

QUICKLY.

Unions urge DGCA to revoke AI pilot's licence suspension



Mumbai: A joint forum of six unions on Tuesday appealed to aviation regulator DGCA to revoke the suspension of the licence of the pilot-in-command of the Air India flight from New York to Delhi last November where a male passenger allegedly urinated on a female co-passenger. **PTI**

Goa to auction five more iron ore mining blocks

Panaji: The Goa government has started auctioning of five more iron ore mining blocks located in North Goa district, a senior official said. "In the second phase, bids have been invited for the auctioning of Advalpale-Tivim, Cudnem-Cormolem, Cudem, Tivim-Pirna and Surla-Sonshi Mineral Blocks," the official from the State Directorate of Mines and Geology (DMG) said. **PTI**

Norway drops China, India firms over weapon sales



Oslo: Norway's sovereign wealth fund has divested from AviChina Industry & Technology of China and BEL, India, due to the "unacceptable risk that the companies are selling weapons to a State (Myanmar) that uses these weapons in ways that constitute serious and systematic breaches of the international rules on the conduct of hostilities" **AFP**

STRATEGIC PARTNER



STRONG BOND. Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi in New Delhi on Wednesday. In a statement issued after the meeting, Modi said: "We have decided that under the India-Egypt strategic partnership, we will develop a long-term framework of greater cooperation in political, security, economic and scientific fields." **KAMAL NARANG**

RBI brings out discussion paper on securitisation of stressed assets

K Ram Kumar
Mumbai



The Reserve Bank of India is planning to enable securitisation of non-performing assets (NPAs) through the special purpose entity route, on the lines of securitisation of standard assets, as an alternative investment route. The central bank, on Wednesday, released a discussion paper on *Securitisation of Stressed Assets Framework (SSAF)* and invited stakeholder comments by February 28.

Securitisation of stressed assets is a financial structure whereby an originator of NPAs sells these to a special purpose entity (SPE) that funds such an acquisition by issuing securitisation notes. The SPE, in turn, appoints a servicing entity to manage the stressed assets, typically with a fee structure that incentivises them to maximise recover-

ies on the underlying loans. Investors are paid based on the recovery from underlying assets, as per the waterfall mechanism depending upon the seniority of the tranches.

"This could be the beginning of junk bond market in India. It could also provide an opportunity for asset reconstruction companies to earn other income," Hari Hara Mishra, Director, UV ARC.

ASSET SELECTION
The paper underscored that the question that needs to be addressed in respect of SSAF is whether the framework should be restricted only to NPAs, or expanded

to include standard assets too, up to a ceiling.

Securitisation involving only NPAs may have uncertain cash flows, mainly dependent on recoveries from underlying assets and issuance of securitisation notes on those underlying assets may not have regular servicing, which may be a limiting factor for the universe of investors.

Internationally, a limited window is permitted for inclusion of non-NPA (standard) assets for structuring purposes. However, such transactions having combination of standard and NPA assets may lead to issues of regulatory arbitrage, complexity in valuation, etc.

During preliminary interactions with a focused set of market participants, RBI said the views broadly mirrored the global experience in terms of asset selection — retail stressed assets — mortgages, unsecured personal loans and loans taken by MSMEs.

President lauds PM's leadership for India becoming 5th largest economy

ADDRESS TO THE NATION. 'Timely initiatives put India among fastest growing economies'

Our Bureau
New Delhi



President Droupadi Murmu **PTI**

President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday appreciated the "able leadership" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his "pro-active government" for India emerging as the fifth largest economy in the world, overcoming global uncertainties induced largely by Covid pandemic.

In her address to the nation on the eve of Republic Day, President Murmu also lauded other schemes of the Central government, including the push for self-reliance in various sectors, National Education Policy, Pradhan

Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna, Digital India Mission, and SC and ST empowerment policies.

