

Stalin arrives in Spain to hold investors meet, attract investments Greets Novak Djokovic en route

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: Chief Minister Stalin is on a 8 day visit to Spain to attract investments. Yesterday Chief Minister arrived Spain capital Madrid.

Dinesh Patnaik - Embassy of India, Madrid, Spain welcomed the Chief Minister Stalin. He wished the success of the Stalin's tour to attract investments. Industries Minister T.R.B> was also present during talks.

Chief Minister to hold an investors' meet in Spain similar to Japan and Singapore. Leading investors, industrial organisations and entrepreneurs of

Spain are expected to participate.

Chief Minister will highlight the favourable investment climate, infrastructure facilities and the human resources of Tamil Nadu.

Chief Minister MK Stalin was thrilled after he met tennis great Novak Djokovic en route to Spain. The DMK chief took to social media to share a photo from their "surprise" in-flight meeting.

"Surprise in the skies. Met tennis legend Novak Djokoivc en route to Spain," MK Stalin wrote sharing a photo



of himself with the 24-time Grand Slam champion.

While leaving for Spain, Chief Minister Stalin said, "I am going to hold an investors' meet in Spain similar to Japan and Singapore. Leading investors, industrial organisations and entrepreneurs of

Spain are expected to participate. I will highlight the favourable investment climate, infrastructure facilities and the human resources of Tamil Nadu," Stalin said, hoping for a successful trip with good wishes from everyone. He was accompanied by senior

officials. During his previous visit to UAE in 2022, MoUs were signed for attracting investments worth Rs 6,100 crore. Similarly, MoUs were signed for investments worth Rs 1,342 crore during his next visit to Singapore and Japan in 2023. In all, more than

17,000 jobs would be generated from the commitments made during the two visits. Due to the speedy execution of these MoUs, many companies have begun setting up their units in Tamil Nadu, said Stalin. Japanese firms,

Omron Healthcare and Mitsubishi Electric India, have started preparatory work for running the plants. The foundation stone for Omron's unit was laid and construction work was underway, within two months of signing the MoU.

"Similarly, Singapore-based Investment's tech park was opened in Chennai. Among the MoUs signed in the UAE, LuLu Group has opened a hypermarket in Coimbatore," the chief minister said.

During his visit to Spain, Stalin said direct talks would be held

with some of the largest industries, including Roca and Gestamp, and with organisations like Invest Spain.

"I hope to draw the attention of the European countries and attract a lot of investment commitments from them as well," he said. Senior ministers and DMK leaders, including T R Baalu and Duraimurugan, were present to see off the chief minister.

On the expected investment commitments from his latest trip, the chief minister said he would explain in detail on his return to Chennai.

Poll alliances will be announced at appropriate time: AIADMK leader

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: There is still a lot of time for the Lok Sabha elections, and the party would make announcements on its alliances and the number of seats it would contest in, at the appropriate time.

He reiterated that

the AIADMK would not join with the BJP, Senior AIADMK leader D. Jayakumar said.

The AIADMK's seat-sharing committee and the election campaign committee formed for the Parliamentary

elections, held its first meeting at the party's headquarters in Chennai on Monday.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Jayakumar claimed many parties were in talks with the AIADMK for an alliance, and an

announcement with regard to this, would be made at an appropriate time. Taking a dig at the ruling party, he said there were a lot of contradictions in the DMK's alliances, and it would be shattered like the I.N.D.I.A.



block. Jayakumar said the AIADMK would highlight the failures of the BJP government at the Centre as well the DMK government in the State, in its election campaign. The DMK, despite previously being in a ruling alliance at the Centre, did not take measures to bring education into the State list and to abolish the post of Governor, he said.

Jayakumar also said that BJP state president K. Annamalai was prioritising, and giving more importance to himself rather than his party. Mr Annamalai is making statements about things that never happened to divert attention, but this ploy would not work, he said. Mr. Jayakumar also said expelled AIADMK coordinator O. Panneerselvam was "acting like a slave" to

the BJP.

In view of the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls, AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami had recently announced the constitution of four committees. The five-member committee formed to decide on seat-sharing with alliance partners includes senior leaders K.P. Munusamy, Dindigul C. Sreenivasan, P.

Thangamani, S.P. Velumani and P. Benjamin.

