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New Industrial R & D programme brings together the world class excellence of Sweden and India



India and Sweden announced the India-Sweden Collaborative Industrial Research & Development Programme on the occasion of the Sweden-India Innovation Partnership AI for All Summit. The programme will address a range of global challenges through technology and innovation. The Joint programme is co-funded by Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Sweden's Innovation Agency – Vinnova. The new programme brings together the world class excellence of Sweden and India to address challenges in the area of Smart Cities and Clean Technologies and Digitalization / Internet of Things (IoT). Full-Scale R&D projects, focused on co-development of new products, processes or technologies; Product Adaptation projects will be funded under this new programme. Vinnova will provide funding to Swedish side participants upto 2,500,000 Swedish Krona as grant. On the Indian side, conditional grant of upto 50% with a limit

of INR 1.5 crores per project to Indian project partners to be provided. Speaking on the occasion, Joakim Appelquist, Deputy Director General, Vinnova said, "India is the fastest rising research and innovation power in the world and a valued partner to Sweden. The India-Sweden Collaborative Industrial Research & Development Programme can play an effective role in taking the best out of Swedish and Indian innovators, making them work together and develop a solution that would fit and benefit both sides. I am delighted to be back here and very pleased with Vinnova's enhanced collaboration with India." The Sweden-India science and innovation partnership has gone from strength to strength in last couple of years and high-level diplomatic visits have boosted interest in bilateral collaboration between the two countries. Last year, in April 2018, during Prime Minister Modi's visit to Sweden, India agreed to deepen the collaboration through the Joint

Declaration on Innovation Partnership for a Sustainable Future. The partnership aims to increase impact of bilateral cooperation in innovation, science and technology. The Swedish government has earmarked an additional 50 million SEK to its innovation agency Vinnova to commence and inaugurate the innovation partnership with India. Klas Molin, Ambassador of Sweden to India, said, "Moving from idea to innovation requires learning and collaboration. India and Sweden share values – responsibility, sustainability, doing more with less. Our countries can unleash co-innovation and co-creation to find solutions to global challenges. A year ago, we signed the Sweden India Innovation Partnership. Today we are announcing jointly funded programs. We are looking at deepening cooperation in the areas of smart cities, energy, digitalization, life sciences as well as developing our startup communities and allowing startups to grow and prosper."

Happy



Easter

Happy Easter Wishes 2019

Easter or the Resurrection Sunday is a festival and holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day after his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD. Additional customs that have become associated with Easter and are observed by both Christians and some non-Christians include egg hunting, the Easter Bunny, and Easter parades. There are also various traditional Easter foods that vary regionally. The egg is an ancient symbol of new life and

rebirth. In Christianity it became associated with Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. The custom of the Easter egg originated in the early Christian community of Mesopotamia, who stained eggs red in memory of the blood of Christ, shed at his crucifixion. As such, for Christians, the Easter egg is a symbol of the empty tomb. The oldest tradition is to use dyed chicken eggs, but a modern custom is to substitute decorated chocolate, or plastic eggs filled with candy such as jellybeans. Wishing everyone a Happy Easter 2019.

Marico extends its food portfolio with the launch of 'Coco Soul' range



Marico Limited, one of India's leading FMCG majors has launched a range of Vegan Gourmet products under the brand name 'Coco Soul'. The range includes 100% Organic virgin coconut oil, 100% Natural virgin coconut oil and 100% Natural Infused variants of cold pressed virgin coconut oil, and Coco Soul Foods which include Coconut Spreads, Coconut Chips and 100% Organic Coconut Sugar; all made using the Super food coconut. The organic variants marks Marico's first foray into the organic products space. Coco Soul Infused Cold Pressed Virgin Coconut Oil is expertly extracted with a 'No-Heat Process' or 'Cold-pressing process' which helps preserve vital nutrients, rich aroma and flavor of real coconuts. Being a rich source of medium chain triglycerides (MCT's), the oils are easy to digest, thus providing an instant boost of energy, aiding digestion and helping weight management and supporting cognition. Chef Kunal Kapur has expertly curated three infused variants that bring natural flavor and aroma to many cuisines. The Coco Soul Infused Cold Pressed Virgin Coconut Oil - Chilli Oregano is naturally infused with the extract of hot chilli and delectable oregano, which acts as a perfect partner to salads and pastas. The Cinnamon variant is similarly infused with the extract of cinnamon and can be used in baking or as a top-up on shakes and smoothies. Infused with the natural extract of curry leaves and coriander, the Curry Coriander variant is best used to cook Indian dishes

