

South-bound buses from Kilambakkam CMDA issues passengers guidelines on platforms

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: All south-bound government mofussil seater buses will also start from new Kilambakkam terminus from Tuesday, government has said.

The CMDA has released a guide on platform numbers and its bus bay numbers for passengers travelling on SETC buses plying to Southern districts of Tamil Nadu from the terminus.

Platform 1: Buses to Nagercoil, Marthandam, Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tiruchendur, Shencottai, and Tuticorin will be operated.

Platform 2: Buses to Pappanasam,

Nagercoil, Marthandam, Kuttam, Kulasekaram, Karungali, Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tiruchendur, Thisayanvilai, Srivilliputhur, Sivakasi, Shencottai, Udangudi, Tuticorin and Thiruvananthapuram will be operated

Platform 3: Buses to Oppilan, Madurai, Keeramangalam, Karaikudi, Kumuthi, Ervadi, Devakottai, Thondi, Sivagangai, Sayilkudi and Veeracholan will be operated.

Platform 4: Buses to Pollachi, Peravurani, Pattukottai, Mannargudi, Kumuli, Kumbakonam, Karur,



Dindigul, Cumbum, Bodinayakkanur, Theni, Thanjavur and Tiruchy will be operated.

Platform 6: Buses to Pollachi, Nammakal, Mettupalayam, Gurusvayur, Ernakulam, Coimbatore, Tiruppur,

Tiruvavur will be operated. For passengers' convenience, the 710 buses connecting Chennai with Trichy, Salem, Tindivanam, Villupuram and Tiruvannamalai will be operated till Tambaram

after dropping off passengers at Kalaingar Centenary Bus Terminus (KCBT) in Kilambakkam. These buses will pick up passengers waiting at Tambaram before leaving for KCBT on the return journey.

For the benefit of people living in north Chennai, the state transport department will operate 160 south-bound buses from Madhavaram Mofussil Bus Terminus (MMBT). These 870 buses will run between

6am and 10pm; more buses will be operated on weekends if demand increases, said transport minister S S Sivasankar. Only buses via East Coast Road and those to Bengaluru will be operated from Koyambedu, the minister said, promising that enough MTC buses will be made available between these bus terminuses.

Services of several MTC buses have been altered to ensure that key transit hubs in the city and its suburbs are connected well with KCBT. The most recent buses to join this list are the ones on routes 91 and 95 plying between Thiruvanniyur and Tambaram. New routes

have also been introduced by MTC connecting KCBT with Old Mahabalipuram Road, where demand was very high during the festive weekends this month.

The government has restricted entry of private omni buses into the city for picking up or dropping passengers at Koyambedu. On Monday, all Chennai-bound buses were made to drop passengers from Madurai, Trichy, Salem, and other southern districts at KCBT. This resulted in heavy rush at Vandalur suburban railway station in the morning.

CMDA issues passengers guidelines on platforms.

Modi, Leaders pay homage to Mahatma, martyrs

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: President Draupadi Murmu, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday paid floral tributes to Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi on his death anniversary at Rajghat.

January 30th marks the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation, who was assassinated on this day by Nathuram Godse in 1948.

Mahatma Gandhi, who is fondly called "Bapu" in India, played

a vital role in India's freedom movement.

He demonstrated the power of non-violence, or ahimsa through various peaceful movements.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and other leaders

also paid their homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat.

Early in a social media post on X, PM Modi, "Their sacrifices inspire us to serve the people and fulfil their vision for our nation." "I pay homage to Pujya Bapu on his Punya

Tithi. I also pay homage to all those who have been martyred for our nation. Their sacrifices inspire us to serve the people and fulfil their vision for our nation," he wrote on X.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah remembered him and said he awakened the spirit of Swadeshi in the hearts of the countrymen by following the path of truth and non-violence.

Paying tribute to Mahatma Gandhiji on his death anniversary, he said on X, "Gandhiji's messages of peace and harmony are relevant even today and his thoughts will continue to inspire countrymen to sacrifice and dedicate themselves to the nation".

