

(This document comprises news clips from various media in which Balmer Lawrie is mentioned, news related to GOI and PSEs, and news from the verticals that we do business in. This will be uploaded on intranet and website every Monday.)

Balmer Lawrie in News

Swachh Bharat Pakhwara at Balmer Lawrie

The Telegraph – 01.08.2017

To spread awareness on cleanliness as part of 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan',



Balmer Lawrie is celebrating the Swachh Bharat Pakhwara

across all its units and offices from 16th - 31st July, 2017 and will conduct various activities during the fortnight. The Pakhwara kicked off with employees taking the Swachhta Pledge. Cleanliness activities at the work place as well as in and around factories will be carried out during the fortnight along with tree plantation drives. A "Swachh Karyasthal" contest has been organized for all the employees. For community engagement and participation during the Pakhwara, workshop on health and sanitation is being organized for principals and teachers in Joynagar, West Bengal. Also, as a part of the campaign, schools in West Bengal.

Business Standard – 03.08.2017

Balmer Lawrie organizes Swachhata Walkathon



Balmer Lawrie organized a Swachhta Walkathon at Kolkata as a part of Swachh Bharat Pakhwara, which culminated on July 31, 2017. The Walkathon was led by Mr. Prabal Basu, C&MD and the Directors of Balmer Lawrie and was successful in spreading the message of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

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The Telegraph – 07.08.2017



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Echo of India – 04.08.2017



Workers of Balmer Lawrie recently walked in Swachhta Walkathon in city as a part of Swachh Bharat Pakhwara, which culminated on July 31. The Walkathon was led by Prabal Basu, CMD and the directors of the company

बामर लॉरी ने किया वाकथॉन का आयोजन

Prabhat Khabar –

02.08.2017

कोलकाता. बामर लॉरी की ओर से स्वच्छ भारत पखवाड़ा के दौरान



स्वच्छता वाकथॉन का आयोजन किया गया. इस मौके पर कंपनी के चेयरमैन व प्रबंध निदेशक प्रबाल बसु के साथ-साथ कंपनी के अन्य निदेशक

व अधिकारी उपस्थित रहे. इस वाकथॉन के माध्यम से कंपनी ने स्वच्छ भारत अभियान के संबंध में लोगों को जागरूक किया.

- <http://psukhabar.com/?p=3728>

Growth to slowly pick up pace

The economic growth rate would remain range-bound at 6.5- 7.5 per cent over the next 12 to 18 months and indirect tax reform goods and services tax would support faster growth, according to a poll by rating agency Moody's. "India's GDP growth rate will remain in the range of 6.5- 7.5 per cent over the next 12- 18 months, according to more than 60 per cent of the respondents," Moody's said in a statement. The view is in keeping with the signs of economic recovery after the short-term negative impact of demonetisation. According to the US-based agency's estimates, the economy will grow 7.5 per cent in 2016- 17 and 7.7 per cent in 2017- 18. Moody's believes the growth rate will gradually accelerate to around 8 per cent over the next 3- 4 years. India grew 7.1 per cent in 2016- 17, while the Reserve bank recently forecast growth at 7.3 per cent in the current fiscal, lower than the initial forecast of 7.5 per cent. "Given economic and institutional reforms in India, and further changes that could follow, India will likely grow faster than similarly rated peers over the next 12- 18 months, despite a short-term drag caused by demonetisation," Moody's said.

The Telegraph - 01.08.2017

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/detail/271358-15218980.html>

Mfg contracts most in nearly 9 years: Survey

Manufacturing activity in the country saw the sharpest contraction in nearly nine years in July, weighed down by the rollout of GST, a survey showed on Tuesday. In the run-up to the

Core sector trips

Core sector growth slowed down to 0.4 per cent in June, which could have an impact on factory output. The latest data come a day ahead of the two-day Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting that would take stock of retail and wholesale inflations, which are at an all-time low. However, the spike in vegetable prices because of supply side disruptions could raise the rate of inflation in the coming months. While industry and the finance ministry are hoping for at least a 25-basis-point reduction in the benchmark rate, the decision of the MPC will be announced on Wednesday. The growth of the core sectors slowed to 0.4 per cent in June because of a contraction in outputs of coal, refinery products, fertiliser and cement against a growth of 4.1 per cent in May. The sectors had grown a robust 7 per cent in June last year. Aditi Nayar, principal economist at Icria, said: "The considerable dip in core sector growth in June 2017 compared to the previous month was driven by an unfavourable base effect that contributed to the worsening contraction in output."

