

# PM inaugurates, dedicates to nation and lays foundation stone for projects worth more than Rs 68,000 crore in Sambalpur, Odisha

## PM Inaugurates permanent campus of IIM, Sambalpur

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today inaugurated, dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone for projects worth more than Rs 68,000 crore in Sambalpur, Odisha aimed at boosting the energy sector involving natural gas, coal and power generation apart from important projects of road, railway and higher education sector. Shri Modi also took a walkthrough of the IIM Sambalpur model and a photo exhibition showcased on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that today is a significant occasion for the development journey of Odisha as development projects worth approximately Rs 70,000 crores are launched today in the sectors of education, railway, roads, electricity and petroleum. PM Modi underlined that the people of Odisha belonging to the poor section, labourers, working class, business

owners and farmers among all other sections of society will reap the benefits of today's development projects. He further added that it will also create thousands of new employment opportunities for the youth of Odisha.

The Prime Minister expressed delight in announcing the government's decision to confer the ex-deputy Prime Minister of India, Shri Lal Krishna Advani with the Bharat Ratna. PM Modi lauded the unparalleled contributions of Shri Advani as the Deputy Prime Minister, Home Minister and Information and Broadcasting Minister of India as well as decades of experience as a distinguished and loyal Member of Parliament. "Honouring Advani ji with the Bharat Ratna is a symbol that the nation never forgets those who dedicate their lives to its service", PM Modi asserted. The Prime Minister thanked his good fortune for the love, blessings and guidance shown by Shri



L K Advani upon him, and prayed for his long life as he congratulated him on behalf of all citizens.

The Prime Minister said that in order to make Odisha a hub of education, and skill development, continuous efforts have been put in by the Central government. The fate of Odisha's youth has changed with the setting up of modern educational institutes like IISER Berhampur and Bhubaneshwar's

Institute of Chemical Technology in the last decade. Now, with the establishment of IIM Sambalpur as a modern institute of management, the state's role is being further strengthened. He recalled laying the foundation stone of IIM (Indian Institute of Management) during the pandemic and praised those associated with its completion amidst all the obstacles.

"The goal of a Viksit Bharat can only be achieved if all the states

are developed", PM Modi remarked, as he mentioned lending maximum support to Odisha in every sector. Highlighting the efforts of the central government in the last 10 years, the Prime Minister mentioned Odisha's petroleum and petrochemicals sector witnessing investments worth about Rs 1.25 lakh crores, the state's railway budget getting a boost of more than 12 times, the construction of 50,000 kms of roads

in Odisha's rural areas under PM Gram Sadak Yojna and 4,000 kms of National Highways. Referring to today's inauguration of three National Highways projects, the Prime Minister informed that interstate connectivity between Odisha and Jharkhand would reduce along with traveling distance. Noting that the region is known for its potential in mining, power and steel industries, PM Modi said that new

connectivity will create possibilities for new industries in the entire region, thereby creating thousands of new employment opportunities. He also touched upon the doubling of Sambalpur-Talcher rail section and the inauguration of new rail line from Jhar-Tarba to Sonpur section. "Subarnapur district will also connect through Puri-Sonpur Express making it easier for devotees to perform darshan of Lord Jagannath", he said. Shri Modi mentioned that the supercritical and ultra-supercritical thermal plants inaugurated today will ensure adequate and affordable electricity for every family in Odisha.

"Odisha has greatly benefited from the policies made by the Central Government in the last 10 years", the Prime Minister said, as he mentioned that Odisha's income has increased 10 times after the change in mining policy. Pointing out that the earlier policy where benefits of mineral production were not available to those areas

and states where mining took place, the Prime Minister asserted that the issue was addressed with the formation of the District Mineral Foundation which ensured investments in the development of the same area from income received through mining. "Odisha has so far received more than Rs 25,000 crores and the money is being used for the welfare of the people in the area where mining is taking place". Concluding the address, the Prime Minister assured the people of Odisha that the Central Government will continue to work for the development of the state with the same dedicated spirit.

Governor of Odisha, Shri Raghubar Das, Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik, Union Minister of Education, and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnav were present on the occasion among others.

## Update on Chennai Egmore Station Redevelopment Works

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: Southern Railway has taken up Chennai Egmore Station redevelopment in order to offer a world-class ambience, futuristic infra and airport-like facilities for passengers.

Tender was awarded for the redevelopment work in October, 2022 and the work is progressing at a steady pace.

Works executed Recently  
 100% piling

and 80% pile cap work completed at Multi-level Car Parking (Gandhi-Irwin Road side)

85% of piling and 33% pile cap completed at Multi-level Car Parking (Poonamallee High



Roadside)

75% of substructure works completed at Poonamallee High Road Parcel Office

Other work in progress

Coordination with Chennai metro Rail Limited for Multi-level Car Parkings on Poonamallee High road & Gandhi-Irwin road sides

Shifting of Existing RMS and Parcel office to new location

Design of Arrival terminal and parcel FOB

Traffic diversions for PH terminal & arrival and parcel FOB and MTC PH high road

Works Executed So far

Bored cast in situ pile for Multi-level

utility for construction of Poonamallee High road & Gandhi-Irwin road terminal buildings

A series of meetings are held with the stakeholders of the project CMRL, GCC, TNEB, Environmental Department, Divisional Forest Office, MTC for utility shifting.

