on an official visit to the US, at A2B Restaurant, Hadley Road in South Plainfield, NJ on Saturday.

Vijaya Thayanban is a senior leader of the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) party in Tamil Nadu and also coordinator of party's women's wing. She was recently appointed to the post of Member Secretary to foster music, art and culture in the state by Chief Minister MK Stalin.

Upendra Chivukula,

former deputy speaker of New Jersey Assembly and currently Commissioner on the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, who presided over the function, praised the role of Ms Thayanban in serving as a link between overseas Tamils and the Tamil Nadu government in promoting Tamil culture, music, literature and art.

Chivukula also conferred the title "Tamil Ma Mani" on Ms. Thayanban on behalf of both the associations for her lifelong contribution for the promotion of Tamil music, dance, culture, literature and art forms.

In her acceptance speech, Thayanban said the DMK Government led by Chief Minister M K Stalin is pro active and investor-friendly. She appealed to Tamil



entrepreneurs in the US to invest in Tamil Nadu and reap the benefits offered by the state government.

She assured that she will support US born and raised Tamil children proficient in Bharathanatyam and music in Tamil Nadu. She said she was happy to celebrate the 99th birth anniversary of her leader former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu the late Muthuvel Karunanidhi among nonresident Tamils.

"Mr. Stalin considers overseas Tamils as an asset to the state and would consider any suggestions for better living or resolve any grievances, if any, of Non Resident Tamils," she said.

Ram Tirumala, NJ chapter president of Association of Indians in America (AIA) recollected the active role played by Thayanban in improving the condition of women in Tamil Nadu. Dr Frankie Hutton,

celebrated author of several Black history books and a professor spoke on the occasion.

Caia Chandrasekaran, president of America Tamil Sangam, in her welcome address said this was her first meeting held under her leadership after assuming charge as president of the

prestigious Tamil association. She congratulated Ms Thayanban for her role in promoting traditional art forms.

Uma Swaminathan, national vice president of Association of Indians in America (AIA) said her organization was proud to co-host the event for a person who worked for women's

emancipation in Tamil Nadu.

Vijaya Thayanban, invitees and members of both the associations also celebrated the birth anniversary of the late Muthuvel Karunanidhi by offering flowers to his photograph kept on the podium.

Balamurugan, managing director of

A2B Restaurant, a branch of Adyar Ananda Bhavan in the US, John Joseph, president of Tamil Nadu chapter of Overseas Indian Congress, Gajendran Ganesan, former secretary of America Tamil Sangam and Dr Kalyani Duraiswamy, a pharmaceutical scientist were among those who attended the function.

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



## Zoho Books offers to support QuickBooks' customers in India

Chennai, July 01 2022: Zoho announced that it is open to supporting and serving customers of QuickBooks in India. In a recent turn of events today, Intuit's QuickBooks announced its discontinuation from India market effective January 31, 2023. Their products and service offerings for accountancy and small business customers will no longer be available in India. As of July 1, 2022 no

new signups to QuickBooks products will be accepted in India.

Prashant Ganti, Head of Products - Tax, Accounting & Payroll, Zoho commented, "The continuation of financial systems for any business is essential for its growth and sustainability. At Zoho, we understand how challenging it can be for businesses to find a replacement for their existing financial system.

Zoho Books will be glad to serve the needs of those businesses looking for an alternative solution, and help them transition smoothly." Zoho Books is a comprehensive, cloud-based financial platform that helps businesses take care of their finance, perform core accounting functions, track stocks, reconcile bank accounts, manage projects, and keep them GST compliant.

"Zoho Books is

hyperfocused on strengthening its operations in India, enabling businesses to simplify and abstract GST filing and compliance, e-invoicing, and e-way bill compliance, and gain deep visibility into their finances. We have a strong customer base in the country, and will continually work towards serving them. Zoho is also a GST Suvidha provider," further added.

## CII congratulates the Southern State Governments for leading in ease of doing business ranking in the country

Chennai, July 01 2022: Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) congratulates the Southern State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Telangana for emerging as Top Achievers in the ease of doing business ranking according to the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP 2020) released on Thursday.

