

# Prime Minister of India to flag off the inaugural service 3 Vande Bharat Express services tomorrow through VC

Chennai August 30 2024: Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister will flag off the inaugural Services of Vande Bharat Express Trains between Dr MGR Chennai Central and Nagercoil & Madurai and Bangalore Cantonment tomorrow, the 31st of August 2024 (Saturday) through Video Conferencing. Hon'ble PM will also flag off the inaugural Meerut -Lucknow Vande Bharat Express.

In Southern Railway, ceremonial functions will be held at Dr MGR Chennai Central and Madurai Jn. At Dr MGR Chennai Central, Shri R. N. Ravi, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr L.Murugan, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Information



At Madurai Jn, Shri V. Somanna, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti, Hon'ble Members of Parliament, elected representatives and other dignitaries will participate in the

Flagging off event of the Madurai - Bengaluru Cantonment Vande Bharat Inaugural Special train. The schedule of IN A U G U R A L SERVICE of Madurai - Bengaluru Cantonment Bharat Special on 31.08.2024: Train No.02671 Madurai - Bengaluru Cantonment Vande Bharat Inaugural Special will leave Madurai Jn at

12.30 hrs on 31st August, 2024 and reach Bengaluru Cantonment at 21.30 hrs, the same day

Composition: Vande Bharat rake of 8 Coaches Reception functions will be held at enroute railway stations as well at the destination stations, where a warm reception will be accorded to the prestigious service by elected representatives, rail passengers, railway officials, students, and general public.

The indigenously manufactured Vande Bharat Express is redefining rail travel experience in our country. In order to provide an opportunity to students, rail enthusiasts and general public to get a glimpse of the prestigious train service, the inaugural special Vande Bharat Express trains will have stoppages enroute as mentioned above. Souvenir passes for travel in the inaugural special Vande Bharat Express have been issued to identified dignitaries and cross sections of society including school children and media. General public are welcome to join the festivities at the enroute stations during the inaugural run. Regular Services of these trains will start on 2nd September 2024. The schedule of the New Vande Bharats are notified in Press Release No.389/2024-25 dated 30th August 2024.

# Digital Connexion at the Tamil Nadu Investment Conclave with M K Stalin, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Chennai August 30 2024: key highlight from the Tamil Nadu Investment Conclave, a significant event focused on driving economic growth and attracting global

investments to the state. The conclave brought together industry leaders, government officials, and investors to discuss the future of Tamil Nadu as a premier destination for technology and infrastructure development. During the event, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M K Stalin introduced Digital Connexion's Chennai facility as India's first AI-ready, 100-megawatt data center campus. Sharing a glimpse of from the event,



featuring Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M K Stalin, Mr. CB Velayuthan, CEO of Digital Connexion, alongside Colin McLean, Global Chief Revenue Officer, Digital Realty. Connexion is proud to be at the forefront, establishing India's first 100-megawatt AI ready data center campus in Ambattur. It is a milestone that strengthens Chennai's role as a digital epicenter and addresses the growing IT infrastructure needs for advanced technologies like artificial intelligence. Our data center in Chennai is driving innovation and building a robust, interconnected ecosystem that enables the future of technology for global and local enterprises." Mr. Vishnu V, MD & CEO, Guidance Tamil Nadu; Mr. Mark Widmar, CEO of First Solar; Dr. TRB Rajaa, Hon'ble Minister for Industries; Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M K Stalin; Mr. Colin McLean, Global Chief Revenue Officer, Digital Realty; Mr. CB Velayuthan, CEO of Digital Connexion; Dr. K Srikanth Reddy, Consul General of India, SFO; and Mr. Arun Roy, Secretary, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department, Government of Tamil Nadu were present.

Commenting on the occasion of the Tamil Nadu Investment Conclave, Mr. CB Velayuthan, CEO, Digital Connexion, said, "Chennai has emerged as a pivotal location for digital infrastructure in India, supported by the Tamil Nadu government's visionary approach, the region's location advantage as a connectivity hub and the unparalleled talent pool. Digital

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**Who We Are**

Established in 2004 by 51 year old Dr. Jeeva Raju, the founder of Oasis Grace, has been a part of helping international construction projects to India.

