

COAL MINISTRY TO HOST ROADSHOW ON 'COMMERCIAL COAL MINES AUCTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES IN COAL SECTOR' IN KOLKATA

Chennai, 19 February 2025: The Ministry of Coal is geared up to host a Roadshow on Commercial Coal Mine Auctions & Opportunities in the Coal Sector on 19th of February 2025 in Kolkata. This event is designed to bring together investors, industry leaders, mining experts, and policymakers, providing a dynamic platform to explore transformative opportunities within India's coal sector.

The tenacity of the Roadshow is to highlight the wide array of opportunities available in the coal sector, driven by significant Government reforms aimed at streamlining processes, enhancing transparency, and creating a level playing field for all stakeholders. The event will provide in-depth details into the upcoming Commercial Coal Mine auctions, discuss the investment potential, and showcase the long-



term benefits of participating in India's growing coal sector. This roadshow is a valuable platform for stakeholders to engage, network, and learn about the regulatory framework, streamlined clearance processes, and the Ministry's efforts to foster an investor-friendly environment in the coal sector.

The Ministry is committed to ensuring that the coal industry remains globally competitive, offering a win-win scenario for both domestic and international investors looking to capitalize on the opportunities in

explored blocks, providing greater operational flexibility. Rebate in Performance Security for Underground coal mines, encouraging investment in underground mining. Ease of participation with no entry barriers, ensuring a more inclusive auction process. Full flexibility in coal utilization, enabling companies to use coal for any purpose as per their business needs. Optimized payment structures and incentives for early production.

The Ministry of Coal is committed to driving growth, investment, and sustainable development in India's coal sector and looks forward to a successful Roadshow, marking an important step in driving growth, investment, and sustainable development in India's coal production and the use of clean coal technology, promoting efficiency and sustainability.

CCA, MINISTRY OF MINES ORGANIZES WORKSHOP ON USAGE OF E-BILL

Chennai, 19 February 2025: The Office of the Chief Controller of Accounts (CCA), Ministry of Mines, organized a workshop under the chairpersonship of the CCA, Ministry of Mines on February 14, 2025. The workshop provided valuable insights about the functionalities and benefits of e-Bill, a digital platform that streamlines the process of generating, processing, and validating bills. The workshop focused on familiarizing stakeholders with the advantages and practicalities of e-Bill for enhanced efficiency and transparency in the billing process. The



workshop was attended by Ministry officials, vendors and other stakeholders. A total of 26 participants attended the session physically, with an additional 20 participants joining via video conference.

A comprehensive demonstration was conducted on how to generate, submit, and track e-Bills on the platform. The session included how to initiate and create an e-Bill, Process of bill

submission and validation & monitoring the approval process through the dashboard.

The session provided benefits of the e-Bill system, emphasizing its role in simplifying and accelerating the bill submission and approval process and other benefits like reduced time taken to generate and process bills, minimizing delays in the payment process, tracking of

bills, minimizing the need for physical paperwork, accessing bills and related documents from anywhere, improving convenience for all parties involved.

The CCA, Ministry of Mines emphasized the need for widespread adoption of the e-Bill system to ensure seamless implementation across all concerned sectors. The office assured support and guidance to all users transitioning to the digital billing platform.

The workshop concluded with a positive response from the attendees, who expressed confidence in the efficiency and practicality of the e-Bill system.

STALIN LAYS FOUNDATION FOR TIDEL PARKS IN TRICHY, MADURAI

Chennai, 19 February 2025: To create employment opportunities for 12,000 IT professionals with an investment of Rs.717 crore, the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M.K. Stalin, laid the foundation stones for new TIDEL parks in Trichy and Madurai.



At the Secretariat, the Chief Minister virtually inaugurated the projects undertaken by the Department of Industries, Investment Promotion, and Commerce. In Trichy Municipal Corporation's Panchappur, a TIDEL Park will be established at an estimated cost of Rs.403 crore, spanning 5.58 lakh square feet with a ground floor and six additional floors. In Madurai Municipal Corporation's Mattuthavani, another TIDEL Park will be set up at a cost of Rs.314 crore, covering 5.34 lakh square feet with a ground floor and twelve additional floors.

Tamil Nadu, currently the second-largest state economy in India, aims to become a one trillion-dollar economy by 2030, a vision set by Chief Minister Stalin. To achieve this target, the state government is

actively attracting significant investments and creating numerous job opportunities, particularly for the youth of Tamil Nadu. The state has been recognized in the Union Government's Economic Survey Report for 2024-25 for its outstanding efforts in attracting investments and generating a large number of employment opportunities, especially for women.

The journey of TIDEL Parks in Tamil Nadu began in 2000 when Kalaignar, with his visionary outlook, inaugurated the first TIDEL Park in Taramani, Chennai, paving the way for substantial growth in the state's IT sector. Following this, mini TIDEL Parks have been established in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, including Villupuram, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi, and Salem. These were inaugurated by Chief Minister Stalin.

