

Southern Railway General Manager holds meeting with Members of Parliament at Chennai



Southern Railway General Manager Shri RN Singh held a meeting at Chennai today 22nd February 2023 with Honble MPs of Chennai Division Jurisdiction (from Left to Right) Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy, Shri Dayanidhi Maran, Shri D.M. Kathir Anand, Dr.Kanimizhi NVN Somu, Shri R.Girirajan, Dr. D. Ravi Kumar and Dr.M.K. Vishnu Prasad



Southern Railway General Manager Shri RN Singh held a meeting at Chennai today 22nd February 2023 with Honble MPs of Chennai Division Jurisdiction

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: R.N. Singh, General Manager, Southern Railway convened a meeting with Hon'ble Members of Parliament belonging to both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, representing constituencies/Districts falling under the

jurisdiction of Chennai Division today, 22nd of February 2023. Hon'ble Members of Parliament who attended the meeting were Shri Dayanidhi Maran, (representing Chennai Central Lok Sabha Constituency) Shri D.M. Kathir Anand (representing Vellore

Lok Sabha Constituency) Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy (representing Chennai North Lok Sabha Constituency) Dr.D. Ravi Kumar (representing Villupuram Lok Sabha Constituency) Dr. M.K. Vishnu Prasad (representing Arani Lok

Sabha Constituency) Dr. Kanimizhi NVN Somu (Rajya Sabha) and Shri R.Girirajan (Rajya Sabha) Shri R.N. Singh, General Manager, Southern Railway, welcomed the dignitaries and apprised the Hon'ble MPs about the various

aspects of Southern Railway working, detailing the achievements and development of various passenger amenities. The General Manager also highlighted the various infrastructure developmental works including the Station Redevelopment works

that are progressing on the Railway as well as various efforts taken by Southern Railway on various passenger friendly measures. Hon'ble MPs held deliberations on various aspects related to train services like introduction, frequency

and stoppages, expeditious completion of railway projects, matters related to land acquisition, encroachments as well as various aspects of stations and railway development falling in their respective jurisdictions. The Hon'ble MPs also offered their valuable suggestions in these matters. Principal Heads of the Departments of Southern Railway and the Divisional Railway Manager, Chennai Division, also participated in the meeting.

Union Agriculture Minister inaugurates National Horticulture Fair at IHR, Bengaluru

Key role of Horticulture in doubling farmers income and ensuring essential nutritional security - Tomar

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar today inaugurated the four-day National Horticulture Fair on Innovative Horticulture for self-reliance and to showcase the latest technologies developed by the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), for the benefit of productive farmers and other stakeholders. In his address through video conference, Shri Tomar said that it is a well established fact that Horticulture plays an important role in doubling the income of farmers and providing essential nutritional security. Rapid increase in production and availability of Horticultural crops will help in bridging the gap of nutritional security of the country.

value addition and exports. Horticulture has a significant contribution in the export of agricultural products worth more than Rs. Four lakh crore. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the government gives priority to agriculture and farming, therefore, in the budget of the year 2023-24, many major provisions have been made for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. The objective of the budget is inclusive and comprehensive development of farmers, besides the poor and middle class, women and youth. It emphasizes on promoting modernization of Agriculture sector by linking agriculture with technology so that farmers can get wider benefits in the long run.

He said that Rs 2,200 crore has been allocated in the budget for the development of Horticulture sector, especially for AatmaNirbhar (self-sufficient) clean plants programme. With this provision, efforts have been made to promote the availability of disease free, quality planting material for high value horticultural crops. Along with this, the Horticulture sector will also get huge benefits through the Cluster Development Programme. The Prime Minister has taken the initiative to make Natural Farming a mass



movement, for which a provision of Rs 459 crore has been made. In 3 years, 1 crore farmers will be given financial aid for Natural Farming, for which 10,000 bio input research centers will be set up. Budget provision has also been made for farmers to make full use of technology. FPO is a revolutionary step in the direction of raising the standard of living of Small and Medium Farmers, the benefits of which have started flowing to these farmers. Horticulture FPOs are also becoming beneficial for the farmers.

Shri Tomar said that on the proposal of the Government of India, the United Nations has announced the International Year of Millets 2023, for which he called for maximum publicity and increasing

the consumption of millets. Shri Tomar said that Agri Startups are also working fast in this direction. He called upon the farmers to be helpful in reducing imports and increase exports and contribute in solving the challenges. He expressed confidence that this horticulture fair will create awareness among farmers/stakeholders about latest technologies on horticulture crops for sustainable production and increase the scope for processing and export promotion to make India a global player in the Horticulture sector.

economic development of farmers at large and the technologies developed at IHR are contributing more than Rs. 30,000 crore annually in the ever-growing horticulture sector. The institute is working on 54 horticulture crops and has developed more than 300 varieties and hybrids of horticulture crops for the benefit of various stakeholders, which are popular in North-Eastern states and other regions. The institute has done remarkable work by linking biodiversity with the livelihood of custodian farmers of jackfruit and tamarind and this model can be replicated to other horticultural crops. The