South India has all it takes to become a \$1.5 Trillion Economy by 2025 with its perfect blend of all parameters that make it an ideal destination for doing business and this was clearly evident by the top ranking of Southern States in the ease of doing business said Ms Suchitra K Ella, Chairperson, CII Southern Region. Now, keeping this as an advantage, the Southern States need to find its champion sectors to propel growth and attract global investments to realise the vision of becoming a \$1.5 Trillion Economy by 2025, she added.

"CII has set up exclusive Task Forces at the Region as well as in the Southern States with focus on ease, cost and speed of doing business.

Through these task forces, CII is working closely with the Governments in the Southern States in identifying opportunities for improving various parameters related to ease of doing business", said Mr Kamal Bali, Deputy Chairman, CII Southern Region".

"CII congratulates the Government of Karnataka for being ranked in the Top Achievers Category for 'Implementation of the Business Reform Action Plan 2022' as per the recent Report released by the Union Government. This ranking will certainly help boost the investor confidence and foster a business-friendly climate in Karnataka. This comes at a right time when the Government of Karnataka is also planning the Global Investors Meet scheduled in November this year. CII will continue to support the Government in their endeavor on reducing regulatory compliances, licenses and integration of services", said Mr Arjun Ranga, Chairman, CII Karnataka.

Mr Neeraj Sarada, Chairman, CII Andhra Pradesh has lauded the efforts and initiatives of the State Government for achieving the top rank in ease of doing business. He said the State has introduced path breaking economic reforms which has helped to achieve economic growth and attract investments during the critical pandemic period. Also the State has showed

significant progress in addressing various regulatory issues and walked through the reform process very transparently. CII Andhra Pradesh would continue to work closely with the State Government to make it the preferred investment destination in the country.

"CII congratulates the Government of Karnataka for being ranked in the Top Achievers Category for 'Implementation of the Business Reform Action Plan 2022' as per the recent Report released by the Union Government. This ranking will certainly help boost the investor confidence and foster a business-friendly climate in Karnataka. This comes at a right time when the Government of Karnataka is also planning the Global Investors Meet scheduled in November this year. CII will continue to support the Government in their endeavor on reducing regulatory compliances, licenses and integration of services", said Mr Arjun Ranga, Chairman, CII Karnataka.

Mr Satyakam Arya, Chairman, CII Tamil

Nadu said that Tamil Nadu's ranking on the Ease of Doing Business is a reflection of the commitment by the State Government to enhance the industrial eco-system here. Over the years, CII has been working closely with various departments in the State on policy matters, and the results are there for all to see. CII looks forward to working closely with all its stakeholders to support the Government's vision of achieving the USD 1 Trillion Economy by 2030. We are certain that Tamil Nadu's ranking will go a long way in making it more competitive and attractive to existing and potential investors.

"I congratulate the Telangana Government once again for topping the charts of EoDB ranking by DPIIT. Indeed, it's a moment to rejoice the tireless efforts of both Government and Industry towards this achievement. CII will continue to work closely with the State Government in retaining the State's leadership position in EoDB ranking", said Mr Vagish Dixit, Chairman, CII Telangana.

## Ferrero India partners with Discovery Channel for the launch of Kinder Joy's 'Natoons' collection

Chennai, July 01 2022: Kinder Joy, the confectionery brand of Ferrero, one of the world's leading manufacturers of sweet-packaged products, has announced its portfolio expansion in India with the launch of Kinder Joy 'Natoons' emphasizing on the purpose of 'Learning about Animals' for kids. With an aim to strengthen its purpose, Kinder Joy has joined hands with Discovery Channel, a brand with a strong commitment to conservation and protection of wildlife. The collection will showcase life-like toy figures of animals such as Moorish Idol, Whale, Killer Whale, Tortoise, Macaw yellow, Macaw blue, Toucan, Turtle, Porcupine, Armadillo, Seal, and Basilisk.

Backed by an integrated marketing approach & bespoke content from Discovery's vast library of content, the partnership will be promoted through multiple touchpoints

across both partner's platforms that immerse consumers in the world of animals. Discovery branded Kinder Joy Natoons will be available in India & supported by a consumer engagement program that will highlight the promotion's key values. To ensure consumer participation, contests will also be hosted to deliver a compelling and an enriching experience to kids.

