

PM inaugurates and lays foundation stone for multiple connectivity projects worth Rs 15,400 crores in Kolkata, West Bengal
Takes Metro ride on the Esplanade - Howrah Maidan metro route, India's first underwater Metro in Kolkata

Chennai, March 06 2024: The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple connectivity projects worth Rs 15,400 crores in Kolkata today. The development projects catering to the urban mobility sector include Metro Rail and Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS).

The Prime Minister took an overview of all metro projects and took a metro ride on the Esplanade - Howrah Maidan metro route, India's first Underwater Metro in Kolkata. He also interacted with shramiks and school children on his metro journey.

In a series of posts on X, the Prime Minister said: "The metro journey was made memorable



thanks to the company Esplanade Metro of these youngsters section has the first and those who worked underwater metro on this project. We also travelled through the tunnel under the Hooghly river."

"Memorable moments from the day for the people of Kolkata Metro. I bow to the Jan Shakti and metro network gets significantly enhanced. Governor of West Bengal, Shri C V Ananda Bose was get decongested. It's a proud moment that the Howrah Maidan-

Union Education Minister Inaugurates I-Hub Incubator at IIM Sambalpur - The event also witnessed signing of a pact for the establishment of the Center of Management Education in Angul, Odisha, between IIM Mumbai and IIM Sambalpur

Chennai, March 06 2024: Sambalpur; 2nd March, 2024: The one-day 100 Cube Start-up Conclave began at IIM Sambalpur with the inauguration of the I-Hub Foundation, the physical and virtual incubator by the Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. Established under Section 8 as a registered company, I-Hub Foundation will play a pivotal role in nurturing and

supporting innovative ventures across diverse sectors including textiles, arts & culture, agriculture, healthcare, financial & digital inclusivity, tribal entrepreneurship, and sustainability, among others.

Spearheaded by the Ministry of Education, GoI, the 100 Cube conclave endeavors to establish 100 startups on its premises, each with an approximate valuation of INR 100 Crores by Odisha's centennial celebration in 2036. The conclave

witnessed the august gathering which consisted of Prof Mahadeo Jaiswal, Director, IIM Sambalpur; Prof Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Director IIM Mumbai; PM Prasad, MD, Coal India Ltd; Amrendu Prakash, CMD, Steel Authority Of India Ltd; Sanjiv Bajaj, MD, Bajaj Finserv; Rashmi Ranjan Mohapatra, MD Parry Enterprises; Nagaraja Prakasam, Author & Angel Investor; Jayanti Mahapatra, CEO & Founder Manikstu

aligned with our core values of Innovation, Integrity, and Inclusivity. We are proud to announce that we are the first institute in the country with the highest gender diverse

Bajaj Finserv, also shared their vision for the future of entrepreneurship in India. On the occasion, Sulochana, a master weaver, shared her inspiring journey and to interact with VCs and angel investors.

The conclave concluded with Startup Open Mic session which provided a platform for startups



What We Do

- Project Management
- Residential Construction
- Commercial Construction
- Industrial & Factory Construction
- Structural Design
- Architectural Design
- FEED and BIDDING

Build Your Future With Us

RTN. DR. R. SATHYANARAYANAN
 Director Business Development
 +91 8140136697
 +91 8148231942

Oasis Grace
 Engineering projects Pvt. Ltd
 No. 15, South Meela Street,
 Srinagar Colony,
 Saidapet, Chennai 600015

25+ Years of Excellence

Who We Are

At the year 2020, Oasis Grace achieved the milestone of completing 25 years of its existence. It is a great privilege to be recognized as a leading construction and engineering organization.

Our Clients

RELIANCE | OASIS | JMR

Our Projects

Projects in India: 05 Hall - Anna Nagar, Power Plant (Jain Nagar - Bellary), Jagan - Chennai

Projects in Coimbatore: 05 Hall - Anna Nagar, Power Plant (Jain Nagar - Bellary), Jagan - Chennai

Projects in Bangalore: Auriga - Bangalore

Projects in Chennai: Villuvel - Villuvel, Srinagar - Srinagar, Thevara - Thevara, Adambakkam - Adambakkam

(GOAT Bank); Nimit Parikh, Founder Apna; and Avinash Punekar, CEO iCREATE, faculty members and students. The event also witnessed the signing of an MoU for the establishment of the Center of Management Education in Angul, Odisha, by IIM Mumbai and IIM Sambalpur.

While addressing the audience, Shri Pradhan emphasized the significance of the 100 Cube start-up conclave and said, "Start-ups at the conclave are the wealth creators, jobs creators, and creators of economic opportunities for the bottom of society." The Union Education Minister envisioned healthcare, textile, agriculture, mines, and minerals as the priority sectors for startups and said, "Education institutions like IIM Sambalpur are natural places for mentorship, given the talent pool of faculty." He also stressed that there is no shortage of resources in the country today; however, the challenge lies in linking resources with new ideas. Incubation centers like I-Hub will facilitate this. Finally, he emphasized the need to monetize startup ideas, products, and projects.

Sanjiv Bajaj, MD, Bajaj Finserv, said, "It's a pleasure to be part of the 100-Cube Conclave, especially considering the ambition. This is an apt opportune time, given

India's status as the fastest-growing economy and its trajectory to become the third-largest economy globally. India is already the third-largest startup nation, with over one lakh eleven thousand startups registered with DPIIT, and there are 111 unicorns." He further said, "The key is having an idea, identifying the market, building a strong team, and executing well. The opportunity provided by India and Odisha is unparalleled. I believe in aiming for 100 startups by Odisha's hundredth year 2036, let's set an additional goal of having at least ten unicorns."

