

ADDRESS TO THE NATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA DROUPADI MURMU ON THE EVE OF REPUBLIC DAY 2024

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: My Dear Fellow Citizens, Namaskar!

My heartiest greetings to all of you on the eve of the 75th Republic Day! My heart is filled with pride when I look back and see how far we have travelled despite adversities. The 75th year of the Republic is truly a historic milestone in the journey of the nation in many ways. This is an especially festive occasion, just as we celebrated the unique greatness and diverse culture of our nation during the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, when we completed 75 years of Independence.

The nation is in the early years of Amrit Kaal, the period leading to the centenary of Independence. This is the time of an epochal transformation. We are given a golden opportunity to take the country to new heights. Contribution from every citizen will be crucial to achieve our goals. For this, I will appeal to all my fellow citizens to abide by our Fundamental Duties enshrined in the Constitution. These duties are essential obligations of every citizen towards making Bharat a developed nation when it completes 100 years of independence. Here, I think of Mahatma Gandhi

who had rightly said, "No people have risen who thought only of rights. Only those did so who thought of duties." My Dear Fellow Citizens, Republic Day is an occasion to recall our foundational values and principles. When we contemplate any one of them, we are naturally guided to the rest. Democracy implies diversity of culture, beliefs and practices. Celebrating diversity implies equality, which is upheld by justice. Freedom is what makes it

all possible. The totality of these values and principles is what makes us Indian. Guided by the sagacity of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the spirit of the Constitution, imbued with these foundational values and principles, has led us invariably on the path of social justice to put an end to all kinds of discrimination. I would like to mention here that the celebration of the birth centenary of a tireless champion of social justice, Shri Karpooji Thakur Ji, concluded yesterday. Karpooji Ji was

framing the principles and processes that would govern the country and unleash its true potential was still a work in progress. The Constituent Assembly spent nearly three years holding detailed discussions on all aspects of governance and produced the great founding document of our nation, the Constitution of India. Today, the nation gratefully remembers the leaders as well as the officials who contributed to the framing of our splendid and inspiring Constitution.

one of the greatest advocates of backward classes who dedicated his life for their welfare. His life was a message. I pay my tribute to Karpooji Ji for enriching public life through his contributions. The ethos of our Republic brings together more than 1.4 billion of us to live as one family. For this largest family in the world, co-existence is not an imposition of geography but a source of happiness, which finds expression in our Republic Day celebrations. Earlier this week, we witnessed the historic consecration ceremony of the idol of Prabhu Shri Ram in the glorious new temple constructed at His birthplace in Ayodhya. When this event will be seen in the wider perspective, the future historians will consider it a landmark in India's continued re-discovery of its civilisational heritage. The construction of the temple commenced after the due judicial process and the decision of the highest court of the land. Now it stands as a grand edifice, giving a befitting expression not only of people's faith but also as a testament to people's enormous trust in judicial process. My Dear Fellow Citizens, Our National festivals are momentous occasions when we together look back and look ahead. If we look at the year since the last Republic Day, there is much to be pleased about. The successful organising of the Group of 20 Summit in the capital, under India's presidency, was an unprecedented achievement. What was all the more noteworthy was the way the people were involved in the G20 events. The ideas and inputs travelled not downwards from the top but upwards from the bottom. The magnificent event provided lessons for all in making citizens participants in strategic



first human spaceflight programme, are proceeding smoothly. We have always been proud of our scientists and technology experts, but now they are aiming far higher than before and delivering too. India's space programme is aimed at expanding and deepening the role of science and technology for the benefit of the entire humanity. The amount of enthusiasm we see in the country for the ISRO's initiatives is heartening. New achievements in this area have fired the imagination of the young generation. More children, I am sure, will become interested in science and cultivate a scientific temper. It will also inspire more youngsters, especially young women, to pursue careers in science and technology.

My Dear Fellow Citizens,

India is moving ahead with confidence, which comes from and is also reflected by the robust health of the economy. Our GDP growth rate has remained the highest among major economies in recent years, and we have all reasons to believe that this extraordinary performance will continue in the year 2024 and beyond. What I find particularly noteworthy is that the same farsighted planning that fuels the economy has also given a push to the welfare drive to make the development inclusive in every sense of the term. The government had increased the scope of schemes to provide free food to the weaker sections of society during the pandemic days. These measures were later continued to extend a helping hand to the vulnerable population to come out of that crisis. Expanding the scope of that initiative, the government has decided to provide free food grains to over 81 crore people for five years. This may be the biggest welfare initiative of its kind in history.

Moreover, there have been a number of mission-mode schemes to increase the ease of living for all citizens. From the availability of safe and adequate drinking water at home to the security of

having one's own home, these are basic minimum requirements, not privileges. These matters are beyond any political or economic ideology and must be seen from a humanitarian perspective. The government has not only expanded and enhanced the welfare schemes, but it has also redefined the idea of welfare itself. It will be a proud day for us all when India becomes one of those few countries where homelessness is a rarity. Similarly, the National Education Policy gives adequate thrust to bridge the digital divide and create a uniform educational structure for the benefit of the underprivileged students. The expanding insurance cover of the Ayushman Bharat scheme aims to bring together all beneficiaries under its umbrella and provides a great reassurance to the poor and the vulnerable. Our sportspersons have raised India's profile on the international stage. In the Asian Games held last year, we made history with a record-breaking tally of 107 medals, and we won 111 medals in Asian Para Games. We are glad to see that women are making very impressive contribution to our medal tally. Our sports-stars have inspired children to take up diverse sports and games, helping them boost their self-confidence. I am sure that our sportspersons, who are infused with this new confidence, will deliver an improved performance in the upcoming Paris Olympics.

Dear Fellow Citizens, In recent times, many conflicts have emerged around the world and several parts of it have been suffering from violence. When each of the two conflicting sides believes that it is right and the other is wrong, the way out should be found in the light of reason. Unfortunately, instead of reason, fears and prejudices have fueled passions, leading to relentless violence. There have been a series of humanitarian tragedies on a large scale, and we feel aggrieved over the human suffering. In such times, we recall Lord Buddha's words:

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Key Members

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Projects in India

Dechid Spring - Alliance

Projects in Coimbatore

Auriga - Bangalore

Projects in Bangalore

Vettuvangudi - Srinagar Colony

Projects in Chennai

Thirupukkam - Adambakkam

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Financial Results for the Quarter/Nine months ended as on 31st December 2023 Bank's Global Business reached ₹11.64 lakh Cr, up by 11% YoY

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Net Profit up by 52% YoY at ₹2119 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹1396 Cr in Dec'22

Profit Before Tax up by 78% YoY at ₹2747 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹1546 Cr in Dec'22

Operating Profit improved to ₹4097 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹4061 Cr in Dec'22

