

## Corporate Snapshot: NATIONAL

### **SBI signs MOU with Adani for 1 Bn dollar loan**

The State Bank of India and Adani Mining signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under which SBI would consider offering a one billion dollar loan to the group for developing its Carmichael Coal Mine Project near Clermont in Central Queensland, Australia. The Adani Group has planned to build a 7 billion US dollars coal mine project at the site.

The Carmichael coal, railway and port project includes developing Australia's largest thermal coal mine in the north Galilee Basin approximately 160km north-west of Clermont in Central Queensland, linked by a new 388 km standard gauge rail line to a new terminal at Abbot Point Port near Bowen.

The company aims to build the project by end of the year 2017 and the produced coal from the region will be sent 400 km (250 miles) by rail to Australia's east coast. Adani Mining is a subsidiary of the Adani Enterprises in Australia. Its CEO and country head is Jeyakumar Janakaraj.

### **Food Processing Ministry constitutes NFDFC**

The Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries has constituted the National Food Processing Development Council. The Ministry has appointed ITC Chairman Y Deveshwar and Field Fresh Foods Vice Chairman Rakesh Bharti Mittal as members of the Council.

This time, individual members have been appointed to the council while earlier Industry Units were its members. The Committee has been formed to promote post-harvest operations. The Committee has 29 members. Ms. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, the Union Food Processing Minister is the Chairman and Ms. Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti, the minister of state is its Vice Chairperson. The Committee includes Food Processing Ministers from Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. Secretaries in the Food Processing Ministry, Agriculture Ministry, Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region are also its members.

### **About the Committee**

The NFDFC is the governing body for implementation of

National Food Processing Mission (NFPM). The committee aims to promote facilities for post-harvest operations including setting up of food processing industries and augmenting farm gate infrastructure, supply chain logistics, storage and processing capacity.

### **Jignesh Shah resigns as MD of FTIL**

Jignesh Shah, who is the main accused in the Rs 5600 crore National Spot Exchange Ltd. Scam, has resigned as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Financial Technologies (India) Ltd. He has 45% stake holding in FTIL. He has handed over his position to Prashant Desai.

Now, the reconstituted board has 12 members which includes 5 non- executive & independent directors, 4 Executive Directors and 3 Non Executive Directors.

The NSEL scam came to light in July 2013 when the company defaulted on payments of paired contracts done on forward commodity trading on the exchange.

### **DHFL declares Shah Rukh Khan as its Brand Ambassador**

Shah Rukh Khan has been declared the Brand Ambassador of DHFL- a first in its 30 years long history. Dewan Housing Finance Company is the second largest Housing Finance Company of our Country.

DHFL was founded by Rajesh Kumar Wadhawan in 1984.

### **ONGC prepares to invest in Western Offshore**

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation has prepared itself to invest in two projects from Western Offshore fields. The investment will be of around 10,600 crores.

### **The Projects are:**

Redevelopment (Phase-III) of Mumbai High (South)- capital investment of 6069 crore rupees.

Integrated Development of Mukta, Bassein and Panna Formations-at an estimated Capex of 4620 crore rupees.

### **Panasonic launches Smartphone Eluga S**

Panasonic India has launched its Smartphone Eluga S. It is the third phone in the Eluga Series. Eluga U & Eluga A are already available in the Indian Markets. This phone is

priced at Rs. 11,190.

Eluga S has 5-inch HD IPS display and has Blink Play that lets users click flawless selfies or groupies with a 5MP front snapper. When Blink Play feature is used the phone will recognize the eye blink and automatic three-second countdown will be initiated.

It runs on Android 4.4.2 KitKat operating system and is powered by 1.4 GHz True Octa Core processor. It has a 1 GB RAM and 8GB of internal memory which can be expandable up to 32GB.

It has 8MP autofocus rear camera along with 2100 mAh battery. It is a dual-sim phone which offers 3G, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0 and GPS.

