

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has always given special importance to the celebrations of Gurupurab and with the same spirit, Union Home Ministry (MHA) made all arrangements for a smooth and comfortable journey for pilgrims

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has always given special importance to the celebrations of Gurupurab and with the same spirit, the Union Home Ministry made all arrangements for a smooth and comfortable journey for the pilgrims.

Under the directions of Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, the Ministry of Home Affairs has facilitated the visit of Indian Sikh pilgrims to Nankana Sahib on the occasion of Gurupurab.

A total of 2,420 Indian Sikh pilgrims,

under the banner of SGPC, DSGMC etc. departed for Pakistan to participate in the Guru Nanak Jayanti celebrations 2022, through the Attari Road on 06th November, 2022.

The pilgrims were issued 10-day Pakistani Pilgrim Visa (from 06-15 November 2022) for Nankana Sahib, Sacha Sauda etc and travelled mainly under the banner of different Sikh Religious Organizations including SGPC, DSGMC, Haryana Yatri Sikh Jatha, Sukhmani Sahab Sewa Society, Haryana etc. The



pilgrims are scheduled to return by 15 November 2022.

Following prominent leaders of various Sikh organisations formed part of the Gurupurab Jatha—

1. SGPC - Master Preet Singh Basair, EX SGPC Member Ajnala
2. DSGMC- Daljeet Singh, DSGMC Member
3. Haryana Yatri Sikh Jatha - Sharanjeet Singh Grover
4. Sikh Yatri Jammu - Shamsheer Singh
5. Sukhmani Sahab Sewa Society, Haryana -

Gurdeep Singh

6. Bhai Mardana Group (Ferozpur)-Sardar Sucha Singh.

Similarly, a total of 433 pilgrims from India visited Sri Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara in Pakistan, through ICP Dera Baba Nanak, Amritsar today to offer prayers on the occasion of Gurupurab.

Pilgrims included 429 Indian nationals and 4 OCI cardholders.

All the pilgrims have returned after offering their prayers.

Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav speaks at the Launch of the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) at COP 27, Egypt

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: Highlights: MAC initiative brings the world together to advance the global cause of Mangroves.

India's extensive experience in mangrove restoration to contribute to global knowledge base.

Integration of mangroves into the national REDD+ programs need of the hour.

Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav spoke at the Launch of the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC). This event was held on the side-lines of the ongoing COP 27 at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Speaking at this event, Shri Bhupender Yadav said:

"I would like to thank

Her Excellency, Mariam Bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, Kingdom of United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Her Excellency Siti Nurbaya Bakar, Minister of Forestry and Environment, Indonesia for hosting this event, which brings nations from around the world together under one roof, to advance the global cause of Mangroves, one of the marvels of Mother Nature.

Mangroves are one of the most productive ecosystems of the world. This tidal forest serves as a nursery ground for several organisms, protects the coastal erosion, sequestering the carbon and providing livelihood for millions of people besides harboring array of faunal elements in its habitat.

Mangroves are distributed in the tropical and sub-tropical region of the world and are found in 123 countries.

Mangroves are among the most carbon-rich forests in the tropics. They account for 3% of carbon sequestered by the world's tropical forests.

Mangroves are the economic foundations of many tropical coastal regions. To sustain the blue economy, it is imperative to ensure the sustainability of coastal habitats, particularly mangroves for tropical nations, at the local, regional, and international levels.

With notable adaptive features, mangroves are natural armed forces of tropical and subtropical nations. They are the best option to fight against climate



change consequences like sea levels rise and increasing frequency of natural calamities like cyclones and storm surges.

Distinguished Delegates,

India has committed in its NDC – to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

We see the tremendous potential

mangroves have for mitigation of growing GHG concentration in the atmosphere. Studies have shown that mangrove forests can absorb four to five times more carbon emissions than landed tropical forests.

It has also been revealed that mangroves can act as buffer for Ocean acidification and act as sink for micro-plastics.

Creating new carbon sink from mangrove

afforestation and reducing emissions from mangrove deforestation are two feasible ways for countries to meet their NDC targets and achieve carbon neutrality.