Net Interest Income increased by 6% YoY to ₹5815 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹5499 Cr in Dec'22

Fee based income grew by 21% YoY to ₹852 Cr in Dec'23

Return on Assets (RoA) up by 31 bps to 1.11% in Dec'23 from 0.80% in Dec'22

Return on Equity (RoE) increased by 471 bps to 19.92% in Dec'23 from 15.21% in Dec'22

Yield on Advances (YoA) up by 59 bps to 8.78% in Dec'23 from 8.19% in Dec'22

Yield on Investments (YoI) increased by 28 bps to 6.80% in Dec'23 from 6.52% in Dec'22

Gross Advances increased by 13% YoY to ₹509800 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹451658 Cr in Dec'22

RAM (Retail, Agriculture & MSME) advances grew by 13% YoY to ₹296845 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹262811 Cr in Dec'22

RAM contribution to gross domestic advances is 62.58%. Retail, Agri & MSME advances grew by 14%, 16% and 7% YoY respectively. Home Loan (Including mortgage) grew by 12% YoY, Auto Loan by 46% YoY and Personal Loan by 30% YoY

Priority Sector portfolio stood at ₹171480 Cr in Dec'23. Priority sector advances as a percentage of ANBC stood at 43.71% as against the regulatory requirement of 40%.

Total Deposits increased by 10% YoY and reached to ₹654154 Cr in Dec'23. CASA deposit grew by 8%, savings deposit grew by 7% and Current deposit by 12% YoY

Domestic CASA ratio stood at 41.14%



G N P A decreased by 206 bps YoY to 4.47% in Dec'23 from 6.53%, NNPA reduced by 47 bps to 0.53% from 1.0% in Dec'22

Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR, including TWO) improved by 231 bps YoY to 95.90%

Capital Adequacy Ratio stood at 15.58%. CET-I improved by 39 bps YoY to 12.36% Tier I Capital improved by 30 bps YoY to 12.88%

Net Profit up by 7% QoQ to ₹2119 Cr in Dec'23 from ₹1988 Cr in Sep'23

Net Interest Income stood at ₹5815 Cr in Dec'23 as against ₹5741 Cr in Sep'23

Return on Assets (RoA) improved to 1.11% in Dec'23 from 1.06% in Sep'23

Return on Equity (RoE) improved to 19.92% in Dec'23 from 19.90% in Sep'23

Yield on Advances (YoA) improved to 8.78% from 8.75% in Sep'23 and Yield on Investments (YoI) improved to 6.80% in Dec'23 from 6.77% in Sep'23

Domestic Net Interest Margin (NIM) stood at 3.49% in Dec'23

Cost-to-Income Ratio stood at 46.90% in Dec'23

Slippage Ratio contained to 1.28% in Dec'23 in comparison to 1.77% in Sep'23 i.e. improvement of 49 bps

Net Profit up by 52% YoY to ₹5816 Cr in 9MFY24 from ₹3834 Cr in 9MFY23

Profit Before Tax up by 77% YoY at ₹7894 Cr in 9MFY24 from ₹4461 Cr in 9MFY23

Operating Profit increased by 11% at ₹12535 Cr in 9MFY24 from

₹11255 Cr in 9MFY23

Net Interest Income grew by 17% to ₹17258 Cr in 9MFY24 from ₹14717 Cr in 9MFY23

Return on Assets (RoA) increased by 29 bps to 1.04% in 9MFY24 from 0.75% in 9MFY23

Return on Equity (RoE) up by 483 bps to 19.25% in 9MFY24 from 14.42% in 9MFY23

Domestic Net Interest Margin (NIM) increased by 19 bps to 3.54% in 9MFY24 from 3.35% in 9MFY23

Yield on Advances (YoA) up by 109 bps to 8.69% in 9MFY24 from 7.60% in 9MFY23

Yield on Investments (YoI) increased by 38 bps to 6.77% in 9MFY24 from 6.39% in 9MFY23

Network:

The Bank has 5835 domestic branches (including 3 DBUs), out of which 1981 are Rural, 1527 are Semi-Urban, 1173 are Urban & 1154 are in Metro category. The Bank has 3 overseas branches & 1 IBU.

The Bank has 4899 ATMs & BNAs and 10942 number of BCs.

Digital Banking:

Business through Digital Channels crossed ₹52,000 Cr. So far 78 Digital Journeys have been launched. More Journeys will be launched in the months to come.

Mobile Banking users increased by 47% YoY and reached to 1.59 Cr.

UPI users and Net Banking Users both, increased by 38% YoY each, and reached to 1.64 Cr and 1.03 Cr respectively.

Number of UPI QR merchants on-

boarded surged by 311% YoY and reached to 36 lakh, and number of PoS increased by 47% YoY to 21725.

'Online Tax Portal for Village Panchayats'- launched for collection of taxes in all Village Panchayats in Tamil Nadu.

Awards & Accolades:

Bank was adjudged the Most Preferred Workplace in BSFI sector for 2023-24 by Marksmen Daily.

Bank was awarded Fastest Growing Public Sector Bank by Dalal Street Investment Journal (DSIJ) in 2023 Banking award.

Bank was conferred BFSI Award for Use of Emerging Technology in Banking Industry for Project "PARADISE" for Adoption of Cloud Computing for AiX Environment by GOVERNANCE NOW.

Chief Technology Officer of the Bank was awarded BFSI Award for the Best Digital Transformation Leader, CTO for the year 2023.

Our Focus

Bank's unwavering focus revolves around understanding and meeting the unique needs of the diverse customer base. With a commitment to excellence, we strive to provide seamless financial services that cater to the dynamic requirements of individuals and businesses across the nation.

The Bank is strategically channelising its efforts toward optimizing the mobilization of CASA deposits, with a firm commitment to delivering unparalleled customer services that impeccably address the diverse needs of our valued depositors.

Indians are still heavily reliant on neighbours for guarding their homes. Godrej Locks 'Live Safe, Live Free' Study reveals that 49% of Indians still leave their keys with

Chennai, Jan 26 2024:

In a cultural context, Indians have always been known for relying on their neighbours for various things and one such aspect is leaving a spare key of the main door. However, in the changing scenarios with increased crime rates -is that still the safest option? To understand such consumer behaviour Godrej Locks recently concluded a research study called the 'Live Safe, Live Freely'.

Godrej Locks, a business unit of Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group, had done this study as part of their annual initiatives for Home Safety Day with the aim to offer unique insights into what the Indian consumers think like when it comes to upgrading their home safety choices.

The report stated that nearly half (49%) the respondents who took part in the study said that if they were a working parent they would leave a spare key with a neighbour, relative, or family member to let their child in. Similarly, more than half (56%)



of the respondents said they would hand over their keys to a neighbour to help facilitate deliveries.

