

Artificial Intelligence to act as a catalyst in India's development journey and help realise goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047: Goyal

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal today said that if India truly aspires to be a developed nation by 2047, as articulated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his Independence Day speech on 15 August 2022, Artificial Intelligence will help the country reach that destination and bring prosperity to every

citizen of this country. He was addressing the 3rd edition of Global Artificial Intelligence Summit & Awards.

Quoting Prime Minister Modi, "Any society which does not innovate, stagnates", Shri Goyal said Artificial intelligence will truly be a catalyst in India's development journey. He said that 'The Make in India' program when juxtaposed with AI technology, will enable India to become the factory of the world

providing both equipment and technology to the world. He noted that the huge talent pool available in the country will definitely help in exploring newer ways to take AI in every sector of economic activity. The Minister appreciated the Department of Science and Technology for their wonderful work in supporting the efforts of the scientific community of the country over the years, and particularly during

the challenging times of Covid.

Shri Goyal said that the Government is using AI to redefine the way it works. He cited the example of Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP), which is leveraging AI to improve the entire logistics ecosystem of the country. Similarly initiatives like PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, which aims at developing our infrastructure smarter; ONDC, which aims at democratising E-commerce, GeM which has made a significant impact for government procurement - all these are leveraging Artificial Intelligence to bring efficiency and better delivery of services.

Elaborating on the use of AI, Shri Goyal said that 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyana Anna Yojana', a major initiative of the Government that was launched during covid pandemic to provide additional food security to over 80 crore people, is also using AI in many ways - to help



understand the needs and behaviour patterns of beneficiaries and get feedback about the performance of the Fair Price Shops. It helps in assessing which shops are performing efficiently and providing good services to beneficiaries, he said. One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) uses AI and can help us to analyse the mobility patterns of our migrant workforce, he added.

Shri Goyal remarked that the Artificial intelligence revolution is here to stay and added that with the meaningful contribution by Industry, startups, incubators and academia, India is going to emerge as the hub of the artificial intelligence revolution across the world. He urged the young minds to inculcate the spirit of inquiry and start thinking of different ways the AI technologies can be harnessed to bring prosperity in our day to day life. He asked them to explore how AI can play a crucial role in empowering the lives of farmers, fishermen and the MSME sector.

The third AI Summit has been organised by AICRA and is focusing on the areas of defence, healthcare, agriculture, smartcities, mobility and education in partnership with the government. The aim is to develop a roadmap on how to use AI ecosystem and startups for the benefit of society. The 3rd Annual conference has set up multidisciplinary groups to break down the silos in which different stakeholders have been working and to find technological solutions for the key sectors of our society.



Maximum permissible Speed in Dr MGR Chennai Central to Gudur gets enhanced from 110 kmph to 130 kmph General Manager conducts High-speed trial run in Chennai - Gudur section at a top speed of 143 kmph

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: Southern Railway has increased the maximum permissible speed from the existing 110 kmph to 130 kmph in the Up and Down lines between Puratchi Thalaivar Dr MGR Chennai Central - Gudur (MAS-GDR) which has a length of 134 route kilometers and 268 track kilometers. The fitness for running at maximum permissible speed 130 kmph was granted on 05-10-2022. This has been achieved by the Zone with systematic and planned approach for strengthening the track, traction and signaling system and various bottlenecks were removed by working on a mission mode.

maximum permissible speed of 130 kmph in MAS-GDR section, Shri B.G.Mallya, General Manager, Southern Railway conducted a high-speed trial run at a top speed of 143 kmph and window trailing inspection of Chennai - Gudur section today (6.10.2022). The General Manager was accompanied by Shri Desh Ratan Gupta, Principal Chief Engineer, Shri Ganesh, Divisional Railway Manager, Chennai, and Senior officials onboard a special train formation. During the speed trial, the train covered the 134 Km stretch of Chennai - Gudur section in 84 minutes clocking top speed 143 Kmph.



Railway Board has issued guidelines for enhancing the maximum permissible speed of all High density network, Golden Quadrilateral and Golden Diagonal routes (GQ-GD) from 110 kmph to 130 kmph. In Southern Railway, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr MGR Chennai Central - Gudur and PuratchiThalaivarDr MGR Chennai Central - Renigunta falls under the category of GQ-GD route.

Speed upgrade in Chennai - Gudur section with full compliance of mandatory requirements

Following Railway Board's guidelines to increase the sectional speed in all the 'GQ-GD' routes of Indian Railways to 130 Kmph, Chennai - Gudur becomes the first section in Southern Railway to get a speed upgrade of 130 Kmph.