25<sup>+</sup> Locations 500<sup>+</sup> Projects 20<sup>+</sup> Years of Excellence

**Our Clientele**

Reliance, ABB, JMR, Unitech, HOKAR, JMR

**Our Projects**

**Projects in India**

VR Mall - Anna Nagar

Power Plant Jam Nagar - Reliance

Intown - Chennai

**Projects in India**

Neegan Villa - Iyyampenthangal

Aqua Designs India Pvt Ltd

Orchid Spring - Alliance

**Projects in Chennai**

Vetivangudi

Iyyampenthangal

Tharupakkam

Adambakkam

**Projects in Coimbatore**

Projects in Bangalore

Auriga - Bangalore

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## Nokia, Paypal, Yield Engineering, Microchip, Infinix, Applied Materials TN signs MoUs with six companies worth Rs. 900 cr, job for 4,100 Facilities in Chennai, Kovai, Madurai



Chennai, August 30 2024: An MoU was signed between Nokia and TN to establish a new research and development center with the world's largest sustainable network testing facility in Siruseri SIPCOT, Chennai. This Rs.450 crore investment will create 100 jobs. Industries Minister T.R.B. Raja, Industries Secretary Arun Roy, Guidance TN MD and CEO V. Vishnu, Consul General of India in San Francisco K. Srikar Reddy, Nokia officials Nishant Batra, Chief Strategy and Technology Officer, and Sandy Motley, President of Fixed Networks are also seen.

In the presence of Chief Minister Stalin, six Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed at the investors' conference held in San Francisco, USA.

The MoUs, involving leading global companies such as Nokia, PayPal, Yield Engineering Systems, Microchip Technology, Infinix Healthcare, and Applied Materials, will bring in investments worth Rs.900 crore to Chennai, Coimbatore, and Madurai, creating employment opportunities for 4,100 people.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, aiming to boost industrial growth and generate more employment opportunities for the state's youth, has undertaken several significant initiatives. T

he state, currently the second-largest economy in India, is on a mission to become a \$1 trillion



economy by 2030, under the leadership of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.

During the investors' conference in San Francisco, the following MoUs were signed in the presence of the Chief Minister:

**Nokia**

An MoU was signed between Nokia and the Government of Tamil Nadu to establish a new research and development center with the world's largest sustainable network testing facility in Siruseri SIPCOT, Chennai. This Rs.450 crore investment will create 100 jobs. Nishant Batra, Chief Strategy and Technology Officer, and Sandy Motley, President of Fixed Networks, represented Nokia at the event.

**PayPal**

PayPal Holdings, a US-based multinational financial technology company, facilitates online money transfers in many countries. PayPal currently operates with over 2,500 employees in Chennai. An MoU was signed between PayPal and the Government of Tamil Nadu to establish an advanced development center for artificial intelligence, creating 1,000 jobs. The MoU was signed in the presence of Srin

Venkatesan, Executive Vice President, and G. Yang David Fan, Head of International Government Relations from PayPal.

**Yield Engineering Systems:**

Yield Engineering Systems (YES), a leading provider of technology solutions and process equipment for the semiconductor ecosystem, has its headquarters in Fremont, California. The company, which already operates an engineering center in Coimbatore, signed an MoU to establish a manufacturing and R&D facility in Sullur, Coimbatore, with a Rs.150 crore investment, creating 300 jobs. Ramakanth Alapati, President, and Prabhat Mishra, CFO, represented YES at the event.

**Microchip Technology**

Microchip Technology, a leading supplier of smart, connected, and secure embedded control solutions, has been operating in Chennai since 2012. An MoU was signed between Microchip and the Government of Tamil Nadu to establish a semiconductor technology R&D center in Chennai, with a Rs.250 crore investment, creating 1,500 jobs. Patrick Johnson, Senior Corporate Vice President, and Bruce Weier, Corporate Vice President, represented Microchip at the event.

