

# Notre Dame Cathedral reopens after 5 years

Chennai Dec 07 2024: In a historic and joyous weekend, the iconic Notre-Dame Cathedral has reopened its doors, marking its triumphant recovery from the devastating 2019 fire. A series of grand ceremonies, spanning two days, will breathe life back into the 900-year-old architectural marvel and celebrate resilience, faith, and global unity.



World leaders, including former U.S. President Donald Trump, have joined French President Emmanuel Macron and Catholic faithful from around the globe to witness the reopening of this cultural and spiritual symbol. The excitement is palpable, with tickets for the first week of Masses selling out in just 25 minutes, according to the cathedral's rector.

Saturday evening saw Archbishop Laurent Ulrich leading over 1,500 guests in a moving reopening service. In a symbolic

gesture, he tapped the cathedral's massive doors with a custom crozier designed by Sylvain Dubuisson. The staff was crafted from wood salvaged from the cathedral's roof, which bore blackened scars from the fire. As the great doors swung open, the cathedral erupted in song, with choirs filling its majestic spaces for the first time in years.

A centerpiece of the celebrations was the reawakening of Notre-Dame's great organ. Silent since the fire due to toxic dust, the organ came alive after Archbishop Ulrich

performed a series of eight incantations, beginning with, "Awaken, organ, sacred instrument: Sing the praise of God." In response, four master organists Olivier Latry, Vincent Dubois, Thibault Fajoles, and Thierry Escaich took turns playing, creating a musical dialogue that reverberated through the cathedral.

The First Mass

Sunday will culminate with an inaugural Mass, featuring special rites to consecrate the main altar. This deeply spiritual moment

marks the full restoration of Notre-Dame as a place of worship and cultural significance.

For France, the Catholic Church, and admirers worldwide, this weekend is a celebration of resilience and renewal. The televised ceremonies offer a glimpse of global solidarity and the enduring spirit of Notre-Dame.

As the celebrations continue, the reawakening of this magnificent cathedral stands as a beacon of hope, history, and faith.

# CM opens Mudichur bus terminal; Koyambedu climate park



Chennai Dec 07 2024: On behalf of the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated three completed projects worth Rs.58.70 crore through video conferencing from secretariat today.

Chief Minister inaugurated Omni Bus Terminal at Mudichur, Kalaingar Centenary Climate Park in Kilampakkam and Renovated Medical Facility at Koyambedu Market Complex

Omni Bus Terminal at Mudichur, Built at a cost of Rs. 42.70 crore, this terminal is located in Mudichur,

Chengalpattu district, about 7 km from the Kalaingar Centenary Bus Terminal in Kilambakkam. Spread across 5 acres, the facility can accommodate up to 150 buses simultaneously and is equipped with amenities such as restaurants, restrooms, and dressing rooms. Buses bound for southern districts will operate from this terminal.

Kalaingar Centenary Climate Park, Constructed near the Kalaingar Centenary Bus Terminal in Kilambakkam, this park spans 16 acres and was developed at a cost of Rs. 15 crore. It

features an archaeological interpretation center, excavation displays, rainwater ponds, elevated walkways, gardens, a children's play area, a sculpture park, sports grounds, an open-air theatre, and exhibition stages, offering multiple recreational activities.

Renovated Medical Facility at Koyambedu Market Complex At the Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex in Chennai, a medical facility has been renovated at a cost of Rs. 1 crore. It includes consultation rooms, a dedicated space for nurses, an emergency ward with three beds, a 24-hour pharmacy, a

waiting area for up to 50 people, and parking facilities for ambulances and other vehicles. This facility is expected to benefit over 1 lakh traders, workers, and visitors to the market daily.

These newly inaugurated projects are part of CMDA's ongoing efforts to enhance urban infrastructure and services in the region.

Chief Minister Stalin chaired the review meeting on the performances of the Police department. Chief Secretary Muruganandam, DGP Shankar Jiwal and police officials are also seen.

# IMD issues yellow alert; heavy rain expected in TN coastal areas

Chennai Dec 07 2024: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast moderate rainfall in five Tamil Nadu districts Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Chengalpattu, and Kancheepuram until 1 PM today. Light

showers are also expected in isolated locations across Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Karaikal from December 7 to 12.

A heavy rainfall warning has been issued for the coastal districts from Cuddalore to Ramanathapuram,

including Puducherry and Karaikal, on December 11 and 12.

The IMD has indicated that a low-pressure system is likely to develop in the Bay of Bengal within the next 12 hours, prompting a yellow alert for Tamil Nadu.

