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Daily Morning Newspaper



Karunaii Irust for special children மனவளர்ச்சி குன்றியோருக்கான இல்வச ஆன்னை சிறப்பு பள்ளி Rw 9:69, V.G.P. Salai, Anjaneyar Koil Campu Saidapet, Chennai - 15. Tel : 044-23715491 | Fax : 044 - 23713161 Contact: 98413 59935

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PAHALGAM ATTACK: STALIN STRONGLY **CONDEMNS IN ASSEMBLY, SETS UP HELPLINE**

Assembly.

On Tuesday at around 3 PM, terrorists carried out a brutal opened indiscriminate assault yesterday, fire at a tourist location resulting in the in Pahalgam, Jammu & shocking deaths of 26 Kashmir, killing 28 tourists so far. people, including two Pahalgam, located in foreign nationals, and Jammu & Kashmir, is

Chennai, 24 April injuring several others. visited not only by matter what ideology who lost their lives.

The terrorists

Abdullah has described this as a t r e a t m e n t highly serious and for the injured

2025: Following the While addressing the people from different terrorist organizations terrorist attack in Assembly, Chief parts of India but also may claim, they must Pahalgam, Anantnag Minister M.K. Stalin by tourists from be crushed with an iron district of Jammu & said: "I strongly various countries hand. As soon as the Kashmir, in which 28 condemn the terrorist around the world. The news reached us, I tourists were killed, attack that took place in inhuman attack on ordered the setup of a Chief Minister M.K. Pahalgam, Jammu & innocent civilians in 24x7 helpline center at Stalin strongly conde Kashmir, and express the Pahisar area is the Tamil Nadu House mned the incident in my deep condolences unacceptable and has in Delhi to assist the Legislative to the families of those no place on Indian soil. affected families. Such heinous attacks Directions have also must be condemned been given to ensure unequivocally. Jammu medical facilities and & Kashmir Chief necessary support are Minister Omar provided immediately.

> All necessary brutal incident. No is being arranged.

INDIA, SAUDI ARABIA MINISTERIAL PANEL ON DEFENCE COOP

Chennai, 24 April followed by signing of under the SPC. 2025: The India-Saudi the minutes by the two Arabia Strategic leaders, PM Modi and Partnership Council Crown Prince (SPC), co-chaired by Mohammed bin Prime Minister Salman. Narendra Modi and Saudi Crown Prince deepening of defence Mohammed bin Salman in Jeddah on Tuesday evening, decided to create a new Ministerial Committee on Defence Cooperation under it.

work of the various statement said. committees, sub committees and working groups under the SPC, which encompass political, defence, security, trade, investment, energy, technology, agriculture, culture and people-to-people ties. The discussions were

To reflect the partnership over the past few years? including joint exercises, training programmes, and collaboration in defence industry, the The second leaders Council decided to Energy, Investment meeting of the India- create a new and Technology Investment came to an Saudi Arabia Strategic Ministerial Committee Committee. Partnership Council on Defence Coopera (SPC) reviewed the tion under the SPC, a

> To strengthen cultural and people-topeople ties, which has significant momentum in recent years, the Council decided to create a new Ministerial Committee on Tourism and Cultural Cooperation

The four committees under the commitment of Saudi India-Saudi Arabia Arabia to invest USD SPC shall now be as 100 billion in India in follows:

(1) Political, Consular and Security Cooperation Committee.

Committee.

(3) Economy,

(4) Tourism and Cultural Cooperation Committee.

September 2023.

Building on the

multiple areas including energy, petrochemicals, infrastructure, technology, fintech, digital infrastructure, (2) Defence telecommunications, Cooperation pharmaceuticals, manufacturing and health, the joint High-Level Task Force on understanding in multiple areas to rapidly promote such investment flows.Both sides agreed to The two leaders also collaborate on held a meeting under establishing two Joint High Level Task refineries in India. The Force on Investment progress made by (HLTFI), a mechanism HLTF in areas such as which was agreed upon taxation is a major during the visit of breakthrough for Crown Prince greater investment Mohammed bin cooperation Salman, to India in in the future.

AGRINNOVATE INDIA LIMITED PAYS DIVIDEND **OF RS.1.42 CRORE FOR FY 2023–24**

Chennai, 24 April 2025: Agrinnovate India Limited (AgIn), a Government of India enterprise under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, has declared a dividend of Rs.1,42,23,513 for the financial year 2023–24. The dividend distribution complies with guidelines issued by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM). This is the first time the AgIn has paid the dividend since its inception.



cheque was formally Indian Council of presented to Union Agricultural Research Minister for (ICAR) Dr. M.L. Jat. Agriculture and This announcement Farmers' Welfare Shri reflects AgIn's Shivraj Singh Chouhan continued financial declaration under in New Delhi today. strength and strategic scores AgIn's commit The event was also vision, under the ment to financial graced by the presence leadership of Dr. sustainability, of Secretary, Praveen Malik, Chief institutional account Department of Executive Officer, ability, and its broader Agriculture & Farmers' Agrinnovate India Ltd. mission of advancing Welfare Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi and

The dividend Director General,

entrepreneurs. Established in 2011,

India's agricultural innovation ecosystem.

