

**PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI'S REMARKS AT BEGINNING OF THE BUDGET SESSION OF 2025**

Chennai, 01 February 2025: The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the media before the start of the Budget Session of 2025 at the Parliament premises today. Paying homage to Goddess Lakshmi, the deity of prosperity, the Prime Minister remarked that today on the occasion of the start of the Budget Session, it is customary to remember Goddess Lakshmi, who bestows wisdom, prosperity, and welfare. He prayed to Goddess Lakshmi for her special blessings on every poor and middle-class community in the country.



Remarking that India has completed 75 years of its Republic, which is a matter of immense pride for every citizen, Shri Modi emphasized that this achievement also holds a special place in the democratic world, showcasing India's strength and significance.

Expressing his gratitude to the people of the country who have entrusted him with the responsibility of forming Government for the third time, the Prime Minister highlighted that this was the first full budget session of his third term and expressed confidence that by 2047, when India celebrates 100 years of independence, the nation will have achieved its goal of becoming a developed country. He emphasized that this

budget session will instill new confidence and energy, ensuring that 140 crore citizens will collectively fulfill this resolution. The Prime Minister stated that in the third term, the Government was moving forward in mission mode towards comprehensive development, be it geographically, socially, or economically. He highlighted that innovation, inclusion, and investment have consistently been the foundation of the country's economic roadmap.

Shri Modi mentioned that several historic bills and proposals will be discussed in this session, leading to laws that will strengthen the nation. He emphasized the importance of re-establishing the dignity of women, ensuring equal rights for every woman, free from religious and sectarian differences.

He stated that significant decisions will be made in this session to achieve this goal. The Prime Minister highlighted the importance of

reform, perform, and transform in achieving rapid development. He noted that the State and Central governments must work together to perform, and public participation will lead to transformation.

Emphasizing that India is a young nation with immense youth power, the Prime Minister said that the youth aged 20-25 today will be the biggest beneficiaries of a developed India when they reach the age of 45-50. They will be in key positions in policy-making and will proudly lead a developed India into the next century.

The Prime Minister emphasized that the efforts to fulfill the resolution of a developed India will be a significant gift for the current teenage and young generation. He compared this to the youth who fought for independence in the 1930s and 1940s, whose efforts led to the celebration of independence 25 years later. Similarly, the next 25 years will be dedicated to achieving a prosperous and developed India, he

added. The Prime Minister called on all MPs to contribute to strengthening the vision of a developed India during this budget session.

He emphasized that this is a golden opportunity for young MPs, as their active participation and awareness in the House will allow them to witness the fruits of a developed India.

Prime Minister expressed hope that the budget session will meet the aspirations of the nation. He noted that this is perhaps the first parliamentary session since 2014 where there has been no attempt to create disturbances from foreign sources just before the session.

The Prime Minister remarked that for the past 10 years, there have always been attempts to create trouble before each session, with no shortage of people willing to fan the flames. However, he added that this is the first session in the last decade where no such disturbances have occurred from any foreign corner.

**GROUND LEVEL AGRICULTURE CREDIT DISBURSEMENT REACHES 19.28 LAKH CRORE FOR FY 2024-25 WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON ALLIED ACTIVITIES**

Chennai, 01 February 2025: In order to boost the credit to the rural sector with the help of effective and hassle-free agriculture credit, the Government has been fixing annual targets for Ground Level Agriculture Credit (GLC). Over the past decade (2014-15 to 2023-24), agricultural credit disbursement has witnessed an average annual growth rate of more than 13%, reflecting the increasing financial



support extended to the sector. In the financial year 2023-24, agricultural credit disbursement reached ₹25.48 lakh crore.

For FY 2024-25 the Government of India has set GLC target of ₹27.5 lakh crore with a dedicated sub-target of

₹4.20 lakh crore for allied activities viz. Dairy, Poultry, Sheep Goat Piggery, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry-Others. This marks more than threefold increase in Ground Level Credit (GLC) target, which has grown from ₹8 lakh crore in FY 2014-

15 to ₹27.5 lakh crore in FY 2024-25. This underscores the substantial progress made in agricultural and allied sector credit disbursement, highlighting the effectiveness of targeted credit policies in meeting sectoral demands.

Against the target of ₹27.50 lakh crore, agriculture credit to the tune of ₹19.28 lakh crore has been disbursed as of 31.12.2024, registering 70% achievement.

