

MINISTRY OF COAL ORGANIZES ROADSHOW ON COMMERCIAL COAL MINE AUCTIONS IN GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT

Chennai, 04 March 2025: The Ministry of Coal successfully organized a Roadshow on 'Commercial Coal Mine Auctions and Opportunities in the Coal Sector' in Gandhinagar, bringing together Government, key stakeholders from the coal industry and private sector. Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, graced the event as the Chief Guest. Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, Ms. Rupinder Brar, along with senior officials of the Ministry were also present.



is actively fostering an enabling ecosystem to encourage private sector participation by streamlining processes, offering financial incentives, and enhancing the ease of doing business.

She made a special mention of the Single Window Clearance System, stating that it has expedited clearances, and ensured a level playing field for all stakeholders.

The roadshow is part of the Ministry's continuous efforts to engage with potential investors, highlighting the vast opportunities in commercial coal mining, and reinforce India's commitment to energy security and self-reliance in the coal sector.

In her welcome address, Smt. Rupinder Brar, Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, emphasized the potential of commercial coal mining in shaping India's energy future. She highlighted that coal will remain a crucial pillar of India's energy security for decades, driving industrial growth and ensuring an uninterrupted power supply.

Furthermore, she stated that the Ministry

Ms. Brar also noted that the series of roadshows from Kolkata to Mumbai to Ahmedabad have provided investors with valuable insights into the auction framework and policy landscape. She reaffirmed the government's commitment to transparent, investor-friendly policies while also promoting advanced mining technologies, coal gasification, and sustainable mining practices.

Delivering the Keynote Address, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, Minister of State for Coal and Mines, highlighted the Government's commitment to

strengthening the coal sector through progressive policy measures. He underscored that commercial mining is a transformative step, opening new avenues for private sector participation and reducing India's dependence on coal imports.

Shri Dubey emphasized that these efforts align with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, ensuring a steady and sustainable supply of coal to industries while driving economic growth. Shri Dubey further highlighted the Ministry's commitment to enhanced safety measures for mineworkers, community welfare and regional development, ensuring that coal mining not only fuels industrial growth but also uplifts local communities through employment generation, skill development, and social infrastructure projects.

Minister also reaffirmed the Government's focus on environmental sustainability, emphasizing that coal-

mining operations are aligned with strict environmental norms, progressive land reclamation practices, and initiatives like coal gasification to reduce carbon emissions. He assured stakeholders that the Ministry remains committed to fostering an efficient, competitive, and responsible coal-mining ecosystem that balances economic progress with environmental stewardship.

The event also featured an interactive Q&A session, allowing industry representatives to directly engage with Government officials. Discussions covered policy frameworks, investment incentives and operational aspects of commercial coal mining, further reinforcing the government's commitment to fostering a transparent and business-friendly environment.

Reiterating its unwavering commitment, the Ministry of Coal assured stakeholders of continued support, policy stability, and innovation-driven growth in the coal sector.

With a vision that balances economic progress with ecological responsibility, India aims to remain a global leader in coal mining, paving the way for a sustainable and community-inclusive energy future.

STALIN URGES POLITICAL PARTIES TO ATTEND MARCH 5 ALL-PARTY MEET

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Chief Minister and DMK President, M.K. Stalin, has urged all political parties to participate in the all-party meeting convened by the Tamil Nadu government on March 5 to discuss the issue of delimitation.

Speaking at a public event in Nagapattinam on Monday, CM Stalin called on parties that have chosen to boycott the meeting to reconsider their decision, emphasising that the discussion is about protecting Tamil Nadu's rights. "The Union government is attempting to impose the three-language policy on Tamil Nadu and is conspiring to reduce the number of

parliamentary constituencies under the guise of delimitation," he alleged.

CM Stalin warned that if delimitation is carried out solely based on population, Tamil Nadu could lose up to eight Lok Sabha seats, reducing its representation from 39 to 31 MPs.

Even if the total number of parliamentary seats in India increases, states like Tamil Nadu where population control measures have been effective could be disproportionately affected, he argued.

"This is not just a numbers game; it is about our fundamental rights. Tamil Nadu has

led the way in development indices and population control, and we should not be penalised for our progress. An unfair delimitation process could weaken our voice in Parliament," CM Stalin said.

Referring to delimitation as a 'Sword of Damocles' hanging over Southern states, he stressed that the process could undermine states that have successfully implemented family planning policies.

CM Stalin said that the state government has invited all 40 registered political parties in Tamil Nadu to participate in the discussion, as the issue concerns the future of

the state.