Again, nearly half the respondents (46%) said they would feel comfortable leaving a key for a family member with their neighbour even if it was late at night, while more than a quarter (26%) claimed that if they were locked out it would be because the neighbour with the spare key wasn't home.

According to Shyam Motwani, Business Head at Godrej Locks & Architectural Fittings and Systems, "Earlier in most communities it was a norm to not only know our neighbours well, but they were like an extended family and hence such

dependency was never before. Spare keys are not as important now that we have the option of opening the main door through our phones thanks to such innovation. We have seen that the Indian consumer has already started upgrading other aspects of their homes, opting for more tech enabled solutions and we are positive that this will soon extend even to the main door locks."

The study 'Live safe, Live Freely' aimed to understand human behaviour on the adoption of smart-home devices to ensure safety and convenience. It was undertaken amongst 2,000 individuals across five cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, and Bhopal.



A.M. Jain College collaborates with Greater Chennai Traffic Police and Nehru Yuva Kendra for a Mega Road Safety Awareness Program on 23.01.2024, rallying together 300 volunteers to promote safer roads. The event, flagged off by ACP Thiruvengadam, witnessed the presence of Shri. Kun Ahamed, Director of Nehru Yuva Kendra for Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, and Dr. Sampath Kumar, Deputy Director of NYKS.

PETRONAS TVS Racing announces the Women and Rookie category training & selection for PETRONAS TVS One Make Championship 2024

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Committed to nurture talent amongst motorsports enthusiasts, TVS Racing backed by a four-decade strong racing pedigree, returns with the 2024 PETRONAS TVS One Make Championship training & selection. The selection rounds will take place between January, February and May 2024, across four key cities. Aspiring women and rookie riders can apply for this and basis their performance get a chance to compete the One Make Championship.

TVS Racing has trained over 700+ aspiring women racers in the country since 2016, and is now gearing up to conduct training and selection rounds, for the eight edition of the women's category and third edition of the Rookie category, dedicated to fostering talent amongst enthusiasts under 18 years. Having trained over 50+ rookie



racers in the country since 2022, the upcoming training session aims to provide the ultimate platform for young racers and aspirants to ignite their passion for motorcycle racing.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vimal Sumbly, Head Business - Premium at TVS Motor Company said, "TVS Racing since 1982 has been a pioneer in growing the motorsports culture in India. With our One Make Championship we have created a dynamic platform for

racing enthusiasts across gender and age groups to starting their motorsport career. With our core philosophy 'the chequered flag doesn't differentiate' we became the first to start a women's championship in 2016. Our rookie championship is a first step in the ladder to becoming a TVS Racing factory racer. We have created a holistic programme that includes full support and track training that is widely appreciated by the motorsport community."

Key Highlights of the selection rounds :

- All the rounds will encompass full day training sessions conducted by national champions from the PETRONAS TVS Racing

- The training schedule will help the participants to enhance their skill & familiarise themselves with the racing motorcycles & track

- The racers will get an opportunity to compete on race-spec TVS Apache RTR 200 and RR 200 motorcycles.

- The trainings will help the shortlisted racers focus on improving their physical fitness and hone their skill before the 2024 Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship (INMRC)

- The participants will also get a full set of racing gears - suit, gloves and boots (Basis availability)

Alfa Care Hospitals, Dedicated to Multispecialty Short-Stay Surgery, Opens in Chennai

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Alfa Care Hospitals, an advanced multispecialty hospital for short-stay surgeries, has opened its doors in Chennai, ushering in a new era in healthcare that specialises in swift recovery of patients without compromising on efficiency and medical outcomes. Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary & Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation inaugurated the facility here today, in the presence of Mr. Tenkasi S. Jawahar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary & Project Director, World Bank-aided Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation Project, Government of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Babu Narayanan, Founder and Chairman, and Mr. J. Adel, Founder and Managing Director of the hospital.

As part of its inauguration, the hospital provides health check and diagnostic services related to haemoglobin, blood sugar, cholesterol, thyroid profile, liver parameters, and renal parameters at a special price of Rs. 299 on January 26 and 27, 2024.

This 40-bed hospital is committed to patient-centric excellence to provide exceptional,



personalised care. It follows precision-driven processes to ensure extraordinary clinical outcomes. Using cutting-edge technology, the hospital provides accurate diagnosis and treatment of illnesses in all specialties in communicable and non-communicable diseases.

Inaugurating the new facility, Dr. J. Radhakrishnan said, "I am happy to inaugurate a modern healthcare facility that focuses on short-stay surgery, which I believe is an innovation in the emerging healthcare sector. In short-stay surgery, a patient experiences minimum to no pain, gets discharged at earliest and goes back to lead a productive life within a day or two of the surgery. I am of the view that the presence of hospitals that believe in such innovations, customer-centric quality, and

affordability will strengthen the position of Chennai as the healthcare capital of India, and will attract patients from across the world. I wish all the best for Alfa Care and its promoters for their success in their unique pursuit in healthcare."

In their address, Dr. Babu Narayanan, and Mr. J. Adel said, "We believe in getting patients back to their best self as quickly as possible. Every neighbourhood should have a multispecialty hospital. We have established Alfa Care at Kilpauk with this vision. Our team comprises experts from diverse medical fields, from critical care and interventional skills. Some of the best specialists in the city will cater to the needs of our patients. The two hallmarks of our hospital will be effective processes and customer-centric services."

They added that Alfa Care Hospitals has taken over Right Hospitals, a renowned plastic surgery hospital, and has transformed it into a multispecialty short-stay surgery hospital, bringing in all specialties including ENT, orthopedics, plastic surgery, gastroenterology, urology, oncology and other super specialties, under one roof. The hospital has also invested in cutting-edge medical technology. At the same time, the entire facility is designed with a core focus on accessibility and affordability, ensuring that world-class medical services are within reach of ordinary people.

The hospital's emergency number is: 044-46 46 77 88, and its helpline: 90 47 46 77 88. More information about the hospital is available at www.alfacarehospitals.com

Toyota Kirloskar Motor to Showcase 'Advanced Sustainable Mobility Solutions and Make in India initiatives' at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: As India prepares for the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024, the event marks a historic moment as the first-of-its-kind global mobility show in India, bringing together the entire value chain to exhibit the capabilities of Indian Manufacturing in the mobility space. The expo features various cutting-edge green vehicle technologies, infrastructure support systems, urban mobility solutions, connected, and autonomous capabilities, thereby showcasing India as an emerging hub of automotive manufacturing for advance and green technologies. This event provides a perfect platform to demonstrate the growing importance of the Indian auto sector making a profound positive impact on the future of mobility in India and the world.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) is all set to participate in this prestigious event, showcasing its advanced green technology product line-up, and its localization efforts centred around the theme of "Grow India Grow with India". The company's pavilion will

exhibit a wide range of vehicle technologies such as Battery Electric and the Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle showcasing the common electric powertrain parts and efforts to make these in India; Fuel-Cell Electric Vehicle - promising a cleaner and greener world for future generations; Electrified Flexi Fuel Vehicle that have the potential to deliver a rapid, smooth energy transition away from fossil fuel consumption to an indigenous green fuel that not only has one of the lowest carbon emissions but will boost rural economy; as well as the CNG vehicles. Furthermore, on display is the emergency response vehicle aimed to provide unique solutions to meet societal requirements including the Indian armed forces along with localization and sustainability initiatives.