Prof. Mahadeo Jaiswal, Director, IIM Sambalpur, expressed immense pride in hosting the 100 Cube Start-up Conclave with a goal of creating 100 startups, each with a turnover of 100 crores, in the next ten years by Odisha's centennial celebration in 2036 and said, "Our unique proposition focuses on promoting local art, culture, and intellectual industry in regions rich in mineral and mining resources. We aim to add value to these sectors. Moreover, we are working towards establishing Odisha as a hub for startups and entrepreneurs."

Prof Jaiswal also said, "At IIM Sambalpur, our vision is to nurture individuals with an entrepreneurial mindset, which is

MBA classrooms, with over 60% female students in our first-year MBA program."

Earlier the conclave began with an informative Master Session on Branding & Scalability for Startups. Followed by an insightful Fireside Chat where Sanjiv Bajaj, MD, Bajaj Finserv, shared his experiences and insights into the world of entrepreneurship and business.

PM Prasad, MD, CIL; Amrendu Prakash, CMD, SAIL; and Sanjiv Bajaj, MD, insights into traditional crafts and entrepreneurship. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof Diwahar Nadar, Faculty, IIM Sambalpur.

A video showcasing the 100 Cubes initiative and the I-Hub Foundation was also screened for the participants. The event also featured an exhibition showcasing 50 startups from Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Bargarh, and other districts of Odisha, allowing them

and students to voice their expectations from the ecosystem. The session emphasized on the needs of the startups to the institute and other stakeholders to take necessary action. The session was spearheaded by Sanjiv Bajaj, MD, Bajaj Finserv; Rashmi Ranjan Mohapatra, MD Parry Enterprises; Nagaraja Prakasam, Author & Angel Investor; Jayanti Mahapatra, CEO & Founder Manikstu (Goat Bank); Nimit Parikh, Founder Apna; and Avinash Punekar, CEO iCREATE.

PASSPORT | MSME | PAN | AADHAAR
FSSAI | PATTA | LEGALHEIR
2,4 WHEELER INSURANCE
PROPERTY TAX, EB - NAME TRANSFER
STATE AND CENTRAL GOVT
AUTHORISED FRANCHISEE
ALL ONLINE SERVICES

இ-சேவை மையம்
 ஸ்டார் பெரூமல் கோல் ஸ்ட்ரீட்
 11, SOUTH PERUMAL KOIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI - 600 026.
8148231942 / 8144337349
வாடா இ-சேவை மையம்

ASHWIN MANIKANDAN , Upcoming as NATIONAL ATHELETE

Chennai March 06 2024: Ashwin Manikandan, a young Sports man residing in Ayanpuram , Chennai, has been participating in athletics competitions and creating many achievements in District and State Level. He is currently studying second year BBA at Mar Gregorios College of Arts and Science, located in Mogappair West, Chennai. He has been participated in various sports competitions and won many Prizes, Medals and Certificates. Recently he took part in the State level athletics competition organized by Kitos at Nehru Stadium and achieved FIRST PLACE in 400m and 200m. He has also participated in long jump and triple jump and won second place and felicitated with certificate, medal , Cup and shield. By representing Sports Department of the Mar Gregorios College of Arts



and Sciences, he has participated in various athletics competitions of the Kitos Athletic Festival held at the district level and he was appreciated by special guests. His achievements

are due to the constant encouragement and supports of Athletics Coach Mr. Maxwell, Director of Physical Education, Sports Department of Mar Gregorios College of Arts

and Sciences, Mr. Nallarasu, and College Staffs Mr. Lennard Solomon, Ms. Gabriella Gladis and Ms. Preethi Anilkumar, says Ashwin Manikandan.

and Sciences, Mr. Nallarasu, and College Staffs Mr. Lennard Solomon, Ms. Gabriella Gladis and Ms. Preethi Anilkumar, says Ashwin Manikandan.

Director Bharathirajaa releases TAMIL CINEMA TRADE GUIDE, from Tamil Film Active Producers Association (TFAPA)

Chennai March 06 2024: TAMIL FILM ACTIVE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION (TFAPA), Tamil Cinema's most active Producer Association bringing out several new initiatives for the benefit of Tamil Cinema, with a membership strength of over 250 Active Producers, is delighted to bring out the First Ever Tamil Cinema Trade Guide from a film industry Association, which will focus on the business of Tamil Cinema to help all Producer members to reach out to potential buyers of rights of satellite, digital, Hindi dubbing, other language, overseas and India theatrical rights by spreading the information about their films across all buyers, in addition to helping the Producer members to reduce the cost of film production by sharing all information about production costs, outdoor unit costs, subsidy available for shooting in various cities/overseas, best practices followed in other language industries, changes and



advancements in technology for their awareness, release schedule of forthcoming films, relevant industry information to increase the knowledge of Producers, sharing case studies of successful films, introducing legendary Producers, best promotion and publicity information.

Overall, TAMIL CINEMA TRADE GUIDE will be a ready reckoner/guide to Producers to refer and do their best and will enable them to reach out to right buyers to sell their films and at the same time help the buyers of various rights of films to know about the happenings in Tamil cinema and consider the films coming up for release. It will be a monthly issue and will be

brought out both in physical format and digital format. Physical format will be released first and then digital format. This Trade Guide will also be useful for buyers of rights to release their 'Public Notice' advertisements to communicate the rights they have bought of films for the information of everyone in the film trade.