Institute has started work on exotic fruit crops (Kamalam, Avocado, Mangosteen, Rambutan) which will help in reducing imports, as well as the new variety of watermelons developed by the Institute will help in reducing the import of its seeds. Shri Tomar urged upon the scientists to sincerely take it up as a challenge to reduce imports. Union Minister Shri Tomar said that under protected cultivation, pollination with the help of bees in melon and ridge gourd has impressed many people and it needs to be further increased for the benefit of hi-tech horticulture. Farm mechanization, from seeding to marketing, for onion production will help needy farmers. The effort to ensure availability of seed-planting material through SBI Yono Seed Portal is commendable. This has made it possible to reach the seeds of horticulture crops to the farmers of 28 states. He expressed satisfaction that more than 150 technologies have been licensed through Agri-Innovate, the commercial arm of ICAR, generating an annual production of about Rs 4 crore. The program was presided over by Dr. A.K. Singh, Deputy DG (Horticulture Science). On this occasion, APEDA General Manager Shri R. Ravindra, Dr. Baldev Raj Gulati, Director, ICAR-NIVEDI, Dr.S.K. Singh, Director, IHR, SPH Vice President Dr. C. Ashwath, Organizing Secretary Dr. R.K. Venkat Kumar were among dignitaries present. Shri Sushant Kumar Patra, Shri Pinku Debnath, Shri G. Swami, Shri Sangram Kesari Pradhan, Ms. Vidya, Shri Siddharthan and Shri Polepalli Sudhakar were given the Best Farmer awards. The guests released souvenir and a handbook on 'Vegetable Production Techniques'.

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NEC Corporation elevates Aalok Kumar to a global role; To head the Global Smart Cities Business in addition to India responsibilities

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: NEC Corporation India, a wholly owned subsidiary of NEC Corporation, announced the elevation of Mr. Aalok Kumar, Chairman, President and CEO, NEC Corporation India, to Corporate Officer & Senior Vice President - Head of Global Smart City Business.

Aalok will continue to lead the India business and further strengthen India's strategic positioning for NEC Group as a whole. He will continue to forge partnerships with the Government and private sector, pursuant to the company's vision of "In India, for India" and "From India, for Global". Aalok will take over a new global role as a Corporate Officer and Senior Vice President and Head of the Global Smart City Business. As part of NEC's Corporate Management Team, he will be responsible for building a global business, drawing on his unique learnings from his global experience.

Commenting on the elevation, Mr. Takayuki Morita, President and CEO, NEC Corporation, said, "Having spearheaded some of our biggest marquee projects for both public



and private organizations in his time at NEC Corporation India, Aalok has played a pivotal role in cementing NEC Corporation's position as a trusted digital transformation partner to the Government and enterprises of India. His new position as a Corporate Officer and NEC's management member leading India shows NEC's commitment and importance towards India as a market."

NEC aims to build a robust Global Smart City vertical, represented by talent from all over the world with deep technological know-how and experience. India will play a major role in shaping this, drawing on Aalok's expertise in driving digital transformation in India and the learnings from smart city projects implemented in the country. In the long run, he will endeavour to set

up a global Smart City Centre of Excellence in India, thereby fast-tracking the company's realisation of its vision of developing solutions "From India, For Global".

An alumnus of St. Stephens College, Delhi and Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Aalok Kumar brings nearly three decades of experience in senior leadership roles in business transformation, performance improvement, and margin expansion. Prior to taking up the mantle as the President, and CEO at NEC India in 2020, he served as the Senior Vice President of McKinsey & Company. He has also worked in companies like GE Healthcare, GE Capital and ABN Amro Bank.

"I am humbled by the opportunity given to me by the global leadership. I have had the privilege of leading an

exceptional team in India, and it is with their unmatched talent and support that we have been able to accomplish some crucial milestones for NEC Corporation India thus far. I look forward to fulfilling the responsibilities that come with this new role and will strive to take NEC to greater heights in close collaboration with the entire team", said Aalok Kumar, Corporate Officer & Sr VP-Head of Global Smart City Business & President and CEO, NEC Corporation India Pvt. Ltd.

As part of NEC Corporation's organisational changes, the various business units and the organisational management structure are being streamlined and consolidated at a global scale. In line with NEC's "2030VISION", the company aims to further strengthen its corporate governance and boost management speed towards catalysing the growth of its global business pillars. This will help NEC Corporation achieve its Mid-term Management Plan 2025 and increase NEC's medium- to long-term corporate value as a global technology company.

