



BHEL has been awarded the CBIP Award 2018 for 'Best Power Equipment Manufacturing Organisation'. The award was received by Atul Sobti, CMD, BHEL, from Dr. Satya Pal Singh, Union Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Gangs Rejuvenation on CBIP Day 2018. BHEL has been conferred with the award for its outstanding contribution in manufacturing a wide range of equipment for the core sectors of the economy including power generation, transmission & renewable energy.

AMFI-WB to organize "3rd Eastern India Microfinance Summit 2018"

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, JAN 4 /- Association of Microfinance Institutions - West Bengal (AMFI-WB) is all set to organize the "3rd Eastern India Microfinance Summit 2018" on 18th January, 2018 in Kolkata.

Ajiti Maity (Chairperson, AMFI-WB and Chairman, VFSPL), Chandra Shekhar Ghosh (Former Secretary, AMFI-WB and MD, Bandhan Bank), Pranab Rakshit (Vice-Chairperson, AMFI-WB and MD, Sarla Development Microfinance Pvt Ltd.), Kuldip Maity (Founder Trustee, AMFI-WB and MD &

CEO, Village Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.), Kartick Biswas Sengupta (AMFI-WB and MD, Utrayan Financial Services Pvt. Ltd. and other speakers and panelists from RBI, SIDBI, NABARD, Mudra Bank, top officials of SBI, IDBI, UCO, Bandhan Bank Ltd, Allahabad Bank, UBI, Union Bank of India, Yes Bank, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, Canara Bank, Axis Bank, Corporation Bank will be present as key speakers.

Ajiti Maity, Chairperson, AMFI-WB said, "Given the recent disruptions in the environment and regulatory reforms, it is necessary to

bring micro-lenders, bankers, policy-makers, allied financial service providers and researchers together in a common forum to discuss and understand the challenges and opportunities of the Microfinance sector and also the responsibilities of each stakeholder. AMFI-WB is organizing Eastern India Micro Finance Summit 2018 for the third time. MFIs will need to integrate the available digital enablers to improve transparency and reduce cost of operations. Further, there is a need to slowly but surely shift towards 'non-cash models of business'." (EOIC)

Fronius India aims to double turnover by 2019

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, JAN 4 /- Fronius India, supplier of solar PV string inverters, welding equipments and battery charging systems, is aiming to double its turnover by fiscal 2019. Set up in India in 2013, the company has been improving its profitability every year while clocking exceptional growth in its year-on-year returns.

V V Kamath, Managing Director, Fronius India said, "Given the rate at which the solar industry is booming, we are expecting high returns by 2019. Currently, we have a market share of 5.2% and are expecting it to increase to 20% in the next two years. When we entered the solar market back in 2014, a handful of other players had already created a strong base by then. However, we

were able to strengthen our position in the market through the high quality products and services we had to offer."

Prashanth Kumar, MD of APS Bangalore said, "We have been using Fronius solar inverters for the last two and a half years. They have always offered a wide range of choice. Thanks to their R & D focus, Fronius products reflect the latest technical innovations. Their after sales service also has been commendable." Meenakshi Sharma, MD of Medors Renewable Energy Pvt Ltd said, "We are very happy with the performance of Fronius solar inverters. They have proven to be a complete package of reliability, cutting edge technology and maximum yield dependability. Fronius inverters come with a 20 year warranty. Their monitoring package makes monitoring easy."

NABARD and SBI sign MoU with NGOs

*Aims for financing of JLGs in West Bengal



EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, JAN 4 /- NABARD and SBI jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 2nd January 2018 with five selected NGOs of the State for promotion of 2500 Joint Liability Groups in Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur, Burdwan and North 24 Parganas districts of West Bengal.

The MoU signing event was held in the Conference Hall of West Bengal Regional

Office of N A B A R D, Apart from Partha Pratim Sengupta, CGM, SBI, LHO and A.K. Raybarman, C G M, N A B A R D West Bengal Regional Office, the event was graced by S C Murmu, RD, Reserve Bank of India, Senior Officials of SBI and NABARD as also the CEOs and joint beneficiaries of five NGOs.

