The Passenger Reservation Centre at Rajaji Nagar, in Beasant Nagar has been closed due to administrative reasons. In lieu of this, a new PRS Counter will be opened on and from 20th May 2019 at Kasturba Nagar Railway Station on MRTS Section. The new PRS counter at Kasturba Nagar Railway Station will function in two shifts to the following timings. Morning Shift operates from 8am to 2pm. Evening Shift is from 2.15pm to 8pm. Fast Local trains between Chennai Beach and Tambaram are introduced with effect from Saturday, 1st June 2019. Four Fast Locals will be operated from Chengalpet to Chennai Beach and two fast locals will run Tirumalpur to Chennai Beach during morning peak hours. Pondicherry – Chennai Egmore Express which was extended to run from Chennai Beach in view of the cancellation of Fast locals earlier will again be operated from Chennai Egmore on and from 1st June 2019. Train No.16116 Pondicherry – Chennai Egmore Express would arrive Chennai Egmore at 09.30 moorings. Train No.16115 Chennai Egmore – Pondicherry Express will leave Chennai Egmore at 6.10 pm in the evenings.

Passenger Reservation Centre now at Kasturba Nagar MRTS

PropTiger.com selected as field global partner for Harvard Business School

PropTiger.com, owned by Elara Technologies, which also owns Housing.com and Makaan.com, recently had the opportunity to host a team of students from Harvard Business School in Delhi-NCR for one week as part of a required first-year course at Harvard Business School called the FIELD Global Immersion. Proptiger.com was one of 157 FIELD Global Partners spanning 13 countries around the world. Together these Global Partners combined to host more than 920 Harvard Business School students in all."We are pleased to be working with Harvard Business School to provide students with a real-world learning experience in India." said Dhruv Agarwala, Group CEO, Housing.com, PropTiger.com and Makaan.com. "We feel certain that the students were able to gather insights here that they would never be able to glean from a classroom discussion alone."The FIELD Global Immersion is a course designed to strengthen and develop students' global intelligence, their ability to manage and operate effectively across cultures and business contexts. PropTiger.com executives had been working with the team remotely in the months leading up to their arrival in country. While here, the students pitched their ideas to the leadership team, conducted field research with consumers around Delhi-NCR and presented their final recommendations to management. The purpose of this immersive experience is to provide students with the opportunity to do real fieldwork in an unfamiliar context .Harvard is quick to acknowledge that this important learning experience would not be possible without the Global Partners."We are extremely grateful to Proptiger.com and all the FIELD Global Partner organizations for all they do on behalf of our students," said Professor Juan Alcacer, the faculty head of FIELD. "The students benefit immeasurably from this experience and we hope the partner organizations do as well."

Award-winning recording artist Emeli Sandé releases new single

Multi-platinum, award-winning recording artist Emeli Sandé MBE releases new single Extraordinary Being taken from her stunning upcoming new album Real Life, out June 21st. The track is released in collaboration with X-Men; Dark Phoenix released June 5th. Evoking the spirit and exuberance of the disco era, Extraordinary Being sees Emeli push her sound further than ever. Opening with sparse piano chords, the track quickly builds with propulsive drum taps and funky guitar rhythms, before delving into that disco sound with the addition of sweeping strings. All the while, Emeli delivers an incredible, soulful vocal performance. Speaking about the meaning behind the song, Emeli said: "Extraordinary Being is about exposing the lie that we are ordinary. We are extraordinary. It is about reminding people of their innate greatness which exists in everyone. The extraordinary is not just for some people, it is for all of us. I hope the lyrics will help those lacking in confidence to be reminded of their super powers. The accompanying music video, which was directed by Sarah McColgan sees Emeli delving into a cosmic world, interspersed with scenes taken from the film. Emeli said about teaming up for the track, "Fox approached me about collaborating with them on a song for X-Men: Dark Phoenix. I already had 'Extraordinary Being' in the works, and when I saw the film was blown away at how the lyrics of the song matched the journey of the lead character," Emeli said about teaming up for the collaboration, "It really felt like the perfect fit!" Extraordinary Being is the latest song to be taken from Real Life, an album recorded following an intense personal journey of self-doubt and self-discovery that marks a brand-new chapter and with it a bold, confident and fearless new sound. It's an album emblematic of an artist emerging from that period defiant and powerful. Feeling attuned with the disenfranchised state of the world, the vision for Real Life is to give people hope and confidence. With over 340 million video views, 19 million singles sold including 3 number one UK singles and over 6 million albums, Emeli Sandé has dominated the music industry and captured the heart of the Nation. Her debut album Our Version of Events, released in 2012, was the biggest selling album of that year and the second biggest of 2013. The album also broke the chart record for the most consecutive weeks inside the Top 10, breaking the 50-year record previously held by The Beatles. The singer has won numerous accolades including 4 x Brit Awards (Critics Choice, Best Album and Female Solo twice, most recently in 2017 for her second album, Long Live the Angels) and in 2018 was awarded an MBE for services to Music.