Excellencies,

India is committed to conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems; and has strong commitments towards conservation and management of mangroves.

One of the largest remaining areas of mangroves in the world, the Sundarbans supports an exceptional level of biodiversity in both the terrestrial and marine environments, including significant populations of a range of flora and plant species; species of wildlife wide range of fauna, including the Bengal Tiger and other threatened species such

as the estuarine crocodile and the Indian python. There is significant increase observed in mangroves cover in India in its Andamans region; Sundarbans region; and in the Gujarat region.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates and participants at this COP

India has demonstrated expertise in mangrove restoration activities for nearly five decades and restored different types of mangrove ecosystems both on its east and west coasts.

Excellencies, I congratulate you on the launch of Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) for the conservation of mangroves with cross boundary cooperation to meet the intentional climate goals. We also

feel that Integration of mangroves into the national REDD+, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation programs are the need of the hour.

India can contribute to the global knowledge base due to its extensive experience in mangrove restoration, studies on ecosystem valuation and carbon sequestration and also benefit from associating with other nations regarding cutting-edge solutions and generating appropriate financial instruments for mangrove conservation and restoration.

Let us join hands together to protect one of the most precious assets of the tropical coasts, towards sustainability and adaptation to the consequences of Climate Change."

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh chairs the first ever Joint Society Meeting of Autonomous Institutes (IITM, INCOIS, NCESS, NCPOR, and NIOT) of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) in New Delhi

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: "Marine Surveillance" to get a facelift with support from Space applications for sharing valuable inputs with the Security Agencies

Completion of all testing to proceed for shallow water testing of manned submersible MATSYA 6000 during the first quarter of 2024 Oceansat will be launched on 26th of November, 2022

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh today convened the first ever Joint Society Meeting of Autonomous Institutes (IITM, INCOIS, NCESS, NCPOR, NIOT) of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and called for breaking the "silos" to work with integration and "whole of government" approach.

All the five autonomous bodies Societies, that is, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM),

Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS), National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) and National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) have been merged into a single Society of MoES.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the move is in tune with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's directive to avoid duplication and working in silos and to aim for greater integration to achieve the maximum output. He said, PM Modi not only has a natural predilection for science but is also forthcoming in supporting and promoting science and technology based initiatives and projects in the last 7-8 years.

Apart from Dr Jitendra Singh, who is the President of the Society, Members, Dr.M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Shri S. Somanath, Secretary, Department of Space, Dr. N Kalaiselvi, DG,



CSIR and Secretary D S I R, Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Former Chairman, ISRO, Bengaluru, Dr. P. S. Goel, Former Secretary, MoES, Dr. Harsh K Gupta, Former Secretary, DOD/MoES, Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Former Secretary, MoES & Director, NIAS, Bengaluru, Dr. G A R a m a d a s s, Director, NIOT, Dr. T Srinivasa Kumar, Director, INCOIS, Dr. R. Krishnan, Director, IITM, Prof. Jyotiranjan S Ray, Director, NCESS, Dr. Thamban Meloth, Director, NCPOR took part in today's deliberations.

Dr Jitendra Singh

said, Ministry of Earth Sciences has taken the notion of "Marine Surveillance" to a new level, where Space applications are also being deployed to share the valuable inputs with the Security Agencies. The Minister informed that Oceansat will be launched on 26th of November, 2022 and installation of a NASA-ISRO Radar System is at an advanced stage. He also informed greater use of Global Navigation Satellite System, GNSS, as one of the key sources of position information, alongside radio navigation systems, which exchange information with

nearby ships and land-based vessel traffic services (VTS) on a vessel's position, course and speed.

