



Living an urban green lifestyle. PAGE 4 & 5

# PALAVA TIMES

Citizens' achievements PAGE 8

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QUARTERLY CIRCULATION

WORK.

## HDFC BANK COMES TO PALAVA

The first commercial tower of Palava now houses HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank. The building will also host the office of Zone Startups India, a partner in Palava's Accelerator programme, who will play an instrumental role in mentoring over 25 start-ups at the new office soon.

With increased job creation in the area, this partnership is the ideal start for Palava's emergence as a new economic hub for companies across BFSI, IT/ITes, Media, startups among other industries. With lower operational costs, high-quality living, 3 operational high-quality schools, malls, parks, sports facilities and more, Palava will become the model of 'WORK-LIVE-LEARN-PLAY'. Ms. Ashima Bhat, Group Head -

Business Finance and Strategy, Administration, and Infrastructure says, "HDFC Bank endeavours to provide convenience and experience to customers across locations including upcoming business districts. We are happy to launch our new back-office at Palava to support our operations. The city's intelligent infrastructure, access to a captive talent pool, day-to-day city management by PCMA and a host of other amenities makes it a favourable destination".

The Lodha Group has planned 7 million sq. ft. of office spaces in the upcoming business district, 0.20 million sq. ft. of high-street retail in addition to the existing Xperia Mall and 120-acre Grade-A warehousing/non-polluting manufacturing park.



## PALAVA'S FIRST COMMERCIAL TOWER GEARS UP FOR PALAVA ACCELERATOR

Palava Accelerator, in partnership with Zone Startups India (ZSI), is geared to set up its new headquarters at Palava's first commercial tower. Through this office, it plans to help identify new age technology companies and provides them a platform to work with the city.

Currently Palava Accelerator has helped three Palava citizens develop their business ideas into products. Over 400 citizens have attended workshops and mentor sessions on topics such

as Artificial Intelligence, Digital Marketing and more. Eight start-up ideas have been incubated and three have been implemented as Smart City solutions.

With the new office, Palava Accelerator plans to conduct more events and workshops to encourage new start-ups within the city. It also plans to work in collaboration with schools in and around Palava to encourage the skill of innovation in little minds.

## FROM THE CEO'S DESK

We are excited to onboard India's largest private sector bank - HDFC at Palava. Our quality infrastructure and ease of doing business is best suited for the needs. This partnership also manifests our vision to turn Palava into an economic hub by boosting job

creation within the region. Companies will have access to a captive talent pool of over 2.5 lac (as per Manpower Report) highly qualified professionals living in and around Palava. With the exemplary social infrastructure in place, the city will also offer a walk-to-work and

sustainable ecosystem ensuring a healthier and productive lifestyle for all the employees.

**Shaishav Dharia**  
CEO, Palava.  
Thoughts and comments are welcome at [palava.times@pcma.in](mailto:palava.times@pcma.in)





WORK.

# PALAVA ACCELERATOR'S IDEATHON BECOMES THE PERFECT PLATFORM FOR START-UPS

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018, Palava Accelerator began the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of its flagship event for idea stage companies and startup enthusiasts in and around Palava, Ideathon. Through this programme, entrepreneurs undergo a one-month intensive startup boot camp to develop minimum viable products (MVPs) from the ideas. This edition saw over 60 applicants and 165 applications during the year from Bengaluru, Delhi and Hyderabad from which 10 ideas were selected to pitch on the event day. Selected ideas included:

**INTERFACE:** An Artificial Intelligence start-up working on a smart mirror to better understand facial features and recommend hairstyles, clothes, etc. This will enable doing targeted advertisements in commercial spaces based on the demographics.

**IAID:** A healthcare company, aspiring to make customised first aid kits and a helpline for any on-the-spot medical queries that is accessible for everyone.



**VEMOOT:** An online discussion platform that enables its users to have conversations & discussions to help build informed opinions.

What's more, five start-ups found relevance and collaboration opportunities in a range of solutions within Palava, including Smart Outdoor Lighting (Utopia Tech), Home Automation (Phynart), Sludge Management (Madon), Robotic Customised Furniture Design (Orangewood) and Energy Analytics (Minion Labs).