The 10-member committee constituted to plan the AIADMK election campaign includes senior leaders M.Thambi Durai, K.A. Sengottaiyan, N. Thalavaisundaram, Sellur K. Raju, P. Dhanapal, K.P. Anbazhagan, R. Kamaraj, S. Gokula Indira, Udumalai K. Radhakrishnan and N.R.Sivapathi.

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MOXY HOTELS DEBUTS ITS SPIRITED VIBE IN SOUTH ASIA WITH THE LAUNCH OF MOXY BENGALURU AIRPORT PRESTIGE TECH CLOUD



Chennai, Jan 30 2024: Moxy Hotels, part of Marriott Bonvoy's portfolio of over 30 extraordinary hotel brands, is thrilled to announce the opening of Moxy Bengaluru Airport Prestige Tech Cloud, marking the brand's debut in India. Introducing Bengaluru to a quirky and playful side of hospitality, the hotel is set to be the perfect social hub for both locals and travelers seeking a fun and adventurous retreat.

Located just 10 minutes from Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru in North Bangalore, Moxy Bengaluru Airport Prestige Tech Cloud is strategically situated near the city's iconic sites and major upcoming projects. Travelers looking to explore Bangalore's beautiful blend of ultra-contemporary and traditional landmarks can visit the ISKCON Temple, St. Mary's Basilica, and the National Gallery of Modern Art. Additionally, those interested in the city's aviation history and technological innovations can explore the HAL Heritage Centre and Aerospace Museum and the British-era Opera House which offers virtual-reality experiences.

"As we continue to grow our portfolio of hotels, we take pride in the ability to stay true to ourselves and weave the playful nature of Moxy Hotels into the energy of Bengaluru with the opening of Moxy Bengaluru Airport Prestige Cloud," says Ranju Alex- Area Vice

President, South Asia, Marriott International. "We look forward to welcoming our fun-hunters to this dynamic city and experience Moxy's playful spirit and disruptive hotel experience."

Commenting on the launch, Irfan Razack, Chairman & Managing Director of Prestige Group, said, "It is with immense pride and gratitude we introduce the dynamic arrival of Moxy Bengaluru Airport Prestige Tech Cloud, marking the debut of Moxy Hotels in South Asia. It is a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing world class hospitality across different brand propositions. With its vibrant ambiance and modern flair, this new addition embodies the innovative spirit that defines the Prestige Group. With the launch of The Moxy Hotels we will offer travelers a unique and unforgettable experience in the heart of Bengaluru. We want everyone to experience this new age hospitality Moxy will bring, and we are proud that Moxy Bengaluru will be the first of its kind in India."

Design + Amenities

Taking its cue from Bengaluru's flair for art, design, and music, Moxy Bengaluru's industrial-chic lobby features stylish artifacts, a graffiti wall featuring local artwork, and many Insta-worthy corners best enjoyed with background music that suits guests' changing mood from day to night. The lobby is also the heart of the

hotel designed to facilitate connections with an extensive game arcade, a library, and immersive spaces to foster co-working and play. Guests looking to stay fit while on the road can enjoy the 24/7 fitness center and 25-metre outdoor swimming pool, and delight in convenient amenities like the hotel's car park and airport shuttle service.

The hotel offers 128 modern and cleverly designed rooms that include six suites. Modern amenities meet futuristic design with smart features like LED lights, keyless entry, and complimentary Wi-Fi. Each room also features modular furniture including Moxy's signature wall-mounted pegs and foldable desks and chairs, giving guests the flexibility to adapt the room to their needs.

Eat, Drink & Play

Creating new waves in Bengaluru's vibrant culinary scene, the hotel boasts a range of enticing F&B venues including Bar Moxy, its communal lobby bar that acts as a dining lounge by day and a social hub at night where guests can enjoy Moxy's signature "Mood based Cocktails". For those looking for a quick bite, Moxy Kitchen & Pickups offers all-day food and drinks with grab-and-go options. Adding to the fun is Layover, a vibrant pool bar that comes with its own DJ Booth personalized with bold graffiti.

Engaging local activations and

innovative F&B programs, the hotel also provides various on-site activities that celebrate Moxy's Play On spirit. Throwback Board Games and Dice Night will be a fun way to kickstart conversations and socialize, while weekly Movie Nights, the Dunk Wheel of Fortune and Jenga Wars can be enjoyed with family and friends.

