

LS elections phase 6: 39% voter turnout till 1 p.m. President, Sonia, Rahul and Kejriwal vote in New Delhi

Chennai, May 25 2024: The sixth phase of voting in the ongoing Lok Sabha election has begun in 58 seats across seven states and one Union Territory (UT). Delhi and Haryana are voting in a single phase. Lok Sabha and Assembly elections are being held simultaneously in Odisha.

Till 1 PM 39% voter turnout was recorded. The highest voter turnout in Phase 6 was recorded in West Bengal 36.9% and the lowest turnout was reported from Odisha

at 21.3%. By the end of today, elections will be completed in 486 of the 543 Lok Sabha seats. Polling will also be completed in Haryana, Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir. The Election Commission has asked poll officers and authorities to take adequate measure to mitigate the effects of rising temperatures in Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh due to a heatwave across north India.

Voters in the following seven states



and one union territory will cast their ballots: Bihar and Bengal, seven in Delhi, 10 in Jharkhand, 14 in Uttar Pradesh, and the final seat in Jammu & Kashmir -- Anantnag-Rajouri, where polling was moved from the

third to the sixth phase.

Senior Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi cast their votes in New Delhi constituency in the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha elections on Saturday.

They reached the polling station set up at Nirman Bhawan around 9.30 am. The Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), constituents of the INDIA bloc, are contesting the Lok Sabha polls together in Delhi.

While the AAP is

contesting four seats, the Congress has fielded candidates on the remaining three seats. AAP's Somnath Bharti is the INDIA bloc candidate from New Delhi seat. He is up against BJP's Bansuri Swaraj.

Aam Aadmi Party national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday cast his vote along with his father, wife Sunita Kejriwal and children at a polling booth in Delhi Transport Authority in Civil Lines area amid tight security.

China's military drill raises questions Is it Beijing's subtle warning to new President?

Chennai, May 25 2024: Taiwan's people consider Beijing's power as a major threat to their everyday life and they feel that the threat from China has increased in recent years. China launched two-day exercises on Thursday May 23, after the island nation swore-in a new

President. Why now, well Taiwan's democracy saw a new leader assuming office, but the new chosen leader has for a very long time been loathed by Beijing!

China's ruling Communist Party says Taiwan is part of its territory, despite never having controlled it, and

has vowed to take the island, by force if necessary.

China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) said it launched joint military drills involving the army, navy, air force and rocket force in areas around Taiwan at 7.45 a.m. on Thursday.

A senior official

responsible for Taiwan's security affairs said that as of noon Thursday, the island detected about 30 Chinese aircraft, most of which crossed the Median Line into Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ). The Median Line is an informal demarcation point in the

Taiwan Strait that Beijing does not recognize but until recent years had largely respected.

President William Lai Cheng-te visited troops at a military base in northern Taiwan on seeing the escalation of tension.

The Chinese military also deployed about a dozen Chinese warships around Taiwan, as well as a dozen Coast Guard vessels near Taiwan's outlying islands, according to the official. Taiwan has deployed its own warships to monitor the situation, the official said.

Beijing has denounced Lai's inauguration speech, during which he called on China to cease its intimidation of Taiwan.

Taiwan's Defence Ministry has condemned China's drills as "irrational provocations and actions that undermine regional peace and stability". Taiwan's Lai is detested by Beijing as



a "dangerous separatist" for championing the island's sovereignty and distinct identity. He succeeded two-term President Tsai Ing-wen to start an unprecedented third consecutive term in power for the ruling Democratic Progressive Party.

The present tensions in the Taiwan Strait have escalated as China launched its biggest military drill in the region since August 2022.

Lai said Taiwan was facing "external threats" but "we will continue to defend the value of freedom and democracy

and protect regional peace and stability".

While calling for dialogue with China, President Lai, however, said that Taipei was "not subordinate" to Beijing.

In Beijing, the Foreign Ministry doubled down on its claim on Taiwan and said: "Anyone seeking 'Taiwan independence' will find themselves crushed by the historic trend of China's complete reunification."

"Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory... Taiwan independence is doomed to fail," the

ministry stressed. Chinese military exercises around Taiwan were actually unnecessary is what global peace lovers and experts watching rising tensions around the globe feel.

Lai was elected in January to succeed Tsai Ing-wen but he secured just a little over 40% of the total vote and his DPP also lost majority in the legislature.

Despite people's support can he withstand the Chinese pressure and also the reactions by his rival political groups in his own territory.

