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(Please scan the QR code to view the RHP)

CELLO WORLD LIMITED

Our Company was incorporated as "Cello World Private Limited", as a private limited company under the Companies Act, 2013, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation dated July 25, 2018, issued by the Registrar of Companies, Central Registration Centre. Thereafter, the Registered Office of our Company was changed from the State of Maharashtra to the Union Territory of Daman and Diu and a certificate of registration of the regional director order, for change of State dated April 8, 2020, was issued by the Registrar of Companies, Goa, Daman and Diu at Goa ("RoC"). Subsequently, upon the conversion of our Company into a public limited company, pursuant to a special resolution passed by our Shareholders on June 12, 2023, the name of our Company was changed to "Cello World Limited" and a fresh certificate of incorporation dated July 18, 2023 was issued by the RoC. For further details of change in name and Registered Office of our Company, please refer to the section titled "History and Certain Corporate Matters - Brief history of our Company" and "History and Certain Corporate Matters - Changes in the Registered Office of our Company" on page 227 of the red herring prospectus dated October 21, 2023 filed with the RoC ("RHP" or "Red Herring Prospectus").

Registered Office: 597/2A, Somnath Road, Dabhel, Nani Daman 396 210, Daman and Diu, India. Corporate Office: Cello House, Corporate Avenue, B Wing, 8th Floor, Sonawala Road, Goregaon (East), Mumbai - 400 063, Maharashtra, India
Contact Person: Hemangi Trivedi, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; Tel: +91 22 2685 1027; E-mail: grievance@celloworld.com; Website: www.corporate.celloworld.com; Corporate Identity Number: U25209DD2018PLC009865

OUR PROMOTERS: PRADEEP GHISULAL RATHOD, PANKAJ GHISULAL RATHOD AND GAURAV PRADEEP RATHOD

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 5 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF OUR COMPANY FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("OFFER PRICE") THROUGH AN OFFER FOR SALE ("OFFER") OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 19,000.00 MILLION. THE OFFER INCLUDES A RESERVATION OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES, AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 100.00 MILLION (CONSTITUTING UP TO [●]% OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL), FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES ("EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION"). THE OFFER LESS THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION IS HERINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "NET OFFER". THE OFFER AND NET OFFER SHALL CONSTITUTE [●]% AND [●]%, OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY, RESPECTIVELY.

DETAILS OF THE OFFER FOR SALE BY THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

NAME OF THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS	TYPE	NUMBER OF EQUITY SHARES OFFERED/ AMOUNT (IN ₹ MILLION)	WACA (IN ₹ PER EQUITY SHARE)*
Pradeep Ghisulal Rathod	PSS	Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 3,000.00 million	Negligible
Pankaj Ghisulal Rathod	PSS	Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 7,360.00 million	Negligible
Gaurav Pradeep Rathod	PSS	Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 4,640.00 million	Negligible
Sangeeta Pradeep Rathod	OSS	Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 2,000.00 million	Negligible
Babita Pankaj Rathod	OSS	Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 1,000.00 million	Negligible
Ruchi Gaurav Rathod	OSS	Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 1,000.00 million	Negligible

PSS: Promoter Selling Shareholder; OSS: Other Selling Shareholder; WACA: Weighted average cost of acquisition.

*As certified by Jeswani & Rathore, Chartered Accountants by way of their certificate dated October 21, 2023.

We offer our consumer products across three categories: consumer houseware, writing instruments and stationery, and moulded furniture and allied products.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in accordance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations.

- QIB Portion: Not more than 50% of the Net Offer • Non-Institutional Portion: Not less than 15% of the Net Offer • Retail Portion: Not less than 35% of the Net Offer
- Employee Reservation Portion: Up to [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 100 million

PRICE BAND: ₹ 617 TO ₹ 648 PER EQUITY SHARE OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 5 EACH

THE FLOOR PRICE IS 123.40 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES AND THE CAP PRICE IS 129.60 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES

THE PRICE/EARNINGS RATIO BASED ON DILUTED EPS FOR FISCAL 2023 AT THE FLOOR PRICE IS 46.85 TIMES AND AT THE CAP PRICE IS 49.20 TIMES

BIDS CAN BE MADE FOR A MINIMUM OF 23 EQUITY SHARES AND IN MULTIPLES OF 23 EQUITY SHARES THEREAFTER

A DISCOUNT OF ₹ 61 PER EQUITY SHARE IS BEING OFFERED TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION

In accordance with the recommendation of Independent Directors of our Company, pursuant to their resolution dated October 23, 2023, the above provided price band is justified based on quantitative factors/ KPIs disclosed in the 'Basis for Offer Price' section of the RHP vis-a-vis the weighted average cost of acquisition ("WACA") of primary and secondary transactions, as applicable, disclosed in the 'Basis for Offer Price' section on page 109-118 of the RHP.

In making an investment decision, potential investors must only rely on the information included in the Red Herring Prospectus and the terms of the Offer, including the risks involved and not rely on any other external sources of information about the Offer available in any manner.

RISKS TO INVESTORS:

1. **Trademark risk:** We do not own the trademark for our key brands, including "Cello", "Unomax", "Kleeno", "Puro" and their respective logos. Such trademarks are registered in the name of Cello Plastic Industrial Works, a member of our Promoter Group and a partnership firm owned and controlled by our Promoters. If we are unable to renew the relevant agreements that grant us the license to use these trademarks and logos, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected. Further, the "Cello" brand name is also used by one of our competitors for its writing instruments business. Any adverse impact on the "Cello" brand name due to the actions of such competitor, which utilizes the brand name, may adversely affect our reputation and business.

2. **Raw material dependency risk:** We depend entirely on third-party suppliers for the supply of raw materials, including plastic granules and plastic polymer which are the most consumed raw materials in the production of our products. Our business is susceptible to fluctuations in raw material prices. The tables below represent our cost of materials consumed as a percentage of our total expenses for the periods indicated:

Particulars	For the Financial Year			Three Months ended June 30,	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
	(% of total expenses)				
Cost of materials consumed	42.86%	49.46%	45.36%	47.05%	44.46%

Below table provides for cost of consumption of plastic granules and plastic polymer as a percentage of cost of materials consumed for the periods indicated:

Particulars	For the Financial Year			Three Months ended June 30,	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
	(% of cost of materials consumed)				
Cost of consumption of plastic granules and plastic polymer	56.22%	53.19%	48.16%	52.05%	46.54%

Further, disruptions in the availability of quality raw materials from suppliers may lead to a deterioration in quality of our products as the quality of our products is primarily derived from the quality of our raw materials.

3. **Dependency on distribution network:** We are dependent on our distribution network in India and overseas to sell and distribute our products to consumers. If we are unable to maintain and grow our distribution network, our products may not effectively reach consumers and we may lose market share. The table below sets forth a breakdown of

our revenue from operations for the periods indicated by channels:

Particulars	For the Financial Year			Three Months ended June 30,	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
	(% of total revenue from operations)				
General Trade	84.46%	78.21%	80.58%	80.11%	79.26%
Export	4.28%	9.29%	7.80%	9.04%	9.88%
Online sales (including sales from e-commerce marketplaces and our own websites)	8.82%	8.38%	7.91%	7.54%	6.48%
Modern Trade	2.44%	4.12%	3.71%	3.31%	4.37%

4. **Dependency on third-party contract manufacturers:** We source certain products such as steel and glassware products from third-party contract manufacturers primarily located in China. If we are unable to source adequate quantities of such products in a timely manner from our existing suppliers in the future, we will be unable to find alternative manufacturers at acceptable prices and quality levels or at all. Set forth below are the details of the sale of steel and glassware products supplied to us by third-party contract manufacturers for the periods indicated:

Particulars	For the Financial Year			Three Months ended June 30,	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
	(% of total sales)				
Sale of steel and glassware products supplied by third-party contract manufacturers	21.35%	17.37%	20.63%	17.92%	20.33%

Further, below are the details of our contract manufacturers for the periods indicated:

Particulars	For the Financial Year			Three Months ended	
	2021	2022	2023	June 30,	June 30,
Contract manufacturers (Nos.)	38	42	86	53	40

5. **Offer related risk:** The Offer comprises an Offer for Sale by the Selling Shareholders and our Company will not receive any part of the proceeds of the Offer.

6. **Brand and reputational risk:** Our ability to maintain a strong brand reputation is dependent on the public perception and recognition of the quality of our products, range of product portfolio, pricing of products, market penetration, accessibility of products and marketing initiatives. A loss of trust in our products by consumers or by our distribution network or partners could adversely affect our brand reputation and subject us to additional risks and scrutiny.

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7. Delayed statutory dues payment risk: There are certain instances of delays in payment of statutory dues by us with respect to GST, TDS, tax collected at source, employee provident fund contributions, professional tax, ESIC, labour welfare fund contributions amongst others. The table below represents the delays in payments of statutory dues by us for the period indicated:

Particulars	Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2022	Fiscal 2023	Three months ended June 30, 2023
Total amount of delayed statutory dues (₹ in million)	7.87	27.47	8.46	16.10

8. Seasonality Risk: Our business is subject to seasonality as we see higher demand of our products from our customers during the festive seasons. Further, our products also face varied demand based on weather conditions across the seasonal cycles.

9. Counterfeit and passing-off risk: Our business may be adversely impacted by sale of counterfeit products and passing-off which may reduce our sales and harm our brands, adversely affecting our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

10. The average cost of acquisition of Equity Shares for selling shareholders is negligible and the Offer Price at upper end of the Price Band is ₹ 648 per Equity Share.

11. The five Book Running Lead Managers associated with the Offer have handled 94 public issues in the past three Financial Years, out of which 28 issues closed below the issue price on the listing date:

Name of the BRLMs	Total Public Issues	Issues closed below IPO price on listing date
Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited*	6	1
ICICI Securities Limited*	10	6
IIFL Securities Limited*	11	3
JM Financial Limited*	10	2
Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited*	6	1
Common issues of above BRLMs	51	15
Total	94	28

*Issues handled where there were no common BRLMs.

12. The weighted average cost of acquisition of all shares transacted in past one year, 18 months and three years preceding the date of the RHP:

Period preceding the date of Red Herring Prospectus	Weighted average cost of acquisition (in ₹)	Cap Price is 'x' times the weighted average cost of acquisition	Range of acquisition price: lowest price – highest price (in ₹)
Last one year	28.94	22.39	Nil ^A - ₹ 275.67
Last 18 months	20.73	31.26	Nil ^A - ₹ 275.67
Last three years	20.73	31.26	Nil ^A - ₹ 275.67

^A Nil due to issuance of Equity Shares by Company pursuant to bonus issue.

13. Market Risk: The Offer Price of our Equity Shares, our market capitalization to revenue from operations for FY 2023 and our price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio at Offer price may not be indicative of the market price of our Equity Shares after the Offer.

Particulars	Ratio vis-à-vis Floor Price of ₹ 617	Ratio vis-à-vis Cap Price of ₹ 648
	(In multiples, unless otherwise specified)	
Market capitalization to Revenue from Operations	7.29	7.65
Price-to-earnings ratio	46.85	49.20
Average Price-to-earnings ratio of the Industry peers	45.47	

Notes:

- Market capitalization has been computed as the product of number of shares outstanding as on the date of RHP with the Floor Price or Cap Price, as applicable.
 - Revenue from Operations are for the Financial Year ended March 31, 2023.
 - P/E Ratio has been computed based on the Floor Price or Cap Price, as applicable, divided by the Diluted EPS for the Financial Year ended 2023.
 - P/E ratio for the Industry peers are computed based on closing market price as on October 19, 2023 at NSE or BSE, as the case may be, divided by Diluted EPS (on consolidated basis) based on the annual report of the company for the Financial Year 2023.
- 14. Weighted Average Return on Net Worth for Financial Year ended 2023, 2022 and 2021 is 35.60%.**

BID/ OFFER PERIOD

BID/ OFFER OPEN

BID/ OFFER CLOSURES ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 01, 2023[†]

[†]UPI mandate end time and date shall be at 5:00 p.m. on the Bid/Offer Closing Date.

THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL GET LISTED ON MAIN BOARD PLATFORM OF BSE AND NSE

In case of any revision in the Price Band, the Bid/ Offer Period will be extended by at least three additional Working Days after such revision in the Price Band, subject to the Bid/ Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar circumstances, our Company (acting through the IPO Committee) may, in consultation with the BRLMs, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid/ Offer Period for a minimum of three Working Days, subject to the Bid/ Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band and the revised Bid/ Offer Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges, by issuing a public notice, and also by indicating the change on the respective websites of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Syndicate Members and by intimation to the Designated Intermediaries and the Sponsor Banks, as applicable.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the SCRR read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations and in compliance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not more than 50.00% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs"), and such portion, "QIB Portion" provided that our Company (acting through the IPO Committee) may, in consultation with the BRLMs, allocate up to 60.00% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations ("Anchor Investor Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price. In the event of undersubscription or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the Net QIB Portion. Further, 5.00% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to Mutual Funds and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIB Bidders (other than Anchor Investors) including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. However, if the aggregate demand from Mutual Funds is less than 5.00% of the QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation in the Mutual Fund Portion will be added to the remaining QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to QIBs. Further, not less than 15.00% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Bidders out of which (a) one third of such portion shall be reserved for applicants with application size of more than ₹ 0.20 million and up to ₹ 1.00 million; and (b) two third of such portion shall be reserved for applicants with application size of more than ₹ 1.00 million, provided that the unsubscribed portion in either of such sub-categories may be allocated to applicants in the other sub-category of Non-Institutional Bidders. Further, not less than 35.00% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders ("RIBs") in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. All potential Bidders (except Anchor Investors) are required to mandatorily utilise the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process by providing details of their respective ASBA Accounts and UPI ID in case of UPI Bidders using the UPI Mechanism, if applicable, in which the corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the SCSBs or under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be, to the extent of respective Bid Amounts. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Offer through the ASBA process. For details, please refer to the section titled "Offer Procedure" on page 533 of the RHP.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN and the Client ID and UPI ID (for UPI Bidders bidding through UPI Mechanism) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID and UPI ID available (for UPI Bidders bidding through the UPI Mechanism) in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected. Bidders/Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active. Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID and Client ID as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorized the Depositories to provide to the Registrar to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders/Applicants' sole risk.

ASBA* | Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!

*Applications Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") is a better way of applying to offers by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For further details, check section on ASBA. **Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.**



UPI-Now available in ASBA for Retail Individual Bidders and Non Institutional Bidders applying in public issues where the application amount is up to ₹ 500,000 in the Non-Institutional Portion, and Bidding under the UPI Mechanism through ASBA Form(s) submitted with Syndicate Members, Registered Brokers, Collecting Depository Participants and Registrar and Share Transfer Agents and Non-Institutional Bidders also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account. Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN. Bidders must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CBOT notification dated February 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021, read with press release dated September 17, 2021, CBOT Circular No. 7 of 2022 dated March 30, 2022 read with the press release dated March 28, 2023 and any subsequent press releases in this regard.

ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except Anchor Investors. UPI may be availed by (i) Retail Individual Bidders in the Retail Portion; (ii) Non-Institutional Bidders with an application size of up to ₹ 500,000 in the Non-Institutional Portion. For details on the ASBA and UPI Mechanism, please refer to the details given in the Bid Cum Application Form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" on page 533 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India ("AIBI") and Stock Exchanges and in the General Information Document. The Bid Cum Application Form and the Abridged Prospectus can be downloaded from the websites of BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"), and together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges" and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmid=35 and <https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmid=43>, respectively as updated from time to time. The Abridged Prospectus can also be downloaded from the website of the Company. For the list of UPI apps and banks live on IPO, please refer to the link: www.sebi.gov.in. UPI Bidders Bidding using the UPI Mechanism may apply through the SCSBs and mobile applications whose names appear on the website of SEBI, as updated from time to time. Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited and ICICI Bank Limited have been appointed as the Sponsor Banks for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of SEBI circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For Offer related queries, please contact the Book Running Lead Managers ("BRLMs") on their respective email IDs as mentioned below. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and mail id: ipo.upi@npci.in.

BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS					REGISTRAR TO THE OFFER
<p>Kotak Investment Banking Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited 1st Floor, 27 BKC, Plot No. C-27 G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051 Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 4336 0000 E-mail: celloworld.ipo@kotak.com Investor grievance e-mail: kmccredressal@kotak.com Website: www.investmentbank.kotak.com Contact person: Ganesh Rane SEBI registration no.: INM000008704</p>	<p>ICICI Securities Limited ICICI Venture House, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400 025, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 6807 7100 E-mail: celloworld.ipo@icicisecurities.com Investor grievance e-mail: customercare@icicisecurities.com Website: www.icicisecurities.com Contact person: Shekhar Asnani / Kristina Dias SEBI registration no.: INM000011179</p>	<p>IIFL Securities Limited 24th Floor, One Lodha Place, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai 400 013 Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 4646 4728 E-mail: cello.ipo@iiflcap.com Investor grievance e-mail: ig.ib@iiflcap.com Website: www.iiflcap.com Contact person: Yogesh Malpani/ Bhavesh Mandhot SEBI registration no.: INM000010940</p>	<p>JM Financial Limited 7th Floor, Energy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400 025, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 6630 3030 E-mail: celloworld.ipo@jmfml.com Investor grievance e-mail: grievance.ibd@jmfml.com Website: www.jmfml.com Contact person: Prachee Dhuri SEBI registration no.: INM000010361</p>	<p>Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimtullah Sayani Road, Opposite Parel ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400 025, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 7193 4380 E-mail: cello.ipo@motilaloswal.com Investor grievance e-mail: moiapredressal@motilaloswal.com Website: www.motilaloswalgroup.com Contact person: Ritu Sharma/ Sankita Ajinkya SEBI registration no.: INM000011005</p>	<p>Link Intime India Private Limited C-101, 1st Floor, 247 Park L.B.S. Marg, Vikhroli West, Mumbai 400 083, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 810 811 4949 E-mail: celloworld.ipo@linkintime.co.in Investor grievance e-mail: celloworld.ipo@linkintime.co.in Website: www.linkintime.co.in Contact person: Shanti Gopalkrishnan SEBI registration no.: INFR000004058</p>

COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
Hemangi Trivedi, Cello World Limited
Cello House, Corporate Avenue, 'B' Wing, 8th Floor, Sonawala Road, Goregaon (East), Mumbai 400 063 Maharashtra, India. Telephone: +91 22 2685 1027; E-mail: grievance@celloworld.com; Website: www.corporate.celloworld.com
Investors can contact the Company Secretary and Compliance Officer, the BRLMs or the Registrar to the Offer in case of any pre-Offer or post-Offer related problems, such as non-receipt of letters of Allotment, non-credit of Allotted Equity Shares in the respective beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund orders or non-receipt of funds by electronic mode, etc. For all Offer-related queries and for redressal of complaints, investors may also write to the BRLMs.

AVAILABILITY OF THE RHP: Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the "Risk Factors" beginning on page 36 of the RHP before applying in the Offer. A copy of the RHP has been made available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in and is available on the websites of the BRLMs, Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited at <https://investmentbank.kotak.com>, ICICI Securities Limited at www.icicisecurities.com, IIFL Securities Limited at www.iiflcap.com, JM Financial Limited at www.jmfml.com and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited at www.motilaloswalgroup.com and the websites of the Stock Exchanges, for BSE at www.bseindia.com and for NSE at www.nseindia.com and the website of the Company at www.corporate.celloworld.com.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORM: Bid cum Application Form can be obtained from the Registered Office of our Company, CELLO WORLD LIMITED: Tel: +91 22 2685 1027; BRLMs: Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Tel: +91 22 4336 0000; ICICI Securities Limited, Tel: +91 22 6807 7100; IIFL Securities Limited, Tel: +91 22 4646 4728; JM Financial Limited, Tel: +91 22 6630 3030 and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited, Tel: +91 22 7193 4380 and Syndicate Members: JM Financial Services Limited, Tel: +91 6136 3400; Kotak Securities Limited, Tel: +91 022 6218 5410; Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited, Tel: +91 022 7193 4200 / 022 7193 4263 and at selected locations of Sub-Syndicate Members (as given below), Registered Brokers, SCSBs, Designated RTA Locations and Designated CDP Locations for participating in the Offer. Bid cum Application Forms will also be available on the websites of the Stock Exchanges at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com and at all the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available on the websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

SUB-SYNDICATE MEMBERS: Almondz Global Securities Ltd.; Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Ltd.; Axis Capital Limited; Centrum Broking Limited; Centrum Wealth Management Ltd.; Choice Equity Broking Private Limited; Dalal & Brocha Stock Broking Private Limited; DB(International) Stock Brokers Ltd.; Eureka Stock & Share

Broking Services Ltd.; Eureka Stock & Share Brokers Ltd.; Finwizard Technology Pvt Limited; Globe Capital Markets Ltd.; HDFC Securities Limited; IDBI Capital Markets and Securities Ltd.; IIFL Securities; JM Financial Services Limited; Jobanputra Fiscal Services Private Limited; KJMC Capital Market Services Limited; LKP Securities Limited; Inventure Growth & Securities Ltd.; Nirmal Bang Securities Pvt. Ltd.; NuVama Wealth and Investment Limited (Formerly known as Edelweiss Broking Limited); Prabhudas Ladhani Pvt Ltd.; Pravin Rattal Share and Stock Brokers Ltd.; Reigare Broking Ltd.; RR Equity Brokers Private Limited; SBICAP Securities Limited; Sharekhan Ltd.; SMC Global Securities Ltd.; SS Corporate Securities Ltd.; Systematix Shares and Stocks (India) Limited; Tradebulls Securities (P) Ltd. and YES Securities (India) Limited.

ESCROW COLLECTION BANK, REFUND BANK AND SPONSOR BANK: Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited.
PUBLIC OFFER ACCOUNT BANK AND SPONSOR BANK: ICICI Bank Limited. UPI: UPI Bidders can also Bid through UPI Mechanism.
All capitalised terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the RHP.

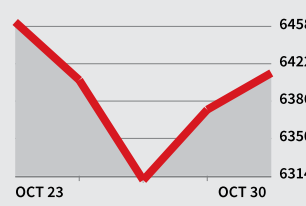
For CELLO WORLD LIMITED
On behalf of the Board of Directors
S/-
Hemangi Trivedi
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer
Place: Daman and Diu
Date: October 30, 2023

CELLO WORLD LIMITED is proposing, subject to receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offer of its Equity Shares and has filed a draft red herring prospectus dated August 14, 2023 with SEBI (the "DRHP") and a red herring prospectus dated October 21, 2023 with the RoC. The RHP is made available on the website of the SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in as well as on the website of the BRLMs i.e., Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited at <https://investmentbank.kotak.com>, ICICI Securities Limited at www.icicisecurities.com, IIFL Securities Limited at www.iiflcap.com, JM Financial Limited at www.jmfml.com and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited at www.motilaloswalgroup.com, the website of the NSE at www.nseindia.com and the website of the BSE at www.bseindia.com and the website of the Company at www.corporate.celloworld.com. Any potential investor should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risks, please see the section titled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 36 of the RHP. Potential investors should not rely on the DRHP for making any investment decision, but can only rely on the information included in the Red Herring Prospectus.

The Equity Shares offered in the Offer have not been, and will not be, registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or any state securities laws in the United States, and may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act, and applicable state securities laws in the United States. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are being offered and sold (i) within the United States solely to persons who are reasonably believed to be "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act) under Section 4(a) of the Securities Act, or (ii) outside the United States in "offshore transactions" as defined in and in compliance with Regulation S under the Securities Act and the applicable laws of the jurisdiction where those offers and sales occur. There will be no public offering of Equity Shares in the United States.

CONCEPT

SENSEX 64112.65 (+329.85)



IN FOCUS

	LATEST	CHANGE
Nifty 50	19140.90	+93.65
P/E Ratio (Sensex)	22.48	+0.01
US Dollar (in ₹)	83.25	+0.01
Gold Std 10 gm (in ₹)	60993.00	+412
Silver 1 kg (in ₹)	71931.00	+1025



HEALTHCARE FORAY.

Blackstone is entering the healthcare space in India with two acquisitions in a deal valued at \$1.5 billion **p2**

BACK AT THE HELM.

Punit Goenka is set to lead the merged Zee-Sony media entity with SAT quashing SEBI order **p2**

Many FPIs trim holdings in Adani companies in Q2

ALL FALL DOWN. Adani Entp led the drop; domestic institutions' holding up in 8 Group firms

Ashley Coutinho
Mumbai

Several foreign funds, including those based in Mauritius, reduced their holding in the Adani Group companies in the quarter ended September 30.

Elara India Opportunities Fund's holding in flagship Adani Enterprises dropped below 1 per cent in Q2 from 1.35 per cent in the June quarter, data from *primeinfobase.com* show. The fund's holding in Adani Energy Solutions has reduced to 1.97 per cent from 3.61 per cent in Q1.

APMS Investment Fund's holding in Adani Energy Solutions and Adani Power saw a reduction in the September quarter. Cresta Fund's holding in Adani Energy fell below 1 per cent in Q2 from 1.52 per cent in Q1. Green Energy Investment's holding in Adani Green Energy fell below 1 per cent (from 1.26 per cent).

A spokesperson for the Adani Group said it had no comments to offer.

Prominent foreign funds that raised their holdings in Adani companies in Q2 include GQG Partners Emerging Markets Equity Fund and

Funds that trimmed holdings in September quarter

		As percentage of total share capital	
		Sept 30, 2023	June 30, 2023
APMS Investment Fund	Adani Energy Solutions	1.37	1.86
	Adani Power	NA*	1.29
	Adani Total Gas	2.67	2.67
Elara India Opportunities Fund	Adani Energy Solutions	1.97	3.61
	Adani Enterprises	NA*	1.35
	Adani Total Gas	1.52	1.52
Cresta Fund	Adani Energy Solutions	NA*	1.52

*holdings below 1 per cent and where exact holding for the quarter could not be ascertained Source: *primeinfobase.com*

Goldman Sachs Trust II. Disclosure of FPI holdings is available only for holdings in a company above 1 per cent.

HINDENBURG CHARGE

Earlier this year, Hindenburg Research had alleged that Mauritius-based entities such as APMS Investment Fund, Cresta Fund, LTS Investment Fund, Elara India Opportunities Fund and Opal Investments collectively held shares totalling \$8 billion in Adani Group companies and could be linked to the promoter

group. The Adani Group, however, refuted these allegations, saying that these entities were publicly held and innuendos that they were related parties of the promoters were incorrect.

SEBI DISCLOSURE NORM SEBI's diktat for granular disclosures by FPIs that have concentrated holdings in Indian equities and group companies kicks in from November 1.

There were over 200 FPIs with over 50 per cent of their

equity investments in a single stock or group of NSE listed companies, according to data for the quarter ended June. These FPIs have invested some ₹1.98-lakh crore in over 140 corporate entities, the prominent ones being Adani, OP Jindal, GMR and Hinduja groups. Of these, 122 had 100 per cent of their holding in a particular company or group.

Overall, the percentage of FPI shareholding declined in eight of the 10 Adani Group companies in Q2. FPI shareholding in Adani Enterprises saw the biggest drop of 4.82 percentage points to 18.05 per cent, whereas their shareholding in Adani Power rose 5.56 percentage points to 17.51 per cent during the quarter.

DOMESTIC INVESTORS

In contrast, the holdings of domestic institutional investors rose in eight Adani companies in Q2, with the biggest shift seen in ACC (up 3.44 percentage points) and Ambuja Cements (1.11 percentage points).

Five Adani firms — Adani Energy Solutions, Adani Green Energy, Adani Total Gas, Adani Wilmar and NDTV — saw a rise in retail holdings.

ICMR-held Covid data of over 81 cr Indians leaked; on sale on Dark Web

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Personal data of over 81 crore Indians have allegedly been leaked and was put out for sale on the Dark Web. The Covid-19 test data were held by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and was reportedly mentioned as the source of the data.

The breach was reportedly noticed by an American cybersecurity and intelligence agency. The data put up on the Dark Web reportedly included information such as name (of the beneficiaries), addresses, phone numbers, and Aadhaar numbers. The breach was also advertised on X, formerly Twitter, with the 'threat actor' putting out the details too.