The Telegraph - 01.08.2017

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/detail/271358-152139790.html>

GST shock for services

The country's services sector contracted at the sharpest rate in nearly four years in July following the implementation of the GST that sowed confusion and sent new orders into free fall, a monthly survey showed today. The

implementation of GST on July 1, companies had slowed down dispatches and cut production as they wanted to assess the impact of the new tax measure. But latest indications are that industries are going back to their production schedules as the rollout of the tax measure has been smooth and clarity has emerged across sectors. At 47.9 in July, down from 50.9 in June, the Nikkei India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) was at its lowest mark since February 2009 and highlighted the first deterioration in business conditions in 2017 so far. While the PMI survey is an advance indicator, other production data such as eight core sectors remained sluggish in June. The index of industrial production data, which comes with a lag and will be released later this month, will throw more light on the health of the industrial sector.

The Times of India - 02.08.2017

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31812&articlexml=Mfg-contracts-most-in-nearly-9-years-Survey-02082017015014#>

China Whip on Inputs Hits Indian Industries

China's crackdown on polluting factories has hit India's imports of refractory material, with the steel, cement, aluminium and glass industries facing the heat. The new environment tax policy in China has forced raw material suppliers there to scale down production, which has affected even the availability of finished goods. India's refractory industry sources almost half of its raw material from China and is now bracing for a shortage that could adversely impact the construction of railway tracks, buildings, automobiles, trains and ships and even items like cutlery, surgical equipment and reading glasses. Refractory products are vital element in all high-temperature processes such as making metals, glass and ceramics, production of cement and petrochemical processes. India currently imports refractory raw material including graphite, fused and calcined alumina and high-grade clays from China in addition to magnesite, a critical input for refractory bricks. Pollution control measures in China have intensified since the beginning of May, with Beijing shutting down most bauxite mines in Shanxi and Guizhou provinces.

The Times of India - 03.08.2017

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31817&articlexml=China-Whip-on-Inputs-Hits-Indian-Industries-03082017008006>

Nikkei India Services Purchasing Managers Index (PMI), a pointer to services output on a monthly basis, plunged to 45.9 in July, the lowest since September 2013, from June's eight-month high of 53.1. The latest survey is the first time in six months where the services reading was below the 50-mark that separates growth from contraction. "The PMI data for July highlight a reversal in fortunes across India, with the economy going into reverse mode after seeing a pick-up in growth momentum during June," said Pollyanna de Lima, principal economist at IHS Markit, and the author of the report. "Most of the contraction was attributed to the implementation of the goods and services tax (GST) and the confusion it caused." Surging prices caused by the GST, implemented on July 1, dented demand for services and pushed the sub-index on new business to 45.2 in July, its lowest in nearly four years, from 53.3 in June.

The Telegraph - 04.08.2017

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/detail/271753-153153403.html>

Manufacturing is India's lowest-paid sector, reveals Monster India study

The manufacturing sector is the lowest paid in India, with a median gross salary of just Rs 211.7 per hour. According to the Monster Salary Index (MSI) released by employment website Monster India for 2016, there has been a 16% fall in salary levels – from Rs 251.9 per hour in 2014 to Rs 252.1 in 2015 and Rs 211.7 in 2016 – despite the government providing a major push to the manufacturing sector and making consistent attempts at establishing inclusive economic growth. The MSI also brought a number of revelations to the fore. For instance, it found that employees in the manufacturing sector with a degree in secondary education earn Rs 101.4 per hour while those with a post-graduate degree make Rs 270.8, constituting a gap of 62.6%. The gender pay gap hovered around 29.9%, with male employees earning an average of Rs 256.6 per hour as opposed to their female counterparts getting a lowly Rs 179.8. Wholly or partially foreign-owned companies were found to be paying double that of domestic companies, at Rs 349.7 per hour.

