

SC dismisses plea against Isha Foundation Both Women said that they are living there of free will

Chennai Oct 18 2024: The Supreme Court on Friday closed the proceedings in a Habeas Corpus petition filed by a father alleging that two of his daughters had

been 'brainwashed' to reside at Jaggi Vasudev's Isha Yoga Centre in Coimbatore.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India DY

Chandrachud, Justices JB Pardiwala, and Manoj Misra ruled that since both women are adults, the petition's objective had been met after they expressed their desire to continue

residing at the Yoga Centre.

The Court noted that eight years ago, the women's mother had filed a Habeas Corpus petition, and

now their father has approached the Court with a similar request.

The petitioner alleged his daughters the elder one holding a

PG degree from a foreign university and the younger a software engineer were brainwashed after they went for yoga classes and have been

d detained in the centre. The Bench recalled that it had previously spoken directly to the women during the last hearing.

"We had spoken to both the ladies and recorded. Both of them said that they are living there of free will and we need to close the habeas corpus plea," CJI Chandrachud said.

Inauguration of 'Aviation Park' Showcasing India's Aviation Heritage

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Under the leadership of Shri Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, Minister of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Civil Aviation unveiled the Aviation Park within the premises of the Ministry. Situated amidst a serene

waterbody, the park showcases a stunning display of aircraft models, depicting the evolution of planes and the growth of India's Civil Aviation sector. The displays symbolize the ministry's journey towards progress and innovation in the

aviation field.

A backdrop of free-standing architectural columns, representing various regions of India, celebrates the rich cultural and architectural heritage of the country. A dedicated path in the park highlights significant milestones



in India's civil aviation history, from early

flight/aircrafts developments to modern advancements, creating an educational experience for the visitors.

The park has been thoughtfully developed with sustainability in mind.

Bamboo has been utilized for shaded seating areas, promoting eco-friendly construction practices. The park promises to be a landmark destination, blending India's aviation achievements with its architectural and cultural legacy,

inspiring future generations of aviation enthusiasts.

Shri Ram Mohan Naidu praised the collaborative efforts of all involved, emphasizing that the Aviation Park stands as a testament to India's rising influence in global aviation.

NHRC, India's National Conference on the Rights of Older Persons concludes with several suggestions

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Marking its 31st Foundation Day organized a day-long national conference on the 'Rights of Older Persons' today at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi today. Delivering the keynote address, Acting Chairperson, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani said elders are the architects of our nation's history, the keepers of our cultural heritage, and the pillars of our families. It is our moral and

ethical duty to ensure that they are treated with respect, compassion, and dignity in their twilight years. A growing ageing population presents both opportunities and challenges for the government and society. The Commission maintains a strong resolve to protect the rights of the elderly has taken several steps including forming a core group and issuing guidelines in this

regard.

She said that the challenges faced by older persons are multi-fold. From financial insecurity and healthcare disparities to social isolation and discrimination, they confront a myriad of obstacles that can significantly impact their quality of life. These are not merely hypothetical scenarios; they are realities faced by countless older persons in our society.

It is a stark reminder that the protection of the rights of our elders is not just a legal or policy matter; it is a deeply personal and societal responsibility.

Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani said that there are laws and several government schemes to address the needs of older adults. However, their effective implementation remains a key challenge. Some of their needs that require immediate attention

include ensuring access to affordable and quality healthcare services, recognizing and addressing their mental health needs, adequate pensions and social security benefits, affordable and quality housing, safety measures, and social support services, financial literacy for informed financial decisions and participation in the economy.

She said that strengthening and enforcing anti-

discrimination laws to protect older persons from age-based discrimination in all aspects of life, including employment, housing, and healthcare, is essential. Implementing effective measures to prevent and address elder abuse, both physical and emotional, and ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable is also crucial.

Before this, NHRC Secretary General,

Shri Bharat Lal said that historically, India has had a deep-rooted tradition of respecting and venerating elders. They have always been seen as repositories of wisdom. However, in contemporary India, the combination of rapid urbanization, globalization, and the nuclear family structure has brought to the fore new challenges faced by the elderly. It is imperative that we examine the structural,

social, legal, and infrastructural frameworks in place to ensure their well-being, dignity, and active participation in society.

He said that we must harness the potential of our aging population and address the challenges through comprehensive and holistic approach. He stressed on the need to create an enabling environment to support the elderly and to make use of their experiences.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah will pay homage to the martyrs on Police Commemoration Day at National Police Memorial in New Delhi on Monday, 21st October 2024

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Chennai Oct 18 2024: Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah will pay homage to the martyrs on Police Commemoration Day at National Police Memorial in New Delhi on Monday, 21st October 2024.