**Infinix Healthcare**

Infinix Healthcare, a pioneering healthcare technology company headquartered in San Jose, California, has chosen Madurai's Elcot for its office setup. An MoU was signed to establish a technology and global distribution center in Madurai with a Rs.50 crore investment, creating 700 jobs. The MoU was signed in the presence of Radhika Tandon, Chief Marketing Officer of Infinix Healthcare.

**Applied Materials**

Applied Materials, the world's number one semiconductor and display equipment company, signed an MoU to establish an advanced AI development center for semiconductor manufacturing and equipment in Chennai's Taramani.

This investment, involving Rs.500 crore, will create 500 jobs. Prabhu Raja, President of Semiconductor Products Group, and Satish Kuppurav, Vice President, represented Applied Materials at the event.

Minister for Industries T.R.B. Raja, Secretary of the Department of Industries and Investment Promotion V. Arun Roy, and other senior government officials.

## Southern Railway gets two new Vande Bharat Express services

Chennai, August 30 2024: Consequent to the flagging off of the Chennai - Nagercoil and Madurai - Bengaluru Cantt Vande Bharat inaugural specials by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister on 31st of August 2024 through Video Conferencing, the regular services of both the Vande Bharat Expresses will be operated from 2nd September 2024 as follows:-

**Regular Service of Train No. 20627/20628 Chennai Egmore - Nagercoil - Chennai Egmore Vande Bharat Express (Except Wednesdays)**  
Train No. 20627 Chennai Egmore - Nagercoil Vande Bharat Express (Regular service - 6 days a week except Wednesday).  
The Chair Car Fare in the New Vande Bharat from Chennai Egmore to Nagercoil will be Rs.1760/- and at 13.30 hrs on and from 02nd September, 2024 and reach Nagercoil at 13.50 hrs, the same day.

**Regular Service of Train No. 20671/20672 Madurai - Bengaluru Cantonment Vande Bharat Express (Except Tuesdays)**  
Train No. 20671 Madurai - Bengaluru Cantonment Vande Bharat Express (Regular Service - 6 days a week except Tuesday) will leave Madurai Jn. at 05.15 hrs on and from 02nd September, 2024 and reach Bengaluru Cantonment at 13.00 hrs, the same day.

**Regular Service of Train No. 20672 Bengaluru Cantonment - Madurai Vande Bharat Express (Except Tuesdays)**  
Train No. 20672 Bengaluru Cantonment - Madurai Vande Bharat Express (Regular Service - 6 days a week except Tuesday) will leave Bengaluru Cantonment at 13.00 hrs, the same day.

**Regular Service of Train No. 20628 Chennai Egmore - Nagercoil - Chennai Egmore Vande Bharat Express (Except Wednesdays)**

**Regular Service of Train No. 20671 Madurai - Bengaluru Cantonment Vande Bharat Express (Except Tuesdays)**

**Regular Service of Train No. 20672 Bengaluru Cantonment - Madurai Vande Bharat Express (Except Tuesdays)**

**Regular Service of Train No. 20627 Chennai Egmore - Nagercoil - Chennai Egmore Vande Bharat Express (Except Wednesdays)**

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**Rotary Club of Nanganallur Elite President Rtn Sathish Rajasekar and their Club Members performed Planting of Tree Saplings along with Tree Guards, Distribution of Seed Balls, Palm seeds were distributed to School Students of Kendriya Vidyalaya Meenambakkam and DGQA Nanganallur on 24th Aug 2024(Sat).**

**100 saplings with Tree Guards, 100 Palm Seeds and 2000 Seed Balls Let's together Save the Environment. Hearty thanks to Rtn Sampath NV sir for organizing and coordinating this wonderful event.**



## FinTech revolution boosts financial inclusion, innovation: Modi

Chennai, August 30 2024: Prime Minister Narendra Modi showcased India's FinTech achievements at the Global FinTech Fest in Mumbai, highlighting the sector's crucial role in driving financial inclusion and innovation.

He commended the industry for making financial services accessible to millions and contributing to the country's economic growth.