**INDIA TO HOST BRICS YOUTH COUNCIL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKING GROUP MEETING IN MARCH 2025**

Chennai, 01 February 2025: The Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India is organizing the BRICS Youth Council Entrepreneurship Working Group Meeting from 3rd to 7th March 2025. The theme of the meeting is "Youth Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Growth". The meeting will be attended by around 45 youth representatives from BRICS Countries.

At the Working Group Meeting, India will provide a platform for representatives of the BRICS Youth Council to exchange policies, programmes, and cooperation in the field of entrepreneurship. The

representatives will be given a platform to share their experiences in youth-related work and discuss cooperation in the field of entrepreneurship amongst BRICS countries.

Establishment of the BRICS Youth Council: Entrepreneurship Working Group.

Discussing the work plans of BRICS countries in the field of Entrepreneurship.

Exploring concrete actions in youth cooperation of BRICS countries, in the field of Entrepreneurship.

Discussing the creation of new youth formats according to the prioritized directions in the framework of BRICS and the Working

Groups Meetings. Connecting participants to the international Entrepreneurship opportunities that exist within the BRICS countries.

To increase the understanding of the youth on the relevant areas of the BRICS Youth Council Entrepreneurship Working Group Meeting, the Department of Youth Affairs will organize 8 run-up events in various universities & colleges across India.

These run-up events will provide a forum for healthy discussions and dissemination of India's agenda on Entrepreneurship to a wider public at the grassroots level. These run-up events will

provide a platform for panel discussions amongst the talented youth speakers on the pre-identified relevant areas.

The first run-up event took place at Miranda House, Delhi University, on 15th January 2025. The second run-up event was held at Mata Sundri College for Women, Delhi, on 17th January 2025. The third event was held at IIM Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir, on 24th January 2025, followed by the fourth run-up event at NFSU, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, on 28th January 2025.

The tentative schedule for the remaining run-up events is as follows:

The 5th run-up event is tentatively scheduled to be organised at KIIT, Odisha on 4th February 2025

The 6th run-up event is tentatively scheduled to be organised at IIT Guwahati, Assam on 7th February 2025

The 7th run-up event is tentatively scheduled to be organised at IISc, Bangalore, Karnataka on 11th February 2025.

These run-up events will not only provide an understanding of contemporary global issues to the youth of the nation but also will develop an international perspective amongst them and the importance of various multilateral forums.

**DGFT STREAMLINES EXPORT REGULATIONS IN ALIGNMENT WITH MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

Chennai, 01 February 2025: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has decided to streamline export regulations by aligning with the evolving regulatory framework of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW). Accordingly, the provisions related to the Track and Trace System for pharmaceutical exports under the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) are being withdrawn.

The Track and Trace System, introduced via

Public Notice dated 10th January 2011, mandated barcoding at various packaging levels.

While tertiary and secondary packaging requirements were successfully implemented in 2011 and 2013, primary-level barcoding and parent-child data uploading faced operational challenges and were repeatedly deferred, with the last extension valid until 1st February 2025.

The decision to withdraw these

provisions is based on the following key considerations:

MoH&FW has already implemented barcode/QR code requirements for 300 drug brands under the Drugs Rules, 1945, effective 1st August 2023, with plans for further expansion.

Most export destinations have their own serialization requirements, ensuring product traceability without additional domestic regulations.

MoH&FW, as the primary regulatory

authority, provides a unified framework through the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), ensuring consistency and eliminating duplication.

With this step, DGFT is enhancing ease of doing business for pharmaceutical exporters while ensuring regulatory coherence. Accordingly, the provisions under Para 2.76 of the Handbook of Procedures (HBP) 2023 have been withdrawn.



## S. JOTHIMANI, MP, INAUGURATES HINDUSTAN COCA-COLA BEVERAGES (HCCB)'S WATER ATM AND ANGANWADI RENOVATION IN KARUR, AND PUDUKKOTTAI, TAMIL NADU

Trichy, 01 February 2025: Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages (HCCB), today announced the inauguration of multiple community-focused initiatives as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) program at Karur and Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu. The event was inaugurated by Smt. S. Jothimani, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Karur Lok Sabha constituency, Tamil Nadu, Smt. M. Aruna IAS, District Collector and District Magistrate, Pudukkottai, and Shr. S. Parthiban, Viralimalai Block Commissioner & Development Officer at Chitthambur Hamlet, Alangudi Village Panchayat, Tamil Nadu.

The newly installed Water ATM at Chitthambur Hamlet, Alangudi, Pudukkottai will provide villagers with access to safe drinking water, improving their overall quality of life. Additionally, an Anganwadi that has been renovated by HCCB at Anganwadi Center, Kottaikaranpatti hamlet, Viralimalai Block, Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu, a nearby village located 1 km away, will also be dedicated to the community. These region specific programs underscore



HCCB's commitment to addressing essential needs and fostering growth in rural areas.