Additionally, on November 22, 2024, the Chief Minister inaugurated a state-of-the-art TIDEL Park in Pattabiram, Thiruvallur district, built at a cost of Rs.330 crore, featuring 21 floors with modern infrastructure facilities.

Panchappur, Trichy - As part of the next phase of expanding the IT ecosystem, a new TIDEL Park will be constructed in Panchappur, Trichy, at a cost of Rs.403 crore, covering 5.58 lakh square feet with a ground floor and six additional floors. This facility will accommodate IT, ITeS, BPOs, and startup companies, fostering a thriving technological environment.

Mattuthavani, Madurai: Similarly, in Mattuthavani, Madurai, a TIDEL Park will be developed at an investment of Rs.314 crore, spanning 5.34 lakh square feet with a ground floor and twelve additional floors. It will also host

IT, ITeS, BPOs, and startup companies, promoting technological growth in the region.

These parks will be equipped with advanced integrated building management systems, air conditioning, and 24x7 security, providing a modern work environment for approximately 12,000 IT professionals. This initiative is expected to create job opportunities for educated youth from Trichy, Madurai, and surrounding districts, thus enhancing the socio-economic status of these regions.

Municipal Administration Minister K.N. Nehru, School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, Industries Minister Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa, Chief Secretary N. Muruganandam, Industries Secretary V. Arun Roy, and TIDCO and TIDEL Park Managing Director Sandeep Nanduri were present at the event.

CENTRE FOR JOINT WARFARE STUDIES RELEASES TWO CRITICAL PUBLICATIONS ON CONTEMPORARY SECURITY CHALLENGES

Chennai, 19 February 2025: The Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS), under the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS), Ministry of Defence, in a significant step towards advancing strategic thought and policy discourse, unveiled two critical publications on 18 February 2025. Chief of Integrated Defence Staff & Chairman CENJOWS Lt Gen JP Mathew launched the February 2025 issue of the flagship journal Synergy, themed 'Information Warfare Impacting Joint Warfighting' and a monograph titled 'Russia-Ukraine War: Navigating the Ramifications for Europe and India'.

The specially curated edition of Synergy - February 2025, the peer-reviewed journal widely recognized for its in-depth analyses and thought provoking discussions, provides a



comprehensive perspective on contemporary security dynamics and future-oriented strategies. It examines the role of Information Warfare in modern conflicts, including cyber, psychological, and electronic warfare. It explores Technological Disruption, assessing AI, cyber tools and digital deception in shaping the future of warfare and evaluates Strategic & National Security Impact and India's challenges, particularly in response to adversarial IW tactics. It further discusses Operational Convergence while exploring the integration of IW

within Command, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems to enhance joint force effectiveness.

The monograph, titled 'Russia-Ukraine War: Navigating the Ramifications for Europe and India', provides an in-depth analysis of the geopolitical, economic and security implications of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. It assesses the war's impact on European stability, Indo-Russian relations and India's strategic positioning in a rapidly evolving

global order. The study explores key aspects such as geopolitical realignments, energy security challenges, India's diplomatic balance, NATO's Indo-Pacific expansion, EU-India collaboration and long-term global security implications.

With the release of these two significant publications, CENJOWS reaffirms its commitment to fostering intellectual engagement on contemporary strategic issues. Both the monograph and Synergy journal are now available, serving as essential resources for the policymakers, military professionals, researchers and academic institutions.

MADRAS ART GUILD INAUGURATED ITS FOURTH EDITION OF THE MONTH-LONG PUBLIC ART FESTIVAL IN CHENNAI

Chennai, 19 February 2025: The Madras Art Guild, supported by the Yuj Foundation, commenced its fourth edition on 14th February 2025. This year's theme is 'Transcending Boundaries'. Muneo Takahashi San, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai inaugurated the festival with a traditional lamp lighting ceremony and unveiling of the 'Kala Car'.

A mesmerizing classical dance performance by Remya Nambeesan, a fashion show by Japanese multidisciplinary artist Kazuko Barisic San and an exclusive viewing of the exhibition at the Fine Art Gallery and Chennai Photo Biennale concluded the evening.

Over 1000 installations, sculptures, paintings, and photographs are displayed at the festival. The installations are by students of Annai Kamakshi Music and Fine Arts College, The Pupil School, SRM Institute, Velammal Bodhi Academy, Chitravati Centre for Creativity, Brindavan Public School, Chennai, DaVenn Creations, and BVM Global School.