Meetings and Events

The hotel features three meeting and event rooms with natural daylight, a pre-function area, and a 1000 sqm outdoor event space, along with food takeaway options.

"Bengaluru, as the nerve center of India's high-tech arena, blends its art and cultural richness with the energetic pulse of the 21st century. The young, dynamic, and adventurous ambiance of Bengaluru provides the perfect backdrop for Moxy's impressive debut in India" commented Anuradha Venkatachalam, Hotel Manager, Moxy Bengaluru Airport Prestige Tech Cloud. "We have created here a unique atmosphere where stylish, spirited, and diverse designs converge to create an immersive experience like no other. I believe, Moxy Hotels is more than just a brand; it's a whole new VIBE, and we're here to amplify the energy and create a stir in the hospitality scene in India! I'm excited to welcome our guests to Moxy Bengaluru Airport Prestige Tech Cloud, as we launch a fresh and new taste of hospitality."

DISCOVERY SPORT WITH REDESIGNED MODERN LUXURY INTERIOR, INCREASED VERSATILITY AND STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: JLR India today launched the new and enhanced Discovery Sport in India. The Discovery Sport is versatile by design offering up to seven seats and a dramatically refined new interior that exudes modern luxury.

The Discovery Sport is available in Dynamic SE with two powertrain options - the 2.0 l petrol engine delivering a power of 183 kW and 365 Nm torque and a 2.0 l Ingenium diesel engine delivering a power of 150 kW and 430 Nm torque.

Rajan Amba, Managing Director, JLR India, said: "The new Discovery Sport is versatile by design and perfect for active families that like to hit the road cocooned in luxury. It is a characterful, modern, compact SUV with a versatile interior, breadth of capability as well as intuitive technology, that makes every journey for the family one of utmost comfort and safety."

Ready for Family Adventure

Available with up to seven seats, Discovery Sport's versatile and spacious interior ensures generous room and comfort for all, with up to 24 possible seat configurations. The second row of seats slides and reclines with a 40:20:40 split, while a load area of up to 1794 l with the rear seats folded down accommodates spontaneous adventures. A powered tailgate makes loading and unloading hassle



free.

Discovery Sport now features a digital instrument cluster and steering wheel-mounted gearshift paddles as standard, while the redesigned and simplified centre console boasts an elegant new floating

28.95 cm (11.4) curved glass touchscreen. The latest Pivi Pro infotainment set-up features permanently accessible sidebars, which provide shortcuts to key vehicle controls and functions, such as media, volume, climate and navigation. This allows users to access 90 per cent tasks within two taps from the home screen.

Luxurious Interior

Luxurious cabin quality comes from finely crafted, tactile materials. The interior feels bright, spacious and airy with stadium-style seating for optimum visibility in all three rows. The panoramic glass roof further adds to the sense of space.

Discovery Sport's refined interior features a new gear shifter surrounded by a natural shadow oak trim finisher and an elegant three-spoke multi-function steering wheel. Discovery Sport Dynamic SE features DuoLeather interiors with up to two colour options.

Stable Bihar NDA Govt will usher growth: BJP

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: BJP national president J.P. Nadda said that Bihar is now stable and will take a new leap of development under the NDA Government.

After the formation of the NDA government on Sunday, Nadda told news persons in a press conference that whenever the NDA Government was formed in Bihar, the state has witnessed stability and has taken a new leap of development. Describing JDU as a natural ally of NDA, he said the mandate in Bihar was in favour of NDA.

The decision of JDU to come back to NDA

was an encouraging step for the development of Bihar. He said the law and order has totally collapsed in the regime of the Grand Alliance Government and claimed that it would be controlled under the new and stable regime.

Claiming to sweep all 40 Lok Sabha seats in the coming parliamentary elections in Bihar, Nadda said the NDA would also win the Assembly elections in the State comfortably.

Dubbing the I.N.D.I. Alliance as an unholy, unscientific alliance, Nadda said it was not at all workable and had to collapse.

The alliance

Wireless Connectivity and Convenience

Convenience comes as standard with Wireless Apple CarPlay™ making it easy to control major functions. Android Auto® also features as standard for the ultimate connectivity.

