

Avaana Capital leads 1.2 million dollars seed round in High Time Foods

Bengaluru, (UNI)

Avaana Capital, a venture capital fund backing deep-tech and frontier innovation, has led a USD 1.2 million seed round in High Time Foods, a food-tech startup offering cost-effective, shelf-stable plant-based protein solutions. Existing investors also participated in the round.

The funding coincides with High Time Foods' official launch in India, where it aims to address the country's protein gap by building a climate-resilient, non-refrigerated, and versatile protein product line catering primarily to the institutional food sector.

The Bengaluru-based startup had earlier secured a distribution deal with US-based Sysco, one of the world's largest foodservice providers, which it described as a significant global validation of its product innovation and operational efficiency.

"With Avaana Capital backing us, my co-founder Damian and I are doubling down on our mission to deliver delicious and versatile



plant-based protein to our B2B partners across India and beyond," said Aakash Shah, Co-Founder and CEO, High Time Foods. "We're launching at a very affordable price point, and as we scale, we aim to be cheaper than conventional protein sources, including meat."

The firm's offerings, designed for restaurants, hotels, caterers, institutions, and manufacturers, are intended to function as adaptable ingredients in diverse preparations, including Indian staples like samosas and kebabs.

The company's early India operations in-

clude a partnership with Vasantha Bhavan, a 65-year-old restaurant chain with presence across Tamil Nadu and abroad.

According to Avaana Capital's Investment Director Shruti Srivastava, "High Time Foods is tackling one of the most urgent gaps in food systems today—affordable, scalable protein. Their shelf-stable innovation is built for real-world conditions, especially in markets where infrastructure can be a challenge."

Founded by MBA classmates Aakash Shah and Damian Felchlin, the company combines experience in foodservice, logistics, and international trade.

Shah has previously co-founded a cloud kitchen venture and held leadership positions at Zomato, while Felchlin served as a Swiss Trade Commissioner in the United States.

The fresh capital will be deployed for product development, hiring across R&D, culinary innovation and business operations, and expanding partnerships across India, the US, and emerging markets in the Global South.



Samsung Launches Galaxy F56, its Slimmest F Series Smartphone in India

GURUGRAM: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today announced the launch of Galaxy F56 5G, the slimmest smartphone in the F-Series portfolio. The smartphones only 7.2mm slim and stands out with several segment-leading features such as flagship gradecamera, 6 generations of Android upgrade cycle, Gorilla Glass Victus+ protection on both front and back and advanced AI editing tools.

"With the launch of Galaxy F56 5G, Samsung is reaffirming its commitment to bringing meaningful innovation to empower customers' lives through powerful, future-ready technology. Galaxy F56 5G brings a perfect blend of design and functionality to deliver top tier experiences to the young consumers looking for a smartphone that complements their lifestyle," said Akshay S Rao, Director, MX Business, Samsung India.

Flagship Grade Camera, Galaxy F56 5G comes with a flagship-grade 50MP OIS triple camerto shoot high-resolution and shake-free videos and photos. The smartphone also features a stunning 12MP HDR front camera for rich and vibrant selfies. The cameras on Galaxy F56 5G are designed for vivid photos and videos-even in low light, thanks to its Big Pixel Technology, Low Noise Mode and AI ISP, taking its Nightography to a different level. It also features Portrait 2.0 with 2X zoom on the rear camera which enables crisp and natural bokeh effect. Users will also be able to record 4K 30 FPS videos in 10-bit HDR, capturing a wide range of colours for true-to-life output. Galaxy F56 5G will also feature advanced AI-powered editing tools like Object Eraser, Edit Suggestions that make every shot social-ready.

All new Design, Display and Unmatched Durability

Galaxy F56 5G is only 7.2mm slim and features Corning® Gorilla® Glass Victus® protection on both front and back-making it extremely tough as well as ergonomic. It features a 6.7" Full HD+ Super AMOLED+ display with 1200 nits of High Brightness Mode (HBM) and Vision Booster technology ensuring that users effortlessly enjoy their favourite content even under bright sunlight. The 120Hz refresh rate makes scrolling through social media a breeze. A glass back and a metal camera deco on Galaxy F56 5G brings a refreshing and premium design upgrade to the immensely popular Galaxy F series.

Students are showing their talent in the Summer Skills Carnival of Scope Global Skills University

Bhopal: As an initiative to promote creativity and skill development among the youth, Scope Global Skills University is organizing a "Summer Skills Carnival". This Summer Skills Carnival, organized from May 1, will continue till June 10. Training is being provided in various skills in this carnival in which a large number of youth are participating and presenting their creative skills in various genres. In the Summer Skills Carnival, training in Fine Arts - Clay Modelling, Painting and Print Making, Art and Craft; Design Your Space, Cutting and Stitching in Designing; Football, Cricket, Karate in Sports; Professional Saree Draping, Mehndi, Self Grooming under Beauty and Wellness; Acting Skills, Kathak, Tabla, Dholak, Harmonium, Synthesizer, Singing and Dance in Performing Arts; and Stage Anchoring and Creative Writing training under Spotlight are being provided in a creative manner.