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi also paid his tributes on Gandhiji's death anniversary and said,



"On this very day, the ideology of hatred and violence had snatched away their revered Bapu from the country".

On social media post on X, Rahul Gandhi said, "Today the same thinking wants to snatch away their principles and ideals from us. But

in this storm of hatred, the flame of truth and harmony must not be extinguished. This will be our true tribute to Gandhiji" he said.

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Modi Will impose dictatorship if re-elected: Kharge There will be no more elections, says Cong chief

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday said "if Modi is re-elected as Prime Minister in the 2024 Lok Sabha election then it will be the last elections in the country."

"There will be no more elections after 2024 if Modi is re-elected and there will be dictatorship in India like Vladimir Putin in Russia", Kharge alleged while addressing a massive rally christened as "Odisha Bachho Divas" organised by the State Congress here.

The Congress president said the BJP and RSS combination is dangerous for the country which only destroys democracy and the constitution.

He described the BJP-RSS combination as poison, and asked the people not to trust them as they are trying to snatch away their rights of the SC, ST and OBC and the common people.

Kharge said while Congress is trying to unite the people, the BJP is playing a divide and rule policy.

The AICC president remarked the fight is now between the rich and the poor adding that



while the BJP is for the rich, the Congress is for the poor and its now up to the people to decide whether they want a government for the rich or a government for the poor.

Kharge also came down heavily on Odisha Chief Minister and BJD supremo Naveen Patnaik stating that there is a big difference between Naveen Patnaik and his father late Biju Patnaik.

His aid Biju Patnaik was a close friend of Jawaharlal Nehru and was following his ideology while his son Naveen Patnaik is following the ideology of BJP.

The veteran Congress leader asked the people of Odisha what they have got during the 23 years

tenure of Naveen Patnaik in the State.

Naveen has promised 35 per cent irrigation and cold storage in all the 314 blocks in the state, he said and questioned whether these promises were fulfilled in the last 23 years.

There are 30 lakh vacancies in the country and yet no steps have been taken by the Modi government to fill up these vacancies. BJP had promised two crore employment, Kharge said and asked have they given any employment.

In Odisha also 2.36 lakh vacancies are yet to be filled up by the Naveen Patnaik Government which has not taken any steps while the unemployment figure has touched 45 lakhs.

Kharge also slammed

Naveen Patnaik for allowing an officer's raj in the State and asked the people whether they need people from outside the State to run the Government.

There had been chit fund scam, multi crore mining scam and several other scams in Odisha yet nothing has happened, no ED or CBI probe, the Congress president said this is because there has been an unholy nexus between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

On Nitish Kumar leaving the I.N.D.I.A. alliance, he said one or two people leaving the alliance will not make any impact. The I.N.D.I.A. bloc will not become weak and will remain as strong as it was, he added.

DMK seeks discussion of TN Governor issue in Parliament at all party meet



Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Floor leaders of various parties on January 30 attended an all-party meeting convened by the government ahead of the Budget session of Parliament.

Defence Minister and Deputy Leader in the Lok Sabha, Rajnath Singh, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi and his Deputy Arjun Ram Meghwal represented the government at the meet.

Congress' K. Suresh, Trinamool Congress' Sudip Bandopadhyay,

DMK's T. R. Baalu, Shiv Sena's Rahul Shewale, Samajwadi Party's S. T. Hasan, JD(U)'s Ram Nath Thakur and TDP's Jayadev Galla were among the leaders present at the meeting at the Parliament House complex.

It will be a short session this time, between January 31 and February 9, with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman set to table an interim Budget ahead of the Lok Sabha polls. The new government will present the full-fledged Budget. The session will begin with

President Droupadi Murmu's address.

Speaking about the Opposition parties demand of discussion, DMK leader T.R. Balu said, "We demanded the discussion of Governor's issue, One Nation, One election."

Congress MP Pramod Tiwari, who represented the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, said he raised the issue of the "violent attack" on the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi in Assam and the State government's curbs on it.