Speaking at the Global FinTech Fest (GFF) 2024, PM Modi celebrated India's economic dynamism, stating, "It is the festive season in India, and there is also festivity in the economy and markets." He emphasized how India's fintech sector has become a global focal point, with visitors now as



captivated by its technological advancements as they once were by its cultural richness.

Reflecting on past doubts about the possibility of a fintech revolution in India, especially given the lack of banking infrastructure and internet access in rural areas, PM Modi highlighted the nation's remarkable

progress. He noted the increase in broadband users from 60 million to 940 million in just a decade, illustrating India's transformative journey in the digital economy.

PM Modi is also set to lay the foundation stone for the Vadhan Port project in Palghar, a significant initiative worth Rs.76,000 crores.

The Vadhan Port is poised to become one of India's largest deepwater ports, greatly enhancing the nation's maritime connectivity. Additionally, the Prime Minister will inaugurate various fisheries initiatives and launch the National Roll Out of the Vessel Communication and Support system.

## Elon Musk threatens to close down X in Brazil

Chennai, August 30 2024: Elon Musk has stepped up online attacks on a Supreme Court judge threatening to suspend social media platform X in Brazil, media reports said.

Justice Alexandre de Moraes had threatened to suspend X if Musk did not appoint a new legal representative of the company in Brazil and settle any outstanding daily fines within 24 hours. "Alexandre de Moraes is an evil dictator cosplaying as a judge," the world's richest person wrote on

X. Musk, who had previously called de Moraes "Darth Vader," retweeted a statement from X's Global Government Affairs team saying it would publish the judge's "illegal demands and all related court filings" in the coming days, according to CNN.

Brazil is a major market for social media platforms. About 40 million Brazilians, or about 18% of the population, access X at least once per month, according to the Associated Press.

The trash talking marks the latest salvo in

Musk's feud with de Moraes, which centers on arguments over free speech and alleged disinformation. X announced earlier this month that it would close its operations and fire its staff in Brazil due to what it called "censorship orders" from the judge.

De Moraes had ordered the social media company to block several X accounts he said were spreading disinformation.

The latest statement, which was signed by de Moraes, was also shared on the

Supreme Court's official X account, tagging both Musk and X's Global Government Affairs account.

The statement from the Supreme Court was posted at around 8.30 p.m. local time on Wednesday, giving Musk until Thursday evening local time to respond.

On August 17, X published a lengthy statement saying it would be forced to close operations and fire staff in Brazil due to de Moraes' "censorship orders".

## Nitish joins Opposition chorus on caste census

Chennai, August 30 2024: The demand for a national caste census is gaining steam, with JD(U), a key ally of the NDA government, joining the chorus along with the Opposition INDIA bloc parties on Thursday.

The JD(U), the largest ally of the Modi government, demanded that caste census be taken up as a subject for discussion in the Parliament's Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes. The issue was raised by DMK member TR

Baalu at the first meeting of the committee, chaired by BJP MP Ganesh Singh.

Sources said Congress member Manickam Tagore wanted the committee to list caste census as the first subject for deliberations. He was supported by TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee, who also wanted the committee to write to the Union Home Ministry on holding the survey.

A BJP member said that reservations should

also cover recruitment done on contract and temporary basis, and ad-hoc appointments.

Along with the Opposition, JD(U) MP Giridhari Yadav wanted the caste census issue to be listed for deliberation by the committee. This assumes significance as the JD(U) has not made a strong pitch for caste census after joining the Modi 3.0 government. JD(U) leader KC Tyagi, in an interview with this newspaper earlier, had said that though the party is committed to the demand for a

nationwide caste census, it does not want any friction with the government on the issue.

The JD(U) had been vocal on conducting a nationwide caste census in the past. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar ordered a caste-based survey, whose findings were made public last year. The survey revealed that other backward and extremely backward classes constituted 63 per cent of Bihar's population.

## DBS Bank India unveils 'DBS Golden Circle', an exclusive priority banking program for senior citizens

Chennai August 30 2024: DBS Bank India has announced the launch of 'DBS Golden Circle', a comprehensive priority banking program meticulously designed to cater to the unique needs of senior citizens. This program offers a suite of exclusive benefits and services, making banking simpler and more rewarding for resident Indian citizens aged 60 years and above.