"We have reached out to all 40 political parties registered with the Election Commission of India to deliberate on this crucial issue. This is a moment for unity. I urge all parties to set aside their differences and join the discussion," he added.

Despite the Chief Minister's appeal, some political parties have decided to boycott the meeting.

The Tamil Maanila Congress (TMC), led by former Union Minister G.K. Vasan, has announced that it will not participate, calling the meeting an attempt to distract the public from unresolved issues in the state.

INDIA AND NEPAL SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH) SECTOR

Chennai, 04 March 2025: The Government of India and the Government of Nepal today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector, including waste management. The signing ceremony took place at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi, in the presence of Shri C R Patil, Union Minister of India, and Shri Pradeep Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Water Supply, Government of Nepal.

The agreement aims to promote collaboration between the two nations and strengthen intergovernmental cooperation in the WASH sector, ensuring better access to clean

drinking water and sanitation for their populations. The comprehensive MoU outlines a collaborative framework encompassing several key areas:-

Capacity Building: Training programs for Nepali personnel in water resource management and related fields.

Technology & Knowledge Transfer: Sharing of technological expertise and best practices between India and Nepal in WASH sector.

Groundwater Management: Joint efforts in monitoring, assessment, and management of groundwater resources, including quality improvement, artificial recharge, and rainwater



harvesting.

During the event, Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C R Patil, highlighted India's significant achievements under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in providing clean drinking water and sanitation facilities to all citizens. Shri Patil emphasized that this MoU reflects the shared commitment of India and Nepal towards public health, sustainability, and regional cooperation.

Hon'ble Minister of

Water Supply, Government of Nepal, Shri Pradeep Yadav, commended India's success in implementing large-scale clean drinking water and sanitation initiatives. He stated that Nepal looks forward to learn from India's experience in these sectors and that Nepali officials will visit key sites in India to gain insights and best practices. He further proposed that regular meetings should be held to ensure steady progress and mutual exchange of knowledge.

INDIAN NAVY'S FIRST TRAINING SQUADRON REACHES PHUKET DEEP SEA PORT, THAILAND

Chennai, 04 March 2025: As part of the ongoing training deployment of the First Training Squadron (ITS) to South East Asia, INS Shardul, INS Sujata and ICGS Veera arrived at Phuket Deep Sea Port, Thailand on 01 Mar 25.

The ships were accorded a warm welcome by the Royal Thai Navy (RTN) amidst fanfare of the RTN band. Senior Officer, ITS, Capt Anshul Kishore along with Commanding Officers of the ships called on Rear Admiral Suwat

Donsakul, Commander, Third Naval Area Command. The discussions were centered on regional security, avenues for joint training exercises and goodwill activities.

A reception was hosted onboard ITS for senior leadership of RTN, diplomats, and members of the Indian Diaspora.

During the port call, the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy will engage in a series of dynamic activities aimed at strengthening maritime cooperation



and enhancing operational synergy. The visit includes professional interactions, yoga sessions, cross training visits, friendly sports fixtures, Naval band performance, and PASSEX. The Indian Navy and

Royal Thai Navy have maintained a close and friendly relationship, which has strengthened over the years. The visit reinforces better understanding and enhanced interoperability between the two Navies.

Build Your Future With Us

RTN, DR. R. SATHYANARAYANAN
 +91 9862102827
 +91 9142231942

Oasis Grace
 Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd
 No. 25, Nandan Metro Tower,
 Bangalore Colony,
 Saidapet, Chennai-600015

25 Years of Excellence
2450 Projects
500+ Clients
20+ Years of Excellence

Our Clients

Our Projects

Projects in India, Projects in India, Projects in India, Projects in India

Projects in Bangalore, Projects in Bangalore, Projects in Bangalore, Projects in Bangalore

Projects in Chennai, Projects in Chennai, Projects in Chennai, Projects in Chennai

The ceremony was attended by senior officials from both countries, including H.E. Mr. Naveen Srivastava, Ambassador of India to Nepal, and H.E. Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma, Ambassador of Nepal to India, along with Secretaries Ms. Debashree Mukherjee and Mr. Ashok Kumar Meena, and other distinguished delegates.

This MoU marks a new chapter in the India-Nepal partnership, ensuring that both countries work together for the well-being of their people and for a sustainable future.