Agrinnovate India Ltd.

serves as the

commercial arm of

ICAR, bridging

agricultural research

and practical

implementation. AgIn

plays a pivotal role in

transferring,

valorizing, and scaling

agri-technologies

across India to benefit

farmers and

The dividend

Prime Minister

2025: The Secretary General of Muslim World League, Sheikh Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa today called on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in Jeddah.

Chennai, 24 April innocent lives lost.

recalled his meeting with the Secretary General in July 2023 in New Delhi. He appreciated the role of Muslim World League in promoting tolerant He strongly values, advocating condemned the ghastly moderation and terror attack in Jammu advancing social and Kashmir and cohesion and harmony. offered deepest Recalling India's agecondolences on the old philosophy of

the firm stand of ofthis partnership.

V a s u d h a i v a Muslim World League Kutumbakam [the against extremism, World is one Family] terrorism and violence. Prime Minister noted Prime Minister that India as a multi- underlined that India cultural, multi-lingual, attaches high multi-ethnic and multi- importance to its religious society, relations with Saudi celebrates unity in Arabia, which has diversity. India's today evolved into an incredible diversity is a enduring partnership valuable strength that across several has given shape to its domains. The close vibrant society and socio-cultural ties form polity. He commended an important facet

DELIVERY OF 10TH AMMUNITION CUM TORPEDO CUM MISSILE (ACTCM) BARGE, LSAM 24 (YARD 134)

SECRETARY GENERAL OF MUSLIM WORLD

LEAGUE CALLS ON PRIME MINISTER

Chennai, 24 April 2025: Induction ceremony of 10th ACTCM Barge, LSAM 24 (Yard 134) was held on 22 Apr 25 at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai. Chief Guest for Induction Ceremony was Cmde AKK Reddy, AGM(PR), ND(Mbi).

construction and delivery of eleven (11) Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile model tested at Naval (ACTCM) Barges was Science and concluded with M/s Technological "Make in India" and Suryadipta Projects Pvt Laboratory, "Aatmanirbhar Ltd, Thane on 05 Mar Visakhapatnam $2\ 1$, $\ \ a\ n$ $\ M\ S\ M\ E$ successfully to ensure Shipyard. The seaworthiness. These Shipyard has barges are built in



collaboration with an and Regulations of Indian Ship Design Indian Register of firm and subsequently Shipping (IRS).

These Barges are proud flag bearers of Bharat" initiatives of Government of India. Nine ACTCM Barges

have already been delivered and the shipyard has also been awarded a contract for construction and delivery of four Sullage Barges to the Indian Navy thereby highlighting the Indian Navy's commitment towards encouraging MSMEs.

Induction of these Barges would provide impetus to operational commitments of Indian Navy by facilitating Transportation, Embarkation and Disembarkation of articles/ ammunition to Indian Navy platforms both alongside jetties and at outer harbourg

POPE FRANCIS: CHAMPION OF PEACE, HUMANITY

remembered not only borders. for its historic firsts but also for his tireless pursuit of peace, human dignity and moral clarity in a divided world. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, who became the first pope from the Americas upon his election to the papacy on March 13, 2013, leaves behind a legacy defined by compassion, courage and a bold voice for justice. The first Latin American and Jesuit pope, Francis broke with convention time and again to speak directly to the conscience of the global community.

protect the vulnerable suffering, Pope Francis Wagenknecht Alliance, the Ukraine crisis, consistently positioned noted the Pope's rare emphasizing the need himself as a moral moral courage in to understand root p o s s i b l e, compass on the world confronting causes instead of if we dare to seek it.

Chennai, 24 April stage. Whether uncomfortable perpetuating cycles of 2025: The world is addressing wars, geopolitical realities. blame and violence. mourning the death of inequality, or climate "With Pope Francis, the Pope Francis, a change, he spoke with a world has lost a person spiritual leader whose clarity that resonated who dared to criticise papacy will be across faiths and NATO for its activities

Tributes have poured in from across the globe. Leaders including French President Emmanuel Macron, Italian President Sergio Mattarella, Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis praised the Pope's commitment to peace and human dignity. Iraqi President Abdul Latif Rashid was the first Arab leader to offer condolences, highlighting the pontiff's "humanist stance against war and deep reflection when he Known for his violence." Sevim pointed to the role of unwavering call to Dagdelen, foreign NATO's expansion policy spokeswoman near Russia's borders as and end global for Germany's Sahra a contributing factor to

in Ukraine," she said. His sermons often cut against the grain of Western narratives, calling not for escalation but for reconciliation. In the face of the Gaza conflict, Pope Francis was among the few world figures to urge a c e a s e f i r e

unequivocally. He

called on all parties to

show courage not in

war, but in peace asking

that leaders "raise the

white flag" for the sake

of their peoples, even as Western capitals. Francis also sparked

Throughout his papacy, Pope Francis was unafraid to voice uncomfortable truths. He was a staunch advocate for the marginalised, a champion for interfaith dialogue, and a tireless critic of indifference. His vision was not of peace as the absence of conflict, but of peace as the presence of justice, humility and shared humanity.