This launch also marks the 30th anniversary of DBS in India, a milestone that underscores the bank's commitment to the local market. DBS Bank India continues to leverage its extensive physical network and digital capabilities to provide solutions that meet the evolving needs of its customers, fostering trust and building lasting relationships.

The India Ageing Report 2023 by the United Nations Population Fund highlights income insecurity as a significant vulnerability in old age. Navigating savings effectively during this stage of life is made more complex by increasing living costs and the challenge of accessing funds without compromising investments.

'DBS Golden Circle' addresses these concerns, and one of its key features is the attractive interest rate offered on savings accounts and deposits. Senior citizens can earn an interest rate of up to 7% per annum on savings account balances above INR 4 Lakhs and up to INR 5 Lakhs. Additionally, they can benefit from an enhanced interest rate of 0.50% per annum on fixed deposits with a tenure ranging from 376 days to 540 days. These competitive interest rates enable senior citizens to effectively



grow their savings and achieve greater financial stability.

Prashant Joshi, Managing Director and Head of Consumer Banking Group, DBS Bank India, said, "DBS Golden Circle is designed to make banking easier and more convenient for senior citizens, with a strong focus on trust, safety, and convenience. We empower our customers to enjoy their golden years by delivering a banking experience that is secure, reliable, and tailored to their unique needs. This aligns seamlessly with our brand promise of 'Live More, Bank Less', as we combine the best of both worldstech-driven, tailored service complemented by a personal touch to help senior citizens navigate banking confidently."

Security is a key concern for senior citizens, and the 'DBS Golden Circle' program addresses this with cyber insurance coverage up to INR 1,00,000. The program recognises the importance of flexibility and accessibility in financial planning. Senior citizens can choose from flexible interest payout options for Fixed Deposits,

including monthly, quarterly, or cumulative payouts. Moreover, fixed deposits with a tenure of over one year do not incur any penalties for premature withdrawals, ensuring that senior citizens have access to their funds in case of any emergencies.

Other benefits of 'DBS Golden Circle' include:

Special overdraft rates against FDs and Loans on Deposit.

Zero transaction fees for NEFT, RTGS, duplicate statements, and unlimited free domestic ATM transactions.

Lifetime free debit cards.

Discount on locker rentals, providing a safe and affordable option for storing valuable items.

Selection of products from leading life insurance companies and ecosystem partners, including thoughtfully curated health and wellness benefits, discounts on healthcare services, pharmacy discounts, hospicash benefits, and comprehensive annual health check-ups.

DBS has been named the 'Safest Bank in Asia' by Global

Finance for 15 consecutive years and brings strong global expertise matched with a deep understanding of India. Through its premium banking and wealth management platform, Treasures, DBS Bank India provides a range of signature lifestyle privileges and exclusive offers. Customers can access specialised wealth solutions tailored to their short-term needs and long-term goals, aligned with their risk appetite. They can choose from insurance solutions covering health, business, travel, and life. Additionally, DBS Treasures customers receive preferential remittance rates and solutions, allowing seamless money transfers abroad.

DBS Bank India's digiPortfolio combines human expertise and technology to help customers select ready-made portfolios of mutual funds tailored to their age, income, and risk appetite, including top-ranked mutual funds supported by research inputs from CRISIL. In 2023, the bank launched the DBS Vantage card, an invite-only, super premium credit card that offers a range of privileges, including complimentary memberships to luxurious hotels, a bespoke rewards program, and global travel benefits.

As technology rapidly advances and becomes an integral part of our daily lives, DBS has significantly increased its efforts to educate customers, including senior citizens, on navigating the digital banking landscape. This involves providing guidance on identifying potential scams and implementing robust security measures to protect their personal and financial information.

## Vistara merges with Air India



Chennai August 30 2024: Vistara will operate the last flight under its brand on November 11 and the full-service carrier's

operations will be unified with Air India from November 12, the airlines announced on Friday.

The government has approved Singapore Airlines' foreign direct investment as part of the merger deal.