Additionally, 'Natoons' will also be a part of the 'Phygital' experience through the AR feature on the free-for-all 'Applaydu' app, developed by Kinder. Specifically, designed Natoons POS (point of sale) material will be visible at retail outlets to create awareness and drive penetration. The Applaydu app QR code on the POS material will additionally, assist in driving digital integration, allowing shoppers to bring the toys to life in store and 'generate excitement' at the point of purchase.

Speaking on the occasion, Amedeo Aragona, Regional Marketing Manager Indian Subcontinent - Kinder Brands at Ferrero said, "Playtime is vital to children's growth and development, and we understand that children learn through play. The new Natoons range is another step in nurturing their imagination & creativity and is designed to deliver learning opportunities through fun, engaging content. We truly believe that the Applaydu app's augmented reality feature will bring the Natoons collection to life and further enhance the learning experience."

Sharing his thoughts on the association, Ian Woods, SVP, International Consumer Products, Warner Bros. Discovery said, "We are thrilled to partner with Kinder Joy to provide families across India with an exciting collaboration spanning across multiple touchpoints. Working closely with our local

marketing & content production teams we are thrilled to be bringing new experiences to our audiences that not only enlighten but also leave them inspired to learn more. Our partnership with Ferrero really allows kids to learn more about their local wildlife and make them aware of the world around them."

Kinder Joy "Natoons" has been introduced pan India and is priced at INR 45. It will be available across all leading retail outlets, including modern trade and traditional stores pan India. Along with this, consumers will be able to buy the product on e-commerce platforms.

With Kinder Joy "Natoons", the company is taking a step forward towards strengthening its presence in the Indian market, which is driven by the trust and love of consumers for Kinder products. Kinder Joy "Natoons" is manufactured at the State-of-the-Art factory situated at Baramati, Pune.

## Al Faisal Holding Company selects Ramco Systems to enhance its HR and payroll systems

Chennai, July 01 2022: Al Faisal Holding, one of Qatar's largest privately held diversified groups, announces that it has chosen to implement Ramco Systems' Global Payroll & HR Solution to streamline and automate the HR and payroll operations for more than 5,000 of its employees in over 55 organisations across diversified business sectors. It will also implement Ramco's touchless, facial recognition-based Time & Attendance system for real-time tracking of the employees.

With modules for Payroll, Core HR, Employee Benefits and Time & Attendance, Al Faisal Holding will also leverage Ramco's Self Explaining Payslips feature, a smart AI-based service that will allow Al Faisal's employees to receive explanations of their remuneration and payslip via the Ramco CHIA virtual assistant.

Kashif Fateh Dad, Chief Information Officer, Al Faisal Holding Company, said, "Focusing

on digital and innovative transformations is an important aspect of Al Faisal Holding's IT strategy to enhance all aspects of the business. The pandemic has accelerated the adoption of the gig working model. Digital platforms have not just emerged as enablers for employment creation but are also empowering employees and agility in workplace. As a people-intensive organization, we at Al Faisal Holding look forward to leveraging Ramco's digital platform to improve employee experience, achieve automations and track cost of employees in real-time. With Ramco's innovative features, we are confident that we will be able to further optimize operations, employee engagement and boost their productivity, benefiting both Al Faisal and our employees."

Modar Bakir, Chief HR Officer, Al Faisal Holding Company, said, "We have been working flat out with IT and Ramco to ensure a successful implementation of the system by designing workflows that fits the

needs of our ever-changing businesses and deliver a unique employee experience. This is a business transformation for the whole group and not just a software implementation per se. We hope this will bring about positive impact to Al Faisal Holding group and its employees.

Rohit Mathur, Head - Ramco Global Payroll & HR Solution, Ramco Systems, said, "Ramco's Global Payroll Solution integrated with Time & Attendance will offer Al Faisal Holding a technological edge in monitoring their core assets - their people. Be it monitoring and managing employees, scheduling right resources for right tasks, carrying out overtime calculations, or adhering to the statutory compliances, Ramco's digital platform will help Al Faisal automate all their people-centric operations. We are confident that Ramco along with its intuitive features around touchless attendance and chatbots will offer Al Faisal innovative experiences and employee

delight."