The Regional

Meteorological Centre (RMC) in Chennai had previously anticipated significant rainfall across several Tamil Nadu districts on December 11 and 12. Residents are urged to remain vigilant and adhere to updates and advisories from local authorities.

# Rajnath Singh's three-day official visit to Russia from December 8 to 10

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will pay a three-day official visit to Russia from December 8 to 10, a Defence Ministry statement said on Saturday.

During the visit, Rajnath Singh and his Russian counterpart Andrey Belousov will co-chair the 21st meeting of the India-

Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military and Military Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-M&MTC) in Moscow on December 10, the statement said.

The two leaders will review the entire range of multi-faceted relations between the two countries in the field of defence, including military-to-military and

industrial cooperation. They will also exchange views on contemporary regional and global issues of mutual interest.

As part of the visit, Rajnath will also commission the Indian Navy's latest multi-role stealth guided missile frigate, the 'INS Tushli' at Yantra Shipyard, Kaliningrad, on December 9. Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral

Dinesh K Tripathi will accompany the Defence Minister for the commissioning ceremony.

Moreover, Rajnath Singh will pay tributes at 'The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier' in Moscow to honour the Soviet soldiers killed during the Second World War. He will also interact with the members of the Indian community.

# Indians advised to evacuate Syria immediately

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Amid the escalating situation in Syria, India on Friday night asked Indian nationals to avoid all travel to Syria and those in Syria were asked to remain in touch with the Indian Embassy.

In a late night advisory, the Ministry of External Affairs also advised those Indians who can to leave by the earliest available commercial flights.

"In view of the situation prevailing in Syria, Indian nationals are advised to avoid all travel to Syria, until further notification.

"Indians currently in Syria are requested to remain in touch with Indian Embassy in Damascus at their emergency helpline number +963 993385973 (also on WhatsApp) and email I D hoc.damascus@mea.gov.in for updates.

"Those who can, are advised to leave by

the earliest available commercial flights and others are requested to observe utmost precaution about their safety and restrict their movements to the minimum." The advisory came as the Islamist militant group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) captured the major city of Hama

and were advancing to the city of Homs.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, answering a question on the situation in Syria, said: "We have taken note of the recent escalation in fighting in the north of Syria. We are closely following the situation.

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## Revolutionizing Medical Education: Fujifilm Brings mikoto Colon Model at IAGES Training Programme

Chennai, Dec 07 2024: FUJIFILM India - a leader in medical technology proudly unveiled the groundbreaking mikoto Colon Model, a cutting-edge endoscopy simulation technology, during the prestigious Indian Association of Gastrointestinal Endosurgeons (IAGES) Prof. Dr. B Krishna Rau Simulation Training Programme, a hands-on endoscopy workshop, in Chennai. Bring this innovation in India reinforces Fujifilm's commitment to advancing medical education and improving patient outcomes.



The mikoto Colon Model is a state-of-the-art medical training simulator designed to revolutionize endoscopy education. Compact and portable, it combines advanced sensor technology with artificial intelligence to provide realistic feedback, evaluate procedures, and score performance. With four levels of difficulty, it enables

self-paced learning for practitioners of varying expertise. This innovative simulator enhances skills, builds confidence, and ensures greater precision in real-world applications, ultimately contributing to improved patient outcomes and advancing the standards of endoscopic care.

Prof. Masashi Fujii, MD, Ph.D., CEO of R Zero Inc., Japan, highlighted the significance of this innovation, stating: "The mikoto Colon Model represents a leap forward in medical training. By combining technology with education, it allows healthcare professionals to refine their skills in a controlled, realistic environment, ensuring better patient

outcomes." The mikoto Colon Model sets a new standard in endoscopy training. This state-of-the-art, portable medical simulator utilizes advanced sensors and artificial intelligence to evaluate and score procedures, offering four levels of difficulty for self-guided learning.

Dr. Subhash Agarwal, President, IAGES voiced - "IAGES Endoscopy board has been very active since 2016, under the guidance of Prof B. Krishna Rau, Dr. Easwaramoorthy, Dr Satish Midha and Dr K.Govindaraj, promoting the importance of endoscopy training for surgeons. Thanks to team IAGES Chennai 2024 under the leadership of Dr Zameer Pasha, Dr T

Sivakumar, Dr M.Kanagavel and Dr. Rajavel and their financial support, now we are about to launch Prof BKR Simulation based training programs." Speaking at the event, Jumpei Toyoda, General Manager, FUJIFILM Healthcare Asia Pacific, Endoscopy, stated - "With mikoto Colon Model in India, Fujifilm reaffirms its commitment to delivering innovative healthcare solutions. This technology empowers endoscopy professionals to intensify their skills, paving the way for improved diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities."