“ I have been associated with Palava Accelerator through their Ideathon initiative since December last year & since then they have been a positive influence towards the growth of our venture. Lodha Palava is having an amazing foresight in creating a conducive ecosystem for the entrepreneurs staying in the township, serving the community here and beyond. Their partnership with Zone Startups India is just the right kind of a shot in the arm for start-ups like ours because they bring in their amazing pool of mentors who have given us insights which are imperative for business growth. Additionally, their weekly sessions on various topics induces a dose of positivity that is much needed for early-stage ventures. Palava Accelerator has also provided us with great infrastructure which helps us run our daily work smoothly. ”

**SWARUP PATIL**  
-Founder of Petsgully



“ Palava Accelerator gave us the right platform at the right time to start building our vision. It always pushed us to perform more and helped us to achieve the milestones. Within 3 months, we networked with several companies and got an opportunity to validate our product. All the workshops that we participated in this programme, helped us to define our roadmap and validate our situation at every stage. ”

**VIJAYCHANDRA TANNEERU**  
- Co-founder of Neuronet Bots Pvt Ltd

For opportunities & support to build your startups, apply to Ideathon [www.palavaaccelerator.com](http://www.palavaaccelerator.com) or reach out to [dhruv@zonestartups.com](mailto:dhruv@zonestartups.com)

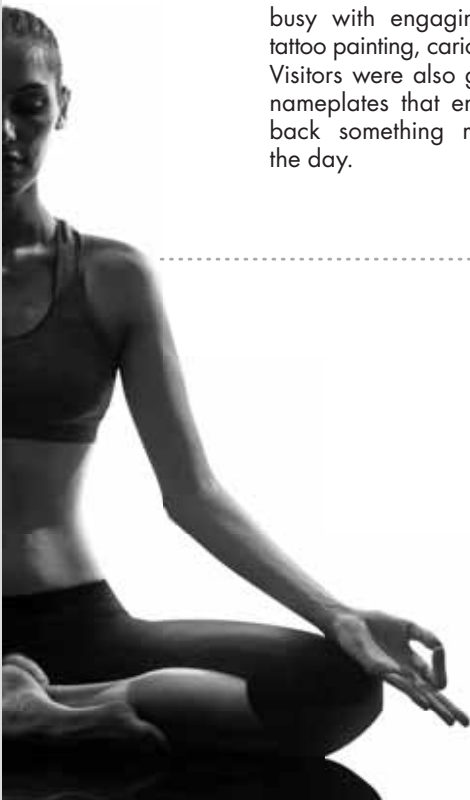




LIVE.

# LAKESHORE CLUB OPENS ITS DOORS

Residents of Lakeshore Greens enjoyed a great weekend as the Lakeshore Club opened its doors to them. Over 2000 visitors were given guided tours of the club, showcasing the state-of-the-art facilities like the gymnasium, crèche, theatre and banquet hall, along with the surrounding neighbourhood, while the little ones were kept busy with engaging activities like tattoo painting, caricatures and more. Visitors were also given customised nameplates that ensured they took back something memorable from the day.



## THE CITY CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

Citizens of Palava came together to bring in International Yoga Day, on 21<sup>st</sup> June, with a special yoga session. Held at Lakeshore Club on 17<sup>th</sup> June, the session saw over 100 active participants come together to become at one with their inner self.



## ENTERTAINING AND RELAXING WEEKENDS

Weekends at Palava were all about relaxing and spending quality time with friends and family at Lakeside Park. With blockbuster films like Baahubali: The Beginning and Baahubali: The Conclusion playing in the park, residents actively came together for the open-air movie screening and enjoyed a magical night under the stars.



LIVE!

# PALAVIANS BRING OUT THEIR LOVE FOR NATURE

Palava has become the perfect destination for nature lovers. With multiple nature walks and exciting workshops for gardening and kitchen composting, residents and nature enthusiasts have enjoyed exploring their green side.

On 8<sup>th</sup> July, citizens also participated in the terrarium workshop where they learnt how to make low-maintenance gardens that can last for quite a long time with minimum water. Visitors were shown how these self-contained ecosystems survive so well on their own and how to look after them.



## WORLD BICYCLE DAY TAKES THE CITY BY STORM



Citizens of Palava found the perfect way to celebrate World Bicycle Day as they actively participated in the special treasure hunt, conducted in association with PEDL. Over a hundred participants were seen getting on the green bicycles and cycling through the various nooks and corners of the city, while competing with one another. The event was deemed a huge success and also elaborated on Palava's vision to be a 'pedestrian-friendly' city where one can walk or cycle to any place.



## CITIZENS AIM FOR A SWACHH PALAVA, GREEN PALAVA

We all have the power to give back to nature, empower people and restore hope by taking one step forward at a time for the betterment of our environment. Palavians recognised this fact and joined together to be a part of a movement that would help keep the city clean. While the rains kept pouring down on them, they spent two Sundays of July, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, cleaning the streets and neighbourhoods of Palava. They also helped make it greener by participating in the tree plantation drive.





LIVE!