Mr. Vikram Gulati, Country Head and Executive Vice President, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, while expressing enthusiasm about the company's participation, said, "As we gear up for the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024, Toyota Kirloskar Motor is thrilled to be part of this

event. We thank the Government of India as well as the organisers for providing a platform to showcase the competitiveness of the Indian auto industry in making cutting edge green technologies. India's emergence as a key player in the global automotive landscape makes this event even more significant. It gives us an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment of supporting the government's key priorities in achieving self-reliance and energy independence through our multiple green technology options as well as our efforts towards Making in India through greater localisation and skill enhancement of our people. Our pavilion is a testament of the company's dedication to meet the evolving needs and aspirations of the country, thus delivering "Mass Happiness to All" and "Leaving No One Behind" contributing to the betterment of society and growth of the nation thereby building the base for "Amrit kaal".

Over its 25 glorious years of operations in India, Toyota has been working to meet mobility needs of its consumers. With its strong focus on

customer delight, the company has won the trust of over 2.3 million customers. The company has been spearheading the skilling of students from rural area and key stakeholders benefitting over 1,40,000 individuals so far. In addition, the company is actively promoting Make in India, and its main products - Innova & Fortuner are highly localized with around 90% localization, basis value of parts and raw materials. As champions of sustainability, globally, Toyota is committed to Carbon Neutrality by 2050 and aims to achieve Net Zero Carbon in Manufacturing Operations by 2035. Toyota is advancing sustainable mobility solutions with greater agility by introducing and supporting multiple green mobility solutions considering various factors such as India's energy mix, consumer profile, infrastructure readiness, and with strong support from Government towards enhancing "Mass Electrification" towards becoming "Atma Nirbhar Bharat", achieving "Energy Security" & "Carbon Neutrality".

The Super Shopsy Mela sets new records, delighting lakhs of customers and empowering sellers nationwide amidst the winter shopping spree

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Shopsy by Flipkart, India's fastest-growing hyper-value e-commerce platform, recently concluded its shopping festival for the winter season - Super Shopsy Mela. During the Super Shopsy Mela sale event, Shopsy observed heightened participation from customers in tier 2 and beyond cities, with local sellers from across the country coming together to serve millions of customers. The event propelled economic growth for lakhs of regional sellers.

The sale event, held in January, saw customers across the country engage in high volumes, as users embraced a shopping spree for the winter. Customers on Shopsy App grew by 41%, with 35% being first-time e-commerce shoppers

during the winter sale event. States that contributed to the highest orders were UP, Maharashtra and Bihar with over 60% of the customers from Tier 3+ cities across the country.

Super Shopsy Mela had products starting from Rs. 9/- across the platform. Sarees, men's t-shirts and sports shoes were the most shopped products during this sale. There was also a curated store which showcased Harvest festivals' essentials for different geographies in India, ranging from Ethnic Fashion for Men and Women, Home Decor to Pooja Essentials.

Kapil Thirani, Head of Shopsy, Flipkart, said, "Shopsy is dedicated to transforming India's hyper-value e-commerce landscape.

We understand that regional festivals are of great importance to our consumers. Super Shopsy Mela had a great curation of harvest festival needs as well as winter essentials. The noticeable increase in demand, particularly from Tier 2+ cities, demonstrates our commitment to not just meeting our customers' diverse preferences but also empowering local sellers. We take pride in the positive response from our customers and sellers, and value the importance of understanding regional tastes, events and preferences."

Building on customer insights and leveraging its technology capabilities, Shopsy introduced an infinity Feed and a tag called Shopsy Budget which helped customize user discovery of

products as well as identify the most value-for-money products. This initiative resulted in a 15x spike in customer impressions.

Shopsy aims to continue offering an expansive range of engaging products for customers at affordable prices while being a value-based and reliable platform. It has strived to deliver on its commitment to building a community that truly levels the playing field of commerce in the country. Since its launch in 2021, Shopsy's vision has been to make digital commerce accessible across India through a zero-commission marketplace. Today, Shopsy has 270+ million app downloads, providing 160 million products across 1,300+ categories for customers across India.

An Attack Like No Other Gautam Adani

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: It was on 25 Jan 2023, exactly a year ago, when news arrived at breakfast that a short-seller in New York had put up online a compilation of allegations against the Adani Group.

Fatuously self-styled as a 'research report', it contained the same dead allegations that my detractors had been trying to resurrect by flogging them through their allies in the media. In all, it was a cunningly crafted set of selective half-truths sourced from disclosed and publicly available information.

Lies and baseless allegations against us were nothing new. So, after issuing a comprehensive response, I thought no more about it.

However, a lie had crossed the world even as truth was lacing up its shoes! For me, having been raised on a staple diet of the power of truth, this attack was a lesson on the power of falsehoods.

The impact of short-selling attacks is normally limited to the financial markets. This, however, was a unique two-dimensional attack a financial one, of course, and also one that played out into the political space each feeding off the other. Aided and abetted by some in the media, the lies against us were corrosive enough to substantially erode the market cap of our portfolio as, typically, capital markets are more emotional than rational. What pained me even more is that thousands of small investors lost their savings. Had our detractors' plan fully succeeded, the domino effect could have crippled many critical infrastructure assets, ranging from seaports and airports to the power supply chain a catastrophic situation for any country. However, thanks to our solid assets, the robustness of our operations and the high quality of our

disclosures, the more informed financial community, including lenders and rating agencies, refused to be swayed by the swirling lies and stood solidly with us.

We had no precedent path to handle this situation. Ultimately, our confidence in the solidity of our businesses dictated our largely contrarian strategy. Our very first decision was to protect our investors. After completing the FPO of INR 20,000 crore, we decided to return the FPO proceeds. This move, unprecedented in corporate history, underscored our commitment to investor welfare and ethical business practices.

In the fog of this war, our biggest weapon was adequate liquidity. To augment our strong cash reserves of INR 30,000 crore, we further fortified our financial position by raising an additional INR 40,000 crore, equal to the debt repayment for the next two years, through stake sales in our Group companies to investors of immaculate global standing, like GQG Partners and the QIA. This served the objectives of readying an expansive war-chest of cash reserves, restoring confidence in the markets and creating world-class infrastructure assets for India.