Chennai Egmore Railway Station Redevelopment

The work of Redevelopment of Chennai Egmore Railway station was awarded as EPC contract to M/s DEC

Infrastructure and Projects India Private Limited, Hyderabad at a cost of Rs.734.91 Crores. M/s Tata Consulting Engineers Limited, Mumbai have been tasked with the work of Project Management services (PMS) at a cost of Rs.14.56 Crore.

Two terminals are proposed to be constructed, one at the Gandhi Irwin Road Side and one at the Poonamallee High Road side. The Terminal Buildings on both sides are proposed as a G+3 structure with world class amenities like

waiting lounge, ticketing area, commercial area and Roof plaza etc. Segregation of departing and arrival passengers, Parcel FOB, adequate Lifts and escalators are planned in this building. The proposed Multi-Level Car Parking on both GI side and PH side are proposed as G+5 structure with Commercial area, Car & Bike parking and Budgetary Hotel. The proposed Parcel office on the PH side is proposed as G+2 structure with Parcel office and RMS.

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## SITARAM JINDAL HONORED WITH PADMA BHUSHAN FOR EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATURECURE AND PHILANTHROPY

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: Dr. Sitaram Jindal, a distinguished figure in the realms of philanthropy and healthcare, has been bestowed with the prestigious Padma Bhushan, eliciting widespread excitement throughout India. The accolade is attributed to his significant role in his unparalleled philanthropic endeavors, particularly in the field of Naturecure. Dr. Jindal's groundbreaking contributions to drugless therapy and the establishment of the Jindal Naturecure Institute (JNI) have earned him this esteemed recognition.

Born in 1932 in the remote village of Nalwa in Haryana, Dr. Jindal's journey towards Naturecure began during his university years when he battled abdominal tuberculosis. Faced with a seemingly incurable condition, he sought refuge in a small Naturecure clinic, experiencing relief through fasting, enemas, and other unconventional methods. This transformative experience sparked his unwavering faith in Naturecure and Yoga.

Driven by a vision to establish a comprehensive Naturopathy and Yoga hospital, Dr. Jindal acquired a vast expanse of land on the outskirts of Bangalore in 1977-79. This marked the inception of JNI, equipped with a research wing funded generously by Jindal Aluminium Limited (JAL), demonstrating Dr. Jindal's



commitment to elevating Naturecure to new heights.

In stark contrast to conventional Naturecure treatments prevalent at the time, Dr. Jindal embarked on a mission to modernize and innovate this science. Recognizing the lack of enthusiasm and development in orthodox Naturecure practices, he dedicated himself to uplifting and promoting drugless therapies. The SJ Foundation, founded in 1969, became a financial pillar for his charitable initiatives, relying solely on contributions from JAL, without seeking support from the government or other individuals.

Dr. Jindal's tireless efforts have significantly impacted the field of drugless healing, establishing JNI as a world-class facility specializing in the treatment of various ailments, including asthma, diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, and even some cases of cancer. The institute, boasting 550 beds, has become a beacon of hope for those seeking drug-free alternatives for their health concerns.

In addition to JNI, Dr. Jindal has championed numerous charitable activities, showcasing his commitment to social reform. This includes

the establishment of allopathy hospitals, schools, and colleges, rural development initiatives, adoption of villages for healthcare and education, and support for various NGOs working tirelessly in healthcare and education.

Dr. Jindal's philanthropic endeavors extend beyond Naturecure, encompassing the establishment of eight charitable entities in his native village, Nalwa, benefitting a significant population in the surrounding areas. His dedication to social welfare is further evident in his support for underprivileged students through scholarships and the financial backing of NGOs committed to healthcare and education.

The impact of Dr. Jindal's work goes beyond the walls of JNI. His holistic approach to health, emphasizing Naturopathy and Yoga, has transformed the lives of millions globally. His commitment to preventive care and raising awareness about the side effects of drugs aligns with his belief that Naturopathy can significantly alleviate the burden on allopathic hospitals.

Throughout his journey, Dr. Jindal has introduced numerous

innovations and therapies, addressing a spectrum of health issues. From simplified abdomen packs to herbal teas, spinal bath tubs, and cold and hot reflexology tracks, his contributions have expanded the repertoire of Naturecure treatments.

In acknowledgment of his visionary leadership and immense contributions, Dr. Jindal has received accolades from eminent personalities, including former Prime Ministers Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Chandrashekar, I.K. Gujral, H.D. Deve Gowda, Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal, and former Chief Minister of Karnataka Ramakrishna Hegde.