In the words of many leaders and citizens around the world, His Holiness will be remembered not only as the spiritual criticism mounted in head of the Catholic Church, but as a fearless and compassionate voice for the voiceless.

> The world grieves his passing away - but even in death, his message lives on: Peace is always

SPARSH CCTV LEADS THE WAY AS INDIA MANDATES STQC CERTIFICATION FOR ALL CCTV PRODUCTS

Chennai, 24 April 2025: Sparsh, a pioneering Indian manufacturer of CCTV cameras and electronic security solutions, today announced its continued leadership in the Indian market by being the first Indian firm to achieve STQC (Standardization the prestigious STQC and reliable systems Testing and Quality certification for such a from a pioneering Certification) for the comprehensive Indian manufacturer. most extensive range spectrum of our This extensive of its CCTV products, product portfolio," said certification includes a following the Mr. Sanjeev Sehgal, wide selection of IP enforcement of Managing Director, cameras for different g o v e r n m e n t Sparsh CCTV. regulations on April 9, 2025, which now mandate STOC certification for all IP CCTV cameras sold in India.

a c h i e v e m e n t quality surveillance sale—whether to underscores Sparsh's solutions that meet the corporate clients, early commitment to highest national government or retail quality, security, and standards. As the customers. the "Atmanirbhar industry adapts to these Bharat" initiative.

regulations now offers the widest array require all CCTV certified for legal sale, Sparsh's proactive approach has to offer the broadest portfolio of certified face no disruption.

"Sparsh is proud to have been the first CCTV manufacturer in the world to achieve



"This early

certification reflects

our dedication to crucial in today's new indigenous design, regulatory landscape, rigorous manu where cameras with facturing, and old certification are no This significant providing secure, high-longer eligible for crucial new While the new regulations, Sparsh of certified products cameras to be STQC readily available to the Indian market." Sparsh's achie vement of securing STQC positioned it as the first certification for the broadest range of its CCTV products solutions, ensuring its ensures that busi partners and customers nesses, government entities and individuals can confidently choose Sparsh for their security needs, knowing they are Continued Avail quality security

the uninterrupted availability of a wide range of compliant CCTV solutions.

Commitment to National Standards: This achievement highlights Sparsh's dedication to meeting and exceeding the stringent security and quality standards set by the Indian government.

"Made in India" Leadership: Sparsh's indigenous manu facturing capabilities have been instrumental in its ability to achieve this significant milestone.

This regulatory change emphasizes the Indian government's commitment to strengthening national security and data protection within the surveillance sector.

It marks a step-

change in India's approach to security characterized by trust and quality. With the must be STQC STQC's ER IoTSCS norms coming into effect, the market has closed its doors to noncompliant surveillance cameras. Sparsh's early achievement and broad certification position it as a leading and reliable partner for organizations seeking Ensuring compliant and high-

deploying compliant ability: Sparsh's early solutions in India.

applications and

This is particularly

Key Highlights:

Mandatory Regulation

in Effect: As of April 9,

2025, all CCTV

cameras sold in India

Sparsh CCTV First

to Achieve Broadest

Certification: Sparsh

was the first CCTV

manufacturer in the

world to secure STQC

certification for the

most extensive range

of its product portfolio.

certified.

segments.

terror attack in Pahalgam.

> with the families who to uphold law, order, have lost their loved and national security.

> Chennai, 24 April ones, and I wish 2025: I strongly strength and recovery condemn the heinous to the injured.

India stands united — in grief, in resolve, My thoughts are and in our commitment



LEADING NBFC MUTHOOT FINCORP MAKES STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN BANKBAZAAR

FINCORP

Jab zindagi badalni ho

MAKKAL NEEDHI MAIAM PRESIDENT

Chennai, 24 April 2025:Bank Bazaar .com, an Indian fintech specialising in cobranded credit cards and credit score services, has partnered with Muthoot FinCorp, one of India's leading NBFCs, and the flagship Company of 138 year old Muthoot Pappachan Group to enter the secured loans market with a gold loan product. As part of this innovative NBFC-FinTech collaboration, Muthoot FinCorp has also invested in BankBazaar's ongoing Series D2 round as an equity investor to further strengthen the digital platform.