The Hindustan Times - 04.08.2017

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/business-news/manufacturing-is-india-s-lowest-paid-sector-reveals-monster-india-study/story-4iM3df9I11ZWMvBc75XUjJ.html>

Govt forms Bharat-22 ETF for asset sales in 22 firms; to cover six sectors

The government, on Friday, announced a new exchange traded fund (ETF), comprising stocks of 22 state-owned companies, public sector banks (PSBs), and private sector companies in which the government owns substantial stakes. The new CPSE ETF, named Bharat-22, draws companies from six sectors. The constituents of the basket are Nalco, ONGC, IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum, Coal India, State Bank of India (SBI), Axis Bank, Bank of Baroda, Rural Electrification Corp, Power Finance Corp, Indian Bank, ITC, Larsen & Toubro (L&T), Bharat Electricals, Engineers India, NBCC (India), Power Grid Corp, NTPC, Gail (India), NHPC, NLC India (formerly Neyveli Lignite), and SJVN. The instrument, which is the government's second CPSE ETF, will have a diversified portfolio of six sectors such as energy, fast-moving consumer goods, finance, basic materials, industrials and utilities, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley told reporters at a media briefing. This compares with 10 stocks in the first CPSE ETF, launched in early 2014, and drawing mostly from the energy space.

Business Standard - 05.08.2017

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/govt-forms-bharat-22-etf-for-asset-sales-in-22-firms-to-cover-six-sectors-117080401467_1.html

After diesel and LPG, government to now end subsidy on kerosene

The government has taken further steps to gradually reduce subsidy on kerosene, continuing the series of market-oriented reforms that have galvanised the petroleum sector and attracted big-ticket investment after an era of excessive controls, controversies and untargeted subsidies that made it difficult for private companies to operate. In a recent communication, it has asked state oil companies to keep raising prices of subsidised kerosene by 25 paise every fortnight until the subsidy is eliminated, or until further orders, sources said. The oil ministry had earlier ordered a similar increase only up to July this year. The fuel is still heavily subsidised but demand for kerosene is falling sharply because villages are being rapidly electrified and the government has supplied cooking gas connections to crores of poor people in the past three years. Delhi and Chandigarh are already kerosene-free cities. Subsidised kerosene is also misused to adulterate diesel. Officials said oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan is keen to ensure that market pricing of fuels does not hurt the interests of the poorest sections of society.

The Economic Times - 03.08.2017

Govt orders LPG prices to be hiked by Rs 4 per month, plans to eliminate all subsidies by March 2018

The government has ordered state-run oil companies to raise subsidised cooking gas (LPG) prices by Rs 4 per cylinder every month to eliminate all the subsidies by March next year, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said today. The government had previously asked Indian Oil (IOC), Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL) to raise rates of subsidised domestic LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) by Rs 2 per 14.2-kg cylinder per month (excluding VAT). Now, the quantum has been doubled so as to bring down the subsidy to nil, he said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha here. Every household is entitled to 12 cylinders of 14.2-kg each at subsidised rates in a year. Any requirement beyond that is to be purchased at market price. "Public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) were authorised to increase price of subsidised domestic LPG cylinder by Rs 2 per cylinder (14.2-kg) per month (excluding VAT) with effect from July 1, 2016," he said. Oil companies had hiked LPG rates on 10 occasions since that go-ahead.

DNA - 01.08.2017

<http://www.dnaindia.com/business/report-govt-orders-lpg-prices-to-be-hiked-by-rs-4-per-month-2519071>

Modi government stands committed and LPG subsidy likely to remain for poor

A day after petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan told Parliament that his ministry has asked oil marketing companies to increase price of LPG cylinders by Rs 4 per month in order to end subsidy, sources in the ministry said the government stands committed and will continue to provide subsidy assistance to the needy and poor households. The government launched the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) in May 2016 to provide LPG connections to the 5-crore women belonging to poor households. Till date, more than 2.5 crore connections have been installed under the scheme. In the last three years, the total number of households having LPG connections have remarkably increased from 14 crore in April 2014 to 21 crore in July 2017. The LPG penetration has increased from 56% to 76% now. The government at the start of FY18 had estimated total subsidy, including kerosene for the fiscal, to be Rs 25,000 crore. OMCs also increase price of kerosene by 25 paise every fortnight.