for an earthy aroma and palatable taste. Coco Soul Foods offer a range of products made with simple formulation and without any preservatives or artificial flavors. This includes 100% Organic low Glycemic Index (GI) Coconut Sugar, Coconut Spreads made of 100% natural ingredients without added sugar, high-protein Peanut Coconut Butter and Almond Coconut Butter made in an unsweetened form with 100% natural ingredients and high-fibre Coco Soul Coconut Chips made by only roasting without any frying. The foods offer a range of flavors or variants to choose from. Coconut Spreads offer Original, Sea Salt and Cacao flavours while Peanut Coconut and Almond Coconut Butters offer crunchy and creamy variants. These can be enjoyed with breads, paranthas, crackers or smoothies. The Coco Soul Coconut chips are made using 100% natural coconuts sourced from Thailand and are offered in four flavours- Thai Chilli Lime, Caramel, Original and Chocolate. These can be consumed directly as a snack as well as sprinkled on meals. Speaking on the new launch, Sanjay Mishra, Chief Operating Officer (COO), India Sales & Bangladesh Business, Marico Ltd. said, "With Coco Soul, we have leveraged our heritage and experience with coconut as an ingredient to craft these truly inspiring products. We see an undercurrent of heavy demand for natural products that offer a focus on health. Coco Soul harnesses the benefits inherent in a coconut and brings it to a range of products that

aid wellbeing in more ways than one. Given our expertise in the health and wellness domain, we believe coconut as a super food offers numerous health benefits and is a smart choice of vegan gourmet products for our consumers." The Coco Soul Virgin Coconut Oil range is available in 250ml, 500ml, 1 litre bottles along with a 500ml jar. The range starts at Rs.230 and goes up to Rs.749. The range of infused oils is available in a bottle of 250ml and is priced at Rs. 349. Coco Soul Coconut Sugar will be available in the packaging of a 200g Carton priced at Rs. 249 and a 200g Jar priced at Rs. 399. Coco Soul Coconut Spreads are available in 265g Jars priced at Rs. 349, Coco Soul Coconut Chips will be introduced in 4 variants (Swiss Chocolate, Thai Chilli Lime, Caramel and Classic Salted) in 33g pouches at a price of Rs. 99 and the Coco soul Peanut Coconut butter and Coco soul Almond coconut butter spreads are priced at Rs 149 and Rs 549, for the 250g pack of the respectively. While the Coco Soul Food range will be gradually available in stores over the coming months, the Coco Soul Cold Pressed Virgin Coconut Oil and infused oils are available in modern trade stores such as D-Mart, Big Bazaar, Spencers, Godrej Nature's Basket, Tesco and Food hall across Mumbai, Pune, Delhi NCR, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chennai and on major ecommerce platforms such as Amazon, Flipkart and Big Basket. Consumers can also purchase the product on <http://www.cocosoul.in>

CMRL installed and commissioned another 428 KWp Solar PV Power Plant

CMRL successfully installed and commissioned another 428 KWp Solar PV Power Plant in Roof Top area of two Elevated Stations namely OTA and Meenabakkam Stations which will expected to generate around 57780 units per month and save the cost around Rs.26,34,768 lakhs per year. These Solar Plant Project were executed under Zero Capital Investment by CMRL and based on RESCO Model under Solar energy Corporation of India (SECI) Scheme, payable by monthly Tariff basis. The Generated Solar Power will be utilised for own demand, so far total installed capacity of Roof Top Solar Power by CMRL is 4.1 MWp and another 2.5 MWp Roof Top Solar Power installation under progress which will expected to complete by end of the year 2019.





Southern Railway Celebrates 64th Railway Week

Railway Week is celebrated all over the Indian Railway network from 10th to 16th of April every year. The celebrations are held in commemoration of the first train run on Indian soil on 16th April, 1853 from Bori Bunder to Thane. 64th Railway Week Celebrations of Southern Railway is being held all over its jurisdiction from 10th till 16th April. As a part of the same, the main Zonal Railway Week celebrations of Southern Railway was conducted at Rajah Annamalai Mandram, Esplanade, Chennai 12th April, 2019. Shri Rahul Jain, General Manager, Southern Railway was the Chief Guest of the function and distributed Shields to various Divisions / Departments / Workshops and Awards to officers and staff for their meritorious performance. The General Manager's Inter Divisional overall Efficiency Shield

was bagged by Salem Division. Palakkad and Chennai Divisions jointly bagged Runners up Shield. 36 Efficiency Shields for outstanding performance in different areas of railway working were awarded to different Divisions/Workshops/Units. 155 officers and staff were honoured with 'Individual Awards'. 14 Group Awards were also given covering 157 staff. Shri P.K. Mishra, Additional General Manager, Southern Railway, Smt. Sunitha Vedantham, Principal Chief Personnel Officer, other Principal Head of Departments, Divisional Railway Managers, Officers and Staff of Southern Railway participated in the function. A cultural programme, comprising classical dances and music was conducted by staff and their wards on the occasion.



Young Marine Biologist Workshop

TREE Foundation's Summer Programme: 'Young Marine Biologist Workshop'- A six- day workshop from Monday to Saturday (9.30 AM to 4.00 PM), starting from April 22rd, 2019. The workshop is for children between the ages 10- 13 years old. The workshop will include both theoretical and hands-on/ practical sessions for the students for the duration of six days, including numerous activities and projects. For registrations or queries, contact us at this email address or at +91 9444306411, 9444052242.