Complete with mobile, chatbots, voice, and facial recognition-based workforce management, organizations can deploy Ramco Global Payroll & HR on-cloud, on premise or leverage as a managed service. The multi-tenant architecture with embedded intelligence, device agnostics features, and API integration now serves more than 500 customers worldwide. With innovative concepts of Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Context-sensitive Pop-ups and Chatbots to carry out self-service, and Voice based transactions on Google Assistant & Alexa, Ramco has been setting the benchmark for Innovation in this segment. With statutory compliance across 60+ countries covering U.S., ANZ, Asia (including Japan & China), Middle-East & Africa, UK and Ireland, Ramco's Global Payroll is available in English, Japanese, Mandarin, Bahasa, Thai, Malay, and Arabic among others.

## 'Clean Trains' is their motto: Maintenance of Rolling Stock is their maxim Pivotal service rendered by Railway Staff of Coaching Depots & Pitlines

Chennai, July 01 2022: Mr. E. Kumar, a Senior Section Engineer and Mr. S. Gunasekaran, a Technician at Coach Maintenance Depot, Basin Bridge Coaching Depot, Mr. E. Kumar, Senior Section Engineer performs undergear examination at Basin Bridge Coaching Depot.



Here is a brief insight into how the coach maintenance crew contribute for safe, reliable and punctual operation of trains:

An organised unit functions round the clock at railway stations, at enroute locations and at Coaching Depots and Pitlines, keeping a vigilant eye on the running of the rolling stock to ensure safety. The staff possess in-depth knowledge of technical aspects pertaining to rolling stock.

Categorised as Senior Section Engineers (SSE), Junior Engineers (JE) and Artisans, the coaching depot staff work in gangs of ten or more and are led by Senior Section Engineers. SSEs are posted as In-charge of Depot, IOH Sheds, sickline/pitline, stores, Breal Down, Safety Inspectors, Carriage & Wagon Controllers in Control Offices, to mention a few.

Basically, coach maintenance is of five types, namely, Primary maintenance, Secondary maintenance, Turn around maintenance, Periodic Overhauling (POH) and Intermediate Overhauling (IOH) at defined interval.

working in a pitline Primary maintenance and secondary maintenance of full rake of train is done after it is placed on a pitline. Here in the pitline, the maintenance gang of

Mechanical department undertake inspection, testing and attention of all the visual components both visually and using inspection gauge and tools to ensure safety of the whole train. They examine all the vital safety components like underframe & bogie components, running gear, suspension gear, buffer gear, brake gear etc., They also check the window shutter, fastenings, main door, toilet door, bio-toilets and all other toilet fittings. All the maintenance activities are done in accordance with the guidelines given in the coach maintenance manual issued by Railway Board. Exterior and interior washing of all coaches are also undertaken while the rake is placed in a pitline. Equipment like high pressure jet, scrubbing machine, vacuum cleaner, blower etc. are used for washing. To facilitate cleaning a catwalk arrangement similar to a platform is also made in a pitline.

On an average the coach maintenance crew complete the task of primary maintenance for a rake in 6 hours. Normally, a team of 15 depot staff will undertake the task of primary/secondary maintenance in a pitline.

Rolling-in & Rolling-out Examination As you stand near the exit of the train coach for

deboarding at your destination and as the train slowly meanders through to the platform, have you ever noticed a railway staff squatted on the ground and observing the wheels and other mechanical parts of the coaches. Yes, he is technician carrying out rolling in examination of the train. It involves looking out for dangling parts, hearing for any unusual sound, and see if anything is abnormal in the rolling stock and report the same for attention. Such rolling in examination is done at all major yards of the station on either side of the train. Rolling out examination is done while the train leaves the station. It is a critical activity in the safe running of trains.

Immediately after the train has arrived at the platform, the technical staff of the mechanical department arduously carry out their assigned task. This includes axle box feeling wherein the temperature of the axle box at the center of the coach wheel is read using hand held Infrared thermometer and readings are recorded duly highlighting any abnormal reading for taking suitable action. While another team of staff manually pull the distributor valve's release valve by kneeling down into the gap between platform and coach and another team gets engaged in watering all the coaches if the station is nominated for watering.