The Financial Express - 02.08.2017

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/after-diesel-and-lpg-government-to-now-end-subsidy-on-kerosene/articleshow/59888617.cms>

You will soon get diesel delivered at your doorsteps, courtesy IOC

State-run oil marketing companies like Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) are likely to launch home delivery of diesel within two months, once Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (Peso) comes up with a regulation in this regard. "So far, there are no norms in place for home delivery of petrol and diesel. Peso is working on it and we would certainly like to go ahead with it once a regulation is in place. We are more aggressive on diesel, as it is a much safer fuel compared to petrol for handling," said Sanjiv Singh, chairman of IOC. The idea for home delivery of fuel was mooted by petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan at a meeting of the consultative committee of Members of Parliament in Srinagar early this year as the effort may increase digital transactions in the sector. "Peso is likely to come up with the regulations in two months and once it is in place, we will launch home delivery of diesel," said B S Canth, director of marketing in IOC. The idea was floated in order to reduce the long queues outside fuel outlets and to get it delivered at doorsteps.

Business Standard - 04.08.2017

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/you-can-get-diesel-delivered-at-your-doorsteps-in-two-months-117080301337_1.html

Government Hits Pause Button After ONGC-HPCL Merger

The government will increase the maximum cess that can be levied on cars to 25 percent from 15 percent as their prices have fallen under the Goods and Services Tax regime. The GST Council considered the issue in its 20th meeting held on Saturday and recommended that the central government may move legislative amendments required for increasing the cap on cess charged on such vehicles, an official release said on Monday. It will be discussed at the GST Council's next meeting on September 9, three officials aware of the development told BloombergQuint. Total levies, including the compensation cess, on motor vehicles has come down compared to the pre-GST tax structure. For example, tax on a Mercedes-Benz vehicle fell from around 48 percent to 43 percent (28 percent GST +15 percent cess), and

<http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/modi-government-stands-committed-and-lpg-subsidy-likely-to-remain-for-poor/790419/>

You may have to shell out more for petrol and diesel from today

Starting today, petrol and diesel prices will cost a little more as the oil marketing companies (OMCs) have decided to increase the dealer commission which is paid to petrol pump owners. According to a report in Financial Express, the All India Petroleum Dealers Association has been asking for a Re 1 per litre hike for petrol and Rs 0.72 litre for diesel on the dealer commission which is currently at Rs 2.55 per litre for petrol and Rs 1.65 per litre for diesel. The report quotes Ajay Bansal, president of All India Petroleum Dealers Association saying that the new commission rates will be effective from August 1. "The national average sale per outlet is 170 kilolitres of fuel every month. Assuming this sale, a dealer makes only 14 paise per litre which converts to around Rs 25,000 of profit per month," says Bansal. Petrol pump dealers have been protesting against the daily price revision in retail prices of fuel. The dealers' association has claimed that the present system cuts down their margins due to inventory losses when global crude prices come down. In the earlier system, the price of petrol and diesel changed every fortnight based on global oil prices.

Business Today - 01.08.2017

<http://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/petrol-price-diesel-price-petrol-pump-dealers-commission/story/257495.html>

Oil majors gushing in cash despite cheap crude

The prospect of crude remaining near the current \$50 level is no longer a doomsday scenario for the world's oil majors whose latest earnings announcements show that cost-cutting lets them turn a profit even at these price levels. BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Shell and Total have all published results in recent days, showing they pocketed \$23 billion in net profit in the first half of the year. Either they increased their earnings or at least returned to profit compared with the same period last year. With the exception of ExxonMobil they all benefited from an increase in output from the same period last year, but more importantly they all profited from a rebound in crude prices as OPEC members and Russia agreed to limit production. The price of the international

the government will amend the law to correct it, one of the officials quoted above said. The amendment to increase the cess to 25 percent will be moved in Parliament in the ongoing monsoon session. Once approved, a rate of cess to be levied, whether at 25 percent or lower, will be discussed in the next meeting of the council, the officials said.

Bloomberg - 04.08.2017

<https://www.bloombergquint.com/gst/2017/08/07/government-amend-gst-to-increase-compensation-cess-on-all-cars-to-25-percent>

ExxonMobil Launches New Engine Oil For Both Petrol And Diesel Engines

ExxonMobil Lubricants India today launched a new engine oil in the market that is suitable for both petrol and diesel passenger vehicles. Christened Mobil Super 3000 X1 Formula FE 5W-30 a.k.a. Mobil Super 3000, the new engine oil is designed to deliver enhanced engine protection and excellent performance at both very low and very high operating temperatures. ExxonMobil offers the new engine oil in pack sizes of 1 litre, 3 litres and 3.5 litres - priced at ₹ 540, ₹ 1,620 and ₹ 1,890 respectively. The Mobil Super 3000 engine oil has been optimised for the unique requirements of various driving styles and conditions. The company says that the product is particularly suitable for the country like India which has diverse weather conditions in different parts of the country and the almost equal ratio of petrol and diesel passenger vehicles. Talking about the company's new product, Deepankar Banerjee, Chief Executive Officer, ExxonMobil Lubricants Pvt Ltd said, "We continue to push the boundaries of automotive lubricant technology with our world-class lubricant solutions.