Speaking at the event, Smt. S. Jothimani, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Karur Lok Sabha constituency, Tamil Nadu said "The efforts of organisations like HCCB in uplifting rural Tamil Nadu are truly commendable. By providing digital smartboards for schools, promoting digital literacy for women, and reducing the skills gap through skill development programs in collaboration with our state government, they're making a tangible difference in people's lives at the grassroots level. Their initiatives align perfectly with Tamil Nadu government's vision for rural Tamil Nadu, particularly in empowering women through digital literacy and skill development."

Commenting on the occasion, Himanshu Priyadarshi, Chief Public Affairs, Communications, and Sustainability Officer, HCCB, stated, "At

HCCB, we believe in empowering communities through initiatives that address their most pressing needs. By improving infrastructure, access to safe drinking water, skill development and enabling digital education to creating livelihood opportunities for people to lead better lives, our efforts are designed to bring about meaningful, long-term change. The dedication of these projects reflects our promise to invest in the future of our communities and contribute to a thriving, prosperous Tamil Nadu."

Additionally, HCCB distributed 10 sewing machines to support skill development and livelihood opportunities for women in the community. Furthermore, the company announced additional plans, including the installation of a new Water ATM at Kottaikaranpatti hamlet, Viralimalai Block, Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu within the next Primary School,

Sevalur, Manaparai, Karur, Union Middle School, Kurumbapatti, Kadavur, Karur and Panchayat Union Middle School, Chinna Mookanankuruchi, Thanthoni Block, Karur to enhance interactive learning experiences.

HCCB has been proactively engaging with communities in Tamil Nadu, delivering a range of initiatives that have positively impacted over 50,000 individuals. These community-centered initiatives focus on empowering women through digital and financial literacy programs, conducting skill development sessions, installing solar streetlights, providing access to clean drinking water through Water ATMs as part of its WASH initiatives, and supporting Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

In addition, HCCB also partnered with the Government of Tamil Nadu, in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) under the Naam Mudhalvan scheme, and skilled 5,000 youth in sales and marketing. The company's efforts have positively impacted numerous individuals across Tamil Nadu and beyond, contributing to the overall upliftment of underserved communities.

## ECONOMIC SURVEY 2024-25 CALLS FOR ENHANCED DEREGULATION FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMES)

Chennai, 01 February 2025: "The faster economic growth that India needs is only possible if the union and state governments continue to implement reforms that allow small and medium enterprises to operate efficiently and compete cost-effectively", says the Economic Survey 2024-25 tabled in Parliament today. The Survey, tabled by Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman says that by reducing excessive regulatory burdens, governments can help businesses become more efficient, reduce costs, and unlock new growth opportunities. Regulations increase the cost of all operational decisions in firms, the Economic Survey adds.

Recognising that the government has implemented several policies and initiatives over the last decade to support and promote the growth of MSMEs, the Survey says some challenges in the regulatory environment remain. It says regulatory compliance burden holds back formalisation and labour productivity, limits employment growth, chokes innovation and depresses growth.

The Survey observes tendency for firms in India to remain small and the logic for it often is to remain under the regulatory radar and steer clear of the rules and labour and safety laws. It says that the biggest casualties of



this are employment generation and labour welfare, which most regulations were originally designed to encourage and protect, respectively.

The survey adds that the Union Government has undertaken deregulation by implementing process and governance reforms, simplifying taxation laws, rationalising labour regulations, and decriminalising business laws.

"On their part, states have also participated in deregulation by reducing compliance burdens and simplifying and digitising processes", says the Survey. The assessment of states as per the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) formulated by DPIIT shows that deregulation helps spur industrialization.

Stating that such

efforts have laid the foundation for states to embark on the next round of reforms now, the Economic Survey 2024-25 has outlined a three-step process for states to systematically review regulations for their cost-effectiveness. The steps include identifying areas for deregulation, thoughtfully comparing the regulations with other states and countries and estimating the cost of each of these regulations on individual enterprises.

The survey highlights that Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) 2.0 should be a state government-led initiative focused on fixing the root causes behind the unease of doing business. It mentions that in the next phase for EoDB, states must break new ground on liberalising standards and controls, setting legal

safeguards for enforcement, reducing tariffs and fees, and applying risk-based regulation.

Citing examples from other countries, the survey mentions, "The need to find growth avenues in an export-challenged, environment challenged, energy-challenged, and emissions-challenged world means we need to act on deregulation with a greater sense of urgency."