Thus, the mechanical staff of Southern Railway contribute immensely to safe running of trains by dutifully carrying out the tasks assigned to them either at the coaching depot pitlines or at the stations and their contribution is a testimony to Southern Railway's continued focus on Passenger safety and comfort.

## Resorcio extends support to Tamil Medium High School Students

Chennai, July 01 2022: Resorcio, one of a kind multilingual content-aggregator start-up announced their support to Tamil medium students of 8th, 9th and 10th grade, to aid them in overcoming the disruption caused by online classes as they return back to regular school days. Supporting educational material of the school curriculum will be made available, free of cost to the students on the site. An ed-tech start-up, Resorcio is a unique business model conceptualized as an e-commerce online bazaar to create, buy and sell resources across various subjects in formats like audio, ppts and pdf. The ed-tech startup recently onboarded Kris Gopalakrishnan, co-founder of Infosys, as an anchor investor.

Since the initiation of Resorcio in November 2021, it has clocked over three million unique visitors from across the



globe and has crossed 90,000 thousand registrations. Out of which 11% of the total footfall has been from Tamil Nadu, with majority of them from Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem, Tiruchirapalli and Tirupur districts. The platform features more than 35,000 unique content under diverse topics in varied formats with over 300 resources specifically in Tamil covering areas such as current affairs, history, art, culture, literature and science to name a few. In the digital space which has an overwhelming amount of

English content, Resorcio features and focuses on regional content along with English like Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Sanskrit and Arabic.

“Resorcio was founded with an objective to provide credible content to its users, given the upsurge of content marketplace. Each article uploaded on to the site undergoes an evaluation process with respect to aesthetics, plagiarism and facts to ensure credibility. We hope the education materials available on the platform will aid the students to

prepare for their higher education and provide them insights on respective topics,” says Geethika Sudip, CEO & Founder.

She added, “A free upskilling programme certified by the Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) is also being conducted on a regular basis, in a bid to address the larger issue of the digital skills divide among the educators. Through this, we work towards making the teachers more acquainted with new technologies in the education sector and thereby make teaching more engaging.”

Future plans in the pipeline include introduction of video content (in addition to the readable and audible content now available on the site) and the introduction of Hindi and Bengali content. Resorcio, is in Series A funding stage to expand the service offerings to its stakeholders.

## “MCKINGSTOWN” MEN’S GROOMING LAUNCHED BY LankaLingam, Siddarth, Darren Rodrigues at Valasaravakkam

Chennai, July 01 2022: “A brand is no longer what we tell a customer it is- it is what customers tell each other it is.”

The Maker of McKingstown-Darren Rodrigues along with the Franchise Partner, Siddarth Guest of Honor LankaLingam launched new McKingstown 7th outlet at Valasaravakkam.



McKingstown contemporary salon designed only for men, reinvents Chennai Men’s grooming scene to best raise quality and men pampering European standards.

Whether for business or relaxation come experience Our doors are open to men who desire to look their best at all times, Here men Whether need a haircut, shave or facial,

“MCKINGSTOWN” offers Hygiene, professionalism and personal attention in addition offering a wide range of bespoke male grooming services tailored

to their needs.

McKingstown conveniently located in Valasaravakkam with highly skilled staff elevates the traditional barbershop experience to suit the sophistication of the modern man, moving beyond basic grooming strives to offer premium quality and experience at a reasonable price that can be afforded by the every day man.

“MCKINGSTOWN” located at No: 50, Old No.: 164, Arcot Rd, Valasaravakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600087

## WRI India and Institute for Sustainable Communities organized a conference on Clean Energy and Just Transitions for India's MSME sector

Chennai, July 01 2022: World Resources Institute India (WRII) in partnership with the Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC) held a conference in New Delhi today on Clean Energy and Just Transitions for SMEs in India to mark the World Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Day, observed globally to build public awareness of this sector's vital contribution to the economy and to sustainable development.

The day-long conference had panel discussions on ways to access technology and finance that could accelerate the transition to cleaner energy solutions for small businesses, and on how this transition could attempt to be socially just, while creating new avenues of employment and income.

