

ISUZU ropes in Jonty Rhodes in India To endorse V-Cross

KOLKATA/SILIGURI, AUG 23—ISUZU-D-MAX V-Cross, Isuzu Motors India has signed on former South African cricketing legend and adventure enthusiast, Jonty Rhodes to promote the brand and V-Cross in India. Jonty drove the V-Cross to mark his association with ISUZU in India in the presence of senior management executives, business partners and media.

"Jonty perfectly represents the brand's values and his association encapsulates what we want to do in this country",



says, Ken Takashima, Deputy Managing Director, Isuzu Motors India. "Jonty Rhodes, an internationally

known sportsman, brings with him unique qualities that differentiated him as a 'game-changer' in the international cricket. He continues to be an active adventurer, surfer and a traveller, endorsing many aspirational traits of the growing Indian population."

Jonty said "I am equally excited to endorse such a versatile vehicle like the V-Cross in India from a world-renowned manufacturer of automobiles.

India is a phenomenal country and I have had the opportunity to be closely associated with this country, doing new things and meeting new people." (EOIC)

Ozmakes Online Visitor Visa application convenient

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, AUG 23—/In mid-2017, the Department of Home Affairs (HA), formerly the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, extended online lodgement of visitor visa applications to all Indian nationals. The online application process provides a more convenient option for those looking to visit Australia, by allowing them to apply for their Australian tourist visa within the comfort of their home, without any biometric requirement or physically submitting their passport to the Department.

Tania Gerlach, Chief Migration Officer, Department of Home Affairs, commented, "Australia has a long history of innovation in its visa services. The expansion of online lodgement to Indian applicants is an important step in managing the large number of visitor visa applications processed in India. Processing times for these visas are now faster, as both applications and supporting documentation are immediately available to the processing office."

Nishant Kashikar, Country Manager, India, Tourism Australia, said, "Travellers today are digitally savvy and are increasingly habituated to a click or a tap to accomplish most tasks each day. Since the digital medium is now widely used in all aspects of travel planning, we see the introduction of online visitor visa lodgement as a progressive and innovative measure to ease travel logistics. In addition to destination delights to woo potential tourists, ease of access is usually seen as a catalyst that drives decision making. Going digital for visa facilitation is a huge convenience for travellers and further strengthens the appeal of Australia in attracting a higher share of visitors from India."

BSE signs MoU with Bengal govt

KOLKATA, AUG 23—/BSE has signed a MoU with the Government of West Bengal to create awareness among SMEs of the benefits of listing. MoU was signed on August 21st, 2018. Through this MoU, Department of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles (Dept. Of MSME & T), Government of West Bengal in association with Chamber of Commerce and Industry Associations and BSE will facilitate building capacity of the state MSME sector through a series of handholding workshops / seminars to create awareness among state SMEs on the various benefits / opportunities of listing in exclusive SME platform. Ajay Thakur, Head of BSE SME platform said, "The awareness about the benefits of listing on SME exchange is very less. There has been a myth that only large companies can get listed. West Bengal being the largest hub of SMEs will benefit immensely because of this MoU. This MoU will facilitate the SMEs of West Bengal in coming on BSE SME Platform and raise funds which will further help them in unlocking their value, help in marketing and brand building. This MoU will also help in creating strong balance sheet and increasing transparency in the company." (EOIC)

Barocks Club launched

KOLKATA, AUG 23—/Barocks Club, the latest addition to the tech hub of the city was launched by the glamorous Nusrat Jahan along with Culinary Consultant Chef Jayanta Banerjee and Amlan Chowdhury, Director of Barocks Club at Godrej Waterside, Sector V, Salt Lake today. The occasion witnessed the unveiling of the logo of this unique lounge cum nightclub. Mr Chowdhury said "We wanted to create a new hangout for the people of Kolkata with a classy decor and a good environment with excellent service. We at Barocks Club aim at offering a unique and first of its kind experience- music, food and the atmosphere to fitness lovers in the coming years. I look forward to strengthen our presence in more parts of Kolkata to new levels of success." (EOIC)

Govt allows oxytocin sale through private chemists

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 23—/Setting aside its ban on the sale of oxytocin, the Health Ministry has allowed private retail shops to sell the life-saving hormone from September 1, an official said on Thursday.

The ministry in its notification dated April 27 had stated that sale of oxytocin through private retail chemists would be banned from July 1 and that the drug would be sold only in government hospitals and clinics. Later, it deferred the implementation of the ban till September 1. "All retail sale shops are permitted to sell oxytocin," the official said.

The government has restricted the manufacture of oxytocin formulations for domestic use to just one public sector company.