India's growing international standing was also reflected in her speech as she said that "the world has started to look at India with a new sense of respect" and that was, according to the President, due to a "series of

initiatives in recent years to transform all aspects of governance and unleash creative energies of people".

"In our mission of 'Sarvodaya', the most encouraging has been the progress made on the economic front. Last year, India became the fifth largest economy in the world. It needs to be underlined that this achievement comes against the backdrop of high economic uncertainties around the world," Murmu said.

GOVT INTERVENTIONS
Appreciating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's effort, President Murmu said, "The pandemic has entered the fourth year, affecting eco-

nomical growth in most parts of the world. In its initial phase, Covid-19 also hurt India's economy badly. Yet, guided by our able leadership and driven by our resilience, we soon came out of the downturn, and resumed the growth saga. Most sectors of the economy have shaken off the pandemic effect. India has been among the fastest-growing major economies. This has been made possible by timely and pro-active interventions from the government".

She was of the view that it was because of economy being on a sound footing, the country has been able to begin and carry forward a series of praiseworthy initiatives.

PLI likely to cover seven more sectors

Amiti Sen
New Delhi



MUCH NEEDED. Support for e-bike parts can help develop own manufacturing base, reduce dependence on China imports

The Finance Ministry is considering extension of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to seven additional sectors, including e-bicycle components, toys, garments, and home accessories, high-end smartphone components, furniture, and leather footwear.

"A large part of the funding for the new PLI schemes is expected to come from the unutilised amount for the existing PLIs. But some additional outlay may also be allocated," an official tracking the matter told *businessline*.

FUNDS REALLOCATION
The outlay for the incentive scheme may not be much over the ₹1.97-lakh crore already allocated, as there

have been substantial savings under the scheme so far, and they are increasing each year, the source explained. Under the PLI scheme, savings or any unutilised amount can be reallocated to cover other departments.

The PLI scheme, announced in Budget 2020-21

to create global champions in manufacturing, is so far available for 14 sectors. These include pharmaceutical ingredients, large-scale electronics, medical devices, technology products, pharmaceutical drugs, telecom and networking products, food products, white goods, solar PV modules, auto and auto components, ACC batteries, MMF and technical textiles, specialty steel, and drones.

The scheme offers incentives to companies on incremental sales of products manufactured in India over the base year. They have been specifically designed to boost domestic manufacturing in sunrise and strategic sectors, curb cheaper imports and reduce import bills, improve the cost competitiveness of domestically manufactured goods, and enhance do-

mestic capacity and exports.

PLI FOR E-BIKE SECTOR
"A sector like e-bike components may not appear strategic, but the fact is that India imports about 65 per cent of the components from China. A little support can go a long way in helping us develop our own manufacturing base of components that could give a big boost to the sector," the official said.

In the textiles sector, the existing PLI scheme covering MMF and technical textiles was allotted ₹10,683 crore for five years. It is expected to use up a little over ₹6,000 crore. The second edition of the PLI scheme for textiles, which is now being planned to cover garments and home textiles, is likely to benefit from the left-over amount that may go into the total pool.

More focus on personal care portfolio will boost Colgate's volumes, say analysts

Janaki Krishnan
Mumbai



LOSING SHINE. ICIICI Securities said though there have been new launches, the uptick in revenue is still not visible **AP**

Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd needs a major strategy refresh for higher volume growth, and part of this refresh could come from diversifying its portfolio into personal care segment, outside of oral healthcare.

The company performed poorly on all parameters in the third quarter of 2022-23 — flat revenue growth, decline in volumes, fall in operating profit, contraction in operating margin and fall in profit before tax.

'CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM'
Advertising and promotion spending improved, though that was one of the reasons for the margin shrinking. The higher ad spends were in sync with the company's stated intent to prioritise growth over margins.