### **FIPB allows HDFC get 74 % FI**

The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has permitted the HDFC Bank to raise its Foreign Investment ceiling upto 74 %. As per the FDI rules, Foreign Investment upto 49 % is permitted in Banks through automatic route and beyond 49 %, it requires the permission of the FIPB.

HDFC Bank had approached the FIPB in 2013 for increasing the foreign holding in the bank to 67.55 percent from 49 percent. However, FIPB did not clear the proposal taking into consideration its parent HDFC Ltd's 22 percent which it considered as foreign investment, thus finding the total foreign holding more than 67.55 percent and close to the 74 % limit.

HDFC Bank provided all the clarifications required by the FIPB and sent a revised proposal raising its foreign holding ceiling request to 74 percent which was approved by the board

### **RComm profit drops by 77 %**

Reliance Communications has reported a drop of 77 % in its Net Profit in the Quarter ended September to Rs 153 crores. Rcomm has been facing tough competition from its competitors like Bharti Airtel, Vodafone India and Idea Cellular as it added only a few customers during the quarter. In the July- Sept Quarter, RComm raised its data traffic to 75%.

Revenue from Indian operations stood at Rs 4,680 crore, 0.8 per cent down from the previous quarter (Rs 4,718 crore). Total revenue stood at Rs 5,403 crore in the July-September quarter. This includes revenue from its global operations.

### **Coca Cola's rising earnings**

Coca Cola India Pvt. Ltd, has recorded increased net profits from the last 5 years. For 2013-2014, Coca Cola India reported an 11 per cent rise in net profit at Rs 355 crore, against Rs 320 crore for the previous year. Its net sales grew only four per cent to Rs 1,492 crore from Rs 1,438 crore reported in the year ago period, according to filings with the Registrar of Companies (RoC).

### **Blackberry's performance sinks in India**

Blackberry's CEO John Chen has said that the performance of Blackberry in India is very critical like other markets worldwide. Blackberry's net profits in India sunk almost 50 % to Rs 11.5 crore in 2013-2014 from 22.8 crore last year. According to the ROC's report, Blackberry's profits & revenues have fallen below levels reported in 2010-11.

Blackberry's share in the market has slumped from 14.8 % in April- June 2010 to 7 % in 2012, 2.9 % in 2013 and 0.5 % in Jan- Mar, 2014. Blackberry's business in India has collapsed as a Smart Phone player in the market.

### **Royal Enfield sales up**

Eicher Motors has reported that its motorcycle division Royal Enfield has increased its sales by 53 % in the month of November this year. The domestic sales have increased from 17,752 units to 27,198 units of the bike. The sales of its vehicles with engine capacity exceeding 350 cc have increased by 39 % this year.

### **Hero Moto Corp plans to expand in Brazil, Argentina**

The MD & CEO of Hero Moto Corp has stated that it plans to expand its manufacturing units in Central & Latin America. He further added that they want to enter Argentina & Brazilian markets because it is a good hub for supplying to the other markets. Hero Moto Corp has launched 6 of its best selling bikes in these countries as a part of its target to increase its sales by 2020.

### **Maruti Suzuki's Business at a high**

Maruti Suzuki India has increased its sales this year by 19.5 %. It sold 110,147 units in the month of November, 2014. Exports in November, 2014 stood at 10,123 units as compared to 6,630 units in the same month last year.

### **Japanese Softbank to invest in AP**

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandra Babu Naidu said that the Japanese Softbank has shown willingness to fund about 10,000 mw of solar power in India. When Naidu visited Japan, he had a talk with the CEO of the Softbank, Masayoshi Son, and they expressed their

readiness to establish the research & manufacturing facilities of solar power besides its development. Naidu further added that the Japanese lending Institutions like JICA & JBIC are willing to fund 4,000 mw ultra super critical thermal power projects in joint venture with the Sumitomo Corporation at low interest rates.

### **Gadkari: Huge losses faced by Infrastructure & Banking Industries**

The Road Transport and Highway Minister Nitin Gadkari has said that due to the delay in taking decisions by the previous government in land acquisitions and forest & environmental clearances, the Infrastructure & Banking Industries suffered losses worth around Rs 400 crore per day.