An "unwritten dictatorship" prevails in the country and accused the Central government of misusing probe agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Enforcement Directorate to target Opposition leaders such as Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and Rashtriya Janata Dal supremo Lalu Prasad, he told reporters while the meeting was under way. Mr. Tiwari said he raised these issues after consulting the Opposition parties.

India-Singapore working on green growth: Envoy

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Work is ongoing in new fields identified by the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) which was established by the two countries in September 2022, Indian Envoy Shilpak Ambule said here.

"ISMR has identified specific pillars of cooperation and work is ongoing in these new fields of food security, digital transformation, green growth, skills and emerging technologies," the Indian High Commissioner to Singapore said here last night at the 75th Republic Day celebration reception.

The ISMR is a leaders-led forum to explore opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration given the rapidly evolving geopolitical developments in a post-COVID-19 recovery phase and ongoing supply chain disruptions.

Josephine Teo, Minister for



Communications and Information, Minister-in-charge of the Cyber Security Agency and Smart Nation Initiative, was the Guest of Honour at the 75th Republic Day of India reception.

Singapore is an indispensable partner when it comes to these fields and active collaborations are ongoing, Ambule stressed.

"India and Singapore are strategic partners, and share warm and friendly historical ties.

"We have had an intense year of political exchanges in our economic, financial and trade ties which continue to grow from strength to strength," Ambule

said as he hosted the reception attended by Singapore government officials and invited diplomats, guests and the Indian community here. "Singapore remains our largest source of FDI and our biggest trading partner in the ASEAN region. Our defence and security cooperation is the most understated area of exchange and the interaction and port visits have only increased," he said.

The envoy also shared the space sector collaboration between Singapore and India, having put in orbit a Singapore-made satellite last year on an Indian space vessel.

He also appreciated and thanked the

Singapore Government officials for consistently working on strengthening the India Singapore strategic partnership.

Ambule recapped the success of India hosting the G20 presidency last year and appreciated Singapore's participation in all tracks with 11 ministers participating in the meetings and events and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong attending the Summit in Delhi.

He extended warm wishes to the entire Indian community in Singapore and thanked them for their valuable contribution to the development of both nations.

Building completion certificate not mandatory for small flats across TN: Minister

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Building completion certificate (CC) will not be mandatory for residential complexes consisting of up to eight flats and are not above 750 square metres in area across the state, Minister for Housing and Urban Development S Muthusamy said on Monday. The move is expected to bring down the cost of small flats and help realtors complete the projects expeditiously.

Making the announcement after inaugurating "CREDAI Tamil Nadu Statecon 2024" in Chennai, the minister said, "Hitherto, the exemption from completion certificate was given for residential complexes with less than three flats.

This has now been extended to eight-unit buildings following representation from the realty sector." The minister, however, cautioned against the misuse of the exemption by developers. The move would be a huge relief



to small developers who are made to run from pillar to post to get completion certificate for getting drainage, water and power connections.

"Usually, it takes more than a year for small projects to get approval for completion certificate," said Srinivas Akinipatti senior director, Knight Frank India.

"Planning to bring 22% of TN under planned growth"

"This would result in huge saving in time and money," he said. The delay of more than a year will increase the cost of the project and affect the buyers too, he said.

S Sridharan, vice-president, CREDAI

National South Zone, said that the eight flats would work out to 900 square feet per flat and this would make such small-size homes affordable in city outskirts and other parts of the state.

The move comes after the Madras High Court recently observed that housing projects that do not exceed eight apartments and are less than 500 square metres in area cannot be registered under Tamil Nadu Real Estate Regulatory Act.

The minister also announced that the government will also allow the height of residential buildings with stilt plus three floors to be increased from 12 metres to 14 metres. Sridharan says

it will be beneficial to people looking for luxury flats and villas.