Adhil Shetty, CEO, BankBazaar.com, says: "This partnership unites two trusted been impacted by practices. brands—a 138-year- temporary financial old business conglomerate and a 17year-old fintech platform.

consumers will gain Muthoot FinCorp. seamless digital access to Muthoot FinCorp's high-quality, fully compliant gold loan products."

announce our gold loans. With gold's literacy, and consumer partnership with deep cultural education, while BankBazaar, one of the significance in India, Muthoot FinCorp will country's leading these loans serve as a manage KYC fintech firm, crucial financial tool compliance, leveraging their for small business verification, valuation, extensive customer owners—helping storage, loan disbursal base and cutting-edge integrate borrowers and all other guidelines analytics capabilities to into the formal lending ensuring same-day drive superior system, ensuring fair loan disbursal via a customer experience, valuations, seamless phygital ensuring more competitive rates, and lending experience. inclusive credit access, protection from including those who've unregulated lending seen significant setbacks.

Bank Bazaar's Varghese, CEO of

Chief Business credit cards in FY24 This significant Officer, Bank and an expected 46% collaboration is poised Bazaar.com, said: annual revenue growth to be a major milestone "Nearly 65% of gold from FY22 to FY25. Gold loans, being in our journey to loans are still offered The company countercyclical to deliver seamless credit by unregulated anticipates achieving unsecured credit, will solutions, empowering players, underscoring full-year EBITDA diversify our portfolio individuals to achieve the urgent need for profitability in Fy25. and strengthen our their goals and secure, high-valuation With Muthoot FinCorp o f f e r i n g s . aspirations," said Shaji financing at fair rates.

We are excited to partner with Muthoot BankBazaar is FinCorp, a trusted optimistic about leader in gold lending, India's resilient to offer a seamless, consumer credit digital-first gold loan market, particularly the experience that "We are pleased to growth potential of combines convenience

with the assurance of capital protection and affordability."

Under the partnership, BankBazaar will handle digital data management, digital marketing, product education, digital customer experience, credit score improvement via prudent financial

BankBazaar has growth, with a 62.5% Pankaj Bansal, increase in co-branded investing in BankBazaar's ongoing Series round-alongside internal and new investors—bringing the total to ₹55 Cr, the company's total equity funding has now reached \$116 million.

STOCK MARKETS ON WINNING STREAK FOR 7TH SESSION, VALUATIONS UP RS. 35 LAKH CR

Chennai, 24 April 2025: The Indian stock market continued its upward trajectory for the seventh consecutive trading session today, fueled by positive Q4 earnings, substantial foreign capital inflows, and a robust growth outlook.

throughout the least one percent. morning. The Sensex climbed by 659 points, or 0.80 percent, to reach 80,254.55 by mid-morning, against its previous close of 79,596. Similarly, the Nifty 50 surged by 192 points, also 0.80 percent, to trade at 24,359, after opening at 24,358 compared to its last closing of 24,167.

The breadth of the 1,960 points (8.8) market remained percent). strongly positive, with 1,985 stocks advancing



This remarkable seven-day rally has significantly boosted investor wealth, with the total market capitalization increasing by approximately Rs 35 lakh crore. During this period, the Sensex has 6,407 points (8.7) Nifty 50 has jumped by

Leading the sectoral

Nifty 50, both opened BSE Midcap and closely followed by higher and maintained Smallcap indices significant gains in their momentum recorded gains of at other major IT players such as Infosys, Tech Auto and Nifty Realty Nifty 50. indices also posted gains of around 1 percent each.

> gained a substantial the sustained rally to subsiding tariff of 26,277. percent), while the concerns. Assurances from a prominent political figure in the US that the Federal Reserve chief would not be removed helped

which in turn positively influenced sentiment in both Asian and Indian markets. Furthermore, a perceived softening stance on Chinese tariffs suggested a potential easing of US-China trade tensions. The consistent buying activity by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) continues to be a crucial support factor for Indian equities.

stabilize US markets,

Despite the strong Mahindra, Wipro, and positive momentum, TCS, reacting caution remains positively to HCL regarding potential Tech's March quarter resistance around the earnings. The Nifty 24,545 level for the

This mark coincides with the 61.8 percent Fibonacci retracement Analysts attribute level of the correction from its all-time high

Investors will be closely watching if the index can break through this resistance in the coming sessions.

DECISION ON OLD PENSION SCHEME AT RIGHT TIME: FM Chennai, 24 April Hon'ble Chief Minister

2025: Tamil Nadu have taken all demands Finance Minister into careful Thangam Thennarasu on Tuesday (April 22, 2025) reiterated that the State government is closely evaluating the demand to reinstate the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) and will take a suitable decision at the appropriate time.

Responding during the Question Hour in the Assembly to a query raised by AIADMK MLA K. $M\ a\ r\ a\ g\ a\ t\ h\ a\ m$ K u m a r a v e 1 (Madurantakam), Mr. Thennarasu said, "The government and the

consideration.

I will consult the Chief Minister and the committee formed on this issue. The government will make the right decision at the appropriate time."

He highlighted that a dedicated committee headed by senior IAS officer Gagandeep Singh Bedi has been constituted to examine the matter, with the Terms of Reference already laid out.