On October 21, 1959, ten valiant Policemen laid down their lives in an ambush laid by heavily armed Chinese troops at Hot Springs, Ladakh. October 21 is observed in commemoration of these martyrs and of all other martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. In recognition of the sacrifices made by Police personnel and their paramount role in preserving national security and integrity, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated National Police Memorial (NPM), Chanakyaपुरi, New Delhi to the nation on Police Commemoration Day-2018.

The Memorial gives Police Forces a sense of national identity, pride, unity of purpose, common history and destiny, besides reinforcing their commitment to protect the nation even at the cost of their lives. The Memorial comprises a Central Sculpture, the 'Wall of Valour' and a Museum. The Central Sculpture, which is a 30 feet high granite monolith cenotaph, stands for strength, resilience and selfless service of Police personnel. The Wall of Valour on which the names of martyrs are engraved stands as a steadfast acknowledgement of the bravery and sacrifice of Police personnel who have laid down their lives in the line of duty since Independence. The museum is conceptualized as a historical and evolving exhibition on policing in India. The Memorial is a site of pilgrimage, a place of reverence for Police

personnel and citizen alike. The NPM is open to public on all days except Mondays. Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) organise band display, parade and retreat ceremony at the NPM on every Saturday and Sunday in the evening, starting one hour prior to sunset.

Police Commemoration Day i.e., October 21 is observed across the country and homage is paid to police martyrs with the main function organised at National Police Memorial which is customarily presided

over by the Union Home Minister. A joint parade of CAPFs along with Delhi Police is held. Union Home Minister, MoS, MPs, Heads of CAPFs/CPOs etc pay homage to the martyrs by laying wreaths. Thereafter, Union Home Minister addresses the assembly remembering the martyrs and outlines the challenges of Policing. Retired DGs, officers from Police fraternity and other dignitaries also attend. The programme concludes with Union Home Minister laying wreath at the altar

dedicated to the martyrs of Hot Springs.

Subsequently, CAPFs/CPOs organise various Commemorative Events at NPM from October 22 to 30, including visits of family members of martyrs, Police Band Display, motorcycle rallies, run for martyrs, blood donation camp, essay/painting competitions, display of video films showcasing sacrifice, valour and service of Police personnel. Similar programmes are organised across the country by all Police Forces during the period.

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GODAVARI BIOREFINERIES LIMITED INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING TO OPEN ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024

Chennai, Oct 18 2024: Godavari Biorefineries Limited ("GBL" or "Company"), proposes to open its initial public offering of Equity Shares ("Offer") on Wednesday, October 23, 2024 ("Bid / Offer Opening Date").

The Offer comprises of fresh issue of such number of Equity Shares aggregating up to Rs. 3,250 million ("Fresh Issue") and offer for sale of up to 6,526,983 Equity Shares ("Offer for Sale", together with the Fresh Issue, "Total Offer Size").

The price band of the Offer has been fixed at Rs. 334 to Rs. 352 per Equity Share ("Price Band"). Bids can be made for a minimum of 42 Equity Shares and in multiples of 42 Equity Shares thereafter ("Bid Size").

The Company intends to utilize the Net Proceeds towards repayment/prepayment, in full or in part, of certain outstanding borrowings availed by the Company, estimated to be Rs. 2,400 million and balance amount of the Net Proceeds towards general corporate purposes (collectively, "Objects of the Offer").

The Offer for Sale comprises of up to 500,000 Equity Shares by Somaiya Agencies Private Limited, up to 500,000 Equity Shares by Samir Shantilal Somaiya, up to 200,000 Equity Shares by Lakshmiwadi Mines and Minerals Private Limited; up to 300,000 Equity Shares by Film Media Communication Systems Private



Limited, up to 100,000 Equity Shares by Somiya Properties Investment Private Limited and up to 4,926,983 Equity Shares by Mandala Capital AG Limited.

The Offer is being made in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended (the "SCRR"), read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations. The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in accordance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations wherein not more than 50% of the Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs") (the "QIB Portion"), provided that our Company in consultation with the BRLMs, may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with SEBI ICDR Regulations (the "Anchor Investor Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from the domestic Mutual Funds at or above the price at which allocation is made to Anchor Investors ("Anchor Investor Allocation Price"). In the event of under-

scription or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the QIB Portion (other than the Anchor Investor Portion) (the "Net QIB Portion").

Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Mutual Funds only, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs, including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price.

However, if the aggregate demand from Mutual Funds is less than 5% of the Net QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation in the Mutual Fund Portion will be added to the remaining Net QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to all QIBs. Further, not less than 15% of the Offer shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Investors ("Non-Institutional Portion") of which one-third of the Non-Institutional Portion shall be available for allocation to Bidders with an application size of more than Rs. 0.20 million and up to Rs. 1.00 million and two-thirds of the Non-Institutional Portion

shall be available for allocation to Bidders with an application size of more than Rs. 1.00 million and under-subscription in either of these two sub-categories of the Non-Institutional Portion may be allocated to Bidders in the other sub-category of the Non-Institutional Portion in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price.