Customers will no longer be able to book flights with Vistara beyond November 12.

Vistara is a joint venture between Tata Group and Singapore Airlines.

All Vistara aircraft will be operated by Air India and bookings for



the routes operated by these aircraft will be redirected to Air India's website, the company informed.



## Ohmium Secures Award in MNRE's SIGHT Incentive Scheme Tranche II, Expanding Leadership in Green Hydrogen Electrolyzer Manufacturing



Chennai, August 30 2024: Ohmium International ("Ohmium"), a leading green hydrogen company that designs, manufactures and deploys advanced Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) electrolyzers, has been selected a second time as a SIGHT Incentive Program award winner by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

Ohmium was awarded support for up to 137 MW of capacity for Tranche II of the SIGHT Incentive program, based on its' electrolyzer performance and its'

contribution to the local economy. Ohmium was the only PEM electrolyzer manufacturer to receive this award.

"Our selection for this award demonstrates both the Ohmium team's commitment to excellence as well as to decarbonization in India and across the globe," said Arne Ballantine, Ohmium CEO.

This award is a continuation of Ohmium's success in Tranche I of the SIGHT program. The tenders, implemented by the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), are intended to incentivize 1.5 GW of

domestic electrolyzer manufacturing capacity in support of India's sustainability goals.

"India has ambitious green hydrogen goals, and this program supports India's evolution as a global Energy hub. These funds will accelerate the expansion of Ohmium's Gigafactory in Bangalore as well as support future local manufacturing facilities" noted Ballantine.

"India's refineries and ammonia plants are looking for decarbonization solutions. The combination of the

SIGHT incentives and our hyper-modular PEM electrolyzer solutions – installed outdoors and vertically stackable for minimal land use and low cost – enable us to provide a compelling solution" Ballantine concluded.

Ohmium is the PEM electrolyzer leader in India, with partnerships with industry leaders such as NTPC and Tata Projects. The company has an active green hydrogen project pipeline of over 2 GW across four continents, serving a diverse range of customers across energy, transportation, steel production, and heavy industry.

## India offers to undertake Quick Impact Projects in Pacific nations

Chennai, August 30 2024: India on Thursday offered to undertake a Quick Impact Project in each of the 14 Pacific Island Countries, based on each country's choice, worth \$ 50,000.

The offer was made by Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita, in his address at the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Dialogue Partners Session, in Nuku'alofa, the capital of Tonga, which is hosting the PIF.

"As part of our continuous solidarity with our Pacific Partner Countries and the Pacific Islands Forum, I am pleased to announce that Government of India will undertake one Quick Impact Project or QIP of each country's choice worth USD 50,000 in each of the 14 Pacific Island Countries. We will be happy to receive proposals in this regard from the respective countries," he said.

He reaffirmed India's strong commitment to work closely with the Pacific partner Countries and the Pacific Islands



Forum, as the foremost regional mechanism, in line with the priorities outlined in the 2050 Strategy to help build a stronger, more resilient and prosperous Blue Pacific Continent.

Margherita said that India's multifaceted engagement with the Blue Pacific Continent is anchored in its Act East Policy, and is strengthened both bilaterally and through different mechanisms such as the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC).

He highlighted the significance that India attaches to the relationship.

India's bilateral development partnership in the form of grant-in-aid projects is worth about USD 3 million per annum. These are demand-driven and have had high impact in the Pacific partner

countries.

At the 3rd FIPIC Summit held in Papua New Guinea last year, Prime Minister Modi announced a 12 Point Action Plan which includes the setting up of a 100-bedded regional Super-specialty Hospital in Suva, Fiji, a Regional IT and Cyber Security Training Hub in Papua New Guinea, 1,000 Scholarships over the next five years, supply of Dialysis Units, and Generic Medicine Pharmacy outlets.

"Our Pacific friends have benefited from the India-UN Development Partnership Fund which supports demand-driven sustainable development projects such as the Parametric Microinsurance project in Fiji, Construction of water cistern in Tuvalu and

solarisation of the Langafonua building of Tonga's National Council for Women which will be commissioned tomorrow (Aug 30), he said.