"If the stilt height goes up, it would help developers in running sewer lines and service lines. Developers were facing challenges in providing the service lines," said Sridharan. Akinipatti said the stilt alone would take nearly three metres and what is left is only nine metres for three floors. Now, the developer can have additional two metres to build a spacious home, he added.

Apart from the two major announcements, the government is also planning to bring 22% of the state under planned growth. "Initially, it was only 5%," said the housing minister.

Electric Scooters in Small Towns Outshine Metros in Average Daily Kilometres

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Ather Energy, India's leading electric scooter manufacturer, has unveiled its 'Ather 2023 Report', highlighting significant trends and accomplishments. The year 2023 saw a remarkable 1,98,496 Ather scooters traverse an impressive 1.2 billion kilometres, marking a 209% increase from the previous year. This growth is particularly noticeable in smaller towns and cities, where Ather scooters are increasingly popular.

In terms of daily travel, scooters in Nagercoil, Cuttack, Malappuram, Kozhikode and Bhubaneswar surpassed the national average, recording a daily average of 40 kilometres compared to the typical 26 kilometres by most Ather owners. Metropolitan areas also showed significant usage. Bengaluru and Chennai continue to lead the total distance chart. In Bengaluru over 40,500 scooters accounted for nearly 218.5 million kilometres at an average of 5,387 kilometres per scooter. Chennai followed with

its 14,835 scooters covering 86.8 million kilometres, averaging over 5,854 kilometres each. Telangana, Pune and Delhi are also among the top 5 cities in the chart, covering 69.7 million km, 68.4 million km and 53 million km respectively.

Ather owners frequently embarked on long rides, with over 60,000 scooters travelling more than 100 kilometres at least once in 2023. A notable achievement includes a rider completing 62 trips of over 100 kilometres on a single charge, showcasing the exceptional range of Atherscooters.

Feature Usage Pattern

Ather's Warp mode has been a crowd favourite since 2020 and owners clocked 115 million km in Warp mode in 2023. The cities with the highest Warp mode usage were Tumakuru (Karnataka), Karimnagar (Telangana), Kottayam & Malappuram (Kerala) and Nagercoil (Tamil Nadu). Ather owners from these cities engaged Warp mode for more than 20% of their rides, underscoring the

widespread appeal of performance features. The Park Assist™ or the reverse assist feature proved invaluable in navigating tight parking situations, cumulatively covering more than four times the Earth's circumference, or 162,000 kilometres. On board navigation has also gained popularity among Ather users, with 206 million kilometres navigated.

Ather Charging Ecosystem

The Ather Grid, Ather Energy's fast-charging network, is expanding its reach. Charging stations are now conveniently located every 6 to 15 square kilometres in cities such as Chennai, Bengaluru, Pune, Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Delhi NCR.

In 2023, Ather installed over 900 Ather Grids across India bringing the total number of fast chargers to 1600+ fast-charging points. Over this period Ather Grids have been strategically installed connecting locations that will allow customers to go on weekend getaways like Bengaluru to Nandi Hills, Pune to

Lonavala, Mumbai to Alibaug, Chennai to Pondicherry, Delhi to Agra, Siliguri to Darjeeling and many more. Ather Grids also allow a customer to travel the entire coastal region covering Kanyakumari and Kasargod (640 km) with over 52 fast charging stations installed.

This expansive grid has significantly alleviated range anxiety, evidenced by numerous intercity trips, including 447 Ather owners riding from Kozhikode and Malappuram in Kerala, and 232 Ather owners riding from Chikballapur to Bengaluru, among others.

Ather Energy remains steadfast in its commitment to revolutionising the way we commute. With every milestone achieved, Ather is driving towards a dynamic, electric future, aiming to establish electric scooters as the favoured choice for commuters throughout India. This dedication underscores Ather's role as a pioneering force in shaping an electrified transportation landscape.

Adani Total Gas Q3 & 9MFY24 Results Overall Volume up by 21% in Q3 & 13% in 9M Y-o-Y

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Adani Total Gas Ltd ("ATGL"), India's leading City Gas Distribution company, announced today its operational and financial performance for the nine-month ended quarter ending 31st December 2023.

