

# US-based Citizens Financial Group partners with Cognizant to open GCC in Hyd

Hyderabad, (UNI) Citizens Financial Group, a U.S.-based premier financial institution, on Tuesday announced a joint initiative with Cognizant, a leading global technology and professional services company, to launch a Global Capability Center (GCC) in Hyderabad to accelerate innovation and the execution of the bank's enterprise technology strategy.

Hyderabad GCC is expected to scale up to 1,000 professionals specializing in IT and Data & Analytics by March 2026.

Telangana IT Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, who participated in the program, said "Hyderabad is rapidly becoming a global business hub. In 2024, we

secured nearly one GCC per week, bringing our total to over 355 GCCs. This growth is reflected in the rising demand for commercial and retail space, along with a surge in air traffic. By 2030, we plan to add 200 million sq. ft. of Grade A office space"

The launch of Citizens Bank's GCC with Cognizant further strengthens our position, showcasing growing confidence in our ecosystem. Our goal is to transform Hyderabad from a GCC hub into a Global Value Centre, driving IP, innovation, R&D, and product development, the Minister added . Located within Cognizant's new campus in Hyderabad, the GCC is designed to help Citizens more quickly and effectively foster innovative solu-



tions for its customers, the company said in a release here . It will also serve as an innovation hub, implementing cutting-edge technologies and fostering a culture of continuous learning and development.

This year, Citizens plans to become the first U.S. regional bank to fully migrate to the cloud, unlocking

products," said Michael Ruttledge, Chief Information Officer and Head of Enterprise Technology & Security at Citizens Financial Group on the occasion" . "With its rich talent pool, the city has emerged as a leading global destination for technology-driven businesses.

It will not only enhance customer experience but also create exciting opportunities for India's tech talent to redefine the future of banking," Michael added. "Surya Gummadi, President – Americas, Cognizant, said "We are excited to partner with Citizens and plan to leverage Cognizant Neuro® and Flow-source™ platforms to advance modern banking with future-ready, GenAI-enabled solutions.



## Atul Greentech and Amara Raja announce strategic partnership agreement

Hyderabad, (UNI) Atul Greentech Private Limited (AGPL), a subsidiary of Atul Auto Limited and Amara Raja Group, a US\$ 2 Billion Global conglomerate with a presence in various industries, on Tuesday announced a strategic partnership agreement for collaboration in development and supply of LFP (Lithium Iron Phosphate) Battery packs and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs).

The collaboration will extend to development of cells, including advanced chemistry cells for Atul Greentech's upcoming offerings in line with India's vision of "Atma Nirbhar Bharat, the company said in a release here.

As part of this agreement, the battery packs for Atul Greentech's three wheelers will be manufactured at Amara Raja's Giga Corridor in Divitipalli, Telangana.

India's focus on clean energy transition has seen the Indian automotive industry transition towards EVs, particularly in the two-wheeler and three-wheeler segments.

Both Amara Raja and Atul Greentech have chartered ambitious plans to tap into this growing market potential.

Vijay Kedia, Director at Atul Auto Limited, said "Atul Greentech has always been at the forefront of innovation that benefits and empowers our customers. Together with Amara Raja we are confident of advancing our successful EV journey as India adapts to electric mobility."

Speaking about the partnership, Vijayanand Samudrala, President, New Energy, Amara Raja Energy and Mobility (ARE&M) said, "We believe that a domestic ecosystem of cells, packs, chargers along with research and development is critical as India embraces electric vehicles and are working with like minded partners to offer them best in class products for their needs.

We have immense respect for their contribution to electrify mobility in India and we are hopeful that this new agreement will further enhance their product portfolio."

## BSensex soars 1577.63 pts

Mumbai, (UNI): The equity market remained on top for another session on Tuesday with BSE Sensex advancing 1577.63 pts to close high at 76,734.89 after the announcement of tariff exemption for electronic goods by Trump government.

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) rose 500 pts at 23,328.55. The equity market was shut on Monday for 'Dr Ambedkar Jayanti'. Registering huge gains of 1310.11 pts on Friday, the equity market opened today on a strong note at 76,852.06, rising 1695 pts. It remained in green throughout the session. During the day, it was spurted 1750 pts at 76,907.63, days high, before closing at 76,734.89 up 1577.63 pts from its previous close.

## Godrej Industries' Chemicals Business acquires Business of Savannah Surfactants Ltd

Kolkata, (UNI) Godrej Industries' Chemicals Business on Monday announced the completion of a Business transfer with Savannah Surfactants Limited, with the acquisition of their Food Additives Business.

As a leading player in Oleochemicals, Surfactants, Specialities and Biotech sectors, this transaction will help the company expand its product offerings to the



Food & Beverages Industry globally.

Vishal Sharma, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Godrej Industries (Chemicals),

profitable and sustainable manner.

The Savannah business will be part of our Speciality chemicals sector. The addition of this Food Additives Business will expand our speciality offerings and build a larger speciality business going forward."