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Toyota Technical Training Institute (TTTI) Students Excel at IndiaSkills Competition 2024

Chennai, May 25 2024: In a significant step towards supporting the "Skill India Mission" and "Viksit Bharat 2047," Toyota Technical Training Institute (TTTI) today announced the exceptional performance of its students at the IndiaSkills Competition 2024, organized by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). Prem V earned a gold medal in Additive Manufacturing as an individual competitor. In the Manufacturing Team Challenge, Mohit M U, Harish R, and Nelson V triumphed as a team, securing gold medals. In Mechatronics, the team of Darshan Gowda C S and Bhanu Prasad S M also achieved gold, while Hemant K Y and Uday Kumar B garnered silver in the same category. Additionally, Rohan A S received a silver medal and Mr. Sudeep S M received Medallion of Excellence in Car Painting as an individual participant. The competition, held every two years, serves as a platform for young talents to showcase their skills at regional and national levels. TTTI, in collaboration with NSDC, extends its support to foster skill development at grassroot level among the youth, aligning with the vision of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).

TTTI participated and hosted four categories of the "Off-site" portion of the competition, held at YashoBhoomi Dwarka, New Delhi in categories including Manufacturing Team



Challenge, Mechatronics, Car Painting, and Additive Manufacturing. The students of TTTI exhibited exemplary skills and dedication, bringing honour not only to the institute but also to the nation. The "Off-site" segment of the competition, under TTTI's stewardship, witnessed enthusiastic participation and spirited performances from contestants across the country. TTTI extended support in various areas including venue, infrastructure, machinery, consumables, and jury, ensuring the smooth conduct of the competition.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Monika Nanda General Manager, Marketing and Communications, NSDC said, "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the outstanding students of Toyota Technical Training Institute (TTTI) for their remarkable achievements at the IndiaSkills Competition 2024. Their exemplary skills and dedication are a testament to the effectiveness of TTTI's training programs. These winners not only bring honour to their institute but also enhance the reputation of Indian skill development on a global scale. We are confident that those selected for the WorldSkills

Competition will continue this legacy of excellence and make India proud on the international stage."

Expressing his thoughts, Mr. G. Shankara - Executive Vice President, Finance and Administration, Toyota Kirloskar Motor said, "We take immense pride in the remarkable achievements of the TTTI students at the IndiaSkills Competition 2024. We are happy on their successful journey and because of their hard work they have reached to this milestone. We thank Trainers, Faculty members & all the stakeholders who have made us proud. We wish all the best for the winners for their next journey towards World Skills Competition 2024 scheduled in Sep 24 at Lyon France to give their best performance. Through TTTI we reaffirm our commitment towards society for transforming rural youth into World Class competitive Technician and producing mass happiness for all & there by striving to align with national goals such as 'Skill India' and 'Viksit Bharat 2047'. They are in perfect harmony with our mission of 'Producing Happiness for All' by imparting our knowledge and cultivating young individuals into globally competitive technicians.

Furthermore, TTTI is

delighted to announce that the top contestant from IndiaSkills Competition will represent India at the prestigious WorldSkills Competition in Lyon, France, scheduled between 10th to 15th September 2024. The WorldSkills Competition, initiated in 1950, serves as a global platform for skills excellence and development through international cooperation. India's participation in previous editions has showcased the country's talent and potential on the global stage.

Since its inception in 2007, TTTI has been committed to providing advanced technical education and fostering overall development among rural youth. The planned increase in student intake reinforces TKM's commitment to empowering economically challenged students, creating world-class technicians, enhancing societal development, and employment. One of the recent initiatives to promote admission of female students, 'Toyota Kaushalya,' has been well-received by students. It offers a unique opportunity for youth to acquire skills relevant to the manufacturing industry, combining theoretical learning with on-the-job training (OJT) enhancing their employability. Furthermore, many of our employees after being trained at TTTI and TKM get the opportunity to be trained in Japan to gain hands on experience in global environment.

UAE Government Honours Actress Komal Sharma with Prestigious Golden Visa!

Chennai, May 25 2024: Actress Komal Sharma embarked on her journey in the Tamil film industry with the movie Satta Padi Kuttram, helmed by S.A.Chandrasekaran. Since then, she has appeared in numerous films such as Vaigai Express, Shot Boot 3, and Public. On the other hand, renowned actor Mohanlal is gearing up for the global theatrical release of his debut Malayalam directorial venture titled 'Barozz'. Amidst this scenario, the United Arab Emirates government has bestowed upon Komal Sharma a prestigious golden visa. This exclusive Golden Visa has been granted to Komal Sharma as a token of appreciation for his exceptional talent, consistent dedication, and significant contributions to the entertainment industry. During a grand event hosted in Dubai, the esteemed CEO of ECH Digital, a key player in the Golden Visa



initiative, Mr. Iqbal Marconi, personally presented this coveted golden visa to Komal Sharma. So far, in Tamil cinema, iconic luminaries like Vijay Sethupathi, Arun Vijay, Parthiban, Trisha, Amala Paul, Nazriya Nazim, Rai Laxmi, and more have been bestowed with the prestigious golden visa. The latest addition to this esteemed list is none other than the talented actress Komal Sharma. Actress Komal Sharma

expressed her joy upon receiving the Golden Visa, stating, "I am truly honored to receive this prestigious recognition. I am grateful to the UAE Government for granting me this special visa, which is only bestowed upon a select few in the Tamil film industry. Dubai has become my second home, much like Tamil Nadu. I feel a greater sense of responsibility with this honor, and it will motivate me to continue

to make positive contributions. I am committed to using this opportunity to help others in any way I can." The golden visa program was introduced by the United Arab Emirates government in 2019, encompassing seven cities such as Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Sharjah. Under this program, the visa remains valid for a period of ten years and is subsequently renewed automatically for another ten years.