Railway Board and Commissioner of Railway Safety, Southern Circle, Bengaluru have stipulated certain requirements to be complied for upgrading

Chennai - Gudur section to the recommended speed standards. A series of trial runs were conducted by Railways and RDSO for assessing the fitness of tracks, traction, signals and rolling stock. On compliance of all the requirements laid down, the section was authorized fit for running trains at 130 Kmph on 5th October 2022.

Different type of works carried out in Chennai-Gudur section

To equip Chennai - Gudur line for handling trains running at 130 Kmph, following works

were carried out:

The standard of interlocking at all the stations are upgraded

The maintenance requirement for the track, signal and TRD assets and rolling stocks are augmented.

The curves in these sections were attended to have adequate transition length for the proposed speed wherever feasible.

Complete Track Renewal (CTR) to 60 kg rail and sleepers

Thick web switch in points and

crossing Improved Switch Expansion Joints

H beam sleepers in Girder bridges
Benefits for passengers

Consequent to the speed upgrade in Chennai - Gudur section to 130 Kmph, once the new time table for implementation of enhanced speed comes into force, the passengers bound for Andhra Pradesh destinations, New Delhi, Howrah and Mumbai will benefit from considerable reduction in journey time.

Following this, a similar speed upgrade is proposed for Chennai - Renigunta section, which connects the city to the pilgrimage centre Tirupati. It is also proposed to upgrade the speed on 'B' routes in sections, namely, Arakkonam - Jolarpet - Podanur- Shoranur, Thiruvananthapuram - Kayankulam - Alleppey - Ernakulam, Shoranur-Mangaluru, Chennai Egmore - Villupuram - Tiruchchirappalli - Dindigul section, by 2024-25.

Expressing his satisfaction about the speed trial, Shri B.G.Mallya, General Manager, Southern Railway said that the public notification for operating trains at maximum permissible speed of 130 Kmph in Chennai - Gudur section, will be released shortly. He also complimented the officials for the exemplary work done for enhancing the speed limit.

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VST Tillers Tractors Ltd to be the Title Sponsor of Bengaluru Bulls

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: VST Tillers Tractors Ltd, India's leading farm equipment manufacturer, today announced that the Company will be the title sponsor of Bengaluru Bulls, the Pro Kabaddi League team from Bengaluru for the Pro Kabaddi League season 2022. The agreement will see VST Tillers Tractors Ltd feature as the title Sponsors of Bengaluru Bulls across various platforms, including the official playing Kits and the front of the official team jersey. To mark this partnership Mr. Antony Cherukara CEO, of VST Tillers Tractors Ltd, and Ms. Kirthi Muralikrishnan, CEO of Bengaluru Bulls unveiled the team's new jersey for the season.



Anthony Cherukata, CEO VST Tillers Tractors Ltd and Kirthi Muralikrishnan, CEO of Bengaluru Bulls, unveiled the Bengaluru Bulls' official jersey for the Pro Kabaddi League Season 2022. VST Tillers Tractors Ltd today announced that the Company will be the title sponsor of Bengaluru Bulls, for the PKL 2022.

October 2022. Bengaluru Bulls will kickstart this season's campaign against Telugu Titans on the same day.

Mr. Antony Cherukara, said "VST Tillers Tractors has always been on the lookout for initiatives that resonate strongly with our brand and our customers. We are happy to associate with the Bengaluru Bulls team and support their campaign this Pro Kabaddi Season. We can proudly say that Kabaddi is India's sport and with its huge fan following in rural India. We are happy to be associated with the kabaddi League. VST range of Tractors & Power Tillers are known for its power, compactness & durability, kabaddi also espouses power & grit, hence we find synergy in this association."

The 9th season of the Pro Kabaddi league is scheduled to commence at Shree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru on 7th

Karnataka Cong elated as Sonia joins Rahul yatra

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: After arriving at the historic Mysuru city on Monday afternoon, AICC president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday joined the Bharat Jodo Yatra headed by Rahul Gandhi in Mandya.



The Congress president joined the Karnataka-leg of the yatra near Mandya. The yatra resumed after a two-day break.

Commenting on Sonia Gandhi's participation, Karnataka Congress president D.K. Shivakumar felt proud of their party leader joining the yatra and said his party is coming to power in the state.

Sonia Gandhi, on Wednesday, had visited Bheemana Kolli Temple at HD Kote near Mysuru and offered prayers on the occasion of Vijayadashami

celebrations. "Vijayadashami, there will be Vijaya in Karnataka. We are proud that Sonia Gandhi has come to walk on the streets of Karnataka. We are coming to power in the state, and BJP is on the way to closing its shop," he said.