EdTech Startup NxtWave has raised Rs.275 Crores led by Greater Pacific Capital (GPC)

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Upskilling startup NxtWave has raised Rs.275 Crores in its latest fundraising round, led by Greater Pacific Capital (GPC), a leading international private equity firm. NxtWave's existing venture investor Orios Venture Partners also participated in the current round.

Founded by IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur and IIT Hyderabad alumni Sashank Reddy Gujjula, Anupam Pedarla and Rahul Attuluri, NxtWave is building India's largest online employability platform for new-age technology careers. The company has been extremely successful in creating job-ready tech professionals through its training programs. Over the last couple of years, 1250+ companies, from fast-growing startups to Fortune 500 giants have hired NxtWave learners. Students from all the 38 districts of Tamil Nadu are learning with NxtWave and getting ready for software careers.

Recently, NxtWave conducted the nationwide Fly High Challenge for students. Two students from



Tamil Nadu K Vishal, hailing from Trichy and R Roshan Wilfred, hailing from Chennai, were among the 25 winners across the country. The students would soon fly to Dubai to join the prestigious 4.0 Tech Camp to learn advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, IoT directly from world-class professionals.

Commenting on the new funding, Rahul Attuluri, Co-Founder & CEO NxtWave said, "We're excited to have GPC as a new partner in our journey. Tamil Nadu has one of the leading IT hubs of our country and it's growing rapidly. Together with GPC, we want to make world-class training in software development available to youngsters in every corner of the state and equip them for the jobs of the future."

According to a Morgan Stanley's 'Why

this is India's Decade' report, India's IT exports are expected to grow threefold in the next 8 years, from \$178 billion to \$527 billion. This brings abundant career opportunities for India's youth. NxtWave is bridging the widening industry-academia gap by providing career paths to these opportunities with an industry-relevant curriculum.

Mr. Ketan Patel, Founder and CEO of GPC, commented, "India has world-class engineering institutes, and as the country positions itself as one of the leaders of the information era, the country needs to build the capacity to provide quality learning, particularly in artificial intelligence, for 500 million young Indians. Leveraging technology to fill this gap is the key to unlocking India's economic potential and providing quality

employment to its youth, which NxtWave is doing. We are excited to partner with NxtWave to rapidly scale its platform and provide access to high-quality education and training for India's youth for this exciting global growth area." Nandan Desai, MD and Co-Head of India for GPC, will join NxtWave's Board as part of the transaction.

Speaking about the investment Anup Jain, Managing Partner, Orios Venture Partners said, "Nearly 63% of Indian graduates are unemployed and an estimated 30 lakh new tech jobs are projected to be created in India within a few years. This gap opens up a total tech-upskilling opportunity of over \$8 billion annually. NxtWave has proved it can bridge this gap successfully and is now ready for its next phase of growth across India."

Avendus Capital acted as the exclusive financial advisor to NxtWave on the transaction. Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. and Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas acted as legal counsel to NxtWave and GPC, respectively.

G20 in Focus: Business20 Conference in Imphal Paves the Way for Foreign Investments to Boost Tourism and Sports in Manipur

New Delhi, Feb 22 2023: The latest B20 conference, discussing 'Opportunities for Multilateral Business Partnerships in ICT, Tourism, Healthcare and Handloom' concluded on Saturday in Imphal's City Convention Centre. The meeting turned out to be crucial for the state of Manipur as several countries pledged to invest in Manipur's development story.

Manipur's Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh shared, "The state will be receiving an investment of 500 million dollars in tourism sector from a company based in the US." Apart from this, the



state of Manipur also garnered investments from Argentina, Bangladesh and Peru. Argentina will primarily invest in strengthening the football infrastructure and scouting of talent from the state.

Since the start of India's G20 Presidency,

the government wanted to focus on the Northeast Region of India, given it understood the exposure that the states would receive from G20 member countries. The investment pledges that Manipur has received during the last B20 conference is a testament to this outlook of the Indian

government.

B20 has three more meetings scheduled across the Northeast Region. Aizawl and Gangtok will host two of these meetings respectively in March, whereas Kohima will host a meeting, discussing partnerships in agriculture and food processing, in the first week of April. These meetings shall also provide the opportunity to garner foreign investments from G20 member countries which shall aid the growing development story of Northeast India as envisioned under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi.

contribute through suggestions for better implementation of budgetary announcements.

Green growth is one of the seven top priorities of the Union Budget 2023-24 for ushering in the country green industrial and economic transition, environmental friendly agriculture and sustainable energy. It will also generate large number of green jobs. The Union Budget has envisaged a

number of projects and initiatives spread across various sectors and ministries viz. Green Hydrogen Mission, Energy Transition, Energy Storage Projects, Renewable Energy Evacuation, Green Credit Program, PM-PRANAM, GOBARdhan Scheme, Bhartiya Prakritik Kheti Bio-Input Resource Centres, MISHTI, Amrit Dharohar, Coastal Shipping and Vehicle Replacement.