Gadkari blamed the previous Government and said that it was 90 % Govt.'s fault and only 10 % contractors' & bankers' fault for this type of loss. He further said that problems in most of the projects have been cleared and the rest of the work is in progress. He is keen to rectify the main accidental spots of various highways in the country.

### **Vijay Mallya resigns as MCF Director**

The UB group Chairman, Vijay Mallya, has resigned from the board of directors of Mangalore Chemicals & fertilizers. The Company informed the BSE that Vijay Mallya has resigned with immediate effect. He was the Chairman of the Company. The Company is stuck in a tug of war between Deepak Fertilizers and Kolkata based Adventz Group's Saroj Poddar who are trying to take it over. Analysts have said that Mallya's quitting the Board could be a deal between Poddar and Mallya so that the Company can attract bank funds in the near future.

### **Celkon launches India's Cheapest Smart Phone**

Celkon Impex Pvt. Ltd., a Hyderabad based mobile manufacturer, has launched India's cheapest Smartphone with a price of Rs, 4,979. The new handset features a 4-inch high-definition display and is powered by 1.3-gigahertz Qualcomm Snapdragon 200 processor. It sports a 5-mega pixel rear camera with LED flash and a 1.3-mega pixel front-facing camera.

Celkon is the third Indian original equipment manufacturer (OEM) to launch a budget handset based on

Microsoft's operating system, with the other two being Micromax and Lava International. Win 400, the first Windows phone from Celkon's stable, runs on Windows Phone 8.1 operating system.

### **Tata Chemicals launches book on 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Tata Chemicals Ltd. celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary has come out with a book called 'Salt of the Earth: The Story of Tata Chemicals' which was launched by the Gujarat Chief Minister, Anandi Ben Patel. Cyrus Mistry, Tata Chemicals Chairman said that the Company has faced several challenges and these hurdles have strengthened Tata Chemicals. It has provided solutions to tomorrow's problems thus benefitting millions. He further said that the Company has evolved its position in a range of business segments.

The Book archives the Company's 75 years' journey and it is co-authored by Jacob and Christabelle Noronha.

### **Britannia all set for e-commerce**

Britannia Industries, the popular FMCG brand, has tied up with the e-tailer Amazon India for selling its products on-line, Brand Promotions and to be ahead of its competitors like Parle Products & Mondeles in marketing.

Ali Harris Shere, the Company's marketing director, said that they have displayed their advertisements on the landing page of the website.

### **NHAI receives huge bids for Delhi- Panipat Project**

National Highways Authority of India has received around 15-16 bids from private players for participation in the Delhi- Panipat Project for Rs 2000 crore. As per senior ministry officials, private participants are again showing interest in the infrastructure sector after a gap of 3 years. The Road Transport & Highway ministry has formulated a strategy on both EPC ( Engineering, Procurement & Construction) and PPP ( Public- Private Partnership) models. It further said that the Request for Proposal ( RFP) would be invited soon and also the award of the project would follow. The Expressway would be widened further to have 12 lanes inclusive of the service roads under the built- operate- transfer ( BOT) model.

## Corporate Snapshot: INTERNATIONAL

### Ranbaxy sues US FDA

Indian Drug maker Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd has sued the U.S. Food & Drug Administration over non-approval of its generic anti-ulcer drug Nexium and HIV Infection drug Valcyte. Ranbaxy has filed the suit in the District Court of Columbia accusing the FDA of violating its statutory authority and even being violative of constitutional rights.

USFDA had refused permission to Ranbaxy but later granted final approval to another Indian Generic Drug Company Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd and another US based Company Endo International Plc for the same drug.

Ranbaxy has suffered a huge loss because of this rejection. According to Market Analysts, Nexium was expected to contribute about 150 million US dollars to Ranbaxy's revenue in the first 6 months of market exclusivity.