The unveiling of the mikoto Colon Model marks a transformative moment in medical training, underscoring Fujifilm's dedication to advancing endoscopy education. By combining cutting-edge simulation technology with practical learning, it empowers healthcare professionals to enhance their skills and achieve better patient outcomes.

Chennai, Dec 07 2024: The procedures were performed in a span of 3 hours at the Hybrid Operating Room - the safest infrastructure to perform complex procedures for high risk individuals. The patient, who had previously undergone mitral valve replacement with Bioprosthetic valve in 2013, and a recent echo confirmed degeneration of that prosthesis with severe narrowing and leak along with very high right heart pressure (severe pulmonary hypertension). A second operation to replace this will be prohibitively higher risk, hence he was planned to have elective non-surgical Transcatheter Mitral ViV replacement in

## Complex Hybrid procedures Restore Mobility for Farmer aged 76, after degenerative Heart Valve Failure and Hip Fracture

Chennai, Dec 07 2024: The procedures were performed in a span of 3 hours at the Hybrid Operating Room - the safest infrastructure to perform complex procedures for high risk individuals. The patient, who had previously undergone mitral valve replacement with Bioprosthetic valve in 2013, and a recent echo confirmed degeneration of that prosthesis with severe narrowing and leak along with very high right heart pressure (severe pulmonary hypertension). A second operation to replace this will be prohibitively higher risk, hence he was planned to have elective non-surgical Transcatheter Mitral ViV replacement in



end of November, however, his journey took an unexpected turn when he suffered a fall at home, leading to a left leg fracture neck of femur (broken hip bone). The urgency of his hip condition and the critical nature of his heart ailment presented a daunting challenge. It was a high risk procedure that required a multidisciplinary approach and the only safer way to treat him is to do both procedures under the same general anaesthesia, first the Transcatheter Mitral ViV followed by Left Total Hip Replacement, in an Hybrid Cath Lab Operating Room. This is available in very few centres in India, and given the availability of the Hybrid Cath Lab OR, Cardiac and Orthopedic expertise, this patient underwent Hybrid procedure safely and was mobilized within 36 hours. "The patient underwent a transcatheter mitral

conditions. This patient was given dual mobility hip replacement thus giving higher chances of life expectancy to hip and reducing any chances of complications in future. As a farmer he wanted to be ready before harvest season and needed better mobility, which could only be achieved through the dual mobility procedure." said Dr Mukunth K, Senior Consultant Orthopaedics, Kauvery Hospital Alwarpet. "This case is a perfect example of multidisciplinary care. Coordinating complex heart and orthopedic procedures within a single sitting not only addressed the patient's medical needs but also ensured faster recovery and minimal disruption to his life. Our advanced Hybrid Operating Room enabled us to perform these life-saving procedures seamlessly, ensuring the patient could return to his life with renewed strength. This Hybrid Operating Room is safest infrastructure to perform high end cardiac and vascular procedures for high risk patients," said Dr. Aravindan Selvaraj, Co-Founder and Executive Director Kauvery Hospitals.

## The United States Agency for International Development and International Solar Alliance Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Advance Grid Interconnection

Chennai Dec 07 2024: As the United States and India work together to address the climate crisis and advance renewable energy technologies, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote more responsive and sustainable energy systems. This partnership aims to expand the use of renewable energy, strengthen energy interconnections across regions, and support the development of a unified grid to facilitate the large-scale transfer of clean power.

Under the MoU, USAID will work with ISA to establish and expand clean energy transmission networks. These efforts will focus on regions such as South Asia, the Persian Gulf,

Southeast Asia, and Africa, promoting energy security, sustainability, and greater access to renewable energy across borders.

This collaboration aligns with the ISA's One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative, a flagship effort to drive cross-border energy trade and ensure reliable, affordable access to renewable energy. Co-founded by India and France in 2015 and headquartered in Gurugram, India, the ISA serves as a global platform to advance solar energy adoption, mobilize investments, and develop innovative solutions to combat climate change. USAID will bring its technical expertise, innovative financing tools, and decades of experience in fostering sustainable energy solutions to support ISA's mission and the successful implementation of

regional electricity grid interconnections, enhance regional power system planning and cross-border clean energy trade, create regional clean energy markets/power pools, and mobilize investment and financial models for trans-regional cross-border electricity grid connections and super grids."

