

**Medical profession is unlike any other profession, it involves the noble cause of treating and curing people of diseases and saving lives: Smt. Droupadi Murmu**

Chennai Dec 23 2024: The Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu addressed the 6th Convocation Ceremony of Vardhman Mahavir Medical College (VMMC) and Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi in the presence of Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, here today.



Addressing the participants, the President of India said, "Medical profession is unlike any other profession, it involves the noble cause of treating and curing people of diseases and saving lives". The President said that doctors provide the healing touch to humanity and they can make a difference between life and death. "You have a big responsibility being doctors, because you will be taking care of people's health", she stated.

medical institutes in the country as per the latest NIRF rankings".

The President urged the medical fraternity and related institutions to motivate people on the noble cause of organ donation. She also noted the achievements in the healthcare sector during the last 10 years. She said, "the number of medical institutions has increased, and the number of PG seats has doubled. New AIIMS have been established, and undergraduate courses have been introduced in these institutions". "The recently announced Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme will help catering to the needs of the 70+ elderly

population", she said.

A total of 403 Degrees were awarded to students from DM, MCh, MD, MS, and MBBS programs who successfully completed their training. The President also awarded medals to meritorious students in recognition of their exceptional academic achievements. Additionally, the Annual Report of the institution was released by the distinguished dignitaries.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri J P Nadda congratulated all the students and their parents for their hard work and sacrifice. "This celebratory occasion also marks recognition for the numerous achievements

made by the students of VMMC and Safdarjung Hospital which are amongst the most prestigious medical institutes in the country" he stated.

The Union Minister said, "VMMC and Safdarjung Hospital are amongst the busiest medical institute in the country and their medical professionalism is recognised everywhere."

In his message to the students, the Union Minister stated that, "being doctors does not only entail curing diseases, it also involves understanding humanity". He further stated that, "excellence, values and empathy are key traits to success."

**Govt warns drivers of a 15-day ban for using mobile devices while operating the bus.**

Chennai Dec 23 2024: The Tamil Nadu Transport Department has issued a directive stating that government bus drivers caught using mobile phones while on duty will face a 15-day suspension.

videos on social media showing government bus drivers using mobile phones while operating buses, raising serious concerns about passenger safety. Social activists have been demanding stricter action against such negligent

behavior to ensure the safety of commuters. To enforce this rule, transport authorities have been instructed to display the directive prominently on notice boards across all depots. The Transport Department's move comes in response to widespread public

ouctry and the circulation of videos highlighting this dangerous practice.

The new measure aims to curb reckless behavior among drivers and prioritize the safety of passengers traveling in government buses.

**At a wedding, estranged Thackeray cousins briefly cross paths.**

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Estranged cousins, MNS president Raj Thackeray and Shiv

Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray, were seen on one platform together at the

wedding of Raj Thackeray's sister, Jaywanti Thackeray-Deshpande's son, in Dadar on Sunday.

both Raj and Uddhav had attended the wedding of Rashmi Thackeray's brother, Shridhar Patankar's son. However, there was no direct meeting between the two Thackeray brothers at the ceremony at different times.

The two leaders were captured conversing as both families attended the wedding. According to reports, the wedding ceremony of Raj Thackeray's sister's son took place at Dadar's Raje Shivaji Vidyalaya, which was attended by both uncles, Raj and Uddhav, with their family members.

As per the video which went viral on social media, both of them were seen talking to each other for few minutes. It may be recalled that recently

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**C M MK Stalin resolves long-standing land acquisition issues, beneficiaries thank CM**

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin today met with ten beneficiaries at the Secretariat who expressed their heartfelt gratitude for resolving a long-standing issue related to land acquisition by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board (TNHB).



The resolution involved releasing 499.85 acres of land in Chennai district from acquisition, providing a permanent solution to the beneficiaries' grievances.

This decision marks a significant step in addressing public grievances and ensuring fairness in land management processes in Tamil Nadu. For years, the public had been petitioning the government to release

lands notified under Section 4(1) for acquisition and proposed for acquisition by TNHB, seeking clearances and exemptions.

In response, under the Chief Minister's initiative, a special committee was formed, led by the Commissioner of Land Administration, through an order issued on October 10, 2023.

Following a detailed examination by the special committee, 2,002.21 acres of land across various districts were also released from acquisition in the first

phase, benefiting numerous individuals. On October 4, 2024, beneficiaries met the Chief Minister to convey their thanks for the resolution.