The Kala Car has been created in collaboration with the award-winning artists Bhagwan Chavan and Pravin Kannanur. Transforming the walls of the basement at VR Chennai into an art gallery, The Basement Art Project displays the works of artists from Annai Kamakshi Music and Fine Arts College, Chitravati Centre for Creativity, Ology and Velammal International School. Over the next month VR Chennai will transform into a hub of artistic celebration, with installations, fine art, photography, exhibitions, music, art



cinema, workshops, panel discussions, young artists competition and an artisanal bazaar.

This edition of the Madras Art Guild is driven by a series of significant collaborations, each contributing to the festival's broader vision. As part of a partnership with UNESCO New Delhi, in the areas of STEM education and climate literacy, a stunning photo exhibition will be displayed based on their publication "A Braided River:

Partnering with the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai, Madras Art Guild extends its cultural dialogue beyond borders, integrating Japanese art and culture to this year's edition.

Highlights include a fashion show blending the elegance of kimonos and the craftsmanship of sarees, a retrospective of renowned Japanese artist Shine Misako San, a serene Zen Garden display, an Ikigai Calligraphy workshop, Japanese cinema and a special J-pop and anime musical performance by a Japanese Minichestra. Spread throughout the month this collaboration serves as a bridge for cultural exchange, offering an immersive experience.

An international collaboration with the New York based Arts for the Future Festival, powered by the United Nations Civil Society Conference, further amplifies our reach among the global audience. Both

science and enhancing public knowledge and skills in climate resilience.

Women scientists and engineers bring invaluable creativity and expertise to the table. Increasing their participation is not just about equity—it's about unlocking solutions that are essential for the future of our planet.

The publication A Braided River: The Universe of Indian Women in Science and the exhibition, is a step toward fostering equal respect, pay, and opportunities for women in STEM fields globally. The 'Climate Science Literacy' exhibition, featuring a series of posters aims to make climate science accessible. Building climate literacy is key to preparing communities for the realities of a changing world, understand the root causes of climate change and the actions needed to mitigate its impact," said Tim Curtis, Director and Representative, UNESCO Regional Office for South Asia.

"Madras Art Guild is a platform dedicated to artistic dialogue, creativity, and cultural exchange. Through our partnership, we are honored to bring Japan's rich artistic traditions to Chennai, encompassing fashion, music, cinema, and craftsmanship.

This collaboration not only strengthens the deep cultural ties between Japan and India but also aligns with the festival's ethos of 'Transcending Boundaries,' enabling meaningful artistic interactions and cross-cultural appreciation.

I sincerely hope that this will further enhance our future cultural exchange and people-to-people exchange," said Muneo Takahashi, Consul-General, from the Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai.

festivals share a commitment to creating an inclusive ecosystem for artists and creative practitioners, making this partnership a natural extension of Madras Art Guild.

"Rooted in Chennai's rich artistic heritage, the Madras Art Guild is a tribute to the city's enduring legacy of creativity and cultural discourse. Over the years, the festival has extended its scope to act as catalyst for cultural exchange and preservation through strategic partnerships with organizations like UNESCO, the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai and the New York-based Arts for the Future Festival (powered by the United Nations Civil Society Conference).

As we embark on this edition of the Madras Art Guild, we look forward to cultivating global partnerships and providing new avenues for artists and audiences to connect, exchange ideas, and engage with the arts in ways that transcend borders." said Sumi Gupta, curator of the Madras Art Guild.

"Humanity is facing an unprecedented challenge—the 'Triple Planetary Crisis' of biodiversity loss, climate change, and pollution—all of which threaten food, water, and energy security.

Addressing these crises requires urgent action, with two critical priorities: empowering women in

SRM IST TABLE TENNIS (MEN & WOMEN) TEAMS WON THE GOLD MEDALS

Chennai, 19 February 2025: Our SRM Institute of Science and Technology Table Tennis (Men & Women) teams won the gold medal in the Seetharaman & Lakshmi Memorial Trophy, a state-level intercollegiate event to be held at Sai Ram Engineering College from 14th to 15th February 2025.

Results Men - Pre-Quarter finals: SRM IST beat Amirtha

Vishwa. Score:3-0.

Quarter finals: SRM IST beat SRI SAIRAM IT. Score:3-0.

Semi Finals: SRM IST Beat SSN CE. Score:3-0

Finals: SRM IST Beat SRI SAIRAM EC. Score:3-0.

Final Standing: 1. Winners: SRM IST. 2. Runners: SRI SAIRAM EC. 3. 3rd place: SSN CE. 4. 4th place: Stella Marys.

Results Women -



Pre-Quarter finals: SRM IST Beat AMET IST. Score:3-0.

Quarter finals: SRM IST Beat RAJALAKSHMI IT. Score:3-0.

Semi Finals: SRM IST Beat SSN CE. Score:3-0.

Finals: SRM IST Beat SRI SAIRAM EC. Score:3-0.