Taking a review of the Design and Development of Manned Submersible – MATSYA 6000, Dr Jitendra Singh said, completion of all testing to proceed for shallow water testing of manned submersible during the first quarter of 2024 using the NIOT-MoES research vessel ORV Sagar Nidhi. He informed that based on the ongoing progress, it is expected that all the long lead components shall get realised by the third



quarter of 2023 to proceed for the sub component integration and testing by following due DNV approved interface procedures.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, for the benefit of ocean scientific community, under the Deep Ocean Mission's SAMUDRAYAAN program of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), the deep-water manned submersible MATSYA 6000 is designed and developed indigenously by National Institute of Ocean Technology, an autonomous institute under MoES. The battery-powered

submersible MATSYA 6000 shall have the capability to carry three persons upto 6000 m water depth and perform scientific exploration with a normal endurance period of 12h and emergency support for 96 hours. Manned submersible have the advantages of carrying scientists to deep sea areas for research on life in extreme environments by biological sampling, habitat analysis and in situ experiments for ocean mineral exploration.

Secretary, MoES, Dr M Ravichandra said that considering the complexity in the depth

rated component custom design, realisation and testing of other subsystems; contract were signed for the long lead items with national and international agencies for the subcomponents realization. Titanium Alloy personnel sphere for 6000 m operation capability is under progress with VSSC-ISRO. A design document is submitted to DNV for approval and ingot material processing is being carried out at MIDHANI and forging is planned at L&T. Electron Beam Welding facility augmentation is being completed at LPSC-ISRO.

Johnson & Johnson Vision and Lions Clubs International Foundation celebrate 20 years of 'Sight For Kids', conduct vision screening for over 500 children from low-income schools in Kolkata, West Bengal

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: Johnson & Johnson Vision*, a global leader in the eye health category and a part of Johnson & Johnson MedTech**, and Lions Clubs International Foundation today celebrated 20 years of 'Sight For Kids', their school-based eye health program. Co-founded by Johnson & Johnson Vision and Lions Clubs International Foundation in 2002, the Sight For Kids program aims to bridge the gap in access to eye care by providing comprehensive eye health services for children from low-income and underserved communities. To mark the occasion, a vision screening for over 500 children was organised in Kolkata, West Bengal.

The two-day program took place at Lions Safari Park and Calcutta Greater Vidya Mandir School. Witnessing leading eye care professionals, local ophthalmological associations, NGO/community partners, Johnson & Johnson Vision representatives, and local Lions were present to honour the cause. The Sight For Kids program has operated across West Bengal since 2004.

In the last 20 years, the program has reached



more than 42 million students in underserved communities in Asia, Africa, and the U.S., providing eye health treatment to 600,000 children across the world. In India, through a community and a school-based model, Sight For Kids has facilitated vision assessment for 37 million children. The program has equipped communities with critical tools to ensure children have access to eye care for clear and healthy vision.

Emphasizing the organization's aim to elevate eye health awareness in India, Tiny Sengupta, Business Unit Director, Vision Care India, Johnson & Johnson Vision said, "It is an absolute honour to partner with Lions Clubs International Foundation and celebrate the 20-year milestone of Sight For Kids. Healthy eyesight plays a critical role in early childhood

development – from a child's academic performance to co-curricular activities self-esteem and overall well-being. However, globally, more than 312 million children suffer from myopia, and half of them continue to live undetected and untreated. Every child deserves a chance to see the world clearly. Through Sight For Kids, we are not only bringing free eye care to children who need it the most, but also training school teachers to identify children suffering from vision impairment or eye ailments."

To date, Sight For Kids has provided 500,000 thousand pairs of eyeglasses to children across the world, to empower them to realise their dreams."

Commenting on the importance of increasing access to eye care, Mr. A. P. Singh, Third Vice President, Lions Clubs

International Foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation said, "Together with Johnson & Johnson Vision, we are proud to see our Lions and eye care professionals work towards achieving our mission of providing comprehensive eye health services to underprivileged children to equip them with clear and healthy vision. Through our extensive engagements, we found that teachers are in a unique position to identify behavioural changes and notice when children suffer from vision impairment. This critical insight has led us to bolster our approach by training 200,000 teachers across the world to date."

'Sight For Kids' is one of the longest running public-private vision-screening programs in the world, that provides teachers with training to deliver eye health education and perform visual acuity tests for common eye conditions with the support of optometrists. Johnson & Johnson Vision in partnership with Lions Clubs International Foundation envisions reaching children across borders to provide them with healthy eyesight and strive towards greater equity in eye care.