Tata AIG General Insurance Company Limited fortifies Medicare Premier with additional benefits

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Tata AIG General Insurance Company Limited has announced a slew of wellness features for its flagship health insurance product - Tata AIG Medicare Premier Health Insurance, in order to provide policyholders with a comprehensive health cover. Coupled with features such as outpatient expenses, zone based pricing to ensure varied healthcare costs are taken care of, increased coverage limits with higher sum insured alternative options, health and wellness benefits will help provide policyholders with a 'More Holistic, More Protective, More Wellness' Medicare Premier Health Insurance policy.

Expenses under the outpatient category include doctor consultation fees, pharmacy bills and lab tests which account for more than 60% of all healthcare costs in India. However, most health insurance policies only cover in-patient hospitalisation bills,

leaving the consumer and his family uninsured for day-to-day health care costs and wellness benefits. Tata AIG Medicare Premier Health Insurance now bridges this gap in its health cover.

"At Tata AIG, we understand that when it comes to health there should be no compromise. In its original avatar, the right mix of features and coverage levels made the Medicare Premier Health Insurance plan a comprehensive option. However, in light of the ever-rising cost of medical emergencies and the recent pandemic, we have added many more benefits to make the policy holistic. Designed to be 'More Holistic, More Protective, More Wellness,' the Medicare Premier Health Policy now provides enhanced coverage limits for higher sum insured options up to INR 3 crore. We will not compromise on your health insurance and neither should you,"

says Dr. Santosh Puri, Senior Vice President - Health Product & Process, Tata AIG General Insurance Co. Ltd.

Additional highlights of Tata AIG Medicare Premier are:

- Customers can now choose a wider Sum Insured (SI) options up to INR 3 crores

- MediCare Premier now offers Wellness and Value added features to its customers

- Coverage for day care procedures, high-end diagnostics up to INR 50,000, higher OPD limits of upto INR 20,000, compassionate travel & visa service fees under global cover, post-hospitalization charges for upto 200 days & up to SI as per the sum insured opted by the customer

- Covers Delivery Complications, as well as an accidental death benefit

- Cover includes emergency air ambulance of up to INR 5,00,000 for non-network providers and

up to SI for network providers for higher sum insured options

- Cover for Home Care Treatment up to SI, for at-home dialysis, chemotherapy, and even pandemic care

- Restore benefit advancement upto 3X of sum insured in case of policies with 3 year tenure for higher sum insured options. Restoration will get trigger for more than once in a policy year, for multi-year policy.

- Introduction of zone-based pricing to make the product more pocket-friendly in different cities

- Tata AIG's Wellness Services includes truly unlimited teleconsultations (General/Specialist), redeemable vouchers for fitness centres/activities, discount on pharmacy & diagnostics, Health Condition Management, Ambulance Booking facility, as well as a Health Risk Assessment and incentive of rewarding healthy and active lifestyle (burn calories and earn rewards).

PM to address the first post-budget webinar on Green Growth on 23rd February

New Delhi, Feb 22 2023: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will address the first post-budget webinar on Green Growth on 23rd February 2023 at around 10 AM. It is the first of a series of 12 post-budget webinars being organized by the government to seek ideas and suggestions for effective implementation of the initiatives announced in Union Budget.

The webinar will have six breakout sessions covering both energy and non-energy components of Green Growth. Union Ministry of Power is the lead ministry for this webinar. Besides Ministers and Secretaries of concerned Central Government Ministries, a host of stakeholders drawn from state governments, industry, academia & research institutions and public sector would attend these webinars and

Rapido Auto and Greater Chennai City Police (GCCP) team up for road safety awareness campaign in Chennai

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Rapido Auto, a leading player in auto taxi service provider space in India, organized a road safety awareness campaign in collaboration with the Greater Chennai City Police (GCCP). The campaign was aimed at creating a safer and more responsible road environment in Chennai and was held at two major traffic signals in the city - Mylapore Luz Corner Signal and Light house Signal in Santhome High Road.

As part of the campaign, 25 Rapido Auto Captains were trained in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and basic life support (first aid), and were awarded certificates by police Sub inspectors Mr. Pithakaras & Mr. Jenish. This training will enable Rapido Auto Captains to provide timely assistance in case of accidents or medical emergencies on the road. The campaign was led by Mr. Samay Singh Meena IPS, DCP East Division Chennai, who provided guidance and support throughout the event.

Apart from the training program, the campaign also involved the distribution of pamphlets with messages about road safety to the public. The messages covered a wide range of



topics, including the importance of wearing helmets, following traffic rules, and being alert while driving. The messages were broadcasted through loudspeakers and were well-received by the public. These events received an enthusiastic response from the public and auto-captains and were covered by approximately 20 thousand people respectively, considering the traffic movement.