By pre-paying INR 17,500 crore of margin-linked financing, we insulated and ring-fenced our portfolio from market volatility. I asked my leadership team to focus on businesses. This catalysed a record-breaking EBITDA growth of 47% in the first half of FY24, with the Adani portfolio delivering its highest-ever quarterly profit in Q3 FY24. Our bat was doing the talking.

We executed an extensive engagement program for our financial and non-financial stakeholders. The finance team alone



conducted close to 300 meetings across the world in the initial 150 days, ensuring the affirmation of ratings across 104 entities by nine rating agencies. Banks, fixed income investors, sovereign wealth funds, equity investors, JV partners and rating agencies have always been our key stakeholders, for it is the due diligence, scrutiny and reviews they conduct that underpin our comprehensive and transparent disclosure regime.

We focused on transparently outlining the facts and narrating our side of the story to expose the motives of those who attacked us. This led to a declining influence of negative campaigns against our Group. A testament to the change in public perception is the significant growth in our shareholder base, a primary target of the Follow-on Public Offering. Over this challenging year, our shareholder base expanded by 43%, reaching nearly 70 lakh.

Additionally, we remained committed to maintaining our growth momentum. The Group continued its investments, evidenced by our asset base growth to INR 4.5 lakh crore. This period marked the launch of several key projects, including the world's largest renewable energy generation site in Khavda, a new copper smelter, a green hydrogen ecosystem, and the long-awaited redevelopment of Dharavi.

In hindsight, the crisis uncovered a fundamental weakness that I had let grow we had not paid

enough attention to our outreach mechanisms. Few outside the infrastructure finance community knew of the size, scale and quality of what the Adani Group had done or was doing. We had all along naively believed that all our non-financial stakeholders too knew us and the truth about us that our financials were robust, that our governance was impeccable, that our roadmap to growth was measured, and that we play an important role in building India's critical infrastructure.

This experience underscored the necessity of engaging effectively with our non-financial stakeholders. We had failed to proactively counter the twisted narratives of our debt levels and unfounded accusations of political partisanship, resulting in the spread of distorted perceptions.

The fact is that, for our class of transport and utility companies, we have one of the lowest Debt-EBITDA ratios. (For the half year ending Sep 2023, this was 2.5x.) Further, with an infrastructure business footprint in 23 Indian states governed by political parties across the spectrum, we are truly politically agnostic.

The trials and tribulations of the past year have taught us valuable lessons, made us stronger and reaffirmed our faith in Indian institutions. While this devious attack on us and our strong countermeasures will no doubt become a case study, I felt compelled to share my learnings because, it was us today, it could be someone else tomorrow. I am under no illusions that this is the end of such attacks. I believe we have emerged even stronger from this experience and even more unwavering in our resolve to continue our humble contribution to the India growth story.

(The author is Chairman of the Adani Group.)

KVS Chennai Region conducted Pariksha Pe Charcha -2024 Painting competition

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: The 7th Edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC 2024) will be conducted on 29th January 2024 at Bharath Mandapam, New Delhi. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will be interacting with students and parents on the occasion.

Leading up to the imminent PPC 2024, a captivating painting competition unfolded on January 23, 2024, spanning 660 Kendriya Vidyalayas nationwide. The artistic showcase

was ingeniously centered around the profound mantras elucidated in the pages of 'Exam Warrior,' a literary creation penned by the esteemed Hon'ble Prime Minister. On the same day, 'Parakram Diwas' was celebrated to commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Nethaji Subhash Chandra Bose, an unparalleled icon in the freedom movement of India.

In the dynamic tapestry of this event, 26 identified Kendriya Vidyalayas in the

Chennai Region orchestrated a splendid painting competition on the same date. A collective participation of approximately 100 students, hailing from Kendriya Vidyalayas, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, other CBSE, and State Board Schools, graced each venue with their creative fervor.

Every venue was meticulously adorned, offering a fitting backdrop for the event's unfolding. The young artists approached the canvas with enthusiasm,

and with the Spirit of PPC-2024.

The accolades for the artistic triumph were bestowed upon the top 5 winners from each venue, who received tangible certificates and a compelling book delving into the lives of freedom fighters and national icons. Meanwhile, the remaining 95 participants were honored with digital certificates and a copy of the inspirational 'Exam Warrior' book.

Antolin will manufacture advanced lighting, HMI systems and electronics in its new Chakan facility



Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Antolin India, part of global automotive market player Antolin, expanded its operations by opening a new manufacturing facility in Pune Chakan on 18 January 2024.

With a team of over 200 highly skilled and experienced employees in two years, the factory is Antolin's first lighting, HMI systems and electronics facility in India. Thanks to cutting-edge processes and technologies, Antolin will produce advanced solutions and components for its largest customers on the Indian market; specifically, Tata, Suzuki, Toyota, Mahindra and Skoda-VW.

The state-of-the-art facility in Chakan Industrial area comprises 35,000 square feet of manufacturing, assembly area and adjoining offices.

The projects that will be developed in the new factory include all the ambient lighting for the

new Mahindra electric vehicle platform, as well as an innovative Central Touch Control Panel project for Tata's Safari and Harrier models. This project integrates sophisticated decorative smart surface, multicolor ambient lighting, capacitive switches and electronics. By combining several HMI functions, the design of these parts maximizes the interface for the end user and the vehicle customization options.

Aided by specialized team, Antolin will be able to harness the emerging demand for smart advanced surfaces and functional lighting from vehicle manufacturers in India that seek to develop more advanced interiors in order to improve the passenger travel experience. Antolin thus improves its industrial and technological capabilities in one among the largest automotive markets in the world, and it does so in the technology solutions business, an area of

activity that will be the driving force behind the company's growth in coming years.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Ernesto Antolin, Chairman of Antolin, said, "with the new plant in Chakan and the specialized Lighting, HMI and Electronic team, we will be closer to our customers, adapting to their technical requirements while also seeking ways to collaborate in innovation and technological development. We are expanding in a country that offers enormous growth opportunities for Antolin in coming years in terms of both sales and creating a large technology and engineering hub for the region".

Ernesto Antolin also thanked the customers for their support and praised the employees for their untiring efforts in the construction of the modern facility.

Chief Guest Mr. Hemant Barge, CPO - Purchase and Supply Chain of Tata Motors,

joined the plant inauguration ceremony. Fernando Heredia Noguera, Consul General of Spain in Mumbai, and Vicente Gomis Ruiz, Economic & Commercial Counsellor in Mumbai, along with other senior representatives of Tata Motors and top officials of Antolin, also attended the plant inauguration.

Antolin has a transformation plan underway (2023-2026) with the aim of developing a solid and profitable long-term growth project. One of the pillars of the plan is to grow and expand in Asia, and specifically in the Indian market, a key country to evolve in the region.