NDTV Auto - 02.08.2017

<https://auto.ndtv.com/news/exxonmobil-launches-new-engine-oil-for-both-petrol-and-diesel-engines-1732648>

Aviation players chart profit flight

A mix of soft fuel prices, moderate growth in supply and a healthy demand have buoyed the financials of aviation companies. InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of India's largest carrier Indigo, has reported a strong 37 per cent growth in net profits for the first quarter ended June 30. Net profits of the company came in at Rs 811 crore compared with Rs 592 crore in the same period of last year, on the back of a robust 28 per cent growth in passenger revenues. According to credit rating agency Icra, the monthly passenger traffic reached an alltime high of 25.5 million in May —

benchmark Brent crude averaged \$51.7 per barrel in the first half of this year, up considerably from \$39.8 during the same period last year. While the profits are still less than half of what the firms turned in during the same period three years ago when Brent was trading at over \$100 per barrel, they show that the major firms can survive profitably if crude prices stay at current levels, a scenario many now foresee.

The Financial Express - 04.08.2017

<http://www.financialexpress.com/industry/oil-majors-gushing-in-cash-despite-cheap-crude/792685/>

India leads world in domestic air traffic growth, says IATA

India led global markets with a domestic air traffic growth of about 20.3% in June, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said on Thursday. "India led all markets with a 20.3% rise in domestic traffic in June. However, the very strong upward trend in traffic has slowed since the country's unexpected 'demonetization' in November 2016. India's streak of year-on-year double-digit traffic growth may have ended with June," IATA said in a statement. The global passenger traffic data for June showed that demand (measured in total revenue passenger kilometres, or RPKs) rose by 7.8% from a year earlier. This was in line with the 7.7% growth recorded in May. All regions reported growth. June capacity (available seat kilometres, or ASKs) increased by 6.5%, and the load factor rose 1 percentage point to 81.9%, it added. For the first six months of 2017, the industry experienced a 12-year high in traffic growth (7.9%) and a record first half load factor of 80.7%.

Mint - 04.08.2017

<http://www.livemint.com/Companies/cRsGespWLnws2yo9ICKLrO/India-leads-world-in-domestic-air-traffic-growth-says-IATA.html>

Cargo traffic at 12 major ports up 4% to 222 MT in April-July

The country's 12 major ports saw their cargo traffic go up by 4.13 per cent to 221.95 million tonnes (MT) in April-July period of the ongoing fiscal, riding on the back of surge in demand, according to data from ports' body IPA. These top ports, under the administrative control of the Centre, had handled 213.15 MT cargo in the April-July period of the last fiscal. Increased demand from sectors like iron ore, petroleum oil and lubricants (POL) and containers led to higher movement of cargo during the last four

the start of the tourist season — registering a strong year- on- year growth of 16 per cent over May last year. The growth rate for cargo traffic stood at 17 per cent. The passenger traffic trend in the industry was sustained in the following month when growth reached around 20 per cent levels, after staying below this mark for the previous four months. Icra said there was moderation in capacity addition during the last few months. The growth in industry capacity (measured in available seat kilometres) in June was at 14 per cent because of below average capacity addition by Indigo, which has been facing delays in the deliveries of new aircraft.

The Telegraph - 07.08.2017

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/detail/272359-151710849.html>

Why Multi Modal Logistics Parks are expected to bring down costs

When the union government announced in May its initiative to develop a network of 35 multi-modal logistics parks (MMLPs) across the country, it was seeking to transform the abysmal scenario wherein logistics accounts for about 18% of the total product cost in India, as against 8-12% in China and 12% in Europe. The parks are expected to help the industry transition from point-to-point freight movement to the hub-and-spoke model followed in developed economies. Under implementation is an integrated policy that improves efficiency in freight movement. In July, the government reviewed the progress made since the announcement earlier. A senior official from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways told FE a priority list of locations had been drawn up, with feasibility studies having begun at six locations. "These locations would be developed from the point of view of external connectivity infrastructure, which means they would have rail and road connectivity, and where applicable, inland waterway connectivity to ports," he said.