Further, not less than 35% of the Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Portion ("Retail Portion"), in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. All Bidders (except Anchor Investors) shall mandatorily participate in this Offer only through the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process and shall provide details of their respective bank account (including UPI ID (defined hereinafter) in case of UPI Bidders (defined hereinafter) in which the Bid Amount will be blocked by the SCSSBs or by the Sponsor Banks under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Anchor Investor Portion through the ASBA process. For details, see "Offer Procedure" on page 412 of the Red Herring Prospectus ("RHP").

Equirus Capital Private Limited and SBI Capital Markets Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers to the Offer.

Walmart Brings Popular Indian Food Brands to U.S. Customers Ahead of Festive Season

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Walmart today announced the company is expanding sourcing from India with food and snack products from popular Indian brands, bringing a diverse range of suppliers including Britannia, Bikano, VAHDAM, Jayanti Spices and HyFun, amongst others, to the U.S. market ahead of Diwali. Together, they will supply a diverse range of well-loved snacks and food products to Walmart's U.S. customers. The

product lineup caters to Diwali celebrations as well as additional staples



often found in American pantries. Offerings include premium tea, ready-to-eat and frozen foods, traditional snacks, spices, and festive packs.

Products by Britannia and Bikano will be available this Diwali, while brands

such as Regal Kitchen and VAHDAM are already available to the Walmart U.S. customer. Jayanti Spices and Hyfun

Foods currently have products under Walmart's Great Value brand.

"Walmart is committed to

providing our customers with a wide variety of unique and diverse product offerings," said

Andrea Albright, Executive Vice President, Sourcing at Walmart. "As part of our goal to increase exports from India to \$10 billion per year by 2027, we're excited to bring a taste of India's rich culture and traditions to our customers in the

U.S. during the holiday season and beyond.

Indian food brands and suppliers selling in Walmart's U.S. stores, Sam's Club and Walmart.com.

Muthoot FinCorp Limited announces XVII Tranche II series of NCDs, aims to raise Rs. 250 crore

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Muthoot FinCorp Limited (MFL or "Company") the flagship company of 137-year-old Muthoot Pappachan Group (Muthoot Blue) has announced XVII Tranche II series of secured, redeemable, non-convertible debentures of face value of Rs 1000 each ("NCDs") to raise an amount aggregating to Rs 250 crore which is within the shelf limit of Rs 2000 crore. This is the Tranche II issuance from the Company. The XVII Tranche II issuance amounts to Rs 75 crore ("Base Issue Size") with a green shoe option of Rs 175 crore aggregating up to Rs 250 crore ("Tranche II Issue Limit") ("Tranche II Issue"). The XVII Tranche II Issue has been open to public from October 11, 2024 and closes on October 24, 2024



subject to an early closure as may be approved by our Board of Directors or the Stock Allotment Committee thereof of the Company, and in accordance with the Regulation 33A of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue And Listing Of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations, 2021, as amended (SEBI NCS Regulations).

The NCDs under the XVII Tranche II Issue are being offered with maturity/tenure options of 24, 36, 60,

72 and 92 months, with monthly, annual and cumulative payment options across different Options - I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII and XIII from which the customers can conveniently choose. Effective yield (per annum) for the NCD holders in all categories of investors ranges from 9.00% to 10.10%. The NCDs issued under XVII Tranche II have been rated at CRISIL AA-/Stable (pronounced as CRISIL double A minus rating with a Stable outlook) by CRISIL Ratings Limited and is proposed to be listed

on the debt market segment of BSE. The funds raised through the Tranche II Issue will be used for onward lending, financing, and for repayment/prepayment of interest and principal of existing borrowings of our Company and for the general corporate purposes.

"We are happy to announce the next series of NCDs offering secure investment opportunities to our valued investors. Investors can conveniently invest through any of Muthoot FinCorp's 3,700+ branches across the country or effortlessly via our mobile app, Muthoot FinCorp ONE, for investments up to Rs.5 lakhs from the comfort of their homes," said Shaji Varghese, CEO - Muthoot FinCorp Limited.

Kedaara promoted Vishal Mega Mart files updated IPO papers with Sebi

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Kedaara promoted supermart major Vishal Mega Mart filed its updated draft papers with capital markets regulator SEBI for an initial public offering (IPO) of equity shares of face value of Rs. 10 each aggregating up to Rs. 8,000-crore through an Offer for Sale (OFS) by promoter Samayat Services LLP.