"With expansion of CGD infrastructure, together with ceasing opportunity in the areas of e-mobility, biomass and LNG for Transport & Mining (LTM), ATGL has once again delivered a double-digit growth in volumes of 13% Y-o-Y on nine months basis. The rise in volume coupled with efficient gas sourcing and an 'eye' on opex have led to increase in EBIDTA

by 20% Y-o-Y in nine months. Company's present priority is to focus on providing easy access of natural gas in the form of PNG and CNG by fast tracking the infrastructure development in all our Geographical Areas," said Mr. Suresh P Manglani, ED & CEO of Adani Total Gas. "With our consumer centricity approach, apart from e-mobility and biomass (CBG) we are now also embarking upon LNG for Transport & Mining (LTM). ATGL will provide decarbonizing solutions for various entities and help in reducing carbon footprint. Our strategy will be to offer a wider range of cleaner energy

fuel to all our consumers".

Results Commentary 9MFY24 (Y-o-Y)

Ø CNG Volume increased by 21% Y-o-Y on account of the reduction in CNG prices along with network expansion of CNG stations.

Ø With recovery of PNG Industrial Volume and addition of new PNG connection in domestic and commercial, PNG Volume has increased by 1%

Ø Although the overall volume has increased by 13% Y-o-Y, Revenue from operations has increased by 2% due to reduction in gas cost especially APM gas as

ATGL passed on the benefit of APM gas price reduction to consumers which resulted into lower sales price.

Ø EBITDA has increased by 20% Y-o-Y on account of higher volume and balanced price strategy.

Awards
Ø ATGL is awarded with Climate Action Programme (CAP) - Committed category by CII of CAP 2.0 awards program for its commitment towards climate change initiatives.

Ø ATGL won "Golden Peacock Award for HR Excellence" award 2023 for its HR best practices.

POEMS TURN SONGLETS MUSIC ALBUM CHINNANJIRU PAADALGAL LAUNCHED

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Writer lyricist Kabilan Vairamuthu and music director Balamurali Balu jointly launched "Chinnanjiru Paadalgal" an independent music album. The duo who created the demonetisation anthem sung by actor Silambarasan, and yenthiru anjali yenthiru an independent song against the ills of alcohol sung by actor director T.Rajhender have now joined hands for a poetic outing this time. Selected poems from the poetry collections of Kabilan Vairamuthu are made



into short duration songs called songlets.

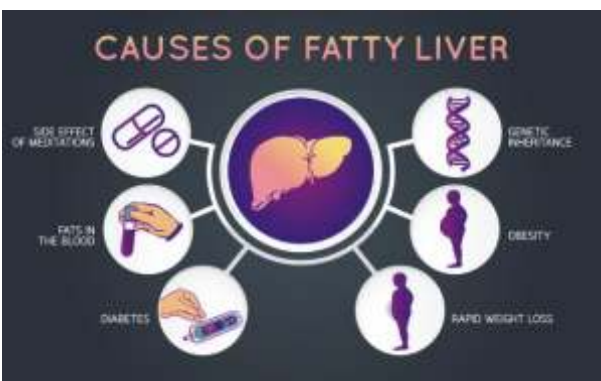
The album comprises of five songlets namely Thillai, paalai, sindhuvaaram, punnai and magizham named after the tamil flowers mentioned by sangam era poet Kabilar.

Singers Ramya Ramkumar, Bhuvana Ananth, Shobika Murugesan, Ramnathi Bhagavath and Aditi Bhavaraju have performed the vocals. Profile maker, a chennai based digital content creators team has designed the lyric videos for the songlets.

Story board artist Ramamurthy has created the pencil art for the lyric videos of chinnanjiru paadalgal. The first songlet 'Thillai' will go live on the eve of Valentine's day. The songlets of chinnanjiru paadalgal will stream on all music platforms.