### Andhra CM Naidu visits Japan to seek investments

In order to gather investments from Japan for the creation of a World Class Capital City, Andhra Pradesh's Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu visited Osaka in Japan. He also addressed the IT forum in Kyoto. He also met the Japan International Cooperation Association and lastly he visited Chiba Smart City and the Yokohama Port. He also met Japan's PM Shinzo Abe requesting him to invest in Andhra Pradesh. Japan's Softbank has plans to invest around \$ 10 billion in India for the Smart City Plan Project.

### WTO Board against US duties imposed on Indian Steel

The Appeals Board of the WTO has stated that US duties being imposed on Indian Steel are unreasonable and they have wrongly penalized the Indian Steel exporters.

It has asked the US to bring them in line with the regulation of the Appeal Board. However, the President and Chief Executive of the American Iron & Steel Institute was of the opinion that this ruling of the Appeal Board of the WTO would be very detrimental to the steel business and workers in the US as imports have captured 30 % of the US steel market.

The US Department of Commerce in 2012 had stated that NMDC, an Indian Company, was selling Iron-ore at a very cheaper rate and it was meant to subsidize a private-sector enterprise.

But the Appeal Board rejected this argument of the US Department of Commerce and said that NMDC is a state-owned company. It also has further said that US International Trade Commission was wrong to assess the impact of dumped & subsidized imports.

### Chevron, ONGC Videsh get Oil, Gas Exploration

### Licenses in New Zealand

New Zealand has granted 15 Oil & Gas Exploration licenses to Chevron US Company and India's ONGC Videsh. Chevron has partnered with Norway's Statoil and Statoil is already present in New Zealand. ONGC Videsh Ltd., under the regulation of the Indian Government has made its first arrival in New Zealand. Six of the permits granted were for onshore blocks; including two on the west coast of the South Island while nine were of offshore blocks. Of the total, seven permits were for exploration in the Taranki region of New Zealand.

The granting of licenses will be fruitful for Asian Countries when major Oil Companies like BP, Shell, Exxon Mobil, and Total are cutting back on exploration, laying off staff and selling assets globally to cope with sliding oil prices.

### Cadila Health Care recalls Drugs in USA

As per information given by US Food & Drug Administration (USFDA), Cadila Healthcare is recalling 15,144 bottles of its Anti-Hypertension Drug named Amlodipine Besylate tablets from the US market.

The US Healthcare regulator has said that brown spots were noted embedded in this drug and that's why Cadila Healthcare is recalling it from the market. The tablets were manufactured by Cadila Health Care and were distributed by Zydus Pharmaceuticals USA Inc.

### Hero Moto Corp declares Tiger Woods as its Global Brand Ambassador

Hero Moto Corp Ltd. has signed American Golf Player Tiger Woods as its Brand Ambassador. It is a four year deal and it is targeted to capture North America and Europe. Pawan Munjal, the Managing Director of Hero Moto Corp India, has said that the deal with Tiger Woods has started from December 1. He further said that Tiger Woods will be Corporate Partner of Hero Moto Corp as well as the Brand Ambassador of the Company. He is eager to expand Hero Moto Corp Business Internationally.

### Hyundai recalls 43,000 luxurious cars in the US

Hyundai has recalled around 43,000 luxury cars in the US because their brake lights were not functioning properly.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administrators of US had reported in the month of October, 2014 to Hyundai that various consumer complaints were filed regarding the brake lights problem. The recall of cars covers certain origins from 2009 to 2011 models.

### Lithuania becomes Natural Gas Independent

Lithuania, a country in Northern Europe, has declared itself

to be independent in Natural Gas Supply as its floating LNG terminal arrived. Till the month of October, it was dependent for all its gas imports from only one source- Russia's OAO Gazprom (OGZD), the world's largest gas supplier.

While natural gas is transported via pipelines, liquefied natural gas, or LNG, can be transported by sea. But a country needs a terminal to import LNG. The LNG Terminal design incorporates floating liquefied gas storage with regasification unit (FSRU), a 450 metre long jetty, a gas export pipeline and a metering station.