ICICI Lombard re-imagines car insurance experience for its customers with Microsoft AI

ICICI Lombard, one of India's leaders in the BFSI space has partnered with Microsoft to develop India's first AI-enabled car inspection feature in its mobile app, "Insure." With the deployment of AI, the customers and employees will be able to process claims and renew policies in a hassle-free and faster manner. The solution was showcased during a press conference to share the findings of a Microsoft-IDC study 'Future Ready Business: Assessing Asia Pacific's Growth Potential Through AI'. India is one of the world's largest and fastest-growing auto insurance markets yet relies on traditional ways to renew lapsed policies or make repair claims which required inspectors to physically look over vehicles and make damage assessments. This leads to a delay in the process of inspection, resulting in keeping the cars and policy holders off the road for longer. To mitigate this challenge, ICICI Lombard and Microsoft have created the "Insure" solution, which allows customers to buy or renew policies anytime, anywhere. In case of lapsed policies, instead of a physical inspection, customers can simply take images of their vehicle and upload them with Insure. The app then uses AI and machine learning to divide the images into frames and identify the various parts of the car to look for damage. In most cases the AI module can make a judgment very quickly, reducing the time from days to just minutes. Talking about the collaboration, Girish Nayak, COO, ICICI Lombard Service, Operations & Technology, ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd, said,""We recognized the potential of AI in providing high quality car damage evaluation services. With data being generated at an exponential level, this technology will help us derive insights to inspect and process claims with utmost efficiency. Using Microsoft's AI expertise is helping us bring about this transformation, allowing us to meet customer demands quicker without compromising on service excellence." Releasing the findings of the new study, Dr. Rohini Srivathsa, National Technology Officer, Microsoft India, said "Today, every company is a software company, and increasingly, every interaction is digital. To be successful in this new world,

organizations need to be a fast adopter of best-in-class technology; and secondly, they need to build their own unique digital capabilities. Economies and businesses that have yet to embark on their AI journey run a real risk of missing out on the competitive benefits that are enjoyed by leaders. Businesses must now embrace a new culture, where innovation and continuous learning are core components of the organizational culture. It sets the stage for agility, adaptability and growth," The Microsoft-IDC study surveyed 1,560 business decision makers in mid and large-sized organizations across 15 economies, including 200 business leaders and 202 workers in India, highlights AI as a game-changer in India, stating that it will accelerate business transformation, enable innovation, boost productivity and ensure further growth. While 77% of business leaders polled agreed that AI is instrumental for their organization's competitiveness, only one-third of organizations in India have embarked on their AI journeys. Those companies that have adopted AI expect it to increase their competitiveness by 2.3 times in 2021. Last year, organizations that have adopted AI saw tangible improvements in those areas in the range of 8% to 22%. They forecast further improvements of at least 2.1 times in the three-year horizon, with the biggest jump expected in higher margins, and higher competitiveness. The study evaluated six dimensions critical to ensuring the success of a nation's AI journey. According to the findings, India needs to build upon its investment, data, and strategy in order to accelerate its AI journey. The study also underlines the need for cultural changes and skilling and re-skilling workforces to make AI work for the country. "To succeed in the AI race, India needs to substantially improve its readiness. Leaders should make AI a core part of their strategy and develop a learning agility culture. Investment in this transformative technology has to be continuous for the long-term success. There is an urgent need for talents and tools to develop, deploy and monitor AI models, along with the availability of a robust data estate with the adequate governance," according to Ranganath Sadasiva, Director, Enterprise, IDC India.

HIL Ltd. delivers strong financial performance in FY'19 with a global acquisition