The redesigned centre console liberates stowage space and accommodates Wireless Device Charging offered as standard, giving Discovery Sport one of the most spacious open front console stowage areas in its class for superior everyday family practicality. In addition, two USB-C chargers are available in each row to keep everyone fully connected and charged, with 12 V power in the second row and loadspace. Clients also benefit from third row climate control and USB-C charging. Occupant Wellbeing

Discovery Sport features one of the most sophisticated interior air quality technologies available thanks to Cabin Air Purification Plus. With PM2.5 Filtration and CO2 Management, the system helps to promote wellbeing for the whole family, as well as heighten alertness for the driver by monitoring and

controlling CO2 levels inside. The advanced system combines nanoe™ X technology to combat pathogens and help significantly reduce odours, bacteria and allergens.

All Round Vision

Discovery Sport also offers one of the most comprehensive suites of camera technologies in its class. Greater driver reassurance comes courtesy of 3D surround cameras and ClearSight Ground View™ which offer feeds viewed on the 28.95 cm (11.4) touchscreen, and ClearSight Rear View Mirror™ which provides an unobstructed view behind the vehicle, regardless of what is in the back.

The Discovery Sport also features subtle exterior updates highlighting its distinctive Discovery DNA.

Dynamic models are more assertive and purposeful, with a contrast roof and exterior accents including Discovery script, grille, lower body sills and lower bumpers all featuring a distinctive Gloss Black finish. Gloss Black front claw detailing on the bumpers and wheel arches amplifies the purposeful stance, with the three-line signature of the front air intakes a clear Discovery design trademark.

Alloy wheel design comes in the bold 48.26 cm (19) Diamond Turned finish. Varesine Blue is added to the curated exterior paint palette.

achievements of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government, Nadda said that under the able leadership of Modi India has emerged as a land of knowledge.

The Prime Minister was committed to the development of youth, farmers and to empower the women folk of the country.

Speaking about the NDA Government formed in Bihar he said the state would progress with the power of the double engine government which is committed for making Bihar a brighter and more capable state in the country.

The Alliance was formed to protect families and properties and was a hub of corrupt leaders who were hellbent to promote the appeasement policy, he alleged.

Speaking about the Bharat Jodo Yatra of Rahul Gandhi, Nadda dubbed it as "Bharat Todo" Yatra saying that the Yatra in itself was a big failure.

Highlighting the

SRM IST Management students visit Dubai as part of educational tour

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: Students of Masters of Business Administration, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Vadapalani campus, visited Dubai recently, as part of their educational visit to De Montford University UK, Dubai.

While SRM IST was able to create an opportunity for the students to explore new markets at a global scale, the visit served as an opportunity for students to understand cultural differences. The students, who spent about a week in Dubai, benefitted immensely thanks to the exposure created by the visit to Dubai. It helped to develop their cross-cultural communication abilities, broaden their views on global business trends and growing their professional networks.

At the same time, SRM IST students received a chance to broaden their view on global business trends,

apart from getting an opportunity to grow their professional networks.

The highlight of the students' visit to Dubai was their participation at "HR Conclave: An International Placements Orientation Programme on Thursday, January 25, at Hotel, Fortune Plaza. 42 students of 2nd year MBA at SRM IST, Vadapalani, took part in the event. Students took part in lectures and interacted with Mr. Ashok Punjabi, Commercial Manager, CEEKAY Shipping Corporation; Mr. Alphonse, Chartered Accountant Founder Director, TMCA Finance; Mr. Sujith, Founder, Optimus Management Consultants, & Senior Lecturer at West London University; and Mr. Zeeshan, Entrepreneur and Managing Director, United Technologies, Dubai.

Some of the topics touched upon during the interaction included

* Job opportunities in UAE

* Various opportunities in Gulf Cooperation countries.

* Visa & Immigration.

* Entrepreneurial opportunities in Middle East.

* Skills sets and certifications needed for better opportunities.

* Importance of Students Attitude and networking.

SRM IST students were taken on a tour of De Montford University campus and they were able to get an overview of amenities there in addition to the special systems, including virtual laboratory, that was equipped with virtual projections to assist students to hone their skills.