Reportedly, the 'threat actor' shared as samples spreadsheets containing four large samples with one lakh records of personal identifiable information of Indian residents.

According to Health Ministry officials, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Cert-In) has been alerted by the ICMR. It is not clear if the hacker breached ICMR's systems or if there was a breach in other sources.

"Verification process of the breach reports is on," a Health Ministry official said.

Fincare SFB promoters to pump in ₹700 cr as part of AU SFB merger deal

Hamsini Karthik
Mumbai

The promoters of Fincare SFB — Fincare Business Services Limited — will bring in ₹700 crore of capital as part of the deal to merge with AU Small Finance Bank.

The merger was officially announced on Sunday night marking the first deal in the small finance banks space, nine years after SFB licences were granted.

Confirming *businessline's* news-break of September 13, AU SFB said that "this strategic merger expands reach and diversifies offerings, reinforcing our commitment to financial inclusion".

The scheme of merger is subject to approval of the shareholders of the AU SFB and Fincare SFB, the Reserve Bank of India and the Competition Commission of India.

According to AU SFB's exchange filing, the merged entity should take effect from February 1, 2024, suggesting that the deal should conclude in FY24 subject to regulatory approvals.

ON HEELS OF IPO NOD

Interestingly, the merger announcement comes about a month after SEBI cleared Fincare SFB's IPO



The share exchange ratio is set at 579 shares of AU SFB for 2,000 shares of Fincare SFB

filing. As part of the merger terms, promoters of Fincare SFB — Fincare Business Services Limited — will bring in ₹700 crore of capital into the bank.

The share-exchange ratio shall be 579 equity shares of face value of ₹10 each of AU SFB for every 2,000 equity shares of face value of ₹10 each of Fincare SFB. Post merger, existing shareholders of Fincare SFB shall hold -9.9 per cent in AU SFB.

Accordingly, at these exchange ratios, Fincare SFB is valued at around 3x the price to book based on Q2 FY24 financials and AU SFB at approximately 4x the price to book. AU SFB stock fell by 3.4 per cent reacting to the merger.

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE Rajeev Yadav, MD & CEO of Fincare SFB, will be named Deputy CEO of AU

SFB post-merger and will continue to lead the Fincare unit of AU SFB. Yadav will be an invitee to the board meetings of AU SFB. He will jointly lead the IT and digital unit of AU SFB as part of the merger integration.

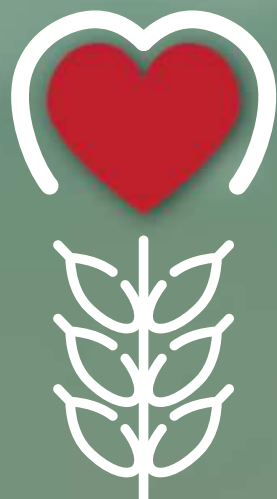
Divya Sehgal, currently a nominee director of Fincare SFB, will join the board of AU SFB post-merger. Sehgal is a partner at True North private equity firm, which is the major investor in Fincare SFB's promoter entity.

Uttam Tibrewal will remain an executive director of the merged entity and will also be a Deputy CEO of the bank post merger.

DEAL SYNERGY

AU SFB is already the largest small finance bank, with a combined balance-sheet of ₹1.6-lakh crore, with no major competition on the horizon.

As a predominantly microfinance-oriented book and 49 per cent of its business coming from the South, the merger with Fincare SFB will give AU SFB access to MFI loans and help in penetrate into the southern States, making it a more pan-India bank. It will also bring relief to AU SFB on certain priority sector lending requirement.



Millets

khaane ka waada Swasth Bharat ka irada.

Come, let's lay the foundation for a healthy India. Millets, also known as Shree Ann are grown widely in the country. They help in managing good health and wellness. So, from today onwards, adopt the habit of including millets in your daily diet.

Bajra is rich in iron and dietary fibre. It also contains protein and zinc that helps in managing overall health.

Jowar is a good source of protein, contains high fibre and is rich in minerals like phosphorus and magnesium which are essential nutrients required by the body.

Ragi is an excellent source of calcium essential for bone health, contains magnesium and is rich in dietary fibre which acts as a medium for growth of probiotics.

Small millets* are a source of proteins, dietary fibre and are rich sources of minerals like copper, iron, and B vitamins required for maintaining healthy body.



Visual depiction of various millets grown across India. The pictorial representation does not purport to be the political map of India. *Small millets: Foxtail Millet (Kangni), Little Millet (Kutki), Proso Millet (Chena), Kodo Millet (Kodo), Barnyard Millet (Sawan), Foxtail Millet (Kakun) and Brown Top Millet (Korale). Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of India 2023, Nutritional and Health Benefits of Millets.pdf, 2017, IIMR [Indian Institute of Millets Research], ICAR. ISSUED IN PUBLIC INTEREST TO CREATE AWARENESS ABOUT MILLETS BY NESTLÉ INDIA LIMITED.



QUICKLY.

Chemplast Sanmar inks Lol with agrochemical firm



Chennai: Chemplast Sanmar Ltd said its Custom Manufactured Chemicals Division has signed a Letter of Intent with an undisclosed global agrochemical innovator to manufacture a new pipeline active ingredient. This is the third Lol we have signed over the past 12 months," said Krishna Kumar Rangachari, Deputy Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar Ltd. **OUR BUREAU**

Lenskart acquires AI start-up Tango Eye

New Delhi: Leading eyewear player Lenskart on Monday said it has acquired Tango Eye, an AI-based computer vision start-up. Without revealing the commercials of the deal, the company said it aims to leverage on this acquisition to use visual AI technology in improving store experience as well as its product experience. **OUR BUREAU**

Vistara plans to add new routes next quarter



Vistara plans to launch a few new routes next quarter as it approaches the end of its time as a standalone Indian airline, Chief Executive Officer Vinod Kannan said. The full-service carrier will deploy new aircraft that are pending delivery for mostly international routes, Kannan said. **BLOOMBERG**

Blackstone enters healthcare space with two buys at \$1.3-1.5 b

ROADMAP. With a commitment of \$1 b, PE firm to build one of the largest hospital platforms

Janaki Krishnan
Mumbai

Blackstone, through private equity funds managed by it, is entering the healthcare space in India with two acquisitions in a deal valued at around \$1.3-1.5 billion, of which Blackstone's commitment is around \$1 billion to build one of the largest hospital platforms in the country, according to sources.

In a release, Blackstone said it has acquired a majority stake in CARE Hospitals from Evercare, a platform of TPG RISE funds and CARE Hospitals, in turn, has signed an agreement to acquire a majority stake in KIMSHEALTH. True North will sell its entire stake in KIMSHEALTH India as part of the transaction. The release did not mention the value of the deals.

THE DEAL

- Blackstone's acquisition of stakes in CARE Hospitals, KIMSHEALTH is its first investment in India's healthcare services sector
- Blackstone with TPG will operate the largest healthcare platform in the country
- Deal valued in the range of \$1.3-1.5 billion, according to sources



Sources said that the Evercare acquisition is at an enterprise value of ₹6,600 crore, and the KIMSHEALTH acquisition is at an equity valuation of ₹3,300 crore.

After the completion of the transactions, Blackstone will hold around 75 per cent stake in CARE Hospitals and TPG will have a significant minority stake, sources said. They also said that CARE will hold

over 80 per cent stake in KIMSHEALTH, whose promoter MI Sahadulla will hold the remainder and drive the next wave of growth of the platform.

HEALTHCARE DEAL

Commenting on the transaction, Ganesh Mani, Managing Director at Blackstone Private Equity, said, "We aim to build a patient-centric hos-

pital platform focused on high clinical care quality and top-notch service." The PE firm was committed to being a long-term investor and growing the platform organically and also through acquisitions. "Life sciences is a key investment theme for Blackstone, and we plan to bring in our global scale and operating expertise," Mani added.

The addition of KIMSHEALTH to the CARE Hospitals network will create a large hospital platform with 23 facilities across 11 cities. The combined platform will have more than 4,000 beds.

TPG, whose shareholding in CARE Hospitals is held in its Evercare Health Fund, will retain a significant minority stake in the combined platform. The combined platform will deliver comprehensive care in more than 30 clinical specialties.

Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages posts ₹809-crore profit in FY23

Meenakshi Verma Ambwani
New Delhi

Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd (HCCB), the bottling arm of Coca-Cola in India, witnessed a surge in net profit in FY23 to ₹ 809.43 crore, according to financial data accessed by business intelligence platform, Tofler. The company had posted net profit of ₹375.43 crore in FY22. Total revenues grew 40.36 per cent to ₹12,840.28 crore in FY23.

In its RoC filing, the company noted that the operating environment during FY23 was challenging and was marked by

inflationary headwinds and geopolitical pressures. However, the company added that "agility in seizing market opportunities, focus on execution excellence and proactive strategic interventions enabled" it to post strong performance across all operating segments. HCCB added that it kept "laser-sharp focus" on execution and expanding reach.

In response to inflationary headwinds, the beverage major stepped up focus on returnable glass bottles segment as well as affordable small packs across categories. HCCB, in its RoC filing, noted that it ramped up strategic investments on entry packs such as



150-ml Tetra packs, 200-ml returnable glass bottles as well as 250-ml PET bottles.

CAPEX IN FY23

HCCB is among the leading bottlers in the beverage major in India and operates 16

factories. In addition, eight plants are run by contractual partners for the company. During the financial year under review, the company made additional investments of over ₹1,300 crore in plants and equipments.

"The long-term outlook for beverage business in India is very positive. The structural drivers of long-term growth such as rising disposable incomes and consumer awareness, low levels of penetration of consumer goods, favourable demographics, increasing urbanisation and growing preference for trusted brands are firmly in place," the company added.

Almost half of the salaried class in India is not eligible for 'paid leave'

Parvathi Benu
Chennai

Calling in sick at work, taking a few days off to go on a trip or staying home to care for your newborn is actually a luxury for almost half of the employed people in India. This is what the data from the Annual Report of the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) shows.

DATA FOCUS.

According to the report, 46.8 per cent of the regular wage/salaried persons and casual labourers in the country are not eligible for 'paid leave'. "Paid leave included leave during sickness, maternity or such leave as an employee was eligible to take without loss of pay, as per the conditions of employment. The situation was assessed excluding the paid off-days/holidays, which an enterprise normally allows to its employees," the PLFS report notes. The only good news here is that the proportion of these employees has come down 5.5 percentage points between 2019-20 and 2022-23. In the 2019-20 period, 52 per cent of the salaried class had no paid leave in India. It dropped to 47.9 per cent in 2020-21. While it went up to 49 per cent in 2021-22, it has come down to an all-time low in 2022-23.

NOT ELIGIBLE

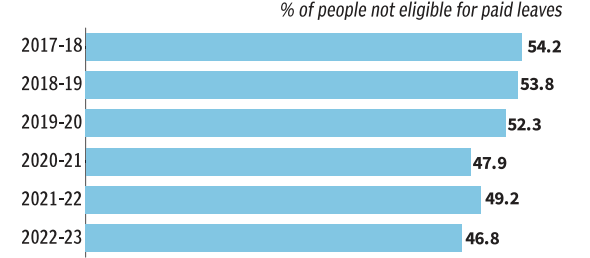
In nine States - Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand and Andhra Pradesh, a majority of the workers get no paid leave. The situation is worst in Rajasthan where the proportion of such workers is 63 per cent. In rural Rajasthan, almost three-quarters of male workers aren't eligible for paid leave.

In poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, the proportion of these people is almost 60 per cent. It

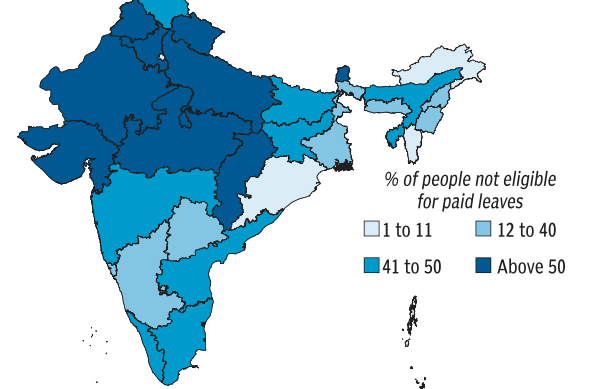
When leave is a luxury

46.8% of regular wage/salaried persons and casual labourers in India have no access to paid leaves

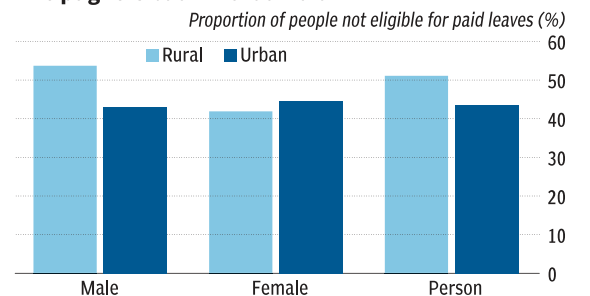
The proportion of these people have come down



In 9 States, a majority of workers aren't eligible for paid leaves



The plight is bad in rural India



Source: PLFS Annual Report

is 57 per cent each in Sikkim and Gujarat. The States that fared well include Mizoram, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh and Goa, where less than 25 per cent of employed people get no access to paid leaves.

THE GENDER FACTOR
Data shows that compared

with men, more salaried women are eligible for paid leave. While 53.1 per cent of salaried men aren't eligible for paid leaves, among women, the proportion is 43.5 per cent. This could also be because certain establishments allow maternity leave to their women employees.

TVS Motor looks to ramp up electric scooters production capacity

G Balachandhar
Chennai

TVS Motor Company, which has seen its half-yearly profit after tax (PAT) cross ₹1,000 crore for the first time in H1 of this fiscal, plans to ramp up the capacity of electric scooters from the current level of 25,000 units per month.

The capacity ramp-up has been necessitated as the leading two- and three-wheeler maker is increasing the number of outlets to retail its electric scooter iQube, commencing delivery of its new premium electric scooter TVS X in this quarter and contemplating launching iQube in the ASEAN market.

"During the September 2023 quarter, we ramped up the production to 25,000 units a month; we have a healthy order book and the demand outlook is also healthy for EVs," K



KN Radhakrishnan, Director and CEO, TVS Motor Company

N Radhakrishnan, Director & CEO, TVS Motor Company, said during the company's Q2FY24 earnings call.

OUTLET EXPANSION

The company is expanding the availability of iQube and the number of outlets that sell iQube has increased from a little over 300 in Q1 to about 340 now. This will be increased further in the coming months.

The company will start de-

livery of TVS X, a new sporty and premium crossover electric two-wheeler that was unveiled in August in Dubai, in this quarter.

Q2 PAT UP

The company has reported a 32 per cent rise in its PAT at ₹537 crore (₹407 crore) for Q2, driven by strong operating profit on the back of robust topline growth.

It recorded the highest-ever quarterly operating EBITDA of ₹900 crore (₹737 crore), up 22 per cent. Its Profit Before Tax was the highest-ever at ₹724 crore (including one-time other income of ₹37.5 crore towards fair valuation of investments), an increase over ₹549 crore in Q2 of FY23. Its operating revenue grew 13 per cent at ₹8,145 crore (₹7,219 crore).

For H1 of this fiscal, its PAT was ₹1,004 crore (₹728 crore), an increase of 38 per cent.

Air India's losses up 18% in FY23 but revenue doubles

Forum Gandhi
New Delhi

Tata's acquisition of Air India in January 2022 marked a significant change for the airline. In its first full fiscal under Tata ownership, FY23, the airline reported a loss of ₹11,381 crore, up 18.6 per cent from FY22's loss of ₹9,591 crore after accounting for write-offs and exceptional items.

The airline's revenue from operations doubled to ₹31,377 crore in FY23 from ₹16,763 crore the same time in FY22. The company's total expenses for the fiscal ended March 31, 2023, rose 40.3 per cent to ₹37,111 crore (₹26,346 crore), driven by factors such as significant exceptional items.

The airline has committed expenses to refurbishment and induction of aircraft, upgrading technology



RECORD REVENUE. Air India achieved its highest monthly passenger revenue at over ₹3,000 crore in December 2022. **PTI**

and adding more employees. Under the profit and loss statement, the company detailed exceptional items amounting to ₹6,610 crore (₹2,500 crore) in FY23.

Additionally, the financial figures included 'impairment of assets', totaling over ₹5,100 crore, and a provision for diminution in the value of assets (aircraft and engines) 'held for sale' amounting to ₹1,041 crore.

The introduction of a voluntary retirement scheme also incurred an estimated

cost of ₹465 crore, recognised as an exceptional item. The scheme was offered to over 3,500 employees as part of the company's efforts to streamline its workforce.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC

From a commercial standpoint, the airline saw substantial growth in key metrics. Available seat kilometer rose to 60,900 million in FY23, a remarkable 90 per cent increase. Revenue passenger kilometer (RPKM) almost

doubled to ₹5,046 crore (₹2,622 crore).

Under the overview, the company stated that the easing of Covid-19 travel restrictions in 2022 led to a resurgence in air travel, with global passenger demand not expected to fully return to pre-Covid levels until 2024.

In India, there was a 23 per cent growth in performance compared with FY20 (pre-Covid), with the passenger load factor increasing to 81.9 per cent (73.5 per cent) in FY23. The airline carried over 1.85 crore passengers (1.15 crore passengers) in FY23.

In terms of revenue, Air India achieved its highest monthly passenger revenue at ₹3,000 crore in December 2022. Overall, there was an increase in passenger revenue by ₹5,542 crore compared with FY20; cargo revenue rose ₹632 crore, a 37 per cent increase com-

pared with FY20. The airline's freight operations also saw a notable increase in revenue, which nearly doubled to ₹585 crore (₹321 crore). Air India carried 1,75,212 tonnes of freight (1,69,736 tonnes) in FY23.

Ancillary revenue increased by ₹382 crore compared with FY20, despite a 19 per cent reduction in the number of passengers.

Air India said that to improve its performance further, the company took several initiatives, including adding new domestic and international routes, and signing contracts for refurbishing existing wide-body aircraft.

Tata-owned Air India also executed an order book for 400 firm narrow-body and 70 firm wide-body aircraft and signed lease agreements for 11 wide-body and 25 narrow-body aircraft for deliveries before April 2024.

Adani Green's net surges 150%

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Adani Green Energy reported a surge in its Q2 FY24 consolidated net profit and revenue driven by a rise in sales and operational capacity (24 per cent), especially that of solar and wind hybrid power plants.

The net profit in the reporting quarter rose 150 per cent year on year to ₹372 crore, while revenue from sale of power rose 80 per cent to ₹1,984 crore.

Total expenses surged around 43 per cent in the reporting quarter largely due

to employee benefit expenses and finance costs.

OPERATING CAPACITY

In the quarter, Adani Green's operating capacity was at 8,316 MW, while sale of energy at 5,737 units increased 87 per cent y-o-y. The capacity utilisation factor (CUF) was at 25.2 per cent for Adani Green's solar portfolio, 40.2 per cent for the wind portfolio and 45.4 per cent for the hybrid plants. The CUF increased in the range of 90-880 basis points across all its plants.

The EBITDA from power supply was at ₹1,131 crore, up 62 per cent y-o-y, while the EBITDA margin remained more or less stable at 91.3 per cent.

The company will be installing advanced solar modules and a 5.2-MW wind turbine at Khavda in Gujarat. In July, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani said the group is planning to build a 20-GW hybrid renewable energy park in Khavda.

Marico's Q2 profit at ₹360 cr



Press Trust of India
New Delhi

Marico on Monday reported 17.26 per cent increase in consolidated net profit at ₹360 crore for Q2, driven by softer input costs, as against ₹307 crore for the corresponding quarter last year.

However, revenue from operations marginally reduced to ₹2,476 crore (₹2,496 crore) during the quarter. The company has an "underlying volume growth of 3 per cent in the domestic business and constant currency growth of 13 per cent in the international business," said an earnings statement from Marico.

TII to invest ₹211 crore in greenfield unit near Pune

G Balachandhar
Chennai

Murugappa Group's engineering firm Tube Investments of India Ltd will invest ₹211 crore in establishing a greenfield factory near Pune to manufacture precision steel tubes.

"With a view to augment capability and to enhance serviceability to the customers in different regions, the Board has approved establishment of a greenfield precision steel tube manufacturing facility," according to a company statement.

The project will be primarily funded through internal accruals and is expected to be completed in FY25. The greenfield facility is proposed to be established to manufacture multiple range of products and hence the manufacturing capacity cannot be ascertained at this stage, it added.

K R Srinivasan, President and Whole-Time Director, has been re-appointed as President and Whole-time Director for a further term, effective November 11 to June 30, 2024.

Q2 PERFORMANCE

Meanwhile, the company posted a standalone profit after tax of ₹181 crore for the quarter ended September 30 compared with ₹142 crore in the year-ago period. Revenue grew to ₹1,970 crore as against ₹1,906 crore.

TII's consolidated revenue for the September 2023 quarter was ₹4,306 crore (₹3,767 crore). PAT from continuing operations stood at ₹363 crore (₹276 crore).

SAT paves way for Punit Goenka to lead Zee-Sony merged entity

Ayushi Kar
Mumbai

Punit Goenka is set to lead the Zee-Sony merged media entity, as the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) on Monday quashed SEBI's order restraining Punit Goenka from holding the post of MD and CEO of Zee.

"We also make it clear that any observation made in this order is prima facie observation and will not influence the investigation nor will it be utilised by either of the parties," SAT added.

The SAT order simplifies the merger process as there is no restriction now on the appointment of Goenka as the CEO of the merged entity. Sources said Goenka is back as the Managing Director of Zee Entertainment on Monday. However, SEBI could also appeal SAT's decision with the Supreme Court, experts said

DLF profit up 29% at ₹629 cr

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Real estate major DLF reported a 29 per cent increase in consolidated net profit to ₹629 crore for the quarter ending September 30, 2023. The net profit in the year-ago period was ₹477 crore.

For the period under review, the total income from operations rose marginally to ₹1,476 crore, up 9 per cent YoY. Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) stood at ₹591 crore. Sales bookings touched ₹2,228 crore in Q2 with gross margins at 57 per cent.

NET DEBT ZERO

In a statement, the company said it achieved "record surplus cash generation from operations" at ₹1,147 crore. The company is now Net Debt zero.

"(The) super luxury offering, The Camellias in DLF 5, Gurugram, saw healthy de-



BETTER DEMAND. DLF said that its office portfolio continues to be on a path of gradual recovery. **REUTERS**

mand during the quarter, vindicating strong demand for high-quality residential products backed by a strong brand. We continue to see sustained demand momentum across all segments and hence keep a positive outlook on the housing cycle," the company said in a release.

DLF said that its office portfolio continues to be on a "path of gradual recovery and retail segment continues to deliver healthy growth".

businessline.
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Now, MCA enforces beneficial interest reporting regime for LLPs

EXPANDING THE NET. Makes it mandatory for designated partner to share 'beneficial interest' details with government

KR Srivats
New Delhi

The Centre has enhanced its supervision over Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs), requiring them to become more transparent and declare the "beneficial interest" holders, if any, on the contributions of their partners.

The Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) has amended the LLP Rules to make it mandatory for every person holding or acquiring a 'beneficial interest' in the contribution of partner (to an LLP) to declare such interest to the LLP, who in turn has to file a return with the Registrar of Companies (RoCs) on this front.

In essence, this signifies the intent to ascertain the true or "beneficial" owner's interest in and control over the contributions made by the partners to the LLP.

Between April 2022 till September 2023, about 64,000 LLPs have been incorporated in the country. LLP formation has boomed because company disclosures have become more stringent and moreover CARO (Auditor report order) is not applicable to LLPs, implying lesser questioning from auditors, said experts.

An LLP is quintessentially a hybrid between a Limited Liability Company and a Partnership. It has the advantage of being a body corporate, but at the same time internal governance and inter se relations among partners and LLP are regulated by the LLP Agreement and not by any statutory provisions.

Every LLP must now designate a partner who will have to cooperate with the RoC or any other MCA authorities in furnishing information about beneficial interest of the contributions received by such structures, MCA has said.

SINGLE POINT CONTACT

This designated partner will act as a single point contact for MCA authorities as regards compliance on 'beneficial interest'.

Also every LLP must now maintain a Register of Partners and detail the quantum and nature of contributions received from each Partner.

Put simply, the government has now extended the law of beneficial interest to LLPs as well. Earlier, it applied only on equity shares of companies.

The latest MCA move comes close on the heels of the government tightening the 'beneficial interest' regime in shares, requiring corporates to be more transparent and appoint a 'designated person' who can be a single point contact for the government authorities.

Over the last few years, there has been increased preference to set up LLPs due to several advantages including lower compliance for such structures.

EXPERTS' TAKE

Amarjit Chopra, former ICAI President, said that MCA move to bring LLPs under the 'beneficial interest' supervisory regime was a "fair" decision.

He highlighted that some of the companies and bigger partnerships had got converted into LLPs to take advantage of lesser compliance burden.

"For a concept of 'beneficial interest', whatever is applicable for Companies should be applicable for LLPs also. That is why MCA has brought LLPs into play".

Harish Kumar, Partner, Luthra and Luthra Law Offices India, said: "With this amendment in place, the true ownership of LLPs would become clearer/transparent along with a designated person being specifically made responsible for co-operating with the government in relation to such compliance."

Anjali Malhotra, Partner- Regulatory,



ENHANCING SUPERVISION. An LLP is quintessentially a hybrid between a Limited Liability Company and a Partnership.

Nangia Andersen India, said, "Pursuant to this Amendment, the requirement which has been applicable to Companies has now been extended to LLPs as well."

The growing popularity of LLPs may be attributed to simpler corporate structures and fewer regulatory requirements, she added.

Shiju PV, Senior Partner, IndiaLaw LLP, said, "By the amendment, the legislature aims to establish further checks and balances and transparency in the functioning of the LLP."

"With the rising number of LLPs and the dynamic nature of the contributions by partners, this amendment shall streamline and give a true status of the contributions and beneficial interest as on that date".

INDIA MOTOR PARTS & ACCESSORIES LIMITED

CIN : L65991TN1954PLC000958

Regd. & Admn. Office : 46, Whites Road, Chennai 600 014. Website : www.impal.net; E-mail id : secy@impal.net

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / HALF YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

(₹. in Crores)

Particulars	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
	Quarter ended	Half Year ended	Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended	Half Year ended	Quarter ended	Year ended
	30.09.2023 Reviewed	30.09.2023 Reviewed	30.09.2022 Reviewed	31.03.2023 Audited	30.09.2023 Reviewed	30.09.2023 Reviewed	30.09.2022 Reviewed	31.03.2023 Audited
Total income from operations	177.43	367.69	171.27	707.59	181.69	376.22	175.80	725.92
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax	24.97	45.69	24.63	91.78	25.41	46.52	25.07	93.72
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax	20.73	38.29	20.17	73.67	21.06	38.91	21.40	75.14
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising profit / (loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	207.66	386.63	169.37	168.88	207.99	387.25	170.61	170.35
Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face value per share - Rs. 10/- each)	12.48	12.48	12.48	12.48	12.48	12.48	12.48	12.48
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as per the latest Audited Balance Sheet	0.00	0.00	0.00	1351.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	1355.64
Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items) (of Rs. 10/- each) (not annualised for Quarterly numbers): Basic & Diluted	16.61	30.68	16.16	59.03	16.87	14.30	17.12	60.21
Earnings Per Share in Rupees (after extraordinary items) (of Rs. 10/- each) (not annualised for Quarterly numbers): Basic & Diluted	16.61	30.68	16.16	59.03	16.87	14.30	17.12	60.21

Notes:

- The results were reviewed by the Audit Committee of the Board and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on October 30, 2023. The results have been reviewed by the Statutory Auditors of the Company.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarter / Half year ended September 30, 2023 Financial Results filed with the National Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the aforesaid Financial Results are available on the National Stock Exchange website (www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.impal.net).

For INDIA MOTOR PARTS & ACCESSORIES LIMITED
N. KRISHNAN
Managing Director
DIN: 00041381

Place : Chennai
Date : 30.10.2023



BLUE STAR LIMITED

Registered Office: Kasturi Buildings, Mohan T. Advani Chowk, Jamshedji Tata Road, Mumbai 400 020.