HIL Limited, one of Asia's leading building material solutions company announced the financial results for the quarter and year ending March 31, 2019. Part of the USD 2.5 billion CK Birla Group, the company has delivered a strong financial performance with meaningful improvements in revenue and profitability through its brands Charminar, Birla Aerocon, Birla HIL, Hysil and Parador – its recent global acquisition. The company standalone revenues grew 16% to Rs. 1,482 crore for the full year as against Rs. 1,280 crore for previous year. Business performance highlights: Profit before Tax after exceptional items improved by 39% year-on-year to Rs. 167 crore for the year. Exceptional items include Rs. 21.16 crore on account of one time acquisition cost of legal, professional cost and real estate trasfer tax on account of acqusition of Parador Holdings GmbH; The financials are consolidated with newly acquired company, Parador, from 1st September 2018. At consolidated level, HIL has posted a strong growth in revenue to Rs. 2,208 crore as compared to Rs. 1,208 crore last year, showing a growth of 73%. Mr. Dhirup Roy Choudhary, Managing Director, HIL Limited said, "The year 2018-19 was a fantastic year for HIL, we have reinforced our position as the leader in the Indian building materials segment. The results achieved reflect a year of strong organic growth combined with the depth of our product basket and width of our geographic presence. We have registered a revenue growth of 73% this year. Our PBT has grown by 39% owing to innovative marketing activities, prudent cost, efficiency improvement drive and foray into new business. One of our biggest highlights of the year under review was the acquisition of Parador, which helped us enter international market and explore new growth opportunities and commenced our Global journey to become a one-stop shop for all Building Material needs. As a Company HIL is dedicated in endorsing and upholding the highest standards of governance and have adopted and implemented appropriate structures and policies to ensure the same. I strongly believe that these robust values and practices will continue to drive HIL's sustainable growth. Moving forward, I am confident that we would continue to uphold this spirit, break records, and continue to instil confidence among our stakeholders. HIL enjoys a strong presence in the industry and is capable of taking a leading role in a dynamic market. The energy, spirit and adaptive approach we've brought, augmented by the resolute commitment and efficiency of our employees, will certainly help us maintain our leadership position in the coming years. This has also helped HIL to get the Great Place to Work Certification (GPTW) this year in the very first attempt." This performance has been supported by growth in sales across the board, where initiatives were taken to drive higher productivity from operations driving earnings. Emphasis on enhancing financial parameters have resulted in the expansion of pre-tax earnings. Contained borrowings and optimal working capital management will allow transmission of growth realized into higher net profits going forward. The Board of Directors, has declared a Final Dividend at 125% i.e 12.50/- per share for the financial year 2018-19.

Successfully held more than 35 National and state level Art Shows

Pondicherry Art Akademy is playing a vital role in spreading art, promoting and creating a platform for the artists of India. With their nine years of hard work and service they have organised more than 35 National and state level Art Shows for kids, upcoming artist and senior Artists. And there is no doubt that they have been the pioneers in Pondicherry for curating grand art events. In order to honor and promote Pondicherry Artists, Aurodhan Art Gallery's Director Shri.Lalit Verma has joined hands with Pondicherry Art Akademy and organised a grand camp in Pondicherry for Project maa. They both jointly presents solo shows of 12 active artists from Pondicherry. The first of the solo shows was launched by senior Artist and Art Activist Kalaimamani. Shri. K.K.Segar. The show was inaugurated on 24th May by Shri.M.Vaithianathan who is the founder of Kamala trust. Shri.Lalit Verma has delivered his presidential speech and mentioned that Pondicherry artists are being a great surprise by their good works. Artist Dr.J.Gopal, Regional Director of Indria Gandhi National Centre for Arts (Pondicherry Region) and Artist A.Soucoumarane were guests of honour. Shri.K.K.Segar's works are widely appreciated for his unique technique, style, Composition and his idea to bring both Indian tradition & philosophy in contemporary painting. The spiritual knowledge and understanding of the nature are well witnessed in his works. His potential to express all his spiritual and life experiences in his paintings makes even the common people to turn to his works. And many well known artists of India mentioned that his paintings are such great pieces to be praised. When Shri. K.K.Segar was asked which his master piece is, he politely said that he has not created it yet and learning everyday to create one very soon. May be that's the reason he is being an inspiration to many students to peruse their passion and dream. This series of solo shows will continue for the next couple of months. This is being seen as an historical event in Pondicherry.

Tapping green power: Maruti Suzuki to harnesses Solar Power for manufacturing of cars

Committed to positively contribute to the environment, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, took an important step to harness Solar Power to meet its energy needs. The Company recently laid the foundation stone for a 5 MW Solar Power plant at the Gurugram facility. The captive Solar Power plant is expected to be commissioned in FY 2019-20. The Company will invest around Rs 240 Million, and will offset CO2 emissions to the tune of over 5390 tonnes annually, for the next 25 years. This is the second grid based Solar Power plant for Maruti Suzuki. The 1stSolar Power plant was set up in 2014 at Manesar, with 1 MW capacity. In 2018, this solar power plant was further expanded to 1.3 MW. The power generated from the solar power plant will besynchronised with the captive power plant to cater to the internal energy needs of the Gurugram facility. As a unique feature the photovoltaic solar panels of this carport style solar power plant will work as a roof at the new car parking area. While the solar panels generate clean energy, the cars parked underneath will be safe from strong climatic conditions. Mr. Kenichi Ayukawa, MD & CEO, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "Solar energy is abundant, versatile and efficient. This Solar Power initiative is in line with the Company's philosophy to adopt environment friendly technologies and lower CO2 emissions. Through this solar power plant facility we will harness renewable energy for our business needs over next 25 years. Maruti Suzuki is

committed to expand its environment care initiatives in products, in manufacturing processes and in business operations." The Company depends on cleaner and renewable sources of energy which form a major share (95%) of its total energy use. The energy requirement at the manufacturing facilities is met by Natural Gas-based captive power plant, supported by grid power. The new solar power plant will complement the power generating capability at the manufacturing plant.

