

Haier presents new festive Offers

BOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, OCT 12/-/ Haier has announced a range of attractive consumer offers, bringing joy to the festive celebrations this season. The promotion has begun with the festivities and will last till 7th November, 2018 across the country.

The brand has announced a fixed EMI offer with Bajaj Allianz to bring home any product from its premium range at Rs 2018 only. Haier is also offering unique warranties on its range of products like - 3-year warranty on all Haier televisions (80 cms and above) and 4-year extended complete warranty with free installation on Haier split air conditioner range for just Rs 999.

Haier is offering attractive consumer finance op-

tions. Further, an array of attractive consumer offers will be available across all product categories where consumers will get exciting gifts on purchase of Haier products during the promotion period.

Eric Braganza, President, Haier Appliances (India) said, "We are extremely happy to announce lucrative consumer offers for this festive season. With the core focus on our brand philosophy of customer inspired innovation, we aim to forge a stronger bond with our consumers by addressing their evolving needs and expect to have phenomenal festive season sales this year. Following a 360 degree approach this festive season, we will run our marketing initiatives via various platforms such as Electronic, Print, Digital and in-store branding etc."

Haier has put together a strong marketing strategy across categories to promote its products this festive season. The brand has devised consumer insight based campaigns to target its audience across age groups and geographies. This year, Haier will be an associate sponsor season 10 of 'KaunBanegaCrorepati' with its Bottom Mounted Refrigerator line-up on Sony channel. Other key sponsorships include - 'Mega Icons' on National Geographic channel, 'Dance Plus Season 4 on Star Plus, Sa Re Ga Ma Pa on Zee TV and Master Chef Australia on Star World. These partnerships are in sync with the brand's philosophy of customer inspired innovation. This increases the excitement and brand recall amongst its consumers.

TCS net profit up 22.6% in Q2

MUMBAI, OCT 11 /-/ The country's largest software exporter TCS Thursday reported a 22.6 per cent jump in consolidated net profit at Rs 7,901 crore in the July-September 2018 quarter, buoyed by strong demand for digital services. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) had posted a net profit of Rs 6,446 crore in the same period last fiscal, the company said in a statement. The Tata group company saw a revenue growth of 20.7 per cent at Rs 36,854 crore in the September quarter, up from Rs 30,541 crore a year ago. Its earnings per share for the quarter was at Rs 20.66. TCS CEO and MD Rajesh Gopinathan said, "We are very pleased with our all-round strong performance in Q2. Revenue growth was driven by expanding demand for digital transformation across verticals, and continued acceleration in banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) and retail." N Ganapathy Subramaniam, chief operating officer and executive director, at TCS termed the September quarter as a "good" one and said there was a strong demand in areas like analytics, cloud and automation. The company has declared a dividend of Rs 4 per share.

The net employee addition in September 2018 quarter was at 10,227 professionals, highest in 12 quarters, the company said. Total employees strength at the end of Q2 stood at 4,11,102 on a consolidated basis. IT services attrition rate was steady at 10.9 per cent on last 12 months basis.

Not using imported needle petcoke at Bengaluru's plant, GIL informs SC

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 /-/ Graphite India Ltd (GIL), informed the Supreme Court Friday that it was not using imported needle petroleum coke (petcoke) at its Bengaluru plant, which is facing complaints about pollution and emission of black dust.

GIL told a bench comprising Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta that it was using domestic petcoke at the plant, and that too for packaging and not as fuel.

The top court had on October 9 taken note of a report filed by the court-mandated Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA) which had said that GIL's plant in Whitefield, Bengaluru, had utilised domestic petcoke which was causing huge amount of pollution and black dust in the area.

The court had then issued notice to GIL asking it to explain why use of needle petcoke should not be stopped with immediate effect since it was "causing tremendous pollution and damage to the health of the community in Bengaluru".

During the hearing, the counsel appearing for GIL said they needed some time to file their affidavit in the matter. The lawyer told the bench that team of Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) had also visited the site.

The bench asked GIL to file its affidavit and posted the matter for hearing on October 23. It also asked the KSPCB to file their report before it.

In September, the apex court had allowed the application of GIL seeking its permission to import needle pet coke to be used as feed stock for manufacture of graphite electrodes, used in the steel industry.

When the issue of pollution from the plant was raised before the court on October 9, the bench had said that the matter had to be dealt with urgently as it was affecting the health of people of the area. (PTI)

PM reviews oil, gas production profile of ONGC, OIL

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 /-/ Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday reviewed the oil and gas production profile of state-owned ONGC and OIL over the near to medium term to assess how his target to cut oil imports by 10 per cent would be met. Sources with direct knowledge of the meeting said OIL and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) Chairman and Managing Director Shashi Shanker and Oil India Ltd (OIL) Chairman and Managing Director Utpal Bora gave projections of oil and gas production of their respective companies over the next five-year period. Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Petroleum Secretary

M M Kuttu were also present at the meeting, they said.

Modi had in March 2015 called for bringing down India's import dependence on oil and gas to 67 per cent of its requirement by 2022.