Final Standing: 1. Winners: SRM IST. 2. Runners: SRI SAIRAM EC. 3. 3rd place: SSN CE. 4. 4th place: Stella Marys.

VOLTAS BEKO EXPANDS PRODUCT PORTFOLIO WITH THE LAUNCH OF MIXER GRINDER AND DRY IRON ON FLIPKART

Chennai, 19 February 2025: Voltas Beko, a leading name in home appliances category, is excited to announce the launch of its two latest innovations in the Small Domestic Appliances (SDA) category, the Mixer Grinder and Dry Iron, is now available exclusively on Flipkart. Designed with cutting-edge technology and customer convenience in mind, the new products promise to elevate the home experience for modern consumers.

The Voltas Beko powerful Mixer Grinder boasts of a powerful motor, durable design, and multiple speed settings, making it ideal for all types of grinding, blending, and juicing.

With unique features like GrindX blades and anti-topple base, and a sleek, compact design, it ensures both efficiency and style in the kitchen. It is designed to handle



everything from smoothies to chutneys with ease, offering versatility to meet every culinary need. On the other hand, Voltas Beko Dry Iron is a lightweight dry iron with multiple temperature settings, that will help to iron clothes, remove wrinkles and make them look crisp and tidy.

Mr. Jayant Balan, Chief Executive Officer of Voltas Beko, announced the launch of the Voltas Beko powerful Mixer Grinder and Dry Iron on Flipkart. "These products are designed to cater to the demands of today's fast-paced, modern lifestyle," he stated. "We've incorporated cutting-edge features to ensure high performance,

durability, and superior customer services."

To celebrate the launch, Flipkart will offer exclusive discounts and numerous deals on these products for a limited time. Customers can look forward to easy online ordering, fast delivery, and a hassle-free return policy.

Mr. Balan emphasized that launching these products on Flipkart is a strategic move to provide customers with a seamless online shopping experience. He expressed confidence that these products will become essential in every household.

Mr. Anurag Nair, Senior Director Large Appliances of Voltas Beko has Flipkart added, "Consumers trust Flipkart for its

It was natural for us to partner with such a strong brand like Voltas Beko, so their technologically advanced products are accessible to our consumers."

The products are available exclusively on Flipkart since the first week of February 2025.

Voltas Beko is a leading brand in the consumer appliances space with high-quality home appliances, specializing in innovative products that enhance everyday life of its consumers. With a focus on reliability, performance, and customer satisfaction, Voltas Beko has become a trusted brand in households across the country.

A.M. JAIN COLLEGE STUDENTS VISITING CANCER SURVIVORS AT MGM CANCER INSTITUTE

Chennai, 19 February 2025: A.M. Jain College students visited MGM Cancer Institute and interacted with cancer survivors, sharing inspiring stories of strength and recovery. Dr. M.A. Raja, Director & Senior Consultant of Medical Oncology at the hospital, emphasised that



overcoming patients' fears is the first step in their treatment.

The event concluded with cultural performances featuring music, dance and theatre, which uplifted everyone's spirits. Dr. R. Surekha, Deputy Dean of A.M. Jain College, praised the students for their empathy and engagement during the interaction.

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OXFORD SMITH SCHOOL AND CEEW LAUNCHES COURSE ON 'REACHING NET ZERO' FOR POLICYMAKERS, PROFESSIONALS & STUDENTS

Chennai, 19 February 2025: The Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford, and independent think tank Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) are jointly set to launch a first-of-its-kind course, 'Reaching Net Zero'. The online self-paced certificate course, which will be hosted by the global learning platform Apolitical, is designed especially for the Indian market, and will commence on 13 February 2025. It is suitable for policymakers, senior executives in public-sector banks and financial institutions, decision-makers, corporate social responsibility teams, and sustainability officers from India's banking, corporate, and public sectors who seek to develop confidence in researching, discussing, and connecting their work to the net zero efforts as well as academia and training institutes.



also strengthen energy security and build resilience against climate risks. The Reaching Net Zero for India course provides a comprehensive overview of the net zero target, equipping Indian policymakers and industry leaders with the knowledge and tools necessary to make informed decisions ahead of the curve on climate and sustainability challenges.

The transition to a green economy, which continues to gather pace in India, presents a wealth of opportunities for jobs, growth, and sustainability. The Smith School and CEEW-designed course will cover, among other topics, the meaning and science of net zero, the political ramifications of climate change, and net zero policies, examining their specific implications for India's development trajectory, energy security, markets, job creation, and climate risks to investments. Participants will

explore the science underpinning net zero and engage with policies designed to reach it. They will also gain an insight into how they can manage net zero in their own context.

Dr Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, CEEW, said, "The climate is the economy now, and the road to net zero will have far-reaching implications on all levels of government, portfolios of banking institutions, quality of life, and balance sheets of businesses. This course on net zero comes at a critical time and decade — it will build the capacity of Indian decision-makers and equip them for a unique developmental trajectory where growth must happen with decarbonisation."