On this occasion, Mr Chintala addressed the house and informed that 25 lakh JLGs have been created linked by the banks in the country of which 7.02 lakh JLGs were financed during 2016-17. He also emphasized that the public sector banks like State Bank of India need to play a major role in future.

Mr Raybarman highlighted the plight of tenant farmers/oral lessees and sharecroppers in many parts of the state due to the denial of access to institutional credit, disaster relief, and other support services due to the lack of title to land. A pilot project was initiated by NABARD in 2004-05 in 8 States with the support of 13 RBIs to address the problem of actual tillers of land by introducing the concept of financing them in JLG mode. Encouraged by the results of the pilot project, the scheme was mainstreamed for the banking system in the year 2006-07. However, the product needs further nurturing and NABARD has been partnering with various JLG Promoting Institutions (JLGPIs) to facilitate the promotion of quality JLGs which can then be supported by different financial institutions.

While these developments happened towards the end of the year, the start of 2017 saw telecom major Vodafone moving the high court claiming that the free talk time and internet offers were being taken away from the Jio to consumers were. The Telecom court would wait with bated breath for the outcome in 2018.

Vodafone, Airtel and Idea have also moved the high court against TRAI's recommendation to impose a fine of Rs 50 crore for each of the three operators. The litigation between them was the offshoot of the proceedings before National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) regarding McDonald's decision to terminate Bakshi's franchise license for the high court. Vodafone was again in the news after the Centre moved the high court challenging the arbitration initiated by the company in UK and Netherlands against India in connection with a Rs 11,000 crore tax demanded from it in relation to its USD 11 billion deal acquiring stake of Hutchison Telecom. While the court initially restrained the company from participating in the UK arbitration, it was later allowed to take part in it. This interim order has been challenged by the Centre in the apex court.

An international telecom major, NTT Docomo, also knocked on the doors of the high court for implementation of Rs 1,050 crore for the first two and Rs 950 crore for the third, respectively, for not providing interconnectivity to Reliance Jio. This matter is still pending before the high court. Vodafone was again in the news after the Centre moved the high court challenging the arbitration initiated by the company in UK and Netherlands against India in connection with a Rs 11,000 crore tax demanded from it in relation to its USD 11 billion deal acquiring stake of Hutchison Telecom. While the court initially restrained the company from participating in the UK arbitration, it was later allowed to take part in it. This interim order has been challenged by the Centre in the apex court.

IndianOil adopts 2018 as 'Year of Trust'

EOI CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, JAN 4 /- IndianOil Corporation (IndianOil) has adopted 2018 as the 'Year of Trust' from Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to daily price revision of petrol & diesel, to the decision to stop BS-VI fuels supply to Delhi by April 1, 2018, two years before its actual implementation date, as a few instances where policy-makers trusted the delivery potential of IndianOil.

The observance of 2018 as the 'Year of Trust' is a unique opportunity to sustain the Company's trust among its customers and stakeholders by enhancing our capabilities and our integrity, as individuals and as an organisation. "Backed by our trust in our customers and stakeholders as a team and as an organisation, it would be a great project to make TRUST an enduring value across our supply chain," he added.

Every second Indian is served by IndianOil employees, channel partners and their team members through more than 47,000 customer touch points. "Our core values inspire us to give our best. Among these, TRUST is the keystone and the active DNA of our organisational culture," said Singh.

The resolution to adopt 2018 as 'Year of Trust' comes at a particularly important moment as India and countries like France and China stand by the accord to meet the challenge for a low-carbon sustainable future in the COP-23 Summit held in November 2017. For India, moving in consonance with the commitment would mean an increase in share of Natural Gas and Renewables in the future energy mix. Being a market leader IndianOil will be one of the leaders in this national agenda in the coming years. (EOIC)

Maersk Lines sees Nepal as long-term trade partner

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, JAN 4 /- Maersk Line, the containerised division of the Maersk Group, at a recently conducted trade meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal, announced its intent to push for acceleration in trade in the country. The Nepal import market doubled in the past 5 years and Maersk line is confident of a continued momentum in this direction. Steve Felder, MD Maersk Line (India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives) stated "We are confident about the trajectory of the Nepal market, and we would like to be a long-term trade partner in the region."