The Financial Express - 07.08.2017

<http://www.financialexpress.com/industry/why-multi-modal-logistics-parks-are-expected-to-bring-down-costs/797025/>

KoPT sops for cargo boost to Nepal

In order to boost more container cargo to Nepal, the Kolkata Port Trust (KoPT) has decided to offer sops from August 8 for six months. "KoPT has decided to offer some sops like all road-bound container imports will be granted a 10 days rent-free period in docks, road-bound containers will

months, according to the Indian Ports Association (IPA). Iron ore traffic volumes moved up 32.28 per cent to 15.61 MT during April-July as against 11.80 MT in the same period a year ago, while those of POL rose 10.40 per cent to 75.18 MT. Container traffic rose 6.16 per cent to 44.06 MT. The Kandla port handled the highest traffic volume at 36.10 MT during April-July this year, followed by the Paradip port at 32.93 MT and JNPT at 21.84 MT, data showed. Volume of sea-borne cargo is essentially in the nature of derived demand and mainly shaped by levels and changes in both global and domestic activity.

The Economic Times - 07.08.2018

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-transport/cargo-traffic-at-12-major-ports-up-4-to-222-mt-in-april-july/articleshow/59952619.cms>

Direct port delivery plan threatens container stations

Top logistics firms, including listed entities that have invested thousands of crores to set up and run container freight stations (CFSs) near India's container ports, face an uncertain future after the Central government introduced a programme to speed up delivery of cargo containers to importers/consignees to check extra cost and time involved in the clearances. The so-called direct port delivery (DPD) scheme was introduced at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port and Chennai Port, spurred by a report from the World Bank on ease of doing business. DPD allows importers/consignees to take delivery of the containers directly from the port terminals and haul them to factories without taking them first to a CFS and from there to factories. An importer is thus assured clearance of cargo in less than 48 hours under DPD as against an average of seven days if routed through a CFS. A CFS is an off-dock facility licensed by the Customs Department to help decongest a port by shifting containerised cargo and carrying out customs-related activities outside the port area.

The Hindu Business Line - 02.08.2017

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/direct-port-delivery-plan-threatens-container-freight-stations/article9795788.ece>

Once operational, Chabahar port will be gateway to golden opportunities: Gadkari

Keen on rolling out infrastructure projects in Iran and Afghanistan, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has said that once Chabahar Port in Iran becomes operational, there will be no

also be allowed to stay in docks up to 15 days for direct delivery on payment of ground rate as per Scale of Rate (SoR)," KoPT deputy chairman Kolkata Docks S Balaji Arunkumar said. The 10-day rent free period in docks will begin from August 8 for a period of six months subject to review. "This was a demand since long from the Nepal trade," he said. All rail-bound container imports will continue to enjoy at 20 days of rent-free period in docks, he added. These were decided in a recent meeting with the Nepal Custom House Agents' Association by the riverine dock officials. The meeting was attended by all major lines serving Nepal Trade (APL, OOCL, YANGMING, Samudera, PIL and others), beside CONCOR. Similar benefit was also extended from Haldia Docks, too. In the last fiscal, some 74,000 containers meant for Nepal trade were handled by KoPT.

The Times of India - 05.08.2017

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31812&articlexml=KoPT-sops-for-cargo-boost-to-Nepal-05082017016018>

IGST to be levied only when goods are brought for customs clearance

The integrated goods and services tax (IGST) would not be levied on sale of goods on high seas but would be charged when they are brought for customs clearance, authorities have clarified, much to the relief of oil and gas, power and telecom companies. The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has issued a circular to this effect after receiving references on the issue as all inter-state transactions are subject to IGST. 'High sea sale' is a common trade practice where in original importer sells goods to a third person before they are customs cleared. Final customs clearance is filed by the final owner. CBEC has said IGST would be required to be levied only once at the time of importation of goods, which is when goods are cleared by customs. It also clarified that value addition accruing in each high sea sale transaction shall form part of the value on which IGST would be levied at the time of clearance. This means that IGST would be payable on the value for the last buyer in the chain.