At present, Samayat Services LLP holds 96.55 per cent stake in the Gurugram-based supermart major.

The updated draft filing (UDRHP I) comes after Vishal Mega Mart's confidential offer document was approved by Sebi on September 25, 2024. The company filed its offer document in July through the



confidential pre-filing route. Finally, after incorporating the changes due to public comments, the company is required to update the DRHP-II (UDRHP-II).

Vishal Mega Mart is a one-stop destination catering to middle- and lower-middle-income consumers in India. The product range includes both in-house and third-party brands, covering three key categories -- apparel, general merchandise, and fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG). As of June 30, 2024, it operates 626 Vishal Mega Mart stores across India, along with a mobile app and

website.

Vishal Mega Mart was ranked among the three leading offline-first diversified retailers in India, based on retail space as of March 31, 2024 (Source: RedSeer Report). It is also the fastest-growing leading offline-first diversified retailers in India, based on profit after tax growth between Financial Years 2021 and 2024, and among the two leading offline-first diversified retailers in India in terms of same-store sales growth for Financial Year 2024 (Source: RedSeer Report).

According to

Redseer report, India's aspirational retail market was valued at Rs 68-72 trillion in 2023 and is projected to reach Rs 104-112 trillion by 2028, growing at a CAGR (compound annual growth rate) of 9 per cent. The shift towards organised retail is driven by higher quality expectations, wider product assortments, better pricing (especially in FMCG), urbanisation and opportunities for organised players to grow.

Kotak Mahindra Capital Company, ICICI Securities, Intensive Fiscal Services, Jefferies India, J.P. Morgan India and Morgan Stanley India Company are the book-running lead managers to the issue.

"Honoring the legacy of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on World Students' Day"

Chennai Oct 18 2024: What a wonderful tribute to The event, organized by Goodwill Trust and the Alliance Club of Chennai Super Kings at Sri Vivekananda Vidyasalai to celebrate World Students' Day, must have been an inspiring and enriching occasion for all.

The highlights, including student speeches and insightful talks by guest speakers Ms.



Bharathi Natesan and Ms. Vijayalakshmi, likely sparked

motivation and learning among the students. The creative

poster demonstrations and storytelling added a unique touch, while the prize distribution recognized participants' efforts. Ending with an "oath" promoting unity and perseverance, the event surely offered valuable lessons on Dr. Kalam's legacy, particularly in missile and nuclear technology, and encouraged the next generation to dream big and pursue excellence.

Bonfiglioli Invests ₹ 320 Crores in India Expansion, strengthening Local Manufacturing and Innovation

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Bonfiglioli Transmissions Pvt Ltd, the Indian subsidiary of Bonfiglioli Group, global leader in power transmission and drive solutions, celebrated a significant milestone with the foundation stone laying ceremony for its new Industry and Automation facility in Cheyyar, Tamil Nadu, and the inauguration of its Technology and Innovation Hub in Chennai.

The 25-acre Cheyyar plant, scheduled to commence operations by 2025, reinforces Bonfiglioli's commitment to the 'Make in India' initiative and solidifies its position as one of India's largest gearbox manufacturers. The facility will feature state-of-the-art machinery, create 150-200 job opportunities, and cater to growing domestic demand for



heavy-duty industrial gearboxes. Bonfiglioli's latest investment is a strategic continuation of its previous year's investment in pune, expanding its manufacturing capabilities for light and medium duty industrial gear boxes.

Bonfiglioli's new Global competence centre, The Bonfiglioli Technology Space in Chennai, represents another milestone in the global Bonfiglioli innovation ecosystem, housing 180 engineers with diverse expertise. This cutting-edge facility will focus on research, development and technical support, integrating advanced

technologies to create breakthrough solutions. The centre will also house testing laboratories that could be used to simulate real field working conditions.

Mr. Kennady V. Kaippally, Country Manager, Bonfiglioli India, added, "The Cheyyar facility and Bonfiglioli Technology Space position us to cater to growing local demand and meet the need for innovative solutions. Our investment in cutting-edge technologies and talent strengthens our leadership position and contributes to India's industrial development."