The yatra, which kicked started on September 7

from Tamil Nadu's Kanyakumari, will pass through Karnataka for 21 days covering 511 km in the State.

The yatra had entered Karnataka at Gundlupet on September 30 from Tamil Nadu's Gudalur. It also had passed through Kerala.

The yatriss are walking 25 kms every day and they will be do so for 21 days

before entering Telangana.

The objective of the yatra is to fight against the "divisive" politics of the ruling BJP governments at the Centre and states, and also to awaken the masses against the dangers of "economic inequalities", "social polarisation" and "political centralisation." The yatriss are sleeping in containers with ACs installed in some of them.

24 children, 12 adults killed in Thai mass shooting

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: A mass shooting at a childcare centre on Thursday in northeast Thailand's Nong Bua Lamphu province has killed at least 36 people, including 24 children, local authorities said here on Thursday.



The victims included 24 children and 12 adults, according to a report posted on the Facebook page of the provincial public relations department.

Another 12 people were reportedly injured.

The shooting occurred at around 12:40 p.m. local time (5:40 GMT), local police said.

The attacker, reportedly a 34-year-old former police officer, later killed his family members before taking his own life, Kornwit Nitkhamhan, deputy inspector at Na Klang Police Station where the childcare center locates, told local media via phone.

"About the horrifying incident, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the families of the dead and injured," Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-ocha wrote on his Facebook account, adding that he has ordered the national police chief to "fast-track an investigation." TV footage showed ambulances and families of the victims gathering outside the childcare center.

A woman working at the childcare center told a local TV programme that they were having

lunch when she heard the sound and saw the injured falling to the ground. The shooter broke the window in as the door was locked, and she succeeded in fleeing the scene, she said.

Many locals rushed to the Nong Bua Lamphu provincial hospital in response to its urgent call for blood donation for the injured.

UN chief condoles

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed his condolences on Thursday in connection with the deadly shooting

at a nursery in northeastern Thailand, spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said.

Earlier in the day, former police officer Panya Khamrab went on a shooting and stabbing spree at a nursery, killing 38 people, including 24 children.

"The Secretary-General is shocked and saddened by the horrific mass shooting today at a child-care facility in northeastern Thailand, in which dozens of people were killed, most of them children," Dujarric said during a briefing.

Sai Silks (Kalamandir) Launches Its 50th Store Third 'VaraMahalakshmi' format store in Tamil Nadu inaugurated by renowned actresses Radikaa Sarathkumar and Kushboo Sundar

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: Sai Silks (Kalamandir) Limited (Sai Silks or SSKL), one of the leading retailers of ethnic apparel, particularly sarees, in South India in terms of revenue and profit after tax in Fiscal 2019, 2020 and 2021 (as per a Technopak report), opened their landmark 50th store in Chennai, Tamil Nadu today. The new SSKL store, which operates under the brand name 'VaraMahalakshmi Silks', is spread over an area of more than 4000 sq. ft. across two floors and is located at 3rd Main Road, Anna Nagar, Chennai.



The new VaraMahalakshmi store is the third such store in Tamil Nadu - other two being located at Mylapore, Chennai and Gandhi Road, Kanchipuram. It houses premium product offerings, including a variety of sarees such as Banarasi, Patola, Kota, Kanchipuram, Paithani, Organza, Kuppadam, etc., with major focus on handlooms such as Kanchipuram silk sarees. SSKL's stores are focussed on spreading India's vibrant culture, traditions and heritage by offering a diverse range of products which includes various types of ultra-premium and premium sarees and ethnic wear, including value fashion products. The premium ethnic silk sarees and handlooms targets, inter alia, wedding and occasional wear. VaraMahalakshmi sarees retail in the range of approximately Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 250,000.

Mr. Chalavadi added, "We believe our VaraMahalakshmi stores provide a unique experience and customer service, which combined with our inventory and variety of SKUs that we offer, enables us to attract and retain a growing customer base. From here on, we intend to open 25 additional stores across South India and these are planned over the course of

next two Fiscals."

The VaraMahalakshmi retail brand format was established in 2011 with the first store opening in Chickpet, Bengaluru, and has been further scaled in cities such as Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Vijaywada, Nellore etc. as of May 31, 2022.

VaraMahalakshmi stores are more traditionally decorated and reflects the brand's roots in the Kancheepuram culture. It was conceived as a brand which would reinvent the handloom saree business and offers Kanchipuram silk sarees and other handloom and occasion-wear sarees under one roof.