In the subsequent phase, after joint inspections and recommendations by the special committee, 499.85 acres of land in Chennai district including areas like K o r a t t u r , Kottivakkam, Virugambakkam, Nesapakkam, Porur, Nerkundram, Mogappair, Ambattur, and Nollambur were also released from acquisition.

Today, ten

beneficiaries from these areas met Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to personally thank him for addressing their concerns and resolving their long-standing issue.

Minister for Housing and Urban Development S. Muthusamy, Chief Secretary N. Muruganandam, Additional Chief Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Kakarla Usha, TNHB Chairman Poochi S. Murugan, and TNHB Managing Director G.S. Sameeran were present on the occasion.

**Hungary's X'mas ceasefire proposal, opens opportunity for Ukraine peace talks**

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Hungary's call for a temporary Christmas ceasefire between Moscow and Kiev, as proposed by Foreign Minister Peter Szijarto, highlights a diplomatic push to create conditions for negotiations aimed at resolving the Ukraine crisis. In an interview with RIA Novosti, Szijarto emphasized that a battlefield solution is unattainable, advocating instead for dialogue as the only path to a long-term peaceful settlement.

set a powerful example," Szijarto remarked, underscoring the symbolic and practical value of such a gesture during the festive season.

However, he noted that the responsibility for pursuing this proposal ultimately rests with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, leaving it to the Ukrainian people to judge their leader's decision.

The proposal, while commendable for its humanitarian intentions, comes amid broader geopolitical tensions and criticism from Hungary towards the European Union's

role in the conflict. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, in a recent interview with M1 broadcaster, asserted that the EU has effectively "lost the war" in Ukraine, citing Russia's slow but steady military gains. Orban also criticized attempts by the EU to mask this reality through "communication tricks."

Hungary's stance reflects its consistent divergence from mainstream EU policies on Ukraine, often prioritizing pragmatism and advocating for immediate ceasefires over prolonged

confrontation. However, the lack of traction for the Christmas ceasefire proposal also highlights the deep divisions within the international community regarding the pathway to peace.

While the gesture might have offered a brief reprieve from hostilities, it raises questions about whether symbolic initiatives alone can catalyze the conditions necessary for substantive negotiations, particularly in a conflict where strategic and territorial stakes remain high for both sides.

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## KRAFTON India Unveils Esports Roadmap for H1 2025; Commits Rs.4 Crore Prize Pool and Launches 'Rising Star' Programme for Emerging Talent

Chennai Dec 23 2024: KRAFTON India today unveiled its much-anticipated Esports roadmap for the first half of 2025, promising an exciting year for Esports enthusiasts, and players across the country. Building on the success of the past two years, KRAFTON aims to make 2025 bigger and better with high-stakes tournaments, community initiatives, and increased opportunities for emerging talent.

Flagship Tournaments: BGIS and BMPS 2025

The year kicks off with the BATTLEGROUNDS MOBILE INDIA SERIES (BGIS) 2025, opening registrations on January 3rd, 2025. The tournament features a prize pool of INR 2 Crores and will give aspiring players a chance to make their mark in the Esports ecosystem. This season, KRAFTON India will host the prestigious BGIS LAN Finals in the City of Joy – Kolkata – in April, furthering its efforts to bring Esports experiences to



audiences across the country.

Following BGIS, KRAFTON will launch the BATTLEGROUNDS MOBILE INDIA PRO SERIES (BMPS) 2025. This invite-only tournament will feature the country's top professional teams, also competing for a prize pool of INR 2 Crores.

Rising Star

In addition to flagship tournaments, KRAFTON also announced Rising Star, a dedicated program aimed at nurturing upcoming Esports players and content creators. The program will offer focused mentorship to enhance live streaming, build social media content strategies, and strengthen personal branding for aspiring Esports talent. Further details about the program will be unveiled soon.

Esports College

Campus Tour

KRAFTON will continue its popular Esports College Campus Tour in 2025, expanding to more colleges nationwide. With a total prize pool of over INR 2 crore, each host college receives over INR 2 lakh. The tour has already engaged students at premier institutions like IIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, and K.J. Somaiya College of Engineering.