Snap Inc. & BCG Launch India's First Report Highlighting Gen Z's Distinctive Spending Power Across Multiple Categories

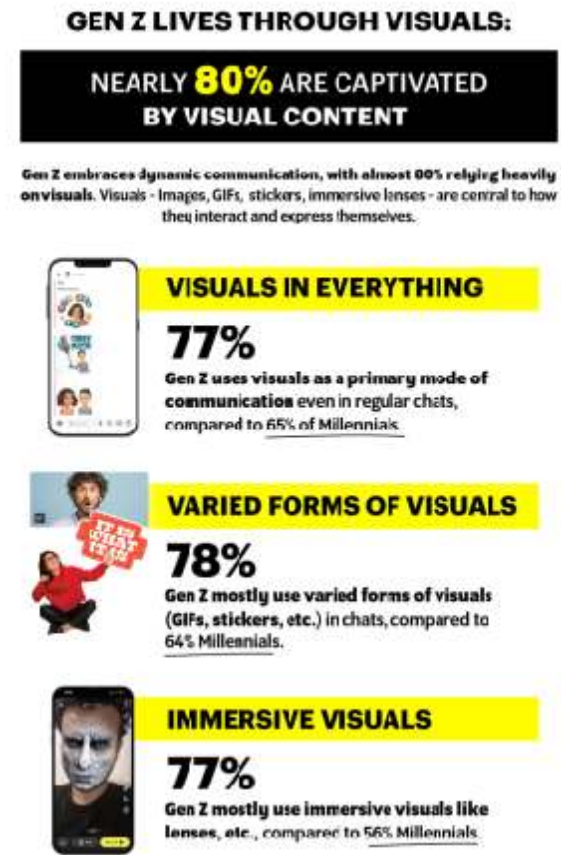
Chennai Oct 18 2024: With a population of 377 million, Gen Z is now the largest generation ever to live in India. While they're often perceived as teenagers, Gen Z is far from a homogeneous group. Their immense purchasing power and unique perspectives, behaviours demand the attention of businesses and marketers alike.

To separate fact from fiction and gain a deeper understanding of this influential generation, Snap Inc. partnered with Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to develop a report on Gen Z titled "The \$2 Trillion Opportunity: How Gen Z is Shaping the New India".

This expansive research offers new perspectives into Indian Gen Z's distinctive spending power across multiple categories, that no other report has explored in the past. The report also delves into uncovering unique insights into how they engage, influence, shop, and spendshaping the future of India's economy.

Top key headlines from the report:

1. Collective



spending power reaches an impressive \$860 billion, surging to \$2 trillion by 2035.

2. In 2025, Gen Z's direct spends will amount to \$250B.

3. 1 of 4 Gen Z are already in the workforce, by 2025 every 2nd Gen Z will be earning.

4. Gen Z buys as many times as Millennials and is 1.5 times more likely to research their purchases.

5. 45% of businesses recognize Gen Z's potential, but only 15% take action to actively address them indicating a huge opportunity.

With 90% of its

daily active users aged 13-34, Snapchat is the undisputed voice of young people in India.

Commenting on the findings from the report, Pulkit Trivedi, Managing Director, India, Snap Inc., said, "India is a young nation with a 377 million Gen Z population which will shape the future of India's growth in the next two decades. Gen Z will be the biggest contributor to India's consumption growth driving \$ 1.8 Trillion worth of direct spend by the year 2035. In partnership with the Boston Consulting Group we are excited to share deep insights on the economic potential, values and

shopping behaviour of Gen Z in India. As a platform that serves the Gen Z audience, we look forward to working with brands and businesses to harness this growth potential."

"Our research evaluated the substantial impact of Gen Z on consumption in India. Gen Z is already driving 43% of India's consumer spending. Their influence is not limited to select categories it cuts across categories ranging from fashion, eating out, to automobiles and consumer durables. It is important for marketers to take note that this generation is driven by unique values and beliefs and therefore have distinctive purchase behaviors, however we noticed that only 15% of brands we spoke to are actively taking steps to tap into this opportunity. For businesses, understanding and authentically engaging with Gen Z isn't just good to have; it's necessary for winning today and will be imperative for survival tomorrow." said Nimisha Jain, Senior Partner and Managing Director at BCG India.

Yamaha Achieves Milestone of 400 Blue Square Showrooms; Expands its Presence in Tier-2 and Tier-3 Cities

Chennai Oct 18 2024: India Yamaha Motor (IYM) has achieved a significant milestone by establishing 400 Blue Square showrooms nationwide, adding 100 new outlets in just the past six months. This rapid expansion underscores Yamaha's ongoing commitment to delivering an unmatched customer-centric experience. By bringing its premium two-wheeler offerings closer to customers, particularly in India's rapidly growing tier-2 and tier-3 cities, Yamaha is catering to the rising aspirations of its consumers across the country.



Motor India Group of Companies, said, "Crossing the milestone of 400 Blue Square showrooms reflects our continuous effort to be closer to our customers, especially in India's fast-growing tier-2 and tier-3 cities. We recognize the growing aspirations of customers across the country, and we are here to cater to those ambitions by offering a premium, personalized experience through our Blue Square outlets. These spaces are not just retail touchpoints they are where customers can truly immerse themselves in the Yamaha world and explore our products in an environment designed for them. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dealer partners and customers for their continued trust and support in

achieving this milestone."