Without deregulation, other policy initiatives will not deliver on their desired goals. By empowering small businesses, enhancing economic freedom, and ensuring a level playing field, governments can help create an environment where growth and innovation are not only possible but inevitable. India's growth aspirations require nothing less."

## BRICS HOSTILE TO US INTEREST: TRUMP

Chennai, 01 February 2025: US President Donald Trump said he will impose 100% tariffs on BRICS countries if they create a new currency.

"The idea that the BRICS countries are trying to move away from the dollar, while we stand by and watch, is OVER. We are going to require a commitment from these seemingly hostile

countries that they will neither create a new BRICS Currency, nor back any other Currency to replace the mighty US Dollar or, they will face 100% Tariffs, and should expect to say goodbye to selling into the wonderful US economy," Trump said on Truth Social.

He said there is no chance that the US dollar could be replaced in



international trade.

"They can go find another sucker Nation. There is no chance that BRICS will replace the U.S. Dollar in

International Trade, or anywhere else, and any Country that tries should say hello to Tariffs, and goodbye to America!" Trump wrote.

## NITI AAYOG HOSTED ONE-DAY NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

Chennai, 01 February 2025: This workshop was organised under NITI Aayog's State Support Mission by Green Transition and Climate Change division primarily focusing on two sectors - End of Life Vehicles (ELV) and End of Life Tyres (ELT) and was cohosted by Material Recycling Association of India (MRAI).

It was attended by various industry stakeholders, including manufacturers, recyclers, Government of India officials, and representatives of

State Governments. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC, who emphasised on the importance of Circular Economy in helping India achieve its goal of Viksit Bharat@2047.

The sessions on ELV highlighted the issues in the formal vehicle scrapping ecosystem including the lack of consumer awareness, operational and infrastructural challenges, and integration of carbon credits into the ecosystem.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A between the panellists and state representatives.

The session on End of Life Tyres was chaired by Dr. P Krishnaiah, Chairman of APPCB, Andhra Pradesh. It focused on various aspects of tyre recycling such as the current policy landscape, developments in recycling technology, and challenges of downcycling.

The session concluded with closing remarks by Smt.

Sreekala, Chairperson, Kerala Pollution Control Board.

The workshop brought together about 50 participants from Government of India and various state governments along with more than 100 representatives from manufacturing and recycling industries.

The workshop concluded by emphasising the need of collaboration among all stakeholders to find solutions to sectoral issues through innovation, policy analysis, and technological solutions.

**PASSPORT | MSME | PAN | AADHAAR**  
**FSSAI | PATTI | LEGALHEIR**  
**2,4 WHEELER INSURANCE**  
**PROPERTY TAX, EB - NAME TRANSFER**  
**STATE AND CENTRAL GOVT**  
**AUTHORISED FRANCHISEE**  
**ALL ONLINE SERVICES**

**இ-சேவை மையம்**  
ஸ்ரீ லக்ஷ்மி நகர் சாலை  
11, SOUTH PERUMAL KOIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI - 600 026.  
**8148231942 / 8144337349**  
வயாது இ-சேவை மையம்



## OVER 500 STUDENTS JOIN MGM CANCER INSTITUTE'S FUN-FILLED CANCER AWARENESS CARNIVAL

Chennai, 01 February 2025: Over 500 students from various schools and colleges in the city took part in 'Beat Fear with Fun', a two-day, fun-filled cancer awareness programme organised by MGM Cancer Institute, as part of its second anniversary and World Cancer Day 2025. The two-day event was inaugurated by Dr MA Raja, Senior Consultant-Medical Oncology, Director, Oncology Services, MGM Cancer Institute.

The primary objective of the event was to educate students and the public about cancer, its risk factors, prevention, and the importance of early detection. Through engaging activities, the event dispelled myths, encouraged proactive health measures, and instilled confidence in young minds about facing health challenges fearlessly. The event also honoured brave cancer survivors, and paid tribute to the dedicated oncologists and healthcare professionals. The event will be open to the public on January 31 and February 1, 2025.

Dr. Urjitha Rajagopalan, Director at MGM Healthcare, said, "As we celebrate two years of MGM Cancer Institute's unwavering fight against the fear of cancer, we believe that awareness should not be intimidating—it should be empowering. With our 'Beat Fear with Fun' health and wellness carnival, we are transforming cancer awareness into an engaging, uplifting experience. Through



interactive activities like magic shows, colouring stations, and immersive video booths, we want to make cancer awareness accessible and enjoyable, especially for young minds. A fearless future begins with knowledge, and we are committed to inspiring confidence, breaking myths, and ensuring that awareness is a celebration of life."