Tamil Cinema Trade Guide copies will be sent out to Theatrical Distributors across the State, Buyers of Hindi dubbing rights, Buyers of other language (Telugu) rights, South Satellite channels, Digital/OTT platforms in the country, Overseas buyers, Audio/music companies, suppliers of services in film business [Studios, outdoor units, DI, VFX,

DIT (digital asset management companies), Qube/Digital service, other post-production services etc.

This will be the first ever Trade Guide from regional cinema coming out from an Industry Association, which will specifically focus on business of cinema to help the Producers to reach out to potential buyers. This Tamil Cinema Trade Guide is owned by TFAPA and does not belong to any individual. The Trade Guide is given to free of cost to members and buyers of various rights.

We welcome any suggestion/feedback to improve the content of Trade Guide from Producers/Media. Please write to us at tfapa2020@gmail.com to make use of your valuable suggestions.

Tamil Cinema Trade Guide was released by President of TFAPA, 'Iyakkunar Imayam' Thiru Bharathirajaa today in the presence of several prominent Producers and management team of TFAPA.

Beyond Artistic Boundaries: 132nd All India Annual Art Exhibition Redefines Creative Horizons

Chennai March 06 2024: The Bombay Art Society, one of the oldest non-profit art institutions in the Asian subcontinent invites art enthusiasts to immerse themselves in a world of creativity and innovation at the 132nd All India Annual Art Exhibition held at The Bombay Art Society, Bandra Reclamation from 7th March to 30th March 2024. From vibrant paintings to thought-provoking sculptures, this exhibition will feature 51 select awards winner's artworks by emerging artists from across the

country from places. The art show received over 1300 entries from various cities in Maharashtra, West Bengal, Haryana, Delhi, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat.

Rajendra Patil, President of The Bombay Art Society shared, "The 132nd All-India Annual Art Exhibition has been an important showcase in the calendar of visual arts events in the country. The Bombay Art Society since its inception in 1888, has been providing a platform for young and budding artists from across the country to exhibit their

talent and also provide scholarships to deserving artists to ensure that they keep working on the craft. We received over 1300 entries from places like Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and more. We are seeing a change in trend where artists from smaller cities and towns are coming to the forefront of the Indian Art universe."

The art connoisseurs can experience magnificent sculpture "Untitled" in basalt stone by sculptor Vibhav More,

which is the centerpiece of the art exhibition and was awarded the Governor's award. The artshow will exhibit student artist's works in water colour on canvas by Smit Solanki, Krishnapada Maity, and more will be on display. The show will also have paintings and portraits in mediums like Oil on Canvas, mix media, acrylic on canvas, collage and more. Sculptures in metal, stone, fiber and other media by student artists like Omkar Kumbhar, Arjun Parmar, Nilesh Deshmukh and more will be exhibited.

Dr Agarwals Eye Hospital Launches Relex SMILE PRO - Most Advanced Procedure for Myopia, in Chennai

Chennai March 06 2024: Dr Agarwals Eye Hospital has launched ReLEx SMILE PRO - (Small Incision Lenticule Extraction), the world's first and only robotic laser surgery, offering a minimally invasive and highly precise solution to correct myopia (near-sightedness) in less than 10 seconds.

The event was graced by Chief Guest Dr. Dheeraj Reddy, Actor & Cardiac Surgeon, Apollo Hospital; Additionally, in attendance from Dr Agarwals Eye Hospitals were Dr. Ashvin Agarwal, Executive Director and Chief Clinical Officer, Dr. Preethi Naveen, Senior Consultant Ophthalmologist, Dr. Agarwals Refractive & Cornea Foundation and Dr. Ramya, Zonal Head, Clinical Services, Senior Refractive Surgeon, Dr Agarwals Eye Hospitals.

Dr. Dheeraj Reddy, Actor & Cardiac Surgeon at Apollo Hospital, shared his excitement, emphasizing the importance of introducing the Relex SMILE procedure in Chennai. He stated, "The initiation of the Relex SMILE PRO procedure in Chennai represents a noteworthy achievement in our healthcare domain. This state-of-the-art technology ensures that the most recent developments in eye care are within reach for the community,

Ulagu Nayagan Kamal Haasan releases the first look of Santhanam-starrer 'Inga Naan Thaan Kingu' presented by Gopuram Films' G.N. Anbuchezhian and produced by Sushmitha Anbuchezhian on a grand scale

Chennai March 06 2024: The title and first look of the movie 'Inga Naan Thaan Kingu' were released today by 'Ulagu Nayagan' Kamal Haasan.

Santhanam's characterisation in this movie will be enjoyed and loved by all youngsters. Also, the film will be a celebration for Santhanam's fans.

Priyalaya is debuting as the heroine opposite Santhanam. Thambi Ramaiah plays a key role and Manobala will be seen in an interesting role. Along with them, Munishkanth, Vivek Prasanna, Bala Saravanan, Maran, Cool Suresh and others are also part of the cast.

Ezhichur



ultimately elevating their quality of life."

