



The Middle East stands out among the many potential channels around the globe offering significant opportunities in the online fashion segment, according to **Amar Nagaram**, CEO of **Myntra**. The fashion brand naturally chose that geography for the demographic profile of the audience it offers, the extremely high mobile penetration, a large population of Indian origin and the similarity in fashion preferences, he says. Myntra, which has just tied up with the region's leading e-commerce platforms noon.com and namshi.com to offer brands of Indian



origin in those markets, is looking forward to a five-time growth from these new

partnerships over the next two years. "This overseas expansion is a significant milestone in our journey so far and marks the next phase of growth for Myntra," he says. Both Noon and Namshi are a part of the UAE-based Emaar group. Noon is a horizontal e-commerce platform with offerings in multiple categories, while Namshi is a vertical platform, focussing primarily on fashion in the premium segment. "We will continue to explore new markets in order to build brands of international repute and expand our base of global consumers," Nagaram adds. u

With around 350 clinics across 24 cities, **Clove Dental**, the largest dental care chain in the country, has over the last decade or so, played a big role in the organised dental care landscape in India. The Delhi-based multi-specialty dental care chain provides complete dental care solutions with a focus on quality dentistry with strict adherence to the highest standards of hygiene. Backed by HNIs and foreign investors, the company, since it set up its first clinic in Delhi, has already deployed over \$100 million in ramping up its capacity and network in India, where the dental care market is still in a transition mode. In the last couple of months, the chain has once again opened up its clinics (though in a staggered manner), adopting enhanced safety protocols and using WHO guidelines to ensure 100 per cent sterile environment and patient safety. The chain has also introduced a new, tele-dentistry service. In fact, despite the ongoing challenging scenario, it is looking to further strengthen its network, adding around 250 clinics in the next 2-3 years. "Dental care in India has traditionally been devoid of quality and standards. There has also been an acute lack of awareness among patients about safety, hygiene and technology protocols. We are all set to revolutionise the Indian dental care ecosystem with our world-class solutions," says **Amarinder Singh**, founder & CEO of Clove Dental. u



Make way, meat: plant-based protein has arrived. "Global markets have seen a surge in demand for more sustainable and humane alternatives in food, materials

and non-animal experimental models," according to **Alokparna Sengupta**, managing director of **Humane Society International** (HSI), India, who announced the first-of-its-kind humane entrepreneurship programme for manufacturers of next-generation materials that replace animals to exploit the vast potential in this field. The six-month mentoring programme, for five chosen start-ups focused on a humane and sustainable impact on the planet, will end with an opportunity for the participants to pitch to "like-minded, mission-aligned investors to secure funding", she says. HSI

will enable these entrepreneurs to scale humane businesses and help them to create viable market alternatives for animal-based products. The programme will include one-on-one mentoring with world-renowned entrepreneurs and workshops with experts and industry stakeholders. The innovations of the participants in the programme will change the way we eat, what we wear and how we bring products to market, Sengupta predicts. These alternatives are still a niche sector in India, but there are several such established and growing humane businesses – and they are on the rise, she adds. u



The low-profile **Chocko Valliappa** is a happy man with his **Vee Technologies** having bagged a spot among the top healthcare employers in 2020 in *Modern Healthcare's*

global rankings. The IT services company, co-headquartered in New York and Bengaluru, is focused on the healthcare and insurance sector. "We work with over 150 US hospitals, including six of the top 20, helping them handle clinical coding and manage their revenue cycles," explains Valliappa, its founder CEO and MD. "We are particularly pleased that this recognition has come at a time when the global healthcare industry is navigating through the Covid-19 pandemic." *Modern Healthcare* is a 44-year-old weekly business publication from Detroit, US, targeting executives in the healthcare industry. Its

recognition programme honours companies in the healthcare industry that empower employees so they can provide patients and customers with the best possible care, products and services. This year, the companies have been selected using multiple criteria, including how they navigated the Covid-19 pandemic crisis. Vee Technologies' team works in tandem with hospitals and insurance companies in the US with the new-age Medicare plan that incentivises people to stay healthy. It is the only company in the list with development centres in India at Bengaluru, Salem and Chennai. u