The design of Blue Square showrooms caters to the evolving needs and aspirations of today's discerning customers. With dedicated zones for accessories, merchandise, and community engagement, these showrooms embody Yamaha's philosophy of innovation, sportiness, and style. Each outlet serves as a hub for Yamaha's 'Blue Streaks' rider community, enabling customers to participate in group rides and build connections with fellow enthusiasts.

The Blue Square network houses Yamaha's most exciting products, including the track-oriented R3, street fighter MT-03, and the maxi-sport AEROX 155 scooter, alongside models equipped with

advanced features like Traction Control System (TCS). Customers can also explore a range of other motorcycles and scooters, including the YZF-R15 V4, MT-15 V2, FZ-X, Fascino 125 FI Hybrid, and Ray ZR Street Rally 125 FI Hybrid, all designed to offer a thrilling riding experience with superior performance.

With 400 operational Blue Square outlets across India, Yamaha continues to expand its footprint, ensuring that more customers, especially in emerging regions, have access to its premium products and services.

Yamaha has a dedicated page on its website for the Blue Square showrooms. Customers can visit this link to learn more. <https://www.yamaha-motor-india.com/yamaha-bluesquare.html>.

Hazoor Multi Projects Ltd. Board Sets November 07 as Record Date for Stock Split

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Hazoor Multi Projects Ltd. (HMPL) a leader in Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contracting services, has announced that it has set November 07, 2024 for its 1:10 stock split, as approved by shareholders in the company's AGM.

Earlier, the company announced that its board has given an "In-principal approval" for merger of 'Square Port Shipyard Private Limited' with the Company i.e. Hazoor Multi Projects Limited with a view to combine the strengths and synergies of both businesses and in the better interest of all the stakeholders, subject to the approval of shareholders, creditors,



stock exchange, NCLT, SEBI, and all other statutory/ applicable authorities.

Recently, the company has announced that it has been awarded a work order from National Highways Authority of India for acting as user fee collection agency at Mulawad FP for widening to 2 lanes with paved shoulders from

Km. 4.40 to 56.00 of NH 218 Bijapur Hubli section in the state of Karnataka. The value of awarded project is Rs.2.59 crores.

Earlier, the company reported that it received a work order has been awarded to M/s Hazoor Multi Projects Limited received from B.G. Shirke Const. Tech. Pvt. Ltd. for Excavation of various site located at

Pahadi Goregaon-1473, Shirdhon- III, Khoni-1374, Nawde-1449, CPWD- 1447, Talaja-1415/16, Thane- 1453 and Kanamwarnagar-1180. The value of awarded project is Rs. 30 crores.

Hazoor Multi Projects Ltd. stands at the forefront of India's rapidly evolving infrastructure landscape, having strategically ventured into the development of a business vertical dedicated to providing high-quality and reliable Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contracting services. Responding to the escalating demand in the nation-building process, HMPL has swiftly emerged as a key player in the industry.

Urban India's retirement index increases from 47 to 49, while Gig workers+ lag at 46 with lower retirement readiness: Max Life IRIS 4.0

Chennai Oct 18 2024: Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. ("Max Life"/ "Company") has launched the 4th edition of its retirement survey, India Retirement Index Study (IRIS)*, conducted in partnership with KANTAR, the world's leading marketing data and analytics company. The IRIS 4.0 reveals that Urban India's retirement preparedness has increased from 47 points in IRIS 3.0 to 49 points in IRIS 4.0, driven by greater awareness and proactive steps in both health and financial planning. Urban Indian working women scored 50 on the retirement index, 1-point higher than men. The latest edition introduces two new segments – Double Income No Kids (DINKs) and Gig workers+. DINKs align closely with the overall Indian population, with an index score of 49 points, indicating strong health and financial preparedness. In contrast, Gig workers score only 46 points, reflecting lower readiness across the cohort.

The IRIS 4.0 findings highlight that a growing number of urban Indians believe that the retirement planning should start early. 44% Indians consider the right age to start planning for retirement is before 35 years, increasing from



38% in IRIS 3.0. 93% of the respondents above 50 years of age regret delaying retirement planning. Encouragingly, 63% respondents have already begun investing for retirement, leading to reduced concerns about meeting both basic and luxury needs, as well as securing their children's futures. A notable 68% of urban Indian working women have begun investing for retirement, a 7-point increase from last year. The study also highlights regional opportunities in retirement planning across India, with the East zone leading in overall preparedness, the West zone showing financial and health progress but needing emotional focus, and the North and South zones improving in health preparedness index.

As per IRIS 4.0, 97% urban Indians are aware of Life Insurance as a suitable financial product, with 67% already invested in life insurance as the ideal financial product for retirement, and 37% have invested in health

signals a huge opportunity area to bring the cohort at par with the national average through focused interventions."