INTELLION FUTSAL LEAGUE SEASON IV CONCLUDES ON A HIGH NOTE WITH 30% INCREASE IN PARTICIPANTS SINCE 2024

Mumbai, 04 March 2025: Tata Realty's Intellion Offices successfully hosted the fourth season of the Intellion Futsal League (IFL), India's largest corporate tournament, with 70 teams competing and 25,000 attendees joining the event this year. The event was held from February 26th to 28th at Ramanujan Intellion Park in Chennai, drawing an enthusiastic response from participants across various IT/ITeS organizations who came together to showcase their skills and camaraderie in this high-energy event. As the tournament drew to a close, the winner, Citi (men) and Astra Zeneca (women) and the runners up team Amazon (men) and Taj Wellington Mews (women) were celebrated for their outstanding performance and sportsmanship throughout the competition.



equitable access to health and well-being benefits (for over ~45,000 estimated total number of clients), IFL IV is a successful way to put forth employee centricity at its core by Tata Realty.

Reflecting on the success of the event, Mr. Sanjay Dutt, MD & CEO of Tata Realty and Infrastructure Ltd., shared, "The Intellion Futsal League exemplifies how sports can foster collaboration, resilience, and community spirit. It is inspiring to see our tenants engage with such enthusiasm in Season IV, reinforcing our commitment to creating dynamic workspaces that go beyond the office. This year's theme, 'Playing for Good,' aligns seamlessly with our sustainability and CSR initiatives, as we continue to build spaces that promote wellness, inclusivity, and environmental responsibility.

Witnessing the remarkable participation this season strengthens our belief that sports can be a powerful catalyst for positive change."

Mr. Ritesh Sachdev, Senior Vice President and Head of Leasing and Asset

Management, Tata Realty and Infrastructure Ltd., reiterated the company's dedication to upholding its core business values, stating, "The Intellion Futsal League goes beyond just a sporting competition—it's about building dynamic, engaged occupier communities. We're thrilled by the enthusiastic participation, reflecting IFL's growing excitement. Sports unites, and this edition reinforced our commitment to sustainability and social impact through initiatives like the Conscious Market.

By blending competition with purpose, we create spaces that foster connections and a shared vision. At Tata Realty, trust, integrity, and transparency drive us, ensuring every initiative strengthens relationships and long-term success."

The commencement of Season IV started with the unveiling of the mascot, Leo The Lion, denoting strength, strategy, and a winning spirit, Representing Chennai's history, culture, and indomitable spirit, Leo resonated with the participants, adding to the competitive spirit

to the game. Beyond the competition, the event made a significant social and environmental impact through initiatives like. "The Conscious Market," which showcased sustainable products crafted by local artisans, including those creating products for Autism awareness. This initiative not only raised awareness for sustainability but also supported economic empowerment and celebrated local craftsmanship.

With a strong focus on sustainability, the tournament also introduced eco-friendly jerseys made from recycled PET bottles, setting an example for responsible sporting events. By integrating sport with community impact, IFL continued its mission to promote inclusivity, wellness, and environmental responsibility. Additionally, the tournament welcomed children from marginalized communities, offering them an opportunity to experience the joy of futsal, further strengthening IFL's mission to make sports accessible to all.

As the league continues to grow, IFL remains committed to fostering a culture of collaboration, fitness, and responsible living. With a strong foundation and increasing corporate enthusiasm, the tournament is well on its way to becoming a flagship sporting event in the corporate calendar.

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Tata Motors Limited sales in the domestic & international market for February 2025 stood at 79,344 vehicles, compared to 86,406 units during February 2024.

Domestic sale of MH & ICV in February 2025, including trucks and buses, stood at 15,940 units, compared to 16,227 units in February 2024. Total sales for MH & ICV Domestic & International Business in February 2025,

including trucks and buses, stood at 16,693 units compared to 16,663 units in February 2024. Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited, both subsidiaries of Tata Motors Limited.

TATA MOTORS REGISTERED TOTAL SALES OF 79,344 UNITS IN FEBRUARY 2025

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Nissan announced today that as part of its commitment to sustainable mobility the New Nissan Magnite BR10 naturally aspirated engine is now fully E20 compliant, joining the more powerful 1.0L HR10 turbocharged petrol engine, which became E20-compatible in August 2024. With this development, all powertrain options of the New Nissan Magnite are E20 compatible.

Nissan Motor India has reached another significant milestone as the Magnite achieves 50,000 units of export sales since its inception.

