

### **Media Release**

## **Kotak Mahindra Bank and Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation perform *Bhoomi Puja* to Commence Construction of the World-Class Badminton Training Centre at Gachibowli**

**Gachibowli, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2019:** Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. (Kotak) and Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation (Foundation) today performed the *Bhoomi Puja* to commence construction of the world-class badminton training centre at the Pullela Gopichand Academy located in Gachibowli, Telangana.

Chief Guest Shri E.S.L. Narasimhan, Hon'ble Governor, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana and Guest of Honour Shri V. Srinivas Goud, Hon'ble Sports & Youth Services Minister, Telangana graced the *Bhoomi Puja* function.



Shri E.S.L. Narasimhan (3rd from right) with Shri V. Srinivas Goud (far right), Pullela Gopichand (2nd from left) and Rohit Rao (2nd from right) at the *Bhoomi Puja* to commence construction of the world-class badminton training centre at the Pullela Gopichand Academy in Gachibowli, Telangana.

Under its CSR Programme in Sports, Kotak has collaborated with Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation to develop a state-of-the-art badminton training centre, a sports science centre, a coach certification programme and fellowship programmes for coaches and players for advanced training of champion players as well as to cater to talented aspirants from underprivileged communities. The upcoming badminton centre will comprise six air-conditioned badminton courts with advanced infrastructure, amenities and international-standard coaches to help players maximise and realise their true potential.

Pullela Gopichand, Chairman, Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation and Chief National Coach, Badminton Association of India said, "To develop world champions in any sport, a sportsperson's ability, passion and determination to succeed is of utmost importance. Under Kotak's CSR Programme in Sports, we are enhancing the infrastructure and programmes at the academy. This will improve the standards of the top players by helping them adjust to world-class air-conditioned competition venues. The program will also help our next generation of players through required intervention at the sports science centre. Through this CSR programme, we intend to help the development of our coaches and players so as to sustain and further accelerate the growth of Indian badminton at the world level."

Rohit Rao, Chief Communication Officer and Head - Corporate Responsibility & CSR, Kotak Mahindra Group said, "Kotak's CSR Programme is focused on the areas of education and livelihood, healthcare and sports. Over the past many years, led by Pullela Gopichand, the Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation has done exemplary work in training and producing several leading players on the international circuit and at the Olympics. We believe that Kotak's CSR Programme in Sports in

collaboration with Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation will further strengthen efforts to train, mentor and produce world-class badminton players from India.”

\*\*\*

### **About Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation**

The Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation, a public charitable trust, runs the premier badminton training facility in Gachibowli, Hyderabad. At present, the academy has seventeen non-air conditioned courts, a gymnasium with premium training facilities and residential rooms. So far, around 2,000 players and 200 coaches have undergone training at the academy which has produced world-class badminton players such as Saina Nehwal, P.V. Sindhu, Kidambi Srikanth, Parupalli Kashyap, R.M.V Gurusaidutt, Sikki Reddy, Satwik Sai Raj and host of other top players.

### **About Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited**

Established in 1985, Kotak Mahindra Group is one of India's leading financial services conglomerates. In February 2003, Kotak Mahindra Finance Ltd. (KMFL), the Group's flagship company, received banking license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), becoming the first non-banking finance company in India to convert into a bank - Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.

Effective April 1, 2015, ING Vysya Bank Ltd. merged with Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. As on March 31, 2019, Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd, has a national footprint of 1,500 branches and 2,352 ATMs. The Bank has four Strategic Business Units – Consumer Banking, Corporate Banking, Commercial Banking and Treasury, which cater to retail and corporate customers across urban and rural India.

For more information, please visit the company's website at <https://www.kotak.com/>

For further information, please contact

Rohit Rao	Phiroza Choksi	Vishal Kumar	Rakesh Sharma	Lalita Tiwari
Kotak Mahindra Bank	Kotak Mahindra Bank	Fortuna PR	Fortuna PR	Fortuna PR
+91-22-6166-0001	+91-22-6166-0001	+91-98855 85802	+91-98335-37679	+91-99302-52484
<a href="mailto:rohit.rao@kotak.com">rohit.rao@kotak.com</a>	<a href="mailto:phiroza.choksi@kotak.com">phiroza.choksi@kotak.com</a>	<a href="mailto:vishal@fortunapr.com">vishal@fortunapr.com</a>	<a href="mailto:rakesh@fortunapr.com">rakesh@fortunapr.com</a>	<a href="mailto:lalita@fortunapr.com">lalita@fortunapr.com</a>