The management has continued with their 'cautious optimism' outlook. The company said it would continue on its path of toothpaste and toothbrush categories' growth with premiumisation and also build its small personal care business. The challenges in rural demand led to muted volumes, though it expects an improvement in the next fiscal. About 40 per cent of the company's revenues are from the rural market.

Analysts are not too op-

timistic about its performance in the near term, reasoning that delayed execution on some of the important markers was most likely due to the prevailing weak macro environment.

Prabhudas Lillardher said the company's focus on "low growth oral care segment across price points" will limit its growth. The high growth personal care segment had higher penetration opportunities. "Revival in rural demand and new launches in personal care

hold key to valuations," it said. While demand for handwash remained volatile with declining Covid-19 cases, the body wash segment saw growth.

ICIICI Securities said while the company has enhanced focus on some sub-categories and there have been new launches, "the uptick in revenue is still not visible".

ORAL HEALTH
India has a poor record of oral healthcare. In 2020, a non-profit organisation called "The Borgen Project" pointed out that about 85 to 90 per cent of Indian adults and 60 to 80 per cent of children have dental cavities. Only half of Indians use a toothbrush while slightly over a fourth brush twice a day. There is poor awareness of the need for oral healthcare and the impact it has on overall health.

'Growing duty-free steel imports, a serious concern'

Suresh P Iyengar
Mumbai



Seshagiri Rao, Joint MD, JSW Steel

Notwithstanding the "Make in India" push of the government, more than 50 per cent of the steel imported into India is duty-free from countries such as Korea, Japan, and other Asian countries under the free trade agreement.

India turned a net importer late last year, as imports surged to 8.89-lakh tonne in December from 3.43-lakh tonnes in April 2022, a jump of 159 per cent.

Of the overall imports, 58 per cent were at zero per cent duty from countries such as Korea, Japan, and other Asian countries.

The duty-free import comes even though Indian steel companies had accumulated huge inventories due to a slowdown in domestic demand and an export duty of 15 per cent levied last May. Despite the withdrawal of export duties last November, steel companies could benefit as export contracts are signed one month in advance.

'NO REASON TO IMPORT'
Seshagiri Rao, Joint Managing Director, JSW Steel, said, "There is absolutely no reason

for Indian automobile companies to import from their overseas parent company as indigenisation is up to 99.99 per cent as far as steel is concerned, and there is hardly anything in the auto sector that Indian steel companies cannot produce."

JSW Steel itself has invested about ₹9,000 crore to ₹10,000 crore in auto-grade steel capacity and got the technology from JFE, he added.

Asked whether automobile companies are getting steel at 7.5 per cent less from their parent company by excluding the import duty, Rao said that is not true as the parent company will include the import duty in the base price while shipping it to India.

If they are selling it for less than the market price, then it will be considered "dumping" and a separate investigation will be launched, he said.

'NOT MUCH IMPACT'
Import is a matter of serious concern, and the government

has reduced import duty from 12.5 to 7.5 per cent. Even if the customs duty is increased, it will not have much impact as shipments are coming duty-free, said Rao.

Every country is protecting its industry by imposing trade barriers, with the US calling it an inflation reduction measure and Europe referring to it as a carbon border adjustment tax.

With the recession looming large in most countries, steel companies globally are looking for a market to keep their factories running.

Every country has a quick redressal mechanism when it comes to resolving an injury to the industry, and there is an urgent need for India to adopt it, said Rao.

Price rise, a major worry for consumers, says Kantar survey

Meenakshi Verma Ambwani
New Delhi

Inflation seems to be the top concern among consumers in the run up to the Budget FY24 to be presented on February 1. Three out of four individuals surveyed expressed concerns about the rising inflation and want the government to introduce decisive measures to tackle rising prices, according to the Kantar India Union Budget Survey 2023.

Also, one in four was worried about the threat of job layoff.

The survey by the data insights and consulting company that mapped consumer sentiments and expectations for the Union Budget, found the mood of the nation to be one of cautious optimism. This comes at a

time when there is no clear end in sight for the Russia-Ukraine war, an expected slowdown in Europe and the US and nine States heading into assembly polls in 2023.