Diabetes drug to help lower risk of liver disease

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Ozempic and other GLP1 agonists are associated with a reduced risk of developing cirrhosis and liver cancer in people with type 2 diabetes and chronic liver disease, according to a nationwide study from Karolinska Institutet in Sweden.



were treated with GLP1 agonists and those who were not.

The results show that those who took the drug for a long period of time had a lower risk of later developing more severe forms of liver disease such as cirrhosis and liver cancer.

According to the researchers, this suggests that GLP1 agonists could be an effective treatment to avoid severe liver disease in people with concurrent type 2 diabetes.

"Fatty liver disease is estimated to affect up to one in five people in Sweden, many of whom have type 2 diabetes, and about one in twenty develop severe liver disease," says first author Axel

Wester, assistant professor at the Department of Medicine, Huddinge, Karolinska Institutet.

"Our findings are interesting because there are currently no approved drugs to reduce this risk."

Many of the people in the study stopped taking GLP1 agonists, resulting in a lack of protective effect.

However, those who continued taking their medication over a ten-year period were half as likely to develop severe liver disease.

"The results need to be confirmed in clinical trials, but it will take many years for these studies to be completed," says Axel Wester.

"Therefore, we use

existing registry data to try to say something about the effect of the drugs before that."

A limitation of the method is that it is not possible to control for factors for which there is no data, such as blood tests to describe the severity of liver disease in more detail.

However, the researchers have recently built a new database called HERALD where they have access to blood samples from patients in Region Stockholm.

"As a next step, we will investigate the effect of GLP1 agonists in this database. If we get similar results, it would further strengthen the hypothesis that GLP1 agonists can be used to reduce the risk of severe liver disease," says the study's last author Hannes Hagström, consultant in hepatology at the Karolinska University Hospital and adjunct professor at the Department of Medicine, Huddinge, Karolinska Institutet.

International recognition for Actor DSG

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Malaysia is one of the most developed and industrialized countries in East Asia and Dato Sri Gnanaraja also known as DSG Raja, one of the leading businessmen from Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia, made his way through his own efforts and hard work. He is one of the leading agricultural industrialists in Malaysia. He has been making a mark in various corporate fields and is very successful in all his endeavours. He is currently the President & CEO of AGROMALAYSIA.

DSG Raja holds a degree in Bachelor Of Laws from the University Of Hertfordshire(UK).

Recently, he



forayed into the film industry as well. He established a film production company called 'DSG Creations' founded in 2017 and through it he is doing works of film production, film releases and marketing in Kollywood. As a part of that, in 2023, he played the role of 'Thangaraj @ Gold Raja' in the mega hit film 'Mark Antony'

directed by Adhik Ravichandran starring Vishal and S.J. Suryah. While acting in this film, subsequent film opportunities started coming in the Tamil film industry.

Following this, the actor has now received international recognition. Officials of the New York World Bank's head of investments and private project

financing committee interacted with DSG Raja through a video conference in Malaysia and was later appointed as a board of advisor to sit on the Advisory Board of the Capital One Group under World Bank's International Finance Corporation based in New York. The invitation was given by the officials of the World Bank - Joint Fund for International Finance, which is operating in New York, USA. This was an important recognition in his public career. It will be the diamond in the crown of his life.

The actor has exciting collaborations about his Tamil film projects and official announcements will be made soon.

Signify sets a benchmark with the inauguration of the largest Philips Smart light hub in Chennai

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: In line with the brand vision to unlock the extraordinary potential of light for brighter lives and a better world, Signify (Euronext: LIGHT) the world leader in lighting, announced the launch of the 'Philips Smart light hub' in Chennai.

Setting the benchmark for home lighting shopping in the country, the newly launched Smart light hub is built with a vision to give the customers a hands-on experiential tour of the products. Spread over 2200 sq. ft. it offers more than 400 SKUs of smart lighting products, including product categories such as the Smart Wi-fi LED lights, modular COB range, magnetic tracks, LED strips, and decorative lighting for indoor and outdoor applications among many others.