The highlight of the event was a mime program conducted by employees of Rapido Auto on the importance of road safety rules. The program was well-

received by the public and police officials alike, who appreciated the effort made by the company to raise awareness about road safety.

Commenting on the initiative, Pavan Guntupalli, Co-founder of Rapido Auto, said, "As a responsible ride-hailing platform, we believe in contributing our part towards making India accident-free. We have been working towards this goal by organizing road safety awareness campaigns in different cities across India. We are pleased to partner with the Greater Chennai City Police for this initiative and are confident that it

will help create a safer and more responsible road environment in Chennai. Rapido Auto's road safety awareness campaign in Chennai was a successful event that helped create awareness about the importance of road safety among the public. We hope that more corporates will come forward to contribute to creating a safer and more responsible road environment in India."

Rapido Auto has been actively involved in creating awareness about road safety in different parts of India. The company's efforts are focused on educating the public about the importance of following traffic rules and being responsible while driving. The company has already organized several successful campaigns in Bangalore and Hyderabad and is committed to expanding its efforts to other cities in India.

The company is looking forward to partnering with the Greater Chennai Traffic Police in order to help create an accident-free Chennai. The company's aim is to collaborate with the police and other stakeholders to create a comprehensive road safety program that will have a lasting impact on the road safety situation in Chennai.

INDIAN BANK ORGANISES MEGA SHG OUTREACH CAMP

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Indian Bank organised a Mega SHG outreach camp on 19th February 2023 for the State of Tamilnadu. Around 650 SHG members from different parts of the state attended the event held at Madurai. Dr. Palanivel Thiagarajan, Minister of Finance & HRM, Govt of Tamilnadu, chaired the meeting. Shri S. L. Jain, MD & CEO, Indian Bank and Dr. Bharath Krishna Sankar, Shareholder Director, Indian Bank



were also present, while senior officials of the Bank across the State participated in the event online.

Applauding the commendable work done by Indian Bank, Dr. Palanivel Thiagarajan, said that the Bank has consistently contributed

towards transforming the lives of women in the state beyond economic progress and have assisted them in their journeys of becoming financially independent.

Indian Bank is the proud recipient of the Best Bank in SHG lending consistently for the past 19 years in the state of Tamil Nadu. It has a market share of 8% in terms of numbers of branches and 28% in SHG lending.

Come, Get a chance to interact with cricket sensation Dinesh Karthik on 'The Stage' by Club Mahindra

Mumbai, Feb 22 2023: Club Mahindra, the flagship brand of Mahindra Holidays & Resorts India Ltd., is hosting an exclusive meet and greet event with Dinesh Karthik, one of India's most prolific wicketkeepers & batsmen providing fans with a chance to interact with the cricketer. To be hosted under the aegis of Club Mahindra's unique platform 'The Stage', the event will be held on February 26th, 2023 at Taj Coromandel, Chennai.



about his life & his travel experiences, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Mr. Pratik Mazumder, Chief Marketing Officer, Mahindra Holidays & Resorts India Limited, commented, "Through 'The Stage', we aim to create unique experiences and delight for our audience. Dinesh is a prolific cricketer and his achievements in the world of cricket are truly remarkable. We are

excited to offer Club Mahindra members, his fans and sports enthusiasts this unique opportunity to listen to his stories. With over 2000+ unique experiences across 110+ resorts, Club Mahindra continues to create unforgettable memories."

Dinesh Karthik, Indian professional cricketer, commented "I am excited to be a part of Club Mahindra's The Stage - 'Conversations with Dinesh Karthik' event. As a sportsman who has travelled extensively, I believe that travel experiences can enrich and transform our

lives. I look forward to sharing my cricketing journey and travel insights with the audience and engaging in a fruitful discussion."

"The Stage" is a branded IP for Club Mahindra to hold events across online and offline platforms featuring regional and international celebrities. With our eminent presence across India, 'The Stage' is an extension of Club Mahindra's We Cover India, You Discover India campaign, which encourages people to discover the hidden beauties of Incredible India.

JIO LAUNCHES TRUE 5G IN 20 MORE CITIES TAKING THE BENEFITS OF TRUE 5G TO 277 CITIES ACROSS THE NATION

Mumbai, Feb 22 2023: Reliance Jio today announced the launch of its True 5G services across 20 cities namely Bongaigaon, North Lakhimpur, Sivasagar, Tinsukia (Assam), Bhagalpur, Katihar (Bihar), Mormugao (Goa), Diu (Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu), Gandhidham (Gujarat), Bokaro Steel City, Deogarh, Hazaribag (Jharkhand), Raichur (Karnataka), Satna (Madhya Pradesh), Chandrapur, Ichalkaranji (Maharashtra), Thoubal (Manipur), Faizabad, Firozabad, Muzaffarnagar (Uttar Pradesh), taking the total count of cities enjoying Jio True 5G to 277.