STANBIC BANK KENYA PARTNERS WITH ORION INNOVATION FOR STRATEGIC MODERNISATION

Chennai, May 25 2024: Orion Innovation ("Orion"), a leading digital transformation and product development services firm, today announced it has signed a deal with Stanbic Bank Kenya to facilitate core banking upgrade and modernization effort. As part of the agreement, Orion will implement Temenos' cloud-based digital banking platform within Stanbic Bank Kenya's operations, enabling enhanced customer experiences and delivering innovative digital solutions.

The entire servicing and delivery for the partnership will happen from Orion's Chennai centre in India. As the Financial Services delivery hub in India, Orion's Chennai centre features a state-of-the-art Innovation Lab that has developed bespoke solutions which seamlessly integrate with Temenos' suite. Orion's team of experts will manage massive amounts of data and ensure consistency and accuracy for Stanbic Bank Kenya from India.

Orion, a globally certified & trusted Temenos partner, was



selected as Stanbic Bank Kenya's partner to upgrade its Transact application from R17 to R23 and migrate from TAFJ to the new TAFJ standard. The ambitious project involves 90+ integrations and 6000+ local code conversions. To accelerate the project timeline, Stanbic Bank Kenya will use Orion's industry-leading Test Automation tools and services.

The strategic alliance with Stanbic Bank highlights Orion's leadership role in transforming the Financial Services industry across the MEA region. "We are excited to partner with Stanbic Bank Kenya on the bank modernization initiative," said Anoop Gala, Orion's Global Head of Financial Services. "Our team is

committed to fueling digital innovation in the African Financial Services market by securing our banking partners in deploying advanced implementation tools which ensure compliance and advance their project timelines."

Suchen Janjale, Orion's Head of Financial Services in Europe, said, "Our comprehensive offerings around Temenos, coupled with our proven track record in efficient and successful upgrades and integrations, were instrumental in Stanbic Bank Kenya's decision to choose Orion as its trusted partner."

Dr. Joshua Oigara, Stanbic Bank Kenya and South Sudan Chief Executive said, "Technology and

innovation are central to our continued growth in a highly digitized and complex banking environment. This upgrade adds to our technological capabilities and enables us to better serve our clients both on a local and global scale. We are proud to partner with Orion and to leverage its strong background and expertise in driving system modernization."

Alex Siboe, Stanbic Bank Kenya Head of Technology, said, "Transforming customer experience through technology is at the cornerstone of the bank's strategy. Aligned with our objective of delivering exceptional client experiences and superior value, we consistently work towards adopting the right technologies to drive efficiency and satisfaction for our clients. This upgrade fits into our digital transformation journey and will help us provide a seamless and superior banking experience to our customers. Furthermore, through this upgrade, we will not only enhance our operational efficiency but also offer innovative services to our customers, meeting their evolving needs in today's digital era."

'Media request overwhelming despite no CSK'

Chennai, May 25 2024: The battlelines for the final of the 2024 IPL season have been drawn with Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH, owned by Kalanidhi Maran) clashing with Kolkata Knight Riders (owned by high profile Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan) on Sunday, May 26, at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Thus, the media and fans of Tamil Nadu have something to cheer about because of the SRH's Maran connection. In fact, Kalanidhi's daughter Kavya Maran, CEO of SRH, is an active cheering member of her

team - closely following the fortunes of her team from the pavilion in every single match.

Despite Chennai Super Kings, the hot favourites of Tamil Nadu, failing to make the cut, there has been overwhelming response from the media for the coverage of the Qualifier (Sunrisers Hyderabad versus Rajasthan Royals) and the Final clash between SRH and KKR.

"There is a huge demand from the media for coverage - for the Qualifier we got media requests from Rajasthan and Hyderabad as

journalists from those states viewed the matches as their local matches. Even for the Final, we have a big demand from Kolkata journalists," Tamil Nadu Cricket Association Honorary Assistant Secretary Dr. R.N. Baba told Trinity Mirror.

"It is always our endeavour to encourage journalists from Tamil Nadu, but now we also have to honour the requests journalists from other states. It is going to be a huge task to accommodate all the media requests in the designated Press Box,"

he explained.

"The usual din that we would have had for a CSK game was, however, missing. The stands seemed to be much more quieter, especially when boundaries were scored. During a CSK match, the umpires would have to repeatedly seek third umpire assistance for close boundary calls. However, that was not the case in Qualifier. The turnout was about 6,000 less compared the full capacity of 36,000. But, we expect a full house for the Final," Dr. Baba added.