Dr Radhika Khosla, Associate Professor at the Oxford Smith School, comments, "Our shared ambition is for this course to support India's progress towards net zero and sustainable development, as well being a key global

actor on addressing climate change. As long as human activities continue to add greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, global temperatures will keep rising with countries like India often being the most vulnerable to devastating climate impacts. We hope this course will make the latest science on achieving net zero and sustainable development accessible across policy and decision makers, to inform decisions that unlock progress."

The course will feature the expertise and content of the Smith School's Indian academics, including Dr Radhika Khosla, Associate Professor at the Smith School and Director of the Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development, Dr Anupama Sen, Head of Policy Engagement for the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, Ranjita Rajan, Business Fellow, Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, leaders and subject matter experts from CEEW, including Dr Vaibhav Chaturvedi, Senior Fellow who specialises in low-carbon economies and carbon markets.

DP WORLD APPOINTS SURESH RAMANI AS CHIEF COMMERCIAL OFFICER FOR LOGISTICS FOR THE SUBCONTINENT

Chennai 19, February 2025: DP World, a leading provider of smart end-to-end logistics, has appointed Suresh Ramani as its Chief Commercial Officer for Logistics in the subcontinent. As global supply chains continue to evolve, integrated logistics solutions are essential for future success. Suresh's appointment aligns with DP World's commitment towards enabling resilient and optimized supply chains.

in working with the Middle East and African markets. His broad expertise across diverse industries and business functions will be significant to DP World's aspirations in the logistics industry.

Suresh Ramani, Chief Commercial Officer - Logistics, Subcontinent, DP World, said, "I am excited to have joined DP World, and to contribute to its mission of transforming global trade. I look forward to providing integrated and innovative solutions to our customers while expanding our global customer relationships."

DP World has developed a comprehensive portfolio of multimodal logistics



assets and services in India offering integrated logistics solutions for all types of cargo. The network includes 5 container freight stations, 3 free trade zones (in Nhava Sheva, Chennai, and Cochin), and 7 rail-linked multimodal terminals.

It also provides temperature-controlled warehousing and transport, supported by 5 million square

feet of warehousing space. With over 100 owned rakes and 16,000+ containers, DP World is one of India's largest private rail freight operators. Its express cargo services cover 14,000+ pin codes, and 11 freight forwarding offices across the country offer end-to-end solutions for containerized and project cargo via ocean and air route.

SAMSUNG LAUNCHES BESPOKE AI REFRIGERATOR SERIES WITH AI FEATURES REDEFINING SMART COOLING

Coimbatore 19, February 2025: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today launched its latest Bespoke AI Refrigerator series in the 330L & 350L capacity range. This new range combines advanced AI-driven features like AI Energy Mode, AI Home Care and Smart Forward with elegant designs and versatile storage options. Aimed at addressing the unique needs of Indian consumers, the series offers a harmonious blend of functionality, style, and innovation at a starting price of INR 56990.

The new Bespoke AI Refrigerators provide smart energy management, improved freshness retention, and active fresh filter, which eliminates upto 99.9% of harmful bacteria, all of which is wrapped in a sleek and customizable exterior. With its durable and energy-efficient Digital Inverter Compressor, backed by a 20-year warranty, the series is poised to redefine modern refrigeration in India.

"Our Bespoke AI Refrigerator series offer consumers a perfect balance of technology, design, and convenience. From AI-driven energy optimization to innovative cooling and hygiene solutions, this series caters to the evolving lifestyles of



Indian families. With stylish finishes and advanced features like Smart Forward, AI Home Care, Twin Cooling Plus™ and Convertible 5-in-1 Modes, we aim to empower our customers with appliances that redefine everyday living," said Ghufan Alam, Senior Director, Digital Appliances, Samsung India. Design, Capacity, Price, and Availability Available in Real Stainless, Luxe Black, Elegant Inox, and Black Matt, these refrigerators are designed to seamlessly integrate with contemporary home interiors in capacities of 330L and 350L at a starting price of INR 56990. This caters to diverse household needs with availability at leading retail stores, e-commerce platforms, and Samsung's official website.

AI Energy Mode: The AI Energy Mode leverages advanced AI algorithms to optimize energy consumption by analyzing the refrigerator's usage patterns. This intelligent system identifies peak and off-peak hours of usage, adjusting energy requirements

accordingly to achieve up to 10% energy savings. By reducing unnecessary energy usage, it not only ensures cost efficiency for households but also supports sustainable living by lowering carbon footprints. This feature is particularly beneficial for environmentally conscious consumers seeking to balance performance with responsibility.