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EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

₹ in Crores

Sr. No.	PARTICULARS	QUARTER ENDED	QUARTER ENDED	HALF YEAR ENDED	YEAR ENDED
		(UNAUDITED)	(UNAUDITED)	(UNAUDITED)	(AUDITED)
		30.09.23	30.09.22	30.09.23	31.03.23
1	Total Income from Operations	1,903.36	1,590.84	4,138.76	8,008.19
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	95.03	57.53	208.64	384.57
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	95.03	57.53	208.64	555.38
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	70.77	42.64	154.14	400.69
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	71.75	45.44	154.20	409.61
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of the share - ₹2/- each)	41.12	19.26	41.12	19.26
7	Reserve excluding Revaluation Reserves as per balance sheet of previous accounting year				1,311.39
8	Earnings Per Share (EPS) of ₹2 each (not annualised*)				
	a) Basic	*3.65	*2.21	*7.98	20.80
	b) Diluted	*3.65	*2.21	*7.98	20.80
9	Net Worth	2,351.55	1,044.79	2,351.55	1,330.05
10	Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	790.84	724.55	790.84	577.64
11	Debt Equity Ratio	0.34	0.69	0.34	0.43
12	Capital Redemption Reserve	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.34
13	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) (not annualised*)	*3.75	*7.62	*1.02	1.96
14	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (ISCR) (not annualised*)	*8.04	*9.39	*8.83	10.83
15	Current Ratio	1.36	1.09	1.36	1.12
16	Long term debt to working capital	0.22	0.75	0.22	0.55
17	Current liability ratio	0.93	0.92	0.93	0.93
18	Bad debts to Account receivable ratio	-	-	-	0.02
19	Total debt to total assets	0.13	0.16	0.13	0.11
20	Debtors turnover (No. of days)	60.58	60.27	62.09	62.65
21	Inventory turnover (No. of days)	86.07	87.04	80.89	76.10
22	Operating margin (%)	6.49%	5.41%	6.50%	6.18%
23	Net profit margin (%) (After exceptional income)	3.72%	2.68%	3.72%	5.00%

NOTES:

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (as amended). The full format of the quarterly results is available on the website of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com) and (www.nseindia.com), and on Company's website (www.bluestarindia.com). The specified items of the standalone financial results of the Company for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2023 are given below.
- Pursuant to approval given by the shareholders vide postal ballot on June 8, 2023, the Company has issued 9,63,13,888 fully paid up bonus equity shares of ₹2/- each in the ratio of 1 (One) equity shares of ₹2/- each for every 1 (One) existing equity share of ₹2/- each during the half year ended September 30, 2023. Accordingly, the earnings per share has been adjusted for previous periods' / year and presented in accordance with Ind AS 33 - Earnings Per Share.
- The Company raised capital of ₹1,000 crores through Qualified Institutions Placement ("QIP") of equity shares. The Executive Management Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company, at its meeting held on September 22, 2023, approved the allotment of 1,29,87,012 equity shares of face value ₹2 each to eligible investors at a price ₹770 per equity share (including a premium of ₹768 per equity share).

₹ in Crores

Sr. No.	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE			
		QUARTER ENDED	QUARTER ENDED	HALF YEAR ENDED	YEAR ENDED
		(UNAUDITED)	(UNAUDITED)	(UNAUDITED)	(AUDITED)
		30.09.23	30.09.22	30.09.23	31.03.23
1	Revenue from Operations	1,740.86	1,417.19	3,821.50	7,353.13
2	Profit before tax (after exceptional item)	93.58	40.80	197.03	504.60
3	Profit after tax	70.22	30.12	147.29	366.58
4	Total Comprehensive Income	69.75	30.04	146.76	366.42

For BLUE STAR LIMITED

Date : October 30, 2023

Place : Mumbai
www.bluestarindia.com

Vir S. Advani
Vice Chairman and Managing Director
(DIN: 01571278)

Insurers to provide basic details of policy features to customers from Jan 1

Press Trust of India
New Delhi

Insurance companies will have to provide basic features of a policy like sum assured, what the policy covers as well as exclusions, and claim procedure, to policyholders in a prescribed format from January 1, for easy understanding of terms and conditions.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has revised the existing customer information sheet so as to convey basic information about the policy purchased in a manner that is easily understood.

REVISED CUSTOMER DETAILS

"The revised customer information sheet (CIS) shall be implemented with effect from January 1, 2024," the regulators said in a circular to all insurance companies. IRDAI said that it is important for a policyholder to understand the terms and conditions of the policy that has been purchased. "Since a policy document may be fraught with legalese, it is imperative to have a document that explains in simple words, the basic features with regards to the policy and provides necessary information," the circular said.

It also noted that several complaints are still emanating as a result of asymmetry of information between insurer and the policy holder, IRDAI said, while providing rationale for introducing revised CIS. As per the revised CIS, insurers will have to provide 'name of insurance product/policy', 'policy number', 'type of insurance product/policy', and 'sum insured'.

Policyholders will also be informed about policy coverage (like hospital expenses), exclusions, waiting period, financial limits of coverage, claims procedure, and details about grievances/complaints redressal mechanism.

'Remuneration to directors for providing corporate guarantee to be taxed under GST'

CLEARING THE AIR. This is part of CBIC's circular clarifying taxability of personal and corporate guarantee

Shishir Sinha
New Delhi

Remuneration or consideration received, directly/indirectly by a serving or separated director, for providing corporate guarantee will be treated as taxable value for GST, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has said.

This is part of a clarificatory circular, sent by CBIC to its field formations, for implementation of GST Council's recommendations pertaining to taxability of personal guarantee and corporate guarantee.

The Council, in its meeting on October 6, gave two recommendations on corporate guarantee. One, the parent company's corporate guarantee to its subsidiary for a bank loan will attract 18 per cent GST. And second, there will be no GST if a director provides a personal guarantee for a loan from a

bank or any financial institution to his/her own company.

CBIC has said that in response to representations received from its own officials and industry, it is issuing clarification to ensure uniformity in implementation. The circular recognised the mandate provided by a RBI circular which says no consideration by way of commission, brokerage fees, or any other form, can be paid to the director by the company, directly or indirectly, in lieu of providing a personal guarantee to the bank for borrowing credit limits. Since there is no consideration, the open market value may be treated as zero and therefore no tax liability.

There may, however, be cases where the director, who had provided the guarantee, is no longer connected with the management but continuance of his guarantee is considered essential because the new management's guarantee is either not avail-

TWO PROPOSALS

- The parent company's corporate guarantee to its subsidiary for a bank loan will attract 18% GST
- There will be no GST if a director provides a personal guarantee for a loan from a bank or any financial institution to his/her own company



able or is found inadequate. "In all these cases, the taxable value of such supply of service shall be the remuneration/consideration provided to such a person/guarantor by the company, directly or indirectly," the circular said.

TWO MORE SCENARIOS

Further, the circular has envisaged two more scenarios. One is when the corporate guarantee is provided by a company to the bank/financial institutions for provid-

ing credit facilities to the other company and where both the companies are related. In such a situation, the activity is to be treated as a supply of service between related parties as per GST Law even when made without any consideration.

Second, where the corporate guarantee is provided by a holding company, for its subsidiary company, those two entities also fall under the category of 'related persons'. Hence the activity of providing corporate guaran-

tee by a holding company to the bank/financial institutions for securing credit facilities for its subsidiary company, even when made without any consideration, is also to be treated as a supply of service.

The circular said, that considering different practices being followed by tax officials and taxpayers in determining taxable value, a new provision has been added in CGST Rules (with effect from October 26, 2023). This says: "The value of supply of services by a supplier to a recipient who is a related person, by way of providing a corporate guarantee to any banking company or financial institution on behalf of the said recipient, shall be deemed to be one per cent of the amount of such guarantee offered, or the actual consideration, whichever is higher." This means if the corporate guarantee was ₹100 crore, then ₹18 lakh would be the GST liability.

Aequus raises ₹448 crore, to launch advanced technology products vertical

Isha Rautela
Bengaluru



Aravind Melligeri, Chairman and CEO, Aequus

Precision manufacturing company Aequus has raised \$54 million (₹448 crore) in a fresh round of equity funding led by Singapore-based Amansa Capital, which brings on board five new investors.

The funding comes as the company plans to launch a new Advanced Technology Products (ATP) vertical to manufacture high-precision components for consumer electronics companies, which is expected to be operational by the first quarter of next year, Aravind Melligeri, Chairman & CEO, told *businessline*.

A 200,000-sq-ft facility is un-

been invested in setting up the infrastructure, operations, and equipment."

THE BUSINESS

Aequus operates in two other verticals: consumer durables and aerospace. Notably, it is a prominent player in precision components for the aerospace sector, serving some of the global giants including Airbus, Boeing, Honeywell and other major industry players.

With its focus on precision manufacturing in aerospace and other sectors, it primarily derives its revenues from exports and has established a significant aerospace-focused manufacturing ecosystem in India's first aerospace SEZ in Belagavi, Karnataka.

Skyroot Aerospace raises \$27.5 m in pre-series C round

K V Kurmanath
Hyderabad

Space-tech company Skyroot Aerospace has raised \$27.5 million (about ₹225 crore) in a pre-Series C funding round led by the Singapore-based investment firm Temasek.

"As we prepare for the launch of our second mission early next year, this new funding will enable us to accelerate our upcoming launches planned over the next two years," Pawan Kumar Chandana, Co-founder and CEO of Skyroot, said.

Skyroot said it will deploy the proceeds to drive its next phase of growth

through increased investments in infrastructure, reinforcement of its technology leadership, attraction of top-tier talent, and the enhancement of its launch frequency and capabilities.

The company, founded in 2018 by Pawan Kumar Chandana and Naga Bharath Daka, launched India's and South Asia's first, and till date the only, privately developed rocket, marking Indian private space sector's entry into the space launch market.

The company offers on-demand, cost-effective, reliable and regular space launch services to the fast-expanding global small and medium-sized satellite market.

Then & Now: An update of past winners of Changemaker awards

How India Stack propels digital adoption

2020 WINNER.

Digital Transformation
India Stack

Haripriya Sureban

From Starbucks at Trinity, and ChinLung at MG Road, to vegetable carts in Gandhi Nagar in Bengaluru and petty shops on every corner, the ping of successful UPI payments can be heard at all times of the day. A scene replicated all across the country as well.

Digitisation has scaled rapidly in the country. One of the inventions that has played an important role in this move to a digital-led living is the "India Stack" - the winner of the *bl* Changemaker Award in 2020 for financial transformation.

India Stack is a moniker for a set of open Application Programming Interfaces (API) - a software bridge that enables two applications to talk to each other - and digital public goods that aim to unlock the economic primitives of identity, data, and payments at a population scale.

The moniker includes Aadhaar authentication, e-KYC, e-Sign, DigiLocker, United Payment Interface, Aadhaar Enabled Payment System, Immediate Payment Service, and Aadhaar Payment Bridge.

According to a PwC India report, UPI transactions are likely to reach one billion per day by 2026-27, accounting for 90 per cent of India's retail digital payments.

Instrumental to the development of India Stack is the Indian Software Products Industry Round Table (iSPIRT), the software products think tank led by tech advocates and volunteers.

Sharad Sharma, co-founder of iSPIRT Foundation, notes that the developments post-2020, are the launch of account aggregators, which has become a success. "This launch made In-



dia Stack complete because now we can convey that it's about the digital infrastructure that mediates the flow of people, money, and information," he said.

Since then, iSPIRT has also launched open networks. One is the Open Credit Enablement Network, which is now for scale use, after the pilot programme. It basically reimagines the lending ecosystem in a manner wherein any service provider that interfaces with customers can now also play the role of credit provider. This network comprises lenders, borrowers, credit bureaus, underwriters, tech companies, and a new class of entities called Loan Service Providers.

The other lesser-known network is Open Health Services Network, an interface that governs the relationship between various market players in the healthcare ecosystem such as tele-consult providers, pharmacies, or diagnostic centres on one side, and government or private apps and platforms on the other side.

GOING GLOBAL

"The network was launched one-and-a-half years ago and is progressing at a slow pace, as issues in the health sector are complex. The purpose of an open network is to create a market ecosystem that does not have misaligned incent-

ives," said Sharma. The India Stack dubbed as Digital Public Infrastructure, has gone global. Since June 2023, India has signed MoUs with countries such as Armenia, Sierra Leone, Suriname, and Antigua & Barbuda, among others. It is also working on WANI (Wireless Access Network Interface), aimed at enabling internet access to deep rural areas. For the next year, iSPIRT has two other developments to roll out which include Sakram for solutions around cybersecurity and Bharat Distributed Ledger for enforcing commercial contracts.

The Changemaker 2023 Awards will take place in New Delhi on November 3. The Presenting Partner for the event is: SASTRA University. Associate Partners: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Casagrand, Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation, Punjab & Sind Bank, United India Insurance & LIC Housing Finance Ltd and GAIL; Banking Partner: J&K Bank; Online Grocery Partner: Big Basket; Tourism Partner: Bihar Tourism; Education Partner: SSVI Institutions; Television Partner: NewsX; Gifting Partner: Anand Prakash Knowledge Partner: Ashoka & Deloitte and Validation Partner: Niiti Consulting.

The link to view the event live is <https://bit.ly/BLCM23>

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STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED "STANDALONE" FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022						
(Rs. in Lacs)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended	Quarter ended	Quarter ended	Half Year Ended	Half Year Ended
		30.09.2022	30.06.2022	30.09.2021	30.09.2022	30.09.2021
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1.	Total Income from operations (net)	8.37	0.01	472.21	8.38	2,309.97
2.	Profit/(Loss) from operations before tax and exceptional items	(878.75)	(901.68)	(2,561.81)	(1,780.42)	(3,844.36)
3.	Profit/(Loss) from operations before tax and after exceptional items	(878.75)	(901.68)	(2,561.81)	(1,780.42)	(3,844.36)
4.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period/year after Tax	(878.75)	(901.68)	(2,561.81)	(1,780.42)	(3,844.36)
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period/year	(878.75)	(901.68)	(2,561.81)	(1,780.42)	(3,844.36)
6.	Paid up equity share capital (face value of share of Rs. 1/- each)	2,044.40	2,044.40	2,044.40	2,044.40	2,044.40
7.	Earnings/(Loss) per share (Not annualized)					
	Basic (Rs.)	(0.43)	(0.44)	(1.25)	(0.87)	(1.88)
	Diluted (Rs.)	(0.43)	(0.44)	(1.25)	(0.87)	(1.88)

Note:

- The National Company Law Tribunal ("NCLT"), Chandigarh Bench, vide their order delivered on February 2nd, 2022 ("Insolvency Commencement Date") has admitted the petition filed by financial creditor of the company for initiation of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process ("CIRP") vis 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 ("the code") and has appointed Mr. Darshan Singh Anand, Registration No. IBBI/IPA-002/P-NO0326/2017-18/10931 as Interim Resolution Professional ("IRP") to manage the affairs of the company in accordance with the provisions of the code. In the second meeting of Committee of Creditors ("COC") held on March 17th, 2022, Mr. Darshan Singh Anand has been confirmed as Resolution Professional ("RP") for the company. Pursuant to NCLT order for commencement of CIRP and in line with the provisions of the Code, the powers of the Board of directors shall stand suspended and be exercised by RP.
- We have been informed by RP that the record of the Company is not handed over to RP completely and hence application vis 19(2) of the IBC has been submitted to NCLT. Further, as informed by the management at the time of initiation of the CIRP proceedings vide email dated 15.02.2022 that due to ransomware attack the tally/data, fixed assets register and other relevant records before 01.04.2021 were not available.
- As mentioned in Note No. 2 above, upon an application of the financial creditors of the company, NCLT has admitted a petition to initiate insolvency proceedings against the company under the code. As per the code, it is required that the company be managed as a going concern during CIRP. Further, under the CIRP, a resolution plan needs to be presented to and approved by the COC, post which it will need to be approved by NCLT to keep the company as a going concern.
- The COC in its meeting dated 25th August 2022 have approved the Resolution plan submitted by M/s Archiball Spices and Foods Private Limited. Pursuant to its approval by the NCLT, while the long term prospects of the company may be dependent upon expeditious completion of CIRP process, in view of the above facts and continuing operations of the company, the financial statements have been prepared on going concern basis.
- For the reasons mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the company has not taken into consideration any impact on the carrying value of tangible assets, if any, in the preparation of Financial Results as required by Ind-AS 10 on the "Events after the reporting period". Further, the company has also not made full assessment of its impairment in their fair value as required by Ind AS 36 on the impairment of assets, if any, as on 30th September 2022 in the value of tangible assets. The company continues not to assess the impairment of the carrying value of the tangible assets.
- For the reasons mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the company has not taken into consideration any adjustment required in the carrying amount of such assets and liabilities and consequential impact, if any, on the reported losses for the year ended September 30th, 2022 pending comprehensive review of carrying amount of all assets (including balances lying under Goods & Service Tax and other statutory authorities) & liabilities including trade receivables, advances paid, trade payables, advances received, other short term liabilities, etc. as at 30th September, 2022 which are unconfirmed and no documentary evidence have been made available to verify/confirm the same along with non-provision for impairment of carrying value of the assets and write back of liabilities if any due to pending implementation of the approved resolution plan by NCLT. Non determination of fair value of financial assets & liabilities and impairment in carrying amount for other assets and liabilities are not in compliance with Ind AS 109 "Financial Instruments", Ind AS 10 "Events after the Reporting Period", Ind AS 36 "Impairment of Assets" and Ind AS 37 "Provisions, Contingent Liabilities & Contingent Assets".
- The Resolution Professional appointed by Hon'ble NCLT had appointed Stock Auditor to verify the quantity and realisable value of stock as on the date of Commencement of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process i.e. 02.02.2022. On the basis of such Stock Audit Report, dosing stock has been considered as Rs.207.38 Lacs as on the date of commencement of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process as well as on the end of current reporting quarter as on 30.09.2022.
- The Resolution Professional has not been handed over Fixed Asset Register and previous details of depreciation by the previous management, hence Depreciation is measured as per SLM basis and information available on record and may vary.
- The Resolution Professional has not received the title deeds of all the immovable properties. Hence detail of immovable properties (other than immovable properties where the Company is the lessee and the lease agreements are duly executed in favour of the Company) disclosed in the financial statements included in property, plant and equipment and Right of Use Assets are held in the name of the Company as at the balance sheet date can not be provided / disclosed.
- Resolution Professional has not been supplied with much material information and documents by the erstwhile management of the Corporate Debtor and consequently, the Resolution Professional has not been able to submit some of the important information to the Statutory Auditors. The Resolution Professional to enforce his right to information and papers from the erstwhile management of the Corporate Debtor has filed an application with the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal Chandigarh Bench an Application under section 19(2) of the Indian Bankruptcy Code-2016 with application bearing IA No. 764/2022.
- The financial results of the company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS) notified under Companies ("Indian Accounting Standards") Amendment Rules, 2015 as amended by Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2016. These financial results have been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in Indian Accounting Standard 34 (Ind AS 34) "Interim Financial Reporting" prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant rules issued there under and other accounting principles generally accepted in India, read with the circular in the responsibility of the company's management and has been approved by Resolution Professional of the company.
- No interest on the dues payable towards banks, institutions, other organisations have been provided during the quarter in view of imposition of moratorium by vide para 14 order of Hon'ble NCLT, Chandigarh Bench dated 02.02.2022.
- The Resolution Professional is in receipt of workmen claim which is admitted for Rs. 49,62,72,600/- by the Committee of Creditor in voting concluded on 08.06.2023 however as per financial statements of the company amount payable to workmen is Rs. 23,34,76,371/-, hence the company has a contingent liability of Rs. 26,27,99,829/- as per detail as under:

Particulars	As per Financial Statement as on 31.3.22	Amount admitted with approval of COC on 08.06.2023	Difference
Salary & Bonus Payable	19,51,90,451/-	40,85,85,898/-	21,33,95,447/-
Gratuity Payable	3,82,85,920/-	8,76,90,302/-	4,94,04,382/-
Total	23,34,76,371/-	49,62,76,200/-	26,27,99,829/-

12. The previous period's/year's figures have been re-grouped/re-arranged wherever considered necessary to facilitate comparison and better presentation of the statements as per the financial reporting framework.

13. The format of the quarterly financial results are available on the websites of Bombay Stock Exchange and the website of the Company ("www.vikaswsp.ltd.in").

For and on behalf of Vikas WSP Limited
(Company under CIRP)
Sd/-
Darshan Singh Anand
Resolution Professional
IBBI/IPA-002/P-NO0326/2017-18/10931

Place: Sri Ganganagar
Date: 30.10.2023

TVS MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED		TVS					
Regd Office: "Chaitanya", No.12, Khader Nawaz Khan Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 006.							
Telephone No. (044) 28332115 Website: www.tvsmotor.com Email: contactus@tvsmotor.com							
CIN: L35921TN1992PLC022845							
STATEMENT OF STANDALONE & CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS							
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 TH SEPTEMBER 2023							
(Rs. in Crores)							
S. No	Particulars	Standalone		Consolidated			
		Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended	Year ended		
		30.09.2023	30.09.2022	31.03.2023	30.09.2022	31.03.2023	
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)		
1	Total income from operations	8,190.85	7,220.55	26,478.66	9,983.75	8,590.56	32,111.99
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional items)	723.65	549.22	2,003.37	675.77	549.82	1,937.90
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	723.65	549.22	2,003.37	675.77	549.73	1,936.03
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	536.55	407.47	1,491.03	415.93	373.40	1,309.46
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) or the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) (after tax)]	545.19	404.49	1,463.35	418.49	388.72	1,368.74
6	Paid up Equity share capital (Face value of Re.1/- each)	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	6,000.34	-	-	5,457.49
8	Security Premium Account	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Networth	7,016.84	5,531.11	6,038.35	6,251.40	5,049.29	5,422.76
10	Outstanding Debt	1,664.43	647.82	2,010.23	21,518.63	16,019.60	19,775.04
11	Outstanding redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Debt Equity Ratio (Times)	0.2	0.1	0.3	3.4	3.2	3.6
13	Earnings Per Share (Face value of Re. 1/- each) (not annualised)						
	(i) Basic (in Rs.)	11.29	8.58	31.38	8.13	8.13	27.97
	(ii) Diluted (in Rs.)	11.29	8.58	31.38	8.13	8.13	27.97
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary) (Times)	7.1	5.1	5.0	1.9	3.2	2.9
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary) (Times)	14.8	16.6	15.2	7.3	9.3	8.2
18	Current Ratio (Times)	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.9
19	Long term debt to working capital (Times)	-	-	-	2.6	2.8	3.0
20	Bad debts to Accounts Receivable ratio (Times)	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Current liability ratio (Times)	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7
22	Total debts to total assets ratio (Times)	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.6
23	Debtors Turnover ratio (Times)	25.7	26.2	27.0	26.4	25.8	26.3
24	Inventory Turnover ratio (Times)	14.0	18.3	17.0	10.7	12.9	11.7
25	Operating Margin (%)	11.0	10.2	10.1	9.6	9.3	9.1
26	Net Profit Margin (%)	6.6	5.6	5.7	4.2	4.4	4.1

Notes:

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 & 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the Stock exchange websites (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.tvsmotor.com).
- Figures for the previous periods have been regrouped, wherever necessary, to conform to the current period's classification.

Place : Chennai
Date : 30th October 2023

For TVS Motor Company Limited
Sd/-
Prof. Sir Ralf Dieter Speth
Chairman

No doomsday scenario

Drought preparedness must become a priority

After many years, India's kharif output this year is set to fall. Rice output, according to a recent report in this newspaper, is expected to be 3.8 per cent lower than kharif 2022 output, according to the first advance estimates put out by the Agriculture Ministry. With pulses and coarse grains output down by 6.6 per cent and 6.5 per cent, respectively, overall kharif foodgrains output is expected to be nearly 5 per cent lower at 148 million tonnes (rice at 106 million tonnes, four million tonnes less than last year).



The shortfall in oilseeds (nearly five million tonnes), cotton (two million bales) and sugarcane (six million tonnes) is estimated at 17.7 per cent, 5.9 per cent and 11.4 per cent, respectively. Meanwhile, the US weather agency has said that 21.6 per cent of the country faces "drought conditions". The effects of deficient rainfall can vary across the country. There is no dire situation as yet. South West monsoon rainfall was deficient (20-59 per cent below the long period average) in south interior Karnataka, the north-east, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, eastern UP and Kerala, although the all-India report card points to a shortfall of 6 per cent from the long period average. These regions could need immediate relief measures. However, ground reports suggest that the standing crop in parts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is unfit for human consumption but usable as fodder.

Livestock GDP, which accounts for about a quarter of agri GDP, may not be severely hit. It is undeniable that improved irrigation has reduced the impact of rain shortfall on crop output. Groundwater levels are not low everywhere, as the monsoon was good last year. But in the badly hit areas, there is no time to be lost. The States must be proactive in declaring drought, so that the central teams can follow up and take necessary relief (and crop insurance) steps. Earlier this month, Karnataka declared almost all its taluks as drought hit. In doing so, a State is supposed to follow norms laid down in the Centre's drought manual of 2016, which include: three or four weeks of dry spell in a region; a rainfall deficit of over 60 per cent; completion of sowing; 50 per cent of crop loss.

However, the Karnataka government may have a point in asking for a fine-tuning of these conditions, keeping in mind diverse agro-climatic conditions across regions, be it water availability or farm practices. The 60 per cent bar for drought seems high when a deficiency of 20-59 per cent can wreak havoc. The same could hold true for dry spell period. The distribution of a particular level of rainfall over time could impact crops differently. Upon declaration of drought, the Reserve Bank of India's 2018 rules can be invoked, which lay down conditions for restructuring of crop loans if the crop losses are at over 33 per cent. Fasal Bima Yojana authorities must assess damage without delay. We have emerged from bigger monsoon failures.

POCKET

RAVIKANTH



SANGEETA GODBOLE

India called out EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) publicly and comprehensively. At the WTO Public Forum it made a compelling argument against such unilateral climate measures. That the coin has dropped was proven by the long intervention that the EU had to make to explain itself.

India itself has moved positively and rapidly on the climate action front. It simultaneously notified two schemes in June 2023, designed for climate action — the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) and the Green Credit Programme (GCP). CCTS will require industry from particular sectors to reduce emissions, and the GCP will encourage common citizens to create carbon sinks and be partners in climate action.

If the CCTS is the stick, the GCP is the carrot in the climate change effort. Its biggest strength is on-boarding small climate actions in everyday life by the ordinary person. If implemented scientifically, consistently, and transparently, the GCP can be a game-changer. It can offer the world a spectacular template to hand over climate action agency to the common woman.

NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES

Apart from the Korean green credit card scheme activated since 2016, there have been hardly any nano scale environmental action programmes implemented elsewhere in the world. The West is habituated to institutionalised extravagant consumption of energy in daily life, with per capita consumption far exceeding the global averages. It is searching for solutions that will allow ever greater energy consumption. Each solution — solar, wind, nuclear, hydro, EVs — is fraught with intractable negative externalities — be it cost, end-of-life waste, or critical minerals consumption.

It is only change in lifestyles and moderation in consumption patterns that appear to be a lasting solution to the climate crisis. The GCP lists a range of sectors including tree plantation, water management and conservation, waste management, sustainable agriculture, and air pollution reduction. Green credits will be given to even individual level actions in these sectors and create much needed green offsets.

Scientifically rigorous assessment of what constitutes a single credit will be a challenge, especially given the overlapping outcomes of actions. Let us consider the popular biogas plants.



Green 'citizen' credits can make a difference

CONCRETE VALUE. Green Credit Programme encourages citizens to create carbon sinks and be partners in climate action

GETTY IMAGES

These renewable energy generators have been the Indian farmers' friend for decades.

While utilising cow dung and other organic waste, the farmer has acted to generate green electricity, reduce air pollution, save the tree cover, improve soil health and manage waste sustainably. How will the green credit be then assessed and measured?

The measurement, reporting and verification of green credits will be keenly scrutinised by the international scientific community and must pass that test. Any climate related measure no longer remains the interest of only national actors.