Indian women's compound archery team strikes gold

Chennai, May 25 2024: The Indian women's compound archery team, consisting of Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, and Aditi Swami, clinched their third consecutive gold medal at the Archery World Cup in Yecheon, South Korea, on Saturday. The world number one Indian trio dominated Turkey's Hazal Burun, Ayse Bera Suzer, and Begum Yuva from the outset, winning the final with a comfortable six-point

margin (232-226).

Despite her success in the team event, Asian Games champion Jyothi Surekha Vennam missed out on a second gold. In the compound mixed team final, she and her partner Priyansh, after leading initially, were defeated by the USA's Olivia Dean and Sawyer Sullivan by two points (155-153), resulting in a silver medal for the Indian duo.

For Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, and world champion

Aditi Swami, this victory marked a hat-trick of World Cup gold medals together. The trio had previously won the season-opening World Cup Stage 1 in Shanghai by defeating Italy last month and concluded the previous year with a gold at Stage 4 of the event in Paris. In the compound women's team final, the second-seeded Indian team started strong with three Xs (arrows near the center) and dropped only one point each in the next three arrows, edging out

their fifth-seeded Turkish rivals by one point in the first round.

The Indians showcased their dominance in the next round of six arrows, scoring five perfect 10s with two Xs and one 9, extending their lead by four points at the halfway mark. Turkey fought back in the penultimate round, shooting four 10s with one X to match India's score of 58. However, the Indians maintained their four-point lead going into the fourth and final end.

SUPERFANS INSPIRE MOUNTAIN DEW®'S NEW CAMPAIGN 'JAKAD KE PAKAD'

Chennai, May 25 2024: This cricketing season witnessed the emergence of debutant talent and the celebration of emerging cricketers on the field by superfans. Cricket fans across the country prompted Mountain Dew® on this surge of love for the newcomers which led the brand to take notice and launch a unique digital initiative, 'JAKAD KE PAKAD', that is inspired by the voice of fans and true events.

A person holding a sign in front of a crowd

Description automatically generated

The debutants have displayed fearless attitude during the current cricketing season and their jaw dropping acts have seen mushrooming of many super fans across the country that were spotted across stadiums. These fans have gone all the way in supporting their new heroes with one thing in common – inspiring them to be fearless as they shape their future career. These enthusiastic displays resonated deeply on social media, with influencers amplifying the message



by sharing images of the fans. Large numbers of cricket fans reached out to Mountain Dew® as no other brand has manifested stories of courage in the face of adverse challenges. The campaign 'JAKAD KE PAKAD' extends the brand's iconic ethos, presenting a compelling narrative that honors the bravery and perseverance of debutant cricketers and encourages them to overcome their fears.

The campaign film showcases a new cricketer gearing up to step onto the field. As he buckles up, doubt begins to creep in, but he fights through his thoughts, grabs his bat, and walks out with his head held high, overcoming his fear with a resolute look on his face. This transformation from apprehension to courage emphasizes the importance of embracing challenges and pushing beyond limitations to achieve greatness.

The film recognizes the immense courage required by debutant cricketers to set foot on the field, constantly under pressure to prove themselves and perform their best. It reiterates Mountain Dew®'s belief of 'Darr Ke Aage Jeet Hai' that signifies that in the face of any challenge, there are two choices: either succumb to fear and turn back or overcome fear and move ahead. It is this choice that sets real heroes apart from the rest.

Speaking on the campaign, Akankshaa Dalal, Category Head, Mountain Dew, PepsiCo India, said, "During the on-going cricketing season, seeing superfans encouraging the newcomers to overcome fear with courage was a powerful reminder of what we as Mountain Dew stand for. It was truly humbling to see consumers repurposing the brand's tagline of Darr Ke Aage Jeet Hai, reinstating that our

message resonates deeply with them, and this inspired us to create a campaign that celebrates the courage and determination of debutant cricketers. This new campaign is dedicated to superfans and the newcomers of this season. The fans for cheering on the ones who need their support more than anyone else; and the newcomers to whom we acknowledge that first time fear can be overwhelming. We hope this digital campaign and film will connect with our consumers across the country and shower their love and support on these trailblazers during the ongoing cricket season."

As the campaign unfolds and gains further traction, Mountain Dew® will score partnerships with young as well as veteran cricketers to amplify the 'Jakad Ke Pakad' messaging forward. The campaign will go live across Digital and E-Commerce platforms.

Mountain Dew® is available in single and multi-serve packs across modern and traditional retail outlets and across e-commerce/quick-commerce platforms.