To identify the university's educational programmes and options offered to students, an interaction was held with student leaders as part of the visit. The faculty

explored the prospects and discussed the potential of engaging with each other through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Further, the Dubai University also provided an overview of several online resources, journals, and research facilities that were accessible to SRM IST students. Officials of De Montford University, including Ms. Linda, Mr. Ghaji, and Mr. Hari were instrumental in making the visit a success.

Visiting students of SRM IST expressed their gratitude to Dr. V. Sasirekha, Dean, Faculty of Management, Dr. Ramachandran, Director (Academics), SRM Group of Institutions and SRM IST for the international study tour and the opportunities created to them. Faculty coordinators Dr. Vijayakumar and Dr. Praseeda of FoM MBA accompanied the students.

Montra Electric Drives Green Revolution in Tirunelveli: Unveils Super Auto and Ignites EV Awareness

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: Montra Electric, the EV brand of 123 years legacy Murugappa Group in a momentous stride toward advocating sustainable mobility, launched an Electric Vehicle Awareness and Benefits Program in Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. This initiative is designed to enlighten residents about the pressing issue of noise, air pollution and underscore the positive impact of embracing electric vehicles.

As a part of this initiative, Montra Electric proudly introduced the highly anticipated Montra Electric Super Auto in Tirunelveli. This innovative product from Montra Electric is poised to revolutionize the market with its state-of-the-art features and dedication to sustainability. This represents a substantial stride in advancing environmentally friendly transportation solutions. The company also handed over the Super Auto to 10 customers, further solidifying its commitment to providing cutting-edge and eco-conscious mobility options. The vehicles were handed over to the customers by Hon'ble Tirunelveli City Police Commissioner Dr Pa. Moorthy IPS.

Hon'ble Tirunelveli City Police Commissioner Dr Pa. Moorthy IPS said, "I appreciate Montra Electric's commitment to creating awareness about the environmental challenges we face. Their initiative to introduce electric



vehicles, especially the Super Auto, aligns with our collective responsibility to combat air pollution and build a greener future for Tirunelveli. Such initiatives also align with Smart City programs"

Mr. Piyush Pandey, Head Marketing & Exports, Montra Electric said, "We are thrilled to handover the Montra Electric Super Auto to our valued customers. The Super Auto is packed with innovation and several industry-first features that will surely redefine the market. Our customers can now receive a greater return on their investment with savings in fuel and maintenance, and riders can experience a premium three-wheeler. At Montra Electric, we strive to produce vehicles that not only last longer but also contribute to protecting the environment for future generations. The zero-emission electric vehicles will endorse sustainable mobility while laying the foundation for the future."

Mr N. Senthil Kumar – Managing Director, RR Greenline Motors, Dealer Partner

Montra Electric Tirunelveli said "Apart from environmental benefits, electric Autos are helping Auto Drivers save Rs 300 – 400 per day on their fuel bills as their average running is around 100 – 150 Kms/day". Electric Autos will also help the public to experience EVs and will help quicker adoption of electric vehicles in all segments.

The vehicle comes with a 10KW Lithium Ion Battery which gives 203 Kms ARAI certified range and an on-range of 155 +/- 5 Kms for full charge. It comes with 33-year / 1 Lac Km warranty with an additional extended warranty option of 2 years / 50 Km.

Following the Electric Vehicle Awareness and Benefits Program and vehicle delivery ceremony, Montra Electric conducted Experience and Test Drive sessions specifically tailored for auto drivers. The event saw more 100 + Auto Drivers participate in Test Drive Awareness Initiative and the event was graced by Tirunelveli City Police Commissioner Dr Pa. Moorthy IPS along

with Mr. N.Senthil Kumar MD – RR Greenlife Motors, Tirunelveli, Mr K.B. Kameswaran Asst Commissioner – Traffic Tirunelveli City,

Mr. Prabhakaran – RTO Inspector and Mr. V. Vijay Prethip – MD, Vijay Bikes.

Montra Electric's EV Awareness Camp and the introduction of the Super Auto in Tirunelveli are pivotal steps in promoting a cleaner and greener future, fostering sustainable transportation practices, and addressing the alarming issue of air pollution.