The Finance Minister noted that n u m e r o u s



groups," he said.

representations from government's government commitment to employees and employee welfare, Mr. teachers' associations Thennarasu assured have been submitted that the demands are through the being reviewed with committee. "Both the sincerity and Public Works Minister seriousness. "The and I have engaged in Chief Minister is discussions with these deeply concerned about the well-being of Emphasizing the government staff," he added.

"60-DAY COUNTDOWN TO INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY 2025 KICKS OFF WITH **ENERGIZING YOGA SESSION AND INSPIRING SEMINAR FOR STUDENTS'**

Chennai, 24 April 2025:In anticipation of International Yoga Day 2025, the Directorate of Sports and Department of Yoga, in collaboration with the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, successfully organized a yoga practical session and awareness seminar today, marking the 60- warm rays of the featured keynote day countdown to the global celebration.

was held at AG Milkha transformative power Singh Stadium from of yoga in promoting 7:00 AM to 7:45 AM, and it was streamed live and saw the enthusiastic participation of 530 students, who engaged Registrar, Dr. S. in rejuvenating yoga Ponnusamy, and practices under the



addresses from

distinguished yoga

experts – Dr. Prof.

Elangovan, Dr. Valli,

and Dr. Samudra.

Their insightful talks

emphasized the

importance and

morning sun.

The event The Yoga Session highlighted the physical, mental, and emotional well-being among the youth. The event was inaugurated by the esteemed

academic and professional journeys.

This seminar served as a beacon of inspi ration, fostering awareness and encouraging the younger generation to embrace yoga as a lifelong practice.

The initiative was spearheaded under the dynamic leadership of Dr. R. Mohana krishnan, Director of Sports, whose efforts ensured the success and impact of the

To comme morate relevance of yoga in the occasion, lunch was empowering students provided to all to lead healthier, more participants, making it balanced lives and a truly wholesome and succeed in their enriching experience.

The Members were

AMERICAN CENTER CHENNAI LAUNCHES FREE SUMMER STEM ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS. INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS AND HANDS-ON LEARNING FROM APRIL 21 TO MAY 30

Chennai, 24 April 2025: The American Center at the U.S. Consulate General Chennai invites school students to attend free summer activities focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The sessions which commenced on April 21 will go on until May 30, 2025.

The program for students in classes 8 through 12 includes immersive and handson learning activities and will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays, with movie screenings scheduled for Fridays at 10 a.m. Space is limited and all participants must register in advance for their daily slots via



email ChennaiAM hands-on enrichment. Center@State.Gov or Students can also WhatsApp 73056-76662.

STEM learning tools including coding kits such as MicroBits and Snap Circuits, Merge Cube augmented reality initiative, U.S. experiences, virtual Consulate General reality goggles, a 3D Chennai Public printer, and NASA- Diplomacy Officer available for American Center is participants to immerse honoring American in this environment of excellence in STEM

participate in a fun and educational quiz daily for a chance to win prizes, including 3D printed keepsakes and NASA stickers.

Speaking about the themed LEGO sets are Eric Atkins said, "The

through summer sessions that will be a gateway to imagination, discovery, and meaningful learning. We are proud to offer this free program to help cultivate the next generation of innovators."

The American Center in Chennai, housed within the U.S. Consulate General, is a cornerstone for learning, dialogue, and inspiration, strengthening the relationship between the United States and India for more than seven decades. With a library of over 15,000 books and a wealth of multimedia and digital resources, the Center is open to the public each day between 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE **VISITS THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF INDIAN CINEMA**

Chennai, 24 April 2025: The Members of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language visited the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) and the National Museum of Indian Cinema (NMIC)in Mumbai, on Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

The delegation included Members of Parliament Shri Shankar Lalwani (Indore LS constituency), Shri Haribhai Patel (Mehsana LS constituency), Shri Kuldeep Indora (Ganganagar LS cindtutuency), Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki (RS), Shri Zia Ur Rahman (Sambhal LS Constituency), along with Secretary



(Committee) Shri Prem Narain.

The Members of the Parliamentary Committee were received by Shri D. Ramakrishnan, General Manager, NFDC, and other senior officials. Shri Ravindra Kumar Jain, Senior Economic Advisor, Union Ministry of Infor mation & Broad casting, was also present on the occasion.

The museum tour was conducted by Ms. collections.

deeply impressed by the exhibits and praised the museum for preserving and showcasing the cultural heritage of Indian cinema. They shared that the visit was not only enlightening and advancements, rare recognized and posters, and curated a p p r e c i a t e d by key policy makers of the nation.

informative but also Jayita Ghosh, Manager emotionally resonant, - Marketing & Public offering a unique Relations, NMIC, and connection to the soul Shri Satyajit Mandlay, of Indian cinema. They Deputy General also expressed their Manager and Curator. intent to revisit the The Members of the museum in the Official Language future. The occasion Committee received marked a proud an insightful overview moment for both of Indian cinema's NMIC and NFDC, as historical journey, the enduring legacy of technological Indian cinema was