Located in Goa, Savannah Surfactants Limited has a manufacturing capacity of 5,200 MTPA of finished products.

## Signify illuminates over 300 forest villages in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh, under Har Gaon Roshan CSR project



Har Gaon Roshan CSR project aims to enhancing safety in forest regions affected by human-wildlife conflict using the power of light. Bahraich is recognized as one of India's aspirational districts, with a focus on improving health, education, and infrastructure. The installation of energy-efficient lights has reduced human-wildlife conflict, allowing villagers to move freely and securely after dark. This initiative reflects our dedication to leveraging lighting technology for social impact, and we are honoured to collaborate with the forest department and FINISH Society in supporting the recovery of these resilient communities."

This collaborative effort has been carried out with active support from the Forest Department and the local communities, bringing together various stakeholders to realize a shared goal of rural empowerment through lighting.

About Signify, Signify (Euronext: LIGHT) is the world leader in lighting for professionals, consumers, and the Internet of Things. Our Philips products, interact systems and data-enabled services, deliver business value and transform life in homes, buildings and public spaces.

on forest and wildlife conservation was also launched at this event.

Nikhil Gupta, Head of Marketing, Strategy, Govt. Affairs & CSR - Signify, Greater India, shared his thoughts on this project, "At Signify, we believe in the transformative power of light to uplift lives. Through this initiative, we are creating safer and more secure environments in some of the most remote villages. This initiative reflects our dedication to leveraging lighting technology for social impact, and we are honoured to collaborate with the forest department and FINISH Society in supporting the recovery of these resilient communities."

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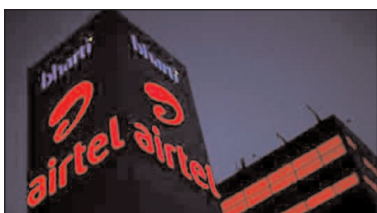
## NSE crosses 22 crore total investor accounts

New Delhi: The National Stock Exchange of India marked another milestone in April 2025, with the total number of investor accounts i.e., Unique Client Codes (UCCs) surpassing 22 crore (220 million), a sharp increase within just six months of crossing the 20-crore mark (200 million) in October 2024. Separately, the number of unique registered investors stands at 11.3 crore (As of March 31st, 2025), having crossed the 11 crore (110 million) mark on January 20th, 2025. An investor may maintain accounts with different brokers, resulting in multiple client codes. Maharashtra leads with the highest number of investor accounts at 3.8 crore, followed by Uttar Pradesh (2.4 crore), Gujarat (1.9 crore), and Rajasthan and West Bengal at approximately 1.3 crore each. Together, these states account for nearly 49% of total accounts, while the top ten states contribute roughly three-fourths of the overall count.

## Airtel partners with Blinkit to deliver SIM cards to customer's homes in Hyderabad in Just 10 minutes

Hyderabad, (UNI) In a pioneering move, Bharti Airtel, on Tuesday announced its partnership with the quick commerce platform, Blinkit, for the delivery of SIM cards to its customers in Hyderabad within ten minutes. Customers to receive SIM cards at their doorstep at a nominal convenience fee of ₹49. A first-of-its-kind service by a telco, the services are now live in 16 cities in the country, with plans to add more cities and towns over a period of time, the company said in a release. Post the delivery of the SIM card, customers can activate the number using a simple activation process through Aadhaar-based KYC authentication.

Customers will have the option to choose from both postpaid and prepaid plans or trigger an MNP for porting into the Airtel network. To streamline the process, customers can access the online link and view



the activation video for a seamless activation experience. Additionally, for all such activations, All Airtel customers have the option to access the help center through the Airtel Thanks App for any assistance they may need. Post-delivery of the SIM card, it will be mandatory for customers to activate the SIM within a 15-day window to ensure a smooth and hassle-free transition. Commenting on the partnership, Siddharth Sharma, CEO – Connected Homes and Director of Marketing, Bharti Airtel said; "Today we are thrilled to partner with Blinkit for 10-

minute SIM card delivery to customers' homes across 16 cities and in due course of time we plan to expand this partnership to additional cities." Albinder Dhindsa, Founder and CEO of Blinkit, said, "To save customers time and hassle, we've collaborated with Airtel to deliver SIM cards directly to customers in select cities, with delivery in just 10 minutes. Blinkit takes care of the delivery, while Airtel makes it easy for customers to complete self-KYC, activate their SIM, and choose between prepaid or postpaid plans. Customers can also opt for number portability, all at their convenience." In the initial phase of this launch, the SIM delivery service will be available across 16 major cities, including metropolises such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Surat, Chennai, Delhi, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Sonapat, Bhopal, Indore, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Pune, Lucknow, Jaipur, and Kolkata.