State-owned Karnataka Antibiotics Pvt Ltd (KAPL) will be the only company to manufacture and distribute oxytocin in India from September 1. In a meeting on August 6, the ministry had asked the state governments and Union territories to place purchase orders with KAPL to ensure that there is no shortage of oxytocin injections in government hospitals and clinics. Oxytocin is a naturally-occurring hormone that causes uterine contractions during labour and helps new mothers lactate. But its misuse is widespread in the dairy industry where livestock are injected with oxytocin to make them release milk at a time convenient to farmers. The hormone is also used to increase the size of vegetables such as pumpkins, watermelons, brinjals, gourds and cucumbers. The government has already banned the import of oxytocin and its formulations.

SAIL CMD visits DSP & ASP



DURGAPUR, AUG 23—/Saraswati Prasad, IAS, Special Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India with additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director, SAIL, visited Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) & Alloy Steels Plant (ASP). He visited Wheel & Axle Plant, Medium Structural Mill and other facilities in DSP. In ASP, he visited Steel Melting, Forge Shop, Blooming Mill, A K Rath, CEO, DSP accompanied Mr Prasad during

the entire visit. In a meeting with the senior officials of DSP & ASP, Mr Prasad appreciated the initiatives and efforts taken in DSP in recent times for better performance. He congratulated the collective for bouncing back in the path of profitability. He participated in a mass tree plantation at Vasundhara – the SAIL Biodiversity Park – being developed by Durgapur Steel Plant. (EOIC)

Trump says mkt would 'crash' if he was impeached

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 23—/President Donald Trump said in an interview aired Thursday that the US economy would collapse if he was impeached.

"I will tell you what, if I ever got impeached, I think the market would crash. I think everybody would be very poor," Trump told Fox & Friends. Trump was responding to a question on his mounting legal woes after his former attorney Michael Cohen said under oath that Trump instructed him to commit a felony by breaking US campaign finance laws. (AFP)

News in Brief

Mahindra Lifespace's 5th housing project

CHENNAI, AUGUST 23—/Mahindra Lifespace Developers Thursday announced its fifth housing project at the 1,500-acre integrated green township Mahindra World City here.

The project 'Lakewood' would have 747 apartments spread across 9.33 acres. Mahindra Lifespace said in a regulatory filing. "Tamil Nadu Real Estate Regulatory Authority (TNRERA) approval has been obtained for the first phase of the project, consisting of 249 units," it said, adding that the project would be developed in three phases over a period of six years.

ATS group sells 975 flats

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 23—/Realty firm ATS group has sold 975 flats worth Rs 1,000 crore during the last three months on improved housing demand, a senior company official said on Thursday.

The sales figure also includes that of Homekraft, its JV firm with HDFC Capital. Earlier, Gaura group, another major developer in the National Capital Region (NCR), had reported sales of over 5,000 properties worth Rs 2,000 crore during the last four months.

Godrej Nature's Basket eyes Rs 10b turnover

Mumbai, August 23—/Godrej Nature's Basket is targeting a turnover of Rs 10 billion through inorganic growth by financial year 2019-20, a top company executive said. It has also picked up minority stake in Goa's retail chain Magsons group, as an undisclosed amount, as part of its expansion strategy, said Anil Davda, managing director of Godrej Nature's Basket. (PTI)

Purti offers "Meraki"

KOLKATA, AUG 23—/Purti Realty introduced Meraki, the luxurious weekend homes, completed by a beautiful virgin lake, lush green landscape and a tranquil and peaceful environment. Spread across a vast area, the Palatial Meraki is located on the Durgapur Expressway, an hour's drive from the city of Kolkata. Meraki offers patrons an opportunity to enjoy a private and intimate living experience, away from the hectic schedule of the city life.



been made for the patrons and their guests to enjoy additional parking spaces at events and important occasions. The property enjoys its space with one of the renowned iconic five-star resort properties of the world, known for its opulence and marvelous services. (EOIC/Photo: Ashok Sarkar)

Nokia 6.1 Plus and Nokia 5.1 available

KOLKATA, AUG 23—/HMD Global announced the availability of Nokia 6.1 Plus and Nokia 5.1 Plus on Flipkart and Nokia.com/Phones. Juho Sarvikas, Chief Product Officer at HMD Global, said: "Today, we are offering two new smartphones - Nokia 6.1 Plus and Nokia 5.1 Plus - offering the latest innovations such as an all-screen design with the quality you can only expect from a Nokia smartphone. Powered by the latest chips and joining the Android One family, both phones deliver a great performance, as well as smart AI imaging features, you would expect from a premium smartphone." Ajeet Mehta, Vice President and Country Head - India, HMD Global, said: "The launch of Nokia 6.1 Plus and Nokia 5.1 Plus represents an important milestone for us in India. We have a strong presence in the offline space and with these phones today, we are strengthening our reach to our online consumers and their needs." (EOIC)

MCX partners with WIRC of ICAI To strengthen commodity risk management practices

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA/MUMBAI, AUG 23—/As part of its outreach initiatives to sensitize businesses, especially SMEs, about the impact of commodity price risks and the need for appropriate risk management, Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX) is partnering with the Western India Regional Council (WIRC) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the largest Regional Council of ICAI.