Do we have the wherewithal to create the necessary standards, and implement them through ICFRE (Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)? To be successful, the GCP will have to be a

It is only change in lifestyles and moderation in consumption patterns that appear to be a lasting solution to the climate crisis.

massive exercise reaching out and convincing the entire Indian population to participate. A strong IT backbone is nowadays a *sine qua non* of any measure designed for mass operation. Will a separate body be necessary for implementation?

SOLID FOUNDATION

But once a robust system has been put in place, implementation could be achieved rapidly. India has proven its capabilities in operating at scale and speed on the last mile. India's digital public infrastructure offers a solid foundation which can be used to link environmental actions to a citizen. India has used geospatial technologies effectively in its services delivery programmes. These can operate as flanking systems to bring the GCP into quick effect.

Technological carbon removal is at this point extremely expensive and energy intensive. Nature based carbon removal seems to be a sustainable solution. Media reports suggest that cash rich corporates from West Asia have taken over entire tracts of lands from poor North African countries to create carbon sinks and carbon offsets by accounting for the carbon

sequestration created by the green cover and forests. Carbon removal was the focus of the African Climate Summit too.

India's international commitments at UNFCCC are clear-eyed. It knows that it has to grow, substantially and rapidly. India's population owes to itself much higher incomes and per capita GDP. A formalised mechanism under the GCP can reinforce both — reduction of India's emissions intensity and GDP growth.

Millions of farmers, cooperatives and non-profits in India and elsewhere in the world have been diligently creating green credits in the sectors listed in the GCP. But have received neither recognition nor monetary value for their positive climate actions. If green credits through the GCP can provide concrete value — moral, environmental, and monetary — Indian citizens can create humongous climate action. India's smallest and the feeblest entrepreneur can change the global environmental grammar if the GCP delivers value to her.

The writer is a former IRS officer and has negotiated the India-EU and India-EFTA FTAs in the Department of Commerce. Views are personal

Third party trade can push Re settlement system

A Russian exporter, for instance, can be allowed to use its rupee balance to import goods from India for sale to a third country

Ajay Sahai

In a bid to move away from the dollar and other foreign currency denominated trade, the Reserve Bank of India rolled out International Trade Settlement (ITS) in Indian Rupee on July 11, 2022. This was also the first step towards internationalisation of the rupee.

The move was timely as a number of countries in Africa and South Asia were facing acute shortage of foreign exchange in view of a slowdown of their exports and tourism earnings, compelling some of them to restrict trade only through Letter of Credit, and by using limited foreign exchange for essential imports. Increasing OFAC (Office of Foreign Assets Control in the US) sanctions on countries also indirectly supported rupee-based settlement.

In less than a year, almost two dozen countries' banks have opened Special Vostro accounts in India. However, in such a mechanism, overseas entities face exchange risk since their currencies have to be converted into rupee mostly through cross currency rate, since most

of the countries under the mechanism do not have a direct currency rate with Rupee. Banks have agreed to provide a direct exchange rate though using US\$.

The double conversion, first in dollar and then in rupee, generally eats away 3-4 per cent of the transaction value. This dissuades overseas entities from availing rupee settlement. Someone has to absorb this cost for this mechanism to be exploited fully.

LOCAL CURRENCY

To address this and to enhance bilateral trade relations between India and the UAE, the governments announced local currency trading between the two nations. In local currency trading, entities are permitted to use either of the currencies for exports or imports.

If both sides are dealing in their own local currency, exchange risk is eliminated. Our MSMEs will be a major beneficiary as they are not familiar with the nuances of hedging.

One of the challenges in such settlements, however, is with regard to imports required for such exports. In the usual course, exporters take pre-shipment credit in dollars or euros for imports of raw materials required for



EXCHANGE RISK. A fallout of settlement in local currency

exports and liquidate such credit through exports. Natural hedging is available as the value of imports is liquidated by exports. In local currency settlement, however, exporters are susceptible to some exchange risk. Fifty per cent of pre-shipment credits are denominated in foreign currencies.

SEZ units are required to transact in foreign currency as settlement in the rupee is still not recognised by the SEZ policy though Foreign Trade Policy allows it. Early amendment in the SEZ policy will hasten such settlements.

The balance lying in ITS Rupee

Accounts is meant for trade or investment. But many entities are purely in the exim business and thus not keen on investment.

LIQUIDATING THE RUPEE

There is another possible situation. For example, company "A" in Russia has exported goods worth ₹50 crore and has a credit of ₹50 crore in its rupee account, which it is unable to use either for imports from or investment in India. However, it should be possible for, say, a UK-based branch of this company to import a product from India worth ₹50 crore and sell to a third country.

The transaction will facilitate exports from India while simultaneously providing an opportunity to Russian entity to liquidate the rupee. Some of the bankers opine that such transactions are permitted while many say 'no'.

If we consider rupee in the Special Vostro account as free foreign exchange, there should not be any problem as third country payment is allowed, if declared at the time of exports. However, clarity is required to avoid hassles in future.

The writer is Director General, FIEO. Views are personal

✉ **LETTERS TO EDITOR** Send your letters by email to bleditor@thehindu.co.in or by post to 'Letters to the Editor', The Hindu Business Line, Kasturi Buildings, 859-860, Anna Salai, Chennai 600002.

Go for short-term goals

This refers to 'How to judge the Modi years' (October 30). The argument either the "means justify the ends or the ends justify the means" would hold good only when the approach is fair and when they are applied equally without any discrimination. While lots of credit could be attributed to the BJP government in terms of its governance structure and composition of ministers who are efficient and corruption free compared to erstwhile regimes, one area which the government needs to focus upon is in its economic policies. The policy measures seem to sacrifice too much of the present for future. The vision of the government transforming India to become a \$30 trillion developed economy by 2047

is laudable but there are many hurdles on the way as the future is uncertain. Already the goal of India becoming a \$5 trillion economy could not materialise due to the unforeseen Covid pandemic. Hence it is better to go for short-term goals and try executing them.

Srinivasan Velamur
Chennai

Bank boards must step up

This refers to 'RBI wants bank directors to fully engage in board meets' (October 30). At a time when governance is not robust in banks, the Reserve Bank's move to upscale the governance in banks is welcome. With the extensive use of advanced information technology, banking activities and businesses are

becoming more complex and, therefore, require foolproof systems and procedures to curb frauds connected to loans, internet banking, and payment and settlement systems.

The board of directors is responsible for the growth of quality business, besides audit, inspection and its compliance. Since every aspect of the banking business is vital, the board must ensure effective participation in framing all types of policies and their execution to guard the interests of all stakeholders.

VSK Pillai
Changanacherry, Kerala

70-hour week

Apropos 'Time motion study', while Narayana Murthy's statement generated a lot of public debate, the

essence of what he said seems lost. He has sought to convey that the work productivity of Indians is poor and needs to be substantially improved. Consider the disappointment among the IT employees now that employers are demanding that they attend office more often. Given that this category is already 'privileged' — working from swank campuses, air-conditioned offices, and with plush food-courts — the employees' disappointment seems unfair. His other point is that India has a lot of catching up to do to reach advanced country levels on the economic front. This generation is expected to contribute in a big measure.

V Vijaykumar
Pune

Productivity will suffer

It would be simply insane to go by what Narayana Murthy has advocated. Spending as much as 12 hours a day for six days a week will only result in huge burnouts and productivity is bound to suffer. It should not be about 50 or 70 hours but how productivity is achieved for the organisation. Work moved from 9 to 5 to 'work from home' during the pandemic, and now hybrid is the new work model. Evolving as time changes is a good thing but not at the cost of both physical and mental health of an employee. During appraisal time an employee is judged by what he/she has achieved in the last one year and not how much time he/she spent at the workstation.

Bal Govind
Noida

Curbing pesky calls

The blockchain option is a win-win for all

Arunabha Mukhopadhyay
Vikas Guru
Yogendra Jain



UNWANTED CALLS. Blockchain advantageGETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

A survey conducted by 'LocalCircles' in the year 2022 revealed that almost 64 per cent of Indians received three or more spam calls on their phones every day. These are mostly related to financial services, and real estate offers. Many a time these Unwanted Commercial Calls (UCC) are from the regular 10-digit mobile numbers which are used by Unregistered Telemarketers (UTMs).

To address this issue, TRAI enacted a new regulation in July 2018, 'The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018', introducing Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) for the National Do Not Call (NDNC) registry. Indian telecom sector has implemented blockchain for pesky calls.

DLT or Blockchain technology facilitates smart record-keeping with integrated business rules and authentic telemarketers (TM) and Telecom Service providers (TSP) using digital signatures. TRAI mandated TSPs should adopt "permissioned" and private DLT networks to control pesky calls.

The proposed DLT solution is supported by a Cloud-based solution for scrubbing commercial messages and managing the complaint process.

TSPs now implement various DLT-based solutions. These DLT solutions should be integrated soon to reduce the time lag between data sharing and facilitate verification of the genuineness of the complaints and protect innocent customers from disconnection of telecom resources due to false complaints.

In contrast, in 2007 TRAI had recommended a centralised NDNC under Telecom UCC Regulation. The centralised NDNC registry or database, was established by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) where the TMs submitted their calling list and got back the filtered list of customers to whom they can make marketing calls. TSPs periodically updated the NDNC database. TSPs were asked to provision, separate message headers for marketing and transactional messages and also separate number series for telemarketing (TM) to control UCC from unregistered telemarketers (UTMs).

Telecom customers can send

SMSs to opt in or out of NDNC registry. The NDNC system took about 24 hours to register preferences and required up to seven days to enforce the revised preferences. The time required to resolve UCC complaints and take action against the defaulter was more than seven days. Unscrupulous TMs exploited this long-time window to its fullest.

Several factors hindered the achievement objectives of the 2007 UCC regulations using the NDNC registry like: entities from every nook and corner of the India participating and TMs joining for a short period to target customers of a limited geographical area.

BLOCKCHAIN BENEFITS

The implementation of Blockchain technology to control pesky calls has several benefits. Such DLT solutions helps to record, store and process data and execute speedily in a distributed environment. The DLT facilitates data sharing and transparency across multiple TSPs. The records of different entities are stored in an immutable manner so that participating entities can trust each other. Securing the data through a DLT would also prevent it from landing in the hands of Unregistered Telemarketers (UTMs).

Customers shall be able to define their preferences at a granular level. They can set preferences about days and time bands to receive commercial communications. Faster resolution of complaints and visibility of the status of the resolution shall be added advantages. For TSPs, the blockchain technology will ease the pain of data sharing and reduce regulatory burden. DLT-based solutions shall reduce the onboarding and operational costs for TMs and help them become compliant with the regulations.

The DLT-based UCC solution is a win-win scenario for all.

Mukhopadhyay is Professor, IT & Systems, IIM Lucknow; Guru and Jain are PhD Students at IIM Lucknow

Holes in IMF's climate finance plan

The IMF's stance on climate funding ends up absolving the developed nations' historical responsibility

MACROSCAN.



CP CHANDRASHEKHAR, JAYATI GHOSH

Early October provided yet more evidence of the breakdown of multilateralism and the lack of international commitment from countries, to work together to address shared national challenges. The 2023 pledging Conference for the second replenishment of the Green Climate Fund, the largest climate-dedicated multilateral funding source, generated only \$9.3 billion of commitments from 24 countries.

That is lower than \$10.3 billion pledged by 45 countries when the fund was created in 2014, and \$10 billion committed by 32 countries during the first replenishment in 2019. This failure to mobilise even a nominally higher sum for the second replenishment for the conference is telling.

Soon thereafter, the fourth meeting of the Loss and Damage (L&D) Transitional Committee (responsible for arriving at recommendations on how to address L&D and for deciding on the form of a special fund for the purpose approved at the COP27 climate summit) failed to arrive at a consensus. This was supposed to generate recommendations to be discussed and, possibly, ratified, at COP28. Another meeting is now planned to be held in early November, just ahead of COP28, to somehow get a consensus.

These developments should not surprise us. After all, even the promised (meagre) amount of \$100 billion a year of climate finance from the developed to the less developed by 2020 is yet to be achieved, even in nominal terms. Of this, the only component that comes through a transparent multilateral channel in which developing countries have a say — the UN's Green Climate Fund — is only 10 per cent. And even that small sum cannot be mobilised in time.

The report of Working Group III in the most recent sixth assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (WGIII.6AR of the IPCC) places the cumulative share of North America, Europe, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand in anthropogenic carbon emissions at 43 per cent. Add on Eastern Asia, which includes China, and that share rises to 55 per cent.

Calling on all countries to contribute to mitigation and adaptation purely on the basis of their own resources is obviously unfair.

Developed countries need to finance much of the effort at reining in carbon emissions and global warming.

Failures on this front are sought to be justified on the grounds that there is only so much that rich country governments can do, given the fiscal constraints they face. So, the 'global' (rather than rich country) failure is attributed to an inability to persuade private capital to invest in projects that mitigate carbon emissions and help countries adapt to the impacts of ongoing climate change. That absolves the developed countries of their historical responsibility, despite their disproportionate share of cumulative carbon emissions.

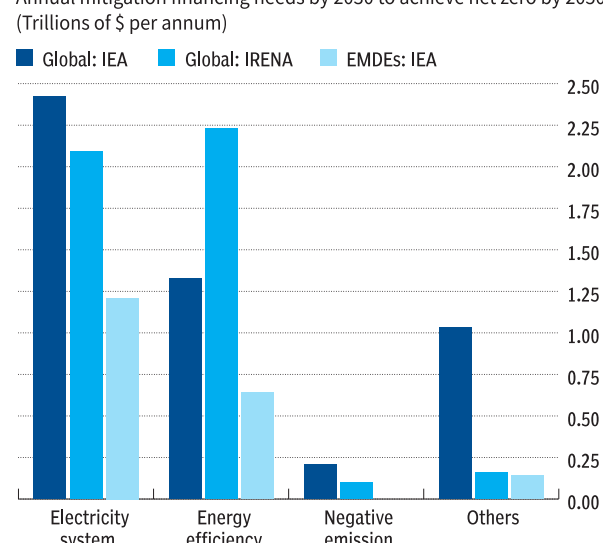
FUNDING PLAN

The latest salvo in this propaganda war comes from the IMF, in chapter 3 of its Global Financial Stability report (GFSR) of October 2023. The report estimates global financing needs for mitigation needed to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, using data from the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

That ranges from \$4.5 trillion to \$5 trillion a year (adjusted for inflation and in 2020 US dollars) (Chart 1). The IMF estimates that around 60-70 per cent of

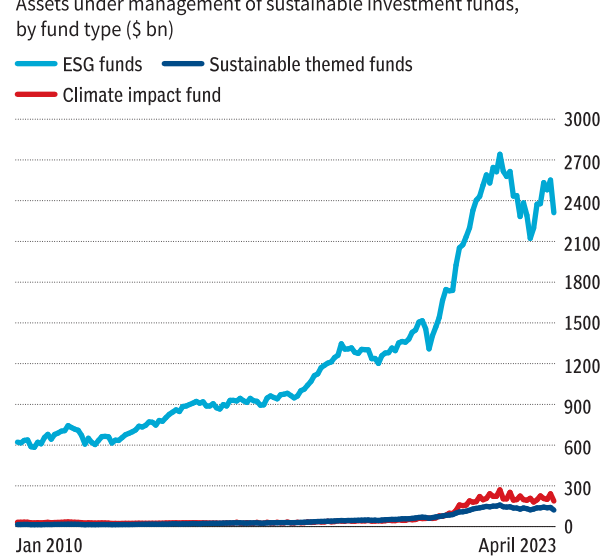
Finance plan

Annual mitigation financing needs by 2030 to achieve net zero by 2050 (Trillions of \$ per annum)



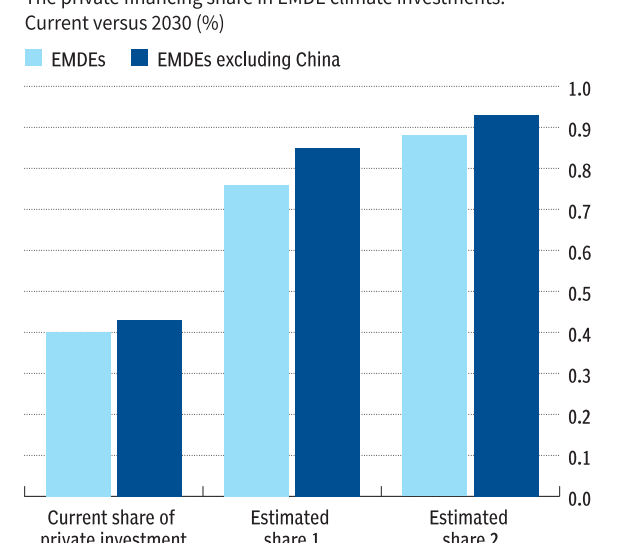
Sustainable funds

Assets under management of sustainable investment funds, by fund type (\$ bn)



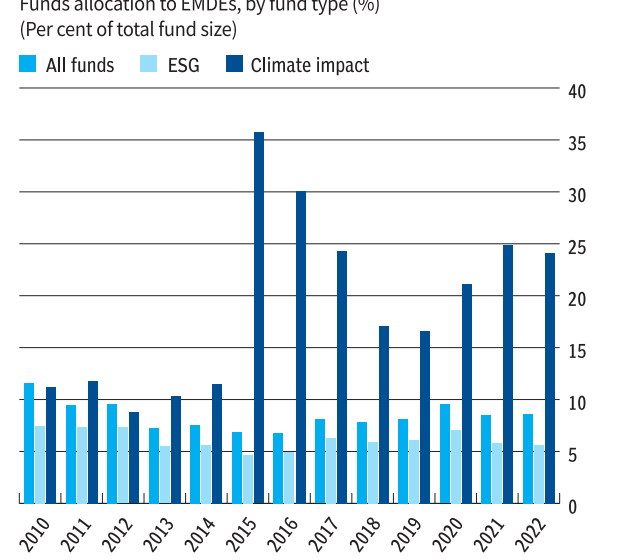
Private share

The private financing share in EMDE climate investments: Current versus 2030 (%)



Funds break-up

Funds allocation to EMDEs, by fund type (%) (Per cent of total fund size)



that needs to be directed to the energy sector. This excludes the large expenditures required for Adaptation and dealing with Loss and Damage.

The IMF uses IEA data to estimate the financing for mitigation required in the Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs) at \$2 trillion a year, or around 40-45 per cent of the total.

By contrast, the WGIII.6AR observed that the IEA suggested that as much as two-thirds of future collective climate investments would have to occur in developing countries, making cross-border financial flows crucial.

PRIVATE SHARE

Particularly striking is the IMF's estimate that the share of private financing in climate investments would have to rise from 40 per cent currently to 76-88 per cent by 2030.

This includes China, where the share of public funding would be overwhelmingly larger than elsewhere in the EMDEs.

Excluding China, the private financing share has to rise from 43 per cent currently to between 85 and 93 per cent (Chart 2)! The public sector is to have only a minimal role, even allowing for the share of climate investments in total public investment increasing by 1.5 times from current levels.

The IMF's case for this extremely high private share is based on two arguments. First, country-by-country gross

Calling on all countries to contribute to mitigation and adaptation purely on the basis of their own resources is obviously unfair. Developed countries need to finance much of the effort

investment projections suggest that growth in total public investment would be woefully short of what are needed for climate investments.

Second, while carbon pricing "can be highly effective in shifting private capital flows to low-emissions investments", it may be politically challenging to implement.

The first argument must be based on assumptions regarding the extent to which additional public resources can be raised by enhanced taxation of income and wealth of the world's richest, and international coordinated taxation of the profits of transnational firms and fair sharing of the resultant proceeds.

Thus far, the IMF has consistently avoided recommending such policies to the EMDEs and in fact emphasised fiscal conservatism when it comes to expenditures and budgetary deficits, amounting to severe austerity in most cases. This inevitably creates a large potential role for private finance, since "the private sector share of climate finance is calculated as the residual of climate investment needs not covered by the public sector."

PRIVATE 'WORRIES'

The IMF, however, ignores the extremely low probability of private investment stepping in to "fulfil its role", even though its own estimates suggest this.

As of April 2023, assets under the management of the so-called "sustainable investment funds" (SIFs) amounted \$2.6 trillion, of which only around 9 per cent (or \$250 billion) were allocated to the EMDEs in 2022 (Charts 3 and 4).

The IMF projects that mitigation-related investments must rise to \$2 trillion by 2030, with the private share as much as \$1.8 trillion.

Assuming that SIFs must account for half of this investment, the flow to the EMDEs must rise fourfold within the

Particularly striking is the IMF's estimate that the share of private financing in climate investments would have to rise from 40 per cent currently to 76-88 per cent by 2030.

next seven years. Why private investors would allocate such a large share of capital to low-return and high-risk climate investments is by no means clear.

The IMF's case is that such investments must be de-risked and incentivised with public funds.

LOW PUBLIC FUNDS

But with currently low public climate funding, even a large chunk of it would not whet the appetite of yield-hungry investors.

In any case, the evidence is clear that so-called SIFs very often make claims with regard to sustainability that don't hold on verification. Around 88 per cent of the SIF funds under management are Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) funds, which have been critiqued for not delivering on their claimed objectives.

As Tariq Fancy (formerly BlackRock Inc's chief investment officer for sustainable investing) argues, the ESG movement is "a deadly distraction", holding back on needed state action and regulation in the misguided belief that an ethical corner of the market would address the current climate, environment and social crises.

Seen in this light, the IMF's case for a hugely enhanced role for private finance is nothing more than a cynical apology for the failure of rich polluters to pay for the damage they have and will continue to cause.

businessline.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY.

October 31, 2003

GoM clears single licence regime

The high-level Group of Ministers (GoM) which was constituted to resolve contentious issues in the telecom sector has approved in toto the recommendation of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to usher in a unified licensing regime for cellular and basic (including limited mobility) services, including the additional entry fees and penalties suggested.

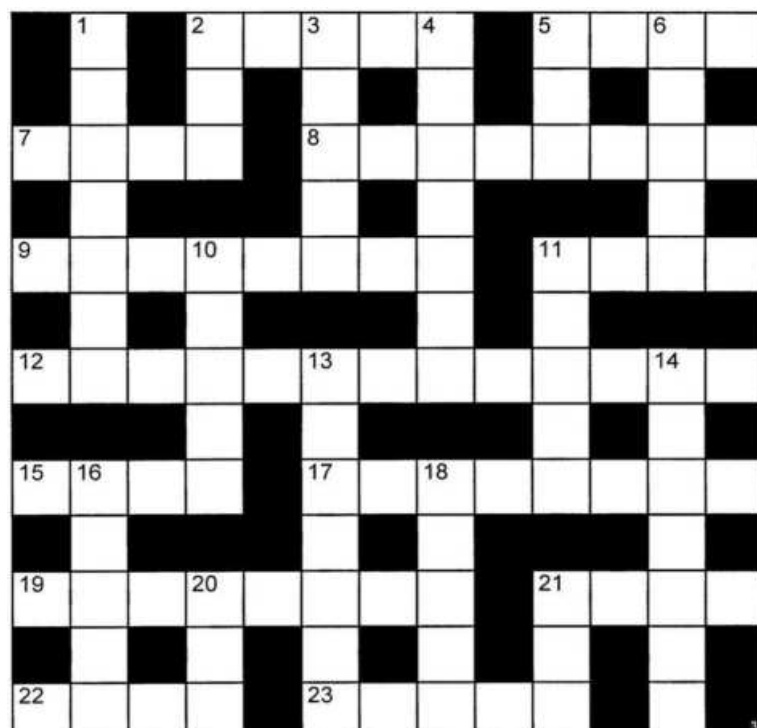
Saint-Gobain to invest another Rs 500 cr in TN

Saint-Gobain Glass, the French multinational, will invest another Rs 500 crore in Tamil Nadu. The company on Thursday signed an expression of commitment with the State Government for this investment. Mr Jacques Aschenbroich, Chairman and President, Saint-Gobain Vitrage, France, signed the expression of commitment with Mr Arun Ramanathan, Tamil Nadu Industries Secretary.

Lloyds to ship jobs; Barclays may follow

Lloyds TSB Group Plc said it would shut a call centre and move jobs to India as rival British Bank Barclays Plc also said it might transfer British jobs to cut costs. Lloyds plans to shut the call centre in Newcastle by the end of next year cutting 986 jobs.

BL TWO-WAY CROSSWORD 2302



EASY

ACROSS

- Printer's trial print (5)
- Young whale (4)
- Walk lame (4)
- Death of part of the body (8)
- Vehicles, engines (8)
- Like dust (4)
- 12, 15. Device activated by light (13,4)
15. see 12
- boys : boffins behind the scenes (8)
- Fuddled (8)
- Cross-piece of wicket (4)
- Flesh as food (4)
- Submit (5)

DOWN

- Green vegetable (7)
- A mild explosive sound (3)
- Pipe, reed or mouth instrument (5)
- Artifice, skill, expertise (7)
- 'Wheels' (3)
- In short, midday meal (5)
- House for accommodation of guests (5)
- Make different, modify (5)
- Ambassadorial residence (7)
- Laundry work (7)
- Call into mind (5)
- Go around begging off others (5)
- An attack of illness (3)
- To invite; command (3)

NOT SO EASY

ACROSS

- A early print evidence may lead to (5)
- A bit of a leggy young animal (4)
- Being flaccid, will walk unevenly (4)
- It is mortification that turns nag green (8)
- Am inches out where mechanical contrivances are concerned (8)
- A throw at the Aunt Sally that makes it dusty (4)
- 12, 15. Magic eye to snap charged room in prison with (13,4)
15. see 12
- These boys, the boffins, seen as 'moor' (8)
- Code's fun but one gets in a muddle about it (8)
- One's security against attendance is seen atop the stumps (4)
- Flesh for one man is another's poison, they say (4)
- The harvest is idly gathered around the East (5)

DOWN

- Hips can get broken, but they say one gets strength from it (7)
- A non-alcoholic drink to go with such music? (3)
- A bodily part for a church instrument (5)
- It's a subtle piece of play if sense can be made of it (7)
- Motoring club that turned up a limousine (3)
- Meal that may lead to one being confused (5)
- Place to stay that's very warm with the Spanish (5)
- Change sound made by Communion table (5)
- My bases are supplied from the ambassador's residence (7)
- Doing pressing work on one, grin about it (7)
- In Woman it's all right to waken it in the mind (5)
- Sponge on a CD, for example, that's spinning (5)
- If in good condition, it will match one's measurements (3)
- Make an offer to call in a game of cards (3)

SOLUTION: BL TWO-WAY CROSSWORD 2301

- ACROSS** 1. Disapproving 8. In favour 9. Apse 11. Apron 12. Grounds 13. Tack 15. Teem 19. Renegade 20. Eaten 22. Pier 23. Adorable 24. Cattle market
DOWN 2. Infer 3. Advent 4. Plunge 5. Impinge 6. Grease-monkey 7. Misanthropic 10. Fox 14. Convent 16. Age 17. Seldom 18. Bearer 21. Table

QUICKLY.

LIC Housing cuts home loan rates by 10 bps



Mumbai: LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LICHFL) said its home loan rates will start from 8.40 per cent against 8.50 per cent earlier. The special home loan rates offer is for new applicants (with credit bureau score of 750 and above) for home loans up to ₹2 crores. OUR BUREAU

Aurionpro partners with MasterCard for payments

Mumbai: Aurionpro Solutions Ltd has joined forces with MasterCard to introduce a contactless payment solution for public transportation. Commuters will have the convenience of tap-and-go payments using any digital wallet linked with a MasterCard. This system eliminates the need for multiple cards or regular top-ups. OUR BUREAU

AU SFB-Fincare SFB merger 'complimentary in all aspects'

RIGHT FIT. 'Our job is to build business and prove that what we are doing is good for all stakeholders and customers'

bl.interview

Hamsini Karthik
Mumbai

Fincare SFB being a bank was the main attraction for the merger, says Sanjay Agarwal, MD and CEO, AU Small Finance Bank. Joined by Rajeev Yadav, MD and CEO, Fincare SFB, and Divya Sehgal, partner, True North, a key private equity investor in Fincare, the three address certain critical aspects of the AU SFB - Fincare SFB merger. Excerpts:

When the bank is well capitalised what is the need to bring in ₹700 crores as a condition precedent in the deal?