## Rabindranath Tagore University successfully organized "International Web Conference on Integrating Skills into University Curriculum: Global to Local Perspective"

Bhopal: " International Web Conference on Integrating Skills into University Curriculum: Global to Local Perspective" was organized jointly by Rabindranath Tagore University, Raisen (Madhya Pradesh) and Kavi Kulguru Kalidas Sanskrit University, Ramtek (Maharashtra). A two-day international web conference was organized on the subject. This event was held under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed recently between the two universities.

Program coordinator Dr. Kiran Mishra said that a total of 250 research papers were received from various countries including Uzbekistan, Oman, Samarkand, India in the conference, out of which 125 research papers were



selected. The outline of the conference was presented by Dr. Brajesh Kumar Sharma, Head of Department, Department of Education, Rabindranath Tagore University.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Aditi Chaturvedi, Vice Chancellor, Rabindranath Tagore University,

while sharing the global perspective, said that such events make the students aware of new ideas. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta, Vice Chancellor, Rabindranath Tagore University, said that this conference related to skill development will prove helpful in the all-round development of the students. Dr.

Sangeeta Johri, Registrar, called the conference a powerful platform for learning for the new generation. Prof. Hare Ram Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, Kavi Kulguru Kalidas Sanskrit University said that skill based education is the need of the hour and called this type of conference an international platform for exchange of ideas. First Day The keynote speaker Dr. Abek Kalendraov (Mamun University, Uzbekistan) underlined the role of language and said that language skills are extremely essential for effective communication. Dr. Kalyan Chaturvedi (Mamun University) said that it is the need of the hour for universities to integrate skills in their curriculum. 50 research papers were presented on the first day.

## PhonePe goes live with UPI Circle

PhonePe, today announced the launch of UPI Circle on its app, allowing its users to create a circle and make payments on behalf of their family, friends or trusted contacts. UPI Circle enables dependents to generate their own UPI ID without needing a linked bank account, opening up secure online payment solutions for those with limited access to digital financial services.

With UPI Circle on PhonePe, a UPI account holder (primary user), can add their family/trusted individuals (secondary user) to their circle using UPI ID or QR code and seamlessly authorize payments for them from anywhere. The primary user retains complete control over the usage, including the ability to review payment requests, track secondary user expenses, get secure access to detailed payment records within each circle and delink access from their UPI Circle, as needed. The fea-



ture's enhanced security protocols and seamless integration with the PhonePe app ensures a secure, reliable, and inclusive payment experience for all users, ultimately simplifying everyday transactions for PhonePe users and their trusted connections. Speaking on the feature launch, Sonika Chandra, Chief Business Officer, Consumer Payments, PhonePe said, "UPI Circle is a significant step forward in extending the ease and convenience of digital payments for those who are underbanked and those new to the ecosys-

tem. This can be a parent providing expenses to their college kids, authorizing payments on behalf of older parents who may be wary of digital payments or busy individuals who want to delegate household chores. Integrating UPI Circle into the PhonePe app, aligns perfectly with our vision of democratizing digital payments and making financial services accessible to all.

This innovative addition to the UPI stack offering simplifies shared expenses and empowers users to create trusted payment circles that streamline their financial interactions. We're confident that this will further accelerate the adoption of UPI across India."

About PhonePe Group: PhonePe Private Limited is one of India's leading fintech companies. Headquartered in India, its flagship product, the PhonePe digital payments app, was launched in Aug 2016.

## 41% women judges in the district judiciary, Madhya Pradesh ranks 7th overall, reveals India Justice Report 2025

The 2025 India Justice Report (IJR), India's only ranking of states on delivery of justice in the country, released today, ranks Madhya Pradesh 7th overall (2022:8th), with it climbing up 5 spots to the 9th position in Legal Aid and gaining the 5th spot in Prisons, among the 18 Large and Mid-sized states (with populations of over one crore each).

The top overall position was retained by Karnataka, followed by Andhra Pradesh, climbing from fifth in 2022 to second, Telangana (2022 ranking: 3rd), and Kerala (2022 ranking: 6th). Among the seven small states (with populations less than one crore each), Sikkim (2022: 1st) ranked first, followed by Himachal Pradesh (2022: 6th) and Arunachal Pradesh (2022: 2nd). The India Justice Report (IJR) was first initiated by Tata Trusts,



with the first ever ranking published in 2019. This is the fourth edition of the report, in collaboration with partners including the Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, DAKSH, TISS-Prayas, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, and How India Lives, IJR's data partner. Through a rigorous 24-month quantitative research, the IJR 2025, similar to the previous

three, has tracked the performance of states in capacitating their Justice delivery structures to effectively deliver mandated services. Based on the latest official statistics from authoritative government sources, it brings together otherwise siloed data on the four pillars of Justice delivery - Police, Judiciary, Prisons, and Legal Aid. Each pillar was analysed through the prism of budgets, human resources, workload, diversity, infrastructure, and trends (intention to improve over a five-year period), against the state's own declared standards and benchmarks.

This edition also separately assesses the capacity of the 25 State Human Rights Commissions (see SHRC brief for more) and consists of essays on mediation and access to justice for persons with disabilities.