# DANCING ONE'S WAY TO 'STAR'DOM AT XPERIA MALL

Xperia Star, the premier dance platform to recognise the dancing star of the region, kicked off on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018, at Xperia Mall, Palava. With over 2000 participants enthralling the lively audience with their exhilarating dance performances, the judges – Piyush Sen and Kunal Jain had a tough time choosing the finalists from the 3 different age groups, for the grand finale that was held on 1<sup>st</sup> July. The rains created the perfect atmosphere for the grand finale as the judges were kept on their toes with the

mind-blowing performances on display. The audience came out in full support of their friends & families. After a majestic display, little Aneesh Tattikota won the Age 4 – 10 category, Vaishnavi More won the Age 11 – 17 category and Prashant Rahate stood tall in the 18+ age category and they were awarded a dance scholarship each from Piyush Dance Academy. Overall, the talent, skills and the vibes were quite infectious, with the audience clapping and cheering their friends and families with a lot of flair.



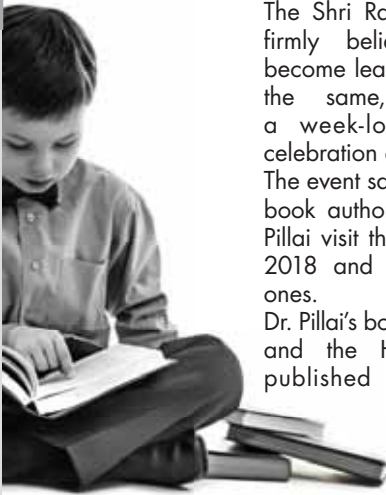
## KIDS WELCOME THE RAINS WITH A DOSE OF CREATIVITY

The children of Palava found a creative way to welcome the rains with a special umbrella painting workshop conducted by artist Amol Satre. The workshop saw dozens of kids bring out their artistic side as they painted their favourite designs and colours on an umbrella.





## BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS AT THE SHRI RAM UNIVERSAL SCHOOL



The Shri Ram Universal School firmly believes that readers become leaders. To corroborate the same, they conducted a week-long 'Book Week' celebration at the school itself. The event saw popular children's book author Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai visit the school on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 and read to the young ones. Dr. Pillai's book Chatur Chanakya and the Himalayan Problem published by Puffin books

was released on that day and students from Grade 1 to Grade 6 sat enthralled as he read a few excerpts from the book and ably illustrated the art of story-telling. Reading books forms an integral part of the school programme at TSUS Palava. A 15-minute daily reading activity entitled DEAR (Drop Everything & Read) ensures that all students are actively engaged in reading and become lifelong readers.



## CHILDREN DOODLE TO BUILD NEW DREAMS



Palava became host to the Doodle-A-Dream contest, where children from the age group of 5 to 15 were invited to showcase their artistic side by doodling the city of their dreams. The event saw an overwhelming participation of over 3,000 children from schools across Thane, Navi Mumbai, Kalyan and Dombivali. Conducted in two phases, the event included encouraging children to share their ideas along with a tour of Lakeshore Greens for them to draw it from memory. While the top 50 winners were given

certificates, the top 10 also received scholarships worth up to ₹95,000. Saloni Patki was declared winner while Pratika Rastogi and Sujit Nair were identified as first and second runners up respectively. The contest showcased Palava's promise to promote the holistic well-being of a child. Be it world-class education, sports or giving the young ones an opportunity to hone their creative skills, Palava aims at developing a platform that these young ones can explore.

## TRAINING TOMORROW'S EDUCATORS

The Lodha Institute of Teacher Education (LITE) is a place where adults who are interested in the sphere of Education get to learn, observe, conduct research and qualify to become mentors to young children through a variety of certification courses. The aim is to help interested adults identify their passion towards teaching and start looking at teaching as a wholesome profession with a deep responsibility of shaping young minds. With a specially designed curriculum

that includes a hands-on module, the course allows candidates to experience a live classroom as a part of their training. Now, the curriculum includes a Diploma certification in Early Childhood Care and Education for interested candidates wanting to pursue a career as a pre-primary teacher.

Visit the Lodha World School or connect on 0251 6696322 for further details.





PLAY.

## THE TABLE TENNIS CHAMPS OF PALAVA



Keeping the joint family tradition alive and living up to its image of togetherness, TTC- Palava once again displayed its constant endeavour to uphold a sense of oneness by successfully organising yet another tournament, this time in the memory of Kiran Prakash, a resident of Palava and a passionate table tennis player.

Supported by the Senior Citizen Foundation and family members of Mr. Kiran Prakash, the tournament saw 80 people participate and play around 267 matches in a span of 2 days at 2 different venues in Palava. The newest addition to the venues was Lakeshore Greens, where the lovely ambience and feel good

atmosphere brought more smiles to the faces of members and participants.