Divya Sehgal: Before the merger conversations happened, Fincare was on an IPO path. As the merger conversations got initiated and have now been consummated amongst the two banks, we've informed

the capital markets regulator that this (merger) has happened and we are now on a pathway of applying to the RBI in the next 30 days for the merger. While we are doing this, we want to make sure that Fincare's business growth stays on the pathway that it currently is on, because we don't have full clarity on the merger timelines. It is important that as the shareholders of Fincare, we provide clarity for the business. IPO at this point is on the backburner with a movement towards the merger.

Do you feel valuations could have been better if not for Covid and the de-rating that happened in early 2023?

Rajeev Yadav: This is a strategic merger and with or without Covid, valuations would have been the same. Valuation is an outcome of the market.

Are you happy with what you're getting?



Sanjay Agarwal, MD & CEO, AU Small Finance Bank

Yadav: Absolutely. Whatever is the right price and the right trade, it is there. It's a strategic merger and not about the valuation or an exit for an investor or any other reason.

In most of the acquisitions where banks have acquired MFI with no prior experience in the business, the initial years have been challenging. What was the rationale when you were looking at Fincare?

Sanjay Agarwal: It's a bank



Rajeev Yadav, MD and CEO, Fincare SFB,

entity which is going to be merged with us. This is well-regulated and well-governed. Some of the examples you've given are that NBFC is acquired by banks. It's a different governance structure and regulations. Also, it is not that we are getting merged only for the microfinance business. It is complimentary in all aspects. They are in the South, we are in the North. They are predominantly a microfinance player, we are predominantly secured,



Divya Sehgal, partner, True North

lenders. One more very important thing is that sizes are very attractive. This merger is not too large or too small. Just about 20 per cent of us. They have 10,000 people in the MFI segment and will not have any kind of issue because they will run their shop. Cultural integration or human integration won't be so challenging. Being a bank was the topmost reason for the deal getting done.

Sehgal: Perhaps as the oldest investor in the microfinance space I'd say

we genuinely believe it's one of the most attractive industry segments. It's a very large market where you are servicing the underbanked or unbanked at the base of the pyramid. The customer is fundamentally underwritable. This segment generates a return on assets above 20 per cent. What is critical here is execution and the quality of the team delivering it. While it is thought of as unsecured loans, it's a very small ticket and well-distributed business.

The market has been giving AU top valuations because you were still now a non-MFI SFB. Isn't that getting challenged?

Agarwal: We are here to build business and I strongly believe that whoever likes us, is because of our understanding of business and execution. We have done well till now in our core vehicle and small business loans businesses. Markets like us because we deal in

semi-urban and rural areas; give and recover loans money from there. It's not about the product; it's about how you understand those markets. I know microfinance business is not an easy business. But I think we need to back the team and I strongly believe that we are backing the right team.

You're not worried that the stock market hasn't taken the news well yet?

Agarwal: Our job is to build business and prove to everybody that what we are doing is good for all stakeholders and customers. We want to leave the judgment to the people, whether they like it or not like it. But in the end, I know that we will prove our decision right.

Will AU be the brand that will remain?

Agarwal: Since Fincare is getting merged into AU, we will keep AU as the brand. We will use Fincare as and when we need it.

Private banks post healthy Q2 numbers on strong loan growth

Anshika Kayastha
Mumbai

Private banks has posted another quarter of healthy results in Q2 FY24 on the back of strong growth in retail, MSME and mid-corporate loans even as margins remained under pressure sequentially due to continued rise in cost of funds.

Retail credit growth was led by the unsecured loan segment, with large lenders posting an over 30 per cent increase in personal loans and credit card portfolios. Secured loans such as housing and small business loans also continued to perform well.

Amid rising concerns regarding the unprecedented pace of growth in these segments, several lenders such as ICICI Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank flagged rising delinquencies in the low ticket segment of less than ₹50,000. They said that their exposure to these segments remains nil to minimal and that much of their advances are to existing bank or high credit score customers. Yes Bank said it is seeing a rise in defaults in the 30 dpd (days past due) bucket but



that it remains manageable, whereas Kotak Bank said that the risk-reward for the segment is still favourable.

Banks said they continue to monitor these portfolios closely and are making adequate provisions for any troubled accounts. In absolute terms, this segment accounted for a bulk of incremental slippages for most banks, with RBL Bank strengthening underwriting to fully provide for unsecured retail loans that are 120 dpd instead of the earlier 180 dpd.

CORPORATE SCENARIO

On the corporate side, most lenders highlighted strong demand from the MSME and mid-corporate segments whereas demand from large corporate remained weak.

ICICI Bank said the capex cycle has largely been led by government spending, especially in infrastructure and industrials. On the other hand, private capex remains weak as companies are deleveraged, have strong balance sheets and are able to fund incremental brownfield investments through internal accruals.

Yes Bank and Kotak Bank said that pricing competitiveness in corporate loans continued to be high. Axis Bank said that demand from corporates is steady, both from a working capital and term loan perspective and that the bank sees good opportunities in private capex.

Margins were steady to low for most private banks, largely due to the lagged impact of repricing of the deposit book. IndusInd Bank's margins were flat, whereas Axis Bank and Federal Bank, which had seen higher compression than peers in the previous quarters, posted a slight rise owing to a simultaneous increase in the yield on interest-earning assets, which off-set the pressure on margins. However, most banks expect margins to start normalising in the coming quarter.

Has RBI raised the floor on non-breakable term deposits to ₹1 crore to protect retail investors?

K Ram Kumar
Mumbai

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may have upped the minimum amount for offering non-callable term deposits (TDs) 6.66 times to ₹1 crore to ensure that retail depositors don't get lured by additional interest rates offered on these deposits and end up getting penalised when they need to break them in case of emergency.

Further, the central bank may have assessed that banks have probably reached a stage where premature withdrawals below ₹1 crore threshold will not impact them much, say industry experts. A non-callable TD cannot be withdrawn before the maturity date.

The central bank recently reviewed its "Master Direction on Interest Rate on Deposits" with respect to non-callable TDs, whereby it sharply increased the minimum amount for banks to offer non-callable TDs from ₹15 lakh to ₹1 crore.

Consequently, all TDs be-



All term deposits below ₹1 crore will have premature-withdrawal facility with effect from October 26 ISTOCK

low ₹1 crore will have premature withdrawal facility from October 26, 2023.

NRE DEPOSIT

The RBI's new instructions are also applicable for Non-Resident (External) Rupee (NRE) Deposit/Ordinary Non-Resident (NRO) Deposits.

Banking expert V Viswanathan said: "Lured by additional interest (10-20 basis points) on non-callable TDs vis-a-vis callable deposits, some retail customers may lock-in funds in the former, ignor-

ing the possibility of an emergency arising in future. They get penalised heavily in the event of premature withdrawal as the penalty on non-callable TDs is at the discretion of the bank."

He observed that RBI may have assessed the banking system's liquidity to have grown to a stage where a bank will not be pinched by sudden/premature withdrawal of deposits up to ₹1 crore per customer.

"Though some banks are facing liquidity deficit, they are still upbeat on lending to unsecured/credit cards/

microfinance segments due to high net interest margin. They have jacked up savings bank and non-callable TD rates.

"This kind of growth in unsecured portfolio by these banks pushes up call rates. Customers taking unsecured loans are desperate, unmindful of high interest rates. So, banks' asset quality could come under stress," Viswanathan said.

MINIMUM THRESHOLD

V Rama Chandra Reddy, Head-Treasury, Karur Vysya Bank, said the earlier minimum deposit threshold (of ₹15 lakh) to offer non-callable term deposits to individuals was enabling banks to design specific products and gave them an LCR (liquidity coverage ratio) advantage. But with the increase in this threshold from ₹15 lakh to ₹1 crore, that scope has been reduced.

LCR ensures that banks hold sufficient reserve of high-quality liquid assets to allow them to survive a period of significant liquidity stress lasting 30 calendar days.

P&G Hygiene reports 36% rise in Q1 profit on volume growth

Press Trust of India
New Delhi

FMCG products maker Procter & Gamble Hygiene and Health Care Ltd reported a 36.44 per cent increase in profit after tax at ₹210.69 crore for the first quarter ended September.

The company, which follows the July-June financial year, had reported a profit after tax of ₹154.41 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous fiscal. Its net sales were 9.04 per cent higher at ₹1,135.06 crore during the quarter under review. In the year-to-date period, the same was ₹1,040.92 crore, according to a regulatory filing.

The company's revenue from operations in the July-September period was at ₹1,138.35 crore, up 8.94 per cent compared to the same period a year ago. This increase was "driven by a superior retail execution and integrated growth strategy," it said in an earnings statement.

The "PAT for the quarter was ₹211 crore, up 36 per cent versus year ago led by acceleration of volume growth coupled with product price-mix and productivity," it added.

Co-op banks must approach RBI for name change

Our Bureau
Mumbai

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed cooperative banks desirous of changing their name to approach the Department of Supervision (DoS) of the concerned Regional Office for the grant of no objection certificate (NOC), clearly stating the reasons for such change. The

approval of the General Body of the bank will be mandatory at the time of submitting such requests to RBI.

Referring to the notification of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act of 2020, RBI emphasised that in terms of Section 49B, the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies/Registrar of Cooperative Societies cannot signify its approval to the change of name of any co-operative bank un-

less the Reserve Bank certifies in writing that it has no objection to such change.

Further, in terms of Section 49C, no application for the confirmation of the alteration of bye-laws of a co-operative can be maintainable unless Reserve Bank certifies that there is no objection to such alteration, per RBI's directive to urban co-operative banks, state co-operative banks and district central co-operative

banks on "Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act 2020 - Change in Name of Co-operative Banks".

"No co-operative bank shall display/operate with amended name without effecting the corresponding change in its name in the banking licence issued by the RBI. Further, the displayed name of the bank shall be strictly as per the name in its banking licence," RBI said.

SBI Cards bullish on Q3 due to festive spending

KR Srivats
New Delhi

SBI Cards & Payments Services (SBI Card), the country's largest pure-play credit card issuer, is upbeat about clocking a better third quarter (October-December 2023) performance this year, riding on the strong ongoing festive season spends, Abhijit Chakravorty, Managing Director and CEO, has said. In his first interaction with *businessline* post assuming charge at the helm of SBI Card this August, Chakravorty said that transaction volumes in the third quarter are "impressive" and that the company is bound to register a better performance in Q3 considering that the festive season started in October this year. "Last year the festive sea-

son was split between two quarters i.e festive season started from September 2022. We will be seeing better performance this quarter considering that festive season started as late as October 10," Chakravorty said. "My receivables now are at an all time high, my spends are at an all time high. There is great appetite for consumption in the market. So all these leads me to believe that my business volumes to be continuously growing this quarter and those will bring me adequate returns".

SBI Card on Friday reported a 15 per cent increase in net profit for the second quarter ended September 30, 2023 at ₹603 crore (₹526 crore). Credit card spends saw 27 per cent year-on-year growth in Q2 at ₹ 79,164 crore (₹ 62,306 crore).

Continuous ECG monitoring to spot cardiac issues

The patch captures heart signals and transmits them to doctors for action

K. V. Kurmanath
Hyderabad

Aspate of heart attack deaths of revellers performing Garba during Navaratri celebrations sent shock waves across the nation. Though cardiac issues during heightened physical activity are not uncommon, the sheer number of deaths and the age profile of the victims, were unprecedented and alarming.

"Garba is a high-intensity activity which generally leads to higher heart rate, respiratory rate and blood pressure. For healthy individuals, heart rates come back to normal after some time. In some individuals, there will be an overshoot of sympathetic activity which culminates in arrhythmia and they can succumb to sudden cardiac arrests," Sowjanya Patibandla, Chief Medical Officer of Vigocare, told *businessline*. She calls for long-term



EASY TO WEAR. Vigocare develops an ECG patch

(for 24 hours and up to 30 days) monitoring of the heart through ECG to identify underlying cardiac problems.

Citing a survey that Vigocare conducted at a top-tier IT firm recently, she said that five out of the 100 women employees that it studied were found to be suffering from a cardiac rhythm issue. Left undetected, which would have been the case in the sample under review,

these issues could lead to serious conditions.

"Most of the arrhythmias happen without symptoms and can be missed during the routine ECG tests. Hence it is important to measure the heart rhythm for extended periods of time," she said.

Akkiraju Bhattiprolu, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer of Vigocare, said that the ECG monitoring technology includes an easy-to-wear ECG patch that con-

nnects to any mobile phone avoiding all the discomfort that patients generally experience while going through longer duration ECG monitoring.

The electronic patch captures the electric signals and remotely transmits them to the secure cloud, which is crunched to get actionable insights using Big Data, analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning solutions. This information can be passed onto the doctors over their phones. The start up, which developed the product during the Covid-19 pandemic, helped remote monitoring of patients.

"We are not a direct-to-consumer company. We enter into tie ups with hospitals and doctors, who will use it on their patients. These patches are reusable. What we offer is a monitoring service. Doctors use our reports in their decision making and treatment plans," he said.

TATA TATA POWER
(Corporate Contracts Department)
The Tata Power Company Limited, Smart Center of Procurement Excellence, 2nd Floor, Sahar Receiving Station, Near Hotel Leela, Sahar Airport Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai 400 059, Maharashtra, India
(Board Line: 022-67173917) CIN: L28920MH1919PLC000567

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
The Tata Power Company Limited invites tenders from eligible vendors for the following package (Two Part Bidding) in Transmission division, Mumbai.
• Outline Agreement/Rate Contract of 03 Years for providing AMC services of EOT Cranes in Various Transmission Receiving station, Mumbai. (Package Reference: CC24NP036).
For downloading the Tender documents (Including procedure for participation in tender) for above tender, please visit Tender section on website <https://www.tatapower.com> Last day for paying the tender fees and submission of authorization letter is **1500 hrs of 07th November 2023**.
Also, all future corrigendums (if any), to the above tenders will be informed on Tender section on website <https://www.tatapower.com> only.

एनटीपीसी NTPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Corporate Identification Number : L40101DL197501007966
Regd. Office: NTPC Bhawan, Core-7, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003, Ph: 011-24367072, Fax: 011-24361018, E-mail: isd@ntpc.co.in, Website: www.ntpc.co.in

ATTENTION VALUED SHAREHOLDERS OF NTPC LTD.

Pursuant to Section 124(5) of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 (IEPF Rules, 2016), a Company is required to transfer the amounts of unpaid dividend remaining unpaid and unclaimed for a continuous period of seven (7) years from the date of transfer of such amount to Unpaid Dividend Account to the credit of the Investor Education and Protection Fund (Fund) set up by the Central Government.

Further, pursuant to Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 and IEPF Rules, 2016, all shares in respect of which dividend has not been paid or claimed for seven consecutive years or more, shall also be transferred to IEPF Account.

Details of the shareholders, in respect of shares for which dividend had remained unclaimed or unpaid for seven consecutive years and transferred to the IEPF Authority's Demat Account, are available on the website of the Company at www.ntpc.co.in.

The Final Dividend for the financial year 2015-16 @ Rs. 1.75 per equity share was paid on 30.9.2016. As per the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, the unpaid and unclaimed amounts of the aforesaid dividend became due for transfer to Fund. The corresponding shares of the holders who have not encashed/claimed their dividend for seven consecutive years are also liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority's Demat Account.

Shareholders may please note that if any amount/ shares are transferred to the Fund, then the same has to be claimed from the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority following the procedure as provided under IEPF Rules, 2016.

Shareholder(s) may refer to "IEPF Details" under the "Investors" section of the website: www.ntpc.co.in for further information for unclaimed/ unpaid dividend/ shares due to be transferred to IEPF Account. To avoid the inconvenience of claiming the refund/ shares from Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority, shareholders who have not received/ claimed/ encashed warrant(s) relating to the Final dividend for the financial year 2015-16 paid in September, 2016, may lodge their claims with the RTA i.e. Beetal Financial & Computer Services (P) Ltd., Beetal House, 3rd Floor, 99 Madangiri, Behind Local Shopping Centre, Near Dada Harsukdas Mandir, New Delhi-110062, Tel.: (011) 29961281, 29961282, Fax: (011) - 29961284 and Email: ntpc@beetalfinancial.com or with the Dy. Nodal Officer, Investor Services Department, NTPC Ltd., at the address indicated above. Shareholders may kindly ensure that claim, if any, is received by the RTA/ NTPC Ltd. on or before 10.11.2023 to ensure that unclaimed/ unpaid dividend amount and shares are not transferred to the Fund.

Subsequent last dates for lodging claims for unpaid/ unclaimed dividend and shares to IEPF are as under:-

Financial Year	Nature of Dividend	Dividend %	Last dates of lodging claims
2016-17	Interim	26.10%	13.03.2024
2016-17	Final	21.70%	24.10.2024
2017-18	Interim	27.30%	04.03.2025

NTPC Ltd. had also issued Tax-Free Bonds - 2013, Tax-Free Bonds - 2015 and Bonus Debentures. Investors are also requested to check the details of such unclaimed interest amounts of Tax-Free Bonds and Bonus Debentures under the "Investors" section of the website: www.ntpc.co.in and lodge the claims with KFin Technologies Limited (RTA for Tax-Free Bonds and Bonus Debentures) at Selenium Tower B, Plot No. 31 & 32, Gachibowli Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally, Hyderabad-500 032. Phone No: 040-67161518; Fax: (+91 40) 2343 1551 and Email: enward.ris@kfintech.com or with the Dy. Nodal Officer, Investor Services Department, NTPC Ltd.

Shareholders(s) are requested to keep their email ID and other relevant details updated with their Depository Participant (DP), in case of shares held in dematerialized form and with the Company/ RTA, in case of shares held in physical form.

For and on behalf of NTPC Ltd. (Arun Kumar) sdr/ Company Secretary

Date : 30.10.2023
Place : New Delhi

Leading the Power Sector

QUICKLY.

India Accelerator's iAngels network invests in Fruitful



Mangaluru: India Accelerator through its affiliated iAngels network have invested in Fruitful, an AI demand forecasting agri sourcing platform. The company builds cloud and mobile technologies to streamline fragmented agri value chains. Fruitful will use the funds to scale and deepen its technology platform. OUR BUREAU

MindSpace REIT's operating income rises 18% in Q2

Mumbai: MindSpace Business Parks REIT reported a 17.7 per cent rise in its net operating income in Q2 at ₹491 crore, while revenue rose to ₹600 crore. The REIT, sponsored by K Raheja Corp, reported gross leasing of 8 lakh square feet in Q2. OUR BUREAU

Adani group to invest ₹4-lakh cr for expansion of Mundra port

MAJOR PLANS. A new berth to handle copper ore, green hydrogen project, copper smelter plant on the cards

TE Raja Simhan
Mundra



STRATEGIC MOVE. Total investments made by the Adani group at Mundra has been more than ₹70,000 crore

Adani Group is investing ₹4-lakh crore in both ongoing and new projects over the next six years at Mundra in Gujarat's Kutch region. The investment will include construction of a new berth to handle copper ore, a copper smelter plant, a green hydrogen project and renewable energy, said a senior company official. Power is the only sector in which no major expansion is happening, he added.

Total investments made by the Adani group at Mundra has been more than ₹70,000 crore, says an advertisement issued by the group on the port, which turned 25 years. Mundra port's total contribution to the State and National exchequer over the last 25 years has been more than ₹2.25-lakh crore.

From a barren land a quarter

century ago, the port is today India's largest commercial port. From a handful of tonnes in 1998, the Adani port at Mundra went on to handle 100 million tonnes (mt) in 2014 - then the first port in India to do so.

EXIM GATEWAY

Today, the port handles over 155 mt (again the first in India), which constitutes nearly 11 per cent of India's maritime cargo. Mundra is also the EXIM gate-

way for container traffic with 33 per cent of India's container traffic flowing through the port across a dedicated freight corridor that offers the facility of double-stack containers from the northern hinterland to Mundra. The container terminals are being expanded by nearly 1 km to add three more berths, the official said. Adani is also constructing a VLCC (very large crude carrier) berth with plans to commission it by the

year-end or by the March quarter. At present, the crude is being handled at the single buoy mooring (two) for Indian Oil Corporation and HPCL-Mittal Energy Ltd (HMEI) in the outer anchorage about 8.6 km from the port. From there the cargo passes through the seabed pipeline to the storage tanks, he said. At present, on a daily basis, 25,000 people are required to run the port. After the expansion, another 35,000 will be needed. The port's handling capacity will double, he said.

COPPER PLANT

A new berth is being constructed to handle copper ore. Construction of the copper smelter plant is going on with plans to commission it by next financial year. Kutch Copper Ltd (KCL), a subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Ltd (AEL), is setting up a greenfield copper refinery project for production of refined

copper with 1 mtpa in two phases. The overall cost in the project is ₹8,700 crore with production likely to start during the next financial year. For phase one with a capacity of 0.5 mtpa, KCL has achieved financial closure through a syndicated club loan for the greenfield copper refinery project, with the execution of financing documents with the consortium of banks led by State Bank of India (SBI), says a release issued in June 2022. With Vedanta's smelter plant in Thoothukudi being shut due to environment-related issues, KCL could possibly fill the gap to a certain extent in meeting the growing demand for copper in the country.

Work on the petrochemical park has already started and the project will be completed in five years, the official said.

(The writer was in Mundra at the invitation of Adani Group)

Singur plant: Tata Motors wins arbitration against WBIDC, gets ₹766 crore

Mithun Dasgupta
Kolkata



Tata Motors had to relocate its plant from West Bengal's Singur to Gujarat's Sanand in 2008

Automaker Tata Motors on Monday said the company has won an arbitral proceedings against the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC) in relation to its claim of compensation on account of the loss of capital investments with regard to the now scrapped Tata Nano manufacturing facility at Singur in West Bengal.

The auto major has secured an arbitral award of ₹765.78 crore, plus interest as compensation for its investment in the Singur plant. The company had been building the facility to manufacture the ambitious Tata Nano, but it was forced to scrap the project.

"On account of the loss of capital investments, with regard to the automobile manufacturing facility at Singur,

this is to inform that the aforesaid pending arbitral proceedings before a three-member Arbitral Tribunal has now been finally disposed of by a unanimous award dated October 30, 2023 in favour of TML," Tata Motors said.

Tata Motors had to relocate its plant to produce the Nano small car from West Bengal's Singur to Gujarat's Sanand in 2008, following a strong anti-land acquisition protest.

'Satellite a complimentary solution, no longer a different technology'

bl.interview

S Ronendra Singh
New Delhi

After 4G and now 5G, Reliance Jio is sanguine about satellite communication, successfully demonstrating India's first satellite-based giga fiber service at the recently-held India Mobile Congress (IMC), 2023. The technology will provide high-speed broadband services to previously inaccessible geographies within India. Termed JioSpaceFiber, the service will be available across the country at affordable prices, the company claims. In an interview with *businessline*, Mathew Oommen,

President, Reliance Jio shared more thoughts around satellite communications. Excerpts:

How are you preparing for launching your satellite services?

Satellite is a great technology...historically satellite has been used as a backhaul technology, but now, it has evolved from a vanilla backhaul technology to an extension in the sky type of capability. So when that evolution has happened, the coexistence of satellite and other mobile technologies is becoming a reality.

So what is your take on allocation of the spectrum -- should it be allocated

administratively or auctioned?

We absolutely believe that since everything is the same — services, devices, customers and standards — why should it be any different.

Anything other than auction will distort the market significantly. Satellite is a complimentary solution, it is no longer a different technology than 5G or 4G. So, should there be a different spectrum policy? The answer from my end is, absolutely no. This is because these two technologies are doing the same thing. So, we have to evolve policies in line with technology and service evolution capabilities.

That means you are ready to buy the spectrum if the

We are no longer a tier-2 nation, we are a tier-1 plus nation. We are in the elite league, we should not be apprehensive of adopting the right policies

MATHEW OOMMEN,
President, Reliance Jio



auctions happen at the earliest now?

Once Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and Department of Communications (DoT) are done with the due processes, I am sure they are going to come with this new course...it

is for the government to determine. Any spectrum is based on supply and demand, there is always a demand...Things have changed, satellite is evolved, we cannot have a regressive policy to be applied to a progressive technology. We

league, we should not be apprehensive of adopting the right policies.

There is a thinking that tariffs for satellite services will be expensive. How would you make the services affordable at the current scenario?

For direct to mobile services anyone who cannot afford connectivity or monthly rent should be given a device and service model by leveraging the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF under DoT). The USOF has got around ₹75,700 crore. If we truly want to drive the 'Digital India' vision, we should take that and put into use.

What about on the cost

of devices (mobile handsets) which require certain specifications for satellite?

Device is a critical equation in the adoption of various services. That came with 4G and we brought the most affordable 4G adoption. Now 5G devices are coming in the bracket of ₹10,000 and we see more and more 5G adoption happening. It is very important for us to consider that we do not forget the 240 million who are still with 2G.

How many satellite would you require to provide the services across India?

For LEO (like OneWeb), there needs 100s of satellites. For us, it will be eight-nine satellites as we have in the medium earth orbit.