Sai Silks has four store formats including Kalamandir, VaraMahalakshmi Silks, Mandir, and KLM Fashion Mall, offering products to various segments of the market that include premium ethnic fashion, ethnic fashion for middle income and value-fashion, with a variety of products across different price points, thereby catering to customers across all market segments.

ICICI Bank launches 'Smart Wire', an easy online solution for inward remittances

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: ICICI Bank today announced the launch of an online solution to help its customers carry out SWIFT based inward remittances in a faster and hassle-free manner. Named, 'Smart Wire', the facility allows both NRIs and resident customers to undertake inward remittance transactions in an online and paperless way. ICICI Bank is the first bank in the country to introduce this faster online solution to receive inward wire remittances.

The industry-first facility enables the beneficiary to initiate the wire transfer request, submit online declaration/ documents, block the exchange rates in advance and track the status of the transaction. Through this facility, accurate information related to the beneficiary, purpose of the inward remittance and declaration, where required, are captured in advance and shared with the remitter instantly. This facilitates seamless processing of the remittance and saves time of the beneficiary who can use this facility for various purposes of remittances including family maintenance and savings, personal gift / financial support, NRE/ NRO repatriation, salary, business and management consultancy.

possible speed, with the highest level of security. With the launch of 'Smart Wire' facility, which is an industry-first initiative, we are offering our NRI and resident customers a unique combination of speed and an enriched experience of executing a cross-border transaction. We believe this new facility will help our customers to conveniently carry out quick and hassle-free money transfers."

The key features of the 'Smart Wire' facility are:

Online submission of details: The beneficiary can generate pre-filled wire transfer request form online

Digital declarations: For seamless processing of the transaction, the facility enables beneficiary to submit required details/declarations online while initiating wire transaction

Block exchange rates: The beneficiary can block exchange rate for the expected inward wire transfer. The deal booking facility is available for USD, EUR, GBP, AED, CAD, SGD and AUD

Online tracking: The beneficiary can also track the transactions online by logging in internet banking portal anytime and anywhere

Email request to remitter: Once the beneficiary initiates the remittance request, the remitter gets complete details of the wire transfer immediately via system generated email

Customers can avail the 'Smart Wire' facility by logging into internet banking platform.

Threat of nuke war looming large, fears Biden

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: The risk of a nuclear "Armageddon" is at its highest level since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, US President Joe Biden said.



Biden said Russian President Vladimir Putin was "not joking" when he spoke of using tactical nuclear weapons after suffering setbacks in Ukraine, BBC reported.

The US was "trying to figure out" Putin's way out of the war, he added.

The US and the EU have previously said that Putin's nuclear sabre-rattling should be taken seriously.

However, the US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan last week said that despite Moscow's nuclear hints, the US had seen no signs that Russia

was imminently preparing to use a nuclear weapon, the BBC reported.

Ukraine has been retaking territory occupied by Russia during its invasion that began on February 24, including in the four regions Russia illegally annexed recently.

For several months, US

War II.

Putin has also threatened to use every means at his disposal to protect Russian territory.

President Biden said the reason the Russian leader had not been "not joking" when he talked about using tactical nuclear, biological or chemical weapons is "because his military is, you might say, significantly underperforming".

"For the first time since the Cuban Missile Crisis, we have a direct threat to the use of nuclear weapons, if in fact things continue down the path they'd been going," Biden told fellow Democrats.

"We have not faced the prospect of Armageddon since Kennedy and the Cuban missile crisis.

Aparajitha Corporate Services, India's largest compliance service provider, along with its affiliates announced the acquisition of a strategic 76% equity stake in Simpliance Technologies

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: Aparajitha Corporate Services Private Limited (Aparajitha), India's largest compliance service provider, along with its affiliates announced the acquisition of a strategic 76% equity stake in Simpliance Technologies Private Limited. Aparajitha progressively intends to integrate and merge the operations by offering Simpliance promoters and other shareholders equity shares in Aparajitha as part of the transaction. The Simpliance Promoters and the management team will become part of leadership team for the combined operations. The proposed acquisition is subject to completion of closing actions and receipt of regulatory approvals.

Aparajitha is the largest compliance service providers in India focused on the Labour, Employee and Industrial (LEI) and Environment Health and Safety (EHS) related compliance services. With over 1,500 employees on its rolls and presence in 25 Indian States, Aparajitha is truly a pan India player with strong domain expertise in Central and State laws pertaining to employees, labour, industrial and EHS regulations. Aparajitha has over 1,700 clients ranging from

Fortune 500 companies to MSMEs.