In his comments, Dr M A Raja, Senior Consultant-Medical Oncology, Director, Oncology Services, MGM Cancer Institute, said, "In 2022, approximately 20 million new cancer cases were diagnosed worldwide, with projections indicating this number could reach 35 million by 2050. In India, the situation is equally concerning, with over 1.4 million new cases reported in the same year. Despite these challenges, advancements in early detection, precision medicine, and innovative therapies have significantly improved survival rates, offering hope to millions. We are happy that our institute has made tremendous strides in screening and successfully treating hundreds of cancer patients using the latest technology, coupled

with personalized care and treatment plans. However, medical institutions can only do so much. To truly reduce the cancer burden, individuals must take charge of their health and embrace a healthy lifestyle."

One of the key attractions at the carnival was the video display zone, where students and visitors had the opportunity to learn about cancer, its various types, common symptoms, treatment options, and preventive measures through engaging visuals. Tutors from the hospital were present to explain the content in detail and clarify any doubts. The event also featured interactive sessions, led by healthcare professionals, focused on providing practical guidelines to improve overall health and reduce cancer risks.

A unique and fun-filled activity at the carnival was the 'Hope of Ring' feature, where visitors could test their knowledge of health-boosting items. The setup included a table with various objects, some promoting good health while others posed potential risks. Participants were challenged to toss a ring onto the healthy items. Those who

successfully landed the ring on the right items were rewarded with exciting prizes.

MGM Cancer Institute also issued a personalised health passport to visitors, which carried essential health data such as height, weight, BMI, and blood pressure, all measured at the event. This innovative passport serves as a personal health record, allowing individuals to track their wellness journey. It also includes a 21-day lifestyle calendar, where passport holders can log their healthy eating habits, regular exercise, water intake, and sleep hours.

Students actively participated at the colour station, where they painted coloring sheets designed around various cancer awareness themes. These colorful creations were proudly displayed on the 'Wall of Hope'. The participants also had the chance to test their newfound knowledge with interactive quizzes, including crosswords, fill-in-the-blanks, and multiple-choice questions. The carnival featured a photo booth, allowing visitors to capture memories while promoting awareness in a fun and engaging way.

## WEBINAR BY TRAI ON DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY INSIDE BUILDINGS WITH REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITIES (RERA) REPRESENTATIVES

Chennai 01, February 2025: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has conducted a webinar on the need of good digital connectivity inside buildings and TRAI's "Regulation on Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity, 2024" with representatives from Real Estate Regulatory Authorities (RERA) from States and UTs on 30th January 2025.

The webinar was chaired by Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman TRAI. The

webinar was attended by total 116 participants, including representatives from Real Estate Regulatory authorities across 24 States and UTs, senior officers from TRAI HQ and regional offices of TRAI.

Chairman, TRAI in his opening remarks, emphasised the need for collaboration with Real Estate Regulatory Authorities who can play a pivotal role in addressing the digital connectivity issues inside buildings. A presentation covering various provisions of



the regulations including process of registration of digital connectivity rating agencies and property managers, digital connectivity rating steps and rating criteria was given by Shri Tejpal Singh Advisor TRAI. The queries of RERA representatives were replied by TRAI

Officers. The webinar also deliberated upon possible areas of collaboration between TRAI and Real Estate Regulatory Authorities. The webinar was appreciated by the representatives of RERA who desired the need of further similar interactions with all stakeholders.

## KAUVERY HOSPITAL VADAPALANI AWARDED GOLD SEAL OF APPROVAL BY JOINT COMMISSION INTERNATIONAL, WORLD'S FIRST HOSPITAL TO ACHIEVE THE LATEST 8TH EDITION STANDARDS

Chennai, 01 February 2025: Kauvery Hospital Vadapalani is thrilled to announce that it has received the esteemed Joint Commission International (JCI) accreditation, World's First Hospital for earning the distinguished Gold Seal of Approval® for its firm resolve towards patient safety, quality healthcare, and continuous improvement in medical practices. This accreditation recognizes the hospital's dedication to upholding the highest standards of care and operational excellence, setting it apart as one of the leading healthcare providers in the region.

JCI accreditation is widely regarded as a global benchmark for excellence in healthcare. The Gold Seal of Approval®, awarded to healthcare institutions that demonstrate superior performance in patient care, safety, and organizational effectiveness, is an indication of Kauvery Hospital Vadapalani's ongoing efforts to deliver the best possible outcomes for its patients.