VIKAS WSP LIMITED						
CIN: L24139HR1988PLC030300						
Registered Office: Railway Road Siwani Haryana -127046 India						
Corporate Office: B-86/87, Udyog Vihar, RIIICO, Industrial Area, Rajasthan-335002						
Website: www.vikaswsp Ltd.in; E-mail ID: csjuniorvikaswsp Ltd@gmail.com Tel: 91 (154) 2494512/2494552; Fax: 31 (154) 2494361/2475376						
Unaudited Financial Results for Quarter and nine months ended as on 31.12.2022 (Rs. in Lacs)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended		Nine months ended		Year ended
		31.12.2022	30.09.2022	31.12.2021	31.12.2021	
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1.	Total Income from operations (net)	9.50	8.37	1,789.91	17.87	2,309.54
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items)	(875.47)	(878.75)	(842.35)	(2,655.91)	(4,686.71)
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items)	(875.47)	(878.75)	(842.35)	(2,655.91)	(4,686.71)
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items)	(875.47)	(878.75)	(842.35)	(2,655.91)	(4,686.71)
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period / year	(875.47)	(878.75)	(842.35)	(2,655.91)	(4,686.71)
6.	Paid up equity share capital (face value of share of Rs. 1/- each)	2,044.40	2,044.40	2,044.40	2,044.40	2,044.40
7.	Earnings/(Loss) per share (Not annualized)					
	Basic (Rs.)	(0.43)	(0.43)	(0.41)	(1.30)	(2.29)
	Diluted (Rs.)	(0.43)	(0.43)	(0.41)	(1.30)	(2.29)

Note:

- The National Company Law Tribunal ("NCLT"), Chandigarh Bench, vide their order delivered on February 2nd, 2022 ("Insolvency Commencement Date") has admitted the petition filed by financial creditor for initiation of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process ("CIRP") u/s 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 ("the code") and has appointed Mr. Darshan Singh Anand, Registration No. BBIPA-002IP-N00326/2017-18/10931 as Interim Resolution Professional ("IRP") to manage the affairs of the company in accordance with the provisions of the code. In the second meeting of Committee of Creditors ("COC") held on March 17th, 2022, Mr. Darshan Singh Anand has been confirmed as Resolution Professional ("RP") for the company. Pursuant to NCLT order for commencement of CIRP and in line with the provisions of the Code, the powers of the Board of directors shall stand suspended and be exercised by RP. We have been informed by RP that the record of the Company is not handed over to RP completely and hence application u/s 19(2) of the IBC has been submitted to NCLT. Further, as informed by the management at the time of initiation of the CIRP proceedings vide email dated 15.02.2022 that due to ransomware attack the tally data, fixed assets register and other relevant records before 01.04.2021 were not available.
- As mentioned in Note No. 2 above, upon an application of the financial creditors of the company, NCLT has admitted a petition to initiate insolvency proceedings against the company under the code. As per the code, it is required that the company be managed as a going concern during CIRP. Further, under the CIRP, a resolution plan needs to be presented to and approved by the COC, post which it will need to be approved by NCLT to keep the company as a going concern. The COC in its meeting dated 25th August 2022 have approved the Resolution Plan submitted by M/s Arcobell Space and Foods Private Limited. Pursuant to its approval by the NCLT. While the long term prospects of the company may be dependent upon expeditious completion of CIRP process, in view of the above facts and continuing operations of the company, the financial statements have been prepared on going concern basis.
- For the reasons mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the company has not taken into consideration any impact on the carrying value of tangible assets, if any, in the preparation of Financial Results as required by Ind-AS 10 on the "Events after the reporting period". Further, the company has also not made full assessment of its impairment in their fair value as required by Ind AS 36 on the impairment of assets, if any, as on 31st December 2022 in the value of tangible assets. The company continues not to assess the impairment of the carrying value of the tangible assets.
- For the reasons mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the company has not taken into consideration any adjustment required in the carrying amount of such assets and liabilities and consequential impact, if any, on the reported losses for the year ended December 31st, 2022 pending comprehensive review of carrying amount of all assets (including balances lying under Goods & Service Tax and other statutory authorities) & liabilities including trade receivables, advances paid, trade payables, advances received, other short term liabilities, etc. as at 31st December, 2022 which are unconfirmed and no documentary evidence have been made available to verify the same along with non-provision for impairment of carrying value of the assets and write back of liabilities if any due to pending implementation of the approved resolution plan by NCLT. Non determination of fair value of financial assets & liabilities and impairment in carrying amount for other assets and liabilities are not in compliance with Ind AS 109 "Financial Instruments", Ind AS 10 "Events after the Reporting Period", Ind AS 36 "Impairment of Assets" and Ind AS 37 "Provisions, Contingent Liabilities & Contingent Assets".
- The Resolution Professional appointed by Hon'ble NCLT had appointed Stock Auditor to verify the quantity and realisable value of stock as on the date of Commencement of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process i.e. 02.02.2022. On the basis of such Stock Audit Report, dosing stock has been considered as Rs.207.38 Lacs as on the date of commencement of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process as well as on the end of current reporting quarter as on 31.12.2022.
- The Resolution Professional has not been handed over Fixed Asset Register and previous details of depreciation by the previous management, hence Depreciation is measured as per SLM basis and information available on record and may vary.
- The Resolution Professional has not received the title deeds of all the immovable properties. Hence detail of immovable properties (other than immovable properties where the Company is the lessee and the lease agreements are duly executed in favour of the Company) disclosed in the financial statements included in property, plant and equipment and Right of Use Assets are held in the name of the Company as at the balance sheet date can not be provided/disclosed.
- Resolution Professional has not been supplied with much material information and documents by the erstwhile management of the Corporate Debtor and consequently, the Resolution Professional has not been able to submit some of the important information to the Statutory Auditors. The Resolution Professional to enforce his right to information and papers from the erstwhile management of the Corporate Debtor has filed an application with the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal Chandigarh Bench an Application under section 19(2) of the Indian Bankruptcy Code-2016 with application bearing IA No. 754/2022.
- The financial results of the company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS) notified under Companies (Indian Accounting Standard) Amendment Rules, 2015 as amended by Companies (Indian Accounting Standards, Amendment Rules, 2016. These financial results have been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in Indian Accounting Standard 34 (Ind AS 34) "Interim Financial Reporting" prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant rules issued there under and other accounting principles generally accepted in India, read with the circulars in the responsibility of the company's management and has been approved by Resolution Professional of the company.
- No interest on the dues payable towards banks, institutions, other organisations have been provided during the quarter in view of imposition of moratorium by vide para 14 order of Honourable NCLT, Chandigarh Bench dated 02.02.2022.
- The Resolution Professional is in receipt of workmen claim which is admitted for Rs. 49,62,72,600/- by the Committee of Creditor in voting concluded on 08.08.2023 however as per financial statements of the company amount payable to workmen is Rs. 23,34,76,371/-, hence the company has a contingent liability of Rs. 26,27,99,829/- as per detail as under:

Particulars	As per Financial Statement as on 31.3.22	Amount admitted with approval of COC on 08.08.2023	Difference
Salary & Bonus Payable	19,51,90,451/-	40,85,85,898/-	21,33,95,447/-
Gratuity Payable	3,82,85,920/-	8,76,90,302/-	4,94,04,382/-
Total	23,34,76,371/-	49,62,76,200/-	26,27,99,829/-

12. The previous period's/years' figures have been re-grouped/re-arranged wherever considered necessary to facilitate comparison and better presentation of the statements as per the financial reporting framework.

13. The format of the quarterly financial results are available on the websites of Bombay Stock Exchange and the website of the Company ("www.vikaswsp Ltd.in").

For and on behalf of Vikas WSP Limited
(Company under CIRP)
Sd/-
Darshan Singh Anand
Resolution Professional
BBIPA-002IP-N00326/2017-18/10931

TVS HOLDINGS LIMITED						
(Formerly known as Sundaram-Clayton Limited)						
Regd office: "Chaitanya", No.12, Khader Nawaz Khan Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 006. Tel : 044-2833 2115						
Website : www.tvsholdings.com Email : corpsec@tvsholdings.com						
CIN : L35999TN1962PLC004792						
STATEMENT OF STANDALONE & CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 TH SEPTEMBER 2023						
(Rs. in Crores)						
S. No.	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated	
		Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended	Year ended	
		30.09.2023	30.09.2022	31.03.2023	30.09.2023	30.09.2022
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
1	Total Income	484.59	549.96	2,206.72	10,619.78	8,971.74
2	Net Profit / (Loss) before tax (before Exceptional Items)	98.38	35.33	235.97	727.68	556.89
3	Net Profit / (Loss) before tax (after Exceptional Items)	96.64	63.28	326.69	725.94	584.75
4	Net Profit / (Loss) after tax (after Exceptional Items)	82.98	49.14	273.11	457.31	394.28
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) (after tax)]	82.54	49.42	276.48	469.04	410.53
6	Equity share Capital (Face value of Rs. 5/- each)	10.12	10.12	10.12	10.12	10.12
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	700.43	-	-
8	Security Premium Account	36.42	36.42	36.42	36.42	36.42
9	Networth	1,405.98	2,971.23	697.28	6,442.75	5,372.92
10	Outstanding Debt (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	-	726.63	669.61	-	2,847.06
11	Outstanding redeemable Preference Shares	873.03	NA	2,346.92	873.03	NA
12	Debt Equity Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary, including exceptional item)	NA	0.24	0.93	3.44	2.12
13	Earnings Per Share (Face value of Rs.5/-each) (not annualised) (In Rs.)					
	(i) Basic	41.01	24.29	134.99	112.65	104.91
	(ii) Diluted	41.01	24.29	134.99	112.65	104.91
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -				
15	Debture Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -				
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	NA	1.58	2.49	3.79	3.70
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	NA	6.29	8.53	8.19	11.67
18	Current ratio (Times)	0.49	0.96	0.95	1.02	0.99
19	Long term debt to working capital (Times)	-	9.39	10.14	2.80	2.97
20	Bad debts to Accounts Receivable (Times)	-	-	-	-	-
21	Current Liability Ratio (Times)	0.98	0.63	0.60	0.64	0.61
22	Total debts to total assets ratio (Times)	0.36	0.33	0.30	0.60	0.54
23	Debtors Turnover ratio (Times)	10.84	7.02	7.30	33.28	19.76
24	Inventory Turnover ratio (Times)	6.55	2.98	3.11	8.75	10.81
25	Operating Margin (%)	12.05	12.48	12.00	13.07	12.85
26	Net Profit Margin (%)	10.80	5.13	8.27	4.31	3.88

Notes:

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 & 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the Stock exchanges websites (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.tvsholdings.com).
- The Company has prepared these standalone and consolidated financial results in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.

For TVS Holdings Limited
Sd/-
Sudarshan Venu
Managing Director

Place : Chennai
Date : 30th October 2023

TODAY'S PICK.

MRPL (₹105.8): BUY

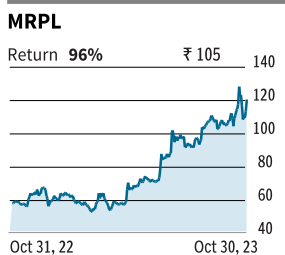
Gurumurthy K
bl, research bureau

The outlook is bullish for Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals (MRPL). The stock has risen well over the last two trading sessions from around the key ₹95-92 support zone.

A trendline support is also present in this ₹95-92 region. That makes the recent rise a significant one and also keeps intact the uptrend that has been in place since April this year.

Immediate support is ₹100. Below that, ₹95-92 will continue to act as a strong support zone.

The MRPL share price can rise to ₹115-117 over the next couple of weeks. Traders can go long now. Accumulate on dips at ₹102.



Keep the stop-loss at ₹97. Trail the stop-loss up to ₹108 as soon as the stock moves up to ₹110. Move the stop-loss further up to ₹111 when the stock touches ₹114. Exit the long positions at ₹116.

Note: The recommendations are based on technical analysis. There is a risk of loss in trading.

SBI Cards tumbles below IPO price after Q2 results

DOWNGRADE FACTORS. Analysts see lack of triggers and cost pressure going ahead

KS Badri Narayanan
Chennai



Shares of SBI Cards and Payment Services slipped below the IPO price on Monday for the first time in six months after the financial service provider reported weaker-than-expected quarterly numbers. The stock closed at ₹750.50, after dipping as low as ₹732.05, against the previous day's close of ₹791.05, down 5.13 per cent.

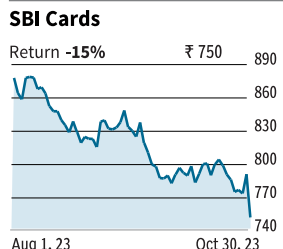
Most analysts downgraded the stock and target price after the results due to cost pressure, elevated provisions, and a lack of triggers.

SBI Cards on Friday reported a 15 per cent year-on-year increase in net profit for the quarter ended September 30, 2023, at ₹603 crore as against ₹526 crore reported a year ago. Total income grew by 22 per cent to ₹4,221 crore (₹3,453 crore). Gross non-performing

assets were at 2.43 per cent (2.14 per cent), and net non-performing assets stood at 0.89 per cent (0.78 per cent).

IPO IN 2020

SBI Cards hit the capital market with a ₹10,355-crore IPO at an issue price of ₹755 in March 2020. According to Yes Securities, while valuation is not demanding in the context of being a credit card pure-play, leading market share, and good franchise growth/ROE, it lacks triggers for re-rating. "Hence, we expect stock's underperformance versus the sector to continue for a while and downgrade



rating to Add from Buy," it said, adding that factors that can re-rate valuation would be an uptick in spends' market share, normalisation of credit costs, and softening of interest rates.

Shares of the revolver book remain low at 24 per cent which, coupled with a rising CoE, weighs on NIMs—down by 12 bps q-o-q to 11.3 per cent, said Emkay Global Financial. "Factoring in the operational softness in business/fees and higher LLP due to rising stress, we have lowered our FY24-26 earnings by 11-13 per cent and our RoA/RoE expectations to

about 4.7-4.9/23 per cent. Based on our ERE model, we have revised down our TP to ₹865/share (from ₹950), implying 5.2x its Sep-25 ABV/25x EPS. We retain Hold on the stock," it added.

MARGIN COMPRESSION

Motilal Oswal Financial too, while retaining the buy rating on the stock, revised the target price to ₹900 from the earlier ₹970. SBI Cards reported a muted quarter characterised by elevated provisions and further compression in margins. The mix of revolvers and EMI loans remains stable, while management indicated that the recent hardening of interest rates will exert pressure on funding costs in the coming quarters. This could drive further margin compression over H2-FY24 as the outlook on any increase in the mix of EMI and revolver loans remains uncertain, the brokerage further said.

Heavyweight RIL helps Sensex, Nifty end higher

Reuters
Bengaluru



Blue-chip indices recovered from a lacklustre start to end Monday with gains, helped by a results-led boost to key constituents after heavyweight Reliance posted a bigger quarterly profit late last week.

The NSE Nifty 50 index closed 0.49 per cent higher at 19,140.90, while the S&P BSE Sensex rose 0.52 per cent to 64,112.65.

Reliance Industries, which has nearly 10 per cent weightage in Nifty50, rose 2.06 per cent after reporting strong quarterly earnings. "The rise in today's session was led by some of the largest counters like Reliance, Cipla, BPCL as their stable earnings reiterate that there is nothing fundamentally wrong with those businesses, despite the recent market underperformance of some of these companies," said Devan Choksey, managing director of KR Choksey Holdings.

Ten of the 13 major sectoral indices advanced. Small- and mid-caps underperformed the blue-chips, adding 0.15 per cent and 0.09 per cent, respectively.

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"The rise in today's session was led by some of the largest counters like Reliance, Cipla, BPCL as their stable earnings reiterate that there is nothing fundamentally wrong with those businesses, despite the recent market underperformance of some of these companies," said Devan Choksey, managing director of KR Choksey Holdings.

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Day trading guide

19234 » Nifty 50 Futures					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
19180	19100	19250	19330	Go long only above 19250. Stop-loss can be kept at 19220	
₹1485 » HDFC Bank					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
1475	1460	1520	1550	Go long now and at 1480. Keep the stop-loss at 1470	
₹1377 » Infosys					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
1370	1355	1385	1405	Go long only above 1385. Keep the stop-loss at 1375	
₹430 » ITC					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
427	424	437	440	Go long now and at 428. Stop-loss can be kept at 426	
₹2311 » Reliance Ind.					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
2270	2235	2330	2360	Go short now and at 2320. Keep the stop-loss at 2340	
₹565 » SBI					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
562	560	570	573	Go long now and at 563. Stop-loss can be kept at 561	
₹3379 » TCS					
S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT	
3360	3330	3400	3425	Wait for a rise. Go short at 3395. Keep the stop-loss at 3410	

S1, S2: Support 1 & 2; R1, R2: Resistance 1 & 2.

Nippon Life India AMC Q2 net up 18% on higher income

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Nippon Life India Asset Management Company has reported that its net profit in the September quarter was up 18 per cent to ₹244 crore against ₹206 crore logged in the same period last year.

The fund house has announced an interim dividend of ₹5.50 a share and fixed the record date as November 9.

Income from operations increased by 20 per cent to ₹397 crore (₹332 crore). Other income was down five per cent to ₹78 crore (₹82 crore).

Overall expenses jumped

12 per cent to ₹164 crore (₹146 crore).

The Nippon India Mutual Fund's (NIMF) average asset under management was up 23 per cent to ₹3.51-lakh crore.

Equity assets rose to 47 per cent of the NIMF's AUM as of September-end, up from 44 per cent in the same period last year.

RETAIL ASSETS

NIMF has one of the largest retail assets in the industry, at ₹1.10-lakh crore.

Retail assets contributed 30 per cent to the NIMF's assets against the industry average of 26 per cent, it said. High Networth Individual

AUM at ₹99,500 crore, up by ₹29,300 crore y-o-y. Individual AUM was ₹2.09-lakh crore.

NIMF's asset from Beyond the top-30 cities was up at ₹71,900 crore and accounted for 19.9 per cent of NIMF's AUM against 17.5 per cent of the industry

SIP INFLOWS

SIP inflows increased 38 per cent q-o-q to ₹4,720 crore. NIMF is one of the largest ETF players, with an AUM of ₹80,800 crore and a market share of 14 per cent.

Nippon India Alternative Investment Funds has a total commitment of ₹5,780 crore across various schemes.

ESAF SFB's ₹463-crore IPO to open on Nov 3

Our Bureau
Kochi

The ₹463-crore initial public offering (IPO) of the ESAF Small Finance Bank IPO will open for subscription on November 3 and close on November 7.

The company has not yet fixed the price band for the issue. The share sale offer consists of a fresh issue of shares worth ₹390.7 crore by the company along with an Offer for Sale (OFS) component of ₹72.3 crore by three selling shareholders.

Promoter ESAF Financial Holdings will be selling shares worth ₹49.26 crore while PNB MetLife India Insurance Company and Bajaj

Allianz Life Insurance Company will offload ₹23.04 crore worth of stocks through the OFS window. ESAF has reserved equity shares worth up to ₹12.5 crore for its employees.

The small finance bank will use part of the issue proceeds to augment the bank's capital base and to meet its future capital requirements, and fund its balance sheet size, a release said.

ESAF has a network of 700 full-fledged branches, 767 customer service centres, 22 business correspondents, 2,116 banking agents, 525 business facilitators, and 559 ATMs spread across 21 States and two union territories.

Mega-cap lifts US stocks ahead of Fed verdict

Reuters

Wall Street's main stock indices on Monday were boosted by gains in megacap growth stocks ahead of a busy week of earnings and interest rate decisions from major central banks including the Federal Reserve.

Nvidia, Amazon.com, Meta Platforms, Alphabet and Tesla were up between 1.3 per cent and nearly 3 per cent.

The Dow Jones was up 285.36 points, or 0.88 per cent, at 32,702.95, the S&P 500 was up 4 points, or 1 per cent, at 4,158.37, and the Nasdaq Composite was up 155.87 points, or 1.23 per cent, at 12,798.88.

'Broad basing of market will help fund managers generate alpha'

bl.interview

Suresh P. Iyengar
Mumbai

Tata Asset Management Company has surprised many investors by stopping lump-sum investment in its small-cap fund when there was a mad rush to invest in this category of fund. The equity asset of the fund house has grown 18 per cent CAGR in the last 5 years to ₹51,358 crore as of March-end. Prathib Bhohe, Managing Director, Tata Asset Management, spoke to *businessline* on the growth prospects. Excerpts:



We are confident of growing faster than the market. Our expectations are not based on an annual basis because our business has inherent volatility

PRATHIB BHOHE
Managing Director
Tata Asset Management

small in the past growing magnificently given that they have performed well and attracted investment interest.

What has been your strategy to attract retail investors?

We have not focussed on one particular channel to grow our business. We have focussed on what we call all the traditional channels, including IFAs, banks, and national distributors.

We are also focussing on fintech and a direct-to-customer channel where investors come to our platforms and transact directly. We are also expanding our manpower on the sales side. Five years ago, we used to employ about 350, and it is about 550 now.

Is reaching smaller towns a challenge without the B-30 incentive?

No. Even without the incentive, we see a phenomenal benefit in expanding in these markets because our brand gives us a natural pull.

Our reach into smaller cities will continue. In fact, it has been about 18 months since we started this virtual relationship manager

channel. Our team members are centralised in a particular location, and a set of ARNs across the country are mapped to them. Distributors in these towns are excited about a call going out from our side and dealing with us because there is a natural affinity for the brand.

How do you see equity inflows, given the volatility in the market?

There are several things that are actually in favour of us as a country. If the GDP grows at 6.5 per cent, there is no reason why the financial markets do not sustain the level of enthusiasm that we are witnessing from investors.

Within this period, the market may go up and remain flat. Everybody relates with the index to gauge the interest level in the market, but we see many opportunities outside the index due to the broad basis of the market.

Our expectation is that you will find many more corporates doing well than we have seen in the past several years.

Broadbasing to the market will help fund managers generate alpha. Our expectation is that the markets will stay buoyant. We are not really as influenced by whether the index moves.

We are far more interested in seeing how the environment is developing, given all these structural reforms that have happened, and then being able to identify the opportunities that get presented.

Have inflows slowed in your small-cap funds after putting restrictions in place?

We stopped accepting lump sums in July. The pace of flows has reduced from Q1 level, but it continues to get us into flows through the STP stroke SIP route, thanks to the performance and the level of investor interest in this category. We continue to get around 25 per cent of what we used to get. We still think it is an area where investors can compound their investments.

Muthoot Microfin's ₹1,350-crore IPO gets green signal

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Muthoot Microfin, an institution providing microloans to women customers with a focus on rural regions, has received final observations from SEBI for their proposed IPO.

The company plans to raise ₹1,350 crore through the initial offer. It comprises a fresh issuance of shares aggregating to ₹950 crore and an offer for sale of ₹400 crore.

Muthoot Microfin is the fourth largest NBFC-MFI in terms of gross loan portfolios as of December and the third largest among NBFC-MFIs in south India in terms of gross loan portfolio. It is the largest in Kerala in terms of MFI market share and a key player in Tamil Nadu with an almost 16 per cent market share.

Flair Writing Ind gets SEBI nod for ₹745-crore IPO

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Flair Writing Industries has received market regulator SEBI approval to raise ₹745 crore through an initial public offering.

The IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to ₹365 crore and an offer-for-sale worth up to ₹380 crore by promoters and promoter group entities. The company filed its draft red herring prospectus in July.

The company proposes to utilise the net proceeds of the fresh issue for setting up a manufacturing facility for writing instruments at Valsad district, in Gujarat; funding its capital expenditure and its arm, Flair Writing Equipments; funding its working capital requirements and its subsidiaries, FWEPL and Flair Cyrosil Industries; payment of the loan; and general corporate purposes.

The company is among the top three players in the overall writing instrument industry, with a market share of about 9 per cent as of March.

MCL MAHANADI COALFIELDS LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
JAGRUTI VIHAR, BURLA-768020, DIST : SAMBALPUR (ODISHA)
Tel. Phone (EPABX) : 0663-2542461 to 459, Website : www.mahanadicoal.in

Notice

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in, respective Subsidiary Company (MCL, www.mahanadicoal.in), CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in> in addition, procurement is also done through GeM Portal <https://gem.gov.in>."

R-5175

TATA MUTUAL FUND

NOTICE

The unaudited half yearly financial results for the period ended 30th September 2023 have been hosted on our website www.tatamutualfund.com

Investors are requested to kindly refer to the same.

Mutual Fund Investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

Craftsman AUTOMATION LIMITED
CIN: L28991TZ1986PLC001816
Regd. office: 123/4, Sangolithipalayam Road, Arasur Post, Coimbatore - 641 407, Tamil Nadu
Tel: 0422 - 7165000, Fax: 0422 - 7165056, Website: www.craftsmanautomation.com, Email: investor@craftsmanautomation.com

1. Extract from the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Results of Craftsman Automation Limited for the quarter and half year ended 30th September, 2023

(Rs. in Lakhs except per share data)

Sr. No	Particulars	Quarter Ended			Half Year Ended		Year Ended
		30-Sep-2023	30-Jun-2023	30-Sep-2022	30-Sep-2023	30-Sep-2022	31-Mar-2023
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1	Total Revenue from Operations	1,17,906	1,03,763	77,624	2,21,669	1,45,320	3,18,260
2	Net Profit / (Loss) (before Tax & Exceptional items)	13,405	10,745	9,606	24,150	18,346	35,479
3	Net Profit / (Loss) before Tax (after Exceptional items)	13,405	10,745	9,606	24,150	18,346	35,479
4	Net Profit / (Loss) (after Tax & Exceptional items)	10,449	8,084	6,248	18,533	11,912	25,096
5	Total Comprehensive Income [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	10,311	8,259	6,077	18,570	11,573	25,166
6	Share Capital	1,056	1,056	1,056	1,056	1,056	1,056
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet						1,31,092
8	Earnings Per Share Basic & Diluted (Face Value of Rs. 5/- each) (Not Annualised)						
	- Basic Rs.	44.75	35.25	29.57	80.00	56.38	117.56
	- Diluted Rs.	44.75	35.25	29.57	80.00	56.38	117.56

2. Extract from the Unaudited Standalone Financial Results of Craftsman Automation Limited for the quarter and half year ended 30th September, 2023

(Rs. in Lakhs except per share data)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended			Half Year Ended		Year Ended
		30-Sep-2023	30-Jun-2023	30-Sep-2022	30-Sep-2023	30-Sep-2022	31-Mar-2023
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1	Total Revenue from Operations	82,445	75,571	77,127	1,58,016	1,44,710	2,98,024
2	Profit before tax	8,428	7,259	9,388	15,687	18,000	33,945
3	Profit after tax	6,271	5,409	6,061	11,680	11,619	23,776
4	Total Comprehensive Income	6,171	5,620	5,903	11,791	11,390	23,711

3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly and Half Yearly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges on 30th October, 2023 under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly and Half Yearly Financial Results are available on the company website, www.craftsmanautomation.com and on the websites of the Stock Exchange(s) i.e. www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com.

For CRAFTSMAN AUTOMATION LIMITED
Srinivasan Ravi
Chairman and Managing Director

Place: Coimbatore
Date: 30th October, 2023

QUICKLY.

HSBC posts \$7.7-billion pre-tax profit in Q3



Hong Kong/London: HSBC Holdings reported on Monday a 240 per cent increase in third-quarter pre-tax profit as higher interest rates boosted the bank's profitability and helped it fund a fresh \$3-billion share buyback. Europe's largest bank posted a pre-tax profit of \$7.7 billion for the July to September quarter, versus \$3.2 billion a year earlier, but the result trailed the \$8.1 billion mean average estimate of brokers compiled by HSBC. REUTERS

Sri Lanka renews IOC's petroleum licence for 20 yrs

Colombo: The Sri Lankan government has renewed the petroleum products licence granted to Lanka IOC, the local subsidiary of Indian Oil Corporation, for another 20 years, officials said. The licence originally issued in 2003 was to expire in January 2024. This will allow Lanka IOC to continue its retail operations on the debt-trapped island nation until January 22, 2044. The licence renewal letter was handed over by President Ranil Wickremesinghe to Dipak Das, MD of LIOC late last week. PTI

Israeli forces step up ground assault

SEEKING PROTECTION. Biden urges Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu to protect civilians, increase humanitarian aid

Reuters
Gaza

Palestinians in northern Gaza reported fierce air and artillery strikes early on Monday as Israeli troops backed by tanks pressed into the enclave with a ground assault that prompted more international calls for civilians to be protected.

Israeli air strikes hit areas near Gaza City's Shifa and Al-Quds hospitals, and Palestinian militants clashed with Israeli forces in a border area east of the city of Khan Younis, in the enclave's south, Palestinian media said.

There was no comment from Hamas or the Israeli military on Monday's fighting. Reuters was not able to confirm the reports.

The bombardments came hours after Israel released images of battle tanks on the west coast of the Palestinian enclave, signalling a potential effort to surround Gaza's main city two days after the Israeli government ordered expanded ground incursions across its eastern border.

SECOND PHASE

Some pictures posted online also appeared to show Israeli soldiers waving an Israeli flag deep inside Gaza. Reuters could not verify the images. Israel's self-declared



WAR INTENSIFIED. Smoke rises over Gaza, as seen from Israel's border REUTERS

"second phase" of a three-week war against Iranian-backed Hamas militants has been largely kept from public view, with forces moving under darkness and a telecommunications blackout cutting off Palestinians.

The phone and internet cuts appeared to ease on Sunday, but telecoms provider Paltel said Israeli air strikes had again knocked out internet and phone service in parts of the enclave's northern sections, where Hamas has command centres. The outages have severely

hampered rescue operations for casualties of Israeli barrages.

The reported strikes near hospitals came after the Palestinian Red Crescent said on Sunday it had received warnings from Israeli authorities to immediately evacuate al-Quds hospital, where some 14,000 people have sought shelter.

Israel has accused Hamas of locating command centres and other military infrastructure in Gaza hospitals, which the group denies. Palestinian officials said

about 50,000 people had also taken shelter in Shifa Hospital, adding that they were concerned about Israeli threats to the facility.

Israel has tightened its blockade and bombarded Gaza since Hamas gunmen stormed across the border into Israel on October 7. Israeli authorities say the militants killed some 1,400 people and took at least 239 hostages.

It has also stepped up operations against Islamist groups in the West Bank, killing scores of Palestinians and arresting hundreds.

Two Palestinians were killed and nine injured on Monday during an Israeli raid on the West Bank city of Jenin and its refugee camp, Palestinian official news agency Wafa said.

CALLS FOR A PAUSE

The stepped-up attacks by Israel coincided with a mounting international outcry for a "humanitarian pause" to allow aid in.

Hamas wants a five-day humanitarian pause in Israel's operations to allow aid and fuel into the besieged Gaza

Strip in return for the release of all civilian hostages held by the militants, said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

More than half the hostages held by Hamas have foreign passports from 25 countries, including 54 Thai nationals, according to the Israeli government.

The United Nations Security Council is due to be briefed on the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

US President Joe Biden pressed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a call on Sunday to protect civilians in Gaza and "immediately and significantly increase the flow of humanitarian aid" to the besieged coastal enclave, the White House said.

Biden and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi committed to the significant acceleration of assistance flowing into Gaza beginning Sunday, the White House said separately.

Medical authorities in the Gaza Strip, which has a population of 2.3 million people, said on Sunday 8,005 people - including 3,324 minors - had been killed.