Dr. Jindal's relentless pursuit of the betterment of society extends beyond healthcare. He has been a vocal advocate for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), urging industrialists to allocate a portion of their profits to eliminate poverty. His ongoing struggle with the government to increase the mandated CSR percentage reflects his unwavering commitment to social welfare.

Dr. Sitaram Jindal's life and work epitomize a harmonious blend of business success and compassionate service to humanity. His dedication to Naturecure and philanthropy has left an indelible mark on the landscape of healthcare and social reform, making him a deserving recipient of the Padma Bhushan.

## KRAFTON announces its first Indian themed mobile game - Garuda Saga; Pre-registrations open now!

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: KRAFTON India, the leading video game developer and publisher, and Alchemist Games, are excited to announce the pre-registrations for an all-new Indian themed mobile game - Garuda Saga. Based on the vibrant Indian tapestry, Garuda Saga is a stunning roguelike adventure game that immerses players in a rich and diverse world to choose and shape their own destiny.

Garuda Saga stands out in the roguelike genre with its immersive plot. Players take on the role of Garuda, a hero on a quest to help King Allu escape the depths of hell. A gripping adventure, the game spans 19 immersive chapters, each with up to 15 multi-wave levels. Armed with only his bow and arrow, Garuda must defeat his enemies and harness his latent skills and powers.

Fans who pre-register will receive a special award, and a unique starter pack will be available exclusively for Indian users upon the



game's launch.

"We are delighted to bring Garuda Saga to our Indian audiences, a unique mobile game that intricately weaves together thrilling gameplay with rich Indian narrative. The game redefines the roguelike genre with its immersive plot, fun gameplay mechanics and special modes and updates. Garuda Saga marks yet another milestone in KRAFTON's commitment to delivering culturally resonant and immersive gaming

experiences for the Indian gaming community. We hope players have fun exploring and shaping their destiny in a unique and richly diverse virtual world." - Anuj Sahani, Head of KRAFTON Incubator Program & Garuda Saga Lead

"We are thrilled to bring Garuda Saga to the Indian gaming community, offering gamers a truly immersive and captivating experience. In crafting Garuda Saga, we aimed to transcend the typical roguelike genre by

infusing it with a rich plot, depth, and visually stunning challenges. Collaborating with KRAFTON has been instrumental in realizing this vision, enabling us to push the boundaries of storytelling and gameplay. We can't wait for players to embark on this epic adventure and discover the magic we've woven into every aspect of Garuda Saga." - Kipum Jun, CEO, Alchemist Games

Garuda Saga promises visually stunning and captivating experiences, catering to both hardcore and casual gamers. Embark on an epic adventure as Garuda seeks to reclaim his mentor's kingdom and unveil the secrets of his past.

Players can now pre-register to download the game from Google Play and the Apple App Store and the title will be available to play soon. For more details, follow the official India website, Instagram, Facebook and YouTube pages of Garuda Saga.

## Indian Association of Gastrointestinal Endo Surgeons (IAGES) collaborates with the makers of surgical robots; conducts international conference and fellowship for surgeons, in Chennai

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: The Indian Association of Gastrointestinal Endo Surgeons (IAGES), One of the world's leading surgeon's organizations, partnered with the technology leaders in robotic-assisted surgery to conduct their 21st national conference in Chennai. The four-day conference was focused on Innovation, Safety and Excellence, and training and upskilling of healthcare professionals on new-age surgical technologies like robotic-assisted surgery. The conference included over 11 subspecialty sessions and 5 fellowship courses that focused on ergonomics of laparoscopic and robotic-assisted surgery in the field of gastroenterology and general surgery.

The conference was led by Dr. S Easwaramoorthy, President of IAGES, Dr. A Zameer Pasha-Organizing Chairman and Dr. Randeep Wadhawan- Chairman, FALS Board.

Speaking at the event, Dr. S Easwaramoorthy, President of IAGES said, "IAGES has become one of the largest academic forums on the global stage of minimal access surgery. It is with extreme pride that we gather here at the 21st National Congress of IAGES. About 1500 delegates and 150 national and 50 international faculty among us made this academic festival a truly



remarkable global academic event. In the past few years, the healthcare sector has witnessed immense technological advancements and it has been a privilege to be a part of this journey. One of the key advancements in general and gastrointestinal surgery is robotic-assisted surgery, by using advanced surgical technologies like the Da Vinci. With the theme of this year's conference being Innovation, Safety and Excellence, we focused more on sensitizing and training surgeons on new-age MAS (minimal access surgery) technologies like robotic-assisted surgery for general surgery practices. We are glad to see the extent of enthusiastic participation by surgeons from different locations and encourage surgeons across the world to share their experience, and to learn from others' experiences."

EFIAGES, FIAGES, FAGIE Colonoscopy, FALS Hernia and FALS Robotic Hernia Surgery were some of the courses conducted as a part of this conference, with hands-

on demonstration, training and live lectures. The conference further included multiple sessions and orations from experts in the industry and panel discussions on robotic-assisted surgery.