Karan Pathak, Associate Director of Esports at KRAFTON India, said, "We are thrilled to unveil the 2025 roadmap for KRAFTON India Esports as we continue our mission to foster the growth of Esports in India. Alongside our flagship events, we are strengthening community engagement through initiatives like the Esports College Campus Tour, which

will expand to even more colleges across the country. Our Rising Star program represents a pivotal step in spotlighting upcoming Esports talent in the country and providing them the necessary tools to make a mark in the industry. By empowering and nurturing the next generation of players and creators, we are laying the foundation for a dynamic and sustainable ecosystem that will drive the industry forward for years to come."

Players and tournament organizers can register for tournaments and participate in upcoming KRAFTON Esports events through the newly revamped KRAFTON India Esports website from January 3rd.

For more information about upcoming tournaments, stay tuned to KRAFTON India Esports Website, Instagram and YouTube channels. Click here to watch the introduction and detailed insights into KRAFTON India's Roadmap for 2025.

## Cummins Group in India to showcase advanced integrated solutions for commercial vehicles at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Cummins Group in India ("Cummins"), leading power solutions technology provider, is set to unveil its advanced integrated solutions for Commercial Vehicles (CV) at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025. Aligned with India's evolving transportation needs and expanding highway infrastructure, Cummins, under its "Power Onward" brand platform, will showcase holistic solutions that deliver performance and efficiency.

At its pavilion, Cummins will present a diverse portfolio of integrated solutions featuring advanced powertrain and components, designed to enhance vehicle productivity and reduce environmental impact. These solutions range from fuel-efficient powertrains to zero emission platforms, providing end-to-end ecosystem solutions that address India's



diverse operating conditions while preparing for future environmental regulations.

Shveta Arya, India Region Leader for Cummins, said "At Cummins, we are deeply committed to India's growth story and take immense pride in our contributions to its journey of self-reliance. Guided by our long-term sustainability strategy, PLANET 2050, we are leveraging our 60+ years of presence and technological expertise to power progress. This aligns with supporting the country's vision of 'Make in India' and sustainable development. Our participation in the Bharat Mobility Global Expo reaffirms this commitment to address India's evolving transportation needs and help it advance on its decarbonization journey."

Nitin Jirafe, Managing Director, Tata Cummins Pvt. Ltd., and Head, Engine Business, Cummins said, "The automotive industry is evolving rapidly, driven by stringent emissions regulations and the demand for innovative, cost-effective solutions. Cummins as an independent power solutions technology provider with a comprehensive technology portfolio, is uniquely positioned to address these dynamic needs. Guided by our Destination Zero strategy, we deliver integrated systems that offer unmatched performance, reliability and productivity. At the Bharat Mobility

Global Expo, we will showcase future-ready technologies that empower customers to navigate the future of commercial mobility while achieving environmental sustainability and business success."

Cummins at Bharat Mobility Global Expo will also highlight its comprehensive approach to vehicle performance optimization, demonstrating complete powertrain capability, that enhances efficiency, reduces emission, and boosts operational productivity. In addition to physical products, Cummins will feature immersive virtual displays, offering visitors a hands-on experience to explore state-of-the-art products and technologies in an engaging, interactive environment.

Visit Cummins at Hall 2, Booth 2, in Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi to learn further about its innovations, and more.

## Rajasthani Association Tamilnadu Launches Prestigious 'Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards' to Celebrate Contributions to Tamilnadu's Growth

Chennai Dec 23 2024: The Rajasthani Association Tamilnadu (the Association), a distinguished organization devoted to social service and cultural integration, proudly announces the launch of its Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards. The inaugural ceremony, held today in Chennai, was honored by the presence of Hon'ble Justice Mr. C. Saravanan of the High Court of Madras and Shri Shantilal Jain, MD & CEO of Indian Bank, who graced the occasion as guests of honor.

The Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards are designed to acknowledge exceptional contributions that have meaningfully advanced the welfare of Tamilnadu's people. The awards span eight critical categories: Agriculture & Rural Development, Public Services, Education, Healthcare,

Environment & Sustainability, Entrepreneurship & Industry, Social Welfare, and Media & Communication. Celebrating the profound impact of individuals and organizations whose work uplifts Tamilnadu. Each award carries a cash prize of INR 2 lakh, a trophy, and a citation, underscoring the Association's unwavering commitment to honoring those whose contributions benefit the people and the progress of Tamilnadu.