Tata Motors' subsidiaries - TPEM and TMPV join hands with Bajaj Finance, offers financing program for authorized passenger and electric vehicle dealers

Chennai, May 25 2024: In a bid to improve options and ease of financing for the dealers, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM) subsidiaries of Tata Motors, India's leading automotive manufacturer, have joined hands with Bajaj Finance, part of Bajaj Finserv Ltd., one of India's leading and most diversified financial services groups, to extend supply chain finance solutions to its passenger and electric vehicle dealers. Through this memorandum of understanding (MoU), the participating companies will come together to leverage Bajaj Finance's wide reach to help dealers of TMPV and TPEM access funding with

minimal collateral. The MoU for this partnership was signed by Mr. Dhiman Gupta, Chief Financial Officer, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. and Director, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. and Mr. Siddhartha Bhatt, Chief Business Officer, Bajaj Finance Ltd.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Dhiman Gupta, Chief Financial Officer, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. and Director, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd., said, "Our dealer partners are integral to our business, and we are happy to actively work towards solutions to help them in ease of doing business. Together, we aim to further grow the market and offer our New Forever portfolio to an increasing set of customers. To that

effect, we are excited to partner with Bajaj Finance for this financing program, which will further strengthen the access of our dealer partners to increased working capital."

on this partnership, Mr. Anup Saha, Deputy Managing Director, Bajaj Finance Ltd, said, "At Bajaj Finance, we have always strived to provide best-in-class processes by using the India stack for financing solutions that empower both individuals and businesses. Through this financing program, we will arm TMPV and TPEM's authorized passenger and electric vehicle dealers with financial capital, which will enable them to seize the opportunities offered by a growing passenger vehicles market. We are confident that this

collaboration will not only benefit dealers but also contribute to, and enhance the growth of, the automotive industry in India."

TMPV and TPEM have been pioneering the Indian automotive market with its groundbreaking efforts in both ICE and EV segments. The company's overarching New Forever philosophy has led to the introduction of segment leading products which are being appreciated by consumers at large.

Bajaj Finance is one of the most diversified NBFCs in India with presence across lending, deposits and payments, serving over 83.64 million customers. As of March 31, 2024, the company's assets under management stood at Rs.3,30,615 crore.

Flipkart Audio: Your One-Stop Shop for Every Budget & Style

Chennai May 25 2024: In the ever-evolving world of audio, finding the perfect device to suit your needs can feel like a challenge. Whether you're a music enthusiast seeking premium sound, a gamer, or someone looking for a reliable everyday pair of earbuds, we've got you covered. Here is a wide selection of audio products from top brands with unbeatable value and incredible deals, including no-cost EMI options and exclusive offers, making

life-like audio experiences accessible to everyone. Dive into the curated selection and discover the perfect audio companion, all within your budget, only on Flipkart.

Escape the Noise: Top ANC Picks on Flipkart - Realme Air 5, OnePlus Nord Buds 2, CMF by Nothing Buds

If you're seeking an escape into music or calls, the Realme Air 5, OnePlus Nord Buds 2, and CMF by Nothing Buds are all excellent choices with their

powerful noise cancellation technology to block out distractions. All boast noise cancellation to silence distractions – the Realme Air 5 leading the pack at 50dB, followed by CMF by Nothing Buds at 42dB, and the OnePlus Nord Buds 2 at 25dB. Battery life won't hold you back either, with Realme Air 5 lasting 38 hours, CMF by Nothing Buds at 35.5 hours, and the OnePlus Nord Buds 2 at 36 hours. Additionally, the Realme Air 5 also has

Dolby Atmos for an extra dose of immersive audio. These earbuds combine tech and sound engineering for an auditory journey that will satisfy music lovers and communication enthusiasts.

Realme Air 5 can be purchased on Flipkart for INR 2,999, OnePlus Nord Buds 2 is available on Flipkart for INR 2,499 while CMF by Nothing Buds 42 dB Active Noise Cancellation can be purchased on Flipkart for INR 1,999.

'Jandamattaan', a music album created by renowned medical practitioner Dr. U.P. Srinivasan released in Chennai

Chennai, May 25 2024: Dr. U.P. Srinivasan, a prominent surgical gastroenterologist and robotic surgeon in Chennai, has created a music album 'Jandamattaan'. Impressed by the album, leading music label Saregama has acquired its rights. The album was released at a function in Chennai with director Chimbu Deven, Producer P L Thenappan, Singer Mano, Director Mandhiramoorthy, DoP Gopi Jagadeeswaran, Dance Master Kandhas, Dance Master Sridhar, Actor Mahendran and KPY Sarath guests. Personalities from various fields participated in this event. Trained in Paris in



the medical field, Dr. Srinivasan also has a keen interest in the arts. With a profound passion for music, he has ventured into creating this album amidst his medical profession. There is an interesting background to this album. Initially, Dr. U.P.S. wrote a short story. It is about 'the dance of midnight ghosts',

which is based on Nagercoil folklore. Inspired by the story, he collaborated with friends to turn it into a

short film with Aarish directing it. When it came to the dance of the ghosts in the short film, they needed a song, which Dr. U.P.S. himself penned since he knows Nagercoil dialect well. Music directors H. Hoomar Ezhilan and H. Shajahan composed the song, with Master Suresh Sid taking care of choreography. The song too is directed by Aarish. Produced on a grand budget, the album will be released by Saregama. Talking about the album amidst his 'operations', Dr. U.P.S. said, "I am

primarily a doctor. I have always had interest in arts. I started this as a short story, then it became a short film which eventually turned into an album. This is an extension of a story my grandmother told me as a child. I am producing this with the help of my friends. They even forced me to write the lyrics for the album. We have added some social concepts to the grandma story and created the album. Witnessing a lot of graphics work for this album is a new experience in cinema for me. Now I am satisfied and happy when everyone appreciates the album. I hope the enthusiasm it gives will make me travel further in this sector."