While commenting on the fellowship in robotic-assisted surgery, Dr. Randeep Wadhawan-Chairman, FALS Board, said, "These kind of courses are essential to encourage the discussion and exploration of new-age technologies used in surgery. While we focus on the adoption of novel technologies like robotic-assisted surgery, we also need to understand how to increase their accessibility across the country. IAGES conducted the first ever fellowship course in robotic surgery in December 2021 in Delhi, where more than 100 surgeons were trained by leaders in the field. As the chairman of FALS board, I've witnessed surgeons transform the way they practice with the help of advanced robotic systems like the Da Vinci. We have also seen a rise in the adoption of robotic-assisted surgery

in the recent past. However, to address the disease burden on our healthcare system, we need to further enhance the adoption of advanced surgical technologies, and initiatives like this can help create the environment required for that. The conference curated a comprehensive program on leading robotic-assisted surgery technologies. It was heartening to see the enthusiastic participation from budding surgeons across India. Conferences with courses like these will eventually help in extending the benefits of robotic surgery to more people, which includes better clinical outcomes, less blood loss, reduced pain, minimum hospital stay etc."

The organization has around 10,000 members and has already trained over 7,000 surgeons in Laparoscopic surgery through FIAGES, their flagship laparoscopic course. Apart from this, they have delivered continued training through courses like EFIAGES (endoscopy and colonoscopy training), FALS (courses on subspecialties), and FAGIE (advanced endoscopy course). During the conference, IAGES had a convocation for fellowship candidates as well as a valedictory function with surgeons from different parts of India participating.

## Thermax strengthens its water purification capabilities with acquisition of TSA Process Equipments

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: Thermax Group, a leading energy and environment solutions provider, has signed an agreement to acquire a 51% stake in TSA Process Equipments, a strategic addition to Thermax's portfolio that will enable the company to offer a one-stop solution for high-purity water requirements of its customers in sectors such as pharma, biopharma, personal care, and food & beverages.

Thermax has signed definitive agreements

for acquisition to be completed in due course and will fully acquire the balance stake of the company over the next two years.

Speaking on the partnership, Ashish Bhandari, MD & CEO, Thermax, said, "Thermax is committed to strengthening its portfolio to deliver a broader set of differentiated solutions for its customers. Our investment in TSA will augment our water division's capabilities to provide customers with end-to-end solutions for highly

purified water, ultra-pure water, and water for injectables in several fast-growing industries. TSA's expertise in the segment will complement Thermax's own know-how and help us meet an even wider range of requirements."

Apurva Shah, Managing Director of TSA Process Equipments, said, "Thermax's goals are aligned with our own. Both companies have earned the trust of customers and built

their expertise and reach over many years. Combining our capabilities will enable us to create meaningful, widespread impact and accelerate the ongoing march towards sustainability."

Founded in 2004, TSA Process Equipments Pvt. Ltd. is headquartered in Mumbai. It has over 500 installations across the globe, including manufacturing facilities in western India that cater to major companies in pharma and personal care.

## Bajaj Allianz Life focuses on enhancing insurance uptake in Tamil Nadu

Chennai Feb 06 2024: Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance, one of the leading private life insurers in India, continues to enhance its distribution footprint across India and particularly in Tamil Nadu, to empower customers with value-packed life insurance plans. The Company employs a robust multi-channel distribution approach, with a particular focus on collaborative partnerships with financial institutions across the nation. This channel of business is referred to as Institutional Business within the company.

Today, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has strategic partnerships with over 82 financial institutions in the country, which includes 33 leading banks. Notably, the Company has partnered with four prominent banks headquartered in Tamil Nadu like Tamilnad Mercantile Bank, Citi Union Bank, Karur Vysya Bank, and Equitas Small Finance Bank.

Commenting on the Company's Institutional Business, Mr. Dheeraj Sehgal, Chief Distribution Officer, Institutional Business, Bajaj Allianz Life, said, "We are dedicated to fulfilling the long-term life goals of customers across segments and continue to invest in enhancing our product suite and services bouquet thereof. We are thankful to our strategic partners, especially those in Tamil Nadu. They have enabled us to reach customers across the state and we look forward to growing these partnerships in every possible way. We believe that our robust technology architecture is among the finest in the industry, designed to ensure that both existing and new partners can seamlessly integrate with us and serve customers in an easy and secure manner."

Business Overview of Bajaj Allianz Life Institutional Business

Through strategic partnerships across the country, Bajaj Allianz

Life has experienced strong growth, particularly over the last five years. From 2019 to 2023, the Company's Institutional Business has achieved a robust Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 65% in terms of Individual Rated New Business (IRNB). Specifically, Bajaj Allianz Life's Institutional Business witnessed an 18% growth in IRNB for the year-to-date for YTD December 2023.

In Tamil Nadu, Bajaj Allianz Life's Institutional Business recorded a remarkable 52% growth in terms of IRNB for YTD December 2023. The number of policies (NOPs) sold also experienced a notable surge, with a 53% increase for YTD December 2023, indicating the growing affinity of customers toward the brand.