Commenting on the store inauguration,



Sumit Joshi, CEO, Signify Greater India, said "We are proud to launch our 'Philips Smart light hub' in Chennai to provide a one-stop destination for our customer's home lighting needs. Reiterating our focus on customer satisfaction, this is another addition to our existing network of exclusive stores across the country. Offering an array of innovative illumination solutions catering to homeowners, interior

designers, and architects, alike, the light hub strives to provide your home with the perfect lighting."

As of now, Signify has more than 80 Philips Smart light hubs across South India and more than 15 Philips Smart Light Hubs in Chennai. The newly launched Philips Smart light hub in Anna Nagar, Chennai will cater to architects, interior designers and specifiers who can

utilize the Philips Smart Connect program along with the widest range of lighting products.

Inaugurated by Sumit Joshi, CEO, Signify Greater India, Arun C Kumar, Business Leader, Digital Products Division, and Raja Moudgil, Business Head, Smart Homes & Switches Market the Philips Smart light hub is located at R-7, No., 55, 6th Ave, Block R, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040.

Tata Motors introduces Turbotronn 2.0 engine, makes trucking more efficient and reliable

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, today introduced its technologically-advanced engine, Turbotronn 2.0, to deliver a new benchmark of excellence in trucking. Highly fuel efficient and reliable, this indigenously-developed, versatile engine will power Tata trucks in 19-42 tonne range for multiple applications across categories. Perfectly suited for rapidly growing e-commerce, logistics, parcel and courier segments, the Turbotronn 2.0 engine is designed to address specific needs expressed by customers, offers enhanced driving experience and is engineered to deliver robust performance with inherent benefits of lowering Total Cost of Ownership (TCO). It has been rigorously tested for over 30 lakh km and 70,000 cumulative hours across diverse duty cycles and harsh terrains. Fully compliant with the BS6 Phase 2 emission norms, the Turbotronn 2.0 is platform-agnostic and offered with Signa, Ultra, LPT and cowl platform and comes with a warranty of 6 years/6 lakh km.

A 5-litre turbocharged diesel engine, the efficient and versatile Turbotronn 2.0 is offered in multiple



states of tune ranging from 180-204 PS and engineered to offer a flatter torque curve in the range of 700-850 Nm for better drivability. With longer oil drain and service intervals of 1 lakh km, its distinctive attributes ensure more vehicle uptime to generate higher revenues.

Introducing the Turbotronn 2.0, Mr. Rajendra Petkar, President and Chief Technology Officer, Tata Motors, said "The Turbotronn 2.0 is one of our most advanced internal combustion engines. Engineered with latest technologies, it enables trucks to cover longer distances in shorter time. Its robust performance and high fuel efficiency has set new industry benchmarks for trucking in India."

Sharing his thoughts,

Mr. Rajesh Kaul, Vice President & Business Head Trucks, Tata Motors, said, "At Tata Motors, we closely partner with customers to make their businesses prosper. The Turbotronn 2.0 has been developed with extensive inputs from transporters and provides them with an edge in the highly competitive industry. Its superior value proposition, makes trucking more seamless, efficient and reliable resulting in higher revenues and lower costs.

As a comprehensive mobility solutions provider, Tata Motors commercial vehicles come with advanced features, efficient powertrains and richer value-additions. Fleet owners benefit from better fuel efficiency, lower operating costs, high vehicle uptime, real-time tracking and

analytics through Tata Motors Fleet Edge. Its Sampurna Seva 2.0 initiative provides unmatched vehicle lifecycle management services, including fleet management solutions, annual maintenance contract and roadside assistance amongst others. With the widest service network of 2500+ touchpoints, staffed by trained specialists and backed by Tata Genuine Parts, Tata Motors ensures unparalleled quality and service commitment.