ZEE5 releases the trailer of an inspiring tale of young dancers through the web series – 5678!

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: ZEE5, India's largest home-grown video streaming platform and multilingual storyteller released the trailer of their latest Tamil original series – 5678. With a phenomenal response to the announcement of the series, Sai Pallavi, a dancing icon released the inspiring, and unconventional trailer of 5678. Headlined by the immensely talented directors AL Vijay, Prasanna JK and Mrudhula Sridharan, the energetic young dancers are set to make everyone proud through their dance. The series will stream on ZEE5 on 18th November 2022 in Tamil.



Produced by AL Alagappan Hitesh Thakkur, this series highlights the journey of young and talented teenagers. Coming from a lower yet humble background, these individuals love dancing but are not backed with any professional training. Watching the kids from the gated community hone their skills, these young

artists decide to chase their dreams and fight against the odds. Their dreams are given wings when, Keshav, a new member from the gated community joins them.

Trailer Link – <https://youtu.be/cfLW49qHN54>

Director, Vijay said, "This project is very close to my heart and special for

me as I have worked with some amazing people on this. It was a great exchange of thoughts working with Prasanna JK and Mrudhula Sridharan and 5678 is a combined product of creativity. There are not many films/shows based on dance as a theme in South and that's where the germ of the idea came from. I think 5678 will connect with youngsters and the adults too and will etch a space in their heart."

Sai Pallavi's post - <https://www.facebook.com/SaiPallavi.S/videos/834989457844011/>

https://twitter.com/Sai_Pallavi92/status/1589582708199784449?s=20&t=1nRjzdIRIS13LAV5FMx3JA

ESAF Ups FD interest rates up to 8.5 percent

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: ESAF Small Finance Bank has raised interest rate available on its senior citizen FD up to 8.5%. The bank has also increased the interest rates on Term Deposits for Resident, NRO and NRE accounts of varied tenors. The new interest rates will be applicable for Resident, NRE and NRO accounts with a balance of less than Rs. 2 crore. The revised interest rate will be effective from November 1st to

November 30th.

For Resident and NRO deposits with a maturity of seven to fourteen days, the effective interest rate will be 4%. For Resident and NRO deposits with a maturity of 15 days to 59 days, the revised interest rate will be 4.50% and for deposits having a maturity of 60 days to 90 days, the new interest rate will be 5%. For deposits maturing between 91 days and 182 days, the revised interest rate will be 5.25% and deposits maturing

between 183 days and one year will attract an interest rate of 5.50%.

For Resident, NRO and NRE deposits maturing between two years and 998 days the interest will be 7.25% whereas for deposits with a tenure of 999 days the interest will be 8%. For deposits maturing between a thousand days and less than three years, the new interest rate will be 7.25%. For deposits maturing between three years and less than four

years, the revised rate will be 5.75%.

For deposits maturing between four years and five years, the revised interest rate will be 5.75% and for deposits with a tenure of five years to ten years, the revised interest rate will be 5.25%.

Senior citizens are eligible for an additional 0.5% interest over and above the new interest rates for resident term deposits of all tenors.

Shooting commences for GV Prakash Kumar-starrer new film directed by Udhay Mahesh and produced by Disney Hot Star - Kavithalaya

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: Kavithalaya, a production house floated by legendary filmmaker K Balachander is home to many powerhouse talents and blockbuster, trendsetter movies. It has joined forces with leading OTT platform Hotstar to produce a new movie directed by Udhay Mahesh starring GV Prakash Kumar and Anaswara Rajan in the lead roles. Udhay Mahesh, who has helmed films such as Naalai, Chakra Vyugam and acted in several hit films and webseries including Family Man-2 and Office serial, has written the story, screenplay and dialogues for this film produced by Pushpa Kandasamy and Kandasamy Bharathan. It is worth mentioning that Udhay Mahesh wrote the story and screenplay for the famous serial 'Shanthi Nilayam' directed by K Balachander. Youth sensation GV Prakash Kumar is paired with Anaswara Rajan in the lead role for this film. Anaswara Rajan made her acting debut in the Malayalam short film



Globe. Her first feature film was Udaharanam Sujatha (2017). She gained popularity through the commercially successful Malayalam films Thaneer Mathan Dinangal (2019) and Super Sharanya (2022). She has also participated in many shows as a singer and is popular among kids. The movie is about the emotional bonding between G V Prakash Kumar and his 6-year-old niece.