The esteemed jury, chaired by Shri S. Gurumurthy, renowned thought leader and editor of Tughluq Tamil Weekly, includes distinguished individuals such as Prof. E. Balagurusamy, former Vice-Chancellor of Anna University, Shri N. Ravi, senior journalist and former Editor-in-Chief of The Hindu, Shri N. Sugachand Jain, philanthropist and



founder of the Bhagwan Mahaveer Awards, and Dr. Smt. Padma Subrahmanya, Padma Vibhushan awardee and globally acclaimed Bharatanatyam scholar.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Saravanan, Chief Guest, remarked:

"The Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards are a powerful symbol of the unity between two vibrant communities. Rajasthan is and Tamilians whose collective efforts are shaping Tamilnadu's

future. These awards not only celebrate individual excellence but also highlight the collective impact of service on the state's development. By recognizing selfless contributions to Tamilnadu's welfare, these awards inspire others to follow the path of service, fostering unity, progress, and meaningful change."

Shri Shantilal Jain, MD & CEO of Indian Bank, Chennai, shared:

"For generations, the Rajasthani

Tamilnadu's progress."

Mr. Praveen Kumar Tatia, President of the Association, stated:

"The Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards are a reflection of our enduring legacy of honoring those whose work makes a lasting impact on society. This prestigious recognition, backed by a distinguished panel of experts, celebrates individuals and institutions that are driving Tamilnadu's growth and transformation. By acknowledging these contributions, we aim to inspire greater service, promote collaboration, and strengthen the bond between the Rajasthani community and Tamilnadu."

Mr. Narendra Srisrimal, Chairman of the Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards Committee, added:

"For more than fifty years, the Association has been dedicated to uplifting society

through initiatives in education, healthcare, and cultural integration. The Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards extend this mission, honoring those whose tireless dedication to the welfare of Tamilnadu creates meaningful, positive change. By recognizing such efforts, we reaffirm our commitment to service and inspire future generations to continue contributing to Tamilnadu's growth and prosperity."

Scheduled to commence annually from March 2025, the Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards represent a landmark achievement in the Association's long-standing legacy of social service. Instituted by the Association, a revered pillar of cultural and social progress since its establishment in 1967, these awards embody the values of excellence, inclusivity, and collective progress.

By celebrating outstanding work across various sectors, the Rajasthani-Tamil Seva Awards inspire individuals and organizations to champion social innovation, community welfare, and sustainable progress. These awards also serve as a platform for strengthening inter-community harmony and fostering a unified vision for Tamilnadu's future. We invite individuals and organizations that embody these values to submit their nominations and join us in celebrating those who are shaping the future of Tamilnadu.

Nominations are now open, with detailed guidelines available through the Association's official platforms.

Link for access details of Rajasthani Tamil Seva Awards: <https://rajasthanitamil.org/>.

## Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital to Host Myopia & Digital Eye Strain Patient Summit 2025 in January

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital is all set to organise the Myopia & Digital Eye Strain Patient Summit 2025, in Chennai on January 4, 2025. The summit will highlight the current eye health challenges in today's screen-dominated world, offering practical solutions for patients, caregivers, IT professionals, and anyone exposed to prolonged digital screen use. For registration, patients can visit <https://www.dragarwal.com/myopia-patient-summit/> or contact 95949 01868.

The summit will feature keynote speeches by renowned eye health experts on the advancements and strategies for managing myopia and digital eye strain; vision screenings and dry eye evaluations for the participants. There will also be interactive panel discussions with leading specialists.

Talking about the summit, Dr. Ashvin Agarwal, Chief Clinical Officer, Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital, said, "We are excited to host the Myopia & Digital Eye Strain Patient Summit 2025 in Chennai. This initiative is dedicated to addressing the growing challenges posed by prolonged



screen time and its impact on eye health. Through this summit, we aim to empower individuals with the latest knowledge, practical prevention strategies, and effective care tips to manage myopia and digital eye strain. It's an opportunity for the patients to connect with caregivers, get their guidance for vision health.

Dr. S. Soundari, Regional Head - Clinical services, Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital, Chennai commented: "Myopia and digital eye strain continue to rise at alarming rates. Myopia prevalence in urban India has surged—from 4.44% in 1999 to 21.15% in 2019, with projections indicating a staggering 48.14% by 2050. Similarly, digital eye strain (DES) affects 50%–60% of children in India, driven by increased screen time; this is according to a report in the Indian Journal of

Ophthalmology, a Lippincott Journal. This summit offers actionable insights and strategies for managing these growing challenges. Attendees will benefit from expert advice tailored for all age groups. They can engage in personalized Q&A sessions with leading ophthalmologists, and participate in on-site vision screenings, including dry eye assessments."