Promoted by Dr. Bharath Krishna Shankar and Mr. Nagaraj Krishnan, Aparajitha is part of Xcelerate Pte Ltd, a Singapore-headquartered GRC / ESG operating and investment platform. Xcelerate has a clearly defined roll-up strategy to bring together world class management teams, cutting edge technologies and domain experts to offer comprehensive solutions on a regional basis in the GRC / ESG segment.

Headquartered in Bangalore and with a nationwide presence, Simpliance is amongst the top three LEI compliance solution providers in India and provides a leading software-as-a-service (SaaS) offering in this segment with a subscription-based revenue model. Promoted by Lt Cdr Anil Prem D'Souza, An Indian Navy Veteran. Simpliance has ~120 clients across industry segments, including Financial Services, Health care, Industrial and Retail. Simpliance is a subsidiary of Qess Corp Limited.

Aparajitha is a leader in the LEI compliance segment with a nationwide network of in-

house operations and service representatives. Simpliance offers digital and automation tools for its clients to manage risk and meet the rigorous compliance requirements with a user-friendly digital interface. This transaction enables us to provide customers with world-class digital solutions combined with high-quality full assurance compliance services on the ground.

This is the second acquisition by Aparajitha in four months, after the acquisition of the business / select assets of Comply India Tech Services Private Limited in June 2022.

Commenting on the transaction, Mr. Nagaraj Krishnan, Managing Director of Aparajitha said, "The combination with Simpliance will enable us to offer comprehensive compliance solutions – best-in class services combined with digital tools and emerge as the undisputed leader in the LEI Compliance segment. We welcome Anil and his team and intend to emerge as a technology and data-oriented compliance solution provider with strong regulatory domain expertise in India and other regions".

Lt Cdr Anil Prem D'Souza, CEO

Simpliance said "“Being a part of the Qess family since 2016 has helped us to build scale, leveraging the Qess’ platform and their management expertise. We look forward to partnering with Aparajitha Corporate Services, to seamlessly integrate our SaaS Offerings to create holistic bundled products for our customers across the value chain.””.

Mr. Guruprasad Srinivasan, Executive Director & Group CEO, Qess Corp Limited said "In line with the corporate structure simplification process and rationalization of business lines, we have divested our stake in Simpliance Technologies Private Limited. Qess helped the Simpliance team to build a comprehensive tech platform which provides total labour compliance solutions for digital India. While this has created great value for the Shareholders of Qess, we are also happy that Simpliance has found a permanent home at Aparajitha Corporate Services."

The deal is valued at an Enterprise Value of INR 120 crores, on a cash and debt free basis, subject to closing adjustments and fulfilment of conditions set out in the transaction documents.

Navarathri Tradition at SIMATS

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: SIMATS School of Engineering celebrated the victory of good over evil by performing Navaratri Pooja, a traditional way of praying to Goddess Navdurga. The nine days were solely dedicated to Durga and her nine avatars - the Navadurga - with the

faculties and students artistically expressing their devotion through songs, dance, and music. A colourful 11 step traditional Golu was also set up magnifying the Navaratri Pooja.

Dr. N.M. Veeraiyan, Chancellor of SIMATS, and Dr. Ramya Deepak, Director of SSE, as well

as Principals, Deans, Faculties, and Students, were present during the days expressing their thankfulness and spirituality. The rituals and observances practiced during the period teach us the value of temperance, which is very useful in everyday life.



Mahindra sells highest ever monthly volume of 64,486 vehicles, registers a growth of 129%; Takes No. 1 position in SUV Market with 34,262 UV sales in September 2022

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M Ltd.), one of India's leading automotive companies, today announced its overall auto sales for the month of September 2022. Mahindra's Utility Vehicles segment recorded its highest monthly sales of 34,262 SUVs, growing 166% over last year to become the No. 1

UV player in the industry. Overall, the automotive business recorded its highest overall monthly sales of 64,486 vehicles with a growth of 129% and highest ever quarterly sales of 179,673 vehicles with a growth of 77% over last year.

Exports for the month were at 2,538 vehicles. In

the Commercial Vehicles segment, Mahindra sold 21,666 vehicles in August 2022.

According to Veejay Nakra, President, Automotive Division, M&M Ltd., "September was a very exciting month with a strong start to the festive season. We continue to see very strong demand and

performance across our portfolio of products, from SUVs, LCV's less than 3.5 tons and our Last Mile Mobility brands. We are delighted that our SUVs have registered the highest ever sales of 34,262 vehicles as well as highest ever overall volumes of 64,486 vehicles for the month of September."