Director Gopinath Narayanamoorthy's new production house My Kinda Films launched in style

Chennai, May 25 2024: Gopinath Narayanamoorthy, writer-director of the upcoming bilingual feature film, titled 'Thanga Muttai' in Tamil and 'Bangaru Guddu' in Telugu, launched his new production house My Kinda Films in Chennai Thursday (May 16), which happens to be the birthday of his mother Kothainayaki K. At the event attended by Gopinath Narayanamoorthy's mentors and filmmakers Milind Rau, R Kannan, Directors Association Secretary Perarasu and veteran industrialist Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti and others, the name board of My Kinda Films was received from the guests by Gopinath Narayanamoorthy and his Co-Director Karikalan. My Kinda Films' first venture 'Kothaiyin Kural' short film starring Sanjeev, Nalini, Poppy Master among others was



screened at the event. Celebrities who attended the screening appreciated much the short film. Producer Rajan, Director Mohan G, Director SR Prabhakar, Producers Ilanchezian KM and Koteswara Raju ('Thanga Muttai' and 'Bangaru Guddu') viewed this special show and had great things to say about the movie. Following this, 'Kothaiyin Kural' will be screened at leading international film festivals and streamed on a popular OTT platform. The film that is about a 12-year-old girl filing a court case on an important issue in the

society talks about the system and tries to advocate a change in one of the effective pillars of the Constitution. The short film puts forth an important point at a time when general elections are happening in India. Noted actor Sanjeev who did Tamil dubbing for popular Telugu actor Sampooranesh Babu, who plays the lead in 'Thanga Muttai', has played the role of a government officer in 'Kothaiyin Kural'. Yesteryear heroine Nalini, Poppy Master and others have done key characters. The crew of 'Thanga Muttai' has been retained by the director for this short

project made without any compromise in quality. While Pavi K Pavan has taken care of cinematography, Ram is in charge of editing, and P V Balaji is the art director. The objective of the story unfolds through the eyes of a girl child and told through her perspective. It also reminds us of the quote of former President Shri APJ Abdul Kalam, that the future of India lies in the hands of the youngsters. Gopinath Narayanamoorthy, an IT professional with experience working with multinational corporations, is a screenwriting and filmmaking alum of director Rajiv Menon's Mindscreen Institute. He has also worked with directors Milind Rau, R Kannan and Bejoy Nambiar. Later, when he started a writing company, filmmaker Gautham Vasudev Menon urged him to become a director.

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT WITH KFC'S NEW RANGE OF SUMMER BEVERAGES

Chennai May 25 2024: With temperatures rising across the country, the only question on everyone's mind is how to beat the heat?

KFC India has the perfect solution – four uniquely refreshing beverages, to not just beat, but help crush the heat! The icy cold beverages are a must-try in the scorching summer.

Cool off with the

classic Krush Lime which is the perfect blend of Indian masala and lemony zest.

Consumers who enjoy minty flavours can try the Virgin Mojito which infuses lemon and muddled mint with chilled soda.

Next on the summer beverages menu is the Masala Pepsi, a spicy take on the cult classic. Lastly, there is the Mountain Dew Mojito, a tangy duet of mint &



lime, topped with refreshing Mountain Dew.

Starting at just INR 59, KFC's refreshing new range of summer drinks is the perfect solution to the summer sun.

So what are you waiting for? Krush the heat at a KFC restaurant near you and try all four beverages via dine-in and takeaway.

Flipkart Grocery records 1.6X y-o-y growth; over 50 percent of grocery deliveries carried out using electric vehicles

Chennai May 25 2024: Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has recorded a 1.6X y-o-y growth in its grocery business. This significant milestone is a testament to Flipkart's commitment to providing the best online shopping experience to pan-India consumers with a wide selection of daily essentials at great prices and convenience.

Value and Convenience Drive Growth:

Being a customer-first organization, Flipkart Grocery ensures the provision of fresh produce at affordable prices. To bolster consumer trust, all its products mention manufacturing and expiry dates thereby ensuring utmost transparency and freshness. As part of its expansion journey, Flipkart is deepening its reach in metros such as Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and New Delhi as well as in tier 2+ towns across Bharat, with consumers driving growth in cities like Aurangabad, Bankura, Bokaro, Chhatrapur, Guwahati, Jamshedpur, Krishnanagar, and Visakhapatnam, reflecting its popularity among diverse demographics.

