

VAKRANGEE LAUNCHES PAN CARD SERVICES IN ASSOCIATION WITH PROTEAN ACROSS ITS PLATFORM (PHYSICAL KENDRA NETWORK & BHARATEASY DIGITAL MOBILE APP)

Mumbai, February 24, 2022: Vakrangee Limited (Vakrangee) has partnered with Protean eGov Technologies Limited (formerly NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited) to offer PAN card related services. Vakrangee will work as a PAN Service Agency (PSA) of Protean eGov Technologies Limited.

This partnership will enable Vakrangee to accept PAN card applications in paperless mode through its 19,230+ Vakrangee Kendras and BharatEasy Super App across the country. These Nextgen Vakrangee Kendras exclusively offer a comprehensive range of products and services across banking, insurance, ATM, assisted e-Commerce, e-Governance and logistics. Protean (formerly NSDL e-Gov) accepts & processes Permanent Account Number (PAN) applications on behalf of Income Tax Department (ITD), Government of India and is the market leader in the segment (Source- CRISIL report).

Under this partnership, Vakrangee through its BharatEasy Super App and Nextgen Kendras will now be able to facilitate their customers in remote areas of the country with paperless PAN applications. With 80% of Nextgen Vakrangee Kendra outlets in Tier-4 and 6 towns, Vakrangee will also be able to further expand the coverage of PAN services across the country at remote locations.

Mr. Suresh Sethi, MD and CEO, Protean eGov Technologies Limited (Formerly NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited), said, "Over the course of the last 25 years, Protean has played a pioneering role in laying out the e-governance infrastructure for the nation & providing citizen centric services at population scale. Access and inclusion lie at the heart of any e-governance initiative. Towards that we have adopted and established a "Phygital" (Physical+Digital) model to ensure a truly inclusive service delivery paradigm. Adopting a multi channel approach, we have created online platforms for self-service, while also establishing a pan India network of centres to provide assisted services to the digitally excluded. We currently have a pan-India network of over 1.2 lakh centres, which includes over 36,000 PAN facilitation centres. We are delighted to partner with Vakrangee to further extend our reach through their extensive network and make PAN card services more accessible to the citizens of India. It is our constant endeavour to use the power of our products, platforms, services and networks to provide impactful digital technology solutions that promote ease of living."

Commenting on this partnership, **Mr. Dinesh Nandwana, Managing Director & Group CEO, Vakrangee Ltd.** said, "We are happy and proud that Protean eGov Technologies Limited (formerly NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited) chose to partner with us for its PAN card

services. With this partnership, we continue to expand the bouquet of services available at our exclusive Nextgen Vakrangee Kendras and the BharatEasy Super App. These Nextgen outlets have evolved into an exclusive digital convenience store model providing access to multi line of products and services. We further empower our franchisee family to complement their bouquet of offerings to their customers at Nextgen Vakrangee Kendras.

He added, "Our franchisees in remote areas of the country can now enhance their services by offering PAN card services too. We will continue to add more products and services and tie-up with leading business partners to offer our customers a one-stop solution to all their banking, insurance, ATM, financial services, assisted e-Commerce, e-Governance and logistics. Vakrangee provides these partners with the unmatched reach in remote areas where these brands find the cost of operations too high. We are aspiring to be the most trustworthy physical as well as online convenience store across India, positively moving towards Vakrangee Kendra's new brand philosophy of 'AB Poori Duniya Pados Mein'."

Vakrangee currently has ~19,230+ Vakrangee Kendras spread across 33 States & UTs, 560+ districts and 5,430+ postal codes. More than 80% of these outlets are in Tier 4 and 6 towns. Vakrangee's planned target is to reach at least 25,000 Vakrangee Kendras by FY2022 and further enhance it to reach 75,000 Nextgen outlets by FY2026.

The Company has tied up with reputed partners spread across Banking, ATM, Insurance, Financial services, e-Commerce, e-Governance and Logistics verticals to offer its customers best-in-class services and products.

About Vakrangee Limited

[\(BSE Code: 511431; NSE Code: VAKRANGEE\)](#)

Incorporated in 1990, Vakrangee is the unique technology driven company focused on building India's largest network of last-mile retail outlets to deliver real-time banking & Financial Services, ATM, insurance, e-governance, e-commerce and logistics services to the unserved rural, semi-urban and urban markets. The Assisted Digital Convenience stores are called as "Vakrangee Kendra" which acts as the "One-stop shop" for availing various services and Products.

About Protean eGov Technologies Limited (formerly NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited)

Protean eGov Technologies Ltd. (Protean), is one of the key IT enabled service providers engaged in conceptualizing, developing and executing nationally critical and population scale greenfield technology solutions. The company has extensively collaborated with the government over the last 25 years in creating digital public infrastructure and developing innovative citizen centric e-governance solutions. The company's core strength lies in not just enabling technology, but also providing the necessary interventions for ecosystem creation and adoption of new technologies and business models.

In these two-and-a-half decades, the company has created strong e-governance interventions impacting multiple sectors of the Indian economy and touching various aspects of a citizen's life - modernizing the direct tax infrastructure, providing a tax identity to citizens and corporates (issuance of PAN card), strengthening the old-age social security infrastructure (National

Pension System NPS & Atal Pension Yojna APY), promoting financial inclusion by contributing to the India Stack by enrolling citizens for National Identity and enabling the BFSI sector by providing Aadhaar-based identity authentication and e-Sign services. Over these years, the company has implemented and managed 18 projects spread across seven ministries and autonomous bodies, ushering positive change in delivery of public services.

To create a truly inclusive service delivery mechanism Protean has established a pan India network of centres to provide assisted services to the digitally excluded. This Phygital model created by Protean promotes and enables universal access and financial inclusion in the country without bias.

For further information, please contact at:

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