Explaining the key features of SMILE, Dr. Ashvin Agarwal, Executive Director and Chief Clinical Officer, Dr Agarwals Group of Eye Hospitals said, "ReLEx SMILE is a revolutionary advancement in treating myopia. This cutting-edge laser vision correction technique was introduced globally only last year. We are happy that we could make it available in Chennai. It is the fastest eye laser - as it just takes less than 10 seconds per eye to complete the procedure. It is also the least invasive correction and ensures fastest recovery. Fully AI-driven, SMILE features automated laser calculations of eye power correction. Its algorithm is based on the treatment data of over 8 million eyes worldwide. SMILE has gained recognition for its ability to provide patients with quick visual recovery and reduced risk of dry eye syndrome. Patients can notice improved vision within the first 24 hours of the surgery. This allows them to resume their routine life sooner than with some

other laser eye surgery procedures."

Talking about the procedure, Dr. Soosan Jacob, Director, Dr. Agarwals Refractive & Cornea Foundation, said, "SMILE involves the use of a state-of-the-art femtosecond laser to create a small, precise incision in the cornea. Through this tiny opening, a thin, disc-shaped piece of tissue (known as lenticule) is extracted from the cornea's inner layers. This reshapes the cornea, allowing light to focus correctly onto the retina, and thus correcting myopia. One of the standout features of SMILE laser eye surgery is its minimally invasive nature. The small incision (just 2 mm, compared to 20mm in the traditional LASIK surgery) reduces disruption to the cornea's surface, resulting in less discomfort during the procedure and a quicker recovery period. Similarly, LASIK involves creating a 300+ degree circular flap incision, while there is no flap in SMILE - hence, there are no flap related complications. Importantly, there is no risk of dry eye in

SMILE, as the procedure does not disrupt the system of fluids."

On the suitability of the new procedure for patients, Dr. Ramya, Zonal Head Clinical Services, Senior Refractive Surgeon, Dr Agarwals Eye Hospitals said, "SMILE PRO is the world's first Laser Vision Correction procedure that is Robotic, Flapless, Minimally Invasive, Gentle, and virtually pain-free treatment. It is suitable for a broad range of patients, including those with higher degrees of myopia. It expands the pool of individuals who can benefit from laser vision correction. Individuals aged 18 years and above with a stable glass prescription for at least one year and suitable corneal topography can make use of this technology. It is suitable also for those who have professional requirements - Army, Navy, Air Force or Police, sportspersons', refractive surgery in the pediatric age group, thin corneas, or those intolerant to contact lenses. We also have good experience of refractive surgery in shaky or Nystagmus eyes and refractive surgery in scarred corneas. We do a thorough evaluation to assess our patient's unique needs, eligibility, and specific refractive error to make sure that SMILE is the right choice for them."



Kalyan - Baba Bhaskar have choreographed and directed the grand song sequences.

Shooting for the movie was carried out in and around Chennai. While the final post-production works are on in full swing, the title and first look of 'Inga Naan Thaan Kingu' have been unveiled by 'Ulagu Nayagan' Kamal Haasan.

Anand Narayan is directing the film, which is going to be a grand commercial production blended with comedy. The movie is presented by Gopuram Films' G.N. Anbuchezhian and produced by Sushmitha Anbuchezhian. It will be a summer 2024 theatrical release.

Aravindan, who has written story and dialogues for many successful films, has penned the story, screenplay and dialogues of this film.

Three songs have taken shape very well in D. Imman's music. Lyrics have been penned by director

Vignesh Shivan and Muthamil.

Cinematography - Om Narayan

Editing - M. Thyagarajan

Art Direction - M. Sakthi Venkatraj Stunt - Miracle Michael

Godrej Agrovet hosts first edition of its 'Women in Agriculture' summit

Chennai March 06 2024: Godrej Agrovet Limited (GAVL) successfully hosted the first edition of its 'Women in Agriculture' summit. A unique initiative to celebrate women in the sector, the summit aims to bring together diverse perspectives within the agricultural landscape and engage in thought-provoking conversations to address and acknowledge the pivotal role of women in India's agricultural sector.

Despite the widespread misconception that agriculture is a male-dominated field, our country's data reveals a different reality. In India, 86.1 million women, accounting for 60 percent of all female workers in the country, are employed in agriculture.[1] The percentage of women who depend on agriculture for their livelihood is as high as 84 percent[2] in rural India. On the other hand, in the agri-businesses too, women continue to be outnumbered by men across positions. Hence the summit aimed to shed light on the crucial yet often overlooked role of women in Indian agriculture.

The panel discussion on enhancing employability for women in the agri-food sector deep dived into different aspects of skill gaps that women in the sector face and how educational and industry collaboration could aid in addressing the situation. The other panel discussion focused on developing and advancing women in leadership roles and facilitated the exchange



of thoughts and ideas while highlighting the need to empower women in the industry.

Commenting on the summit and initiative taken by the company, Balam Singh Yadav, Managing Director, GAVL, said, "Our women farmers, despite their larger presence and immense contribution to the sector, lack essential resources. Hence in a country wherein we have to feed billion plus people, we need to create an eco-system which thrives to promote the women not only on the farm fields but also the ones in agri-businesses. Imparting them with the necessary knowledge, infrastructure and support will definitely help us enhance the overall agricultural output of the country."

He further added, "As India strives towards a sustainable development, empowering the women across the value chain and recognizing their significant contributions becomes non-negotiable. Hence, by partnering with the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), the Future Agriculture Leaders of India (FALI) and Godrej Good & Green, we aim to nurture 1 Lac women in the sector for better

employment opportunities and economic upliftment."

Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) works towards capacity building by bridging gaps and upgrading skills of farmers, wage workers, self-employed & extension workers engaged in organized / unorganized segments of Agriculture & Allied Sectors.

The Future of Agriculture Leaders in India (FALI), an initiative supported by leading agribusiness entities, work with tens of thousands of rural students, getting them the technical, business and leadership skills they need to succeed in modern, sustainable agriculture and agro enterprise.

Mallika Mutreja, Head - Human Resources, GAVL, emphasized the importance of women's empowerment, stating, "At GAVL, the empowerment of women is at the heart of every action we undertake. We firmly believe that feminization in agriculture will aid us adapt best practises and address the structural inequalities which is key for our industry in order to realise the potential of women farmers. While this inaugural summit in

partnership with the Agriculture Skill Council of India, signifies a crucial moment, as an entity which is focused on helping feed our nation, we look forward to more such collaborations in the coming years."

The summit witnessed participation from leading industry leaders and academic experts like Nadir Godrej, Chairman and Managing Director of Godrej Industries Limited (GIL) and Chairman of GAVL and Astec LifeSciences Limited; Nisaba Godrej, Executive Chairperson, Godrej Consumer Products Limited; Burjis Godrej, Executive Director & COO - Crop Protection Business, GAVL; Ahana Gautam, CEO, Open Secret; A n g s h u m a n Bhattacharya, Partner, EY; Geetika Mehta, Managing Director of Nivea; Ireena Vittal, Advisor & Expert (Indian Agriculture & Urban Change) & Independent Director; Shilpa Divekar Nirula, Venture Partner, Omnivore; Prof. Vidya Vemireddy, Chair of the Gender Centre at IIM Ahmedabad and Dr. Satendra Arya, CEO of the Agriculture Skill Council of India.

The 'Women in Agriculture' summit serves as a testament to GAVL's commitment to recognize and empower women in the agricultural sector. By fostering a platform for dialogue and collaboration, the summit paves the way for a future where women are recognized as equal partners in driving sustainable agricultural growth in India.

The 'Women in Agriculture' summit serves as a testament to GAVL's commitment to recognize and empower women in the agricultural sector. By fostering a platform for dialogue and collaboration, the summit paves the way for a future where women are recognized as equal partners in driving sustainable agricultural growth in India.

SLICE® INTRODUCES LADY SUPERSTAR NAYANTHARA AS THE NEWEST FACE OF THE BRAND

Chennai, March 06 2024: Making waves in the summer of 2024, Slice® today made a blockbuster announcement with the appointment of the iconic actress Nayanthara as its latest brand ambassador. With Nayanthara on board, Slice® aims to strengthen its connection with audiences, reaffirming its status as the leading beverage for mango enthusiasts.

Over the years, Slice® has cemented its place in households across the country for being the perfect and closest equivalent to quenching your mango cravings. On the other hand, Nayanthara has cemented her spot as



one of the most critically acclaimed actresses in Indian cinema, fondly known as 'Lady Superstar'. With a promise to add more fun and excitement to the summer season, Slice® continues to be the front-runner with this new association and enticing storytelling as the brand is set to unveil a new campaign later this summer.

Sharing her excitement on coming on board as Slice®'s new face, actor Nayanthara said, "I am thrilled to be a part of the Slice family and contribute to the legacy of this iconic brand. Known for its memorable campaigns, I am eager to be a part of the brand's upcoming projects. I hope the new campaign immerses my fans in the delightful

world of Slice in a unique and captivating way."

Speaking on the association, Anuj Goyal, Associate Director, Slice and Tropicana, PepsiCo India said, "We are delighted to welcome Nayanthara to the Slice family and are positive that her wide appeal that cuts through masses will further help build the brands connect with our core consumers. Both Slice and Nayanthara have entertained families and brought people together in an endearing manner. We hope this magic continues with new film as well and it will be loved by everyone."

Indian women Hosts earned over INR 2 Billion (200 Crores) through hosting on Airbnb in 2023

Chennai, March 06 2024: This International Women's Day, Airbnb is celebrating the growing community of women Hosts and female Guests who play a vital role in the hospitality sector. Embracing this year's International Women's Day theme, 'Inspire Inclusion', Airbnb recognises the diverse and dynamic ways in which women leverage the platform to foster economic opportunities, inclusivity and entrepreneurship across India.

In 2023, women Hosts in India, constituting nearly 30% of the country's Airbnb hosting community[1], have been instrumental in creating unique guest experiences. Indian women Hosts collectively earned over INR 2 billion (approximately 200 crores/USD 28 million) in 2023[2], showcasing the profound impact of women in stimulating local economies and supporting community growth. These women not only offer exceptional experiences to travellers but also empower others by creating job opportunities, especially for those in underserved communities.

Talking about her hosting journey on Airbnb, Superhost Anooradha who has been hosting since 2017 said, "I find great fulfilment in engaging with individuals who share similar interests and values. This passion

prompted me to embark on my Airbnb journey seven years ago, initially hosting guests at the retreat nestled within our holiday home. While the supplementary income has certainly been beneficial, what truly resonates with me is the platform's ability to foster meaningful connections with guests. These connections, in my view, are immensely empowering. For any women considering embarking on their own hosting venture, I encourage you to infuse your personal touch, warmth, and creativity in your home. This is what ultimately creates a memorable and distinctive experience for guests."