Pedestrian bridge work at Alandur metro station

The construction of long-awaited foot over bridge at Alandur metro station is finally in progress across the busy GST Road. Alandur metro station is an elevated metro station that is part of the Blue Line and the Green Line of the Chennai Metro, and serves as an interchange station between the two lines. The station is one of the two metro stations where the two lines intersect, the other being the Chennai Central metro station. It is the city's first multi-level railway station. It is the only station where passengers from the two corridors can swap the direction of travel. As the station acts as a transit point for two different corridors of the Chennai Metro, the two lines are constructed at two different levels at the station the first one serving the line from Guindy towards Officers Training Academy (OTA) and Chennai airport and the second one for the line from St. Thomas Mount towards CMBT. Once completed the over bridge will be of a huge benefit to the train passengers for crossing GST Road at St. Thomas Mount.

Visual discovery platform Charmboard announces Discovery Cloud for brands

Charmboard, an AI based visual discovery platform, announced the launch of Discovery Cloud, a first-ever subscription based integrated suite of AI-driven technology service specifically designed to power the discovery journey of consumers in the digital world. The service helps brands create new demand, increase brand affinity and build brand preference. Charmboard Discovery Cloud leverages the power of AI-driven visual discovery, video, curation and community. It offers comprehensive, personalized, highly contextual marketing solution for 24x7 consumers. The platform supports the progression of consumer journey starting from discovery, to research phase, to action—takes them through the full purchasing funnel, with businesses adding value to consumers every step of the way. "Charmboard Discovery Cloud will have a measurable impact on brand metrics, in addition to the contextual discovery, which creates new demand for the brand. Brand metrics measure consumer perceptions, enabling businesses to identify the optimal state of those perceptions. By implementing metric-driven course corrections businesses can influence consumer behaviour, which ultimately determines financial performance", said Mr. GBS Bindra, Founder and CEO of Charmboard. The service transforms a brand's existing product catalogue into on-demand creatives, giving consumers more ways to interact with it, online during the moments that matters. Ensuring that brand always appear on the ideal content with the ideal context. The service capitalizes on consumer desire from the content consumed organically and reduced intrusion for the user. At Charmboard, businesses have the opportunity to put relevant content in front of interested consumers at every stage of their journey; as they browse through varied possibilities, when they compare options and when they are ready to make a purchase. As a result, businesses can achieve a range of objectives over the period of time they subscribe to this service. Charmboard is leading the way in digital marketing innovation in fashion, style, beauty and luxury category. The Digital Discovery Cloud represents an industry first: an integrated, AI-powered suite of solutions to help brands engage with online consumers throughout the year, rather than in sporadic bursts. By subscribing to this service, brand managers are able to drive regular, personal and relevant marketing communication to people, in the moment that matters and to those who actually want to get them. This allows brands to stay fresh in the minds of customers even when they are not in the market for the product a business is selling. By continually staying in touch with consumers, they'll remember the brand and make a purchase when the time comes. Sporadic campaigns by nature are high burst and come at a high cost and significant leakage of exposure to audience which are non-patrons."But, while consumer behaviour has dramatically changed over the past decade, especially with decline of appointment TV, brands have lacked the tech and marketing resources to keep pace with today's digital consumer. Charmboard Discovery Cloud allows the brand managers unprecedented capability to show up in the moment of high desire and put the relevant brand material in front of today's digital consumer. Our goal is to help businesses better enable their customers to be inspired, research and act the way they want to – online and from the comfort of their homes – while targeting the context and not their personal data," concluded Bindra. Charmboard discovery cloud monthly service plans are based on three, six and one-year service agreement. Individual plans are priced at Rs. 1L for 2L discoveries, Rs. 3L for 6.5L discoveries and Rs. 5L for 1.25M discoveries. All plans guarantee unprecedented brand attention, industry leading click-through rates, high brand impact and roll over discoveries.

mjunction to conduct e-auction for Flipkart

mjunction services limited, India's largest B2B e-commerce company, will conduct e-auctions for Flipkart Internet Pvt Ltd, for disposing of their used packaging items and various other types of idle assets. The e-auction platform of mjunction will bring about transparency as well as convenience for the buyers. In FY19, mjunction has e-transacted over Rs 1 lakh crore on its various platforms.