The hospital's achievement of this prestigious recognition is because of its focus



on maintaining high-quality care in every aspect of its operations, from patient treatment to administrative practices.

The most recent revision of JCI's 8th Edition Accreditation Standards for Hospitals, which took effect on January 1, 2025, introduces several significant advancements aimed at addressing the evolving needs of modern healthcare.

Among the key updates are the introduction of a new Global Health Impact chapter, which emphasizes on environmental sustainability and the role of healthcare organizations in reducing their ecological footprint. A dedicated Healthcare Technology chapter also addresses critical topics such as the integration of electronic health records, the growing use of telehealth services, and the

importance of cybersecurity to protect patient data.

Additionally, the revised standards place a stronger emphasis on Patient Safety, advocating for a non-punitive approach to event reporting that encourages transparency and continuous learning. Other notable improvements include enhanced protocols for organ and tissue transplant programs and strengthened guidelines for the care of vulnerable patient populations, ensuring that healthcare organizations are better equipped to meet the needs of diverse patient groups.

Kauvery Hospital Vadapalani's achievement of JCI accreditation highlights the promise of meeting these rigorous standards, reinforcing its dedication to providing the highest level of care to patients while also striving for excellence

in all areas of healthcare service delivery. This accomplishment highlights the hospital's focus on improving patient outcomes, advancing medical practices, and adopting the latest technological innovations to enhance overall healthcare quality.

Dr. Aravindan Selvaraj, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Kauvery Group of Hospitals, expressed his pride in the hospital's achievement, stating, "We are truly honored to receive the JCI Gold Seal of Approval®, which proves that we are providing exceptional, patient-centered care. This accreditation reflects the hard work and expertise of our entire team and strengthens our resolve to continuously improve and meet global standards in healthcare."

At Kauvery Hospital Vadapalani, we believe in staying ahead of the curve and delivering care that not only meets but exceeds patient expectations. As we move forward, we will continue to focus on advancing our services to ensure that every patient receives the highest quality of care possible."

## SPACEX TO HELP ISS STRANDED SUNITA, BUTCH

Chennai 01, February 2025: The prolonged stay of NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore aboard the International Space Station (ISS) underscores the complexities of human spaceflight and the evolving dynamics of public-private partnerships in space exploration. The duo, originally scheduled to return after an eight-day mission, has been in space since June 2024 due to technical issues with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft, highlighting persistent concerns about the reliability of emerging spaceflight systems.

NASA has now confirmed that it is working with SpaceX to bring the astronauts home "as soon as practical", shifting its earlier plan of a February return to at least March 2025. This decision reflects the intricate logistics

involved in coordinating astronaut transfers while ensuring mission safety and minimizing disruptions to the ISS schedule. The delay is partly due to the upcoming launch of Crew-10, which must be carefully synchronised with the return of crew-9 astronauts, including Williams and Wilmore.

The Boeing Starliner's failure to fulfill its original mission timeline has once again raised concerns about the spacecraft's reliability. Initially expected to be a viable alternative to SpaceX's Crew Dragon, Starliner's continued technical difficulties have delayed NASA's goal of having multiple independent providers for crewed spaceflight. The prolonged space mission of Williams and Wilmore serves as a stark reminder of the

challenges Boeing has faced in developing a dependable spacecraft.

NASA's decision to involve SpaceX in the astronauts' return is a significant move, further cementing SpaceX's dominance in the realm of human spaceflight. While Boeing continues to address Starliner's flaws, SpaceX's Crew Dragon has remained the go-to vehicle for astronaut transport, demonstrating a track record of safety and reliability. The delay in bringing back Williams and Wilmore now adds pressure on both NASA and Boeing to expedite Starliner's fixes and ensure future missions are not similarly jeopardized.

Elon Musk, CEO of SpaceX, recently claimed that President Joe Biden personally requested his company to expedite the astronauts' return.

Musk's remarks on X (formerly Twitter), where he criticized the Biden administration for leaving the astronauts "stranded," have sparked political speculation. Given Musk's significant financial contributions to Donald Trump's election campaign, some observers have questioned whether political motivations might influence SpaceX's operational decisions.

Despite the political rhetoric, SpaceX has consistently adhered to NASA's scheduling decisions. While the company's growing influence in spaceflight is undeniable, NASA retains ultimate authority over mission timelines and astronaut safety. The speculation surrounding Musk's comments only adds another layer of complexity to an already intricate situation.