1to1help @ TiE Sandhai

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: 1to1help, India's premier employee assistance program service provider, today announced its participation at the TiE Sandhai, at TIECON 2022 Chennai on 8th October 2022.

1to1help supports organizations to improve employee well-being through a range of programmes. It helps the

mental and emotional well-being of employees through a variety of interventions and resources. 1to1help brings world-class counselling service to employees enabling them to better manage their emotional wellness. The company boasts a global partnership with more than 750 companies covering 4.5 million people.

Employee wellness is key to any company's success. Caring about employee wellbeing is critical to recruiting and retaining talent. Over the years, 1to1help has learned that engaging employee programs based on technology, navigation, and communication can boost employee well-being. Our programs are designed to help

employees learn and experience wellbeing initiatives, as well as meet specific health goals.

At TiE, the company looks forward to interacting with corporates to impart knowledge and awareness about emotional health and how it can be a partner in the success of the organisation.

Poonawalla Fincorp maintains profitability, growth and asset quality in Q1, FY'23

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: Poonawalla Fincorp Limited (PFL), a non-deposit taking, systemically important NBFC focusing on consumer and MSME finance, recently announced a 118% year-on-year (YoY) rise in net profit in Q1, FY2023 at Rs. 141 crore, due to improvement in Net Interest Margins (NIM) by 155 basis points YoY to 9.5%. The non-bank lender's Assets Under Management (AUM) grew by 22.4% YoY to Rs 17,660 crore and 6.5% QoQ. Disbursements under the company's Direct, Digital and Partnership model (DPP) have almost doubled from 17.5% in Q4 FY22 to 34.1% of the total disbursement in the

current quarter.

Commencing with two or three products, PFL today offers a diverse product range which includes personal loans, pre-owned car finance, loans against property, professional loans, small business loans, loans for medical equipment, and the newly launched loans for machinery and supply chain finance products. Furthermore, PFL will launch EMI cards, credit cards, consumer finance, and merchant cash advances over a 12-18 month period.

The product focus on pure retail segments of consumer and MSME finance continued. The Company further consolidated its

leadership in the pre-owned car finance and loan to professionals segment. Also, the quarterly disbursements across product lines of Business Loans, Personal Loans, Loan to Professionals, Pre-Owned Cars and Loan Against Property were the highest in Q1FY23. This, coupled with consistent increase in lending via the Direct, Digital and Partnership (DDP) model of origination, has further strengthened and diversified the company's distribution.

Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited (PHFL), the 100% subsidiary of PFL, crossed the AUM milestone of INR 5,000 cr., clocking 30.5% y-o-y

growth to stand at an AUM of INR 5,282 cr. this quarter.

Both Poonawalla Fincorp and Poonawalla Housing Finance continue to have long-term rating of 'AA+ / Stable' by CRISIL and CARE.

The company's vision is to be amongst the Top 3 NBFCs in consumer and MSME lending with a risk-calibrated accelerated growth and triple its FY21 AUM by 2025. The company will continue with its rigor on execution, investment in people, building technology and a strong retail consumer franchise, and is well on course to deliver an exceptional performance in this financial year.

Indulgent purchases defining Diwali shopping: Snapdeal Buying sentiment shifts from meeting needs to fulfilling desires

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: The mood in smaller cities and towns across Bharat is upbeat and very different from the last two years of pandemic-impacted festivities. These are the findings from the first sale of this festive season by Snapdeal, India's leading value-focused platform, which draws more than 85% of its business from buyers living outside the metro cities of India, with a vast majority living in smaller towns & cities of India.

While the fashion category over the last two years was dominated by casual and comfort wear for home and athleisure wear, festive shoppers this season are focused on ethnic tunic tops, sarees with embellishments, dress materials, shapewear for women and party wear shirts for men.

In terms of fashion accessories, earrings, pendants, mangalsutras and religious-themed jewellery have been the gainers this festive season. For men, wallets, belts and sunglasses were the top fashion accessories during the season's first sale.

Buyers from Tier 2, 3

& 4 cities showed an increased appetite for beauty and personal care products, with various products in the category showing 3X growth compared to the previous year. Items like face serums, contour kits, hair colouring sets, shape firming Lotions, BB & CC creams, nail art & accessories were popular purchases by buyers in smaller cities.