Reliance Jio has become the first and the only operator to launch 5G services in majority of these cities. Jio users in these cities will be invited to the Jio Welcome Offer, to experience Unlimited



Data at up to 1 Gbps+ speeds, at no additional cost, starting today.

Commenting on the occasion, Jio Spokesperson said, "We are proud to rollout Jio True 5G services in these 20 cities across 11 states/UTs. With this launch, Jio users across 277 cities can enjoy the transformational benefits of Jio True 5G in the new year 2023.

These newly launched True 5G cities are important tourism and commerce destinations as well as key education hubs of our country. With the launch of Jio's True 5G

services, consumers of the region will not just get the best telecommunication network but will also get infinite growth opportunities in the areas of e-governance, education, automation, Artificial Intelligence, gaming, healthcare, agriculture, IT, and SMEs.

We are grateful to the State Governments and Administrators of Assam, Bihar, Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur and Uttar Pradesh for their

continuous support in our quest to digitize the region."

Jio True 5G has a three-fold advantage that makes it the only TRUE 5G network in India:

1. Stand-alone 5G architecture with Zero dependency on 4G network
2. The largest and best mix of 5G spectrum across 700 MHz, 3500 MHz, and 26 GHz bands
3. Advanced technology called Carrier Aggregation that seamlessly combines these 5G frequencies into a single robust "data highway".

Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, graces ELECRAMA 2023 with his presence on Day 4

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: The fourth day of ELECRAMA 2023, the biennial electricals and electronics showcase of Indian Electrical & Electronic Manufacturers' Association (IEEMA), witnessed an engrossing interaction session with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India at the India Expo Mart, Greater Noida on 21st February 2023. The session was also graced with the presence of 12 start-up firm leaders whose organisations were shortlisted for this year's much-anticipated 'Electraverse Spark' competition. The ceremony saw key dignitaries like Mr. Rohit Pathak, President, IEEMA; Mr. Hamza Arsiwala, President-Elect, IEEMA; Mr. Sunil Singhvi, Vice-President, IEEMA indulging in an open interaction with global industry leaders and experts in attendance.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble minister of Commerce and Industry, Govt. Of India, said, "I urge IEEMA to facilitate new programs and initiatives in small cities of north-eastern India including the likes of Jabalpur among others.



When it comes to the Indian electrical industry, we've already done exports amounting to 10 million dollars and now aim to reach the 25-million-dollar mark in future. With an acceleration in global efforts towards creating a sustainable future, I recommend the US and UK to exhibit events akin to ELECRAMA 2023 to contribute more efficiently towards the world's sustainability needs. With this year's edition of ELECRAMA focusing on reimagining energy for a sustainable future, I would like to stress on the need for quality over quantity, not only as our way of life but also as a defining factor for the future of this ever-growing industry."

Mr. Rohit Pathak, President of IEEMA, said, "In the next 25

years, 50% of global energy consumption will happen through renewable sources. And, given the country's preparedness and continuing efforts towards creating a future transformation, I feel, time has come for India to establish itself as a major hub for global power requirements. We appreciate that Shri Piyush Goyal, Honourable Minister-Commerce & Industry, Govt of India is here with us today and that he understands the significance of what we are trying to build through ELECRAMA 2023. This is the largest energy exhibition in the world with 1000 exhibitors, and buyers from over 75 countries. We, at IEEMA, are putting more emphasis on sustainability and

green activities in order to create a greener nation and have a good influence on the world. The power industry has undergone a major paradigm shift, and it's important for institutions to promote sustainable practices."

Since its inception in 1990, ELECRAMA has grown from 250 exhibitors to 1,350 exhibitors over the past 14 editions and is proud to have a lineup of approximately 1,500+ exhibitors (from over 70 countries) in 2023. The ongoing edition will also host a series of events and exhibitors under the marquee events like World Utility Summit, eTechnxt, Change X Change - Reverse Buyers and Sellers Meet, DBSM - Domestic Buyer Seller Meet, and Buildelec.

India's most loved van, Eeco celebrates 10 lakh customers

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Anchored on its core values of pride and progress, Maruti Suzuki Eeco has achieved a remarkable milestone of selling 10 lakh units. As the highest-selling van in the country, Eeco has been a trusted companion for families and businesses since 2010, thanks to its versatility and efficiency in meeting their ever-evolving needs.

Available across 13 variants, including 5-seater, 7-seater, Cargo, Tour, and Ambulance, the Eeco is designed to cater to the needs of a wide range of customers, whether they are looking for a comfortable family vehicle or an efficient business vehicle. With refreshed interiors and the latest technology



features along with an advanced powertrain, the Eeco continues to be a reliable and efficient choice for customers.