In her comments, Dr. Kaladevi Satish, Zonal Head - Clinical services, Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital, Chennai said Via this summit, the participants will get a chance to learn practical and effective eye exercises to combat digital eye strain. Beyond physical eye health, the summit addresses the psychosocial impacts of refractive errors, offering guidance to help individuals cope emotionally and socially. Additionally,

attendees will discover new optical technologies, including myopia control lenses tailored for modern lifestyles and innovative designs for better vision management.

Dr. Ramya Sampath, Regional Head - Clinical services, Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital, Chennai stated: "The summit offers a comprehensive platform for the public to understand and manage eye health challenges in the digital age. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of myopia, including its causes, progression, and long-term impact, while receiving guidance on selecting the right corrective options, such as glasses and contact lenses, and understanding their appropriate use. For those considering advanced solutions, the summit will explore laser vision correction procedures and their benefits."

## Sankagiri Rajkumar's 'Bioscope' features Sathyaraj and Cheran in special appearance

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Director Sankagiri Rajkumar, who gained attention with his highly praised film 'Vengayam', is back with a new project titled 'Bioscope'. Produced by Chanthirasuriyan, Prabhu Subramani and Periyasamy under the banner of 25 Dots Creations, this film is set to release on January 3. Actors Arya and Sasikumar unveiled the teaser.



'Bioscope' tells the lively and humorous real-life story of a group of villagers, who, with no knowledge of cinema, decide to make a film. Sathyaraj and Cheran play cameo roles in

this flick, while Sankagiri Rajkumar and Sankagiri Manickam appear in significant roles. Notably, the characters in this true story are portrayed by the real-life people who lived through these events, adding a touch of authenticity to the film.

Speaking about the movie, Director Sankagiri Rajkumar explained, "Born and

raised in a village, I made 'Vengayam' under challenging circumstances, and 'Bioscope' will reveal the struggles I faced and the impact that film had. Many, including director Mysskin, had suggested that I should make a documentary about the real story behind Vengayam. As a result, 'Bioscope' was born."

He added, "The making of 'Bioscope' was something special, particularly because the actors were villagers who had no idea what acting even meant. Their raw and natural performances brought a unique flavor to the film. 'Bioscope' tells the lively story of people who took on the challenge of filmmaking with no prior knowledge of cinema."

'Bioscope' features music by Tajnoor and cinematography by Murali Ganesh. For 'Bioscope', Sankagiri Rajkumar has joined hands with Producer Bazaar, while the OTT rights have been acquired by Aha.

## MIA BY TANISHQ CELEBRATES CHENNAI CUSTOMERS IN STYLE WITH RUNWAY STAR EVENT AND 4 NEW STORES!

Chennai, Dec 23 2024: Mia by Tanishq, one of India's leading fine jewellery brands, recently hosted its much-anticipated Runway Star Event in Chennai. The exclusive evening brought together loyal patrons and showcased Mia's commitment to the city's vibrant customer base. The event celebrated individuality, confidence, and style, with customers taking centre stage, adorned in Mia's jewellery as they walked the runway, embodying the essence of the modern Mia woman.

In conjunction with the event, the brand expanded its presence in Chennai with the launch of four new exclusive stores on 20th December in Valasaravakkam, ECR, OMR, and Aerohub, thoughtfully situated at the following strategic locations:

1. Mia by Tanishq, No: 151-6, Arcot Road, Brindavan Nagar, Valasaravakkam, Chennai 600087.
2. Mia by Tanishq, 6, Pandian Nagar, Vettuvangeni, East Coast Road, Near Vettuvan, Chennai 600041.
3. Mia by Tanishq, 4/668, West Pari, Sri Venkateswara Avenue, Thoraipakkam, OMR, Chennai - 600097.
4. Mia by Tanishq, No A9, Ground floor, Aero Hub Mall, Meenambakkam, Chennai 600027.