Life insurance ownership at an all-time high of 78% - Axis Max Life India Protection Quotient 7.0

Axis Max Life Insurance Ltd. (formerly known as Max Life Insurance Company Ltd.) ("Axis Max Life"/ "Company"), has unveiled the findings of the seventh edition of its flagship survey - India Protection Quotient survey (IPQ) conducted in partnership with KANTAR, the world's leading marketing data and analytics company. Tapping 6,360 households across 25 Indian cities, the survey has been uncovering urban India's pulse on financial protection.

Prashant Tripathy, CEO and Managing Director, Axis Max Life Insurance said, "India Protection Quotient, as part of 'Bharosa Talks' has evolved into a powerful barometer of India's financial



resilience, acting as a catalyst for driving India's protection narrative forward. This year's record Protection Quotient, alongside all-time high life insurance ownership, reflects a decisive shift in consumer priorities - from cost sensitivity to genuine protection needs. Yet, the widening gender gap in financial security calls for deeper, more inclusive interventions. At Axis Max Life, we remain committed to strengthening this momentum, driving awareness,

and building a more comprehensively protected India."

Axis Max Life is launching the India Protection Quotient 7.0 under the unified narrative of 'Bharosa Talks' that will spotlight India's evolving financial and protection mindset. Through this platform, Axis Max Life aims to amplify real voices across demographics-urban, rural, salaried, gig workers, and retirees-offering authentic insights into how India views protection, planning, and long-term security. As financial anxieties shift over time and aspirations evolve, Bharosa Talks will serve as a critical pulse for industry, regulators, and policymakers to understand emerging consumer priorities.

Tata Motors Inaugurates Advanced Vehicle Scrapping Facility in Kolkata



Kolkata: Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, today launched their registered vehicle scrapping facility (RVSF) in Kolkata. This marks the launch of the company's eighth RVSF across the country. Named 'Re.Wi.Re- Recycle with Respect', this cutting-edge facility is designed to sustainably and safely dismantle up to 21,000 end-of-life vehicles annually. The RVSF will be operated by Tata Motors' partner, Selladale Synergies India Pvt. Ltd, and is equipped to handle the scrapping of passenger and commercial vehicles, along with two-wheelers and three-wheelers, across all brands.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by 'Snehasis Chakraborty, Hon'ble Minister of Transport, Government of West Bengal, Mr. Firhad Hakim, Mayor of Kolkata, Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs, Government of West Bengal, who chaired the event virtually, Dr. Saumitra Mohan, IAS, Secretary, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal and Rajesh Kaul, Vice President & Business Head - Trucks, Tata Motors Commercial Vehicles, along with other dignitaries from the Government of

West Bengal and Tata Motors. The company now operates registered vehicle scrapping centres in Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, Surat, Chandigarh, Delhi NCR, Pune and Guwahati. The Kolkata facility is the third Re.Wi.Re in eastern India, allowing better accessibility to customers in the region.

Inaugurating the facility, Mr. Snehasis Chakraborty, Hon'ble Minister of Transport, Government of West Bengal, said, "The inauguration of Tata Motors' Re.Wi.Re is a welcome step towards building a cleaner and more efficient future for our people. This initiative will also support the adoption of newer, safer energy-efficient vehicles and create circular economy opportunities within the transport sector. We appreciate Tata Motors, Selladale Synergies and all partners involved for bringing this initiative to our state." Commenting on the announcement, Firhad Hakim, Mayor of Kolkata, Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs, Government of West Bengal, said, "The launch of Tata Motors' RVSF reflects a meaningful step towards sustainable development, helping to reduce environmental burden in our state and improve overall well-being.

Routematic Secures US \$40 Mn (INR 340 Cr) Series C Fund Led By Fullerton Carbon Action Fund and Shift4Good

Bangalore: Routematic, India's leading AI-driven Corporate Transport-as-a-Service company, providing full-stack corporate commute serving over 300 corporates across 23 cities in India, today announced that it has secured \$40 million (INR 340 Cr) in Series C funding round led by Fullerton Carbon Action Fund and Shift4Good. Ostara Advisors, India's leading Climate-tech Investment Banking firm, were the exclusive financial advisors to Routematic on this transaction. Founded in 2013, Routematic has consistently been at the forefront of Enterprise mobility solutions, redefining corporate transportation with a blend of AI-driven technology delivering safe and predictable commute experience to over 300,000 employees, 5 Million trips in a month.