Sharing her story, Superhost Sumana said, "As a female residing in the vibrant city of Bhubaneswar, hosting on Airbnb has led me to a path of inner strength while pursuing my passions and garnering financial independence. Transitioning from a corporate job to becoming a full-time host has brought me immense stability and peace. It allows me to forge meaningful connections with guests from all over the country while immersing myself in their stories and experiences. The satisfaction of accommodating guests' needs and witnessing their joy remains a heartwarming reward for me. I look forward to more such experiences to serve and connect with people and inspire more women to embark

on this unique journey of strength and resilience."

Talking about the role women are increasingly playing in enabling the platform and highlighting Airbnb's dedication to fostering an inclusive, diverse, and equitable community, Amanpreet Bajaj, General Manager - Airbnb India, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Taiwan said, "Women play a vital role in fueling economies, by driving growth & social transformation. At Airbnb, we are committed to creating an inclusive, diverse, equitable community for our women Hosts & guests. Our commitment goes beyond supporting individual hosts; we also collaborate with government partners to ensure communities everywhere can thrive in our evolving travel landscape. By promoting safe, respectful, and welcoming spaces, Airbnb aims to empower women hosts and travellers alike, envisioning travel as a powerful tool for global empowerment and connection."

On the other hand, Indian women travellers, particularly Millennials, are increasingly choosing Airbnb for their travel needs[3]. In terms of choice of destinations for women guests, top domestic destinations included Goa, Bengaluru, Delhi NCR, Pune, Dehradun, and

Jaipur while internationally, destinations like London, Dubai, Toronto, Paris, New York City, Milan, Rome, Bangkok were popular[4].

Last year, a large segment of the Indian women guests preferred to travel solo, or in duos. Infact, 30% of the Indian women guests travelled solo in 2023[5]. National Parks, iconic cities, tropical, private rooms and pools were the most booked categories by Indian women guests in 2023[6].

Talking about travelling on Airbnb, Actor, Sayani Gupta shares, "Over the past few years the 'solo travel' trend has been adopted by women all across India. For me personally, solo travel has always been my source of solace, with Airbnb consistently serving as my preferred travel companion. Airbnb is not just a place to stay but a gateway to embracing independence while forging new experiences and connections. As a frequent solo traveller, Airbnb has enabled me to explore the world through diverse accommodations, offering a unique lens on every journey, ensuring safety. This Women's Day, I commend Airbnb's commitment to providing comfort for avid female travellers like myself, while also empowering others with a platform to embark on their entrepreneurial journey as hosts."

Bank of India Strengthens its Leadership through Appointment of M R Kumar and Rajiv Mishra

Chennai, March 06 2024: Shri M. R. Kumar after having assumed the role of Non-Executive Chairman, chaired the Board meeting on February 29, 2024.

In Bank of India Shri M. R. Kumar will be responsible for overseeing the overall growth trajectory of the bank.

Shri Kumar, a science graduate from the University of Madras, currently also serves on the board of directors at Ambuja Cements Ltd. He joined the Life Insurance Corporation of India in 1983 and had the unique privilege of heading its three zones: the southern zone in Chennai, the north central zone in Kanpur, and the northern zone in Delhi. He also served as the Chairman of

LIC India from 2019 to March 2023. In his tenure as the Non-Executive Chairman of IDBI Bank, Kumar was instrumental in transforming the bank from a loss-making entity to a profitable one.

Kumar also served as a Director on the Boards of Kenindia Assurance Co. Ltd, Kenya, and ACC Ltd., India. His leadership acumen was further demonstrated through his tenure as Chairman of the Governing Board at the National Insurance Academy, alongside serving as President of the Insurance Institute of India, and as Chairman of the Council of Insurance Ombudsman, showcasing his significant contributions to the insurance and banking sectors.

The Bank of India is

also pleased to announce the appointment of Shri Rajiv Mishra as the Executive Director.

Bringing a wealth of 24 years of experience, Shri Rajiv Mishra, who is a BE, MBA graduate and a Certified Associate of both the Indian Institute of Bankers and the Insurance Institute of India has a comprehensive background in Digital, Analytics & IT, Retail and MSME Credit, Large Corporates, Recovery, and Treasury. His pivotal role in leading Union Bank of India's digital transformation, highlighted by the launch of the VYOM mobile app, underlines his innovative approach and commitment to advancing banking technologies. Mishra has also served on the boards of Kashi Gombi Samyut

Gramin Bank in Varanasi, and UBI Services Ltd.

In Bank of India Shri Rajiv Mishra will assume a pivotal role in managing stressed asset resolution and recovery, including policy matters. His purview extends to critical areas such as Information Technology, Digital Banking Department (including Transaction Banking), Digital Analytics, Digital Lending Department, and General Operations, which encompasses Centralized Back Office and Rajbhasha.

These strategic appointments underscore the Bank of India's commitment to strengthening its leadership framework, ensuring a robust strategy for growth and innovation in the banking sector.

Apollo Hospitals launches Fatty Liver Clinic at Liver Diseases & Transplantation Institute with Cutting-Edge Diagnostic Tools, and Newer pharmacological treatments

Chennai March 06 2024: Fatty liver disease is rapidly becoming a major health concern in India. Studies suggest fatty liver affects a significant portion of the Indian population, with estimates ranging from 10% to 30%. India's growing rates of obesity, diabetes, and unhealthy lifestyles contribute heavily to fatty liver. Often symptomless in early stages, NAFLD can progress to serious complications like liver cirrhosis and liver failure if left unaddressed. Promoting healthy lifestyles with proper diet and exercise to manage weight and improve overall health.