"India shares your concern regarding the threat posed by climate change and rising sea level. India has successfully reduced the emission intensity vis-?-vis its GDP by 33% between 2005 and 2019, thus achieving the initial Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) target for 2030, 11 years ahead of the scheduled time." India leads a number of global initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Green Grids Initiative - One Sun, One World, One Grid, the Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS), the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), and the Global Biofuel Alliance which benefit our Pacific partners.

India is committed to responding to the vulnerabilities caused by natural hazards in the Pacific, the MoS added.

## Samsung Launches 10 Large Capacity Bespoke AI Washing Machines for Indian Consumers

Chennai August 30 2024: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today unveiled its new range of 10 large-sized, front load washing machines. The AI-powered line-up promises a new era in laundry care for Indian consumers, making laundry a simpler chore through intuitive AI features.

The new, larger washing machines come in an ideal size of 12 Kg, enabling Indian consumers to wash larger loads in one go, making them ideal for bigger items like blankets, curtains and sarees. Samsung India's range of new 12 Kg AI washing machines starts at INR 52990. The new modern washing machines come in Bespoke design with Flat Glass Door and advanced AI features such as AI Wash, AI Energy Mode, AI Control and AI Ecobubble.

"Indian consumers are looking for new-age digital appliances that deliver best-in-class wash performance with minimum effort, while saving energy and time. Our new 12 Kg AI-powered washing machines enable consumers to wash bigger laundry loads in one go, allowing them to 'do less and live more'. The new range of front-load Bespoke AI washing machines distinguish themselves by providing a convenient and effective wash. With the premium Bespoke AI washing machine range, we aim to cater to consumers who value performance, convenience and style, and take a lead in the high capacity washing



machine segment," said Saurabh Baishakhia, Senior Director, Digital Appliances, Samsung India.

Taking a significant leap in personalized laundry experiences, Samsung's Bespoke AI washing machines leverage 2.8 million big data points to offer optimized wash options with integration of the SmartThings App. This also helps save a large amount of energy in every wash cycle - the AI Energy Mode results in a reduced electricity bill for consumers by providing up to 70% energy savings.

Elevating User Experiences with AI-Based Technologies

Minimizing efforts that go into treating laundry, a whole suite of AI-powered features in the Bespoke AI washing machines elevate user lifestyle while creating an overall experience that is smarter, more efficient, and eco-friendly. Hence, the new AI washing machines promise to take the thinking out of washing, making it less of a chore.

AI Wash feature uses advanced sensing to detect fabric weight and softness, while soil level tracking actively monitors the current level of soiling based on the water turbidity, optimizing water and detergent usage for a thorough yet gentle

laundry alarm reminder. They can then start a rinse + spin cycle to prevent odours emanating from their clothing. SmartThings Home Care\* monitors the machine's performance, giving consumers maintenance proactively and troubleshooting tips right on the Galaxy devices.

SuperSpeed option reduces the wash time to 39 minutes, without compromising wash performance. Plus, innovative features like Q-Bubble, and Speed Spray ensure powerful cleaning and efficient rinsing. Durability meets elegance with the Tempered Glass Door, while the Less Microfiber cycle reduces microplastic release by up to 54%, supporting sustainability. Furthermore, Hygiene Steam ensures a deep clean, removing 99.9% of bacteria and inactivating allergens for a healthier wash. Powered by Digital Inverter Technology, these washing machines guarantee energy efficiency, less noise, and long-lasting performance, backed by a 20-year warranty (on the motor).

Design & Availability

The Bespoke AI washing machines are sleek, and their premium appearance blends harmoniously with any modern interior. The washing machines will be available starting today on Samsung's official online store [Samsung.com](https://www.samsung.com), Samsung Shop App, retail stores, and other e-commerce platforms.



**Indian Bank celebrates National Sports Day by taking the FIT India pledge across all its branches and offices. At the Corporate office, Chennai Executive Director Shri Brajesh Kumar Singh today led the pledge-taking ceremony wherein senior officials and staff members participated.**