The New Nissan Magnite since launch has increased wholesale volume in domestic and export markets as part of the recently announced India strategy which includes growing domestic and export volume positioning India as a major export hub for the company. The introduction of the LHD version has boosted this considerably since the

Domestic Sales Performance			
Category	February 2025	February 2024	% change (Y-o-Y)
Total Domestic Sales	77,232	84,884	-9%
Commercial Vehicles			
Category	February 2025	February 2024	Growth (Y-o-Y)
HCV Trucks	9,892	10,091	-2%
LMCV Trucks	5,652	5,083	11%
Passenger Carriers	4,355	4,692	-7%
SCV cargo and pickup	10,898	13,701	-20%
CV Domestic	30,797	33,567	-8%
CV IB	1,735	1,518	14%
Total CV	32,533	35,085	-7%
Passenger Vehicles			
Category	February 2025	February 2024	Growth (Y-o-Y)
Total PV Domestic (includes EV)	45,435	51,267	-9%
PV IB	376	54	596%
Total PV (includes EV)	46,811	51,321	-9%
EV (IB + Domestic)	5,343	6,923	-23%

the Left-Hand Drive (LHD) variant of the New Nissan Magnite, shipping nearly 2,900 units from Chennai's Kamarajar Port (KPL - Ennore) to LATAM markets, and later in February 2025, exported over 2000 units to the Middle East, North Africa and Asia Pacific regions, and over 5,100 units of the LHD New Nissan Magnite units to select Latin American markets, with an overall shipment of over 10,000 units of the LHD Magnite by February-end. This reinforces Nissan's 'One Car, One World' strategy and strengthens India's role as a key export hub.

NEW NISSAN MAGNITE BECOMES FULLY E20 COMPATIBLE, ACHIEVES 50,000 EXPORT SALES



first dispatch in January 2025.

In February 2025, Nissan recorded consolidated wholesale dispatches of 8567 units, primarily driven by a surge in export shipments.

Domestic sales accounted for 2328 units, while exports totalled 6239 units, reflecting 97 per cent year-on-year (YoY) growth compared to 3163 export units in February 2024.

The strong global demand for the New Nissan Magnite showcases Nissan's expanding footprint in international markets and the increasing preference for 'Made in India' vehicles.

Mr. Saurabh Vatsa, Managing Director of Nissan Motor India, commented:

"The New Nissan

Magnite continues to make its mark not only in India but also in global markets, having crossed the significant milestone of 50,000 export sales.

This achievement highlights the growing trust in Nissan's ability to deliver quality, innovation, and performance. Coupled with the New Nissan Magnite's full E20 compliance, our strategy emphasizes our dedication towards future-ready mobility solutions, aligning with evolving environmental standards.

We remain committed to our India operations and the New Nissan Magnite's constant evolution is a testament to this dedication."

In January 2025, Nissan Motor India commenced exports of

With its bold road presence, premium features, and expanding global reach, the New Nissan Magnite is now present in over 65 countries, including both the Right-Hand Drive and Left-Hand Drive markets.

The SUV's bold and stylish design, 20+ first & best-in-segment features, and 55+ safety features make it a standout choice in the compact SUV segment.

ALL INDIA INTER COLLEGIATE BEACH VOLLEYBALL MEN & WOMEN - DAY 1 RESULTS

Chennai, 04 March 2025: SRM Institute of Science and Technology Inaugurates PERSian Beach Volleyball Court and All India Inter-Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship 2025.



The Directorate of Sports, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) inaugurated the SRM PERSian Beach Volleyball Court, a new state-of-the-art facility designed to support competitive beach volleyball.

The court was officially launched by Prof. S. Ponnusamy, the Registrar, SRMIST, who also inaugurated the All India Inter-Collegiate Beach Volleyball Men and

Women Championship 2025. Women Results (Day one Result) Match 1 : PKR Arts College Erode College Beat Queen Mary's College. Score: 2-0.

College. Score: 2-0.

Match 2 : SRM Spikers Beat Vels IST, Chennai. Score: 2-1.

Match 3 : American College, Madurai Beat St. Thomas College, Chennai. Score: 2-1.

Match 4 : Avvaiyar Government College for Women, Karaikal Beat SRM Arts & Science College. Score: 2-0.

Match 5 : PKR Arts College Erode Beat SRM Agri College. Score: 2-0.

PASSPORT | MSME | PAN | AADHAAR

FSSAI | PATA | LEGALHEIR

2,4 WHEELER INSURANCE

PROPERTY TAX, EB - NAME TRANSFER

STATE AND CENTRAL GOVT

AUTHORISED FRANCHISEE

ALL ONLINE SERVICES

இ-சேவை மையம்
ஸ்டார் ரெயின்போ சர்வீஸஸ்
11, SOUTH PERUMAL KOIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI - 600 026.
8148231942 / 8144337349
வாது இ-சேவை மையம்

NTA ANNOUNCES CUET-UG 2025 SCHEDULE

Chennai, 04 March 2025: The National Testing Agency (NTA) has officially released the Common University Entrance Test schedule for Undergraduate programs (CUET-UG) 2025. The exam is set to be held from 08 May to 01 June 2025. Online applications for CUET-UG 2025 are now open, with a registration window running from 01 March to 22 March 2025.