OSOWOG.

USAID Mission Director Dr. Steven Olive noted, "The U.S. Government is committed to advancing global clean energy transitions as part of our efforts to address the climate crisis. Promoting sustainable power systems that incorporate renewable energy sources is essential for building energy security and driving economic growth. This Memorandum of Understanding with the International Solar Alliance is an important step in achieving these goals by strengthening energy systems both regionally and globally."

Director General of the ISA Dr. Ajay Mathur added, "ISA and USAID's Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) signed today shall jointly endeavour to accelerate trans-

regional electricity grid interconnections, enhance regional power system planning and cross-border clean energy trade, create regional clean energy markets/power pools, and mobilize investment and financial models for trans-regional cross-border electricity grid connections and super grids."

The MoU reaffirms a key commitment outlined in the U.S.-India Joint Statement issued in September 2024, which identified clean energy collaboration as a cornerstone of the bilateral relationship. By advancing regional and transcontinental energy integration, the agreement supports shared efforts to combat climate change, accelerate renewable energy adoption, and build resilient energy systems that drive sustainable development.

## Family Padam: A heartwarming tale of family and dreams

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Thamizh (Udhay Karthik) is an aspiring filmmaker, who is sketched very similar to Ajith Kumar's Sridhar from VZ Dhorai's Mugavari. Just like Sridhar, Thamizh too is surrounded by a loving family, who understand his passion. However, Selvah ensures that he stays true to the title, and the focus is firmly on the family side of things. We are introduced to this happy-go-lucky family comprising Thamizh's grandfather Ezhumalai (Mohanasundaram), his father Thavakumar (Santhosh), mother Viji (Sreeja Ravi), eldest brother Sarathkumar (a terrific Vivek Prasanna), and elder brother Parthi (Parthiban). What really works for the film is how each member of the family has an individual arc, and their world is not centred around Thamizh's trials and tribulations.

It is beautiful how Thamizh's struggle to become a director is interspersed with important incidents



happening within the family. Take, for instance, the scene where he is humiliated by a film producer who won't even give him the time of day to listen to his script. Simultaneously, we see Parthi going for a 'ponnu paakra' function to meet Swathi. Even when Thamizh is facing rejection, Parthi wins the heart of Swathi by narrating his own humiliating story, albeit in jest. This wonderful balance is what makes Family Padam a refreshing take on such struggles because the family isn't waiting for Thamizh to be there. But it isn't because he is forgotten. They just understand. And it is this understanding that makes them decide to produce Thamizh's debut film when everything else doesn't go his way.

Family Padam takes the well-trodden path of a family supporting a budding filmmaker, but it does so with a refreshing twist. Instead of the usual trope of unsupportive relatives, we're introduced to a family that wholeheartedly believes in their son's dreams. This unique premise sets the stage for a heartwarming and entertaining film. The film's strong performances are a major highlight. Vivek Prasanna, Udhay Karthik, and Parthiban Kumar deliver commendable performances, bringing their characters to life with authenticity and charm. The chemistry between the three brothers is palpable, adding depth and emotion to their on-screen relationship. The director, Selvah Kumar Thirumaaran, skillfully balances humor and sentimentality, creating a film that is both funny and touching. The film's second half is particularly entertaining, with some hilarious set-pieces that are sure to leave the audience in stitches. While the film may not break new ground in terms of storytelling, it still manages to engage and entertain. It's a testament to the power of family and the importance of pursuing one's dreams, no matter the obstacles. Overall, Family Padam is a delightful film that celebrates the bonds of family and the magic of cinema. It's a must-watch for anyone who loves heartwarming stories and good old-fashioned entertainment.

## Sai Life Sciences Limited's Initial Public Offer of Equity Shares to open on December 11, 2024

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Sai Life Sciences Limited ("Sai Life" or "The Company"), proposes to open the Bid / Offer Period in relation to its initial public offer of the Equity Shares ("Offer") on Wednesday, December 11, 2024.