KASHI TAMIL SANGAMAM SPECIALS

Chennai 01, February 2025: The following Special Trains will be operated to clear extra rush of passengers as given below:

Coaches, 2- Sleeper Class Coaches, 1- Second Class Coach (Divyangjan Friendly) & 1- Luggage cum Brake Van

1. Train No. 06193/06194 Dr MGR Chennai Central - Banaras - Dr MGR Chennai Central Specials:

The details of timings and stoppages of Train No. 06193/06194 Dr MGR Chennai Central - Banaras - Dr MGR Chennai Central Specials are as follows (Timings in hours):

Table with train schedules for 06193 Dr MGR Chennai Central - Banaras Special and 06194 Banaras - Dr MGR Chennai Central Special.

Train No. 06193 Dr MGR Chennai Central - Banaras Special will leave Dr MGR Chennai Central at 14.45 hrs on 13th February, 2025 (Thursday) and reach Banaras at 07.15 hrs, the third day (1 Service)

2. Train No. 06195/06196 Kanniyakumari - Banaras - Kanniyakumari Specials:

Train No. 06195 Kanniyakumari - Banaras Special will leave Kanniyakumari at 23.00 hrs on 13th February, 2025 (Thursday) and reach Banaras at 07.15 hrs, the fourth day (1 Service)

20th February, 2025 (Thursday) and reach Kanniyakumari at 15.00 hrs, the third day (1 Service) Coach Composition: 1- AC Two Tier Coach, 5- AC Three Tier Coaches, 2- AC Three Tier Economy Coaches, 8- Sleeper Class Coaches, 1- Second Class Coach (Divyangjan Friendly) & 1- Luggage cum Brake Van.

In return direction Train No. 06196 Banaras - Kanniyakumari Special will leave Banaras at 04.20 hrs on

Table with train schedules for 06195 Kanniyakumari - Banaras Special and 06196 Banaras - Kanniyakumari Special.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS ARE OUR NATIONAL ASSETS, AND WE HAVE PUT A LOT OF EMPHASIS ON ENHANCING THEIR QUALITY AND SAFETY: SHRI NITIN GADKARI

Chennai 01, February 2025 : Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "National Highways are our national assets, and we have put a lot of emphasis on enhancing their quality and safety. We have taken measures to fix contractors' responsibility to enhance the quality of construction and also to improve transparency in our system."



Highways Projects' by MoRTH.

Recently, NHA is successfully implementing pilot project of AIMC on the Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway, wherein Automated & Intelligent Machines such as GPS aided Motor Grader, Intelligent Compactor and stringless Paver have been used.

Addressing the stakeholder consultation workshop in New Delhi, organised by the National Highways Authority of India, on Thursday, Shri Gadkari said "Technology is a great enabler and adoption of Automated & Intelligent Machine-Aided Construction is a step in the right direction.

role in this transformation. As we move forward, leveraging advanced technology such as sensors, satellites, and real-time monitoring will be key to accelerating progress. With continuous technological advancements we are committed to align India's road infrastructure with Vision 2047 and take our National Highway network to the world class level."

enhancement of National Highway construction."

In his welcome address Shri Vishal Chauhan, Member (Administration), NHA emphasised that the inputs from this stakeholder's consultation workshop will contribute in transforming conventional NH construction methods into a data-driven approach by integrating AI-MC technology. Also, Shri Anil Choudhary, Member (Projects), NHA presented the brief on stakeholder consultation held during the workshop.

We have achieved success in the Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway pilot project and soon we will implement this technology to other projects also." In his address. Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways Shri Ajay Tamta said, "India has made remarkable strides in developing world-class roads and highways that has significantly enhanced our infrastructure. Every stakeholder plays a vital

Secretary, MoRTH said, "The roads and highways that we construct today will serve our nation for many years to come. Therefore, time and quality of construction are the two critical parameters that we have been focusing on. Compaction is one of the critical aspects of road construction and technology that is available today enable us to address the challenges related to compaction. I am sure that deliberations at this workshop will provide critical insights that will help us in adopting AIMC technology for the

To enhance National Highway construction prowess by leveraging 'Automated & Intelligent Machine-Aided Construction' (AIMC) technology, NHA organised the consultation workshop, to deliberate and provide suggestions to enhance the recently released draft policy for the 'Adoption of Automated & Intelligent Machine-aided Construction (AIMC) in National

Based on evaluation of efficacy of AIMC demonstrated in this project, along with feedback from the project stakeholders and considering the International Guidelines/specifications NHA will undertake adoption of AIMC for the construction of a few more Greenfield Expressways / Access-Controlled corridor projects.