We will be opening our commercial office in Kathmandu in the first half of 2018. Our focus has always been to enable trade through our extensive network and offering and be close to our customers. We intend to carry this commitment ahead for the Nepal market by providing customers with a seamless experience through both Kolkata and Vishakhapatnam." (EOIC)

24 states under Uday cut losses to nearly Rs 37k-cr in FY'17

NEW DELHI, JAN 4 /-

Government's UDAY scheme has helped debt laden Discoms of 24 states reduce losses to Rs 36,905 crore in 2016-17 from Rs 51,590 crore in the previous fiscal, Parliament was informed today.

As per data furnished by the states, the aggregate net losses of DISCOMs participating in UDAY have come down from Rs 51,590 crore in 2015-16 to Rs 36,905 crore in 2016-17, "Power Minister R K Singh said in written reply to Lok Sabha.

The Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) was launched to improve the operational and financial turnaround of state-owned Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs). The scheme aims to reduce interest burden, cost of power and power losses in distribution sector, besides improving operational efficiency of DISCOMs.

The minister said the interventions under UDAY have yielded encouraging results.

The participating states have achieved an improvement of one per cent in Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C or distribution) losses and Rs 1.74 Unit in the gap between Average Cost of Supply and Average Revenue Realised in 2016-17, he said.

Earlier in the day, Singh tweeted: "Government to conduct auctions next month for power plants that do not have power purchase agreements (PPAs) and is working on a model, whereby de-

mand from all states will be aggregated and tariff-based competitive bids will be invited from power-generating companies." These auctions would allow generators to bid for medium-term (5-7 years) PPA. This will help revive the commissioned stressed coal-based capacities which have not inked any PPAs.

The move is expected to help nearly 12GW commissioned thermal power plants to get medium-term PPAs which is a prerequisite for getting coal linkage. (PTI)

Govt seeks Paritnod for Rs 80k-cr recap bonds

NEW DELHI, JAN 4 /-

The finance ministry Thursday sought Parliament's nod for extra expenditure of Rs 80,000 crore towards recapitalisation of public sector banks through bonds.

Industry sources said the proposed recapitalisation bonds to be given to public sector banks would have non-SLR status and will be non-tradeable.

The Rs 80,000-crore expenditure has been sought by the government in the Third Budget of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2017-18. It is part of Rs 1.35 lakh crore recapitalisation bond to be provided to the banks over two years to shore up capital adequacy of NPA-hit state-owned banks, the finance ministry document.

Parliament's approval has been sought for "meeting additional expenditure towards recapitalisation of Public Sector Banks through issue of government securities", said the finance ministry document.

Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) is a portion of deposits that banks need to invest in government securities.

The SLR status to any instrument provides traceability option and they can be traded in the secondary market.

"These bonds will have non-SLR status, the official said, adding these bonds to be cash neutral for the government," sources said. Asked by when the infusion would take place, the official said this would happen soon during this quarter.

Interest payout and other aspect is looked at by the Department of Economic Affairs, the official added.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in October had announced an unprecedented Rs 2.11 lakh crore two-year road map to strengthen PSBs, reeling under high non performing assets (NPAs) or bad loans. Their NPAs have increased to Rs 3.33 lakh crore as of June 2017, from Rs 2.75 lakh crore in March 2015.

The plan includes floating re-capitalisation bonds of Rs 1.35 lakh crore and raising Rs 58,000 crore from the market by diluting government's stake. (PTI)

Transion Holdings launches Oramo in India

KOLKATA, DEC 4 /-

Transion Group, mobile phone manufacturer and supplier of communication devices, has recently launched Oramo, its smart accessory brand in India.

Speaking on the launch, Guoli Lin, General Manager of Oramo, Transion Holdings said, "The growing mobile/smartphone adoption and digital penetration in India is led largely by younger consumers across multiple geographies. These consumers are always on the lookout for more, evolved offerings, which is why we have decided to further enhance their mobile phone ownership experience with Oramo, our mobile accessory brand. Oramo products are already extremely popular in several international markets, thanks to their creative and trendy style, functionality, user-friendliness and convenience. We are confident that Oramo will delight our customers in India, allow them to explore more, enjoy more, and create fun, lasting mobile-based experiences."