Delivering the keynote address Abhay Bakre, Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency praised India's MSME sector for being responsive, flexible, highly skilled, and requiring the least investment to transition to cleaner forms of energy. He said, “For us, the MSME sector is our top priority, and we believe

whatever we do for the SME sector, will shape India's transition to clean energy.”

Moderating the technology panel, Vivek Adhia, India Country Director, ISC said that it is clear avenues of finance and technology exist for India's small businesses, but they are not malleable enough to accommodate the unique cluster-specific requirements of the MSME sector.

This conference also marked the culmination of the week-long launch of the Innovative Clean Energy Technology Platform (I-CET) by WRI India and ISC in partnership with the Government of India's Technology Information Assessment Forecasting Council (TIFAC). This platform aims to create an enabling ecosystem to promote clean technology innovations in India's small businesses sector. I-CET would focus on small businesses' cluster specific technological challenges, going beyond national, or state level solutions.

To kick-off I-CET, the platform organized Clean Energy Technology Roadshows in four locations across the country each attempting to

focus on solutions being attempted by entrepreneurs and innovators for specific clusters. Beginning with Tirupur in Tamil Nadu, where the focus was on creating solutions for the city's sprawling textile clusters; and in Kochi, Kerala, where solutions were showcased for the city's land-starved food processing and seafood clusters. The other two tech roadshows were in Ahmedabad, Gujarat and Karnal, Haryana. In both these locations innovators showcased solutions for chemicals and dye clusters, and for wood and its by-products.

Taylor made Renewables Ltd (TRL) was the winner of I-CET's technology roadshow. TRL showcased its technology TRL RAIN, which attempts to provide zero effluent discharge manufacturing facilities with drastically reduced energy use. Their innovation will help reduce waste and greenhouse gases across sectors food, chemical, textiles and more. TRL's Chairman and Managing Director Dharmendra Gor accepted the award on the company's behalf.

Going forward, I-CET

will support, promote, and “de-risk” the participants at the clean technology challenge by connecting them with potential investors, customers, and partners.

Participants at the conference included, Jarnail Singh, Deputy Director, India Office, MacArthur Foundation, and Dr. OP Agarwal, CEO, WRI India.

In his welcome address Dr. Agarwal said, “India cannot achieve net-zero emissions by 2070 without addressing the energy needs and clean energy challenges of the country's 63 million strong small businesses community. Solutions for this sector would also make them globally competitive, as ever more multinational corporations look to decarbonizing their supply chains.” Highlighting the need for a just transition in this sector, he added, “While moving to cleaner energy and low carbon operations will enhance the sector's competitiveness and profit margins, adequate support to skilling, reskilling and financing are critical to ensure that the benefits of this transition are equitable, and no one is left behind.”

## Apollo Education UK launches the Apollo International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP), leading to MCh/MMed degree in the UK

Chennai, July 01 2022: Apollo Education UK (AEUK) is launching the Apollo International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP), 2022 as a part of its Global Workforce Development (GWD) initiative. Over the course of this three-year ICFP programme, doctors (MS/MD/DnB) can 'earn as they learn', receiving mentorship from senior doctors at Apollo Hospitals, India, in a preparatory year to aid transition into NHS clinical practice before being placed in a UK hospital for the next two or more years, where they can complete their clinical learning. At the same time as gaining this international work experience in an area of specialty, Doctors will study for a Master of Surgery or Master of Medicine degree at Edge Hill University.

The Apollo ICFP is carefully structured to ensure that doctors get mentorship, world-class specialist clinical exposure and hands-on experience in providing the highest standards of healthcare. The programme is a collaboration between AEUK, Global Training and Education Centre (GTEC) at Wrightington,



Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and Edge Hill University, UK.

The Apollo ICFP is the latest initiative under the “Apollo Knowledge” umbrella which is the Apollo Group's skilling, training, education, and resourcing arm. This is part of AEUK's Global Workforce Development (GWD) initiative, an education, skilling and placement programme for healthcare professionals, helping them broaden their horizons and receive training and work experience across geographies.