The Hamas-run Gaza government's media office said 116 medics and 35 journalists have been killed since the conflict erupted.

Reuters was unable to independently verify these figures.

Google CEO testifies in US antitrust trial

Reuters
Washington

Sundar Pichai, CEO of Alphabet Inc and its subsidiary Google, testified Monday in a once-in-a-generation antitrust fight with the US government that the company sought to make browser use and internet search easy and secure.

Pichai testified under oath in a trial to determine whether Google acted illegally to maintain its dominance of search and parts of search advertising. If the government wins, the company may be forced to scrap some business practices that have helped it stay on top.

In testimony Monday morning, Pichai took a couple of swipes at Microsoft's browser, Internet Explorer.

Before Google launched its Chrome browser, which competes with the Microsoft product, Pichai said, "The browser market at the time had kind of stagnated."

He said that Google made it easy to change the Chrome browser if a user wanted to use a search engine that was not Google.

Pichai, who was called as a witness for Google, will likely be asked about the company's investments aimed at keeping its online search engine dominant, especially as smartphones took over, and innovation in search advertising.

WTO members must discuss treatment of cryptos under e-commerce: GTRI

Our Bureau
New Delhi

WTO member countries must prioritise discussions on crypto currency under the ongoing e-commerce negotiations at the forum—one at the multilateral level on moratorium on import duties on e-transmissions and the other a limited-group joint sector initiative encompassing e-commerce rules—before members start taking liberties with its interpretation leading to disputes, per a report by research body Global Trade and Research Initiative (GTRI).

"The treatment of crypto currencies (a digital currency operating outside central banks) and the diverse positions of nations like the USA and India will shape the future of WTO e-commerce negotiations," according to Ajay Srivastava, former Indian Trade Services officer and founder, GTRI.

While the crypto market is garnering increased global attention, its classification under the WTO e-commerce framework remains ambiguous



UNDER THE LENS. While the crypto market is garnering increased global attention, its classification under the WTO e-commerce framework remains ambiguous REUTERS

ous. "The debate should pivot on whether exchange of crypto-currency fall under "electronic transmissions" in the e-commerce scope," the GTRI report pointed out.

DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM

Discussing the matter at the WTO promises to not only reshape the digital trade ecosystem but also redefine the WTO's approach towards modern challenges.

"Globally, crypto-currency adoption is witnessing an uptrend. India, for instance, has levied a heightened capital gains tax on crypto earnings. Indian

Prime Minister Narendra Modi stressed the necessity of a unified international framework to regulate such emergent technologies," the report stated.

The WTO's 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13), in February 2024 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, could be a good forum to discuss cryptos.

The WTO defines e-commerce as the electronic production, distribution, sale, or delivery of goods and services. This includes products such as books, music, and videos transmitted digitally, the report noted.

Petronet LNG Q2 net up 9% at ₹856 cr

Our Bureau
New Delhi

State-run Petronet LNG (PLL) on Monday reported a 9 per cent Y-o-Y growth in its consolidated net profit at ₹856 crore for the July-September quarter in FY24 aided by optimisation measures and higher capacity utilisation at the Dahej terminal.

The country's largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) importer's net profit was higher by 5 per cent on a sequential basis.

The CPSU's consolidated total income was higher in Q2 FY24 at ₹12,686 crore compared to ₹11,801 crore in Q1 FY24, but was lower on an annual basis (₹16,074 crore in Q2 FY23).

Petronet LNG MD & CEO A K Singh told reporters that the robust financial performance was achieved due to efficiency in operations and higher capacity utilisation of the Dahej Terminal, that remained consistently above 90 per cent in the current quarter and half year, taking huge leap from the utilisation level in FY23 that was below 80 per cent.

The board also declared a special interim dividend of ₹7 per equity share.

JSW Ventures sells stake in Purple to Manipal Family Office

Meenakshi Verma Ambwani
New Delhi


JSW Ventures has decided to sell stake in beauty e-tailer Purple through a secondary transaction to Manipal Education & Medical Group Family Office (MEMG).

With this, JSW Ventures has fully exited their stake in Purple from Fund I, but added that it continues to stay invested in the brand through the second fund.

Ranjan Pai, Chairman of the Manipal Group, said: "With their vision and dedication, the Purple team, has created a digital ecosystem that revolutionises how Indian consumers discover and experience beauty products. We are excited to be part of Purple's journey as they scale up."

Sachin Tagra, Managing Partner, JSW Ventures, added that Purple, one of the fund's earliest investments as a fund in 2016, "has delivered a 57 per cent IRR. With this exit, we have returned 2.7 times the corpus of the first fund. We continue to stay invested in Purple from our second fund."

TRIBUTE



SHRI. M.C. NANDAGOPAL
FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN
STALLION TYRES LTD, WELCOME FOODS LTD,
AND TOOLS INTERNATIONAL LTD.

Passed away peacefully around 11:30pm on the 29th of October, at the age of 89 years in the presence of his wife, children, and grandchildren at his home in Chennai.

14.09.1934 - 29.10.2023

Invesco Mutual Fund

Invesco Asset Management (India) Pvt. Ltd.

(CIN: U67190MH2005PTC153471), 2101-A, 21st Floor, A Wing, Marathon Futurex, N. M. Joshi Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013

Telephone: +91 22 6731 0000, Fax: +91 22 2301 9422, Email: mfsservices@invesco.com
www.invescomutualfund.com

NOTICE CUM ADDENDUM

Addendum to the Scheme Information Document(s) / Key Information Memorandum(s) of Scheme(s) of Invesco Mutual Fund and Statement of Additional Information of Invesco Mutual Fund

Notice is hereby given to all the investors / unit holders to take note of following changes to Scheme Information Document(s) ('SIDs') and Key Information Memorandum(s) ('KIMs') of the Schemes of Invesco Mutual Fund ('the Fund'), as applicable and Statement of Additional Information ('SAI') of the Fund:

1. Changes in the Fund Management Responsibilities:

Pursuant to resignation of Mr. Pranav Gokhale, the details of changes in the Fund Management responsibilities are as follows:

Sr. #	Name of the Schemes	Name of Existing Fund Managers	Name of New Fund Manager(s)
1.	Invesco India Midcap Fund	Mr. Pranav Gokhale & Mr. Amit Ganatra	Mr. Amit Ganatra
2.	Invesco India Multicap Fund	Mr. Pranav Gokhale & Mr. Amit Nigam	Mr. Amit Nigam
3.	Invesco India Growth Opportunities Fund	Mr. Pranav Gokhale & Mr. Amit Ganatra	Mr. Amit Ganatra
4.	Invesco India Equity & Bond Fund	Mr. Dhimant Kothari & Mr. Pranav Gokhale & Mr. Krishna Cheemalapati	Mr. Dhimant Kothari & Mr. Krishna Cheemalapati
5.	Invesco India Smallcap Fund	Mr. Taher Badshah & Mr. Pranav Gokhale	Mr. Taher Badshah

Accordingly, the write up of Mr. Pranav Gokhale shall be deleted, wherever applicable, in the respective SIDs of the above-mentioned scheme(s).

The above changes in Fund Management responsibilities are effective from **October 31, 2023**.

2. Change in Key Personnel:

Mr. Pranav Gokhale - Fund Manager - Equity has resigned from the services of Invesco Asset Management (India) Pvt. Ltd. ('IAM/IAMC') and has ceased to be Key Personnel and employee of IAM with effect from close of business hours on **October 30, 2023**.

Pursuant to above changes, necessary changes will be carried out at relevant places in SIDs and KIMs of the Scheme(s) of the Fund, as applicable and SAI of the Fund.

All other terms & conditions of the SIDs and KIMs of the above-mentioned Scheme(s) of the Fund and SAI of the Fund will remain unchanged.

This addendum forms an integral part of the SIDs and KIMs of the above-mentioned Scheme(s) of the Fund and SAI of the Fund, as amended from time to time.

**For Invesco Asset Management (India) Pvt. Ltd.
(Investment Manager for Invesco Mutual Fund)**

**Sd/-
Saurabh Nanavati
Chief Executive Officer**

Date: October 30, 2023

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

QUICKLY.

China optimism aids copper scale 4-week high



Copper prices climbed to four-week highs on Monday due to signs of steady growth in top consumer China, declining inventories and a softer dollar ahead of important data from China's manufacturing sector. Benchmark copper on the LME traded 1.1 per cent higher at \$8,185 a metric ton in official rings, having earlier hit \$8,231, the highest since October 2. **REUTERS**

Gold near \$2,000 on W Asia risks, focus on Fed

Gold prices hovered near the key psychological \$2,000 level on Monday, supported by safe-haven demand amid the Middle East conflict, while market participants looked ahead to this week's U.S. Federal Reserve policy meeting. Spot gold was down 0.4 per cent at \$1,998.39 per ounce by 1335 GMT. **REUTERS**

Crude oil declines 1% ahead of US, China data



Singapore: Crude oil prices slipped more than 1 per cent on Monday as investors adopted caution ahead of a US Fed policy meet and China's manufacturing data due to this week, offsetting support from tension in the Middle East. Brent crude futures dropped 97 cents to \$89.51 a barrel by 0718 GMT, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was down \$1.13, at \$84.41 a barrel. **REUTERS**

Fertilizer subsidy at 64% of BE; may top ₹2-lakh crore in FY24

SPURT IN OFFTAKE. 96% of P&K subsidy allocation for whole year exhausted in 6 months

Prabudatta Mishra
New Delhi

The government's fertilizer subsidy bill may reach about ₹2 lakh crore in the current fiscal. In the first six months of the current fiscal, it has reached 64.4 per cent of the Budget allocation of ₹1.75 lakh crore. However, it may not impact retail prices of fertilizers as the government has promised to shoulder the burden by ensuring that farmers get these crop nutrients at affordable rates.

According to latest data, the total fertilizer subsidy during April-September was ₹1,12,698.58 crore, out of which ₹70,497.88 crore was spent on urea and ₹42,200.7 crore on phosphorus (P) and potash (K).

Officials said the total Budget allocation for P and K subsidy was ₹44,000 crore for



BIG JUMP. Total fertilizer subsidy in April-Sept was ₹1,12,698.58 crore, of which ₹70,497.88 crore was spent on urea. **REUTERS**

the entire fiscal and nearly 96 per cent has been exhausted in six months. The government has allocated ₹22,303 crore subsidy during the current rainy season (October-March) for P and K fertilizers. "At least ₹20,000 crore in addition to the ₹1.75 lakh crore will have to be added if global market

rates stay stable at the current level amid the geopolitical tension in the Middle-East," said a fertilizer industry expert.

He said a major portion of the import has been done for the current season and in November-December will be mostly for securing supplies for next

year's kharif season. According to government data, the cumulative availability (including carryover stock from the kharif season) during October 1-23 was urea at 69.04 lakh tonnes (lt), DAP at 27.90 lt, MOP at 6.31 lt, complex at 39.67 lt and single super phosphate (SSP) at 18.95 lt. But sales were only 16.39 lt of urea, 9.08 lt of DAP, 1.06 lt of MOP, 6.71 lt of complex and 3.06 lt of SSP.

Last week, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur last week said depending on international rates, the subsidy might go up or come down, but the government would not let any burden fall on the farmers. After global prices of various fertilizers skyrocketed in 2022-23, India's fertilizer subsidy bill reached a record ₹2.25 lakh crore. Prices have fallen from those highs.

UPL posts Q2 loss of ₹189 cr on drop in revenue, pricing pressure

Our Bureau
Bangaluru



Mike Frank, CEO, UPL Corporation

Agrochemical major UPL has posted a loss of ₹189 crore for the quarter ended September 2023 on a drop in revenues and elevated pricing pressure. The company had posted a profit of ₹813 crore in the same period last year.

Revenues for the September quarter were down 19 per cent at ₹10,170 crore against ₹12,506 crore a year ago. The revenue and EBITDA for Q2 were impacted by the global channel destocking and elevated pricing pressure. Liquidation of high-cost inventory, higher-than-usual sales returns and rebates to the support channel partners impacted the contribution margin, the company said. "The global agrochemical industry continues to go through a difficult phase with prices coming off sig-

nificantly vis-à-vis the high base of the previous year amid the elevated channel inventory levels and intense price competition. Given this backdrop, the distributors prioritised destocking, and focused on purchases at lower prices to bring down their average inventory cost. In particular, destocking had a significant impact in the US and Brazil during the first half.

"Our revenue and profitability for Q2 were significantly impacted by these

factors in line with rest of the industry. However, contribution margins improved by about 300 bps y-o-y in H1FY24 adjusted for the short-term impact of high-cost inventory liquidation, higher-than-usual sales returns, and rebates to channel partners. We also saw a pick-up in volumes (+1 per cent y-o-y) in the crop protection business (ex-India) led by the resilient performance of our differentiated and sustainable portfolio," said Mike Frank, CEO, UPL Corporation Ltd.

OPTIMISTIC

"Going forward, we are optimistic of progressively improved performance in H2FY24 as key geographies of North America, LATAM and Europe enter major cropping season. The elevated inventory levels are expected to gradually subside with the farmgate demand continuing to be robust."

Kochi tea sale continues to be hit by geopolitical crisis

V Sajeev Kumar
Kochi

The Israel-Hamas conflict continues to hit orthodox tea shipments from Kochi auctions with the sales percentage declining. In sale 43, the sold percentage was only 52 out of the offered quantity of 1,41,543 kg in orthodox grades, and the average price realisation was down by ₹10 when both orthodox and CTC grades put together.

Traders fear that the worsening of the war situation in West Asia is likely to hit payments, discouraging buyers from placing fresh orders due to shipment delays. Tradi-

tional exporting countries such as Iraq, Egypt, and Iran have already reduced their intakes from the auctions and the business is expected to be further affected in the coming weeks. The closing down of North Indian market for pooja holidays has also affected the Kochi auction market, resulting in subdued sales from up-country buyers.

Auctioneers Forbes, Ewart & Figgis said that exporters to CIS and West Asian countries were selective and subdued, and some major traditional exporters did not operate. However, the CTC dust market witnessed strong demand, with 96 per cent of sales out of the offered quantity of 7,90,284 kg.

Darjeeling tea exports may fall 10% on dip in global demand

Mithun Dasgupta
Kolkata

Exports of the world famous Darjeeling tea will likely fall by about 10 per cent this year, compared with last year on the back of weak global demand.

"Because of the current global situation exports are likely to drop by around 10 per cent compared to last year.

The Ukraine-Russia war and a weak yen in Japan are impacting exports," the Indian Tea Exporters' Association chairman Anshuman Kanoria told *businessline*.

Europe and Japan are the two large overseas

markets for this premium tea, the first product to get a geographical identification (GI) tag in India. "We have lost markets in Russia and Iran. Iran is buying a limited amount of Darjeeling tea now," Kanoria said.

Total exports of Darjeeling tea last year was over 3 million kg (mkg). In 2022, production of the popular tea variety was 6.93 mkg, down from 7.01 mkg in 2021, according to data provided by the Tea Board of India.

CROP DOWN

For the period January-August, 2023, the Darjeeling crop dropped by around 15 per cent year-



HEADWINDS. The Ukraine-Russia war and a weak yen in Japan are impacting exports

on-year to 4.16 mkg. Adverse weather conditions impacted production. "Our expectation is that Darjeeling tea production

would be around 6.5-7 mkg this year," Kanoria said.

Significantly, Darjeeling's tea industry has wit-

nessed a gradual fall in production for over a decade now. In 2011, tea production was 9.14 mkg, while it was 8.13 mkg in 2016. Production has been hit by climate change, labour issues, lower productivity and profitability, according to industry insiders. Facing financial crises, many planters have sold gardens in recent years.

"Cost of production has risen by at least 10 per cent this year compared with last year, due mainly to a wage hike. However, the average price realisation would be around 10 per cent lower in 2023. It is already a loss-making operation," Kanoria said.

DeHaat partners Freshrop Fruits to boost grape, fruit exports

Our Bureau
Bangaluru

Agri-tech platform DeHaat is entering into a strategic partnership with Freshrop Fruits Ltd to enhance the export business of grapes and other fruits from India. The partnership aligns with the vision of both companies to strengthen the fruit value chain from India with deeper engagement with farmers, better technology transfer and improved infrastructure, the company said in a statement.

Shashank Kumar, Co-founder & CEO, DeHaat, said, "The way Freshrop has built its relationship with over 50 global retail chains delivering a strong business presence across 20 countries is quite commendable. Over the last 25 years, Freshrop has empowered hundreds of farmers to start the grape export journey which completely aligns



Shashank Kumar, Co-founder & CEO, DeHaat

with DeHaat's vision of being a 'farmers first' organisation. We established our export business 18 months ago and are today exporting more than 20 agri produce from India to the Middle East, UK and EU. We see strong synergies around the complementary core competencies between DeHaat and Freshrop. We are super excited about this collaboration to grow the grapes and overall agri export business together. Each member of the Freshrop's founding family

along with the larger team will continue to remain actively involved in the business and DeHaat will bring its network and resources for market expansion, development of new grape varieties and will provide deeper pre-harvest support to the associated farmers."

FULL-STACK SERVICES

The partnership will enable DeHaat to offer its full-stack agri services including the availability of high-quality inputs, personalised advisory, financing, insurance and access to wider global markets to Freshrop's farmer network, enabling seamless information exchange and better value discovery.

DeHaat said it is in the advanced stages of taking over Freshrop Fruits' export network and grading, packing and precooling centres, and will absorb all people from the company, including the top leadership team, in its structure.

Plea to resume veg, fruits exports from Calicut

Our Bureau
Kochi

Fruits and vegetable exporters are agitated over the delay in issuing Nipah-free certification to Calicut International Airport by the Kerala Government after the virus was brought under control.

Exporters along with two Parliament members from Kozhikode urged the State government to issue Nipah free certificate to the airport which would help re-start the shipments that was disrupted following the outbreak the virus in September. They pointed out that the authorities have issued Nipah-free certificates to Kochi and Kannur airports after the easing of the restrictions for exports.

IMPENDING CRISIS

MK Raghavan, MP from Kozhikode, has sent a letter

to the State Industries Minister P Rajeev seeking his intervention in the matter. He urged the Minister to help avert an impending crisis being faced by farmers, traders and those working in the export sector. According to him, it was an unjustified discrimination against Calicut Airport for not issuing Nipah free certification especially when the Kannur airport which is close to the virus outbreak area has been given such certification.

Another Parliament member, Abdussamad Samadani, in a message to the State Health Minister Veena George said the absence of Nipah free certificate to the airport could make overseas buyers to look at other destinations for their shipments. It is pointed out that around 50 tonnes of fruits and vegetables were shipped through Calicut Airport on a daily basis.

Netafim India launches affordable clog-free drip irrigation system

Our Bureau
Bangaluru

SETTING TARGETS

The company plans to bring 25,000 hectares under the new system and reach 35,000 farmers across the country by 2025

Netafim India has launched an innovative irrigation system with anti-clogging technology that ensures optimal delivery of water and nutrients. The company plans to bring 25,000 hectares under the new system and reach 35,000 farmers across the country by 2025.

Toofan is 40 per cent stronger, with greater tensile strength, and is 20 per cent more affordable than the thin wall, non-pressure-compensated (NPC) drip lines available in the Indian market. The technology is now available to farmers with small to large holdings, regardless of subsidy eligibility. The drip line can be deployed swiftly, allowing farmers to cover up to 10 acres in a single day. This revolutionary feature saves both time and resources, Net-

afim said in a statement.

Toofan's TurbuNext technology will help farmers achieve better crop yields. The technology is suited for row crops on flat topographies, regardless of the water quality. It provides lower flow rates with a large filtration area, and ensures consistent water flow to the crops. The TurbuNext dripper labyrinth moves debris out of the dripper, thus preventing clogging. It maintains a unique geometric tooth-shaped structure that increases turbulence. The lower flow rates allow longer

lateral lengths and fewer sub-main pipes and connectors, thus, ultimately saving on system and labour costs by 20 per cent and 25 per cent, respectively, per hectare.

Randhir Chauhan, Managing Director, Netafim India and Senior Vice President Netafim Ltd., said, "Netafim India aims to provide an affordable, high-performance micro irrigation system that not only ensures consistent and uniform yields, but also reduces operational costs for farmers. As a farmer's anthropologist, we understand the dynamics of Indian agriculture and work to bring solutions that meet the evolving needs of our growers."

This multi-seasonal system is useful for surface or sub-surface applications and is available in a convenient 600-metre bundle with a 16 mm diameter and dripper flow rates ranging from one litre per hour to 2.2.

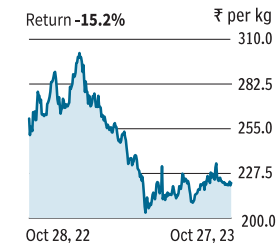
Zinc futures: Pause for now

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl, research bureau

Zinc futures - November expiry - on the MCX closed at ₹233.65 by the end of September. It was a clear breakout of the resistance at ₹230, technically, a bullish signal. However, rather than appreciating further, the contract started to fall.

COMMODITY CALL.

Last week, it closed at ₹221.65. But considering the price action of the last two weeks, the downswing too seems to have lost traction. Because the November zinc futures has been oscillating in the ₹219-223 range. Thus, zinc futures should breach either ₹219 or ₹223 to start trending. On the other hand, a fall below ₹219 can trigger an-



other leg of downtrend, possibly to ₹210. Immediately below this is another support at ₹208.

A breakout of ₹223 will open the room for a rally to ₹230. Notably, the price region between ₹230 and ₹234 can act as a barrier. On the other hand, a fall below ₹219 can trigger another leg of downtrend, possibly to ₹210. Considering the above conditions, traders need to wait for zinc futures to move out of the ₹219-223 range.

Take fresh trade along the direction of break of this range.

Farm experts not surprised by lower estimate of kharif crops

Bl Bureaus

The Indian government's first advance estimate of kharif crops this season has not surprised agriculture experts, industry and analysts in view of the south-west monsoon's behaviour this year. However, some feel that the production will likely be even lower and some of the estimates could be pruned in the next round, particularly in the case of tur.

The south-west monsoon was impacted by warm ocean water phenomenon El Nino with July witnessing excess rainfall and August experiencing a 32 per cent deficiency in precipitation.

Former Agriculture Secretary Siraj Hussain said, "Lower estimate of production of various kharif crops is not surprising. It is good that the government has realised the importance of releasing correct estimates."

Noted economist and former Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) Chairman Ashok Gulati said there was consumer bias in the system and farmers stand to lose.

In particular, he differed with the Agriculture Ministry estimates on tur (pigeon pea) production. "I disagree with the government's estimate on tur output and its prices will remain firm and even can flare up. Because the area under tur was less, so how come the production will be the same or more?" he wondered.

WEATHER IMPACT

Bimal Kothari, Chairman, IPGA, said there is no significant difference between the first advance estimates of tur and last year's crop size. While September rains had rekindled prospects of a good crop, heat conditions in October are seen hurting tur yields. "It is very difficult to assess



GLOOMY PROSPECTS. Some feel that the production could be even lower and some of the estimates could be pruned in the next round, particularly in the case of tur

the crop size as there has been a big impact of the erratic weather due to El Nino on the pulses crop," he said.

Rahul Chauhan of IGrain India said the projections of tur crop are on the higher side in the first advance estimates, while urad and moong are quite realistic. We expect tur crop to be less than 3 million tonnes this year due to lower crop in Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Gulati said the only concern (over pulses) was about tur. I feel it is late (for the Centre to act). "The government should have imported it earlier. Let's wait till December-January," he said.

ERRATIC DISTRIBUTION

Kothari said, "We will have to wait and see how the harvest of tur turns out from December onwards." Even with the estimated production of 3.4

million tonnes (mt) of tur, there will be a shortage of 1.2 mt for which India has to depend on imports and prices are unlikely to come down.

DK Pant, chief economist at India Ratings, said, "The estimates are clearly as per the impact of 2023 monsoon which was below normal. Though acreage was not affected due to the uneven monsoon, there was a decline in productivity of foodgrain crops since rainfall did not come at the right time when farmers needed."

Shashank Srivastava, Senior Executive Officer, Marketing & Sales, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, said, "The projections regarding kharif production are not unexpected as the spatial and timeline distribution of monsoon rainfall was erratic. Clearly, lower agricultural output will weaken rural consumer sentiment," he said.

Rohan Kanwar Gupta,

Vice-President and Sector Head, Corporate Ratings, said the decline in crop production follows an uneven monsoon precipitation with the country recording precipitation at 94 per cent of the long period average during the monsoon season.

BV Krishna Rao, The Rice Exporters Association of India President, said rice production was lower by 3.8 per cent and it was not a concern. "Rice production is ample to meet domestic demand," he said. Gulati said, "There is no worry for rice because of ample stock with the government and inflation of rice has been checked. The government has also brought down wheat inflation as it has been unloading the grain from official reserves almost at its minimum support price (MSP). In rice, the reserve price (by FCI) is lower than its new MSP value, which is more than ₹30."

QUICKLY.

14 killed, 50 injured as two trains collide in AP



Visakhapatnam: Toll rose to 14 and the number of injured stood at 50 in the collision involving two passenger trains in Andhra Pradesh on the Howrah-Chennai line. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy instructed officials to pay an ex-gratia amount of ₹10 lakh to the kin of each deceased and ₹2 lakh each to the injured. **PH**

SC hearing on electoral bonds to begin today

New Delhi: A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court is scheduled to commence a crucial hearing from Tuesday on a batch of pleas challenging the validity of the electoral bonds scheme for funding political parties. **PH**

Former Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia denied bail



New Delhi: In a setback for former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, the Supreme Court on Monday rejected his regular bail pleas in corruption and money-laundering cases related to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam and said the transfer of ₹338 crore was tentatively established in the matter. If the trial proceeds in a "sloppy manner", Sisodia will be at liberty to apply for bail in these cases in three months, the Bench said. **PH**

'Need inter-govt synergy to catch smuggling masterminds'

DETERRENCE. Nabbing the 'brain' behind illegal trade would act as a curb for such unlawful activities that hurt the economy and the people: FM Sitharaman

Shishir Sinha
New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday called for use of technology and intergovernmental co-operation to catch the 'big fish' behind smuggling and illicit trade networks.

Addressing the Global Conference on Cooperation in Enforcement Matters organised by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), she said the focus of enforcement agencies should be to nab the 'brain' behind illegal trade, which would act as a deterrent for such unlawful activities that hurt the economy as well as the citizens. The nature of smuggled or illegally traded goods has not changed over the last 50-60 years and it

continues to be precious metals, narcotics, and precious reserves from forest or marine life.

"It is important for all governments to know how to deter smuggling activities which are endangering our wild flora and fauna, how to deter activities where networked groups think that small fries can be sacrificed, police or customs authorities can catch hold of this small (fries) and larger fish, which is the brain behind, is never going to be caught," she said.

NO NEWER AREAS

Further, she added that there are no newer areas on which the customs authorities are baffled. If this is the way it is showing a trend over the decade, by now most of us should be fairly informed of who are the forces behind it.



CALL FOR ACTION. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary and WCO Secretary-General Kunio Mikuriya during the inaugural session of the global conference on 'Cooperation in Enforcement Matters 2023' in New Delhi on Monday

"I place a lot of emphasis on intergovernmental co-operation, along with WCO (World Customs Organisation), so that we are able to crack the brains behind it

(smuggling), the masterminds behind it, with the help from local authorities and governments," the Minister said. She emphasised that de-

terrence of illicit trade will be strengthened if all confiscated goods are destroyed and not put into the market. "It is also our duty to restore confidence in the

terrence of illicit trade will be strengthened if all confiscated goods are destroyed and not put into the market. "It is also our duty to restore confidence in the

ARMED WITH TECH

Stating that prevention and deterrence would help in curbing the menace of illicit trade and smuggling, she said enforcement agencies are at an advantageous position as they are armed with technology.

Technology should go hand in hand with information sharing. And when you share information, it should be actionable," the Minister

said. The sharing of information should also include innovative thoughts, on legislations which have empowered authorities and on procedures which have come in handy, she said.

During the conference, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said while combating the menace of smuggling is important, there is also a need to put in place trade facilitative measures, which reduce costs of business and enhance competitiveness.