TUR PROCUREMENT CONTINUES IN MAJOR TUR PRODUCING STATES

Chennai, 24 April procurement of Tur Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, 2025: In order to (Arhar), Urad and Maharashtra, Maharashtra and incentivize the farmers Masur would be Telangana and Uttar Telangana and a total contributing for the undertaken 100% of Pradesh under Price quantity of 3.92 LMT enhancement of the production of the Support Scheme of Tur (Arhar) has been domestic production of State for another four during the Kharif procured in these states pulses and to reduce years up to 2028-29 2024-25 season for a till 22nd of this month the dependence on through Central Nodal total quantity of 13.22 b e n e f i t t i n g imports, the Agencies namely LMT. Government has NAFED and NCCF to approved the achieve selfprocurement of Tur, sufficiency in pulses in Urad and Masur under the country. Price Support Scheme (PSS) equivalent to 100% of the production of the state for the procurement year 2024-25.

announcement in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Budget 2025 that the Haryana, Karnataka,

Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare upto 22nd of next Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan approved the procurement of Tur The Government (Arhar) in the states of has also made an Andhra Pradesh,

The Minister has also approved the extension of procurement period in Accordingly, Union Andhra Pradesh by 30 days beyond 90 days month in the interest of farmers.

> The procurement at MSP through NAFED and NCCF is in progress in Andhra

2,56,517 farmers of these states. Tur procurement is also done from preregistered farmers on e-Samridhi portal of NAFED and eSamyukti portal of NCCF. The Govt. of India is committed to take up 100 percent procurement of Tur @ MSP offered by farmers through central nodal agencies namely Pradesh, Gujarat, NAFED and NCCF.

DPIIT SECRETARY CHAIRS PMG REVIEW OF MEGA INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN UTTAR PRADESH, HARYANA, PUNJAB AND UTTARAKHAND

chaired a high-level state coordination. meeting to review mega infrastructure projects in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, and Uttarakhand. The ₹3,164.72 crore. The review meeting, conducted under the aegis of the Project Monitoring Group (PMG), was attended by senior officials from central ministries, state governments, and project proponents.

During the meeting, 19 issues across 17 significant projects were reviewed, with the total cost of these projects exceeding ₹14,096 crore. The

Amardeep Bhatia, ministerial and inter- significantly improve development.

Among the major projects reviewed was the four-laning of the Jaunpur-Akbarpur road project, valued at project involves two crucial for improving Sumari in Pauri resolution. regional connectivity and road infrastructure.

The meeting also laid emphasis on the establishment of new ESI Hospitals at multiple strategic locations. These projects are part of the Government of India's broader effort to strengthen healthcare access to quality medical care and contribute to regional development, thereby supporting the wellbeing of the workforce and their families.

Garhwal district was another key project reviewed. Aimed at strengthening the region's educational ecosystem, the campus will provide a state-ofthe-art academic and a d m i n i s t r a t i v e environment for the institute. Once operational, it is

Chennai, 24 April discussions focused on infrastructure, expected to elevate the 2025: Secretary, fast-tracking particularly in quality of technical Department for resolution of underserved and high-education and research Promotion of Industry implementation demand regions. Shri in Uttarakhand and and Internal Trade challenges through Bhatia noted that the spur local socio-(DPIIT), Shri enhanced inter-hospitals will e c o n o m i c

Shri Bhatia reiterated the Government's commitment to reinforcing the institu tional framework for project monitoring and The construction of urged all stakeholders key issues across two the permanent campus to adopt a proactive work packages, and is of NIT Uttarakhand at approach for issue

> He encouraged private sector participants to actively engage with the PMG platform (https://pmg. dpiit.gov.in/) to expedite project implementation by leveraging streamlined coordination with the g o v e r n m e n t and other key entities.

PASSPORT | MSME | PAN | AADHAAR **FSSAI | PATTA | LEGALHEIR** 2,4 WHEELER INSURANCE PROPERTY TAX, EB - NAME TRANSFER STATE AND CENTRAL GOVT **AUTHORISED FRANCHISEE** ALL ONLINE SERVICES 11,SOUTH PERUMAL KOIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI - 600 026. 48231942 / 8144337349 பொது இ-சேவை மையம்

FLIPKART VENTURES AND DPIIT LAUNCH FLIPKART TOURISM CHALLENGE TO ACCELERATE INNOVATION IN INDIA'S TRAVEL SECTOR

Chennai, 24 April 2025: Flipkart Ventures, the investment arm of Flipkart, has launched the Flipkart Tourism Challenge in collaboration with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The initiative is part of the Government of India's Startup India program under the Bharat Startup Grand Challenge. As part of now open and will Flipkart's continued close on May 5, 2025. efforts to foster innovation and support the growth of startups, this challenge focuses on enabling technology-led solutions that enhance the experience for travelers and tourists and contribute to the development of the country's tourism ecosystem.