FICCI ORGANISES A SEMINAR ON "TAKING WINGS: WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPOWERMENT"

Chennai, April 12, 2019: FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council organized a Seminar on Taking Wings: Women's Employment, Entrepreneurship and Empowerment on 11th April 2019. The objective of this seminar is to deliberate further on having more women in work force, whether in jobs or as Entrepreneurs. Women represent half of the world's population and therefore half of its potential too. However, according to the global gender report 2015, India ranked 136 among 144 countries on the economic participation and opportunities index. China and the US have more than 65 percent and 56 percent respectively of their women population working, even subcontinent neighbors, Nepal and Bangladesh are ahead of India. Lack of support, access to finance, lack of entrepreneurial education and lack of required skills are some of the reasons, due to which Indian women are unable to formally join the works force or start her own business. However, despite these challenges, the recent trends show an increasing interest in taking up the entrepreneurship as a viable livelihood option. Women are being presented with opportunities both at work and businesses, which offer greater work life balance and more such initiatives with the help of private sector participation are required to promote Women entrepreneurship. On the occasion,

Amway launched a compendium on 'Taking Wings: Chronicling the journey of Indian Women Entrepreneurs'. The compendium provides a riveting compilation of journeys of Indian women entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds with the objective of recognizing micro-entrepreneurship through a range of articles and interviews with prominent thought leaders in this space. It also highlights the challenges that deter women from self-reliant entrepreneurship, identifies the opportunities that make women take the plunge, and offers significant insights for policy and decision making at a macro level to tap the entrepreneurial potential of women in the country. During his special address, Mr. Rajat Banerji, National Head – Corporate Affairs, Amway India said, "Women play an intrinsic role in strengthening the socio-economic landscape, and entrepreneurship is a route that has witnessed tremendous adoption among India's women. We, at Amway India, are proud to have successfully skilled and empowered more than 550,000 distributors in India. The fact that almost 60% of Amway direct sellers are women is a testimony to our commitment and our contribution towards women entrepreneurship. In recent years, India has witnessed a robust economic growth driven by market focused economic reforms favouring entrepreneurship. We believe that fostering

an environment of growth and creating viable opportunities for women will not only empower them to realize their full potential but also strengthen the society and economy, overall. With this compendium we are aiming to engage, inspire and encourage current and future women entrepreneurs from all over India by presenting the journeys of women who took the plunge" A panel discussion on "Taking wings: Learning from the Journey of successful Women Entrepreneurs" was moderated by Ms. Vidhya Gajapathi Raj Singh, Partner, Sumyog Wedding Planners and the speakers were Ms. Rekha Rangaraj, Partner, Sumyog Wedding Planners, Ms. Jayadevi Pradeep, Director of Research & Development, Cholayil Pvt Limited, Dr. Priya Ravi, Amway Business Owner, Ms. Gunit Singla, Chief Operating Officer, Uncle Sam's kitchen. The Second Panel Discussion was on "Addressing the huge problem of Attrition in Work force; How to re-employ women who have taken a break in career" which was moderated by Dr. Jayakumar, Head HR, L&T Limited, and the speakers were Ms. Malini Saravanan, DGM HR, The New Indian Express, Mr. Karthik Ekambaram, Senior Vice President – Consulting Services, AVTAR, Ms. Rajalakshmi Subramanian, Executive Director, CareerTree HR Solutions Pvt Ltd, Mr. Vasanthakumar, Director, Prometo Consulting Pvt Ltd.

LADIES JUNCTION

Sony Pictures Networks India appoints MANU N. WADHWA as Chief Human Resource Officer



Sony Pictures Networks India (SPN) has appointed Manu Wadhwa as Chief Human Resource Officer (CHRO) for the network. In her last assignment, Manu was associated with Coca-Cola, as the Head of Human Resources India and South West Asia. With over two decades of experience in the human resources function across various industries and countries, Manu has piloted workplace and people agenda of globally dynamic organizations like GE and American Express. Her expertise lies in Organization Design & Effectiveness, Talent & Development, HR Transformation, Change and Digital innovation. Interestingly, she started her career in 1996 in Tata Unisys as a financial analyst. She is a member of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

– National Leadership & HR Committee, Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) – Asia Pacific Advisory Board, Chandigarh University Corporate Advisory Board and Jombay Think Tank Forum. She holds a Master's from SCMHRD, Pune and is a graduate of the GE Human Resources Leadership Program (#HRLP). Mr. N.P. Singh, Managing Director & CEO, Sony Pictures Networks India (SPN): "It is our constant endeavour to build SPN as an engaging and empowering workplace. As a member of SPN's leadership team, Manu will play a vital role in working towards this goal. She will lead the HR function and I am confident that under her leadership, we will continue to build a culture that attracts and retains the best talent."

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