The film is being made in a beautiful family setting that will be enjoyed by all section of the audiences. The shooting of the yet-to-be-titled film

commenced today in Chennai. Subbu Panchu, Devadarshini, Aadukalam Naren, Madhusudhanan, Kumaravel, Muthukumar, Daniel, Namonayanan, Mayilasamy, Muthukalai, Soundar, Baby Meghna Suresh and others are also part of the cast. Hesham Abdul Wahab, who has worked as the music director for several Malayalam hits including Hridayam, has scored the music and U K Senthilkumar is handling the cinematography for the film. Editing is by Lawrence Kishore. Shiva Yadav is doing the art design, Parvathy

Meera is penning the songs and GN Murugan is doing the stunt choreography. Dance choreography - Kalyankumar Costumes - Dhanapal Costume Design - Vinod Makeup - Kuppusamy Co-Director - Manibhaskar - Manimaran Production Supervision - R Ramaprabu Product Coordination - Pradeep Rayan Executive Producer - Hot Star - Senthil Executive Producer - Kavithalaya - M Madhan Screenplay - Udhay Mahesh, Sabapathi Shanmugam, Narenkumar Dialogues - Udhay Mahesh, Sabapathi Shanmugam PRO - Nikil Murukan.

Indian Trade Service (ITS) officers conference - "Manthan 1.0" held Kevadia

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: The first ever conference of Indian Trade Service Officers "Manthan 1.0" was held at Kevadia, Gujarat. The conference was conducted for brainstorming on future Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), and to formulate sector wise and state wise export strategy to boost exports from India. The officers also discussed ways to revamp the FTP Schemes to make it more efficient and address any implementation issues. Over 75 officers of the Indian Trade Service attended the conference.

Commerce Secretary, Shri Sunil Barthwal, while addressing the delegates, appreciated the initiative and expressed that such brainstorming sessions should be held regularly. He emphasised upon the importance of

specializing in the specific area of international trade. He underlined the importance of institutional memory for any department and urged the trade service officers to specialise, and become more effective resource for the Department of Commerce. He also laid out the plans for deeper engagement of the cadre into FTA negotiations, industry deliberations and policy making.

Earlier, Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), while speaking to the officers, emphasized upon the importance of continuous learning and application on development of an officer. He also deliberated on the importance of formulating sector wise strategies aimed at specific markets. DGFT emphasized the

importance of using latest trade analytics tools to understand the emerging international trade scenario. He explained that Sector-wise and State-wise export promotion strategies need sharper focus in coming years to achieve 1 Trillion USD of exports in merchandise, and 1 Trillion USD exports in services exports by 2030.

Indian Trade Service officers have recently been divided among 10 sector specific groups that focus on specific sectors of the industry, including goods, projects, and services. The teams are working to develop sector specific strategy in collaboration with experts, industrialists and export promotion councils. In addition, ITS officers have also been assigned different states to focus on creation of

specific export promotion strategies for those states, and to understand bottlenecks and challenges about them. A sector wise export presentation on Pharma and Chemicals sectors was made by one such team in the conference.

A presentation on Global Trade Promotion Organization (GTPO) was also made. GTPO is a key recommendation of BCG consultancy in their report for revamping the Department of Commerce. ITS officers deliberated on the GTPO proposal and came up with ideas to further improve the recommendation. GTPO is expected to play a key role in future export promotion initiatives in the country. The proposed body would be manned by ITS officers at key positions.