EXPECTATIONS
The most common consumer expectation from the Budget is an increase in the basic income tax exemption limit from the current ₹2.5 lakhs.

Respondents also listed an increase in the ₹10 lakh threshold for the highest tax slab rate of 30 per cent as a key expectation.

"The former is notably higher amongst the salaried segment (42 per cent) while the latter is expected more by businessmen/self-employed (37 per cent) and the 36-55 year-olds (42 per cent)," it added. Nearly two-

thirds of respondents want to see an increase in the tax rebate for investments under 80C. An increase in rebate on medical/health insurance was also found to be among key expectations (45 per cent).

Deepender Rana, Executive Managing Director-South Asia, Insights Division, Kantar, said consumers are looking for some sort of relief in the income tax regulations from the upcoming budget.

'REIN IN INFLATION'
"Most expect the government to play the role of a protector and take stringent measures to curb inflation to prevent the economy from slipping into a recession, as it directly impacts their household budget as well as their job prospects," he added.

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FORM A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
(Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CREDITORS OF M/S HRIDAYNATH CONSULTANCY PRIVATE LIMITED

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of corporate debtor	Hridaynath Consultancy Private Limited
2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	03/10/2010
3. Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated / registered	Registrar of Companies-Mumbai
4. Corporate Identity No. / Limited Liability Identification No. of corporate debtor	U74120MH2010PTC208538
5. Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	Registered Office: Flat No. B-906, 9th Floor, New Sarvottam CHS, Iira Bridge, Andheri (west), Mumbai - 400058, India
6. Insolvency commencement date in respect of corporate debtor	Date of Order: 20.01.2023 (Wrongly mentioned as 20.01.2022) Date of receipt of Order: 24/01/2023
7. Estimated date of closure of insolvency resolution process	18th July, 2023
8. Name and registration number of the insolvency professional acting as interim resolution professional	Ms. Sudha Bhushan Registration No: IBS/IPA-001/IP/P01519/2018-19/12305
9. Address and e-mail of the interim resolution professional, as registered with the Board	Address: B Wing-701, Julian Alps, Bhakti Park, Wadala East, Sion, Mumbai, Maharashtra-400037 Email Id: sudhag99@gmail.com
10. Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the interim resolution professional	Office no.27, 3rd Floor, BGTA Narmada Building (BGTA-6), Wadala East, Mumbai, Maharashtra- 400037, India. E-Mail: crp_hcp@gmail.com
11. Last date for submission of claims	07th February, 2023
12. Classes of creditors, if any, under clause (b) of sub-section (6A) of section 21, ascertained by the interim resolution professional	Not Applicable (As per the information available with the Interim Resolution Professional)
13. Names of Insolvency Professionals identified to act as Authorized Representative of creditors in a class (Three names for each class)	Not Applicable
14. (a) Relevant Forms and (b) Details of authorized representatives are available at:	Relevant Forms for the submission of the claims can be downloaded from https://www.ibtai.gov.in/

Notice is hereby given that the National Company Law Tribunal, Mumbai Bench has ordered the commencement of a corporate insolvency resolution process of **M/s Hridaynath Consultancy Private Limited** on 20th January 2023 (Copy of order received on 24th January, 2023).

The creditors of **M/s Hridaynath Consultancy Private Limited**, are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before **07th February 2023** to the interim resolution professional at the address mentioned against entry No. 10.

The financial creditors shall submit their claims with proof by electronic means only. All other creditors may submit the claims with proof in person, by post or by electronic means.

Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties.

SD/-
Ms. Sudha Bhushan
Interim Resolution Professional
Hridaynath Consultancy Private Limited
Place - Mumbai
Date - 25th January, 2023
Reg. No.: IBS/IPA-001/IP/P01519/2018-19/12305