The Offer comprises a fresh issue of such number of Equity Shares by the Company aggregating up to Rs.9,500 million (The "Fresh Issue") and offer for sale of up to 38,116,934 Equity Shares ("Offer for Sale") by certain existing shareholders of the Company (the "Selling Shareholders"). (The "Total Offer Size")

The Company proposes to utilise the Net Proceeds towards repayment/prepayment, in full or part, of all or certain outstanding borrowings availed by the Company estimated to be Rs.7,200 million and balance amount towards general corporate purpose. (The "Objects of the Offer")

The Offer for Sale comprises up to 6,454,780 Equity Shares by Sai Quest Syn Private Limited (the "Promoter Selling Shareholder"), up to 23,159,368 Equity Shares by TPG Asia VII SF Pte Ltd, up to 6,210,186 Equity Shares by HBM Private Equity India (collectively, the "Investor Selling Shareholders") and up to 650,000 Equity Shares by Bharathi Srivari, up to 500,000 Equity Shares by Anita Rudraraju Nandyala, up to 500,000 Equity Shares by Raju Penmasta, up to 250,000 Equity Shares by Dr. Dirk Walter Sartor, up to 245,100 Equity Shares by Jagdish Viswanath Dore, up to 62,500 Equity Shares by Rajagopal Srirama Tatta, up to 80,000 Equity Shares by K Pandu Ranga Raju and up to 5,000 Equity Shares by Venkata Narasimha Sastry Renduchintala (collectively, The "Other Selling Shareholders")

The Anchor Investor Bid/Offer



Period opens and closes on Tuesday, December 10, 2024. The Bid/Offer Period will open on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 for subscription and close on Friday, December 13, 2024. (The "Bid Details")

The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at Rs.522 to Rs. 549 per Equity Share (the "Price Band"). Bids can be made for a minimum of ... Equity Shares and in multiples of ... Equity Shares thereafter. (The "Bid Lot").

This Equity Shares are being offered through the Red Herring Prospectus of the Company dated December 5, 2024 filed with the Registrar of Companies, Telangana at Hyderabad. (The "RoC")

The Equity Shares to be offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the stock exchanges being BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE" together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges"). For the purposes of the Offer, NSE is the Designated Stock Exchange. (The "Listing Details")

Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, IIFL Capital Services Limited (Formerly known as IIFL Securities Limited), Jefferies India Private Limited and Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited are the book running lead managers to the Offer (The "BRLMs").

All capitalised terms used herein but not defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the RHP.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building

Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended ("SCRR") read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations and in compliance 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" and such portion, the "QIB Portion"), provided that our Company may, in consultation with the BRLMs, allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations ("Anchor Investor Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price. In the event of under-subscription, or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the remaining QIB Portion ("Net QIB Portion").

Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion (excluding the Anchor Investor Portion) shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to Mutual Funds, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs (other than Anchor Investors), 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 QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to QIBs.

Further, not less than 15% of the Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Non-Institutional Bidders of which (a) one third shall be reserved for applicants with application size of more than Rs. 200,000 and up to Rs. 1,000,000; and (b) two third shall be reserved for applicants with application size of more than Rs. 1,000,000, provided that the unsubscribed portion in either of such sub-categories may be allocated to applicants in the other sub-category of Non-Institutional Bidders, and not less than 35% of the Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders ("RIBs") in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. All potential Bidders (except Anchor Investors) are required to mandatorily utilise the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process providing details of their respective ASBA accounts, and UPI ID in case of UPI Bidders, if applicable, in which the corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the SCsBs or Sponsor Banks under the UPI Mechanism, as applicable, to participate in the Offer. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Offer through the ASBA process. For details, see "Offer Procedure" beginning on page 393 of the RHP.

## Flipkart Launches Brand New Fashion Experience For Latest 'End Of Season Sale'; Sees Participation From Lakhs Of Sellers And Brands

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has announced its much-awaited 'End of Season Sale' (EOSS) beginning December 7, 2024. EOSS will witness participation from brands and sellers, making 10 lakh+ trendy styles available to millions of customers across India. New on-app experiences have set the stage for the most engaging EOSS to date, with an enhanced focus on Gen Z shoppers from both an experience and offering perspective. The week-long event will see a revamped Flipkart app interface, expanded product collections, a new immersive video forward destination called 'Play', Video Commerce experiences and a wide array of irresistible deals.

With an enhanced focus on speed in delivery, 50+ product categories will be



available for quick delivery via Flipkart Minutes. With a focus on ecosystem empowerment, the last-mile delivery workforce will have the opportunity to earn an additional source of income courtesy of the increased scale of orders during EOSS.

EOSS is expected to be one of the best fashion celebrations this season, and it

promises to deliver high-quality styles to all serviceable pin codes across India. Showcasing its deep understanding of the Indian fashion landscape, especially the ever-evolving Gen Z audience, Flipkart will enable customers to choose from a wide range of products; while also availing of various bank offers (Axis Bank and Bank of Baroda Debit Card

and Credit Cards) when ticking off their style wishlist during the EOSS.