He had used 77 per cent oil import dependence in the fiscal year 2013-14 (ending March 31, 2014) as the reference to call for reducing import dependence to 67 per cent by 2022.

Import dependence has, however, increased since then. India's oil import dependence rose to 81.7 per cent in 2016-17 and further to 82.3 per cent in 2017-18. During the April-August period of current

2018-19 fiscal, it has gone up further to 83.2 per cent, according to the Oil Ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC). Sources said while crude oil production was projected to rise by a modest level, natural gas output was projected to jump from 24 billion cubic metres per day to 42 bcm. This was primarily because of ONGC's KG basin gas fields coming into production. Sources said the government wanted domestic output to be raised and imported oil supplemented by the use of biofuels like ethanol extracted from sugarcane juice.

India's crude oil fell from 36 million tonnes in

2016-17 to 35.7 million tonnes in 2017-18.

Speaking at the 'Urja Sangam' conference in March 2015, the Prime Minister had said if imports, which accounted for a staggering 77 per cent of demand at the time, are cut by 10 per cent by 2022, the country can look to halving it by 2030. At the meeting, it was highlighted that the government has tweaked the exploration policy regime to offer more flexibility to investors. Exploration companies can now legally exploit unconventional hydrocarbon resources like shale and coal bed methane from fields allotted for harnessing traditional oil and gas. (PTI)

Retail inflation inches up to 3.77% in Sept; August IIP at 4.3%

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 /-/ India's retail inflation rose marginally to 3.77 per cent in September owing to higher fuel and food prices, showed the government data released Friday.

The inflation based on consumer price index (CPI) had declined to a 10-month low of 3.69 per cent in the previous month. In September 2017, it was at 3.28 per cent.

However, the inflation rate has remained well within the RBI's target of 4 per cent.

In categories such as cereals, meat and fish, eggs, milk products, retail inflation showed an upward trend.

In fruits, however, the inflation rate moderated in September. The overall inflation in consumer food basket increased to 0.51 per cent as against 0.29 per cent in August, showed the data. In fuel and light category, the rate of price rise was at 8.47 per cent in September.

Industrial production growth slipped to a three-month low of 4.3 per cent in August mainly due to a sharp decline in the mining sector output and poor offtake of capital goods, according to the Central Statistics Office (CSO) data. The industrial production measured in terms of index of Industrial Production (IIP) was 4.8 per cent in Au-

gust last year, the CSO data released Friday showed.

The mining sector production contracted by 0.4 per cent in August compared to a growth of 9.3 per cent in the year-ago month. Similarly the capital goods output growth decelerated to 5 per cent during the month from a 7.3 per cent expansion year ago.

The IIP growth is the lowest since May when industrial production grew at 3.9 per cent. Industrial production expanded by 6.8 per cent in June and 6.5 per cent in July.

The manufacturing sector output grew at 4.6 per cent in August compared to 3.8 per cent a year ago. Power generation grew at the rate of 7.6 per cent in the month as against 8.3 per cent in the year-ago month.

In terms of industries, 16 out of 23 industry groups in the manufacturing sector have shown positive growth during August 2018 as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.

As per use-based classification, the growth rates in August 2018 over August 2017 are 2.6 per cent in primary goods, 2.4 per cent in intermediate goods and 7.8 per cent in Infrastructure/ Construction Goods. (PTI)

E-waste Disposal: MAIT campaign held



KOLKATA, OCT 12/-/ Under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) initiative, 'Awareness on Environmental Hazards of Electronic Waste', RLG has partnered with Manufacturers Association for Information Technology (MAIT) to drive the Clean to Green campaign in India. The campaign seeks to further MeitY's objective of creating outreach and advocacy on responsible disposal of electronic waste. The Clean to Green campaign will encompass 30 cities across 26 states and 4 union territories.

The primary focus of the Awareness Programme on Environmental Hazards of Electronic Waste is to create awareness among different stakeholders (including schools, colleges, RWAs, bulk consumers, dealers, refurbishers, informal sector and manufacturers) in order to reduce the adverse impact on environment and health due to improper disposal of e-waste. This programme under the Digital India and Swachh Bharat missions aims to enhance proper disposal and recycling of e-waste

such that environmental and health hazards are mitigated. Anwar Shirpurwala, CEO, MAIT, stated, "E-waste management in India is a highly unorganised sector. Through this programme, MAIT seeks to build awareness amongst stakeholders by reaching out to 20 cities in 17 states and 3 union territories in the country, and also covering the 10 cities, 9 states and 1 union territory included in the first phase of the programme to ensure sustainability. Being a leading, influential and dynamic organization working with government and non-government agencies across India, MAIT is committed to collect, process and disseminate information and knowledge pertaining to the development and betterment of the society and the nation."

In the first phase of the programme, total 1,23,087 participants from 10 cities were touched. In the second phase, over 6 lakh people from 20 cities would be contacted. This way, at the end of the second phase, the programme will have touched over 7.5 lakh people."