IAF and FASF Chiefs fly as part of Ex Garuda VII

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: The ongoing Ex Garuda VII between Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) witnessed combined flying by Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) of IAF, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, and Chief of the Air Staff of FASF, General Stéphane Mille today. While CAS flew a sortie in an IAF Rafale fighter, the FASF Chief flew in an IAF Su-30MKI fighter. Both participated in the exercise as part of a combined training mission which was flown from Air Force Station Jodhpur.



later, along with the FASF Chief, CAS brought out that Ex Garuda provides the unique opportunity for both Air Forces to learn and imbibe best practices of each other during operations. He also

highlighted the growing interoperability between both air forces, which has been developing with each successive edition of the exercise, a regular bilateral exercise since 2003.

Ex Garuda VII is also

Aditya Birla Capital reports strong results for the quarter ended 30th September, 2022

Mumbai, Nov 08 2022: Aditya Birla Capital Limited ("The Company") announced its unaudited financial results for the quarter and half year ended 30th September 2022.

The Consolidated Revenue of the Company grew 21%, year on year, to Rs. 7,210 Crore. The consolidated profit after tax (after minority interest) grew 30% year on year, to Rs. 488 Crore, the highest ever Quarterly profit thus far recorded by the Company.

The Company added ~ 2 million customers leading to a 47% year on year growth in the total customer base to ~ 41 million.

The strong momentum across businesses led to a 31% year on year growth in the overall lending book (NBFC and HFC) to Rs. 77,430 Crore and a 24% year on year growth in the health premium (Life and Health Insurance) to Rs. 4,394 Crore.

The performance highlights of the key subsidiaries of Aditya Birla Capital Limited are:

- NBFC business:**
 - o Overall loan book grew 36% year on year, to Rs. 64,975 Crore backed by strong growth of 50% year on year in granular Retail, SME and HNI loan book
 - o Retail, SME and HNI book now contribute 65% of the total book
 - o Strong momentum in disbursements at Rs. 12,488 Crore in Q2 FY23, up 2.3X over the previous year. Retail, SME and HNI contributed 70% of total disbursement in Q2 FY23.
 - o Net interest

margin (NIM) expanded by 35 bps year on year to 6.58%

- o Continue to maintain quality of assets with Gross stage 3 at 3.1%; reduced by 55 bps year on year. The provision coverage ratio on stage 3 improved to 49.1%, vis-à-vis 44.1% in the previous year.

- o Profit before tax grew 26% year on year to Rs. 488 Crore

1 Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC Ltd. and Aditya Birla Wellness Pvt. Ltd. consolidated based on equity accounting under Ind AS, Consolidated Revenue shown above financial table includes revenues from these two businesses on a 100% basis to show holistic financial performance

- o Continue to deliver superior return on assets at 2.4%

- o Return on equity expanded by 145 bps year to year, to 14.7%, compared to 13.2% in the previous year

Housing Finance business:

- o Strong momentum in disbursement with a growth of 24% year on year to Rs. 1,237 Crore across customer segments

- o Loan book at Rs.12,455 Crore, grew 10% year on year

- o Net interest margin (NIM) expanded by 89 bps, year on year to 5.13%

- o Profit before tax at Rs. 76 Crore, 15% growth over the previous year

- o Return on assets at 1.9%, compared to 1.8% in the previous year

- o Return on equity expanded by 12 bps year on year to 13.87%,

Asset Management:

- o Mutual fund quarterly average assets under management (QAAUM) at Rs. 2,82,580 Crore

- o Mutual fund equity QAAUM grew by 3% year on year, to Rs. 1,19,086 Crore

- o In line with ABSLAMC's focus, equity mix to overall mutual fund QAAUM expanded to 42.1% compared to 38.7% in the previous year.