Advantage of forging a strategic partnership with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance

Bajaj Allianz Life has undergone a

transformational journey since 2017, achieving impressive growth across all parameters during these years. The company's growth has been fuelled by its emphasis on enhancing the distribution channel, adopting a digital and tech-first approach, and introducing innovative, first-of-its-kinds products to help customers fulfil their long-term life goals. This has enabled the Company to establish a strong differentiation amongst their strategic partnerships as well.

Today, the company provides its partners with a Bespoke Banca experience, offering a state-of-the-art digital and tech architecture that enables any partner to simply plug-and-play. Empowered teams continuously engage with partners, providing customized products and solutions that best fit the needs of the partners' customers. This holistic approach has ensured that Bajaj Allianz Life maintains sustained and fruitful partnerships over the long term.

## Rapido offers free eye check-ups for its 3 lakhs+ registered Captains in Chennai

Chennai Feb 06 2024: Rapido, a leading aggregator platform which provides bike taxi, auto and cab services has announced the launch of "Drive Safe India" campaign partnering with Shell Fleet Solutions to promote road safety by ensuring good eye care of its captains. As part of the campaign, Rapido is offering free eye-check ups and free spectacles to its 3 lakhs + registered bike taxi, auto and cab captains operating at its city office in Guindy, Chennai.

So far, Rapido is expecting around 45,000+ captains to

register for this one month-long campaign that was launched on 19th January 2024. By partaking in these eye examinations, Rapido captains can proactively identify potential vision impairments, paving the way for timely intervention. Good eye health is essential for driving, especially for reading road signs accurately. By providing free eye check-ups, Rapido ensures that its captains can address any underlying vision issues that may hinder them from safe driving practices.

Speaking about the

initiative, Pavan Guntupalli, co-founder of Rapido said "At Rapido, we prioritise the safety and well-being of our captains and riders. Captains with poor vision may fail to comply with the traffic regulations. To avoid any such scenarios and keeping in mind the safety of our Rapido captains, passengers, and other commuters on the road, we are organising this campaign to provide free eye-check ups and free spectacles. This initiative will help to reduce the risk of accidents that stems from visual impairments and provide a safe riding

experience for both the passengers and captains throughout the journey."

Recognising the pivotal role captains play in the success of Rapido, the company has undertaken this comprehensive healthcare campaign in Chennai to ensure the overall wellness. The campaign aligns with Rapido's commitment to fostering a culture of care and responsibility towards its captains. By offering free eye check-ups, the company aims to proactively address any vision-related issues that captains may face.

## RISING CREDIT PENETRATION POINTS TO LENDERS' CONFIDENCE IN MSMEs

Chennai Feb 06 2024: India's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) ecosystem plays a vital role in shaping and growing the country's economy. Post the COVID-19 pandemic, that is, from FY21 to FY22, the contribution of MSMEs to India's Gross Value Added (GVA) has grown significantly. A joint report by U GRO Capital and Dun & Bradstreet, titled 'MSME Sampark Bi-annual report on the latest in MSME lending ecosystem', takes a close look at where the Indian MSME segment is positioned now after having stepped out of the COVID-19 pandemic, the credit scenario in the segment, the formalisation of credit in the segment and the increasing ticket size of loans, among others. The report also signals



optimism for domestic demand and profitability and is highly optimistic of the increasing capex and hiring by MSMEs which bodes well for the overall growth momentum.

Shachindra Nath, Founder and Managing Director, U GRO Capital, said: "This report highlights the critical role that MSMEs play in shaping the destiny of the Indian economy. It takes a

deep dive into the nuances of the MSME sector, shedding light on its resilience, innovation, and the pivotal role it plays in fostering economic growth and employment."

Avinash Gupta, MD & CEO - India, Dun & Bradstreet, said "India aims to be a US\$30 trillion economy by 2047, roughly 8x increase in two decades. MSMEs contribute nearly a third of India's GDP. It is

imperative that MSMEs scale up significantly and quickly, necessitating estimated US\$11.5 trillion financing requirement in fixed assets. The MSME Sampark report jointly produced by Dun and Bradstreet and UGRO Capital aims to track MSMEs performance, credit behaviour and financial environment on a bi-annual basis. We have observed that businesses optimism of MSMEs has soared to the highest level since 2022, indicating improvement in performance even in the face of difficult external environment. Moderate delinquency rates and low sector risks have also improved MSMEs borrowing prospects. The Government's continued thrust on formalization is furthering the formal credit penetration in the sector".

## Technology can simply judicial services - Nandan Nilekani

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: The Founding Chair of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) Nandan Nilekani while delivering the 43rd Palkhivala Memorial Lecture in Chennai said simplification of technology with a purpose can help the public at large to access legal services with a click of the button. Citing the tremendous achievement of 350 million people who can make or using the QR code to make payments

in a flash. Likewise, he added that the Legal fraternity would benefit greatly by absorbing the technology available and making use of it regularly. The way to do this is not to automate individual tasks. You can start by taking a couple of high volume repetitive case types and automate them fully. Two case types being looked are cheque bounce and motor vehicle disputes. They constitute around 20% of all cases pending. Another interesting

development is ODR - Online dispute resolution which is gaining good traction with the public.