TI Clean Mobility, a subsidiary of 'Tube Investments of India: A Murugappa Group Company,' is set to transform last-mile transportation. In the first phase, the company has rolled out its offerings in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. The Super Auto will be available across multiple touchpoints in these states, with TICM ensuring maximum test rides to those eager to experience the Montra Electric Super Auto.

TMC's Vasan to decide on alliance by end of Feb

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: Tamil Maanila Congress (TMC) president G.K. Vasan said here on Sunday that its alliance for the Parliamentary election will be decided by the end of February.

Inaugurating a karate competition at a private institution in Erode, Mr. Vasan said the TMC would announce its decision at an appropriate time. "The party executive meeting will be convened by the end of next month, and it will join an alliance that will reflect the people's



thoughts. The TMC will be part of the alliance that defeats the DMK alliance."

The INDIA bloc, according to him, is full of contradictions, and its only aim is to defeat the BJP. But at the same time, the State parties do not have faith in the

Congress. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is a senior politician, and he reflects the sentiments of the Bihar people (by joining the NDA), he felt.

The recent DMK youth wing State conference in Salem reflected the power of

money. The DMK did not fulfil its poll promises, and people are against the DMK, which will reflect in the Parliamentary election, Vasan added.

"The attack on a journalist in Tiruppur district is to be condemned. The Tamil Nadu government should prevent such kind of assaults in the future. The Kilambakkam bus terminus in Chennai was opened in a hurry, and adequate basic amenities for passengers should be provided," he added.

GSK's latest campaign encourages parents to give '7 star protection with 7 vaccinations' for children between 1-2 years of age

Chennai, Jan 30 2024 : GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited (GSK) today launched a multi-channel campaign to raise awareness about vaccinations that provide critical protection to children who are 1 to 2 years of age. The Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) recommends seven vaccinations* for children of this age group, first dose of chickenpox and hepatitis A, second dose of meningitis# and MMR, booster doses of PCV and DTP Hib IPV, and annual dose of flu.[2] Although, immunisation coverage in the first year is high in India, drop-out rates in the second year increase. A significant number of children in the country remain partially vaccinated.[3]

GSK's campaign encourages parents to continue the immunisation schedule even in the 2nd year of their children's lives to ensure continued protection against such preventable diseases through vaccination. Partial vaccination can put them at risk of



serious complications from infectious diseases.[4] Children who are partially vaccinated can also transmit the infection to their younger unvaccinated siblings or elderly grandparents who are more vulnerable to these diseases.4

Dr Rashmi Hegde, Executive Vice President - Medical Affairs, GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals, India, says, "In the past 3 years, there have been outbreaks of certain vaccine-preventable

diseases such as chickenpox, measles, and flu in the country.[5],[6],[7] Vaccine-preventable diseases not only disrupt children's health for a short time, but they have a long-term effect on their developmental milestones. Completing the full immunisation schedule holds the promise of a healthy and happy childhood, which further ensures that children grow into healthy adults. Through this campaign, we want to communicate to

parents the need to give their children the recommended vaccinations even in the 2nd year of their life."

GSK has launched the campaign across multiple channels such as television, social media, and posters at paediatricians' clinics across the nation. Parents should consult their paediatricians to know more about the vaccination schedule for their children. Additional information about the 7 crucial VPDs can be found on MyVaccinationHub.in.

Leadership for sustainability and climate justice to be the focus areas for global leaders at the World Sustainable Development Summit 2024~

The Summit is expected to be inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar Middle Mist Creates Guinness Record

New Delhi, Jan 30 2024: The 23rd edition of World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) will be held from February 7-9, 2024, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The Summit is expected to be inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Hon'ble Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, accompanied by H.E. Brigadier (Retd) Mark Phillips, Prime Minister of Guyana and Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Distinguished speakers at the Summit include Hon'ble Vatimi Rayalu, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways, Fiji; H.E. Mr Willie Tokataake, Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (MISE), Kiribati; Mr Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa, Government of India; H.E. Ms Teresa Ribera Rodríguez, Minister, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Spain; Mr Martin Raiser, Vice President for South Asia Region, The World Bank; H.E. Dr Kehelilya Rambukwella, Minister of Environment, Sri Lanka; and Prof Hoesung Lee, Former Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Other notable speakers include H.E. Mr Eric Garcetti, United States Ambassador to the Republic of India; Ms Dia Mirza, Actor & Goodwill Ambassador – UNEP; Dr Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for ; and Prof Jim Skea, Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The annual flagship multi-stakeholder event organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is the only independently convened international Summit on sustainable development and environment based in the Global South, orchestrating impactful dialogues on a large scale. In the backdrop of ever-growing conflict situation, planetary crisis, and sliding back of key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Summit is an endeavour to assemble thought leaders, policymakers, and experts to engage in meaningful discussions, share innovative solutions,