These new stores spanning across 4300 sq.ft and equipped



with Carat meters enabling seamless exchange and upgrade of old gold jewellery, underscored Mia's dedication to making precious every day jewellery inspired from international trends to evolved customers in Chennai, a city renowned for its rich cultural heritage seamlessly intertwined with modern sophistication.

Mr. Narasimhan YL, Circle Business Head - South 1, joined the celebrations as the Chief Guest for the store launches, highlighting Mia's dedication to making precious everyday jewellery inspired by global trends accessible to the customers of Chennai.

Speaking on these milestones, Mr. Sanjay Bhattacharjee, Head of Retail, Mia by Tanishq and Mr. Narasimhan YL, Circle Business Head - South 1, said, "We are thrilled to host the Mia Runway Star event in Chennai, a city that holds a special place for Mia by Tanishq. Our customers are at the heart of everything we do, and this event, along with the launch of our new stores, underscores our commitment to

offering unforgettable experiences in addition to making trendy fine jewellery more accessible to the modern Tamil women. Watching our customers confidently showcase Mia's designs on the runway is a testament to the strong bond we share. Now, with 14 exclusive stores in the city, we are dedicated to deepening our connection with Chennai's vibrant and discerning audience. Chennai's customers are style-savvy and appreciate jewellery that effortlessly combines cultural heritage with modern elegance, and we take pride in catering to their evolving tastes."

The newly launched stores feature Mia's latest festive collections, including the dazzling 'Mia Disco' Collection, inspired by the bold glamour of the iconic 70s disco era. With its modular designs, the collection allows customers to create multiple looks, transitioning effortlessly from understated elegance to show-stopping brilliance. Additionally, customers can explore a range of lightweight, contemporary designs

crafted in 14kt and 18kt gold, reflecting Mia's ethos of combining style with everyday practicality. Other popular collections are 'Lovestruck' featuring unique heart-shaped solitaires, trendy 'Eye-eye' designs and more across earrings, pendants, necklaces, bangles, bracelets, rings, mangalsutras, etc.

Chennai, with its unique blend of rich cultural heritage and modern sensibilities, remains a strategic market for Mia by Tanishq. Known as the cultural capital of South India, Chennai is celebrated for its deep-rooted traditions in art, music, and dance, which coexist seamlessly with its vibrant, fast-paced urban lifestyle. The city's cosmopolitan audience, particularly its Gen Z and millennial population, values contemporary and lightweight jewellery that reflects both individuality and cultural pride. Mia's designs, blending elegance with everyday practicality, align perfectly with Chennai's evolving preferences, making it a key destination for the brand's growth in the region.

## From January, the Dalai Lama will spend eight weeks in Karnataka.

Chennai, Dec 23 2024: Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leader Dalai Lama is expected to pay an eight-week visit to Karnataka beginning early January, his office confirmed on Sunday. The Dalai Lama would visit the Tibetan Buddhist temple in Bylakuppe and celebrate the Tibetan New Year Losar during his stay in the

southern Indian state. The holy leader would leave for Karnataka from his residence at McLeodganj on January 2, next year.

He is scheduled to reach the Tibetan Buddhist temple in Bylakuppe, Karnataka by January 4. Bylakuppe is the second largest Tibetan settlement in India after Dharamshala.

The Dalai Lama is expected to deliver some lectures to the Buddhist followers including the foreign devotees during his stay there.

He is expected to stay there till the Tibetan New Year Losar which will be celebrated from February 28.

In June this year, Dalai Lama visited the Hospital for Special

Surgery in New York for treatment of his knees, where he had a successful knee replacement surgery.

Dalai Lama stayed abroad for health benefits till July and reached his residence in McLeodganj in August this year. At McLeodganj he also organised teachings in between, but mostly he had been staying at his residence for a long time.

## Alumni Are the Ambassadors of Any University: SRM Founder Chancellor

Chennai Dec 23 2024: "Alumni are the main pillars and ambassadors of any university. A university is like an extended family because alumni are deeply invested in the welfare and growth of its students," said Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, Founder Chancellor of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur.

Addressing over 2,100 alumni at the Annual Alumni Reunion at SRMIST, he said, "As you grow, your Alma Mater also grows. It is your patronage that has helped us establish a strong name. You are always welcome to return to your university, whether for higher education or the education of your children or relatives. We will support you in every way possible."

On his expectations from the alumni, the Founder Chancellor elaborated, "Each of you has excelled in various fields. I encourage you to visit your department often and share your experiences with the current generation." He also urged the alumni to consider starting endowment scholarships to help



less fortunate students pursue their dreams in higher education.