Antolin has a solid industrial and sales network in India with nine Manufacturing facilities and 2 Technical Design Centers, employing more than 2,000 highly qualified employees. The company is the market leader in overhead systems.

Samsung India Ties Up with Blinkit to Deliver Galaxy S24 Series in 10 Minutes in Select Cities

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Samsung, India's largest electronics company, today announced a tie-up with quick-commerce platform Blinkit to deliver its recently launched Galaxy S24 series in India. Customers in Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru and Mumbai can order Galaxy S24 Ultra, Galaxy S24+ and Galaxy S24 smartphones on Blinkit and get the phone delivered in less than 10 minutes.

Customers buying the Galaxy S24 series on Blinkit can avail an instant cashback of INR 5000 if the purchase is done through HDFC Bank credit card.

The tie-up with Blinkit will help Samsung cater to the

huge demand for its flagship S24 series in India. Samsung has secured record pre-bookings for Galaxy S24 series, making it the most successful S series ever. More than 250,000 customers in India pre-booked a Galaxy S24 smartphone in just three days since January 18.

The 'Made in India' Galaxy S24 Ultra, Galaxy S24+ and Galaxy S24 smartphones come with Live Translate, Interpreter, Chat Assist, Note Assist and Transcript Assist features. AI built into Samsung Keyboard can also translate messages in real-time in 13 languages, including Hindi. In the car, Android Auto will automatically summarize incoming

messages and suggest relevant replies and actions.

Galaxy S24 comes with gesture-driven 'Circle to Search' feature'. Users can circle, highlight, scribble on, or tap anything on Galaxy S24's screen to see helpful, high-quality search results. For certain searches, generative AI-powered overviews can provide helpful information and context pulled together from across the web.

Galaxy S24 series' ProVisual Engine is a comprehensive suite of AI-powered tools that transform image capturing abilities and maximize creative freedom. The Quad Tele System on Galaxy S24 Ultra now comes with a new 5x optical

zoom lens that works with the 50MP sensor to enable optical-quality performance at zoom levels from 2x, 3x, 5x to 10x.

The new Instant Slow-mo can generate additional frames based on movements to smoothly slow down action-packed moments for a more detailed look. Super HDR reveals lifelike previews before the shutter is ever pressed.

Galaxy S24 series continues Samsung's commitment to extending the product lifecycle, offering seven generations of OS upgrades and seven years of security updates to help users reliably experience the optimized performance of their Galaxy devices for even longer.

IndianOil's outstanding performance earns global recognition: ED Dhanapandian

Chennai, Jan 26 2024 : S Dhanapandian, Executive Director I/C (RS), SR unfurled the National Tricolor on the occasion of 75th Republic Day celebrations at IndianOil Bhavan, Chennai in presence of Mr V C Asokan, Executive Director & State Head, Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry and other senior officials of IndianOil Southern Regional Office and Tamil Nadu State Office.



In his address, Dhanapandian, has stated Petroleum Sector is one of the core sectors and serves as the fountainhead of economic prosperity. As the Energy of India, our journey towards a sustainable future is intricately woven into the fabric of the nation's green ambitions. Since India's declaration of net-zero goals, we, at IndianOil, have steadfastly aligned our focus with the country's green

mandate, he added. He has also mentioned that IndianOil's outstanding performance, earned us global recognition as the Top Indian Energy PSU in the Fortune Global 500 listing for 28 consecutive years, ranked at an impressive 94.

Dhanapandian, has recalled a recent event when Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi in a milestone achievement dedicated IndianOil's

PuthuvyPeen LPG Import Terminal, Asanur Pipeline Terminal and Ennore-Ramanathapuram stretch of the LNG Pipeline to the service of the nation.

Dhanapandian has reiterated IndianOil's commitment in the field of sports and shared the recent honours of Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Awards and Dhyana Chand Awards received by IndianOil Sports Stars.

Ceremonial parade was performed by Territorial Army and Security team members of IndianOil. Long Service Awards were distributed to the IndianOil employees who have completed 25 & 30 years of service. Also, Territorial Army and Ex-servicemen of IndianOil were felicitated during the function. Cultural programmes were also organized by a team of In-house talents from IndianOil family.

Ashwin moving closer to 500 Test wickets Soon in elite list

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Chennai boy Ravichandran Ashwin moved to within seven wickets shy of 500 Test scalps by picking up three wickets for 68 runs on the opening day of the first Test against England here on Thursday.



Ashwin's early breakthroughs and one late in the England innings helped India restrict the visitors to 246 in their first innings. India are well on course to move ahead of England, Yashasvi Jaiswal giving England their own Bazball treatment by smashing an unbeaten 76 off just 70 balls with nine fours and three sixes.

India, who resumed Day 2 on Friday at 119 for the loss of Rohit Sharma for 24, skying left-armed Jack Leach for his opposite number Ben Stokes to run from mid-on to gleefully catch it, trailed England by 127 runs at Day 1 stumps.

Ashwin, who is playing his 96th Test, bowled two lengthy spells. He dismissed both the openers Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett in the first spell of 8-0-20-2, picking up the left-handed Duckett in his second and the right-handed Crawley in his fourth.

Duckett, who was an inexperienced batsman on his first tour of India in 2016-17 when he played in two Tests and aggregated only 18, nearly doubled that tally on Thursday, falling for 35 when he played a forward defence and was trapped leg before, DRS upholding umpire Chris Gaffaney's decision as the ball was hitting the leg stump in its trajectory, DRS taken by Duckett confirming the same. It was the fourth time that the Tamil Nadu spinner has dismissed Duckett in three Tests, three times in 2016-17 and once again on Thursday.

Crawley was the third England wicket to fall in a phase in which England lost three wickets in the space of 21 deliveries and for an additional five runs. While England openers began attackingly, adopting the Bazball approach that they have been known to in the last couple of years, there was a break in the flow of runs until Ben

Stokes played a brilliant captain's knock of 70 in 88 deliveries with six fours and three sixes.

Ashwin accounted for Crawley, the tall right-hander charging down the wicket and managed only to find Md Siraj at mid-off take a low catch, which required the third umpire's intervention to ensure it was taken cleanly.

In between, Ashwin's spin partner for many years, Ravindra Jadeja removed No. 3 batsman Ollie Pope, the forward defence taking the outside edge of the right-hander's bat and snapped by first slip Rohit Sharma.

The experienced Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow stitched together a partnership of 61 for the fourth wicket but the best knock was played by their captain Stokes. The left-handed Stokes top-scored, not attacking every ball but playing as per the situation. He saw

wickets fall regularly at the other end before being the last man out, bowled by Bumrah.