India's employee transportation market is expected to reach \$13.2 billion by 2030, driven by factors such as massive business growth in GCCs, focus on employee well-being, and sustainability. Routematic



aims to capitalize on this momentum by scaling its corporate commute services, with plans to expand its fleet to over 10,000 vehicles across the top five cities by March 2026.

With its AI-powered SaaS platform already streamlining corporate transportation, Routematic's next phase focuses on establishing city-level command centers. These hubs will enable demand-responsive fleet management at scale, enhancing the employee commute experience while significantly reducing transportation costs for enterprises. Routematic is also planning to convert 30% of its fleet into EVs to help its clients achieve ESG goals. Sriram Kannan, Founder and CEO of Routematic expressed excitement on the funding: "We are grateful for our investors' trust as we drive the future of corporate transportation. This investment will enable us to capitalize on the growing demand and further strengthen our leadership in sustainable corporate mobility."

Two days 10th Annual Conference of Gastroenterology to be organise in Bhopal

Bhopal: Bhopal Institute of Gastroenterology and Gastrocare Multispeciality Hospital is organising two days 10th Annual Conference on May 10th and 11th. In Association with Indian Society of Gastroenterology (MP Chapter) & supported by Indian Medical Association Greater Bhopal Branch, Association of physician of India M.P. Chapter, Indian Society of Vascular and Interventional Radiology (MP Chapter), Bhopal Haematology Society, Bhopal Surgeon's Club, under the aegis of Gastrocare Foundation at Hotel Courtyard by Marriott, Bhopal.

Dr Sanjay Kumar, organising chairman informed that, Bleeding and thrombosis are two biggest killers along with infections and cancers when we talk about the diseases



which affect humans, Basics of bleeding or thrombosis remain the same irrespective of the affected organ, and it is important to revisit them from time to time. Moreover, there are tremendous ad-

vances in blood bank practices, diagnostic modalities, and management of these conditions. Keeping this in mind, we have kept the theme of our conference as "Vasocon" vascular Events in GI

Tract and Liver. Pick in time and treat them well! Our annual conference, which happens every year on our foundation day, is an endeavor to present a blend of basic sciences and latest developments in the form of practice guidelines. This year, Big Update 2025 will be held on 10th and 11th May. During these two days, we will have Lectures, panel discussions, symposia, debates, challenging cases, and fruitful learning experience. We will have Video workshop instead of live cases - ensuring a more effective and fruitful learning experience. We have invited galaxy of speakers including Gastroenterology, GI surgeons, Hematologists, Interventional Radiologists and Endoscopists from across the country.

MOIL Limited Signs MoU with SBI for Corporate Salary Package

MOIL Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Bank of India (SBI) on 8th May 2025 at MOIL Bhawan, Nagpur to implement the Corporate Salary Package for its regular and contractual employees who hold SBI savings accounts.

The MoU was formally signed by Shri Nitin P. Kajarekar, GM (Finance), & Shri Nitin Pagnis, Jt. GM (Personnel) on behalf of MOIL Limited, and Shri Rajeev Sawrav, DGM (B&O), AO, Nagpur, Maharashtra Circle, SBI.

The signing ceremony was attended by Shri Prashant Karaiya, ED (Technical), Shri Chandrakant Dahe, AGM (Finance) from MOIL, along with Shri Manish Samdarshi, Regional Manager, Smt. Jayata Dayal, AGM, and other senior officials from SBI.

Through this partnership, SBI will extend its Corporate Salary



Package to both permanent and contractual employees of MOIL. Key benefits include Personal Acci-

dental Insurance (covering Permanent and Partial Disability), various fee concessions, and lifestyle privi-

leges—contributing to the overall financial well-being and convenience of MOIL employees.

World University of Design's ANVESHANA 2025 Showcases Indian Knowledge on a Global Stage

New Delhi: World University of Design's School of Performing Arts inaugurated its annual International Performing Arts Conference, ANVESHANA 2025, at the iconic Triveni Kala Sangam in New Delhi. A landmark initiative in the field of Indian arts and academia, the conference opened with great enthusiasm, drawing a confluence of eminent scholars, artists, educators, and students from across the country. This year, ANVESHANA focused on the theme "Indian Knowledge Systems and Performing Arts in a Global Context", exploring how traditional Indian artistic frameworks can engage meaningfully with global perspectives. The theme set the tone for reflective and future-facing dialogues around cultural heritage, artistic innovation, and academic inquiry. The inaugural session began with a welcome address by Vice



Chancellor Dr. Sanjay Gupta, followed by insightful keynote speeches delivered by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi (Member Secretary, Executive and Academic Head (IGNCA), New Delhi) and Shri Prabhat Singh (Theatre and Traditional Arts Connoisseur/Eminent Journalist).

Their addresses emphasized the timeless relevance of Indian Knowledge Systems and the urgent need to integrate contemporary innovations within traditional performance frameworks.