A key highlight this year is that candidates can choose up to five subjects, regardless of the subjects they studied in their 12th grade. Candidates can select subjects based on eligibility criteria for their desired university programs. These subjects may include languages, domain-specific subjects based on the



NCERT syllabus, and the General Aptitude Test.

The CUET-UG exam will be conducted in 13 languages, including English, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Gujarati, Odia, Bengali, Assamese, Punjabi, and Urdu. The exam will be conducted in computer-based Test mode, covering 37 subjects.

Among the institutions participating in CUET-UG 2025 is the Central University of Tamil

Textiles, B.Sc. in Technical Textiles, and BBA in Textile Business Analytics.

The fee structure for the CUET-UG 2025 is based on the number of subjects selected by the candidates.

* For up to three subjects, the fees are as follows: General UR: Rs. 1000, OBC-NCL/EWS: Rs. 900, SC/ST/PWD/Third Gender: Rs. 800 * For more than three subjects, there will be an additional fee for each extra subject: General UR: Rs. 400, OBC-NCL/EWS: Rs. 375, SC/ST/PWD/Third Gender: Rs. 350.

Candidates can visit the official CUET website for more information and to complete the application process: [https://cuet.nta.nic.in/]

Nadu, Thiruvavur (CUTN) established by an act of parliament in 2009, offers undergraduate programs such as B.Sc. (Honours/Research) in Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Biotechnology, as well as B.A. (Honours/Research) in Economics and B.P.A. (Honours / Research) in Music.

Additionally, the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International School of Textiles and Management (SVPISM) in Coimbatore will offer courses like B.Sc. in

KRIA LAW'S "IP AND MUSIC: FEEL THE BEAT OF IP" CURTAIN-RAISER EVENT!

Chennai, 04 March 2025: KRIA Law organized a half-day event titled "IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP" on March 1, 2025. This event served as a precursor to the upcoming Annual Meeting hosted by the International Trademark Association, which is scheduled to take place in San Diego, California, from May 17 to May 21, 2025.

The event witnessed the presence of a diverse group of professionals from the music industry attended the event, including:

Mr. Atul Churamani, Managing Director of Turnkey Music and Publishing Pvt. Ltd. and former Vice President of SaReGaMa India Ltd. Mr. Sanjay Wadhwa,



Managing Director of AP International. Mr. Sridhar J. Swaminathan, Secretary of the South India Music Companies Association (SIMCA). Mr. Anil Srinivasan, a National Award-winning classical pianist and entrepreneur. Ms. Rumpa Banerjee, Head of Marketing and Communications at the Indian Performing Right Society (IPRS). Mr. Dhananjay, representing the Tamil Film Active Producers

Association (TFAPA). Mr. Vipin Mishra, Honorary Treasurer of the Music Composers Association of India (MCAI). Mr. Santhosh Kumar, Vice President of Think Music, now part of Believe Music. Mr. Balasubramanian Parasuraman, Station and Sales Head at Fever FM, Radio One Network. Mr. Srinivasan, an award-winning playback singer and former Director of the India Singers and Musicians Rights Association.

Mr. Haricharan, an Indian playback singer. Mr. Sumesh Narayanan, an award-winning multi-percussionist.

The panelists and celebrities engaged in a discussion, offering their perspectives and reflections on the Rights of Independent Artists, Labels, and Producers, the Role of Music Organizations and Societies, the influence of AI on Film and Commercial Music, as well as the complexities of Balancing Licenses.

The occasion was embellished with musical feast as the National award-winning pianist Anil Srinivasan and Sumesh Narayanan, Award-Winning Multi-Percussionist exhibited their colossal performance.

ACTOR MADHAMPATTY RANGARAJ & DIRECTOR RAJU SARAVANAN REUNITE FOR ANOTHER CAPTIVATING TALE!

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Ring Masters of Mehandi Circus: Actor Madhampatty Rangaraj & Director Raju Saravanan Reunite for Another Captivating Tale!

In Tamil cinema, a few films have quietly arrived in theaters without the usual buzz, only to create magic at the box office and win critical acclaim. These surprise hits often become the benchmark for the industry, inspiring countless filmmakers, actors, and technicians. One such gem is Mehandi Circus, a film that captured hearts with its

endearing story, charming love, stellar performances, and exceptional technical craftsmanship.

Now, the dynamic duo behind this success—Actor Madhampatty Rangaraj and Director Raju Saravanan—are back together for yet another compelling story. Their latest project, which began shooting last December, has now been completed. The film has been shot across the scenic and untouched landscapes of Palakkodu and its surrounding hilly regions near



Dharmapuri, adding a raw, rustic charm to its visuals.