“All of mankind across the globe is suffering in the wake of the Covid-19 outbreak. While there is no medicine for Covid-19 as of now, enhancing the body’s natural defence system plays an important role in maintaining optimum health”, explains **Athang Jain**, director of **Jain Farm Fresh Foods** which has one of the largest spice processing facilities in India. Its 24,000-tonne facility is certified by the National Organic Program (NOP) for the United States, National Program for Organic Production (NPOP) for India and EU Organic



for the European Union. “To assist people in taking preventive measures which boost our immunity in these

times, JFFFL’s brand, Valley Spice, has launched Aayush Kadha. It contains spices like holy basil (*tulsi*), dry ginger (*soonth*), black pepper (*kali miri*) and cinnamon (*dal chini*) which have unique bioactive compounds that help natural immunity building and health. “Spices play an important role in enhancing the body’s natural defence system and maintaining optimum health. These ingredients are specifically endorsed by the AYUSH ministry and are among the potential combinations of spices that can help against various air-borne viruses by boosting immunity”.



It is one of the biggest real estate deals post the lockdown. India’s leading luxury developer, **Sunteck Realty Ltd** (SRL) has acquired a prime project of approximately 50 acres in Vasai (West), having a development potential of nearly 4.5 mn sq ft. The project will have a revenue potential of ₹5,000 crore over the next 5-7 years, strengthening the cash flow and the balance sheet of the company. “This project is the perfect example of our philosophy of making research-based, value-added acquisitions. The project will largely cater to the mid-income segment, especially post Covid-19 scenario, since it fulfils the emerging customer needs: residential premises that complements today’s luxurious lifestyle and suit the requirements for Work From Home (WFH)”, explains **Kamal Khetan**, CMD, SRL. “Despite the preceding economic slowdown and the subsequent impact of Covid-19, Sunteck has kept the pace of development and its promise to the home buyers to deliver quality homes. We will continue to reward our investors through acquisition of such value deals,” he adds. SRL boasts of a city-centric development portfolio of about 31 million sq ft, spread across 26 projects. SRL has differentiated its projects under five brands namely, Signature, uber luxury residences; Signia, ultra luxury residences; Sunteck City, premium luxury residences; Sunteck World, aspirational luxury residences and Sunteck commercial & retail developments.



“From building technology for the country’s largest public bank to building India’s own super app-meet,” is what **Rajesh Krishnamurthy**, a graduate of IIT-Mumbai and IIM-Lucknow, and a project leader at **Elyments**, explains the company’s transformation. Indians

recently witnessed the launch of a completely home grown social media networking platform in the form of a super app called Elyments. The app was launched by Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu. The app has been developed by 1,000 Indian techies with an objective to provide an overarching social networking platform that is owned and run in India. “With all the debate about privacy and data ownership, a key feature about the app is, data of users is stored securely in India and all its servers are located here,” says Krishnamurthy. The app developers say, “Elyments has been built keeping user’s privacy in mind, as a primary concern. The nation’s top privacy professionals have been guiding the design of

the product. Krishnamurthy has been associated with the tech industry for over 25 years now, he was involved in building the technology for OnlineSBI which is among the top 10 most transacted Websites in India. Elyments is being hosted exclusively in India with Tata Telecommunications, and the data is stored securely inside India, with end to end encryption, unlike most other global social media sites. Today Elyments has exceeded 2 million downloads on Google Play and App Store, despite a malicious DDoS attack that threatened to overburden the system, just within four hours of the app launch. The app has been trending among the top 3 in the social media category.

Julius Lim, founder and CEO, **CompAsia**, intends to take the company to the next level, enroute to becoming the next tech unicorn from Asia with a NASDAQ listing in the pipeline. Partnering regional Apple stores, Samsung and multiple telcos; CompAsia currently dominates the mobile device lifecycle management in Southeast Asia. “People are getting more dependent on smartphones, to the extent that we have become inseparable from our devices. In 2019 alone, 97 million handsets



were purchased in Southeast Asia, raking in \$23 billion for

the industry. While demand in other regions declined, sales in ASEAN countries increased by 4 per cent with the highest growth coming from Malaysia and Thailand. With this exponential growth and broader adoption of mobile devices it has drastically impacted their lifecycle, creating new areas of market opportunity for CompAsia,” says Lim. “It is the company’s mission to maximise the affordability of smart devices and minimise e-waste through recycle and reuse of smart devices,” he concludes.