In his speech, Vice Chancellor of SRMIST Prof. C. Muthamizchelvan said, "Our alumni have built the brand 'SRM'. Our accreditation and rankings are a direct result of the success of our students."

Urging the alumni to remain connected with their Alma Mater, he added, "The landscape of teaching pedagogy has changed. Engaging students is a challenge, and this is where the alumni can play a big role. If you are in business, bring us problem statements so

our students can work on real-world solutions. Alumni can also contribute as mentors in their professions or join the university as professors of practice."

He further mentioned that SRMIST has over 40 start-ups on campus. "We would appreciate your help in acquiring angel funds to support these start-ups. This will motivate students to work harder and achieve even more."

In his annual report, Director of Alumni Affairs Dr. A. Rathinam explained that the purpose of such reunions is to

strengthen bonds, celebrate achievements, encourage networking and collaboration, and foster mentoring. SRM alumni have 30+ international chapters and 25+ chapters across India.

The welcome note was delivered by Christy Rayan (1991 batch). Among the notable alumni present were mimicry artist and RJ Adhavan (2001 batch) and lyricist Subu (2009 batch), both of whom put on an impressive performance. The event also featured several cultural performances, including singing, dancing, mime, on-the-spot painting, and instrumental vocals. Following lunch, alumni visited various campus and department locations. Also present at the occasion was SRMIST Registrar Dr. S. Ponnusamy.

## A.M. Jain College Hosts 'Joy of Giving' Celebration to Spread Happiness and Compassion

Chennai Dec 23 2024: A.M. Jain College, a leading institution in Chennai dedicated to academic excellence, is proud to announce the celebration of the Joy of Giving at the college premises in dedication to the loving memory of the college's former Secretary, Shri M. Sardarmal Chordia.

As part of this effort, 40 children from Annaikum Karangal, a child care home in Puzhuhivakkam, participated in the event. To make the celebration even more meaningful, stationery kits School bags, Lunch Bags, Water bottles and Tiffin boxes were distributed as gift to each child on behalf of the college. Additionally, the



college's staff and students have generously contributed provisions and essential supplies for Annaikum Karangal. These contributions to the Founder of Annaikum Karangal by the college management committee.

Udhan Kumar Chordia, Secretary of A.M. Jain College, said, "This initiative exemplifies our college's commitment to fostering values of kindness and community service among our students. The Joy of Giving is

not just about providing material support but about teaching our students the importance of compassion and shared humanity. By reaching out to children in need, we aim to create meaningful experiences that inspire our students to become empathetic and socially responsible individuals."

The event was coordinated by the Student Development Council (SDC) of Shift-1 and the Student Welfare Council

(SWC) of Shift-2, along with active support from faculty members. The children engaged in fun games organized by the SWC and SDC office bearers followed by Mime performance arranged by the Theatre Club of AMJC.

The college encourages generosity and compassion through initiatives like the Joy of Giving. This creates a supportive environment that nurtures social responsibility among its students and staff. The event's inclusive nature, involving both internal and external participants, reflects the institution's dedication to contributing positively to the broader community.

## Mindgrove Technologies secures \$8million in Series A Funding round from Rocketship.vc and Speciale Invest

Chennai Dec 23 2024: Mindgrove Technologies, a fabless semiconductor design startup, has announced that it has raised USD \$8 million in a Series A funding round. The round is co-led by Rocketship.vc and Speciale Invest, with participation from Mela Ventures and existing investors Peak XV Partners, Nishchay Goel and Whiteboard Capital along with new participation from Anshul Goel. Using this capital investment, the company intends to expand its workforce and enhance its in-house engineering capabilities.

The investment will also accelerate production and sales of

its first chip. Earlier this year, in May 2024, the company launched "Secure IoT" — India's first commercial-grade high-performance microcontroller SoC (System-on-Chip) taped out at 28nm. Designed for electronic devices that are transforming into "smart" connected devices like watches, meters, locks and access control units, as well as for powering devices like printers and PoS machines. The chip is on schedule to reach the market by mid-2025. In addition, Mindgrove received approval under The Government of India's semiconductor Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme amounting to Rs.15 Crore for developing a

new chip, "Vision SoC," meant for high-performance edge computing and vision processing applications — CCTV cameras, dashcams, video recorders, ADAS, smart TVs, and more. "The recent investment and the DLI scheme reaffirms confidence in our thesis and capabilities," highlights Shashwath T R, CEO of Mindgrove Technologies. "The demand in India for high-performance SoCs with essential features for security and edge-compute is growing.