Speaking about the fashion shopping extravaganza, Pallavi Saxena, Senior Director, Flipkart Fashion said, "With every new edition, Flipkart's End of Season Sale becomes an even larger celebration of fashion and trends that brings joy to millions of our customers across India. Fashion enables us to express ourselves in very unique ways, and we are currently focusing on making Flipkart Fashion the chosen destination for Gen Z. This year, enhanced features are set to give existing shoppers a new reason to visit the app every day, while onboarding new customers. With a wider range of the latest fashion, footwear, and accessories, supported by cutting-edge technology, we will continue to elevate the shopping experience for every customer"

## U.S. Embassy Announces Recruitment for the 20th Nexus Business Incubator Cohort

Chennai Dec 07 2024: The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi is pleased to announce that Nexus, a premier business incubator hosted at the American Center in New Delhi, is currently accepting applications for its 20th cohort which will begin a nine-week training program on February 2, 2025.

The Nexus cohort program provides an invaluable opportunity for 15-Indian startup companies to receive specialized training from Indian and American experts to sharpen their value propositions, define their target markets, get market feedback on product/technology and create milestones to bring their companies to the

market. This latest cohort will also explore the influence of artificial intelligence on startup ventures and the importance of mental health for entrepreneurs.

Following the initial nine-week training program up to four companies will be invited to remain at Nexus for more in-depth support. These companies will be given full access to incubator facilities and network for up to an additional eight months. During this time, the Nexus team of experts will also work with them to take their companies to the next level by helping them get their products to market, grow their customer and revenue bases and, if

appropriate, obtain funding to scale their operations.

Entrepreneurs interested in applying for this program should submit applications at: www.startupnexus.in by January 5, 2025. Selected participants will be notified by January 17, 2025.

To deliver training for Nexus' 20th cohort, the U.S. Embassy is partnering with the Global Training and Development Institute (GTDI) at the University of Connecticut (UConn). The program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi and the U.S. Department of State. GTDI works together with the Daigle Labs at

UConn's School of Business to provide participants from across India the perspectives and the critical tools for exploring the development of new and emerging ventures. The aim of the partnership is to enable sustainable community development while promoting the cultural and economic relationships between the United States and India.

Since the launch of the first cohort in 2017, 230 Indian entrepreneurs and 19 cohorts have graduated from Nexus, and collectively raised over \$90 million dollars in external funding.

## 13 share lead in Chess

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Thirteen players Hari Ganesh, Sanjay Thiruvengadam, Ayyappan Santhana Prabu, Dhanush Ragav, Kavin, Haridev, Sivan Roshan, Shravan Swaminathan, Diya Jain, Ajjesh, Tarun, Pradiksha and

Saravanan are leading with four points at the end of the fourth round of the 3rd Zion-Alwin Fide Rating Chess tournament.

18 players namely, Pradiksha Gokul, Karthikeyan, Muthuraman K, Adharva, Sudarshan Balaji, Sahithyan,

Jayanth Venkatesh, Krishnamoorthy, Anish Ramkumar, Mithiran, Parithi Narayan, Siva Adithyan, Magizhini, Raghunandan, Darshan Sasthaa, Keerthivasan and Vasikaran are on second spot with 3.5 points each

Unrated players will

get an opportunity to gain FIDE rating and also rated players can increase their ratings from this event.

Participation of 407 players from various states from India with more than 184 rated players made this event stronger and colourful.

## Star Agriwarehousing and Collateral Management Limited files DRHP with SEBI/DBS Bank Leverages Asian Network, Digital Expertise to Enhance Wealth Offering for HNI and NRI customers

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Star Agriwarehousing and Collateral Management Limited has filed its Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

The company is a technology led integrated agricultural value-chain services platform, engaged in providing services such as procurement, warehousing, collateral management, financing solutions, digital marketplace and technology based value added data services.