As part of a reliability test, Tata Motors kick-started a 30-day endurance run with its Tata Ultra T.19, powered by the Turbotronn 2.0 engine. The aim was to do a non-stop run on the Golden Quadrilateral, a crucial national highway network connecting India's metros establishing highest standards of durability and efficiency. The Tata Ultra T.19 not only completed nine rounds of the Golden Quadrilateral successfully but also secured nine records in both the India Book of Records and the Asia Book of Records. These extraordinary achievements were made possible by the efficient and reliable Turbotronn 2.0 engine-powered Tata Ultra T.19, marking a significant milestone in the realm of commercial vehicles.

BHOOMI POOJA OF 8 CLASSROOMS AT MEDAVAKKAM GOVT SCHOOL BY ROUND TABLE 100



Chennai, Jan 31 2024: In a significant stride towards advancing education infrastructure, Round Table 100 performed the Bhoomi Pooja ceremony for the construction of an 8 Classroom Block Project at Medavakkam Government Higher Secondary School, under the esteemed Freedom through Education initiative of Round Table India.

The ceremony, graced by the esteemed presence of Chairman Round Table 100, Tr. Nitin, and National

Project Convener, Tr. Santhosh, witnessed the active participation of Primary Donor Mr. Jatin Vimal, Managing Director from Levim Lifetech Pvt Ltd and Local Body Parent Teacher Thalaivar Thiru Ravi and several Members of Round Table India also attended the event, reflecting the collaborative spirit of the community.

Addressing the gathering, Tr. Nitin emphasized the critical need for the project, stating "This initiative, a testament to Round Table India's

commitment to the Education movement, is expected to have a transformative impact on the landscape of the region. With several thousand students set to benefit from this project, it marks a significant step towards enhancing the educational opportunities for the youth."

The Medavakkam Government Higher Secondary School project is a prime example of the collective efforts of Round Table 100, local bodies, and private

donors coming together to create a lasting impact on the community. The construction of the 8 Classroom Block is poised to address the immediate infrastructural needs of the school, fostering an environment conducive to quality education.

Round Table 100 extends its gratitude to all stakeholders involved in making this initiative a reality and looks forward to the positive effects it will bring to the students and the community at large.

Vastu Housing Finance unveils Micro-housing loan product for 'Bharat'

Chennai, Jan 31 2024: Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited, one of the country's fastest-growing housing finance companies, is expanding its portfolio in the micro-housing segment in Tamil Nadu. The product is tailored to enable low-income households in rural and semi-urban areas to access the required credit toward homeownership. This product will enable Vastu Housing Finance (Vastu HFC), through its entrenched national franchise in 15 states, to go deeper into the Tier II, III and IV market segments.

Vastu HFC has designed the micro-housing loans solution for those engaged in small businesses in unorganised sectors like catering, grocery shops, pharmacies, tailors, bakeries, etc., who are typically new to credit and have a monthly household income of INR 15,000 to INR 25,000.

Through Vastu's



robust network of 200+ branches and a transparent and digital platform, the company will be able to offer credit access along with a simplified understanding and awareness of the loan processes and financial systems to these customers.

"The housing sector is a catalyst for the nation's development, owing to its immersive social impact. The focus on micro-housing as a category is reflective of our commitment to creating channels of credit access for the underserved and a step towards furthering financial inclusion," said Sandeep Menon, Founder, Managing Director and Chief

Executive Officer, Vastu Housing Finance Corporation. "Almost every home loan we give, a woman is either the borrower or the co-borrower," he added.

India's housing finance growth is stable at a CAGR of 16%, driven by a rise in disposable incomes, strong demand, urbanisation and government initiatives like PMAY. The economically weaker sections (EWS) and low-income groups (LIG) account for a large share of this rising demand.

Vastu HFC is uniquely placed to address this demand given its deep distribution and specialised underwriting built on

the back of its proprietary tech ecosystem - Pulse. The company's tech-led approach aids in identifying trends in income and lifestyle based on data, enabling secure and fast loan disbursements, which is the need of the hour. The company plans to continue investing in micro-housing loans with learnings from the pilot project.

The company has hired about 400 team members across eight states to lay a strong foundation while generating employment opportunities in the state. Customers can walk into any of Vastu Housing Finance branches to apply for this loan.