SmartThings Home Care: SmartThings Home Care offers a seamless integration of real-time monitoring and diagnostics, allowing users to ensure their refrigerator operates at peak efficiency. By comparing past and current performance data, this feature detects potential issues early, minimizing disruptions. Additionally, it provides users with proactive maintenance tips via the SmartThings app, enabling them to extend the lifespan of their refrigerator while ensuring consistent cooling performance. This tool exemplifies Samsung's commitment to convenience and advanced home care solutions. Smart

Forward: Designed to enhance the interconnected smart home ecosystem, Smart Forward ensures uninterrupted operation by transferring tasks seamlessly between connected devices. For example, in a multi-appliance setup, the refrigerator can communicate with other devices to adjust cooling requirements based on usage. This feature is ideal for users who rely on an integrated home automation system, as it enhances convenience and ensures that every device operates harmoniously for a smarter lifestyle.

Wi-Fi Enabled Convenience: The Wi-Fi enabled refrigerators redefine convenience by empowering users to control and monitor their appliance remotely via the SmartThings app. Whether it is adjusting the temperature, activating Power Cool or Power Freeze modes, or receiving maintenance notifications, users can manage their refrigerator from anywhere. For instance, while grocery shopping; users can remotely lower the temperature to store perishable items immediately upon returning home. This feature exemplifies modern convenience tailored to dynamic lifestyles.

PNB METLIFE EXPANDS ULIPS OFFERINGS WITH PNB METLIFE NIFTY 500 MOMENTUM 50 INDEX FUND

Mumbai 19, February 28, 2025. February 2025: PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited (PNB MetLife) has launched its new index-based fund, the PNB MetLife Nifty 500 Momentum 50 Index Fund (Fund), a new addition to its Unit-Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs) offerings.

The fund is designed to help policyholders capitalize on market momentum by tracking the performance of the top 50 high-momentum stocks within the Nifty 500 Index, offering them a means to achieve their long-term financial goals and life cover.

The new fund will be available at an initial unit price of ₹10 per unit during the subscription period from February 15 to

February 28, 2025. This fund is Available under PNB MetLife's ULIP plans, including Smart Platinum Plus (UIN: 117L125V05), TULIP (UIN: 117L136V02), Goal Ensuring Multiplier (UIN: 117L133V05), and Mera Wealth Plan (UIN: 117L098V07). For policies issued after February 28, the prevailing NAV on the day of issuance will be applicable.

The fund provides an opportunity for policyholders to gain market-linked returns from the companies that have demonstrated strong price performance over the 6- and 12-month period. It offers exposure across large-cap, mid-cap, and small-cap segments. Stocks are selected based on momentum-



driven criteria and rebalances semi-annually to reflect evolving market trends.

Sanjay Kumar, Chief Investment Officer, PNB MetLife, stated "The PNB MetLife Nifty 500 Momentum 50 Index Fund is tailored for customers seeking a structured approach to market trends. By focusing on stocks with sustained momentum, this fund enables long-term wealth creation through a disciplined and transparent investment strategy."

The fund aims to capitalize on the growing interest in passive strategies, which dynamically

adjust based on market movements, helping policyholders navigate cyclical shifts in the market. As of December 2024, the benchmark index comprised of ~35% Large Cap, ~50% Mid Cap, and ~15% Small Cap stocks, ensuring a well-diversified portfolio for long-term wealth creation.

This initiative builds on PNB MetLife's track record of delivering high-performing market-linked returns with life Insurance solutions. PNB MetLife funds have generated industry-leading returns across categories.

TOYOTA KIRLOSKAR MOTOR REINFORCES COMMITMENT TO ROAD SAFETY, LAUNCHES ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS & HEALTH INITIATIVE FOR 1,250+ DRIVERS IN MIZORAM

Chennai 19, February 2025: Reinforcing its commitment to promote safe driving practices, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today announced the launch of awareness and health check-up initiative for over 1,250 drivers in Mizoram. Coinciding with 'Road Safety Month' (January 18 – February 17, 2025), the initiative is in response to rising road accidents across the state. The occasion was graced by the distinguished presence of the chief guest Mr. Stephen Lalrinawma MPS, Senior Superintendent of Police, Traffic, Aizawl, Mr. Zoramawia Zorhawn, Dealer Principal, Zote Toyota and executives from TKM.

In 2023 & 2024, Mizoram witnessed 106 and 124 road accidents respectively with corresponding fatalities at 96 and 112. Lack of driving discipline, over-speeding, violation of traffic regulations, and inadequate enforcement measures have contributed to these accidents. Recognizing the urgent need for intervention, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, in collaboration with local



authorities, is actively engaging with commercial drivers to educate them on responsible driving behaviours while ensuring their physical and mental well-being through dedicated health screenings.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor's comprehensive safety initiative for commercial drivers such as truck, bus and van drivers comprise of two key components:

1. Road Safety Awareness Sessions : Designed to educate and empower drivers, the sessions cover: Importance of road safety and responsible driving practices. Rules and regulations for commercial drivers. Awareness on penalties for traffic violations. Mental and physical well-being for professional drivers. Importance of vehicle insurance and compliance.