The company plans to raise fund through an Initial Public Offering. The total issue size of comprises of Fresh Issue aggregating up to Rs. 4,500 million (450 crore) and an Offer-

For-Sale aggregating up to 26,919,270 equity shares. ("Total Offer Size")

The company proposes to utilize the Net Proceeds towards funding (i) Part-funding the working capital requirements of the Company estimated to be Rs. 1,200 million [Rs.120 crore]; (ii) Part-funding the working capital requirements of company's Material Subsidiary, FFIPL estimated to be Rs.1250 million [Rs.125 crore]; (iii) Infusion of funds in Material Subsidiary, AFL, towards augmenting of capital estimated to be Rs.1,000 million [Rs.100 crore] and the balance amount towards general corporate purposes. ("Objects of the Offer")

The Offer for Sale comprises of upto 1,318,126 equity

shares by Amith Agarwal, upto 4,393,754 equity shares by Amit Goyal, upto 15,005 Equity Shares by Amit Khandelwal, upto 1,500,000 equity shares by Suresh Chandra Goyal, (Combined "Promoter Selling Shareholders"); upto 1,500,000 equity shares by Devkinandan Gupta, upto 219,688 equity shares by Sri Krishna Agarwal, upto 878,751 equity shares by Pramod Agarwal, upto 500,000 equity shares by Sumitra Devi Goyal, upto 500,000 equity shares by Ankush Gupta, (Combined "Promoter Group Selling Shareholders"); and upto 11,980,508 equity shares by Claymore Investments (Mauritius) Ltd ("Investor Selling Shareholders") (Combined "Total Selling Shareholders")

JM Financial Limited, Ambit Private Limited and Equirus Capital Private Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers.

Among the players in the integrated agricultural services, the company is the largest by revenue and the most profitable technology led integrated value chain services platform during Fiscals 2022 to 2024, as per the F&S Report. As per the F&S Report.

The company is estimated to be the largest player within the agricultural commodity based financing (Collateral Management) in India as of June 30, 2024, with an AUM between Rs.130 to Rs.165 billion, serviced by the largest agricultural warehousing capacity of 4.5 to 5.2 MMT, both as of June 30, 2024.

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Galaxy Health Insurance has opened its first regional office and digital sales centre in Chennai, marking a strategic milestone in its mission to enhance health insurance accessibility across the region. Located at Mena Kampala Arcade in the vibrant T. Nagar area of Chennai, the facility will serve as a hub for customer engagement, digital adoption, and regional operations.

## Galaxy Health Insurance Expands its foray into health insurance with First Regional Office and Digital Sales Centre in Chennai

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The regional office was inaugurated by Mr G. Srinivasan MD & CEO, Galaxy Health Insurance. Mr S. Guru



Prakash (CMO), Mr G. Kannadhasan (State Head), Mr A. Kuberan (Regional Head), and Mr A. Rizwan (Head of Digital Sales) were also present.

Speaking about the inauguration, Mr. G. Srinivasan, MD & CEO, said, "The launch of our first regional office and

digital sales centre in Chennai is a significant milestone in our journey to make quality health insurance accessible to more families across South India. At Galaxy, we are not only committed to make health insurance accessible and deepen its presence, but also to drive economic impact

by creating jobs for people. This expansion reflects our vision of leveraging technology and expertise to close the gap in health insurance penetration and deliver solutions that truly matter to our customers."

Galaxy recently introduced its flagship product, Galaxy Promise, an affordable, comprehensive health insurance plan designed for families. The Chennai expansion marks a significant milestone in making this product available to a wider audience.

## Apollo Hospitals Launches Integrated Neuro-ENT Vertigo and Balance Disorders Clinic at Apollo One

Chennai Dec 07 2024: Apollo Hospitals, a leader in medical care, is proud to announce the launch of its Integrated Neuro-ENT Vertigo and Balance Disorders Clinic at Apollo One. This innovative clinic combines the expertise of neurologists and ENT specialists, offering advanced care for patients dealing with vertigo, imbalance (functional balance disorder), and the fear of falling. The clinic utilizes state-of-the-art diagnostic technologies, including videonystagmography (VNG), Video Head Impulse Test (vHIT), caloric testing, and brain imaging, ensuring precise and comprehensive evaluations.

In addition, Apollo Hospitals will host the Chennai Vertigo Summit 2024 on December 7th and 8th at the Taj Coromandel, Chennai. This summit will bring together leading experts to discuss the latest advancements in the treatment of vestibular, ocular motor, and balance disorders.

Vertigo, imbalance, and the fear of falling are complex conditions that significantly impact the quality of life. These disorders require precise



diagnostics and a multidisciplinary approach to treatment. The newly launched clinic at Apollo One integrates the expertise of neurologists and ENT specialists, supported by audiologists and vestibular rehabilitation therapists, to offer comprehensive care that addresses every aspect of these conditions. The clinic leverages cutting-edge technologies, such as videonystagmography (VNG), Video Head Impulse Test (vHIT), caloric testing, and brain imaging, for thorough and accurate diagnostics.