The terminal will contain one billion cubic metres of gas in its first year of operation. The capacity is expected to increase to two to three billion cubic metres in the next few years.

Lithuania is expected to save approximately \$ 931 million over a period of 10 years by importing gas through the terminal.

#### **Mc Donald's Sales slide in US**

Mc Donald's sales this year has slid down in the United States. Mc Donald's has around 14,000 outlets in the US and has more than 35,000 locations in more than 100 countries around the world.

But this year in the US, people gravitated more towards outlets like Chipotle which lets people pick what goes on their bowls. Mc Donald's has planned "Create Your Taste" programme in 2,000 locations of US which shall provide an opportunity to let people build their own burgers. This is one of the marketing strategies of McDonald's to get back its sales in the US markets.

#### **Telenor CEO resigns from Vimpelcom's Board**

Telenor's CEO Jon Fredrik Baksaas has resigned from Vimpelcom's Board (A US Telecommunication Company). Telenor has said that it was a well thought decision because Vimpelcom has been in controversy over a corruption-probe related to Vimpelcom's entry into Uzbekistan. **Telenor Group** is a Norwegian multinational telecommunications company headquartered at Fornebu in Baerum, close to Oslo. It is one of the world's largest mobile telecommunications companies with operations in Scandinavia, Eastern Europe and Asia.

#### **Honda to recall 1,35,000 vehicles in Japan**

Honda Motor Co. will recall 1, 35,000 vehicles in Japan due to their defective air bags. The Takata Air Bags are found defective as they could explode and shoot shrapnel into the vehicle. More than 16 million cars have been recalled by Honda since 2008.

#### **Malaysian Airlines appoints "Mueller"**

The troubled Malaysian Airlines has appointed Christoph Mueller, as its future CEO as the airlines has been struggling to recover from its two distressing disasters this year.

German citizen Mueller had previously occupied top positions at German flag carrier Lufthansa and the former Belgian carrier Sabena.

#### **Foxconn may purchase Nokia's Chennai Plant**

Foxconn, an Electronic Manufacturing Company, has plans to purchase the defunct Nokia factory and is likely to invest around \$ 2 billion over it. This speculation has been going on since Lava was reported to be interested in acquiring the plant.

Foxconn is even expected to have a tie up with Micromax for it to consume 25 % of the production of Foxconn if it takes over the plant.

#### **US- India ' Trade Policy Meeting' after 4 years**

On 25<sup>th</sup> of November, 2014 , the 'Trade Policy Meeting' was held between the US Trade Representative Michael Forman and the Indian Ministry of Commerce & Industry Representative Nirmala Sitharaman to deal with a series of bilateral Trade Opportunities.

Both the countries have agreed to support each other on a range of trade and Investment Issues. Even the American Business Community has said that they look forward to address & resolve these trade barriers.

#### **NLRB, California finds Walmart Guilty**

The National Labour Relations Board in the US has found Walmart guilty of illegally intimidating its employees in Richmond, California. It has ordered WalMart to refrain from unlawfully intimidating its employees.

'Our Walmart' which is a Union – Backed Group of Walmart employees had filed a complaint with the labour board. Earlier, Walmart in January was charged for allegedly violating the rights of more than 60 employees in 13 states for participating in activities protected by the National Labor Relations Act. Nineteen of those workers were allegedly fired from their jobs for having engaged in legally protected strikes and protests, according to a press release from the board.

#### **Google News stops services in Spain**

Google has announced that it will stop its services in Spain in response to a new law that will go into effect from next year. The law will require that the silicon- valley based Internet Giant will have to pay to news organizations if they are linked to the Google News Service. It will stop linking Spanish Publisher Content soon.

#### **Deutsche Bank wins Custodian of the Year Award 2014**

Deutsche Bank has won the Custodian of the Year Award, 2014. The Award Ceremony was organized by the Incisive Media Group in London and the bank was recognized for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year at the Custody Risk European Awards. Deutsche Bank was identified as the best company in custody, Fund Administration & technology across Europe.