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JBM Auto Limited celebrated "Productivity Week" from 4th Dec 2006 to 23rd Dec 2006.

in_cr_ove partnered JBM efforts by creating a structured approach. Customised training solutions were devised. Shop visits & close support through Productivity Leaders/ co-ordinators was key contributor to the success of the movement. The response was enthusiastic

The results were fascinating: Hundreds of Kaizens resulted into huge tangible savings that will perpetually accrue to the organization. The movement was led from the front as the senior management also contributed immensely to the Kaizen movement. The participation was overwhelming as people vied with each other to become the major contributors in the initiative.

A reward & recognition system was put in place and awards were distributed on 29th of December 2006. In the words of Mr. D. S. Adhikari of JBM, "There were tears rolling the eyes of the people who were recognized for their contribution to this movement."

He also said that this is just the beginning and the movement will go on from here onwards. Buoyed by the success, similar movement has been started in other group companies as well. in_cr_ove is proud of its association with JBM in its quest for excellence

Air-Hybrid engine

Scuderi Group's Air-Hybrid engine claims the title of the world's most fuel efficient internal combustion engine. With three additional worldwide patents recently filed, the air-hybrid system potentially doubles the fuel efficiency of today's gasoline and diesel vehicles and reduces toxic emissions by up to 80 percent. The technology can be adapted for either diesel or gasoline engines of any size and is claimed to half fuel consumption compared to today's internal combustion engines. The engine takes advantage of Scuderi's split-cycle by recapturing and storing energy in the form of compressed air. Unlike conventional engines, the Scuderi Engine produces compressed air during its normal operation. By adding a small air storage tank with some simple controls costing only a few hundred dollars, the Scuderi Engine can recapture energy normally lost. Currently under development, the first diesel and gasoline prototypes are expected to be completed in 2007. It looks to be the real deal so everyone is watching closely

People's pride; Naxals' Envy!

By T S Sreenivasa Raghavan

Source: TOI, 15th Jan

Palakkad: Some three decades ago, Naxals tried to free the poor of Malabar from the clutches of greedy money lenders. Bitten by romanticism, they then used sickles and guns to silence them. In retrospect, one can't help recall what flowed along the waters of Bharathapuzha. That too at a time when Palakkad—once the beehive of naxalite activity—has become the first district in all of India to achieve Total Financial Inclusion (TFI) status. It's ironical, because TFI's predominant aim is to weed out money lenders through a massive movement of the people.

<for complete article see link below>

Septic Tank Baffle System

Rajesh 30, from Panancheri, Thrissur district, Kerala, while in construction business felt the design baffles in septic tanks needs improvement to make it simpler and inexpensive. He backed it with research and borrowed books on Engineering from the public library and finally developed a prototype. His septic tank is a combined sedimentation cum digestion tank where household sewage is treated. The lighter solids including grease and fat rise to the surface to form "scum" and the heavier solids settle down in the tank to form "sludge" which is gradually decomposed by bacteria. The liquid waste or effluent goes into the drain field and undergoes oxidation. The baffle helps to reduce the disturbance of the settled sludge and keep the solids and scum in the tank. In the conventional septic tank, two baffles made of concrete are used, in Rajesh's innovation, only one baffle made of PVC pipes is necessary. This circular baffle which consists of three chambers works as a divider and filter.

The system is cost effective, instead of a tank measuring 2.6m by 9m by 1.8 m the size can be reduced to 1.8m by 9m by 1.8 m. It is cost effective, has a greater capacity for settling, digestion and storage of sludge, the clearer effluent that is relatively free from stench and particles of excreta.

Educating Sita

By Mythili Bhusnurmath

Source: 21st Dec 2006 The Economic Times

M EN ARE from Mars, women are from hell. So it seems in India. Any doubts? When it comes to gender-equality, India presents a sorry picture. Not that we need data to bring home what is an everyday reality. Each day brings fresh evidence of the disadvantaged economic and social status of women in India. Whether it is persistent wage differences for male and female, the overwhelming number of women organ donors in contrast to the underwhelming number of women organ receivers, the declining sex ratios or their limited access to medical care, the picture is universally bad.

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