Nilekani ended by saying the future of India is bright with many young minds adding value to the strategic thinking process with a long term focus. He quoted what Palkhivala said 50 years ago and everything which he saw then is becoming a reality today. That was the genius of the man, The experience of justice for all is possible provided it is done in a



sustainable way. Arvind P Datar, Managing Trustee welcomed the gathering & R Anand, Trustee proposed a vote of thanks.

## HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund Marks 30 Years of Growth, Multiplying Investments with a CAGR of 18%

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: The fund was launched in February 1, 1994, making it one of the longest running mutual funds in India. With an AUM of Rs ~ 73,000 crore (as at December 31, 2023), the fund is amongst the largest actively managed mutual funds in the country.

February 2024: HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund, an open-ended Balanced Advantage Fund, marks the milestone of its 30-year journey of excellence on 1st February, 2024. With the primary aim of achieving long-term capital appreciation and income through a dynamic allocation between equity and debt investments, the fund has delivered a CAGR of

18% since its inception. Over the course of three decades, an initial investment of Rs 1,00,000 at inception would have grown to Rs. 1.58 crore (158 times). This achievement underscores the fund's capability to aptly navigate across multiple market cycles, crises, bubbles, etc. while aiming to generate wealth for its investors.

Top of Form HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund employs a dynamic investment strategy, actively managing allocations between equity and debt instruments. The approach to equity investments is guided by a broad framework that primarily considers market valuations,

including the trailing twelve-month Price to Earnings Ratio of NIFTY 50 and the Earnings Yield/G-Sec Yield Ratio. The fixed income strategy includes diversification across credits, asset types, and tenures, with duration adjusted based on interest rate views. The credit risk is mitigated by prioritizing Safety, Liquidity, and Returns (SLR).

Navneet Munot, MD & CEO, HDFC AMC, said "HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund's incredible journey of three decades reflects our time-tested investment philosophy and robust processes. On this momentous occasion, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to delivering enduring

value and ensuring long-term prosperity for our investors. If Asset Allocation is the Key, HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund makes it Easy."

Gopal Agrawal, Senior Fund Manager, HDFC AMC, said, "HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund has successfully navigated through multiple market cycles with its disciplined approach to investing and focus on long term. A strong investment framework enables us to effectively manage its dynamic asset allocation on behalf of our investors. The fund is well-diversified and aims to continue capitalising on India's growth opportunity."

## Flipkart introduces 3-hour fresh flower delivery service for 450+ pin codes across India

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has announced the launch of a 3-hour fresh flower delivery service which allows customers to access high-quality flower arrangements at great deals, delivered via the trusted Flipkart network across 450+ pin codes. With special occasions like 'Rose Day' and Valentine's Day around the corner, Flipkart will ensure 3 hour fresh flowers delivery for orders placed between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM daily. In the run up to February this year, there has been a surge in demand for fresh flowers on Flipkart. Powered by Flipkart's robust logistics network and cutting-edge technology, this service guarantees swift and reliable doorstep delivery of flowers across a growing number of cities including Bangalore, Chandigarh, Faridabad, Gurugram, Hyderabad,



Jaipur, Lucknow, Mumbai, New Delhi, Noida and Patna.

For centuries, flowers have played a positive cultural role in life - so it's no surprise that most of us believe in "saying it with flowers". Whether gifting someone special or placing an order for yourself, flowers never go out of style.

~ Flipkart will ensure 3 hour delivery for orders placed between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM daily and customers can choose from a range of high-quality exotic varieties (roses, orchids, carnations) and arrangements (bouquets, boxes) starting at INR249/-

~ Remaining customer-first and

understanding the need for preferred timings, Flipkart has curated four delivery slots for fresh flower deliveries: 9AM to 12 PM, 12PM to 3PM, 3PM to 6PM and 6PM to 9PM

~ Soon after an order is placed, customers have the option to choose their preferred timing via a simple call that they will receive

Unique customer trends observed on Flipkart, leading up to 'Rose Day' and Valentine's Day:

~ The most popular search terms include Fresh flowers, Rose flowers, Bouquets and Red Roses

~ The top 5 cities leading the search for fresh flowers are

Bengaluru, Patna, New Delhi, Hyderabad and Kolkata

Flipkart has been the chosen gifting platform for millions of customers across India over the years and now, they have the option to choose from a wide array of fresh flowers to celebrate 'Rose Day' and make their Valentine's Day extra special. Flipkart is also launching its "Your Wingman, This Valentine's" campaign for GenZ across media platforms. The campaign highlights Flipkart's role as the perfect fuss-free gifting solution with over 10 lakh plus gift options, accessibility to premium gifting through easy EMIs and express delivery. As Flipkart continues to innovate and expand its Valentine's Day offerings, customers can look forward to more delightful experiences and greater convenience in their online shopping journey, in the days to come.