Ms. Preetha Reddy, the Vice Chairman of Apollo Hospitals Group, said, "The launch of the Integrated Neuro-ENT Vertigo and Balance Disorders Clinic is an important step in tackling a

critical healthcare issue that is often overlooked in India. Launching this at Apollo One is particularly significant, as it enables early detection and intervention through preventive health checks, helping identify these conditions before they severely impact an individual's quality of life. By combining the latest technology with the expertise of our highly skilled doctors, we aim to raise the standard of care and reinforce our commitment to providing advanced, patient-focused healthcare across the country. As leaders in healthcare, Apollo Hospitals continues to strengthen its capabilities to offer exceptional care to our patients."

To raise awareness about balance and fall prevention, Apollo

Hospital Vanagaram is launching the Dance4Balance challenge. This fun initiative encourages participants to showcase their dance moves to a special music clip, while also highlighting the importance of balance in daily life. The challenge combines entertainment and education to promote awareness about balance-related conditions like vertigo, imbalance, and the fear of falling.

Additionally, a Cyclothon will take place on December 9th to further promote awareness. The event will begin at 6:30 AM and conclude at Apollo Hospital, Vanagaram by 1:30 PM. The Cyclothon will be flagged off by the Honourable Governor of Pondicherry, with Sri. Sylendra Babu also joining the ride.

## HDFC Life's 'Life Freedom Index' (LFI) Shows a Bounce-back in Consumers' Financial Outlook Across Cohorts, Up 9 Points Post-COVID

Chennai Dec 07 2024: HDFC Life, one of India's leading life insurers, has released the latest edition of Life Freedom Index (LFI). The LFI is a study that was established by HDFC Life in 2011. This index measures the level of 'financial freedom' among Indian consumers, and has been instrumental in providing deep insights into the ever-evolving financial needs of consumers across segments. It covers key adult life-stages, bucketed into three cohorts: Young Aspirants, Proud Parents, and Wisdom Investors. The LFI comprises four sub-indices: Financial Awareness & Familiarity Index, Financial Planning Index, Financial Sufficiency & Adequacy Index, and Financial Liberty Index.

This edition (2024) of the study was conducted by NielsenIQ across 15 cities (good representation of 4 zones, and Tiers 1, 2, 3) with 2076 respondents.

The latest 2024 study reveals that the Life Freedom Index stands at 70.8, (up by 9 points as compared to 2021). This upward movement indicates a bounce-back in consumer sentiment after the pandemic, and an overall improvement in terms of confidence in consumers' financial outlook.



This upward movement is attributed to growth across all of LFI's sub-indices, particularly Financial Planning and Financial Sufficiency & Adequacy indices. However, the relatively lower growth in the Financial Awareness & Familiarity Index highlights the need for better knowledge of financial products.

Another aspect where LFI throws light is the list of top priorities for consumers. Children's financial security, fitness (both physical and mental) and improving one's standard of living feature on this list. An interesting development noticed is that retirement planning is gradually gaining importance as a financial responsibility, becoming more

important with age. While planning for retirement, consumers are taking into account the expenses towards health, daily living, and supporting children.

In terms of ranking among consumer segments, as per the LFI, Wisdom Investors are at the top, displaying maximum growth, followed by Young Aspirants and Proud Parents.

One of the highlights of LFI's latest edition is that Tier 3 Consumers & Working women have displayed a notable increase in LFI, reflecting a positive shift in their financial planning and confidence.

The upward trend among Tier 3 consumers is likely to have been driven by improved financial access through digital advancements and

greater connectivity.

The increase in the index for Working Women is attributed to easier access to financial education through digital advances and initiatives to empower women.

Since the last edition, HDFC Life has also been monitoring the Life Insurance Confidence Index, which measures the role of Life Insurance in the consumers' financial planning & goal achievement. There has been a growth of 9.3 points in this index, which indicates the rising recognition of life insurance as a vital component of the financial strategy for individuals. This gain rides on the increased consumer confidence that life insurance provides, to meet financial needs and long term financial goals.

West Zone displays the highest index score, while East exhibits the highest growth. There has also been notable improvement in Tier 3 markets which denotes that life insurance is gaining significance as an important financial product. Overall, life insurance offerings are witnessing improved familiarity and needs such as financial security, returns, child's future and maintaining lifestyle are the key triggers, driving life insurance purchase.