Divyam Dama took the title of the Under 12 champion while Rushil L was the Under 18 group winner. The team championships were taken by Pooja More, Rushil L, Agrim Vaibhav and Bala Iyer.

## HEALTHY COMPETITION - ON LAND AND IN WATER



Residents of Palava participated in the ultimate race for superiority with the Aquathlon championship. The event saw children, youngsters and adults participate and try their best to win.

Consisting of a continuous, two-stage race involving swimming followed by running, the event proved to be a great hit among Palavians as they explored their healthier side

to the fullest.

Young Aashna Joshi and Vaibhav Vashisht took the titles for the Under 6 category for girls and boys respectively, while Anvesha Singh and Aron Mathew took the titles for the Under 10 category. Vihaan Chaudhary was crowned the winner in the Under 8 category.

Among the young adults, Shinjini Sengupta won the Under

12 girls' title and Anshuman Vashisht won it for the boys. Ayushi Ganatra took the Under 14 girls' title.

Janhavi Sakhalkar proved her mettle among the adults and won the Open Women title, while Abhilash G was declared the champion in the Open Men's category.





## NEW LESSONS IN PERSEVERANCE - VANDANA TANDON

For many years, sports has been for men because it's all about speed and strength. But now, women are taking it on and actively embracing the attributes of its unique qualities. One shining example from Palava is Vandana Tandon. Popularly known in Palava as

'Vandy', this school teacher has defied the odds and become a role model for Palava runners in the last year. Mother to a college going son, she has successfully managed to maintain the balance between her family and work while still following her passion to run.



“ I was always an active child. In school, I would always look out for excuses to leave studies behind and all kinds of outdoor activities became the perfect front for it. I joined the NCC so I also had basic training in a number of sports. ”

**VANDANA**

While work and family kept her life occupied, Vandana decided to delve into her passion for running when she moved to Palava two years ago. “At first I would walk around the buildings because I was embarrassed that people would see me run. Then, when I saw that no one was around, I would start running. In those days I could easily manage up to 5 km.”

Her passion was given wings when she was noticed by a few citizens who encouraged her to begin participating in marathons. Initially, despite her training, she knew she wasn't going to get the time she wanted. But that too changed and she got a chance to participate in the marathon of her dreams, the 21 km run in the 2018 Mumbai Marathon.

“ She has a tremendous willpower, so I knew she was going to finish really well. She wanted to start with a smaller distance, but I pushed her to try for 21km. I'm really glad I did. ”

**VANDANA'S HUSBAND**

Vandana teaches Hindi to students of Don Bosco school in Matunga. Her day typically begins at 4 am and includes an hour of training, cooking for her family, travelling to work and running again if she has the time. Be it her students, colleagues, family and friends, she has a long list of supporters who are only too happy to see her succeed in all walks of life.

But Vandana credits her success to Palava. “For me, this place is perfect. It has given me so much encouragement. The residents here are more like family and the facilities available make sure that I'm training with the best. At Palava, I have space, I feel safe and I can run without worrying

about traffic.”

Today, she has become an inspiration for women runners in Palava. The running club, of which she is an active member, embarks on marathons across the city. Vandana is still running, and she hopes to do the Mumbai Marathon again in 2019, and this time in the 42 km stretch. Beyond that, she has plans to continue following all her passions, be it cooking, travelling with family, teaching and more. Her motto for the run is simple: “Go slow in the first half, but when you see the end in sight, take off, because you're almost there.”



## QUICK SOLVE

- The first commercial tower of Palava now houses \_\_\_\_ Bank - India's leading private sector bank. (4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ is an Artificial Intelligence start-up working on a Smart Mirror to better understand facial features and recommend hairstyles, clothes, makeup, etc. (9)
- Xperia \_\_\_\_\_ was a premier dance platform held in Xperia Mall, Palava to recognise the dancing star of the region. (4)
- An \_\_\_\_\_ is a continuous, two-stage race involving swimming followed by running recently held in Palava. (9)
- International Yoga Day is held on \_\_ June, which saw the citizens of Palava participating with a lot of flair. (2)
- With lower operational costs, high-quality living, 3 operational high-quality schools, malls, parks, sports facilities and more, Palava will become the model of 'Work-Live-\_\_\_\_-Play'. (5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a healthcare company, aspiring to make customised first aid kits and a helpline for any on-the-spot medical queries that is accessible for everyone. (4)

Send in your answers to [palava.times@pcma.in](mailto:palava.times@pcma.in) | Winners of the previous quiz are: Azazahmed Shaikh, Naresh Kumar, Abhinav Saini, Arwa Poonawala, and Jimmy John