The move comes close on the heels of the spectacular reception that Transion's mobile phone brands have received in the Indian market, thanks to their highly differentiated, best-in-class proposition. (EOIC)

Air India ties up with three banks for loans for 3B777 planes

NEW DELHI, JAN 4 /-

State-owned Air India has tied up with UAE-based First Abu Dhabi Bank as well as Standard Chartered Bank and Mashreq Bank to avail short term loans for acquiring three Boeing 777 aircraft, Union minister Jayant Singh said on Thursday. Two of the aircraft are to be used for ferrying VIPs, the minister of state for civil aviation said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha. The delivery of the three B777-300ER planes is scheduled to be completed next month - two in January and one in February. "Air India has signed a short-term buyers credit facility agreement with First Abu Dhabi Bank PJSC jointly with Standard Chartered Bank and Mashreq Bank PJSC for acquisition of three B777-300ER aircraft," the minister said. In early November, the disinvestment board issued a revised tender (after first floating in October), soliciting interest from lenders for a loan worth up to USD 535 million (around Rs 3,460 crore). Last month, the airline also floated tenders for securing loans worth Rs 1,100 crore for modification of two Boeing aircraft for ferrying VIPs - the president, vice-president and prime minister. In 2006, Air India placed orders with Boeing for 68 aircraft - 27 Dreamliners, 15 B777-300ERs, eight B777-200LRs and 18 B737-800s.

Of these, the state-run carrier has already taken the delivery of 65 planes, including 12 B777-300ERs.

Following the downturn in the global aviation sector, the delivery of three B777-300ERs was postponed in 2010 as there was no 'cancellation' clause in the original purchase agreement with Boeing Company. Then, in September 2015, the carrier decided to take delivery of the remaining three planes as per the 2006 purchase agreement. (PTI)

Exide launches 'Epiq' battery

KOLKATA, JAN 4 /-

Exide Industries Ltd, lead-acid storage battery maker launched a new range of automotive batteries in the Indian market, branded Epiq. The battery comes with a six-year warranty - the highest in the Indian market, showing the company's confidence in its cutting edge technology.

"As the Indian automotive market matures and new generation cars become more demanding with a slew of electrical gadgets putting more load on the vehicle's electrical system, the battery has to live up to the expectations of the modern auto enthusiast and keep pace with this changing trend. We sourced the best technology in the world to make a battery that will last for a long time in the Indian conditions. Epiq takes the automotive battery technology in the country to the next generation," said Gautam Chatterjee, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Exide Industries Ltd.

While the Epiq will be manufactured in Exide's southern factories across the country, it will be sold exclusively through its national network of 1500 premium Exide outlets.

"We put our unique knowledge of operating for seventy years in the Indian market to bring out the Epiq. It will soon set a benchmark in the Indian battery industry," said Subir Chakravorty, Director Automotive, Exide Industries Ltd.

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REGISTRATION OF VENDORS FOR PURCHASE OF DRUGS, ALLIED ITEMS AND CONSUMABLES AT MILITARY HOSPITAL, BINNAGURI FOR FY 2018-19

1. Military Hospital, Binnaguri requires to register Firms/Distributors/Dealers for supply of Drugs and allied items and consumables for the Financial Year 2018-19.

2. Interested Firms/Distributors/Dealers are requested to apply for Registration to the Hospital by 20 Jan 2018 with following details/documents.

(i) Particulars of Firms/Distributors/Dealers:

(a) Name

(b) Address

(c) Telephone No (with STD Code) including Whats App Number

(d) E-mail ID

(e) Name of proprietor/partners with contact details like telephone numbers, address, Fax and E-mail

ID. (Note: If more than one proprietor copy of partnership deed to be attached)

(iii) Name of contact person with contact details-Telephone/Mobile No and E-Mail ID and Whatts App number. (Note: Letter of authorization from competent authority of firm to be attached)

(iv) For manufacturing firms/OEM: Manufacturing License No. issued by Drug Licensing Authority. (Copy to be attached) For distributors/dealers, Manufacturers Agency Agreement/Notarized declaration and duration of validity

(v) Pharmaceutical firms to furnish the following:

(a) DGQA Registration of GMP Certificate issued by State/Central authority or Certificate of original inventor of molecule.