Currently, post-production is in full swing, and exciting announcements regarding the cast,

crew, as well as the audio, trailer, and worldwide theatrical release date are on the horizon. Get ready for another cinematic experience from this powerhouse combo!

FIFTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION RELEASES GRANTS WORTH RS.699 CRORES FOR RURAL LOCAL BODIES OF WEST BENGAL

Chennai, 04 March 2025: The Union Government has released Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants during Financial Year 2024-25, for Rural Local Bodies in West Bengal, 2nd installment of Untied Grants amounting to Rs.694.4446 crores and withheld portion of 1st installment of Untied Grants amounting to Rs.4.9323 crores.

These funds are for the 21 eligible District Panchayats, 326 eligible Block

Panchayats and 3220 eligible Gram Panchayats.

The Untied Grants will be utilized by Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)/ Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) for location-specific felt needs, under the Twenty-Nine (29) Subjects enshrined in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution, except for salaries and other establishment costs.

The Tied Grants can be used for the basic services of (a)

sanitation and maintenance of ODF status, and this should include management and treatment of household waste, and human excreta and fecal sludge management in particular and (b) supply of drinking water, rainwater harvesting and water recycling.

Government of India through Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation)

recommends release of Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants to States for Rural Local Bodies which are then released by Ministry of Finance. The allocated Grants are recommended and released in 2 installments in a Financial Year.

This financial support helps in improving rural local governance, enhancing accountability, and promoting self-reliance in villages in India.

PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY SIGNS MOU WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALABRIA, ITALY

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Pondicherry University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Calabria, Italy, during a ceremony held on the Pondicherry University campus.

The MoU was exchanged by Prof. Victor Anandkumar, Dean - International Relations, Pondicherry University, and Prof. Laura Corradi, MoU Coordinator from the University of Calabria, in the presence of Prof. K. Tharanikkarasu, Vice Chancellor (i/c); Dr. Kamalaveni, Coordinator - MoU; and Dr. Aashita, Head of the Centre for Women's Studies. This partnership aims to foster academic collaboration through student and faculty exchange programs between the two universities.

The University of Calabria, located in southern Italy, is a prominent public university known for its strong emphasis on research and innovation. Established in 1972 in the town of Rende, near Cosenza, it is one of Italy's leading academic institutions, offering a diverse range of undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs across disciplines such as engineering,

humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The university follows a modern campus model with residential facilities, fostering an inclusive and dynamic learning environment. It is also recognized for its international collaborations, attracting students and researchers from around the world.

The University of Calabria actively contributes to regional and global academic advancements through interdisciplinary research and partnerships with industries and institutions.

The event commenced with a welcome address by Prof. S. Victor Anandkumar, Dean of International Relations, Pondicherry University, who highlighted the university's commitment to strengthening global partnerships.

He pointed out that this MOU is significant in the backdrop of the elevation of bilateral relations between India and Italy to a strategic partnership in 2023. Following this, Dr. Kamalaveni, Associate Professor at the Centre for Women's Studies and Head of the Centre for European Studies, provided insights into the scope and



significance of the MoU, emphasizing its role in academic exchange, research collaboration, and cultural understanding.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor (i/c) Prof. K. Tharanikkarasu delivered his remarks, underscoring the strategic importance of the agreement in enhancing bilateral ties between the two institutions.

He stressed that this partnership would facilitate faculty and student exchanges, joint research initiatives, and interdisciplinary academic cooperation.

Representing the University of Calabria, Prof. Laura Corradi, Rector's Delegate for International Relations with India and MoU Coordinator, expressed enthusiasm about the collaboration. She highlighted the University of Calabria's commitment to fostering global academic connections and looked forward to

meaningful engagement with Pondicherry University.

This MoU is expected to pave the way for collaborative research projects, knowledge-sharing initiatives, and opportunities for students and faculty from both institutions to benefit from cross-cultural academic exposure. The event concluded with an exchange of documents, solidifying the partnership between the two universities.

Dr. Aashita, Head of the Centre for Women's Studies, highlighted the broader impact of such partnerships in strengthening bilateral cooperation in higher education between India and the USA. She affirmed that this MOU reflects Pondicherry University's commitment to providing its students with global exposure and fostering international academic excellence.

SUDARSHAN CHEMICAL COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF HEUBACH GROUP

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Sudarshan Chemical Industries Limited ("SCIL" or "Company") today announced that through its wholly owned subsidiary Sudarshan Europe B.V., it has completed its previously announced acquisition of Germany-based Heubach Group ("Heubach") in a combination of an asset and share deal.