Apollo Hospitals, renowned for its excellence in healthcare, today announces the inauguration of its latest endeavour, Apollo Fatty Liver Clinic at Liver Diseases and Transplantation Institute, Apollo Hospitals. This cutting-edge facility introduces the game-changing diagnostic marvel, 'FibroScan Expert 630,' poised to revolutionize liver care and tackle Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) head-on. The Fatty Liver Clinic was



inaugurated by the esteemed actor, Mr Prasanth Thiagarajan, marking a significant stride in Apollo Hospitals' unwavering commitment to pioneering medical care.

Apollo Fatty Liver Clinic features world's most advanced diagnostic tools and offers newer pharmacological treatments for management of fatty liver.

The key highlight, FibroScan Expert 630, a state-of-the-art diagnostic tool that goes beyond the ordinary. This advanced equipment, enables new spleen stiffness measurement, an embedded ultrasound guidance system, and precise risk stratification for advanced chronic liver disease patients, it is a beacon of hope for optimised patient care.

Dr. N Murugan, Senior Consultant Hepatologist, Apollo Hospitals said,

"Fatty liver disease is increasing in our country due to changing lifestyle, sedentary habits and increasing stress; approximately 35 to 40% of our adult population may have fatty liver. Around a quarter of these patients may go on to develop advanced liver disease. Technology like the Fibroscan 630 helps us to accurately assess early signs of liver damage non-invasively, and treatment can then be given to prevent progression of liver disease in these patients"

Prashanth T, Indian actor said, "I extend my heartfelt wishes to Apollo Hospitals on the inauguration of the Advanced Liver Disease and Transplantation Institute. Recognizing the growing prevalence of liver diseases among people today, initiatives like this aimed at early

detection and immediate intervention are pivotal in mitigating the risk of these conditions escalating into serious illnesses. Apollo's proactive focus on prevention by treating it in the early stage itself is truly commendable and reflects their dedication to addressing this pressing health concern."

To celebrate this monumental launch, Apollo Hospitals is extending a gesture of care to the community. The first 75 individuals will receive complimentary check-ups at the hospital, offering an exclusive opportunity to experience advanced liver health assessments and consultations with leading specialists.

The Liver Disease and Transplantation Institute, specialising in the diagnosis and treatment of liver conditions, with a unique focus on advancing care for NAFLD patients, embodies Apollo Hospitals' mission to provide comprehensive and specialised healthcare services. This initiative is not just about treating ailments; it's about ushering in a new era of wellness and pushing the boundaries of healthcare excellence.

Godrej Agrovet hosts first edition of its 'Women in Agriculture' summit

Chennai March 06 2024: Godrej Agrovet Limited (GAVL) successfully hosted the first edition of its 'Women in Agriculture' summit. A unique initiative to celebrate women in the sector, the summit aims to bring together diverse perspectives within the agricultural landscape and engage in thought-provoking conversations to address and acknowledge the pivotal role of women in India's agricultural sector.

Despite the widespread misconception that agriculture is a male-dominated field, our country's data reveals a different reality. In India, 86.1 million women, accounting for 60 percent of all female workers in the country, are employed in agriculture.[1] The percentage of women who depend on agriculture for their livelihood is as high as 84 percent[2] in rural India. On the other hand, in the agri-businesses too, women continue to be outnumbered by men across positions. Hence the summit aimed to shed light on the crucial yet often overlooked role of women in Indian agriculture.

The panel discussion on enhancing employability for women in the agri-food sector deep dived into different aspects of skill gaps that women in the sector face and how educational and industry collaboration could aid in addressing



the situation. The other panel discussion focused on developing and advancing women in leadership roles and facilitated the exchange of thoughts and ideas while highlighting the need to empower women in the industry.

Commenting on the summit and initiative taken by the company, Balram Singh Yadav, Managing Director, GAVL, said, "Our women farmers, despite their larger presence and immense contribution to the sector, lack essential resources. Hence in a country wherein we have to feed billion plus people, we need to create an eco-system which thrives to promote the women not only on the farm fields but also the ones in agri-businesses. Imparting them with the necessary knowledge, infrastructure and support will definitely help us enhance the overall agricultural output of the country."

He further added, "As India strives towards a future of sustainable development,

empowering the women across the value chain and recognizing their significant contributions becomes non-negotiable. Hence, by partnering with the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), the Future Agriculture Leaders of India (FALI) and Godrej Good & Green, we aim to nurture 1 Lac women in the sector for better employment opportunities and economic upliftment."

Mallika Mutreja, Head - Human Resources, GAVL, emphasized the importance of women's empowerment, stating, "At GAVL, the empowerment of women is at the heart of every action we undertake. We firmly believe that feminization in agriculture will aid us adapt best practises and address the structural inequalities which is key for our industry in order to realise the potential of women farmers. While this inaugural summit in partnership with the Agriculture Skill Council of India, signifies a crucial moment, as an entity which is focused on

helping feed our nation, we look forward to more such collaborations in the coming years."