Stokes did provide some entertainment, being particularly severe on Jadeja in the left-arm spinner's third spell that read a poor 5-1-45-1. Stokes played the reverse sweep for fours, pulled Jadeja over the on side for sixes. He did not spare Ashwin, who in his second spell, bowled 13 overs, gave away 48 runs and took the wicket of No. 10 Mark Wood, bowled as he missed a conventional sweep.

Duckett, 29 years old, told reporters on Thursday evening that he had learnt a lot from his previous tour seven seasons ago. He said: "Learnt a lot, to be honest. I was as a young kid at that time. It was clear that I had weaknesses at that point and I've had so much time to go and work on my game even though things are very different when you head back to England and to completely different conditions. But I've always been on the job to figure out different ways of playing spin and backing my defence a bit more, and committing my sweep in between that."

India U19 score big win over Ireland in World Cup



Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Put in to bat at the Manganu Oval, India made the most of the good batting conditions against Ireland.

John McNally dismissed the Indian openers Adarsh Singh and Arshin Kulkarni after the two got off to starts, but Uday Saharan and Musheer Khan combined in what turned out to be a game-changing partnership.

The duo started off slowly, scoring the first boundary after more than 10 overs into the partnership, but runs came thick and fast from there as the two showcased their range of strokes.

Musheer brought up his fifty in the 34th over and Saharan followed suit soon after, making it four fifties in four

outings (including two in the warm-up games) at the tournament. Both batters moved across to the off-side to exploit the fine-leg region with scoop shots.

Saharan couldn't convert his half-century to a bigger knock as he fell attempting one of those scoop shots that had brought him success. The lack of pace and timing in the shot saw Saharan hole out for 75.

Musheer went on to complete his hundred off as many balls and raced to 118 off 106 balls before attempting a risky double that saw him finish short of the crease as the keeper took off the bails.

Sachin Dhas hit two fours and a six in the final over before Oliver Riley wrapped up the innings with two

wickets in two balls. India had enough by then, though, finishing on 301/7.

Ireland openers got off to a careful start against India's new-ball bowlers Naman Tiwari and Dhanush Gowda, so Saharan turned to Saumy Pandey's spin for the breakthrough.

The left-arm spinner struck immediately, bowling Jordan Neill with a peach that turned past the outside edge to crash into the stumps.

With the opening created, Tiwari started banging the ball into the wicket to generate extra bounce. The ploy worked as Ryan Hunter holed out attempting a pull stroke off a short ball. Skipper Philippe le Roux nicked one behind the same over as Ireland slipped further.

Another short ball next over brought Tiwari his third as Scott MacBeth perished. Aravelly Avanish produced a sharp stumping next over off Pandey as Ireland were reduced 41/5.

Wickets continued to tumble as Ireland lost five wickets, one in each over, between overs 11 and 15. Murugan Abhishek, like in the last game, took a stunning catch at point to dismiss McNally. With Tiwari sending back the inform Kian Hilton, India had asserted complete dominance. India completed a 201-run victory.

Tiwari finished with four wickets and Pandey three as India completed a massive victory in Bloemfontein to make it two wins out of two.

Rs.1.13 crore seed funding granted to 10 SRMIST Start-ups



Chennai, Jan 26 2024: As part of the Start-up India National Innovation Week initiated by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), The Directorate of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur celebrated 'The National Start-up Day'. The event was inaugurated by SRMIST's Vice Chancellor Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan. 10 start-ups from the Med-Tech, Food Tech, Deep

Tech, D2C and Waste management sectors were granted seed funding of Rs.1.13 crore under the DPIIT, Startup India Seed fund Scheme (SISFS).

The event brought together start-up founders, aspiring entrepreneurs, industry experts, and students to recognise the innovations and entrepreneurial efforts on campus. The event aimed to encourage and showcase the entrepreneurial spirit among the student start-up community, providing them with valuable insights and opportunities.

The Directorate of

Entrepreneurship and Innovation (DEI) has since 2015 worked to develop and foster the culture of Innovation and Entrepreneurship within the campuses of SRMIST. The directorate supports and enables start-ups across the country by providing vital facilities and seed funds. Right from the inception of an idea into a market ready product, the DEI team enables teams/start-ups to achieve success in their start-up journey. DEI SRMIST also supports founders through the Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS). The mentors offered

The mentors offered

vital direction, encouragement, and counsel to assist the SRM Start-ups in navigating the complexities and challenges they encountered. Furthermore, they exchanged perspectives on obtaining capital, growing their enterprises, and optimising their prospects for achievement. Through their interactions with the entrepreneurs driving these endeavours, start-up founders were able to acquire a greater grasp of the wide spectrum of ideas and solutions.

Ashok Nagar Govt Girls HS School's sports day valedictory function

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Ashok Nagar, conducted Sports Day valedictory function.

The distinguished guests for the function were V Nandakumar IRS, Commissioner of Income Tax, G Kannan IRS, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, Alagesan IRS, Assistant Commissioner of Customs (Retd); Rtn.Vinod Sarogi, Chairman of Meridian Global Ventures Pvt. Ltd & Co founder of Go Colours; Mrs. K Anuradha, Managing Trustee, Shree Sankara Krupa Charitable Trust and R Narayanan, Managing Trustee, Ramraj Charitable Trust.

The Headmistress of



the school, R Tamarasi honoured the eminent guests for gracing the occasion.

The students from different classes performed various cultural events. The school's Karate team displayed their defensive combat skills during the function. Other events held on the day were Barathanatyam, Group

dance in folk category, Solo Singing, display of Silambam, Lazim dance, Kolattam, Drama, speech in Tamil and English.

The school annual report was delivered by Girija, Assistant Headmistress. The distinguished guests addressed the students and motivated them.

Students who

excelled in Academics, Kalai Thiruvizha, Literary club activities, Sports and students with cent percent attendance were given prizes by the chief guest. The annual report for sports was delivered by Mahalakshmi, Physical Education Teacher. Mahadevi, PGT, proposed the vote of thanks.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY CELEBRATES 75th REPUBLIC DAY

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: The 75th Republic Day Celebrations of Southern Railway were held today (26.01.2024) at the Railway Stadium, Perambur, Chennai. Shri R.N. Singh, General Manager, Southern Railway unfurled the National Flag and took the salute at the RPF Parade on the occasion in the presence of Shri G. M. Eswara Rao, Principal Chief Security Commissioner & IG, RPF.



Shri Kaushal Kishore, Addl General Manager, Principal Heads of Departments, other officers and staff of Southern Railway participated in the celebrations.

While addressing the gathering, the General Manager commended the performance of the zone and highlighted its achievements during the current year. Expressing pride about Southern Railway bagging the Inter-Railway Commercial and Safety Shields for the year 2023, the General Manager mentioned that the Zone has recorded impressive growth in core aspects of functionality like Infrastructure, passenger amenities, safety, Punctuality, loading and revenue. The General Manager appreciated Golden Rock Workshop for receiving the National Energy Conservation Award 2023 from the Bureau of Energy Efficiency. He also congratulated the sportspersons for their outstanding performance in various International and National Sports events.