This strategic acquisition creates a global pigment leader, bringing together SCIL's operations and expertise with Heubach's technological capabilities. It will enhance SCIL's product portfolio, giving it access to a diversified asset footprint across 19 international sites. The combined company will have a broad pigment portfolio of high-quality products and a strong presence in major markets including Europe and the Americas. With that, the new

Sudarshan is ideally positioned to deliver high-quality solutions that fit its global customers' needs. Mr. Rajesh Rathi will lead the combined company as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer alongside a high-performing leadership team with techno-managerial competencies.

Heubach has a 200-year-old history and became the second largest pigment player in the world after its integration with Clariant in 2022. It had over a billion euros in revenue in FY21 and FY22, with a global footprint especially in Europe, Americas, and the APAC region. Heubach faced financial challenges over the past two years due to rising costs, inventory issues, and high interest rates. SCIL's acquisition of Heubach will address these challenges with a clear turnaround plan.

Commenting on the closure of the acquisition, Mr. Rathi said, "Today marks an

exciting new chapter as we unite with Heubach to become an inspirational leader in the colorants industry. The combined company builds on the rich legacies of both Sudarshan and Heubach. Our goal is now to create the world's most valuable pigment company with great financial strength and profitability. Together, we will drive continuous innovation and deliver breakthrough solutions that benefit each of our stakeholders.

SCIL is proud to have completed the transaction on schedule. The integration team has worked diligently to ensure a smooth transition and has already developed a detailed execution plan across all functions. The immediate priority will be to operate as ONE—unlocking efficiencies, driving synergies, and fully integrating legacy Clariant, Heubach, and

Sudarshan into a unified, stronger organization with shared values.

Germany remains a strategic location for SCIL and by establishing its second global headquarters in the Frankfurt area, the company underscores the region's role as a key pillar of its operations and future growth.

The new SCIL stands for boldness, passion and ambition with strong customer centricity and solution orientation. The integration will foster a culture of agility and entrepreneurship, allowing the company to move quickly and effectively. It will implement best practices and create simplicity in structures, systems, and processes. SCIL will also focus on financial stability, prudent cash management, and investing for the long-term.

Noerr and Crawford Bayley acted as legal counsel to Sudarshan.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA INAUGURATES VISITOR'S CONFERENCE 2024-25

Chennai, 04 March 2025: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the two-day Visitor's Conference 2024-25 at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (March 3, 2025). The President of India is the Visitor of 184 Central Institutes of Higher Education.



In her inaugural address, the President said that the level of development of any country is reflected in the quality of its education system. She told the heads of the institutions of higher learning that they have a crucial role in achieving the goal of establishing India as an important centre of the knowledge economy. She highlighted the need to pay a lot of attention to research along with education.

She said that the Government of India has established the National Research Fund with a very good objective. She expressed confidence that institutions of higher learning would make good use of this important initiative and encourage research.

The President said

that the ambition of our higher education community should be that researchers from our institutions get recognition at the world level, patents of our institutions can bring change in the world, and students from developed countries choose India as a preferred destination for higher education.

The President said that students from India enrich the world's leading educational institutions and developed economies with their talent. She emphasised the need of making efforts to utilize their talent in our country.

She stated that our national goal of establishing India as a Global Knowledge Super Power would be achieved only when the world community is eager to adopt the

work being done in our laboratories.

The President said that many higher education institutions of our country have global brand value. The students of these institutions get big responsibilities in the best institutions and companies of the world.

However, all our institutions should move ahead very fast. The leadership of heads of institutions of higher learning would be recognised by developing and utilising the immense talent of our large youth population.

The President said that along with excellence, social inclusion and sensitivity should also be an essential aspect of our education system. No economic, social, or psychological

limitation of any kind should be a hindrance in getting higher education.

She said that heads and teachers of institutions of higher learning should take care of young students, remove any insecurity from their minds and provide them moral and spiritual strength. She urged them to make every possible effort to provide counselling and inspiration to students and spread positive energy in the campuses.

The President said that our country has a rich tradition of scientific achievements. The branches and sub-branches of Indian knowledge and science have flourished in every region of the country. It would be very useful to rediscover the invaluable but extinct streams of knowledge and science by doing intense research. She stated that it is the responsibility of the higher education ecosystem to find ways to use such organically grown knowledge systems in today's context.