2. Comprehensive Health Check-ups : Ensuring the physical

and mental well-being of drivers, the initiative includes: Screening for common health conditions (Blood Pressure, Sugar, Eyesight, Hearing etc) affecting driving performance. Prescription of essential medicines and health advice. Referral to government healthcare centres for further treatment, if needed.

Moreover, as part of broader road safety measures, 34 units of ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition system) & 20 units of CCTV cameras are being installed at key locations to enhance road monitoring, deter traffic violations, and improve enforcement measures, ensuring a safer driving environment for all.

Through this structured approach, TKM aims to equip drivers with the right knowledge and health support, enabling them to make informed, responsible decisions on

the road.

Sharing his thoughts on the initiative, Chief Guest Mr. Stephen Lalrinawma MPS, Senior Superintendent of Police, Traffic, Aizawl said, "Ensuring safe roads requires a multi-faceted approach that includes awareness, enforcement, and community engagement. Toyota Kirloskar Motor's initiative is a commendable step in educating drivers about responsible driving while also prioritizing their health. 68 percent of road accidents take place due to carelessness of the drivers which can be avoided.

Drivers should also focus on the fitness of vehicles as this also leads to accidents. I urge all commercial vehicle drivers, especially truck drivers, to participate in the event. By empowering commercial drivers with knowledge and support for their well-being, we are not only enhancing road safety but also fostering a more disciplined driving culture. Collaborative efforts like these are essential in making a lasting impact, and we appreciate Toyota's dedication to this crucial cause."

APOLLO FIRST MED HOSPITALS SUCCESSFULLY PERFORMS COMPLEX FINGER REPLANTATION SURGERIES USING ADVANCED SUPER-MICROSURGERY

Rann of Kutch 19, February 2025 : Apollo First Med Hospital has successfully performed replantation surgeries on multiple patients who suffered traumatic finger amputations due to various accidents. The procedures, led by expert Plastic Surgeons Dr. V. Purushothaman and Dr. Sabari Girish Ambat, have restored not only the patients' finger functionality but also their ability to resume normal daily activities.

The replantation surgeries, which took several hours for each patient, involved the meticulous reattachment of severed fingers, including small fingertips. Using cutting-edge microsurgical tools and super-microsurgical techniques, the surgeons carefully reconnected bones, tendons, nerves, and blood vessels, restoring blood flow and ensuring hand functionality. Following the surgeries, all patients undergo rigorous rehabilitation to regain full use of their hands and fingers.

Dr. V. Purushothaman, plastic surgeon, Apollo first med hospital, explained the importance of preserving the amputated part for replantation: "When



dealing with amputations, especially those caused by machinery or household appliances, time is of the essence. Preserving the amputated part is crucial, and the right steps must be taken immediately to ensure it remains suitable for surgery.

Thanks to advances in super-microsurgery, we are now able to replant even the smallest of amputated body parts, such as fingertip injuries, with high success rates."

Dr. Sabari Girish Ambat, Senior consultant in Plastic Surgery, Apollo first med hospital, said, "Thanks to the swift actions of the patients' families and the hospital team, we were able to act quickly and restore these patients' hand function.

Each step, from cooling the amputated part to getting it to our surgical team, significantly increases the chances of a successful outcome. Super-microsurgery, which involves even finer precision, allows us to replant even

fingertip amputations that would have once been deemed too small to repair."

The patients, who sustained amputations from road traffic accidents, industrial accidents, bike chain injuries, and household accidents such as kitchen mishaps and door crush injuries, were quickly brought to Apollo First Med Hospitals' trauma center. In each case, the critical first step was to preserve and transport the amputated part to the hospital within 4-6 hours for optimal chances of replantation, with quick, direct transportation to ensure rapid surgical intervention.

These successful replantation surgeries highlight Apollo First Med Hospitals' leadership in trauma and microsurgery care. With a dedicated team of specialists and access to the latest technology, the hospital remains at the forefront of providing life-changing treatments for patients in need.

For more information about Hand surgery, microsurgery, or to schedule a consultation, please contact Department of Plastic Surgery Apollo First Med Hospitals, Kilpauk. 044 28366075 /8754470049.

Key Steps in Preserving the Amputated Part for Replantation Surgery: The process of preserving the amputated part involves several key steps, Controlling Bleeding: Stop the bleeding at the amputation site and

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IC3 2025 REGIONAL FORUM IN TAMIL NADU DRIVES STUDENT WELL-BEING AND CAREER COUNSELING INITIATIVES

Chennai 19, February 2025 : The IC3 2025 Regional Forum in Tamil Nadu successfully brought together educators, counselors, students, and government representatives to explore key issues surrounding career counseling, student well-being, and holistic development. Hosted at Alphabet International School in Chennai, the forum provided a vital platform for discussing the grassroots challenges faced by students and teachers, ensuring access to quality career counseling resources.