(b) Annual turnover certificate last three years duly audited/signed by chartered Accountant.

(v) (a) DGAFMS/DGQA Registration, if any (proof to be attached)

(b) RC Holder with DGAFMS if any. (proof to be attached)

(c) Name of Govt agency, the firm is on panel for supplying Medical stores if any (proof to be attached)

(vii) TIN No (Proof to be attached)

(viii) Permanent Account No (PAN) (proof to be attached)

(ix) Bankers of the firm, with branch and address. MICR No. NEFT Code, ECG A/C No (Cancelled cheque to be attached)

(x) GST Tax Registration certificate (copy to be attached)

(xi) GST Registration certificate (copy to be attached)

(xii) Latest Income Tax Clearance Certificate (copy to be attached)

(xiii) Auditor report for last three years from Chartered Accountant where applicable.

(xiv) Certificate of non involvement in criminal case.

(xv) Copy of valid drug licence. (Note: Only original/current renewed of drug licence will be accepted. If only cash receipt of payment for renewal of drug licence is submitted than certificate from the District drug authority to be attach stating that the cash receipt is for a renewal of drug licence, and proof from drug licensing authority. Competent authority that the same may be accepted as authority for registration by law)

(xvi) Certificate that the vendor applying for registration is not black listed.

3. The vendors are required to quote rates of items at 10% below the MRP, and give batch test report from Manufacturing company of drugs / products, supplied by them.

4. The sealed envelope containing the above-mentioned documents (Self attested) is to be sent by Registered Post, marked "Application for Vendor Registration for medical stores and expendables at 164 MH for FY 2018-19". They should also send a CD with above-mentioned details, and scanned copies of documents provided.

Commanding Officer
164 Military Hospital

Please Note:

E-Procurement procedure is likely to be fully implemented from FY 2018-19. Vendors are to comply with Government of India policy for e-procurement.

Law suits of big firms of telco, pharma kept HC busy in 2017

NEW DELHI, JAN 4 /-

Vexatious lawsuits involving big corporates of telecom, medicines and media sectors came up in 2017 before the Delhi High Court which passed significant orders including halting a multinational pharma major's bid to enjoy patent rights forever on its breast cancer drug.

The year gone by was not good enough for low-cost private carriers - Indigo, GoAir and SpiceJet - as they unsuccessfully challenged in the high court the decision of Delhi's airport authority DIAL, to partially shift their operations from Terminal-1 to Terminal-2 of the IGI airport, one of the busiest in the world. The high court held that Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) did not act unfairly, but granted time till February 15 to the three airlines to shift to T-2 the operations of flights to Mumbai, Kolkata

and Bengaluru. In a bonnet to other pharma big corporates suffering from breast and gastric cancer, the high court trashed the bid of Swiss drug major Roche to retain patent right over its breast cancer drug Trastuzumab saying sternly that it "cannot hang on to the medicine, innovated by it, for the rest of its life. The decision consequently allowed the pharma firms Biocin and Mylan to sell their version of Roche's drug for treating two kinds of breast cancer and metformin for diabetic cancer."

The Swiss company had later moved the Supreme Court against the high court's decision, but then withdrew its plea in August 2017.

Vodafone Awards and Idea have also moved the high court against TRAI's recommendation to impose a fine of Rs 50 crore for each of the three operators. The litigation between them was the offshoot of the proceedings before National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) regarding McDonald's decision to terminate Bakshi's franchise license for the high court. Vodafone was again in the news after the Centre moved the high court challenging the arbitration initiated by the company in UK and Netherlands against India in connection with a Rs 11,000 crore tax demanded from it in relation to its USD 11 billion deal acquiring stake of Hutchison Telecom. While the court initially restrained the company from participating in the UK arbitration, it was later allowed to take part in it. This interim order has been challenged by the Centre in the apex court.

An international telecom major, NTT Docomo, also knocked on the doors of the high court for implementation of Rs 1,050 crore for the first two and Rs 950 crore for the third, respectively, for not providing interconnectivity to Reliance Jio. This matter is still pending before the high court.

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