The Economic Times - 03.08.2017

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/igst-to-be-levied-only-when-goods-are-brought-for-customs-clearance/articleshow/59889300.cms>

Ratish Kumar takes additional charge as CMD of NHPC

Pursuant to the order of Ministry of Power, Government of India, Ratish Kumar, Director

looking back as it will be a gateway to golden opportunities. As a special envoy of India, deputed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Road Transport and Shipping Minister Gadkari is in Tehran and represented India at the oath taking ceremony of President Hassan Rouhani for the second term. "Talks are on for building railways and roads through Chabahar till Afghanistan and then we have access to Russia. Once Chabahar is operationalised, which we are hopeful to be in 12 to 18 months' time, it will prove to be a gateway to golden opportunities to boost trade and business," Gadkari told PTI. Chabahar port, located in the Sistan-Balochistan province in the energy-rich Persian Gulf nation's southern coast, lies outside the Persian Gulf and is easily accessed from India's western coast, bypassing Pakistan.

The Times of India - 07.08.2017

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/once-operational-chabahar-port-will-be-gateway-to-golden-opportunities-gadkari/articleshow/59940737.cms>

Sanjaya Baru to join FICCI as Secretary General

Industry chamber FICCI has decided to appoint economist and journalist Sanjaya Baru as its new Secretary General, a statement said on Tuesday. Baru will assume office from September 1, 2017. He was also media advisor to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. "With A. Didar Singh nearing completion of five years as Secretary General of Ficci after joining Ficci post his retirement as secretary to government, he has been for some time been looking for a relatively lighter role within the organisation and in view of this, the Ficci Committee has decided to appoint the renowned economist and journalist Sanjaya Baru at the helm of Ficci as its Secretary General. Baru will assume charge from September 1, 2017," said Pankaj Patel, President of FICCI. Patel added that Didar Singh would be the Principal Advisor to FICCI President from September 1. Baru has authored several books, including a memoir about his tenure as Manmohan Singh's media advisor, titled 'The Accidental Prime Minister'.

The Week - 01.08.2017

<http://www.theweek.in/news/biz-tech/sanjaya-baru-to-join-ficci-as-secretary-general.html>

P K Mohapatra takes over as NTPC Regional ED (South)

Prasant Kumar Mohapatra, has taken over as Regional Executive Director (South) of NTPC

(Projects), NHPC has taken additional charge of the post of Chairman & Managing Director of NHPC Limited on August 1. Born on December 8, 1960, Ratish Kumar holds B.Tech degree in Electrical Engineering from G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar. He joined NHPC in October 1982 as a Trainee Engineer. During his tenure in NHPC, he scaled heights and contributed to NHPC's development by serving in various capacities. His vast experience in power sector includes hydro as well as solar & wind renewable energy projects. He has immensely contributed in the area of Design, O&M of hydropower stations, Contracts, Project Monitoring, Business Development etc. Ratish Kumar has over 34 years of experience at NHPC.

Millennium Post - 02.08.2017

<http://www.millenniumpost.in/business/ratish-kumar-takes-additional-charge-as-cmd-of-nhpc-255542>

Limited at Secunderabad on Friday. Mohapatra, who is at present the Regional Executive Director (Western Region-II) of NTPC Limited at Raipur in Chhattisgarh will hold additional charge as RED (South). A Mechanical Engineer from Regional Engineering College Rourkela, Mohapatra had joined NTPC in 1980 as an Executive Trainee. In a successful career spanning over 36 years at NTPC, he has rich and varied experience and worked in various capacities at EOC, Corporate Centre, Talcher Super Thermal Power Station, Talcher Thermal and Vindhyachal, and as a Head of the Power Station at Kawas, Sipat, and Ramagundam.

Millennium Post -05.08.2017

<http://www.millenniumpost.in/business/p-k-mohapatra-takes-over-as-ntpc-regional-ed-south-256117>

Sunil Jain appointed anti-corruption officer in BPCL

Senior bureaucrat Sunil Jain was today appointed as Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) in Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL). A CVO acts as a distant arm of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to check corruption. Besides him, Shyam Singh Negi has been named as Chief Vigilance Officer in Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN), Shimla, an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said. IPS officer Neeraj Sinha will be the CVO in the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC). A K Poddar has been shifted from CONCOR to RITES Ltd as the CVO, it said. T R Shaji, an officer of Indian Telecom Service, has been appointed Chief Vigilance Officer in Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Kochi, according to the order.

Business Standard - 04.08.2017

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/sunil-jain-appointed-anti-corruption-officer-in-bpcl-117080401574_1.html