Expressing gratitude towards customers for the milestone, Mr. Shashank Srivastava, Senior Executive Officer, Marketing & Sales, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "Eeco dominates the van segment with over 94% market share. It has been the trusted choice of over 10 lakh customers, adapting to their evolving needs over the

years. Interestingly, the first 5 lakh sales milestone for Eeco took 8 years, while the next 5 lakh sales milestone was achieved in under 5 years, speaking volumes about the quality, trust, and reliability it brings to the table. We thank our customers for their faith in us, making Eeco the preferred choice of customers, and the highest-selling van in the country."

The Eeco leads the way with its capability as a multi-purpose van,

backed by the powerful 1.2L Advanced K-Series Dual Jet, Dual VVT engine that delivers power output of 59.4 kW (80.76 PS) @6000 rpm for petrol and 52.7 kW (71.65 PS) @6000 rpm for CNG variants. The Eeco petrol delivers fuel-efficiency^ of 20.20 km/l while the S-CNG Eeco has a fuel-efficiency^ of 27.05 km/kg.

With an enhanced in-cabin experience, the Eeco comes loaded with comfort and safety features, Driver focused controls, reclining front seats, cabin air-filter (in A/C variants), along with 11+ safety features such as engine immobiliser, illuminated hazard switch, dual airbags, ABS with EBD etc that make Eeco the preferred choice of customers.

IIT Madras partners with General Insurance Corporation of India to develop a novel Urine-based Tuberculosis diagnosis technology

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) is partnering with General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re), a Public Sector Undertaking, to develop a urine-based tuberculosis diagnosis or screening.



The envisaged product for urine-based TB screening/diagnosis is anticipated to be faster and far more affordable than the existing point-of-care diagnostic kits available for various diseases such as blood glucose monitors.

The key beneficiaries of this project, which is getting CSR funding from the GIC Re, will be Primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare centres besides the Health departments in State and Central Governments.

An MoU towards this CSR partnership was signed on 10th February 2023 by Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula, Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations), IIT Madras, and Ms. Madhulika Bhaskar, Director and General Manager, General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re). IIT Madras has partnered with over 180 entities under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and has raised over Rs. 250 crore to implement 200+ projects till date.

Thanking GIC Re for supporting this project with immense societal applications, Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula, Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations), IIT Madras, said, "We are delighted that GIC

Re is partnering with us on this important project to find an early diagnostic tool for Tuberculosis."

Tuberculosis is among the most prevalent infectious diseases in the country and the Government of India has set itself a goal to 'End TB' by 2025. However, these efforts have been hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Timely, easier, and accessible means of TB diagnosis is key to gaining control over the spread of the disease. The current techniques including GeneXpert and cell-culture methods are limited by infrastructure, cost, or week-to-fortnight-long testing.

A rapid and sensitive screening test could quickly identify the actual cases among suspected cases and help in timely treatment and disease control. With funding support from GIC Re, Researchers at IIT Madras led by Prof. V.V. Raghavendra Sai, Biomedical Engineering, Department of Applied Mechanics, IIT Madras, aim to solve this problem.

Looking forward to this collaboration, Ms. Madhulika Bhaskar, Director and General

Manager, General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re), said, "Collaboration between industry and academia is key to catalyze innovation and growth in technology. Associating with corporates and businesses, provides educational institutions access to more resources to fund and expand their research areas.

At GIC Re, our focus areas are education and health and we are glad to partner with IIT Madras on this meaningful initiative, which incorporates both these core themes."

The Biosensors Laboratory at IIT Madras is developing a novel plasmonic fiber optic absorbance biosensor (P-FA8) technology. They have established a laboratory-level proof-of-concept for the detection of a well-reported tuberculosis biomarker in urine, known as 'Upoaabinomannan (LAM)'. The results of this study have been published as an original article in a highly reputed research journal Biosensors and Bioelectronics (https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bios.2020.112488).

In parallel, the associated technologies

for the fabrication of fiber optic sensor probes and readout device schemes have been designed and developed and the technology is transferred to two start-ups based in India and US. The next step towards bringing the urinary marker-based TB diagnosis is the systematic clinical validation study of the P-FAB diagnostic technology with TB patient samples. This research project envisages taking up this critical task and bringing it closer to the deployment of this technology in primary healthcare centres (PHCs).

IIT Madras will be developing the proof-of-concept for the urine-based TB screening/diagnosis. The know-how and the relevant technologies will be made available to start-ups or diagnostic kit manufacturers.

IIT Madras has already developed and patented the technologies for fiber optic sensor probe fabrication and optoelectronic readout devices. The intellectual property will be licensed to the interested parties for the envisaged application on a case-to-case basis.

This research project will help in establishing the proof-of-concept at the clinical level. Over two to three years, with the help of partnerships with appropriate industry partners, the product will be available for use and wide deployment.