He adds, "Today, more urban Indians recognize the importance of starting retirement planning early, with a growing preference for life insurance as a savings tool—2 in 3 are investing in these products for retirement. Notably, urban Indian working women are taking the lead in investments, actively securing their financial futures. These trends highlight a positive shift towards proactive retirement planning and financial independence among urban Indians."

Soumya Mohanty, MD and Chief Client Officer, South Asia, Insights Division, Kantar said, "India Retirement Index Study (IRIS) 4.0 delivers sharp, data-backed insights into the retirement preparedness of urban Indians across varied demographics. By focusing on key indicators—financial, physical, and emotional readiness—the study offers a clear view of the nation's retirement outlook. Our partnership with Max Life highlights our shared goal of enhancing financial security for Indians, ensuring they are well-prepared for their retirement years."

insurance. However, 31% urban Indians are not aware about the retirement corpus needed to sustain current lifestyle, with only 27% urban Indians expecting their savings to last between 5 to 10 years, and 30% worry about exhausting funds within just 5 years.

Prashant Tripathy, CEO and Managing Director, Max Life said, "Preparing for retirement is a critical priority for the future of Indians, especially as life expectancy rises with advancements in healthcare, emphasizing the need for long-term financial planning. The IRIS 4.0 study reveals that although Urban India's retirement index has improved with positive gains in the Financial and Health indices, 1 in 3 Indians still feel underprepared. This year, we also focused on Gig workers due to the rapid growth of India's gig economy, and found that they lag with a lower retirement readiness. This

HDFC Life achieves overall market share of 11.0%; Value of new business grows by 17.4% aided by robust new business premium (individual APE) growth of 31%

Chennai Oct 18 2024: The Board of Directors of HDFC Life approved and adopted the reviewed standalone and consolidated financial results for half year ended September 30, 2024. The Company delivered healthy performance across all metrics, maintaining positive momentum.

Performance Highlights:

Topline Growth: Delivered strong new business premium (individual APE) growth of 31%, supported by a 22% increase in number of policies sold and a balanced product mix

Market Share: Private sector market share (individual WRP) expanded by 60 bps to 16.3%. Overall market share touched a new peak of 11%

Value of New Business (VNB) grew by 17.4% to Rs. 1,656 crore, reflecting focus on writing profitable business

Assets under Management (AUM): AUM stood at Rs.3.25 lakh crore as on 30th September 2024, an increase of 23% in H1 FY25

Persistency: 13th and 61st month persistency

ratios improved to 88% and 60% respectively, marking a material increase of 120 basis points and 730 basis points respectively versus the previous year, underscoring the company's ability to engage with and retain customers

Embedded Value (EV) crossed the Rs. 50,000 crore milestone during the quarter, with 16.0% operating return on EV, showcasing sustained long-term value creation for both policyholders and shareholders

Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs. 911 crore was achieved in H1 FY25, clocking a steady growth of 15% year-on-year

Solvency Ratio stood at 181%, comfortably above the regulatory threshold of 150%. Post the subordinated debt raise of Rs 1,000 crore on 9th October 2024, solvency stood at 192%.

HDFC Pension Fund Management is HDFC Life's wholly-owned subsidiary and India's largest private pension fund manager. It achieved a significant milestone in H1 FY25, by crossing Rs.1 lakh crore in Assets under Management

Employee Focus: We were recognised for our inclusivity and employee-friendly policies, being awarded the Best Companies for Women in India 2024 in the BFSI sector and Exemplar of Inclusion (Most Inclusive Companies India 2024) by Avtar & Seramount

CEO's Statement: Vibha Padalkar, Managing Director and CEO of HDFC Life, commented: "The private sector and overall industry continued its strong momentum in Q2, growing in H1FY25 by 24% and 21% respectively on an individual weighted received premium basis. We have outperformed the private sector by growing at 28% during this period and 19% on a 2 year CAGR basis. We registered an increase of 22% in the number of policies, which was significantly ahead of the private sector growth of 13%. We experienced secular growth trends across Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 geographies.

On the regulatory front, we have successfully relaunched more than 40 top products contributing to about 95% of the business, in alignment

with revised regulations as on October 1, 2024 and we plan to relaunch other products during the course of the quarter. We are thankful to the regulator in allowing us an additional time of three months for transitioning to the new product regulations.

Furthermore, we are happy to inform that HDFC Life continues to be recognised for its commitment to sustainability and responsible governance. HDFC Life's S&P Global ESG score saw an improvement of over 20% versus last year and we continue to be rated well amongst regional insurers. Our MSCI ESG Rating has also been upgraded to 'A'.