## HMA Agro Industries Ltd Enters into Agreement with Maharashtra Food Processing & Cold Storage



**HMA**  
AGRO INDUSTRIES LTD.  
GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED STAR EXPORT HOUSE

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: HMA Agro Industries Ltd. a leader in handled foods and agro products, has announced that it has entered into an agreement with Maharashtra Food Processing & Cold Storage, a Partnership Firm, for providing facilities of Slaughtering, Chilling, Processing, Freezing and Packing of frozen halal boneless buffalo meat duly packed in food-grade polythene bags.

Earlier, the company executed a stock split in the ratio of 1:10, i.e. sub-division /split of each equity share having face value of Rs. 10/- each, fully paid-up into ten equity shares having face value of Rs. 1/- each fully paid-up. The record date for the said split was December 29, 2023.

For Q2FY24, the company reported revenue of Rs. 11,847 Mn, EBITDA of Rs. 530.95 Mn, and PAT of

Rs. 381.68 Mn. For H1FY24, the company reported revenue of Rs. 21,455 Mn, EBITDA of Rs. 1178.59 Mn, PBT of Rs. 1101.66 Mn, and PAT of Rs. 808.88 Mn.

HMA Agro Industries Ltd. operates as a food trade organization. The Company offers handled food and agro products including frozen fresh buffalo meat, prepared and frozen natural products, fruits, vegetables, and cereals. HMA Agro Industries serves

customers worldwide. The company has a production capacity of 1472 MT per day. The company's State-of-manufacturing facility is spread across 6 City in Agra, Unnao, Punjab, Aligarh, Mewat & Prabhani. It has a fully integrated infrastructure for manufacturing & retailing with complete automation. The company is strategically reducing sales to low margin countries and gradually shifting towards higher margin markets.

## OK Play India Ltd. Board Approves 1:10 Stock Split

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: OK Play India Ltd., a leading player engaged in the production of plastic molded furniture, outdoor play equipment, point-of-purchase products, automotive components, and electric vehicles, has announced that its board has approved the sub-divide/split of the Equity Shares of the Company in the ratio of 1:10, i.e. division of every 1 equity share of the nominal/face value of Rs. 10 each into 10 equity shares of the nominal/face value of Rs. 1 each, subject to approval of the shareholders and such authorities as may be required.

Earlier, the company had announced that, through its recently acquired wholly owned subsidiary, MRH Technologies Private Limited, entered into an agreement with MANN+HUMMEL Filter Private Limited (MHIN), a subsidiary of the MANN+HUMMEL Group, Germany to



act as its sole and exclusive distributor to promote, distribute, supply, install and service its revolutionary new product- "PureAir Mobile Fine. Dust Particle Filter Roof Box- designed to combat the life threatening, hazardous menace of air pollution. MANN+HUMMEL is a 4.8 Billion Euro German MNC having operations in over 80 countries and present in India since the last 18 years. Leveraging their advanced filtration techniques and the state-of-the-art technology, MANN+HUMMEL has developed a

dependable and potent product in combating fine dust pollution by efficiently capturing hazardous fine dust particles, including PM2.5 and PM10, from ambient air. The same has been successfully productionised and tested. The product has been designed to be mounted on vehicles as well as on stationary locations.

Commenting on the agreement, Mr. Rajan Handa, Managing Director, said: "We are extremely delighted to announce our arrangement with MANN+HUMMEL, a prominent global leader and recognized authority in the field of air filtration solutions."

This agreement holds significant importance, not only for the Company but also for the Nation as it has the potential to be a transformative remedy for addressing air pollution in India. Air pollution poses significant detrimental consequences on public health and the environment. The well documented adverse effects of particulate matter include detrimental impacts on respiratory systems, cardiovascular health, and overall quality of life. Moreover, the elevated levels of Air Quality Index (AQI) pose a serious threat to the youth and future generations, necessitating an urgent and strategic response. Additionally, according to a report published by Dalberg Advisors, Blue Sky Analytics and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Indian businesses incur losses of over Rs. 7 lakh crores annually as government imposes restrictions on construction and manufacturing activities to curb the effects of air pollution."

## A.M. Jain College Hosts Impactful Panel on Women Empowerment in Technology



Chennai, Feb 06 2024: A.M. Jain College, a leading institution in Chennai dedicated to academic excellence, took a significant step towards fostering diversity and inclusion in the tech industry by organizing a dynamic panel discussion focused on women in technology. The event brought together accomplished professionals who shared their insights on the challenges, achievements and future prospects for women in the tech sector. The panel discussion covered various key topics, including: The achievements and struggles in the tech journey, Balancing Professional and Personal Life, Risk and Challenges in Leadership, Future Scope in Tech and Entrepreneurship.

The Esteemed Panel Included:

Ms. Nivetha Muralidharan, Founder, Newgenmax Digital Solutions.

