

Cargills Supporting Local SMEs

10th Cargills 'Village to Home' programme successfully conducted at Kadawatha

The pandemic has caused many challenges to the agriculture and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) across Sri Lanka. Among the challenges was a lack of market access. The Cargills 'Village to Home' programme was launched with the intention of addressing this issue and supporting the country's SMEs by providing them with a platform to engage with a larger network of customers.

The programme is a monthly trade fair at Cargills FoodCity premises, which commenced in the latter part of 2020, for selected SMEs with demarcated stalls to sell their products directly to customers. Cargills bears all expenses related to this programme, including the cost of stalls, utilities, and marketing. To date, over 90 SMEs have taken part in the programme.

In addition to a marketplace and an added source of income, Cargills also provides technical support to the



Chief Guest Director General - Development and Finance - Ministry of Finance, Geetha Wimalaweera with Yamuna Kumari from Cargills Village to Home Team

SMEs in terms of packaging, labelling and quality assurance, while the Cargills Bank provides financing through low-cost loan schemes. SMEs

also stand an opportunity to get their products listed at Cargills while the programme has also been able to open markets beyond Sri Lanka for

some SMEs. Cargills is committed to assisting entrepreneurs to contribute towards national development.

The 10th programme of Cargills 'Village to Home' was successfully conducted on 26 and 27 February at the Kadawatha-3 Cargills FoodCity premises. The 10th programme had an exciting array of products on offer ranging from ayurvedic beauty products, coconut oil and coconut-based products, aloe vera jelly and desserts, sugar cane-based products, coir and reed (*pari*) products to soft toys and so on. The products on offer as well as the event were received well by the customers. The recently introduced Lanka QR payment facility was also available for consumers to make cashless payments, providing added convenience. The National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA), the Small Enterprises Development Division (SED), the Ministry of Cane, Brass, Clay, Furniture, and Rural Industry

Promotion, and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce have assisted Cargills in the selection of SMEs.

The Cargills Foundation had a special stall at this month's 'Village to Home', with the intention of sharing the work undertaken by their Early Childhood Education (ECE) Programme which provides children with an early exposure to English as a second language. The ECE Programme aims to improve the lives of children beyond urban Sri Lanka, as exposure to English at a young age helps build confidence in children and stand them in good stead for the future. The Foundation has developed the 'Cargills ESL' home learning pack, which provides access to a digital learning app along with five storybooks. The packs are available at selected Cargills FoodCity outlets, and all sales proceeds are utilised to fund the Cargills ECE Programme which is being implemented in preschools across the island.

SLT-MOBITEL Establishes Yet Another 4G LTE Base

Providing high-speed internet and connectivity solutions to war heroes of Keragala Ranaviru Village and their families

SLT-MOBITEL - the National ICT Solutions Provider - continued its commitment towards empowering Sri Lanka with 100 per cent 4G LTE connectivity solutions, inaugurating yet another base station at the Ranaviru Village in Keragala, Gampaha, providing high-speed internet and a host of connectivity solutions. The project will offer superior 4G LTE connectivity to war heroes' families in the Ranaviru village and the neighbouring communities in the area.

The Ranaviru Villages are housing projects constructed islandwide by the Sri Lanka Army to ensure the welfare of heroic soldiers who put in invaluable sacrifices to safeguard the nation. The ceremony was graced by the State Minister of Urban Development, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, Dr. Nalaka Godahewa and the Senior Management of

SLT-MOBITEL.

Understanding the importance of accelerating connectivity and supporting the educational requirements of students in rural areas, SLT-MOBITEL has provided a range of connectivity solutions including high speed 4G Broadband, Voice connectivity and many more. This project reaffirms SLT-MOBITEL's untiring commitment to provide telecom infrastructure and connectivity solutions to promote digital transformation in rural areas and support the nation's vision of bridging the digital divide.

In addition, SLT-MOBITEL also carried out its islandwide Environmental Social Governance programme of planting 'Mee' Trees at the event. The project was launched with a pledge to improve the environment and to preserve Sri Lanka's flora and fauna.



State Minister of Urban Development, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, Dr. Nalaka Godahewa inaugurating the newly established base station at the Ranaviru Village along with SLT-MOBITEL officials

PUZZLES

1913

DAILY SUDUKO

		9		7				
			2	1				4
	2			9			8	
							3	5
		6	5			8	7	
			3			6		
	7	2					6	8
						7	5	
	6			4		2		

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

1912 SOLUTION

9	6	4	1	5	8	3	7	2
3	7	1	6	2	9	4	8	5
8	5	2	3	4	7	9	6	1
7	3	6	8	1	5	2	9	4
2	8	9	4	6	3	5	1	7
4	1	5	9	7	2	8	3	6
6	4	8	5	9	1	7	2	3
5	9	7	2	3	6	1	4	8
1	2	3	7	8	4	6	5	9

UP & DOWN Words™

By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt

- TALK
-
-
-
-
-
- MUSEUM

CLUES

- Boast
- Huge morning meal
- Cheerios, for example
- Type of container
- Certain slow-moving reptile
- Popular car polish brand
- Madame Tussauds, notably

Yesterday's Answer

- | | | |
|----------|---|-------|
| 1. FOLK | ↙ | MUSIC |
| 2. MUSIC | ↘ | VIDEO |
| 3. VIDEO | ↙ | CALL |
| 4. CALL | ↘ | BACK |
| 5. BACK | ↙ | DOWN |
| 6. DOWN | ↘ | UNDER |
| 7. UNDER | ↙ | QATH |

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Crossword

Puzzle 2014

CLUES

- | | |
|---|--|
| Across | Down |
| 7 Severe or trying experience (6) | 1 Carbamide (4) |
| 8 Pursuer (6) | 2 Doctor (6) |
| 9 Cab (4) | 3 Appease (7) |
| 10 Chop suey served with fried noodles (4,4) | 4 Histrion (5) |
| 11 Underpants (1-6) | 5 loft in a barn where hay is stored (6) |
| 13 Expect (5) | 6 Faith (8) |
| 15 Earlier in time (5) | 12 Disbelief (8) |
| 17 Bringing down (7) | 14 Any heavy material used to stabilize a ship (7) |
| 20 Muscular (8) | 16 Wild cat of Central America (6) |
| 21 The posterior part of a human (or animal) body from the neck to the end of the spine (4) | 18 Person who owes a creditor (6) |
| 23 Lazy (6) | 19 Tender (5) |
| 24 Stew of meat and vegetables and hardtack that is eaten by sailors (6) | 22 Snug (4) |