"The sheer scale of smuggling, use of advanced technology and the presence of highly sophisticated networks make their (illegal trade) detection very difficult and challenging. Adoption of modern technology by law enforcement agencies are therefore required to deal with this menace," Malhotra added.

Jaishankar meets the families of 8 Navy veterans facing death sentence in Qatar

Dalip Singh
New Delhi

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday met the families of eight former Navy personnel, facing death sentence by a Qatar court on Thursday on charges of espionage, and assured them that the government "attaches highest importance to the case" and would make all effort to ensure relief for them.

Jaishankar posted on X that he told the family members of the ex-Navy personnel that he "fully share the concerns and pain of the families". Sources said the Minister tried to convince



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar

the family members that they are fully invested in getting them back as early as possible as there is chance of dialogue with Qatar government on this issue.

"Underlined that government will continue to make all efforts to secure their release. Will coordinate closely

with the families in that regard," the Minister for External Affairs posted on the social media. Sources said the family had filed a mercy plea with Qatar regime for pardon of former Navy relatives before the judgement was delivered by the Court of First Instance.

EFFORTS FOR RELIEF

Before meeting with Jaishankar, the families also engaged Indian Navy chief Admiral R Hari Kumar and sought assistance to impress upon the government to take up with their counterpart in Qatar for pardon of ex-Navy officials, some of them high ranking and decorated in service.

The Navy, meanwhile, is going through the judgement of the Qatar's Court of First Instance to understand the legal implications of verdict that shocked India. These personnel were arrested last August and charges were framed in March 2023 in a case of suspected espionage case. "It was supposed to have been transcribed and provided on Sunday. We will get back and have a look at it," chief Admiral R Hari Kumar.

"You heard the MEA statement. Every effort is being made by the government to ensure we take up through the legal course and find relief for our personnel," insisted Indian Navy chief.

ON FAST TRACK



FREIGHT CORRIDOR. Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Minister Darshana Jardosh, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, State BJP President CR Patil and others during an event organised for laying of foundation stone of various developmental projects worth ₹5,950 crore, in Kheralu, Mehsana district, on Monday. Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the 77-km New Bhandu-New Sanand section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor that will help speed up the transport of goods from ports and manufacturing hubs in the region. **PH**

Finolex case: NCLAT member Rakesh Kumar quits post SC rap

KR Srivats
New Delhi

National Company Law Appellate Tribunal's Judicial member Rakesh Kumar has tendered his resignation in the wake of Supreme Court taking strong exception to his conduct of defying the apex court's order in a case relating to annual general meeting (AGM) of Finolex Cables.

Kumar's decision to step down from his post was conveyed to the CJI Y V Chandrachud led Bench by his Counsel Senior Advocate P S Patwalia here on Monday. A Bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra took note of Kumar's resignation and closed the matter against Justice Kumar and NCLAT Technical member Alok Srivastava, who tendered an unconditional apology.

"We are of the view that there was an attempt to defy

the orders of this Court and censure the member. However, we would be resting the matter here," the apex court said. The Supreme Court on Monday noted that the video footage of the NCLAT hearing on October 13 clearly showed that the NCLAT Bench refused to defer pronouncement of its order despite clear directions to that effect from the apex court.

The NCLAT had earlier passed an order directing status quo on the results of the AGM till they adjudicate on the dispute between cousins Deepak Chabria and Prakash Chabria in the Finolex cables case. The apex court had however set aside this order.

The apex court had on October 18 issued notices to Rakesh Kumar and Alok Srivastava of the NCLAT to show cause for not initiating contempt action against them for delivering a judgement on October 16 defying an interim order passed by them.

Oil Minister in Mozambique for revival of \$20-b LNG project

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

Oil Minister H S Puri on Sunday held discussions with Mozambique's Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Carlos Zacarias and top officials from TotalEnergies on the early resumption of the \$20 billion liquefied natural gas (LNG) project.

His visit follows the May 2023 meeting of Oil Secretary Pankaj Jain with TotalEnergies CEO Patrick Pouyanne on resuming operations at the project in the southern African nation, which was halted in 2021 due to security concerns. The meeting was after Foreign Minister S Jaishankar's visit to the country in April.

"In a productive meeting with Carlos Zacarias, Minister of Mineral Resources & Energy of Mozambique, we discussed early resumption of operations of the strategically important \$20 billion LNG Project in Mozam-



STRATEGIC TIE-UP Commencement of the project will improve India's energy security, says H S Puri

bique in which Indian PSUs hold 30 per cent stake," Puri said on X on Sunday.

Deliberations were also held on exploring avenues to further enhance the bilateral hydrocarbons trade, including LNG, between India and Mozambique, which has already increased more than two and a half times in the last 5 years from \$687.71 million in FY19 to \$1,821.39 million in FY23, he added.

Puri also held deliberations with Maxime Rabil-

loud, Total's country manager for the gas project in Mozambique, on the project, which is the second largest upstream investment destination for India.

Puri also held a meeting with Mozambique's Minister for Economy and Finance of Max Tonela. They discussed issues pertaining to the financing mechanism of the LNG project.

Three Indian PSUs — ONGC Videsh (OVL), Bharat PetroResources

(BPRL), and Oil India (OIL) — hold a total of 30 per cent stake in the project, which was first expected to commence operations in 2024, but has now been delayed to 2027 due to reasons such as change of ownership and security at the project site, sources said.

Analysts said that the move by India will help in further diversifying its LNG cargoes.

Sources said that talks are on with contractors on renegotiating the costs.

ENERGY SECURITY

Puri reviewed the LNG project along with Oil India CMD R Rath and ONGC Videsh MD and CEO Rajarshi Gupta on Monday.

"Reviewed the 7,500 hectare site of our LNG project in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado and the 13 MTPA LNG trains with Governor of the Province Dr Valige Taubo; Heads of Indian PSUs MD & CEO OVL Rajarshi Gupta & CMD OIL Ranjit Rath & rep-

resentatives of @TotalEnergies," Puri said in a tweet on X.

He noted that it will contribute to energy security with its large 64 trillion cubic feet (TCF) reserve and will produce 13 MTPA capacity which can also multiply very soon.

When the strategically important project starts, it will dramatically improve India's energy security and significantly contribute towards India's journey to achieve energy sufficiency under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, he added.

Oil and gas is a strategic sector for India to enhance its energy security, a stated national policy objective. Mozambique has emerged as a preferred destination for global oil majors/ national oil companies (NOCs) in view of large discoveries and potential development of LNG projects in offshore area 1 and area 4, he added.

Delhi excise case: ED summons Kejriwal on Nov 2

Press Trust of India
New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for questioning in an excise policy-linked money-laundering case on November 2, official sources said on Monday. Kejriwal (55) has been issued the summons under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and according to the sources, the agency will record his statement once he deposes before the investigating officer of the case in Delhi.

The ED has mentioned Kejriwal's name multiple times in its chargesheets filed in the case and said the accused were in touch with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader regarding the preparation and execution of the now-scrapped Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22.

Army initiates procurement process for 423 electric-bikes

Dalip Singh
New Delhi

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) is contributing to government's green initiative as it floated a Request for Information (RFI) for the first time on Monday to procure 423 electric motorcycles for use by its personnel deployed in plains and semi-hilly terrain across the country.

About a year back, the Army had decided to gradually replace a certain percentage of their fossil-fuel dependent vehicles with e-vehicles, from cars, to buses and two wheelers in use at peace locations that are not located at extreme geographical habitat. A few such units would see 25 per cent light vehicles such as cars, 38 per cent buses and 48 per cent two-wheelers like motorcycles switch over to electric mode to curb pollution.

GREEN SHIFT

These e-bikes will be used by personnel deployed at peace locations in plains and semi-hilly terrain across the country

According to the RFI, the electric motorcycle will be capable of transporting two soldiers. "Since the tech is niche, is ever evolving and Indian Army is procuring these vehicles for the first time, the GSQR (General Staff Qualitative Requirements) prepared at this stage shall be amended as per inputs and feedback received post induction and exploitation of the initial lot of electric vehicles in this class," it pointed out.

SPECIFICATIONS

Sharing other specification that it wants, the RFI stated that the unladen weight of the

e-bike should not exceed 150 kg and not be less than 130 kg. It should have a facility for storage in form of diceys, with locking arrangements.

Besides that, it should comply with battery range standard set by Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI). On full charge, it should run not less than 100 km with full payload under standard conditions, the RFI demanded. The bike's service life should not be less than 8 years or one lakh km (whichever is earlier) and designed to operate in the temperature range of minus 50 degrees Celsius to over 40 degrees Celsius till 45 degrees Celsius, as per the RFI. The Army would carry out trials during summer and winters of e-bikes before selection.

The Army is also working on creating infrastructure to ensure enough charging stations for smooth operation on such vehicles at units.

'30% of organisations in Asia lack policies for Gen AI'

Our Bureau
Bengaluru

At least 30 per cent of organisations in Asia lack policies for Generative AI, and 65 per cent believe adversaries exploit AI successfully, according to according to Generative AI 2023: An ISACA Pulse Poll.

The poll found that many employees at respondents' organisations are using generative AI, even without policies in place for its use. Among respondents in Asia, only 32 per cent of organisations say their companies expressly permit the use of generative AI.

Only 11 per cent say a formal comprehensive policy is in place, and 30 per cent say no policy exists and there is no plan for one. Despite this, over 42 per cent say employees are using it regardless.

"Employees are not waiting for permission to explore

and leverage generative AI to bring value to their work, and it is clear that their organisations need to catch up in providing policies, guidance, and training to ensure the technology is used appropriately and ethically. With greater alignment between employers and their staff around generative AI, organisations will be able to drive increased understanding of the technology among their teams, gain further benefit from AI, and better protect themselves from related risk," said Jason Lau, ISACA Board Director and CISO at Crypto.com.

However, only five per cent of respondents' organisations are providing training to all staff on AI, and 52 per cent say that no AI training at all is provided, even to teams directly impacted by AI. Only 23 per cent of respondents indicated they have a high degree of familiarity with generative AI.

Air India to expand distribution, enhance passenger benefits through GDS partnerships

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Air India has announced significant enhancements to its domestic and global distribution networks through extended multi-year agreements with key Global Distribution Systems (GDS) partners, namely Amadeus, Sabre, and Travelport.

These agreements offer travel agents, resellers, and businesses worldwide greater access to Air India's seat inventory and fares. Notably, Air India's expanded partnerships with these GDS partners now encompass the delivery of New Distribution Capability (NDC) products, providing travellers with personalised pricing, attractive fare bundles, and new ancillaries.

The expanded collabora-

The partnerships with Amadeus, Sabre, and Travelport, offer travel agents, resellers, and businesses worldwide greater access to Air India's seat inventory and fares

tion with Travelport includes the distribution and servicing of NDC content, empowering Travelport subscribers to promote Air India's branded and ancillary products effectively. Furthermore, Air India's distribution agreements with Amadeus and Sabre now include domestic content and the distribution and servicing of NDC content.

Nipun Aggarwal, Chief Commercial and Transformation Officer at Air In-

dia, emphasised the significance of these developments in the airline's ongoing transformation and modernisation program. These strengthened distribution networks and renegotiated GDS contracts aim to drive commercial efficiency and success, supporting Air India's future growth in the dynamic aviation market of India.

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QUICKLY.

Curefoods acquires Yumlane Pizza



Bengaluru: Cloud kitchen startup Curefoods has fully acquired Yumlane Pizza and its proprietary technology for an undisclosed sum. In 2021, Curefoods took Yumlane Pizza cloud kitchen franchisee rights for south Indian market followed by 10 per cent stake in the company in 2022. The move is also expected to help Curefoodsexpand its reach and distribution through Yumlane's network of cloud kitchens. **OUR BUREAU**

Sun Pharma to co-market Zydus' CKD drug

Chennai: Drugmakers Sun Pharmaceutical Industries and Zydus Lifesciences have entered into a licensing agreement to co-market Desidustat, a oral treatment for anemia associated with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). **OUR BUREAU**

Apple gets a big bite of India; FY23 profit up 77%

INDIA FOCUS. iPhone maker holds 63% share of country's luxury mobile devices market

Ayushi Kar
Mumbai

Apple's India push appears to drive dividends as the smartphone company recorded a 77 per cent increase in net profit to ₹2,230 crore in FY23, versus ₹1,263 crore accrued in FY22.

This is according to the financial results for the fiscal year ending March 2023, provided by intelligence firm Tofler.

The popular iPhone maker's India revenue rose by 48 per cent from the previous year to touch ₹49,322 crore in FY23 (₹33,381 crore in FY22).

This substantial increase in profits and revenues is to be expected. India becomes a prominent country for the 'China+1' strategy



IN THE LEAD India becomes a prominent country for the China+1 strategy being adopted by many global tech firms. **FILE PHOTO**

being adopted by many global tech firms.

SALES-DRIVEN GROWTH Moreover, despite charging a higher markup for iPhones in India, which continue to remain a lux-

ury device in the India market - the demand for iPhones has soared in recent years prompting Apple to open retail outlets in Mumbai and Delhi this year. Apple dominates the lux-

ury phone market in India, holding 63 per cent market share in this category. It also holds a 6 per cent market share in the overall smartphone segment, a number which is only expected to grow over the years.

To support its revenue growth, the company made significant investments in various areas, thereby increasing its total expenses.

Tofler reported that Apple India's total expenses for FY23 were recorded at ₹46,444 crore, marking a notable increase compared to the ₹31,693 crore spent in FY22.

Apple wants to move more than 18 per cent of its global iPhone production to India by 2025. At present, 7 per cent of iPhones made worldwide are made in India.

Star India's consolidated FY23 profit drops 31%

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Walt Disney-owned Star India's consolidated net profit for FY23 has dropped 31 per cent year over year to ₹1,272 crore. The figure stood at ₹1,834 crore in the previous fiscal. The profits were declared as part of the financial statement filed with the Registrar of Companies.

The company's total income increased by 9 per cent year on year to ₹20,699 crore in FY23.

Walt Disney had disclosed that its sports business in India reported an operating loss of ₹3,703 crore for the nine months ended July 1 on revenue of ₹5,313 crore. This comes even as Hotstar faces serious competition from Jio Cinema for acquiring rights for high revenue-grossing cricket tournaments including the IPL.

Novi Digital Entertainment, company's subsidiary, has seen 118 per cent dip in net loss

Odisha's man of the moment

Poornima Joshi
New Delhi

At a packed gathering in a Bhubaneswar hotel this summer, a diminutive speaker took the stage with a flair belying his otherwise reticent demeanour.

Delivering a gushing tribute to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik was the newest star of Odisha politics -- VK Pandian, a man who has the CM's ear and is widely believed to be his heir apparent. A career bureaucrat born in Tamil Nadu, Pandian has recently resigned from the IAS to plunge openly in the service of Patnaik and his political party, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), which has been in power in Odisha for the last over two decades.



VK Pandian

to assume control of the party and branded his once trusted mentor as a "backstabber".

Pyarimohan's departure left a large gap in Patnaik's governance machinery. But it had already started getting filled by a young collector from Patnaik's home district Ganjam, where he had shown a rare connect with people and innovation with executing government policies. Young, efficient and in awe of Patnaik, Pandian had eased into the CM's office as his private secretary in 2011.

SPOTLIGHT.

DRAWING INSPIRATION

It is a relationship seeped into functioning style of Patnaik, who has negotiated Odisha's fractious politics with ease. This is a style honed over decades since he joined the rough and tumble of politics as an outsider, a jet-setting sophisticate, who was more comfortable hosting Jacqueline Kennedy and international celebrities like Mick Jagger, than carrying on the legacy of his father, the socialist leader and former CM Biju Patnaik.

The genesis of Pandian's current status is in the way Patnaik conducted his affairs since the beginning - through a go-between, a confidant, who would act as a bridge between him and the party. In the beginning, it was Pyarimohan Mohapatra, a retired bureaucrat who was personal secretary to Biju Patnaik, whom Naveen Patnaik adopted both as a mentor and a handyman as he won his first election and became CM in 2000.

FOUND HIS CALLING

In a coup Mohapatra staged against Patnaik, who was in London at the time, he collected party MLAs and let it be known that he is in charge. But the bid to overthrow Patnaik failed when only a handful of the total 104 MLAs supported Mohapatra. Patnaik returned from London

FILLING IN BIG SHOES

His absolute devotion to Patnaik made Pandian the perfect choice to fill the gap Pyarimohan had left behind. In the beginning, it was marshalling the administration to complete initiatives like hosting the Asian Athletics Championships in just 90 days to two successive hockey men's world cups and international football events that have led to a recognition of Odisha as a sports hub. Till 2019, Pandian worked behind the scenes; his hold over the administration and being the CM's confidant known only to top bureaucrats and party office-bearers.

However, the day after the BJP swept to power in 2019, a photograph appeared in social media of a smiling Patnaik seated in his home with Pandian standing behind him. The bureaucrat was now firmly in the public eye. His authority ranged from the secretariat to Naveen Niwas, in the proximity of the CM, who trusts him with almost all administrative and political matters.

It is near certain now that he would be the real power if Naveen Patnaik is voted as CM again in the Assembly elections next year. Whether the BJD will survive this succession is a question for the future.

At half-way point, ICC World Cup sees 24% spike in TV ad volumes compared to 2019

Meenakshi Verma Ambwani
New Delhi

Ad volumes have seen a growth in the ongoing ICC Men's World Cup 2023 compared to the previous edition held in 2019. As per the latest data released by TAM Sports, ad volumes witnessed a growth of 24 per cent on television in the first 23 matches of the ongoing World Cup compared with the same duration in the previous edition.

MORE ADVERTISERS

This was backed by growth in the number of categories and advertisers that have come

Over 45 new categories and 165 new brands were television advertisers, says TAM Sports

onboard the World Cup.

Body fragrances, cars, digital wallets, gaming and aerated soft drinks have emerged as the top five categories being advertised in the tournament during the first 23 matches. The top five categories contributed nearly 33 per cent share of the ad volumes on TV during these

matches, TAM Sports, a division of TAM Media noted.

"Count of categories, advertisers and brands grew by 29 per cent, 2 per cent and 24 per cent respectively in ICC World Cup 2023 compared to ICC World Cup 2019 during the first 23 matches, " the report noted. Over 45 new categories and over 165 new brands have been seen advertising the World Cup on TV during these matches.

CONSUMER BRANDS

The top five advertisers included Vini Cosmetics, Mahindra & Mahindra, FX Mart, Hindustan Unilever and Coca-Cola India during

these matches. "The top five advertisers cumulatively contributed 32 per cent share of the ad volumes during the first 23 matches of the World Cup," TAM Sports said.

Some of the new categories visible on World Cup 2023, which were not advertised in 2019 included airlines, footwear, consumer durables and home appliances, and paints. Major consumer product makers have been betting big on the ongoing event since its coinciding with the festive season.

Disney Star had said that over 362 million viewers saw live broadcast of first 18 games.

China reduces aid to Pacific islands: Australian think tank

Press Trust of India
Canberra

China's declining aid to the South Pacific is increasingly targeted toward its political allies in the region as appetite there for Chinese credit declines and competition grows with the U.S. for influence, an independent Australian think tank reported Tuesday.

Chinese overall economic influence among the 14 aid-dependent island nations in the region is losing ground because of better loan deals being offered by U.S. allies, especially Australia, the Sydney-based Lowy Insti-

tute said in its annual analysis of aid to the region.

GEO-STRATEGY

Focus on the strategic competition in the South Pacific has heightened since China struck a security pact with the Solomon Islands last year that raised the prospect of a Chinese naval foothold in the region.

China has increased aid to the Solomons and neighboring Kiribati since they switched diplomatic allegiances to Beijing from self-ruled Taiwan in 2019, the report said.

The United States US has sought to counter Chinese influence in the region.

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Presents

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RECOGNISING HUMAN CATALYSTS

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Venue: ITC Maurya, New Delhi
Date: November 3, 2023
Time: From 5:30 pm onwards
Entry by invitation only.

Scan to watch the live event.

Presenting Partner



Associate Partners



Banking Partner



Online Grocery Partner



Tourism Partner



Education Partner



Television Partner



Gift Partner



Knowledge Partners



Validation Partner



Table with columns: Company, Prev, Close, Open, High, Low, Qty, 52WH, 52WL, PE, BSE CI. Lists various companies like 360 One WAM, Airtel, Airtel Xplore, etc.

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Market Data

For BSE/NSE live quotes, scan the QR code or visit the link https://bit.ly/2Fpskck

Company	Prev	Close	Open	High	Low	Qty	52WH	52WL	PE	BSE CI
Orient Paper [1]	46.00	45.70	46.00	46.20	45.00	889.58	59.79	34.35	8	45.72
OrientalArm	34.20	34.59	34.40	34.80	33.55	3.73	523.80	295.55	-	-
OrientalCart	289.25	294.55	294.00	295.15	291.15	1.67	741.10	-	-	-
OrientalText	216.65	217.45	216.55	217.45	216.55	10.94	291.10	207.70	-	-
OrientalBanc	60.55	62.75	61.00	62.25	58.55	97.77	109.60	45.00	-	-
OswalAgriMil	31.95	33.25	31.95	34.40	31.55	292.89	21.00	23.55	-	33.26
OswalGreenTec	25.40	25.15	25.30	25.55	24.90	261.72	33.50	16.80	-	-

P

Company	Prev	Close	Open	High	Low	Qty	52WH	52WL	PE	BSE CI
PGHealth	5069.90	4996.20	5095.20	5125.00	4900.00	4.62	5000.00	3870.10	-	-
PGL Bk	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	2408.98	27.00	27.00	-	37.79
Page Ind	3754.35	3755.85	3750.00	3819.25	3700.00	2.68	5070.00	3498.60	-	21
PaisaloDigit [1]	77.20	78.50	78.20	78.75	76.88	73.95	42.01	25	-	75.89
Palkia	268.45	263.05	270.90	273.45	260.00	195.81	91.46	117.40	-	-
PalkiaSec	147.00	149.00	146.00	156.25	142.00	5.83	385.00	271.20	-	120.10
PalTech	134.20	145.05	147.00	152.15	145.00	26.31	194.45	112.10	-	79.50
Pan Petro [2]	322.80	322.05	321.00	323.50	315.20	11.85	244.75	268.05	-	120.30
Pan Petro [1]	322.80	322.05	321.00	323.50	315.20	11.85	244.75	268.05	-	120.30
ParadeepPhos	60.55	60.55	60.55	61.00	59.50	124.24	7.40	48.30	-	156.80
ParagMilk	205.25	203.10	206.95	210.00	202.50	31.40	23.40	68.00	-	31
ParagMilkSec	687.50	685.00	686.00	675.00	675.00	14.27	948.40	645.35	-	-
ParagMilkSche	24.95	24.00	22.50	24.00	21.75	24.00	12.83	25.50	-	-
PasupatiAgric	38.95	36.50	37.00	37.40	34.10	47.00	22.35	-	-	-
Patel Eng [1]	46.85	46.10	47.10	47.40	45.70	227.31	62.11	13.10	-	20
Patel Eng [2]	46.85	46.10	47.10	47.40	45.70	227.31	62.11	13.10	-	20
PBFintech	685.25	706.30	668.25	700.00	664.30	260.63	61.88	356.20	-	-
PCJ	30.25	29.95	30.00	31.30	29.00	2001.53	10.40	21.40	-	30.03
Pearl Polym	122.25	123.40	123.00	124.00	122.00	98.44	123.80	29.00	-	28
PCW	62.25	64.15	62.95	63.30	62.85	239.76	23.90	293.60	-	-
Pearl Polym	26.40	27.90	26.60	29.00	24.20	31.08	38.00	17.05	-	27.89
Peninsula [2]	42.15	46.15	46.25	42.10	46.51	58.33	11.11	21	-	46.20
Peninsula [1]	42.15	46.15	46.25	42.10	46.51	58.33	11.11	21	-	46.20
Perma Ind [5]	109.20	109.50	109.25	109.50	109.25	1.14	109.50	109.25	-	-
Perstint	608.75	606.70	603.35	613.80	604.15	409.50	614.00	3618.20	-	46
Petroct	22.25	20.70	22.30	22.25	19.85	259.20	21.40	19.80	-	9
Petroct [1]	22.25	20.70	22.30	22.25	19.85	259.20	21.40	19.80	-	9
Pfizer	3936.55	3944.10	3850.05	3915.15	3848.00	26.21	4662.35	3406.95	-	34
PG Elec	19.98	19.88	20.15	20.25	19.50	55.22	2186.20	1059.00	-	108.29
PGIL	170.00	168.60	170.00	173.25	166.20	3.78	1854.80	1301.00	-	80
PGIL [1]	170.00	168.60	170.00	173.25	166.20	3.78	1854.80	1301.00	-	80
PidliteInd [2]	2316.80	2312.15	2330.00	2339.25	2299.00	311.77	2796.15	2250.85	-	84
PidliteInd [1]	2316.80	2312.15	2330.00	2339.25	2299.00	311.77	2796.15	2250.85	-	84
PL Industries [1]	331.30	335.60	332.95	336.00	329.05	11.74	441.00	2870.00	-	38
PL Industries [2]	331.30	335.60	332.95	336.00	329.05	11.74	441.00	2870.00	-	38
PIL Ind	105.25	105.25	105.25	105.25	105.25	105.25	105.25	105.25	-	-
Pilani Inv	2331.60	2305.35	2328.00	2359.00	2290.50	3.06	2552.70	1602.65	-	15
PiramPharm	92.50	94.90	90.00	94.00	94.00	94.00	92.50	63.10	-	-
PiramPharm [1]	92.50	94.90	90.00	94.00	94.00	94.00	92.50	63.10	-	-
Pirtek	67.95	65.50	67.80	68.25	66.00	42.11	114.00	630.20	-	96.20
Pirtek [1]	67.95	65.50	67.80	68.25	66.00	42.11	114.00	630.20	-	96.20
PixTran	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	-	-
PixTran [1]	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	-	-
PixTran [2]	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	68.92	-	-
Plastiblen [1]	265.35	270.00	265.35	273.20	262.30	88.54	280.00	139.00	-	24
Plastiblen [2]	265.35	270.00	265.35	273.20	262.30	88.54	280.00	139.00	-	24
Plastiblen [3]	265.35	270.00	265.35	273.20	262.30	88.54	280.00	139.00	-	24
Plastiblen [4]	265.35	270.00	265.35	273.20	262.30	88.54	280.00	139.00	-	24
PMB Gits	85.65	85.75	85.80	87.15	84.10	1800.68	10.90	55.25	-	50
PMB Housing	736.85	716.70	735.00	735.00	711.00	338.44	78.40	340.66	-	71.86
PMB Housing [1]	736.85	716.70	735.00	735.00	711.00	338.44	78.40	340.66	-	71.86
PMB Housing [2]	736.85	716.70	735.00	735.00	711.00	338.44	78.40	340.66	-	71.86
Pokarna Ltd [2]	50.45	49.70	50.95	51.45	49.05	45.18	195.90	233.75	-	47.35
Pokarna Ltd [1]	50.45	49.70	50.95	51.45	49.05	45.18	195.90	233.75	-	47.35
PolyMedi [5]	137.40	138.60	137.75	139.80	136.50	21.80	157.85	82.90	-	63
PolyMedi [1]	137.40	138.60	137.75	139.80	136.50	21.80	157.85	82.90	-	63
PolyMedi [2]	137.40	138.60	137.75	139.80	136.50	21.80	157.85	82.90	-	63
PolyMedi [3]	137.40	138.60	137.75	139.80	136.50	21.80	157.85	82.90	-	63
PolyMedi [4]	137.40	138.60	137.75	139.80	136.50	21.80	157.85	82.90	-	63
Polypharma	49.76	49.70	49.99	50.15	48.90	55.72	549.65	250.00	-	-
Polypharma [1]	49.76	49.70	49.99	50.15	48.90	55.72	549.65	250.00	-	-
PonyalFab	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [1]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [2]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [3]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [4]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [5]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [6]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [7]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [8]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [9]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [10]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [11]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [12]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [13]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [14]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [15]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [16]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [17]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [18]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [19]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [20]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [21]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [22]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [23]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [24]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [25]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [26]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [27]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.00	-	-
PonyalFab [28]	35.99	35.30	36.00	36.50	35.00	121.97	44.15	24.		