and formulate strategies that prioritize not only environmental sustainability but also social equity. The WSDS 2024 will be convened under the umbrella theme of 'Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice' and aims to highlight the crucial role visionary leadership plays in steering the world towards a path of sustainability. In addition to the inaugural and valedictory, the Summit will have 11 plenary sessions. The Summit will also include high-level sessions on women leadership, businesses, and youth. Emphasizing on the urgent need to amplify the voices of Global South, Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, TERI, underscored, "As we get ready for the 23rd edition of the World Sustainable Development Summit, I look forward to witnessing the convergence of global leaders, policymakers, and visionaries at this unique platform. The theme for the Summit underscores the imperative for decisive action, visionary leadership, and collective responsibility. TERI is honoured to spearhead this dialogue, fostering innovative solutions and strategies for a sustainable and just future." Highlighting the pivotal role of WSDS in advancing discussions on sustainable development and climate action Dr Shailly Kedia, Curator, WSDS, and Senior Fellow, TERI emphasised, "We are living in a time of Polycrisis. Key challenges confronting the world include planetary crises, sliding back of key sustainable development goals and the ever-growing conflict situation threatening world peace. It is more important than ever that environment stewardship is promoted at all levels and across all spheres. Today's challenges for attaining sustainable development are complex and interconnected and will need everyone to work towards creating a more sustainable future. In this context, the World Sustainable Development Summit 2024 will be held under the umbrella theme of Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice."

Rare golden tiger spotted in Kaziranga National Park

Dispur, Jan 30 2024: A rarest golden tiger, an adult male Bengal tiger with the golden morph has created a buzz surrounding Assam's Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR) which was recently captured on camera after three years of elusive sightings.

If reports are to go by, this fortunate encounter took place during a private photo tour led by 25-year-old Gaurav Ramnarayanan, a Coimbatore-based tourism professional, who was guiding two Australian tourists through the western side of the park's Bagori range. The extraordinary moment unfolded around 4 PM when the group heard warning sounds from barking deers. The tour guide, Buddheshwar Konwar, spotted the elusive golden tiger from a distance of 600 to 700 m. The tiger, displaying its rare golden coat, gradually approached the group, eventually coming within 60 to 70 m. Gaurav Ramnarayanan, thrilled by the encounter, continuously captured photographs, describing the experience as truly



thrilling and unforgettable. Gaurav, the proprietor of a travel company, expressed his luck in witnessing this rare occurrence, stressing further that although he had visited Kaziranga before, this marked his first glimpse of the elusive golden tiger.

Sonali Ghosh, the director of the park, revealed that the golden phenotype, a rare recessive trait in Bengal tigers, had not been spotted in the park for three years. The park authorities are actively investigating this unique trait through non-invasive scat sampling

and DNA mapping conducted by scientists at the National Centre for Biological Sciences in Bangalore, led by Prof. Uma Ramakrishnan and her team. Contrary to a previous sighting in July 2020, where experts deemed the golden coloration as a result of excessive inbreeding, Ghosh added that linking inbreeding to genetic variation is far-fetched. She explained that diverse forms of pigmentation phenotypes are common in various species, driven by evolutionary forces such as selection and random

genetic drift.

Assam's Chief Minister took to social media to share the photograph of the majestic golden tiger, echoing the sentiment of awe and appreciation for the rare and captivating sighting. While the golden tiger's appearance raises questions about the conservation and genetic diversity of tigers in the wild, the ongoing research and observations in Kaziranga National Park provide valuable insights into the fascinating world of these elusive and captivating creatures.