The home category shows the most visible shift in consumer sentiment, with buyers looking beyond just utilitarian products like bed sheets, towels, pressure cookers and kitchen containers to more indulgent items such as fragrances & diffusers, wind chimes, photo frames, table mats, decorative mirrors, pots & planters etc. The purchases for the kitchen also captured a similar mood of the consumers with bar sets, glass serveware, blow torches and sprout makers selling more than in the previous seasons.

Sale trends on Snapdeal also showed customers spending on their travel preparations. Travel cushions and pillows grew 4X from last

year, backpacks grew 2X and other travel accessories like duffel bags, passport holders, car mobile chargers, riding goggles and bike lighting accessories also showed significant increase in consumer spending.

"Users are feeling upbeat this year and the same is reflected in what users are browsing and buying. Shoppers are taking advantage of the sale offers to indulge themselves and are buying to fulfill their aspirations and not just to meet their needs. Across fashion, home and beauty & personal care, we are witnessing users spend to upgrade their homes, look and feel better about themselves, and choose gifts for their loved ones. We are privileged to be the platform that is enabling value-savvy buyers to make the best use of their festive spends", added Snapdeal spokesperson.

Other popular picks in Snapdeal's Diwali sale are men's & women's sportswear, and gifting items like men's watches, beauty gift sets, and toys for kids have also increased. With the onset of the winter season,

sellers & buyers have already started prepping for the season. Upcoming sales in the following weeks will have a vast selection of winter items including items like jackets, sweaters, and home items like blankets and comforters.

In the first leg of the sale, 80% of the orders were placed via the Snapdeal app, an increase from 76% in the comparable sale period last year. Snapdeal's connect with value-savvy buyers was evident from the fact that 78% of the sale volume was driven by repeat buyers.

While Snapdeal has a long-standing, deep connect with sellers throughout the country, including in Tier 2 & 3 cities, the festive season saw sellers from still smaller cities participate actively in the sale, including from towns like Upleta (Gujarat), Nuapatna (Orissa), Gonda (Uttar Pradesh), Taliparamba (Kerala), Motipur (Bihar), Sunam (Punjab), Bicholim (Goa), Nelamangala (Karnataka), Kangeyam (Tamil Nadu), Dhule (Maharashtra), Naihati (West Bengal) and others.

Makkal Selvan Vijay Sethupathi released the First Look and Motion Poster of Tamil Feature Film Ajinomoto - A Crime Thriller!

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: This Movie had been Directed By Debutant Director Mathiraj iyamperumal, Under The Banner of Dattatreya Studios by Sivaraj Panneerselvam and A. Thamizh Selvan. This Film has Talented and Young Energetic Cast and Technical Crew On Board with K. Gangadaran As Director Of Photography, D. M UdhayKumar As Music Director and M. S Srinath as Film Editor. R. S. KARTHIK Plays as Protagonist with Gayathri Rema, Aradhya, Shyam, Ananth Nag, Pranshu Tiwari as the Main Characters Talking about the film, the director said, "Ajinomoto' is a flavor enhancer. But it is in fact



a kind of poison that kills humans slowly. The 'Ajinomoto' has been

conceived and crafted based on this. Certain situations in the screenplay would seem good to the characters at one point of time but then it can cause great danger subsequently! The consequences will be severe. Those consequences are interestingly and vividly explained by the screenplay of the film. And when such experiences are narrated through an eagle-eyed screenplay, the audience gets a new kind of experience. " he said. Ajinomoto's First Look and Motion Poster's online release have greatly impressed the fans and have generated good response and support from the Netizens!

STR launches trailer of AGS Entertainment-produced fun-filled family entertainer 'Love Today' starring and directed by Pradeep Ranganathan of 'Comali' fame 'Love Today' heads for worldwide theatrical release on November 4

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: A G S Entertainment, one of the leading production houses of Tamil cinema, is bankrolling a new film titled 'Love Today'. Produced by Kalpathi S Aghoram, Kalpathi S Ganesh and Kalpathi S Suresh, the film is directed by Pradeep Ranganathan of 'Comali' fame. Interestingly, Pradeep Ranganathan is playing the protagonist in this movie. The film's trailer was today released by actor STR aka Simbu. The film will hit theaters across the world on November 4. Archana Kalpathi is the Creative Producer of 'Love Today', while S M Venkat Manickam is the Executive Producer. According to the team, the film is going to be a fun-filled family entertainer that would be enjoyed by audiences of all age-groups.