Karky Research Foundation's Online Tamil Courses

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Karky Research Foundation is a non profit educational Research organisation with a primary focus on language computing and language literature. Besides designing new language tools and apps for the past 10 years, the foundation has developed a unique approach to teach Tamil Online through Payil Courses. These courses have been structured to enable people from all age groups to learn together. Thousands of students across the globe



have enrolled and completed Payil courses. As a next move, live Payil Courses are now being offered as recorded sessions where the students can learn

Tamil at their own pace and comfort. On this International Mother Language day, KaReFo initially launches two of its courses, Ezhudhu -

The Read/write Tutorial's novel methodology teaches to read and write tamil with the aid of simple rules. Kural - Thiruvalluvar's couplets of wisdom taught through short stories, poems and songs across time. The enrollment for these two courses are live now at payil.karky.in With the objective to take Tamil literature to every Tamil enthusiast all over the world, KaReFo intends to launch more Payil courses in the near future.

Stunning Leather Heels from Language

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: Language, a brand that manufactures premium leather footwear and accessories has recently launched an exquisite new collection of heels. These heels embody the motto "Let your shoes do the talking." Language makes sure to deliver the best in terms of quality, comfort and design as footwear plays a significant role in a women's closet. These heels are an excellent pick when you are looking for something with a crisp business look or for chic elegance.



Language makes

sure that you are always dressed for success. Their new collection boosts your confidence. These gorgeous heels showcase a printed leather upper and metallic piping detailing that dazzles wherever

you go. Now with their stunning hues like black, red, white, and chrome gold, style this versatile assortment to your preference.

Language's premium leather footwear is handmade and available

in exciting colour options. Explore this new collection at their exclusive brand outlets at Nungambakkam Chennai, Express Avenue Chennai, Sarath City Mall Hyderabad, Lulu Global Mall Bengaluru, Lulu Mall Kochi, Pavilion Mall Ludhiana and HiLITE Mall Kozhikode. Language is also present in more than 250 multi-brand outlets across the country, at Viz., Metro Shoes, Mochi, Inc.5, Centro, Atesber, Regal Shoes. You can shop the collection online at www.languageshoes.com and also on www.amazon.in.

NSE to make replacement of stocks in 42 indices, removes Paytm from Nifty Next 50

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: The Index Maintenance Sub-Committee (Equity) of NSE Indices Limited has decided to make replacement of stocks in various indices as part of its periodic review as listed hereunder. These changes shall become effective from March 31, 2023 (close of March 29, 2023).

The National Stock Exchange has announced replacement of stocks in total 42 indices including Nifty Next 50, Nifty 500, Nifty 100, Nifty 200, Midcap 150, Midcap 100, Smallcap 50, Smallcap 100 and Smallcap 250, on February 17.

Among sectoral indices, the changes will

also take place in Nifty Healthcare, Metal, Realty, and Mid-Small Financial Services, while under thematic segment, indices like Nifty Commodities, Energy, Housing, India Consumption, India Digital, India Manufacturing, MNC, PSE, Mobility and India Defence will also see replacement of stocks.

"The Index Maintenance Sub-Committee (Equity) of NSE Indices has decided to make replacement of stocks in various indices as part of its semi-annual review," the National Stock Exchange said in its circular.

These changes will become effective from March 31, 2023.

Herbalife Nutrition India Enters Eye Health Segment with Ocular Defense

Chennai, Feb 22 2023: In line with its commitment to nutrition and wellness, the global nutrition company, Herbalife Nutrition India, has entered the eye health segment with its new product, 'Ocular Defense'.

The product comes in capsule format and is scientifically formulated to support eye health. The product contains nutrients that help in maintenance of normal vision and helps in supporting macular health.

Ocular Defense contains a combination

of lutein and zeaxanthin that is clinically proven to support the macular health of eyes and improves macular pigment optical density. Macula is the central portion of the retina which helps to clearly see the objects in front of you, and an eye's macular health can be indicated by its density measured as Macular Pigment Optical Density (MOPD). MPOD measures the concentration of carotenoids (lutein, zeaxanthin- that help filter blue light) in the macular pigment of the eye. Blue light has a potential to cause retinal damage and MPOD is

an indirect indicator of the ability of macula to filter high energy blue light. The density could also change over time depending on factors such as ageing, lifestyle, and dietary choices.

Human eye has complex cellular connectivity and many molecules play a role in helping us with the normal visual process. Ocular Defense also contains vitamin A and zinc that helps in maintenance of normal vision and vitamins C, E and minerals including copper and zinc that have antioxidant properties.

While commenting

about this new product, Ajay Khanna, Senior Vice President & Managing Director of Herbalife Nutrition India, stated, "At Herbalife Nutrition India, we are constantly innovating to find new solutions to support health & wellness. The eye is a vital organ in the human body, and one needs to care for it. Ocular Defense is a scientifically designed formula, containing a combination of lutein and zeaxanthin* that is clinically-proven to support macular health and contains nutrients that support maintenance of normal vision."