Pioneering accessibility and quick service, Flipkart Grocery is the only e-commerce company that offers next-day delivery in over 200 cities, including metros such as Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi, and T2+ towns like Anantapur, Berhampore, Gorakhpur, Moradabad, Nagaon, Saharsa, Shimoga, Vellore, among several others. With a wide



array of products being offered at a starting price range of Rs. 5, consumers from these cities have shown strong inclination towards affordability, further cementing Flipkart Grocery's position as a value destination for e-grocery shoppers.

In terms of high-performing categories, Flipkart has witnessed a 1.6X growth in essential staples such as oil, ghee, atta and FMCG favorites such as tea, coffee, detergents, and personal care. Flipkart has also recorded strong growth across essential and non-essential items, with a notable

surge in premium categories such as liquid detergents by 1.8X, dry fruits by 1.5X, and energy drinks by 1.5X, among others.

Infrastructure expansion to cater to growing demand:

In an effort to cater to the rising demand for daily essentials, Flipkart has strengthened its grocery supply chain infrastructure across the country with the launch and expansion of 11 grocery fulfillment centers across key locations such as Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hubli, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Ludhiana, Malda, Patna, Sonipat in Delhi NCR, Visakhapatnam, and others. With the combined size of over

12.14 lakhs sq. ft. and a capacity of close to 20.9 lakhs units, these fulfillment centers serve 1.6 lakhs grocery orders per day across these regions. Building a resilient supply chain network is one of the key pillars of Flipkart's growth strategy and helps bring the ease of online grocery shopping to more customers in the country.

Technological innovations boost excellence:

Powered by home-grown technology, Flipkart has optimized its operations to efficiently cater to the surge in online grocery demand. Voice-enabled shopping, zero-interest credit, and open-box delivery, among other features, have been key pillars in furthering Flipkart's commitment to enhancing its customers' shopping experience. The company's in-house tech teams leverage data insights to offer great prices, locate customer hubs for proximity, and ensure real-time monitoring of deliveries, thereby revolutionizing the e-commerce landscape.

Focus on sustainability:

In line with its commitment to sustainability, Flipkart has made significant strides in environmental responsibility. At present, over 50 percent of grocery

deliveries are covered on EVs, with Flipkart marking a y-o-y increment of 140 percent. Leading in states such as New Delhi, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu, Flipkart continues to focus on building a greener future. Among other initiatives towards achieving its sustainability goals, Flipkart delivers groceries to consumers in reusable totes and uses eco-friendly cardboard shreds to protect

any delicate items. This helps in optimizing packaging by reducing waste in its supply chain and minimizing overall environmental impact.

Hari Kumar G, Vice President, Head of Grocery, Flipkart, said, "Flipkart's growth in the grocery category reflects our unwavering commitment to building innovation and customer-centricity for emerging categories while offering the right value to consumers for their everyday grocery needs. As we expand our footprint and enhance our service offerings, we remain dedicated to delivering unparalleled convenience to millions of customers across India.

At Flipkart, we are determined to set new standards in the digital grocery landscape, ensuring that Flipkart continues to be the preferred choice for customers, and we stay focused on making e-grocery accessible to all customers nationwide. With a dynamic team and a customer-first approach, we are poised to revolutionize how India shops for groceries online."

Sundaram Finance logs highest-ever disbursements of Rs. 26,163 crores, 25% over FY23; AUM grows 27% to Rs. 43,987 crores

Chennai May 25 2024: Net profit for FY24 up by 23% at Rs. 1,334 crores (excluding exceptional item); Q4FY24 PAT up by 22% at Rs. 386 crores (excluding exceptional item)

160% final dividend (Rs. 16/- per share) declared

The Board of Directors of Sundaram Finance Ltd. (SFL) approved the audited standalone and consolidated financial results for the year ended March 31, 2024, at its meeting held on May 24, 2024, in Chennai.

"Q4 witnessed sluggish demand in the automotive sector although pre-election impetus boosted infrastructure and construction activity. We improved market share and ensured best-in-class asset quality in a tough operating environment. Looking ahead, while medium term prospects for the Indian economy look



promising, we expect FY25 to be a tale of two halves - H1 impacted by the general elections currently underway and normal monsoons forecasted and H2 witnessing a revival in demand and private investment. Team Sundaram will continue to take a through-cycle view and sharply focus on delivering the Sundaram experience to our customers, our people and all stakeholders," said Rajiv Lochan, Managing Director.

Disbursements for FY24 recorded a growth of 25% over FY23 with all asset classes and geographies witnessing significant growth.

Gross stage 3 assets improved substantially over the previous year. Gross stage 3 assets as on March 31, 2024, stood at 1.26% with provision cover of 50% as against 1.66% as on March 31, 2023, with provision cover of 49%. Profit after tax at Rs. 1,334 crores registered an increase of 23% (excluding exceptional item) in FY24 as against Rs. 1,088 crores in FY23. Return on assets at 3.18% as against 2.84% for FY23 and capital adequacy at 20.5% remains quite comfortable to support planned growth.