We remain focused on driving sustainable growth and strengthening our leadership across key segments. We will continue to invest in customer-centric innovations to ensure we meet evolving needs and remain resilient in a dynamic market. We are confident in our ability to deliver long-term value for our stakeholders, whilst adapting to the evolving market landscape with agility and resilience."

Burger King India Expands Snacking Menu with Launch of delicious Industry First BK Chicken Pizza Puff in South India

Chennai, Oct 18 2024: Burger King India, one of the fastest-growing Quick Service Restaurant (QSR) chains, is thrilled to announce the launch of the innovative BK Chicken Pizza Puff across its South Indian outlets. Following the overwhelming success of the Veg Pizza Puff, Burger King is now introducing a new, delicious variant specially crafted for non-vegetarian lovers—the BK Chicken Pizza Puff, making it the first QSR brand in India to offer a chicken-based puff snack.

The launch of the Chicken Pizza Puff reflects Burger King's commitment to providing a wider variety of menu options for its



customers. Packed with juicy diced chicken, flavourful mixed-veg tomato sauce, and melted mozzarella cheese, all filled in a golden, crispy puff pastry, the BK Chicken Pizza Puff is a mouth-watering blend of rich textures and savoury flavours. Ideal for on-the-go snacking or as a quick bite added to your favourite meal, the Chicken Pizza Puff is designed to deliver a burst of flavour in every bite. This innovative puff snack is designed for the Indian palate, especially catering to South India, where consumer research

highlights a strong preference for chicken and non-vegetarian options.

Speaking about this launch, Kapil Grover, Chief Marketing Officer, Burger King India, said, "We are thrilled to introduce the BK Chicken Pizza Puff, a product born out of consumer insights and our desire to expand our snacking menu with more choices that appeal to local tastes. With South India being a non-vegetarian heavy market, this new product aligns perfectly with the region's preferences. We're confident that

the Chicken Pizza Puff will become a fan favourite, just like our Veg Pizza Puff, and will allow us to continue delivering innovative and tasty products for our guests."

The launch of the Chicken Pizza Puff is backed by robust consumer research, confirming that the South Indian market is highly receptive to chicken-based products. The BK Chicken Pizza Puff will be available at an incredibly attractive price of just INR 69. To encourage trials, Burger King is offering an exclusive deal of two Chicken Pizza Puffs for just INR 99, allowing consumers to enjoy more of the new, delicious snack at an unbeatable value.

Dalmia Bharat Foundation and SIPA Host 3-Day Entrepreneurship Development Program for Women Entrepreneurs

Chennai Oct 18 2024: In a significant move towards empowering women in rural areas, Dalmia Bharat Foundation, the CSR arm of Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd., in collaboration with the South Indian Producers' Association (SIPA), conducted a 3-day Entrepreneurship Development Training program in Dalmiapuram.

Covering five panchayats of Kallakudi, Kovandakurichi, Pudhurpalayam, Melarasur and Palinganathan, the program aimed to equip 25 women entrepreneurs from the region with essential skills to enhance their business acumen and promote sustainable livelihoods. The comprehensive sessions covered critical aspects of entrepreneurship, including understanding the concept of entrepreneurship, types of business, career opportunities, production processes, business cost calculation, market analysis, strategic marketing planning etc. The participants are currently involved in making palm leaf



products and produce about 900 palm leaf baskets per month. With the skills gained from this training, they will be able to scale up their production to an impressive 4000 baskets per month. Post completion of the training, the participants were awarded certificates in recognition of their newly acquired skills.

The training program was jointly inaugurated by Dalmia Cement Dr. Panchaksharam, Director of SIPA, and Mr. Michele, Treasurer of SIPA

Speaking on the initiative, Mr. K Vinayagamurthi, Executive Director, Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd Dalmiapuram, said, "At Dalmia Bharat,

our mission is to enable sustainable livelihoods and empower communities within our operational areas. This training program underscores our commitment to inclusive growth by equipping women entrepreneurs with the skills and resources they need to enhance their individual well-being, build sustainable businesses and make meaningful contributions to their local economies."

Dr. Panchaksharam highlighted SIPA's commitment to nurturing entrepreneurial talent in rural areas, stating, "We are delighted to partner with Dalmia Bharat Foundation in this endeavour and we believe that initiatives

like these will lay a strong foundation for local economic development."

Dalmia Bharat Foundation remains steadfast in its commitment to the socio-economic upliftment of rural communities in Tamil Nadu. Through a range of initiatives, the Foundation focuses on promoting sustainable livelihoods and skill development for women, farmers and youth. Its diverse programs include vocational training and community-based projects. Additionally, the foundation plays a crucial role in enhancing social infrastructure, driving comprehensive community development across its operational areas.