We have been actively working towards meeting this need and have made progress in bringing

designed-in-India chips to the market." The company is expanding its team across all departments - business, engineering, product and applications. "Mindgrove Technologies represents the future of India's technology sector, with its innovative solutions tailored for the needs of a rising India," said Sailesh Ramakrishnan, Managing Partner at Rocketship.vc. "We at Rocketship are excited to be a part of this journey to reach world class technological excellence as they combine innovation, scalability, and execution to truly create a rocketship!"

## 69th Railway Week Awards Central function Southern Railway bags Overall Efficiency Shields for Comprehensive Health Care, Security and Civil Engineering disciplines

Chennai Dec 23 2024: 69th Railway Week Awards Ceremony was held in New Delhi today, the 21st December 2024. During the function, the Athi Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar awards were conferred by Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting, Electronics & Information Technology, in the presence of Hon'ble Ministers of State for Railways, Chairman, Secretary & Members of Railway Board, General Managers of various zones and other dignitaries.

Overall Efficiency Shields bagged by SR

Southern Railway bagged the Overall Efficiency Shield for Security (Individual winner). Shri R.N. Singh, General Manager, Southern Railway along with Shri G.M. Eswara Rao, Principal Chief Security Commissioner, Southern Railway received the Shield from the Hon'ble Union Minister of Railways.

Southern Railway also won the Overall shield for Comprehensive Health Care jointly with North Western Railway. The award was received by General Manager along with Dr. C. M. Ravi, Principal Chief Medical Director, Southern Railway. The zone also bagged the Overall Civil Engineering Efficiency



Shield jointly with South Central and Western Railways. The award was received by the General Manager, Southern Railway along with Shri Rama Shankar Gahlot, Principal Chief Engineer, Southern Railway and the General Managers and Principal Chief Engineers of South Central and Western Railways.

Further, Eight employees of Southern Railway that include two Gazetted Officers and Six non-gazetted staff received the prestigious Athi Vishist Rail Seva Puraskar today from the Hon'ble Railway Minister. The details of the awardees and their achievements are given below:

·Gazetted Officers:

1. Shri Manjunath Yadav, Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Madurai: For conceptualizing and delivering India's first steam-locomotive-themed MEMU on electric traction, an engineering marvel inaugurated by the Hon'ble PM as the Steam Heritage Special.

2. Shri M. Boopathy Raja, Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Salem: For

spearheading the development of Southern Railway's first Greenfield Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal and achieving record earnings and traffic conversions in Salem Division.

·Non-Gazetted Staff:

3. Shri A. Jawber Ali, Station Superintendent, Madurai: For averting a potential disaster during floods by halting Tiruchendur Express at Srivaikuntham station, managing stranded passengers for 45 hours, and ensuring their safety and well-being with calmness and resourcefulness.

4. Shri Tijo Kuriakose, Senior Technician, Perambur, Loco Workshop: For his exceptional maintenance work and selfless efforts in rescuing injured persons during accidents, showcasing rare dedication and humanitarian service.

5. Smt. Nandini Jagadeesan, Chief Nursing Superintendent, Southern Railway Headquarters: For her specialized assistance in neurosurgery, optimizing resources, and recovering significant medical

equipment costs through exemplary service.

6. Shri Nandakumar S., Deputy Chief Ticket Inspector, Chennai: For generating record-breaking ticket-checking earnings and boosting staff morale through his meticulous planning and unwavering dedication.

7. Shri Girdhari Prasad Gond, Loco Pilot Goods (Electrical), Chennai: For his alertness and prompt action in identifying OHE mast infringement and halting the Goods train he was piloting near Avadi, preventing a potential rail mishap.

8. Shri T.M. Gopalakrishnan, Senior Section Engineer, Golden Rock Workshop: For pioneering multiple in-house innovations that enhanced efficiency and productivity in coach painting, wagon manufacturing, and welding processes at the Golden Rock Workshop, Tiruchchirappalli.

Southern Railway commends these awardees for their outstanding dedication and significant achievements, which stand as an inspiration to the entire workforce.