



Clean and green

Last fortnight **Naina Lal Kidwai**, formerly group general manager and country head of HSBC India, released her book **Survive or Sink**. Touted as a wake-up call for sanitation, the book is ‘an action agenda for sanitation, water, pollution and green finance’. It also documents the role of the private sector in ensuring hygiene and sanitation. Kidwai’s interest in water and sanitation started while at HSBC, which was involved in large programmes

targeted at climate change and water. “I got engaged with it, learned a lot and was able to apply it to India,” she says. And it was while brainstorming on India’s sanitation problem that Kidwai and her husband Rishad got the idea to start the Indian Sanitation Coalition (ISC). It was born with the thought of collaboration – bringing together like-minded people and organisations – and of course to galvanise support from private players. ♦



Passion for people

The **RSB group** has had a rich human resources culture imbibed in its system since inception and the strong belief that true happiness comes when good fortune is shared with the less fortunate, according to **Nirmala Behera Udgata**, executive director – group HR, and **Priyanka Behera**, head – group CSR. Udgata and Behera have been inducted into the Hall of Fame (individual category) at The Golden Globe Tigers Awards 2018, for excellence in leadership. “Everyone, irrespective of rank and file, religion, age or gender, is respected and nurtured to have the enduring joy of working with us,” says Udgata. “We look upon our people as part of our family.” Adds Behera: “The group has made CSR an essential fabric of business life, aiming to think not just from the head, but also from the heart. We believe that the business of business is not about making money, but creating social values and doing public good.” The awards, presented at the World HR & CSR Congress in Kuala Lumpur recently, are given to those who are world leaders and passionate in their fields, and have contributed significantly and excelled in their roles globally. ♦



Building business relations

There are excellent business opportunities in the future between India and Dubai, thanks to the efforts

of the Indian Achievers’ Forum, according to **Shabnam Asthana**, director of the Pune-based **Empowered**

Solutions. “The Forum is encouraging more and more entrepreneurs and companies from India to participate in business activities in the UAE,” says Asthana, who received the International PR achievers

award at a function in Dubai. “It projects a positive image of India and how much potential we Indians have.” The Forum is a 20-year-old networking platform that enhances business opportunities by uniting global achievers on a common platform. Apart from her, other global achievers who have done exemplary work in their respective fields were also honoured at the 12th International Achievers’ Summit on Global Business Opportunities, which had the UAE’s Undersecretary for Foreign Trade Abdulla Al Saleh and local business tycoon Suhail Mohd Al Zarooni on the stage. The focus of the summit was to provide a platform for Indian companies to discuss possibilities of business engagement with companies in the Middle East. ♦



Geared for the holidays

Come summer, everyone needs a memorable getaway! And the **Holiday Edit by AZA Fashions** helps you stay stylish wherever you go. “Holidays with your loved ones are special, and everyone likes to look their best! With this in mind, we’ve carefully curated a collection of the summer’s hottest trends that are easy to carry and complement every body type,” says **Devangi Nishar Parekh**, creative director, AZA. “The Holiday Edit by AZA Fashions offers a wide assortment of on-trend outfits and covetable accessories, so you don’t have to worry about what to pack for your next destination wedding or beach getaway.” Be it quirky printed dresses, easy breezy kaftans, flattering cut-out swimsuits or indie cover-ups, you’ll find all the fashion must haves for your vacation packing list. What’s more, AZA brings together versatile jewellery – bohemian, tribal and classic that will complement every look. ♦



A billion dreams

Last week **Swati Piramal**, vice-chairperson and whole-time director, Piramal Enterprises, hosted the first India Pavilion at the **Chelsea Flower Show**, garnering the Silver Gilt medal, the second highest award. The much-awaited garden was to hold a special surprise for cricket fans. “As a border rule, we can’t take plants from India for the show. So, I looked up 100 years ago and figured that when the Victorians came to India, they took rare flowers back to London. Kew Gardens

in London is one such repository and I chose to go with the Himalayan blue poppy, for it reminded me of Sachin Tendulkar’s jersey and M.S. Dhoni’s biopic,” explained Piramal. She is sourcing the flower from the Piramal group’s factory premises in Scotland. To be on the safer side, she’s also planted a batch in Cornwall. “I don’t want to take any chances. The process of ensuring that the flowers bloom perfectly during the five days of the show and judging is laborious,” said Piramal. The garden

was commissioned by the British Council, along with Tata Consultancy Services, the JSW group and Gita Piramal, and in collaboration with landscape designer Sarah Eberle. In commemoration of 70 years of the British Council in India and the culmination of the UK-India year of culture, the design is themed around a shared love of cricket, and titled **‘India-A Billion Dreams’**. At the event Piramal also delivered a speech on the Women of the Future, aimed at inspiring and empowering a community of change makers to create a better future through kindness and collaboration. ♦

Eid edition

With a fresh take on festive style, **Pernia’s Pop-Up Shop** has curated ‘Eid Edit’, the perfect blend of sophistication and femininity. Pernia’s Pop-Up Shop has joined hands with Committed Communities Development Trust For HIV-affected/infected children. “Eid has always been special – since we were kids, and what better way to celebrate than to associate with Ashray, Committed Communities Development Trust. We hope our stylistas who frequent Pernia’s Pop-Up

Shop contribute to make this donation drive a success; because sometimes it takes a small act of kindness to change a person’s life. Our Eid Edit is a line-up of hand-picked apparels and gifts that are part of the season’s favourites to make this Eid a memorable one,” says **Pernia Qureshi**. The edit will take you through some of the most coveted designer names, ethereal craftsmanship and artisanal colour palette. This curation is the backbone of every great festive wardrobe. ♦