The Flipkart invites DPIITand Indian companies to build innovative travel-tech solutions.

d i s c o v e r y, support. personalized



previews, AI-powered affordability tools, and tech-enabled onground experiences.

Applications are

The winning startup will receive a ₹2.5 lakh cash prize, mentorship from Flipkart leaders, and potential entry into Flipkart Leap Ahead, the company's earlystage accelerator investing up to \$500K in seed capital.

The selected startup

will also have the opportunity for pilot engagements with Tourism Challenge Flipkart Group companies, undergo recognized startups founder's training curated by Bain & Company, and gain access to Flipkart's VC With rising demand network. The runnerfor unique and up will receive a ₹1 accessible travel lakh cash prize, along options, the challenge with strategic seeks ideas in areas mentorship and to be a beacon of over 20 startups and such as enhanced capability-building innovation, solving continues to actively

Lubna Ahmed, Vice

recommendations, President & Head of immersive destination Flipkart Ventures, said, "At Flipkart empower homegrown Ventures, we see startups as key drivers of innovation and

economic growth.

Through the Flipkart Tourism Challenge, we aim to part of Flipkart empower emerging entrepreneurs building scalable, tech-first strengthening India's solutions to real-world startup ecosystem challenges by through its early-stage providing them with accelerator program, the capital, mentorship, and industry access they need to succeed.

Our collaboration with DPIIT reflects a shared vision to accelerate digital the next generation of launched in 2022. entrepreneurs driving India's startup and digital economy."

A Startup India representative said, "India's startup ecosystem continues

The Flipkart Tourism Challenge is an exciting step in that direction, bringing together innovation, industry support, and real-world impact. Through this collaboration with Flipkart, we aim to startups to solve for India's unique travel needs and accelerate their journey from idea to scale."

This challenge is Ventures' broader commitment to Flipkart Leap Ahead (FLA).

Designed to identify and support high-potential digital startups, FLA is the cornerstone of Flipkart Ventures' \$100 million innovation and nurture seed-stage fund

The program offers investments of up to \$500K, along with strategic mentorship and ecosystem access. To date, Flipkart Ventures has backed challenges across support ventures sectors with scale and with strong growth potential.

STARBUCKS CELEBRATES ITS SPECIALLY CKAFIED, 48 - HOUR SIEEPED COLD BREV

Chennai, 24 April garnish 2025: This summer, Starbucks is set to redefine what Cold Brew means to coffee lovers. Designed to spotlight Starbucks unmatched brewing expertise, the addition of their two new beverages to the existing Cold Brew lineup, highlights the meticulous 48-hour cold-steeping process and the exclusive single origin Kenyan together to create a brew that's bold, Starbucks.

Alongside its classic Cold Brew, the Vietnamese Cold Brew, the Vanilla Sweet Cream Cold Brew, Ginger-ale Cold Brew and the Nitro Cold Brew, Starbucks has introduced two exciting new beverages to elevate the summer experience:

double-layered refresher featuring an orange flavour, soda, and a candied orange

The Coconut Cold Brew, a tropical twist made with cold brew, coconut water, and coconut ielly

"With our Cold

Brew, we are not just

introducing a beverage - we are introducing a culture of craft. The 48hour steeping process, our use of premium single-origin Kenyan Coffee Ambassador Brew experience at beans, and our inventive new flavors beans that come like the Zesty Orange and Coconut Cold Brew are all tailored for smooth, and distinctly a new generation that values both quality and creativity. Gen Z is driving a bold shift in India's coffee culture matter. Cold Brew is fast becoming the gateway into coffee for this audience, and TATA Starbucks is proud to lead that evolution" said Mitali The Zesty Orange Maheshwari, Head of Cold Brew, a vibrant, Product and Marketing at TATA Starbucks

> Commenting on the launch, Vibhor Mishra,



for APAC & China and Regional Director -Operations, South and East said, "What makes Starbucks Cold Brew truly stand apart is the depth of intention behind every cup. We start with single-origin Kenyan w h e r e beans, celebrated for customization, taste, their citrusy and craftsmanship brightness, and let them steep for 48 hours - one of the longest, most meticulous brewing methods in the world. That time unlocks a smoothness and complexity that simply can't be rushed. It's a celebration of patience, precision, and passion - and it's what defines the Cold

Starbucks."

At the heart of Starbucks Cold Brew is a thoughtfully sourced single-origin Kenyan beans that bring bright citrus notes This is then slow-steeped for 48 hours, one of the longest brewing methods in the world, to extract the most refined, full-bodied flavors possible.

Whether you are a longtime Cold Brew fan or discovering it for the first time, Starbucks invites you to experience a new standard in coffeecrafted with purpose, brewed with patience, and perfected with passion.

CHENNAI GETS ITS FIRST O-ARM WITH NAVIGATION SYSTEM FOR ADVANCED BRAIN, SPINE AND ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERIES AT KAUVERY HOSPITAL

Chennai, 24 April 2025: Kauvery Hospital Alwarpet a unit of Kauvery Group of Hospitals launched Chennai's first O-ARM with Navigation system for advanced brain, spine and orthopaedic surgeries. Gracing the occasion, Dr. Narayanan V, Chairman of ISRO, inaugurated the O-**ARM Surgical System** at Kauvery Hospital.