Ms. Susan Dare, Group Project Manager, Infosys.

Ms. Rexlin Freeta, Service Delivery Manager, TCS.

Ms. Sulakshna, Quality Assurance Lead, Accenture Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Sharing her personal journey, Ms. Nivetha Muralidharan, highlighted how she started a small-scale business and with the support and motivation from her family, progressively achieved a prominent position in the industry. Ms. Susan Dare emphasized the importance of continuous learning and skill enhancement to excel in the dynamic

IT field. The panel members addressed the challenge of balancing professional and personal life, offering insights into prioritization and planning. Discussions also touched upon the risks and challenges in leadership roles, with Ms. Sulakshna and Ms. Rexlin Freeta motivating students to embrace continuous learning and stay updated on emerging technologies such as data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence.

Commenting on this Women in Tech panel, Dr. M.M. Ramya, Dean, A.M. Jain College, said, "Empowering women, especially in technology aligns with our vision. A.M. Jain College has always supported such initiatives that promote diversity and empower women in various

fields. We believe in nurturing an environment where every student can aspire to break barriers and achieve excellence in their chosen field.

During the interactive session, students raised queries on safety policies in the IT field, gender equality, skill improvement, and the scope of women in business. Ms. Susan Dare explained the safety policies especially tailored for women in IT, while Ms. Nivetha Muralidharan, underlined the importance of AI tools for the future. The discussion wrapped up with panel members encouraging female students to confidently pursue a career in IT, fostering confidence and providing a clear pathway for their entry into the industry.

## BOI Financial Results for the Quarter/ 9-Months ended 31st Dec. 2023

Chennai, Feb 06 2024: Global Business increased by 9.60% YoY. Global Deposits increased by 8.28% YoY. Gross Advances increased by 11.29% YoY. RAM Advances grew by 13.61% YoY and it constitutes 55.24% of Advances. Retail Credit grew by 15.40% YoY. Agriculture Credit grew by 14.23% YoY. MSME Credit grew by 10.61% YoY. CASA deposits increased by 5.92% YoY and CASA ratio at 43.88%. Net Profit increased by 62% YoY to Rs.1,870 Cr. Yield on Advances (Global) improved by 70 bps YoY. Yield on Advances (Dom.) improved by 53 bps YoY. Gross NPA ratio down by 231 bps YoY. Net NPA ratio down by 20 bps YoY. Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR) at 89.95%. Ms. Nivetha Muralidharan, with CET-1 ratio at 13.16%. Net Profit for the quarter improved by 62% YoY and stood at Rs.1,870 Cr for Q3FY24 against Rs.1,151 Cr in Q3FY23. On a sequential basis, Net Profit improved by 28% from Rs.1,458 Cr in Q2FY24. Operating Profit stood at Rs.3,004 Cr for Q3FY24 against Rs.3,652 Cr in Q3FY23

and Rs.3,756 Cr for 9-month ended Q2FY24. Net Interest Income (NII) stood at Rs.5,463 Cr for Q3FY24 against Rs.5,595 Cr for Q3FY23 and Rs.5,740 Cr in Q2FY24. Non-Interest Income stood at to Rs.1,193 Cr for Q3FY24 against Rs.1,432 Cr in Q3FY23 and Rs.1,688 Cr in Q2FY24. 9Months ended FY24: Net Profit increased by 83% YoY and stood at Rs.4,879 Cr for 9month ended FY24 against Rs.2,672 Cr in the corresponding period of last year. Operating Profit improved by 14% YoY and stood at Rs.10,511 Cr for 9-month ended FY24 against Rs.9,209 Cr in the corresponding period of last year. Net Interest Income (NII) increased by 16% YoY and stood at Rs.17,117 Cr for 9-month ended FY24 against Rs.14,751 Cr in the corresponding period of last year. Non-Interest Income increased by 9% YoY and stood at Rs.4,344 Cr

for 9-month ended Q3FY23 and 4.49% in Q2FY24. Ratios (9Months ended-FY24): NIM (Global) improved by 2 bps YoY to 2.98% in 9M-FY24 against 2.96% in 9M-FY23. NIM (Domestic) stood at 3.35% in 9M-FY24 against 3.37% in 9M-FY23. Return on Assets (RoA) improved by 28 bps YoY to 0.72% in 9M-FY24 against 0.44% in 9M-FY23. Return on Equity (RoE) improved by 434 bps YoY to 13.75% in 9M-FY24, against 9.41% in 9M-FY23. Cost to Income ratio (Global) stood at 51.02% in 9M-FY24 against 50.89% in 9M-FY23. Credit Cost improved by 37 bps to 0.54% in 9M-FY24 against 0.91% in 9M-FY23. Yield on Advances (Global) improved by 117 bps to 8.34% in 9M-FY24 against 7.17% in 9M-FY23. Cost of Deposits (Global) stood at 4.44% in 9M-FY24 against 3.58% in 9M-FY23.