The forum saw 100+ registrations, with participation from 40 institutions across Tamil Nadu, reflecting a strong interest from the education community in enhancing student outcomes by focusing on holistic student development. The event also included the presence of Dr. Palanivel Thiagarajan, Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services. Under the theme "Counseling as a Culture," discussions emphasized the need to

integrate career counseling into the daily educational experience, ensuring it supports students academically and emotionally.

Speaking about the forum, Mr. Ganesh Kohli, Founder of the IC3 Movement, said, "Tamil Nadu has a long-standing tradition of academic excellence. However, it is equally important to focus on supporting students holistically, creating a safe and open environment where they can understand their potential, strengths, and the wide range of opportunities available to them. Ensuring that every student has access to quality career counseling is a crucial step in supporting their academic, emotional, and professional growth. The theme 'Counseling as a Culture' reflects our vision of integrating career guidance into the daily school experience, ensuring it remains a consistent part of the students' journey. Through the IC3 2025 Regional Forum in Tamil Nadu, we aim to foster collaboration among educators, counselors, and



integrate career counseling into the daily educational experience, ensuring it supports students academically and emotionally.

The event highlighted the evolving role of counseling in modern education systems, with participants engaging in productive discussions about strategies to support students' academic, emotional, and social well-being. The sessions covered best practices for integrating career counseling into school curricula, building resilience in students, and aligning education with the needs of the workforce.

Kavita Saraf, Head of School, Alphabet International School, emphasized, "Supporting the well-being of our students is not just about individual success; it's about creating a foundation for

the future of our nation. When we provide an environment where students feel safe to express themselves, understand their strengths, and address their emotional challenges, we are laying the groundwork for a more resilient and capable society. Integrating counseling into the educational framework nurtures not only academic growth but the emotional and mental strength needed for students to thrive. As we empower the next generation to navigate both personal and academic challenges, we are cultivating leaders who are not only skilled but compassionate, well-rounded, and ready to contribute to our nation's future. This must become a cultural priority, for supporting students' holistic development is key to ensuring a prosperous and resilient society."

ALVAREZ & MARSAL EXPANDS HEALTHCARE AND LIFE SCIENCES PRACTICE IN INDIA WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF AKASH KEDIA AS MANAGING DIRECTOR

Chennai 19, February 2025 : Leading global professional services firm Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) India has announced the appointment of Akash Kedia as Managing Director within its Life Sciences Business Transformation Services practice. This strategic appointment aligns with A&M India's continued expansion in the Healthcare and Life Sciences sector, reinforcing its commitment to providing end-to-end solutions for businesses in the sector.

Mr. Kedia brings over 20 years of consulting and industry experience, specializing in large-scale business transformation, digital strategy, revenue growth, and operational excellence. Prior to joining A&M, he led the Life Sciences industry vertical at Accenture in India, where he was instrumental in expanding its

consulting and digital business. His expertise spans pharmaceuticals, wellness, and consumer goods, with a proven track record of driving growth and efficiency for clients across India, the US, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.

Himanshu Bajaj, Managing Director & Head - A&M India and GCC, said, "A&M is committed to expanding its capabilities in the Healthcare and Life Sciences sector to better serve clients in an increasingly complex and competitive landscape. Akash's appointment is part of our broader strategy to build a strong leadership team in this space, following a series of senior-level hires aimed at enhancing our ability to support businesses through industry shifts, digital transformation, and regulatory complexities. His deep sectoral expertise and experience in driving



large-scale transformation programs will be invaluable as we continue to scale our offerings and deliver end-to-end solutions that create measurable impact for clients."

Kaustav Ganguli, Managing Director at A&M India, added, "The Healthcare and Life Sciences sector in India is rapidly evolving with businesses seeking strategic transformation and digital innovation to stay competitive. Akash with his deep sector expertise will strengthen A&M's capabilities to support clients in navigating the complexities and optimizing operations to unlock new avenues for growth. We are excited to welcome

Akash to the team and look forward to his contributions in expanding our healthcare and life sciences practice in India."

Akash Kedia, Managing Director at A&M India "I am pleased to join A&M and contribute to the firm's growing Healthcare and Life Sciences practice in India. The industry is undergoing significant transformation, with businesses seeking strategic, results-driven solutions to enhance operational efficiency, and accelerate digital adoption. A&M's hands-on, results-oriented approach aligns well with these evolving needs, enabling organizations to navigate the increasing complexities in the sector. I look forward to working at A&M to help clients build stronger, more agile businesses that are well-positioned for long-term success."