Excerpts from General Manager's Speech:

During 2023-24 till December 2023, Southern Railway's

Gross earnings stood at about Rs.9482 Crores, 5% higher than the corresponding period of 2022-23.

With 578 Million passengers traveling during the period, SR recorded 13% growth in passenger traffic and 8% growth in passenger revenue during the period.

Freight loading was 32.24 Million tones registering 8.2% growth while the freight earnings stood at Rs.2912 Crores.

The doubling projects between Nagercoil Town - Kanniyakumari & Aralvaimoli - Nagercoil Jn, Tirunelveli - Melapalayam, Jokatte-Thokur are progressing at a brisk pace. Chennai Beach-Egmore 4th line, the new line projects between Karaikal - Peralam and Chinnasalem - Kallakurichi, are also in full swing.

In our mission towards attaining 100% electrification, 91.3% of SR network totaling 4608 Kms has been brought under electrified traction

In Southern Railway, 93 stations have been identified for upgradation under "Amrit Station Scheme" and Phase I works are progressing at a steady

pace. These revamped stations are set to redefine the travel experience of passengers offering facilities at par with world class standards.

7 Vande Bharat Train services have been introduced over Southern Railway and these semi-high speed trains are recording good occupancy rates. Further, 90 Vande Bharat specials were operated during the festival season.

Southern Railway has fast tracked speed enhancement works across its vast network. As a result, during the year, the sectional speed of Arakkonam - Jolarpettai section has been increased to 130Kmph. The sectional speed of 8 sections has been increased to 110 kmph and 12 sections to 110Kmph

Prioritizing safety, 32 ROBs/RUBs/Limited use Subways have been completed, 83 nos. of bridges have been completed/rehabilitated and 33 Nos. of Manned LCs have been eliminated

Owing to the concerted efforts of Southern Railway RPF team, 1215 runaway children were rescued and rehabilitated. 27 precious lives of passengers were saved

by RPF during the year

Cultural programmes by RPF, an impressive Dog Show by Southern Railway Dog Squad and performances by various departments including the Railway schools and Ashraya school for special children, followed the Flag Hoisting and March Past.

The Divisional Railway Managers of all the six divisions, namely, Shri B. Viswanath Eerya, DRM/Chennai, Shri Pankaj Kumar Sinha, DRM/Salem, Shri Sharad Srivatsava, DRM/Madurai, Shri M.S. Anbalagan, DRM/Tiruchchirappalli, Dr Manish Thaplyal, DRM/Thiruvananthapuram and Shri Arun Kumar Chaturvedi, DRM/Palakkad unfurled the National Flag and participated in the Republic Day celebrations held in the respective divisions.

Shri Amit Kumar Manuwal, Chief Administrative Officer, Railway Construction Organisation, Egmore, Shri Samir Dighe, Chief Project Manager/Railway Electrification and Shri Vijayanth Sahu, Hon'ble Member/Judicial, Railway Claims Tribunal hoisted the National flag at the respective Railway offices in Chennai.

A.M. Jain College Hosts Grand Alumni Meet A Reunion of Memories and Success

Chennai, Jan 26 2024: A.M. Jain College, a leading institution in Chennai dedicated to academic excellence, proudly organized its Alumni Meet on January 26, 2024. The event witnessed an overwhelming participation of around 2000 enthusiastic alumni who gathered to relive cherished memories, reconnect with old friends, and celebrate the success stories that have emerged from the esteemed institution.

The Alumni Meet featured a plethora of cultural events, allowing the alumni to showcase their talents and creativity. The event also included a nostalgic journey down memory lane with the unveiling of the Memory Wall, where alumni could reminisce about their time at the college. Gaming activities added an element of fun and excitement, creating an engaging atmosphere for all attendees.

Dr. N. Venkataraman, Principal of A.M. Jain College, said, "The Alumni Meet is a testament to the enduring spirit of our institution. It is



heartening to see our graduates contributing significantly to various fields and making a mark in the world. The newly formed AMJC Alumni Association "Roots", will play a crucial role in fostering these connections and maintaining the strong bond between the institution and its graduates. Going forward, we aspire to maintain active communication with our esteemed alumni, cultivating lasting connections and promoting continued collaboration with the college. This initiative aims to provide invaluable support to current students through mentorship, networking opportunities, and shared experiences, empowering them to navigate their academic



and professional platform for them to stay connected, share experiences, and contribute to the growth and development of the college."

Shri. Udhan Kumar Chordia, Secretary of A.M. Jain College, emphasized, "Our alumni are our pride and joy. They are the living proof of the quality education and values instilled in them during their time at A.M. Jain College. Their achievements reflect the excellence that defines our institution. The AMJC Alumni Association - Roots serves as a

As the college continues to evolve, it remains committed to providing the best possible education and facilities for its current and future students. The Alumni Meet serves as a reminder of the rich legacy of A.M. Jain College and the ongoing success of its graduates.

graduates.

Chennai Port Authority achieves 5.7% growth in Cargo handling



Chennai, Jan 26 2024: Sunil Paliwal, Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority hoisted the National Flag, inspected the Guard of Honour and addressed the gathering. During the address, Chairperson briefed on the achievements and future plans of the Chennai Port, highlighting the various welfare measures taken for Port employees & their family and for the Port Community. He also further briefed regarding the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for the progress of the Port and the hinterland in

the State of Tamil Nadu as a whole.

Chairperson, in his address, highlighted that Chennai Port has achieved higher Cargo handling with 5.7% growth till December 2023, compared to the last year, in spite of stiff competition. Chennai Port has achieved Net surplus of Rs.154 crores till December 2023, which is Rs 94 crores more than the corresponding period of last year.

Further he informed that Chennai Port Authority participated in the Global Maritime

India Summit (GMIS), from 17 October to 19 October 2023 at Mumbai, with an aim to bring together the maritime Stakeholders to collaborate on various investment opportunities and exchange ideas to take the sector forward. The event included an investor summit and an International Exhibition to facilitate interaction and collaboration among the Indian and international maritime companies, policy makers, investors and other stakeholders

Chennai Port is taking continuous endeavours to implement sustainable

green port Initiatives. This include, increase of the green belt inside the Port through systematic tree planting project which will improve the quality of the environment.

S.Viswanathan, Deputy Chairperson, S. Murali Krishnan, Chief Vigilance Officer, Chennai Port Authority Board members, Heads of the Departments, Trade Union leaders, Port Officers & Staff of Chennai Port Authority and Teachers & students of Chennai Port School participated in the celebration.