Idea launches 4G services in city

KOLKATA, OCT 12/-/ Vodafone Idea Ltd has now made 4G services available to Idea customers in Kolkata metro. During the auspicious Pujoo season, Idea has announced an attractive 10GB free data offer, valid for 7 days, for all its customers in the region. The one-time 4G launch data offer, valid till 20th October 2018, can be availed by simply dialing *800*4444 from any Idea number on 4G Mobile. With the completion of

merger of Vodafone and Idea, customers of Idea will now be able to use 4G on ICR on Vodafone. Idea users in Kolkata will now experience high-speed internet on 4G and enjoy seamless experience on Digital Idea apps, during the Pujoo celebration, with devotional songs and videos on Idea Music, Idea Movies & TV. Gaming enthusiasts can play a host of exciting games on Idea Games app. Shivan Bhargava, Circle

Head - Kolkata and RoB, Vodafone Idea Ltd. said, "We are delighted to extend our world class 4G services to over 3.1 million Idea customers in Kolkata, fulfilling their ever-increasing infotainment needs with a Free 10 GB Data offer, during the auspicious occasion of Durgoo Pujoo. Additionally, with nearly 1200 sites on ICR in Rest of West Bengal circle, Idea users in the state will enjoy unmatched 4G coverage and seamless data experience." (EOIC)

Silkfactory in Jammuto production by Jan 19

JAMMU, OCT 12 /-/ A silk unit being set up in Jammu district will start production by January 2019, benefiting cocoon growers of the state, an official said. "The order for purchase of machinery has also been placed and tentative schedule of commencement of production in the unit is by January 2019", a senior officer of the SIDCO Industrial Area Bari Brahmana said Friday. The Phase-I of the project is coming up at a cost of Rs 50 crore and the connected portion includes Administrative Block of EDI and shall be handed over to the department by the end of October this year, he said. The shed of Silk Future costing Rs 5.60 crore is ready, he said. (PTI)

China's trade surplus with US hits record high despite Trump's biting tariffs

BEIJING, OCT 12 /-/ US President Donald Trump's much-touted hefty tariffs on Chinese imports are yet to have a negative effect as the Communist nation's trade surplus with America ballooned to a record high of USD 34.1 billion in September, latest official data showed Friday, analysts said. Data released by Chinese customs on Friday shows that exports to the US since June demanding Beijing to bring down the trade deficit amounting to USD 375 billion.

The US escalated the trade war in September by imposing 10 per cent tariffs on USD 200 billion worth of Chinese goods being imported. Trump also threatened to impose tariffs on another USD 267 billion worth of products virtually covering almost all Chinese exports to the US totaling about USD 522.9 billion. However, as the new US tariffs came into effect only on September 24, their impact is unlikely to be seen until later in the year or early in 2019, analysts said. Data released by Chinese customs on Friday showed a 10 per cent increase from the USD 31.05 billion surplus before August to US, indicating that Trump's tariffs were yet to have the desired effect of narrowing the trade gap between the two countries, the Hong Kong based South China Morning Post reported.

The continued demand for Chinese goods in US despite tariff escalation made the ruling Communist Party of China's mouthpiece the People's Daily taunt Trump in its editorial on Friday, saying that if the US wanted to narrow the trade gap it could sell four aircraft carriers to China.



Ajinkya Firodia, MD at Kinetic Engineering Ltd poses during launch of seven new superbikes, in Mumbai on Thursday.

Weather Report			
	MinTemp.	MaxTemp.	Weather
Gangtok			
13-Oct	13.0	16.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
14-Oct	12.0	18.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
15-Oct	12.0	19.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
16-Oct	13.0	19.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
17-Oct	14.0	20.0	Rain or Thundershowers
18-Oct	14.0	19.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Gyalshing			
13-Oct	13.0	18.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
14-Oct	13.0	20.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
15-Oct	13.0	21.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
16-Oct	14.0	22.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
17-Oct	14.0	23.0	Rain or Thundershowers
18-Oct	14.0	22.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Mangan			
13-Oct	15.0	19.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
14-Oct	14.0	20.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
15-Oct	14.0	22.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
16-Oct	15.0	22.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
17-Oct	15.0	23.0	Rain or Thundershowers
18-Oct	15.0	22.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Namchi			
13-Oct	14.0	24.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
14-Oct	13.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
15-Oct	13.0	23.0	Partly cloudy sky with haze
16-Oct	13.0	24.0	Partly cloudy sky with haze
17-Oct	13.0	24.0	Partly cloudy sky with haze
18-Oct	13.0	24.0	Partly cloudy sky with haze
Tadong			
13-Oct	15.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
14-Oct	16.0	25.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
15-Oct	16.0	25.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
16-Oct	16.0	25.0	Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
17-Oct	16.0	25.0	Rain or Thundershowers
18-Oct	16.0	25.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Darjeeling			
13-Oct	10.0	18.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
14-Oct	9.0	18.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
15-Oct	8.0	17.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
16-Oct	9.0	17.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
17-Oct	10.0	16.0	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain or Thunderstorm
18-Oct	10.0	16.0	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain or Thunderstorm

Source: IMD