The Company has declared a final dividend of Rs. 16/- per share (160%).

CONSOLIDATED PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

The consolidated results of SFL include the results of its standalone subsidiaries Sundaram Home Finance, Sundaram Asset Management and joint venture company Royal Sundaram General Insurance.

The assets under management (AUM) in our lending and general insurance businesses stood at Rs. 66,472 crores as on 31st March 2024 as against Rs. 53,406 crores as on 31st March 2023. The assets under management of our asset management business stood at Rs. 70,883 crores as on 31st March 2024 as against Rs. 54,719 crores as on 31st March 2023.

Profit after tax for FY24 grew by 8% to Rs. 1,436 crores as compared to Rs. 1,328 crores in FY23.

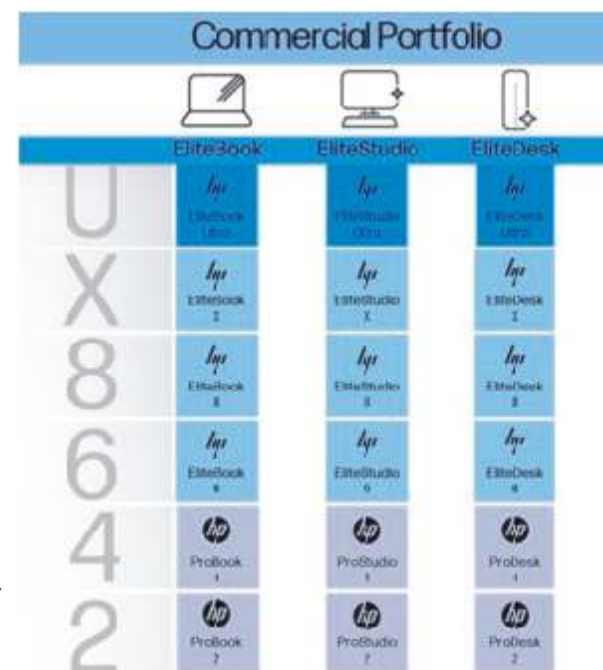
HP Unveils Branding Transformation for Consumer and Commercial PCs

Chennai May 25 2024: Today, HP Inc. announced a rebranding initiative aimed at simplifying its consumer and commercial PC portfolios. This transformation not only streamlines product naming conventions but also reflects HP's unwavering commitment to innovation, customer-centricity, and the ever-evolving needs of modern users.

HP OmniBook: A New Beginning for Consumer Portfolio

Under the new strategy, HP's consumer PC portfolio will now be united under a single prefix, "Omni," followed by a signifier indicating the product category. For example, laptops will bear the prefix "OmniBook," all-in-one desktops will be labeled "OmniStudio," and traditional desktops will carry "OmniDesk." Meanwhile, gaming PCs will continue to thrive under the renowned OMEN brand.

The inspiration for this reinvigorated brand comes from HP's rich history, with the prefix "Omni" symbolizing the company's



commitment to delivering cutting-edge solutions that cater to every need in today's hybrid world. HP EliteBook & HP ProBook: Reimagining HP's Commercial Portfolio

In parallel, HP is proud to unveil the evolution of its iconic Commercial PC brands: HP EliteBook and ProBook. While preserving the brand equity and familiarity of these sub-brands, HP has streamlined its naming conventions for a more cohesive and consistent portfolio. Communicating Performance: The Modifier Structure

To further simplify product communication, each device will now include a number in its name, ranging from 2 to 10

(with 10 represented by "X"). Odd numbers will denote consumer PCs, while even numbers will be assigned to commercial PCs, closely mapping back to the existing system. The numbering system will help customers quickly understand the hierarchy of the portfolio, with higher numbers indicating increased performance and advanced features.

In addition to the numerical designation, HP has introduced the modifier "Ultra" to denote its most premium offerings, as well as descriptive modifiers such as "Fold" for dual screens and "Flip" for convertible PCs, signifying the various form factors available. Taking Next-Gen AI PCs to the Next

Logo Level

To complement these changes, HP has also unveiled the HP AI Helix logo, symbolizing the integration of advanced AI capabilities in its next-gen AI PCs. The logo indicates devices and services across HP's portfolio built with trusted HP AI Engineering to deliver powerful, meaningful, and secure AI experiences. The AI Helix's shape is reminiscent of the structure of DNA, symbolizing HP's commitment to embed the DNA of AI into its devices.

The next-gen AI PCs announced today carry the HP AI Helix, meaning they are unlike any PCs to date. The HP AI Engineering on these devices means they are built with unique HP AI experiences, such as HP AI Companion and Poly Camera Pro, and are equipped with protection against AI-generated threats all on a powerful platform including a Neural Processing Unit (NPU) at 40+ trillions of operations per second (TOPS) and a next-gen OS. They're purpose-built for the breakthrough AI experiences local or on the cloud.