The initiative envisages the institutions to jointly conduct knowledge sharing conferences, interactive sessions, webinars, providing study materials that take into cognizance various commodity market developments and other activities to connect with diverse stakeholder groups including practicing chartered accountants, CFOs and also the corporates and SMEs. And as an endeavor towards knowledge enhancement and capacity building the entities would conduct workshops for CA students, providing them a platform to benefit from the leaders in the industry. Mrugank Paranjape, MD and CEO, MCX said, "I am glad to have an institute of nationwide reckoning and reach, such as the WIRC of ICAI, partnering with us in creating and sharing knowledge about commodity derivatives market. Leveraging

the Institute's large membership base, wide-spread presence and multifarious activities, we wish to connect to with the personnel who are at the core of the business and finance in our country. It has been our constant endeavor to reach out to a multitude of stakeholders exposed to commodity price risks, and thereby, contribute in the cultivation of a culture of commodity price risk management amongst Indian corporate businesses and prepare them for the mandatory disclosure regime". CA Sandeep K. C. Jain, Chairman, WIRC of ICAI said, "The Regional Conference is the most important event of WIRC and this year it is being held with the theme 'Enhance & Achieve'. While being attended by more than thousand members, the idea behind the conference is to give all the members a platform for networking and sharing of ideas which helps mutual growth and development of members across the globe. I feel proud that in the present era our profession is modernizing and progressing at a steady pace. With this background, WIRC's understanding with MCX augurs well as this collaborative endeavor to deepen and widen the market through knowledge building initiatives would be a big move in the growth and development of businesses of all scale that contribute significantly to the country's GDP and employment".

Patnaik opens 2 mfg units, lays foundation of 13 others

BHUBANESWAR, AUGUST 23—/Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Thursday inaugurated two new manufacturing units and laid the foundation stones for 13 plants in the state, totalling an investment of Rs 2,901.20 crore, which were inaugurated by Patnaik through video-conferencing, include Grasim Industries Ltd's 33,000 mtpa caustic soda facility in Ganjam district, built at an investment of Rs 110 crore, and Jyoti Solar Solution's Rs 57.7 crore solar power plant in Bolangir district. The chief minister laid the foundation stones of OCL Ltd's Rs 199.98 crore cement plant in Sundergarh district, Hindustan Urban Infrastructure's Rs 389-crore wire drawing of aluminium insulated wires and cable manufacturing unit in Khurda district, IFPCO's private railway siding (Rs 63.55 crore) and Jajpur Cement plant (Rs 63.5 crore), among others. (PTI)

Weather Report

	MinTemp.	MaxTemp.	Weather
Gangtok			
24-Aug, 2018	19.0	22.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	18.0	22.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	18.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	18.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	18.0	23.0	Rain or Thundershowers
29-Aug, 2018	18.0	23.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Gyalshing			
24-Aug, 2018	19.0	25.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	19.0	25.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	19.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	19.0	27.0	Rain or thundershowers would occur towards afternoon or evening
28-Aug, 2018	19.0	27.0	Rain or Thundershowers
29-Aug, 2018	19.0	27.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Mangan			
24-Aug, 2018	20.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	20.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	20.0	28.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	20.0	29.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	21.0	29.0	Rain or Thundershowers
29-Aug, 2018	21.0	29.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Namchi			
24-Aug, 2018	20.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	20.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	20.0	25.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	20.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	20.0	26.0	Rain or Thundershowers
29-Aug, 2018	20.0	26.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Tadong			
24-Aug, 2018	20.0	28.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	20.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	21.0	28.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	21.0	29.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	21.0	29.0	Rain or Thundershowers
29-Aug, 2018	21.0	29.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Darjeeling			
24-Aug, 2018	15.0	19.0	Generally cloudy sky with Heavy rain
25-Aug, 2018	15.0	19.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	14.0	20.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	15.0	20.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	15.0	21.0	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain or Thundersorm
29-Aug, 2018	15.0	20.0	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain or Thundersorm

Source: IMD