M r S ivaramakrishnan

Venkateswaran, CEO, Apollo Knowledge said, “This is part of our Global Workforce Development (GWD) initiative to enable and provide education, training and recruitment job opportunities across geographies for healthcare professionals so that they get trained and upskilled and add value to themselves and their own healthcare systems”.

Professor Raj Murali MBE, FRCS (Eng), FRCS Ed, FRCS (Tr & Orth), Clinical Director, Global Training and Education Centre said, “I am looking forward, greatly, to welcoming the newest cohort of Doctors to the ICFP programme,

particularly so across our specialties at WWL. The NHS is a wonderful institution in which to gain invaluable work experience from world-class mentors, and the doctors on the course will certainly benefit from their time with us.”

Professor Clare Austin, Pro Vice Chancellor, Dean of the Faculty of Health, Social Care and Medicine, Edge Hill University said, “This is an important opportunity for the recruitment and training of international doctors as part of our long-standing a learn, earn, return and excel scheme.”

## Vi Business Launches ‘Ready for Next’ Program to help MSMEs Thrive in their Digital Journey

Chennai, July 01 2022: Post-pandemic business impact, excessive liquidity crunch and tectonic shift has made MSMEs vulnerable. Keeping these challenges in mind on the occasion of World MSME Day, Vi Business,

the enterprise arm of India's leading telecom operator Vodafone Idea (Vi), today announced the launch of Ready for Next, a special program curated to help the MSMEs accelerate their growth potential.

Digital Adoption has

become one of the most important factors in opening up new business prospects. Simultaneously, digitally securing the business is crucial in the new era of remote working. Vi Business Ready for Next program therefore is built

on the philosophy of handholding the MSMEs in their entire digital journey. This curated program will serve all possible needs and requirements of MSMEs that will enable them to grow at a much faster pace.

## A mentor-mentee model can serve the needs of India's youth very well Lakshmi V. Venkatesan, Founding and Managing Trustee, Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust

Chennai, July 01 2022: “I strongly believe a mentor-mentee model can serve the needs of India's youth very well – to help the ‘population dividend’ of 2 crore fresh job seekers entering the workforce every year become ‘Atma-Nirbhar’

job creators. The challenge for successive governments has been to grow the economy while at the same time generate quality jobs in large numbers every year. By supporting the development of grassroots entrepreneurs

to set up their own MSME units, we can suitably address the problem of youth unemployment. I urge the government to initiate similar programmes across the country and request India Inc. to invest in the mission of mentoring to

create lakhs of young I n d i a n Grampreneurs@□,” says Lakshmi V. Venkatesan, Founding and Managing Trustee, Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust, on addressing the current needs and challenges of the MSME ecosystem.

## Star Health and Allied Insurance and IDFC FIRST Bank announce Bancassurance tie-up

Chennai, July 01 2022: Star Health and Allied Insurance, one of the leading Health Insurance companies in India, has signed a Corporate Agency agreement with IDFC FIRST Bank, for distribution of its health insurance solutions.

Under this strategic agreement, Star Health and Allied Insurance will offer its best in class health insurance products to the Bank's customers using IDFC FIRST Bank's state of the art digital platform and its wide distribution

network.

Mr. Anand Roy, Managing Director, Star Health and Allied Insurance Co. Ltd, shares, “We, at Star Health, believe that health insurance is essential for every citizen. Our strategic tie-up with IDFC First Bank is a step further in making health insurance accessible to all. This tie-up will help us reach out to IDFC First's customers and enable them to financially safeguard themselves from rising healthcare costs. Both IDFC First Bank & Star Health

Insurance are highly innovative and customer focused companies. We expect this partnership will be mutually beneficial to both organisations.”

Mr. Vikas Sharma, Head – Wealth Management & Private Banking, IDFC FIRST Bank, said, “We are pleased to associate with Star Health and Allied Insurance to bring more value-added products and services to our customers. We are truly a customer first bank and therefore our endeavor always is to offer products with low

cost and high value for our customers. This partnership has come at a right time when awareness about the importance of health insurance is on the rise in the post pandemic world.”

IDFC FIRST Bank has a digital first approach and serves customers through its state-of-the-art netbanking platform and an intuitive, user-friendly award winning mobile app, which complement its nationwide branches, ATMS and loan centres.