The draft policy underlines various aspects and potential of Automated & Intelligent Machine-Aided Construction in transforming National Highway development across the country. Senior officials from MoRTH, NHA, NHIDCL, technology providers, concessioners, consultants, machine equipment manufacturers and other stakeholders were present on the occasion.

UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN ARE VITAL TO INDIA'S MARITIME STRENGTH: SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR

Chennai 01, February 2025: Union Minister of State, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Shantanu Thakur said that the unique contributions of women are vital to India's maritime strength and women seafarers embody resilience and excellence on the global stage.



Launching officially the logos and themes of "Sagar Mein Yog - Complete Wellness Programme" and "Sagar Mein Samman", respectively at The Shipping Corporation of India (SCI), Mumbai, on Thursday, he pointing out that the initiative is crucial for ensuring that female seafarers, who often face distinct challenges while working far from home, are celebrated and supported.

resilient spirit and maritime excellence, he added.

Inspired by the Honourable Prime Minister's Maritime India Vision 2030, "Sagar Mein Samman" is a transformative initiative aimed at recognising and enhancing the role of women in the maritime industry. The programme echoes fostering respect and empowerment and seeks to ensure that women seafarers can thrive and navigate their careers with dignity and pride. Further, Sagar Mein Yog focuses on wellness at every stage by integrating yoga and wellbeing practices into maritime training and operations at stages such as Pre-Sea, At-Sea, and Post-Sea for ensuring seafarers remain resilient,

balanced and prepared for every journey.

Shri Shyam Jaganathan, Director General of Shipping, emphasised that under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Maritime India Vision 2030 symbolises hope by uplifting women seafarers and steering India toward maritime excellence.

The "Sagar Mein Samman" initiative was born from this vision, aiming to enhance the respect and recognition afforded to women in the maritime community. Further, he added that the Prime Minister's vision symbolizes hope-empowering oceans, uplifting seafarers and steering India toward maritime excellence.

By tracking health

outcomes, Sagar Mein Yog will refine and expand its offerings to meet seafarers' evolving needs. The initiative is expected to reduce medical emergencies, lower healthcare costs, and decrease turnover rates, creating a supportive maritime environment. Sagar Mein Yog stands as a symbol of our unwavering commitment to the holistic well-being of our seafarers before, during and after their voyages.

The launch event was attended by stakeholders and seafarers reaffirming India's commitment to setting a global benchmark for seafarer health.

From the vast Indian Ocean to our shores of progress, India's maritime legacy continues to drive growth.

272 WATER WARRIORS FROM VARIOUS STATES AND UTS ATTEND THE REPUBLIC DAY PARADE 2025.

Chennai 01, February 2025 : The Water Warriors are individuals dedicated to solving India's water challenges.

Territories were invited to attend the Republic Day Parade.



These change-makers unite communities, champion solutions that are inclusive and equitable, and go above and beyond in their efforts. They inspire others, persevere in the face of adversity, and make a lasting difference in the fight for water security. Their contributions are invaluable and deserve to be formally recognised.

Hon'ble Minister Shri Patil congratulated and motivated the water warriors to continue adopting innovative practices towards water conservation & management.

the role of VWSC members in the success of JIM.

While honouring these water warriors, recognition of the contributions of women in saving and conserving water resources is crucial to inspiring communities, as women are key stakeholders who utilise water throughout the day for various activities.

For the first time, best performing water warriors who have taken exemplary initiatives to save water were invited to special guests to witness the Republic Day Parade 2025 at Kartavya Path in the national capital.

He urged them to continue to serve both the nation and their communities, creating a lasting impact. Through their unwavering dedication they could inspire others to step forward and make a difference in the years to come.

One such remarkable Water Warrior is Ms. Lalawmpuii from Sairep village in Lunglei District, Mizoram. As the village council president, Ms. Lalawmpuii has demonstrated outstanding leadership in promoting rainwater harvesting within her community.

In all 272 individuals along with their spouses (100 by Department of Water Resources, RD & GR and 172 by Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation), who have demonstrated transformative actions on the ground in water conservation with the active involvement of local communities, from various States and Union

Hon'ble Union Minister also launched the following publications during the event, which capture the transformative impact of the Jal Jeevan Mission:

Stories of Change - Highlighting success stories from Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

Transformational Stories: Redefining Lives Through Water - Featuring inspiring narratives from rural communities.

Peyjal: Jan Shakti ki Abhivyahti - Celebrating

Whether through innovative water management practices, setting up community-based water systems, or leading education and awareness campaigns, these women have made a tangible impact on their villages, ensuring that future generations will have access to this precious resource.