The summit witnessed participation from leading industry leaders and academic experts like Nadir Godrej, Chairman and Managing Director of Godrej Industries Limited (GIL) and Chairman of GAVL and Astec LifeSciences Limited; Nisaba Godrej, Executive Chairperson, Godrej Consumer Products Limited; Burjis Godrej, Executive Director & COO - Crop Protection Business, GAVL; Ahana Gautam, CEO, Open Secret; Angshuman Bhattacharya, Partner, EY; Geetika Mehta, Managing Director of Nivea; Ireena Vittal, Advisor & Expert (Indian Agriculture & Urban Change) & Independent Director; Shilpa Divekar Nirula, Venture Partner, Omnivore; Prof. Vidya Vemireddy, Chair of the Gender Centre at IIM Ahmedabad and Dr. Satendra Arya, CEO of the Agriculture Skill Council of India.

The 'Women in Agriculture' summit serves as a testament to GAVL's commitment to recognize and empower women in the agricultural sector. By fostering a platform for dialogue and collaboration, the summit paves the way for a future where women are recognized as equal partners in driving sustainable agricultural growth in India.

Roche launches Vabysmo® (faricimab), the first and only bispecific monoclonal antibody for the eye, to treat two leading causes of vision loss

Chennai, March 06 2024: Roche Pharma India marked its foray into the Ophthalmology space by launching Vabysmo® (faricimab) for the treatment of neovascular or "wet" age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) and diabetic macular edema (DME). Neovascular AMD and DME are two leading causes of vision loss worldwide.

Vabysmo® is the first and only dual-pathway-inhibitor that uniquely targets and inhibits two disease pathways linked to a number of vision threatening retinal conditions. It neutralises both angiopoietin-2 (Ang-2) and vascular endothelial growth factor-A (VEGF-A) which are key proteins involved in the development and progression of retinal conditions, contributing to vision loss by destabilising blood vessels in the eye. 1,2

As the world's first bispecific monoclonal antibody, Vabysmo is a single molecule designed to target and inhibit the effects of two targets, providing the benefits of two medicines in one. Current treatment options target VEGF alone, and therefore only partially address the biology of the disease. By blocking both pathways involving Ang-2 and VEGF-A, Vabysmo® offers the first new MoA (mechanism of action) in more than 15 years for nAMD and close to a decade for DME, stabilising blood vessels in the retina and improving vision outcomes. 1,2

Vabysmo® has the potential to transform the existing Standard of



Care (SoC) as the burden associated with currently available treatment options for nAMD and DME such as frequent eye injections (typically required every one to two months) and physician visits can lead to under treatment and less-than-optimal vision outcomes. Vabysmo® offers better treatment durability with patients requiring eye injections at intervals of up to once in four months, while achieving similar vision gains and anatomical improvements 1,2.

Commenting on the launch, V Simpson Emmanuel, CEO and Managing Director, Roche Pharma India, said, "We believe more should be done to meet the needs of people living with retinal conditions and to preserve sight. While there is strong awareness and action for cataract and other frontal eye-disorders, retinal conditions are often diagnosed late or

neglected, leading to vision loss. The launch of Vabysmo® marks our entry into the

Yamaha Promotes Women Empowerment; Builds a New School Building in Kanchipuram for Girls' Education

Chennai March 06 2024: As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, India Yamaha Motor Pvt. Ltd (IYM) is proud to announce the inauguration of a new school building today, at Rani Annadurai Municipal Girls Higher Secondary School, Kancheepuram. The building, which has been named 'Yamaha Block', can accommodate a total of over 240 students in the 4 classrooms built inside the building. Undertaken as a part of India Yamaha Motor's 'Model School Infrastructure' project, this Govt. school



educates girls from the nearby village.

With a total budget of INR 1.6 crores, the entire project included building a new school block along sanitary facility and furniture including benches, desks, and chairs to cater to more students. The new space has been specially designed to improve the quality of

education and facilitate effective teaching and learning, while also keeping in mind the comfort and convenience of our students. And, to further motive the students Yamaha donated 600 school bags for the entire school.

The 5-month project, which

Eye Care Hospital & Consultant at Apollo Hospitals, said: "Creating patient-centric innovations in Ophthalmology become ever so critical owing to the demographic profiles and pre-existing disease conditions of such patients. Patients of nAMD and DME are usually already dealing with comorbidities such as diabetes or hypertension and may even be above the age of 60. In such cases, ease and convenience of treatment is of utmost importance. As retinal specialists, we see innovations like Vabysmo that offer a dosing interval of up to 16 weeks, having the potential to positively impact treatment adherence leading to better vision outcomes for patients."

Preventable and treatable vision loss is a growing global public health concern. A staggering 1 billion people live with vision impairment worldwide that could have been prevented. Retinal conditions are now affecting more people than ever before. More than ~300 million patients globally, 4,5 and ~11 million patients in India suffer from retinal vision loss. India is home to one-third of the blind population of the world. Furthermore, in India, the prevalence of nAMD and DME stands at approximately 4 million, 8,9.

Vabysmo® (faricimab) was first approved by the USFDA in January 2022. It is today available in across 90+ countries and more than 2 million doses have been administered till date 11.

Dr. Manoj S Khatri, Director at Eydox Eye Hospital, Head at Rajan

completed in December 2023, was inaugurated recently by India Yamaha Motor's senior management - Mr. Atushi Nagashima, Director; Mr. P. S. Ganeshan, Vice President and Mr. S Kumar, Vice President along with a special guest - Mrs. R. Vanmathi, Regional Joint Commissioner, Govt. of Tamil Nadu in the presence of school staff and students.

India Yamaha Motor is committed to contributing to the communities in which it operates, and this project is a testament to that commitment.