- o Continued focus on building retail customer franchise with a total of 8.1 million folios

- o Monthly systematic inflows at Rs. 931 Crore in Sept '22 with 3.26 million accounts; registered ~ 2.58 lacs new SIP (Incl. STP) in Q2 FY23

- o With our focus on building passive business, passive AUM crossed Rs. 16,500 Crore

- o Profit before tax at Rs. 249 Crore, reflecting 8% growth over the previous year

Life Insurance business:

- o Individual First Year Premium (FYP) grew 16% year on year, to Rs. 642 Crore, significantly ahead of industry growth of 5% in Q2 FY22

- o Group business grew 23% year on year, to Rs. 1,281 Crore

- o Renewal premium grew 14% year on year, to Rs. 2,952 Crore, out of which 77% was collected digitally in H1 FY23

- o Total gross premium up 30% year on year, to 6,373 Crore in H1 FY23

- o Consistent improvement in 13th month persistency to 86%, compared to 83% a

year ago

- o Net VNB margin expanded by a significant 473 bps year on year, to 12.3% in H1 FY23

- o Profit before tax grew 10% year on year, to Rs. 56 Crore in Q2 FY22

Health Insurance business:

- o Gross written premium at Rs. 640 Crore; grew 62% year on year, with retail and rural contributing 66% of total business

- o Market share expanded by 260 bps year on year to 10.9% amongst SAHI players in H1

- o Business now covering 24 million lives, out of which over 19 million lives are through micro and byte size products

- o Business continues to build scale with a focus on expenses, leading to improvement in the combined ratio of H1 FY23 at 112% vs. 144% in the previous year

- o The Net loss has reduced to Rs. 76 Crore, vis-à-vis Rs. 100 Crore in the previous year

Other businesses:

- o Profit before tax for the other financial services businesses under ABC grew 29% year on year, to Rs. 60 Crore, from Rs. 46 Crore in the previous year

- o General Insurance broking profit before tax at Rs. 22 Crore vis-à-vis Rs. 24 Crore in the previous year

- o Stock and Securities broking business profit before tax grew 50% year on year, to Rs. 14 Crore

- o Stressed assets platform profit before tax grew 62% year on year, to Rs. 19 Crore.

100 DAYS TO Ace HYDERABAD E-PRIX: The countdown begins to India's first Formula E Race

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: The ABB FIA Formula E World Championship, accelerated by Greenko - the world's leading energy transition and decarbonization solutions provider - is all set to debut in India, with Hyderabad being the host city.

To further build anticipation amongst fans, the 2023 Ace Hyderabad E-Prix today started a 100-day countdown until 11th of February 2023, by previewing a Formula E show car in New-Delhi. The year 2023 marks the first year of India being one of the host countries for the world championship and will continue to do so until 2026.

The initial countdown was kicked off in the august presence of Shri Hardeep Puri, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India, Shri Amitabh Kant, Former CEO of Niti Aayog, Mr. Alberto Longo, Co-founder, and Chief Championship Officer at Formula E, Shri Anil Kumar Chalamalasetty, Founder of Ace Nxt Gen, CEO & MD of Greenko Group and Shri Arvind Kumar I.A.S. Special Chief Secretary, MA&UD representing Govt. of Telangana.

The ABB FIA Formula E World Championship has successfully enthralled global fans for eight seasons (years) now, completing 100 races in 21 cities. The championship focuses on accelerating the development, awareness



and uptake of electric vehicles around the globe. For the coming season, Formula E fans will see 11 teams and 22 drivers racing the new Gen3 around the most iconic world cities, including the Mahindra Racing Formula E team, part of the Indian-based Mahindra Group.

Hyderabad being one of the host cities will witness round 4 of the total 17 races for Season 9 of the championship taking place between January and July 2023. Fans will witness the electric Gen3 Formula E cars race past on the city circuit around the famous Hussain Sagar Lake.

Shri. K.T Ramarao, Hon'ble Minister of IT, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Government of Telangana conveyed from Hyderabad that, "It is an honour for us to welcome racing enthusiasts across the world for the Formula E championship in the city. It is also a proud moment for us, as Hyderabad is one of the 13 world-cities where the races are scheduled. Moreover, it is also aimed at raising awareness and inspire change in sustainable practices and adopting EVs in the state."

Mr. Alberto Longo, Co-Founder and Chief Championship Officer,

Formula E said, "We are thrilled to bring the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship to India for the very first time and showcase our new Gen3 car to a thriving new audience. It has been a must have destination for us for some time, and so we cannot wait to be racing in Hyderabad on the 11th February.