The trailer stands testimony to this claim. Director Bala's 'Naachiyar' plays the heroine of 'Love Today',

while Sathyaraj, Radikaa Sarathkumar and Yogi Babu will be seen in key roles. Music is by Yuvan Shankar Raja, who has come up with attractive

songs. Dinesh Purushothaman is the Director of Photography for 'Love Today', while Pradeep E Ragav is the Editor. Art department is being taken care of by MKT. The first look posters of the film have already generated huge curiosity. "The film will talk about today's love and the relationship issues being faced by the 2K generation. It will be very entertaining and will strike a chord with the audience," says the team. The makers have thanked producer R B Choudary of Super Good Films and actor 'Thalapathy' Vijay for giving nod to use the title 'Love Today'. Produced by Kalpathi S Aghoram, Kalpathi S Ganesh and Kalpathi S Suresh on A G S Entertainment banner, 'Love Today' is directed by Pradeep Ranganathan who is also playing the lead role. Archana Kalpathi is the Creative Producer.

Indian Institute of Logistics 15th Graduation ceremony held

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: The 15th Graduation Ceremony of the Indian Institute of Logistics held in Chennai.

Capt V J Pushpakumar, president of the Indian Institute of Logistic and Ramya P Raj, general manager of the institute spoke about the job opportunities for the logistics graduates.

Indian institute of Logistics Chennai has trained over 16000 students over the past 15 years.

N. Krishna Kumar, Senior Vice President, MSC, "Indian Institute of Logistic focuses every year on the celebration of the results achieved by



the students, but seeing the path of our international partners so closely makes us proud of everything we are building together, the mission of creating the best leaders on a global scale is an increasingly concrete reality, these results are proof that international cooperation is possible

and what follows is a future full of ideas, stimuli and opportunities.

Guest of Honour K.P. Jeyakumar, President, TN BJP OLC, Dr. Arul Joseph, MD Unicorn Maritime & Former CHENSAA President, Madhanagopal S, Professor, IIL and Prof. Benny John, Professor,

IIL. were also spoke at the graduation ceremony.

The Indian Institute of Logistics is based in Chennai, Dubai and Kochi, IIL is only logistics institute in Chennai with specialized programmes in MBA Logistics and Shipping / Global MBA in Logistic and Supply Chain.

Central Government appointed DMK MP Kanimozhi as the Chairman of the Union Government's Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Standing Committee. Kanimozhi met Chief Minister Stalin and sought his wishes.



Chennai, 07.10.22: On the occasions of Gandhi Jayanti Swachhata (Cleanliness) Special Campaign 2.0 conducted on 02nd October 2022 by Indian Overseas Bank (IOB). The cleanliness drive has been led by Executive Director Ms. S Srimathy and CVO Shri.R Balasubramanian at Central Office Campus, Chennai of the Bank. AIGMs, DGMs, AGMs and other Bank officials whole heartedly participated in the cleanliness drive with full zeal and Enthusiasm. In Chennai, the cleanliness drive was led by Regional Managers of Chennai I & II along with their staffs at Light House, Marina Beach.



This cleanliness drive has also been organized by Bank at other 47 Regional offices across all over India wherein all Regional Managers and Staff participants made an impact on cleanliness.

Also, our staff training college, Chennai participated with full energy involving the Principal, faculty members and the trainee officers.

The Programme instilled the sense of cleanliness and helped the environment neat and clean. This can help in building the image of India as clean nation in the map of the world.

Dubai's majestic Hindu temple opens to public

Chennai, Oct 07 2022: A Hindu temple that blends Indian and Arabic architecture designs has been inaugurated here in Jebel Ali Village, with a powerful message of tolerance, peace and harmony.

Located in a neighbourhood referred to as the emirate's 'worship village', the temple formally opened its doors to worshippers across the UAE on Tuesday.

"Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance & Coexistence & Ambassador Sunjay Sudhir inaugurated the new Hindu Temple in Dubai. On the occasion, Ambassador Sunjay Sudhir thanked the UAE Government for their support to the 3.5 million-strong Indian



diaspora in the UAE," the Indian Embassy in Abu Dhabi tweeted.

A powerful message of tolerance, peace and harmony, bringing together people from various faiths, marked the official opening ceremony, the Khaleej Times newspaper reported.

Priests chanted "Om

shanti shanti Om" in a peace salutation and musicians playing the tabla and dhol Indian drums greeted people as they entered.

The 'worship village' in Jebel Ali now houses nine religious shrines, including seven churches, the Guru Nanak Darbar Sikh Gurudwara, and the new

Hindu house of worship.

Sheikh Nahyan was joined by Ambassador Sudhir, CEO of the social regulatory and licensing agency for the Community Development Authority (CDA), Dr Omar Al Muthanna and trustee of the Hindu Temple Dubai, Raju Shroff.