DIRECTOR VIJAY'S D STUDIOS POST INAUGURATED BY DIRECTOR PRIYADARSHAN, P.C. SRIRAM, DR. ISHARI K GANESH & SURESH BALAJE

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Director Vijay, the creator of a myriad of promising films savouring the tastes of universal crowds has taken a new leap in the world of post production studio. He has launched a brand new postproduction studio named 'D Studios Post', which was inaugurated on March 2 by eminent personalities like Director Priyadarshan, Cinematographer P.C. Sriram, Dr. Ishari K Ganesh, Founder & Chancellor of Vels University & Producer



Suresh Balaje.

The occasion marked the grand launch of Chennai's biggest post-production studio. A one-stop destination for Di, Dolby Atmos Sound Mix, Dubbing, DCP, OTT Mastering,

VFX, and DIT Storage.

The occasion witnessed the presence of a slew of politicians, film celebrities and socialites, who conveyed their wishes to the entire team for great success.

The Chief Guests and Guests of Honours were welcomed by producer A.L. Alagappan.

Director Vijay is the Founder & Chairman of D Studios Post. Rajakrishnan is the Head of Sound. Rajasekaran is the Head of Visual, and Muthukrishnan, Head of Voice.

The D Studios Post is located at No. 87/4, Plot Nos. 1A, 1B & 1D, Sambhu Prasad Avenue, Saligramam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 093.

INDIAN NAVY'S MOTOR CAR RALLY ON EAST COAST FLAGGED OFF FROM KOLKATA

Chennai, 04 March 2025: Indian Navy's Motor Car Rally Expedition on the East Coast was flagged off by Naval Officer-in-Charge (West Bengal), from INS Netaji, Kolkata on 03 Mar 25. This Motor Car Rally, aimed at enhancing maritime awareness and engaging with youth and civil society, will travel from Kolkata to Chennai, continue to Kanyakumari, and return to Chennai on 21 Mar 25.

The initiative also seeks to spread awareness about career opportunities in the

Indian Navy, including the Agnipath Scheme. The rally will feature visits to various schools and colleges, inspiring young men and women to join the Navy.

It will also promote the Government of India's women empowerment initiative - Naari Shakti. The rally team will also engage with Naval Veterans and Veer Naaris by updating them on the latest policy initiatives by the Government of India and the Indian Navy for their welfare.

A total of 56 Indian Naval personnel,



including Officers, Sailors, and family members, are participating in this expedition, covering an approximate distance of 3,800 km. The rally will traverse through the coastal states of West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil

Nadu, engaging with local communities en route.

The event, supported by M/s Hyundai Ltd, will also explore India's rich maritime heritage, visiting historical naval sites and key locations along the ancient maritime trade routes.

RUNNERS FROM ACROSS CHENNAI UNITE FOR THE 9TH EDITION OF MEPZ RUN 2025

Chennai, 04 March 2025: The 9th Edition MEPZ Run 2025 was successfully held at MEPZ Special Economic Zone, Tambaram, with an overwhelming participation of runners across Chennai. Organized by MEPZ Special Economic Zone and MEPZ Manufacturers' Association (MEPZMA), the event witnessed an enthusiastic response from professionals, fitness enthusiasts, and the broader MEPZ community.

The event was flagged off in the early hours, with participants competing in three categories: 21.1 km, 10 km, and 5 km runs. The prize distribution ceremony recognized outstanding performances across various categories.

MEPZ Run 2025 was flagged off by Thiru. Abin Dinesh



Modak IPS, Commissioner of the Police, Tambaram, as the Chief Guest, and Thiru. Samay Singh Meena IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Tambaram, as the Special Guest in the presence of Thiru. Alex Paul Menon IAS, Zonal Development Commissioner, MEPZ Special Economic Zone for Tamil Nadu, Andamans & Puducherry Region. Speaking at the event, Shri Abin Dinesh

Modak IPS commended the organizers for promoting fitness and community engagement, highlighting the significance of such initiatives in fostering a healthier workforce. He also applauded MEPZ's commitment to environmental sustainability, emphasizing that the MEPZ Run 2025 was dedicated to the cause of a greener MEPZ.

The MEPZ Run has

evolved into a key annual event, fostering a sense of camaraderie among employees, residents, and fitness enthusiasts from across the city. The overwhelming participation and enthusiasm witnessed in this year's edition reinforce its growing popularity and significance.

MEPZ and MEPZMA extend their heartfelt gratitude to all participants, volunteers, and officials for their unwavering support in making the 9th Edition MEPZ Run 2025 a grand success. The organizers look forward to an even bigger and better event next year!

Thiru. Prabu kumar, Deputy Development Commissioner and Thiru. Kesavan, President, MEPZ Manufacturing Association flagged off the 21K run earlier at 5 am.