"India has a large and passionate Formula E fan base that continues to grow, and with the involvement of Mahindra Racing local fans have a home team to get behind and support. Racing in Hyderabad, one of India's foremost technological hubs, is also the perfect location to not only display high-performance racing and cutting edge innovation, but educate people on the adverse effects of climate change and how the development and adoption of electric vehicles is part of that solution."

Anil Kumar Chalamalasetty, Founder of Ace Nxt Gen and CEO & MD of Greenko said, "We are excited about hosting the planet's favourite sport and India's first ever Formula E Race in partnership with Govt of Telangana and support from the Govt of India. We share Hon'ble PM Shri Modi Ji's bold and courageous vision to

combat climate change and building the country as a reliable, sustainable source of technologies to propel global decarbonisation. Being a Hyderabad, I'm delighted that my city which is one of the world's greenest cities will host the greenest race, under the dynamic leadership of Minister K T Rama Rao. With just 100 Days to go for the first Net Zero carbon race, we will accelerate our race to ensure that India Drives the future of sustainability and decarbonisation."

Hyderabad city, recipient of the "World Green City Award 2022", brings innovation to the forefront in its pursuit to be the biggest tech hub in India. Formula E is the world's only certified net zero carbon sport from inception, with the Hyderabad E-Prix becoming India's first net zero motorsport event. Using the vision of sport, Formula E is sending a powerful and meaningful message to help alter perceptions and speed up the switch to electric mobility operating as a testbed to push the development of new technologies needed for an electric, low-carbon future. As a part of its core vision Ace Nxt Gen is accelerating its efforts to win the race against climate change and achieve Net Zero goals through innovative solutions. Formula E - the Planet's favourite sport - is coming to India, accelerated by Greenko in partnership with the Government of Telangana.

Shri R.N. Singh Takes over as General Manager, Southern Railway

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: R.N. Singh assumed charge as the General Manager of Southern Railway on 7th November 2022. An officer of IRSE cadre (Indian Railway Service of Engineers) of 1986 batch, Shri R.N. Singh has served Indian Railways and PSUs in important executive and management positions such as Divisional Railway Manager, Delhi Division, Managing Director/DFCCIL (Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited), Prior to taking over as General Manager, Southern Railway, R.N. Singh held the post of Principal Executive Director/Infrastructure, Ministry



of Railways and Secretary/Railway Board.

R.N. Singh has rich experience in planning and execution of mega-

various aspects of Railway management during his career spanning more than 34 years. His areas of specialisation include Project Management, Railway Operations, PPP and Strategic Management. He is an alumnus of IIT Roorkee and has undergone multiple trainings such as Disaster Management from Holland, Advanced Management from Singapore/Malaysia, Strategic Management from Paris and ISB, Mechanised Maintenance from Austria and Executive Management from University of Bocconi, Italy.

infrastructure projects such as Dedicated Freight Corridors, Major Bridges, High Speed Railway etc. and has wide exposure in

Kavingar Vairamuthu's Kallikaatu Idhikasam is being released in The Global Summit in Dubai

Chennai, Nov 08 2022: Kallikaatu Idhikasam, the most acclaimed novel of Kavingar Vairamuthu has won the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award. This novel is being translated into 23 languages by the Sahitya Akademi. In addition to its Hindi-Urdu-Malayalam and Kannada translations, the English translation is being published now. The book was translated by Ms. Gita Subramaniam. The English translation of Kallikaatu Idhikasam, called "The Saga of the Cactus Land" is being released at the



Rise conference in Dubai, on Wednesday, November 9, at The Atlantis Hotel. The conference will be attended by world's leading entrepreneurs, where the book will be released by Kavingar Vairamuthu and will be received by representatives of 32 countries. The summit is being organized by Industrialist Mr. Sivakumar-Head of the Global summit, Rev. Fr. Jegath Gaspar-President of Rise Foundation and its vice presidents Alfred Berchmans, Jose Michael Robin, Shagul Hameedh and Basheer Khan.