The O-Arm system, powered by AI-driven designed to assist surgeons in performing highly complex brain, spine, and orthopedic procedures with greater precision and safety.

time imaging during procedures can now be surgery, allowing for done with greater better orientation, accuracy and precise decision- confidence. This is not making, and the ability just technology—it's a to verify implant safety net for our placement and spinal patients, and a huge alignment instantly. leap forward for The state-of-the-art neurosurgery in mobile imaging Chennai." platform provides 360-degree, CT-like images during surgery.

It gives surgeons a decisions in real time.

The system with the StealthStation Navigation, a GPSlike tool for the body, ensuring optimal placement of screws spine surgeries.

Speaking about the O ARM, Dr Ranga Surgeon and Director of Neurosciences, Kauvery Hospital Chennai says , "As neurosurgeons, we often operate in areas of the brain and spine where precision is not



in the outcome.

It's like performing surgery with a 3D map in hand. Complex spinal deformity corrections, tumour resections, and It provides real- minimally invasive

Group Mentor Neurosciences and Director Kauvery comprehensive view Institute of Brain & of the operative site, Spine, Kauvery enhancing their ability Hospital Radial Road to make informed says, "At the heart of any neurological procedure is the need integrates seamlessly to preserve function while addressing disease—and that balance requires the finest tools.

Dr. Krish Sridhar,

The O-ARM with and implants, Stealth Navigation particularly in delicate transforms how we plan and execute surgeries.

It gives us the nathan Jothi, Chief – ability to visualize, Brain & Spine navigate, and confirm the surgical pathway in real time.

> translates into less centre in Chennai to invasive procedures, introduce the O-ARM lower risk, and quicker and only few centres compassion at e recovery. Introducing have the O-ARM in

about being first—it's

about being right.

It's a decisive move to make cutting-edge, patient-centric neurosurgical care accessible right here in Chennai."

"In neurosurgery, even a millimeter can make a world of difference. The O-ARM's 3D imaging and real-time feedback equip us to perform with unparalleled accuracy.

For our patients, surgeries, less time under anesthesia, and quicker recoveries and for surgeons this Shyam Sundhar, Senior Consultant Neurosurgery Kauvery Hospital Alwarpet.

Speaking on the technology, Dr Balamurali, Head of Spine Surgery Kauvery Hospital Alwarpet said, "Spine being a delicate part of the body, any minor error in the surgery can cause long term impact for the individual.

Also, there is a fear that always comes with a spinal surgery whether they will be able to walk on their own, or if the quality of life would be patients receive the compromised. Kauvery Hospital For patients, this Alwarpet is the first available today. This

This is the best technology available in the world, compatible with robotic spine surgery with AI and virtual reality augmentation."

In spinal care, it is used in treatments such as spinal fusion surgeries, scoliosis correction, disc replacement, and tumor resections.

In neurosurgery, it supports operations involving deep-seated brain lesions, cranial trauma, and skull base repairs.

For orthopedic cases, it assists in the treatment of pelvic fractures, complex bone reconstructions, ioint revisions, and bone tumors requiring high-precision removal.

Dr. Aravindan this means safer Selvaraj, Co-founder and Executive Director Kauvery Group of Hospitals said, "Patient safety is a boon," says Dr has always been our top priority, and every step we take is rooted in that commitment.

> With the launch of the O-ARM Surgical I m a g i n g System—Chennai's first—we are proud to bring in a technology that truly puts the patient first.

This system enhances surgical precision, minimizes risks, and significantly improves postoperative recovery.

By introducing the O-ARM with Stealth Navigation in Chennai, we are ensuring that our safest and most advanced care launch reaffirms our vision of blending care with worldclass innovation."

GOVT TO CONTINUE 3% SPORTSPERSONS JOB QUOTA

(April 22, 2025) that with disabilities. the Tamil Nadu government will once again reserve 3% of jobs in government services and public sector undertakings for sportspersons, continuing the initiative this year as

Chennai, 24 April well. As part of this, 2025: Deputy Chief 100 sportspersons will Minister Udhayanidhi be employed, with at Stalin announced in the least 25 positions Assembly on Tuesday earmarked for persons

Katchi (VCK) MLA M. Sinthanai Selvan

(Kattumannarkoil).

He noted that following last year's implementation of the 3% reservation policy, 104 sportspersons The Deputy CM were recruited into made this announce various government ment during the and public sector roles Question Hour, 11 of them in the police responding to Vidu department and five thalai Chiruthaigal among them persons with disabilities.

Addressing further

queries, Udhayanidhi Stalin said the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu has invited applications for the recruitment of 32 subinspectors of police, specifically for sportspersons. He also confirmed that a separate notification for police constable posts would be issued shortly.