Namma Yatri Autos Now in Namma Chennai: Customers Pay Less, Drivers Earn More with Zero Commission Model



Chennai, Jan 30 2024: Namma Yatri, India's open and community-first auto booking app, part of the ONDC Network, was launched in Chennai by the Esteemed Transport and Road Safety Commissioner. Conceived and built by the graduates from Anna University, this innovative, zero-commission app is designed to empower auto drivers with higher earnings and autonomy while providing affordable and convenient transportation for Chennai's residents. Namma Yatri is a tribute to the spirit of Chennai, its iconic autos, and our hardworking drivers.

The Honorable Transport and Road Safety Commissioner, Mr. A. Shanmuga Sundaram, IAS chaired the event and flagged the official launch of service in Chennai. He congratulated Namma Yatri team for developing a direct to driver model towards building a happy and harmonious community of drivers and commuters in Chennai. Mr. I. Jeyakumar, IRTS, Special Officer at CUMTA, emphasized the app's potential role in integrated urban mobility. Mr. Bhaskar

Verma, South Head at Nasscom, highlighted Namma Yatri's use of technology for social impact. The event also featured the felicitation of top Namma Yatri Stars, the auto drivers themselves.

Namma Yatri exemplifies ONDC's vision to democratize commerce in the mobility sector. Backed by Juspay Technologies, a leader in payments technology, Namma Yatri serves over 2 lakh drivers and 40 lakh customers, facilitating more than 2.5 crore trips. It has enabled drivers to earn over ₹360 crore without any commission. The app is loved by drivers and customers alike with a rating of 4.8+ and over 50 lakh downloads. The app is customized for Chennai, including the availability of driver app in Tamil and an enhanced user booking experience to prominent locations such as Valluvar Kottam, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Birla Planetarium, Lighthouse, Tidel Park, Rajiv Gandhi Government Hospital, etc.

Mr. T Koshy, MD & CEO of ONDC, noted, "Namma Yatri on ONDC network exemplifies the power

of open networks in transforming urban mobility. It will facilitate more efficient, inclusive and sustainable transportation." Adding to this, Mr. Vimal Kumar, CEO of Juspay and an alumnus of Anna University, shared, "Namma Yatri is more than an app; it's an attempt to unite community, government, and technology. We're very happy to bring it to our city, where we studied and grew up. With a community-driven approach, we're committed to improving the lives of drivers and people."

Namma Yatri's launch marks a new chapter in building a community-first, sustainable mobility solution in Chennai. With nearly 10,000 drivers already on board, Namma Yatri plans to add 1 lakh drivers in the next 6 months. It is committed to deepening its integration with Chennai's transportation fabric and soon expand to other cities in Tamil Nadu to offer a seamless, efficient, and inclusive travel experience. Namma Yatri isn't just about connecting places; it's about connecting

people, fostering community bonds, and driving towards a more sustainable and connected Chennai

Speaking on the occasion, Transport and Road Safety Commissioner Shanmukha Sundaram said, that any technology should be useful to humans. Traffic congestion is the biggest challenge in Chennai and the boundaries of CMDA have been expanded, he said that CMDA has now been expanded to Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram, Tiruvallur and Arakkonam taluk of Ranipet district. In this case, he said, autos which have got permission from Chennai can go to Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram, Arakkonam, Ranipet and other areas. He also said that while the auto fare set by the government in 2013 is being collected till now, the auto fare restructuring is under the consideration of the government.

Senior Vice President of ONDC Nitin Nair, Chief Executive Officer of FIDE Sujith Nair, Chief Executive Officer of Juspay Sheetal Lalwani were present at the launch.

China permanently stations 4 warships around Taiwan

Chennai, Jan 30 2024: China has permanently stationed four warships around Taiwan to deter the island in peaceful times and to prevent US vessels from approaching Taiwan in case of an emergency, Japanese newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun reported on Monday, citing sources in the Japanese government.

The ships were initially deployed in August 2022 as part of drills held in response to former US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan. The warships are surrounding the island from three sides: north, south, and east, leaving the coast open and facing China, according to the map attached by the



newspaper. One of the ships is west of the territories known as the Diaoyu Islands in China and the Senkaku Islands in Japan. Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi did not comment on the

situation during a regular briefing on Monday.

Beijing opposes any official contacts of foreign states with Taipei and considers Chinese sovereignty over the island indisputable. In response to visits by

high-ranking US delegations to Taiwan in 2022 and 2023, the Chinese military launched large-scale drills near the island, in what it called a warning to Taiwanese separatists and foreign powers.