Minister of State for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines (Independent Charge) Piyush Goyal addressing at the Goods and Service Tax (GST) and Energy, at State Level Convention of MSME, organised by the Laghu Udyog Bharti, in Mumbai.

India INX to commence trading in gold options from August 30

MUMBAI, AUGUST 12 /--/ BSE-promoted India International Exchange (India INX) will launch trading in gold options from August 30, a move which will allow investors an opportunity to hedge their risk without worrying about daily market volatility.

India INX, which has received regulator Sebi's nod to launch the product, has estimated that gold options, along with other gold contracts, would clock a daily average turnover of USD 35 million on the exchange's platform. Recently, domestic commodity exchange MCX also said it has received Sebi's approval to commence trading in gold options

India INX managing director and CEO V Balasubramaniam

contracts. The bourse is likely to launch the product by August-end. "Gold options will give participants an opportunity to hedge their risk without worrying about daily volatility," India INX managing director and CEO V Balasubramaniam said in a statement here.

"This instrument will give buyer a right to buy or sell an underlier at a preset price on a future date," he added. In June, Sebi had allowed options trading in commodities to deepen the market but permitted each exchange to launch options on futures of only one commodity initially. Trading in options has been a long pending demand of the exchanges and market intermediaries. While the market watchdog had agreed to permit options trading last year itself, some legal requirements were holding back the move. Sebi had stipulated necessary guidelines with regard to the product design and risk management framework to be adopted for trading in options on commodity futures. India Inx began its operations on January 16, 2017 and is India's first International Exchange set up at GIFT City in Gandhinagar.

The exchange, which operates for 22 hours a day, allows international investors and Non-Residents Indians to trade in various asset classes including equities and derivatives from anywhere across the globe. (PTI)

Flipkart-Snapdeal deal hindered due to its complexity among other reasons: Sources

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12 /--/ Snapdeal-Flipkart merger talks hit a dead end for a variety of reasons, including the complex structure of the deal that would have placed millions of dollars worth of tax liability on many of Snapdeal's investors, according to sources.

Last month, Snapdeal called off the USD 950 million-merger (over Rs 6,000 crore) discussions with larger rival, Flipkart. While Snapdeal had stated that it would follow an independent path and was therefore, terminating all strategic talks, sources had said differences in valuation and terms of the deal had led to the fallout after five months of negotiations. Two people close to the negotiations said the share swap between Snapdeal (domiciled in India) and Flipkart (registered in Singapore) would have led to an extremely inefficient taxation structure due to restrictions arising out of laws in India, causing millions of dollars of tax burden to multiple investors. Snapdeal did not reply to queries sent by PTI. The persons did not wish to be identified as the discussions were private and they are not authorised to speak on the matter.

They added that once the deal value was set, shareholders were not prepared to pay large amounts towards tax payouts and had contented that the tax incidence should have been factored into the valuation at a much earlier date. Another point of friction was the differential payout to some of the investors like Kalaari and Nexus Venture Partners. One of the persons mentioned above said many of the smaller but influential shareholders like PremjiInvest (Azim Premji's investment vehicle) and Temasek were opposed to it. This caused a huge row between the shareholders and the Board and dealt a fatal blow to any efforts to drive consensus, the person added.

The discussion between the two companies was being driven by Snapdeal's largest shareholder, SoftBank. After the deal failed to materialise, the Japanese conglomerate went ahead and invested about USD 2.5 billion in Flipkart through SoftBank Vision Fund earlier this week. Snapdeal has a number of investors including Ratan Tata, Alibaba Group, Foxconn and Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan among others. The second person said there were many clauses put forward by Flipkart that made the deal additionally complex. Instead of just a majority approval, Flipkart wanted a sign-off from all of Snapdeal's shareholders, the person said.

Also, there was a five years non-solicit clause that barred all shareholders from approaching any employee, buyer or seller working with Flipkart for the next five years. This was completely unacceptable to the shareholders as it imposed unworkable restrictions on them as there are common buyers and sellers and a small pool of skilled workforce in the e-commerce space, the person said.

Gold spirals on brewing tension between US, N Korea

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12 /--/ Gold surged by Rs 30 to Rs 30,050 per ten gram at the bullion market Saturday on the back of mounting tension between the US and North Korea, and persistent buying by local jewellers.

Silver too gained Rs 70 to Rs 40,200 per kg on increased offtake by industrial units and coin makers. Bullion traders said the gold prices headed north as rising tension between the two countries triggered safe-haven buying. Besides, persistent buying by local jewellers at domestic spot market stoked the uptrend. Globally, gold rose 0.23 per cent to USD 1,288.70 an ounce in New York in Friday's trade. Shifting of funds from sliding equity to rising bullion markets also supported the upswing, they said. In the national capital, gold of 99.9 and 99.5 per cent purity gained Rs 30 each to Rs 30,050 and Rs 29,900 per 10 gram, respectively. The precious metal had gained Rs 670 in last three days. Sovereign, however, remained flat at Rs 24,500 per piece of eight gram. Tracking gold, silver ready edged up by Rs 70 to Rs 40,200 per kg and weekly-based delivery by Rs 100 to Rs 39,200 per kg. Silver coins, however, continued to be asked at previous level of Rs 72,000 for buying and Rs 73,000 for selling of 100 pieces in limited deals.

1.78 lakh cos deregistered amid action against shell cos

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12 /--/ Speedy steps are being taken against shell companies and as many as 1.78 lakh firms that have not been carrying out business activities for long have been deregistered, Corporate Affairs Minister Arun Jaitley said on Friday.

He also emphasised that balance needs to be maintained between the ease of doing business and ensuring that the firms are not misused. Jaitley, who also holds the Finance and Defence portfolios, told the Lok Sabha that there is no definition for shell companies under the Companies Act but such entities are used for round tripping of money. The real owners behind such entities need to be identified and expeditious steps are being taken under the benami and Income Tax laws, he said during the Question Hour. As many as 1.78 lakh companies have been deregistered in recent times, he added. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal said the Registrars of Companies (RoCs) have removed 1,62,618 companies from the register of the companies as of July 12, 2017. Replying to supplementaries, Jaitley mentioned about markets regulator Sebi's action against suspected shell companies on the stock exchanges, saying "baazaar mein thoda uthal puthal hua (there was some turmoil in the markets)". On August 7, Sebi had asked the stock exchanges to take action against 331 suspected shell companies which were referred to it by the corporate affairs ministry. While noting that a company can be registered in two days, Jaitley said a balance should be there in terms of ease of doing business and ensuring that the companies being set up are not misused. With technology, it is not difficult, he added. Responding to a supplementary question by Congress member Shashi Tharoor, the minister said there is a distinction between dormant and shell companies. There is potential for dormant companies being misused as shell companies but there is an additional instrument to deal with such entities, Jaitley said. If business is being done under a fake name, then the benami law would be applicable, he added. On whether there is a need to amend the Companies Act and strengthen the inspection and oversight mechanisms to prevent formation of shell companies, Jaitley said, "there is no such proposal under consideration".

Indian visitors in US spent a record $ 13.6b in 2016: Report'

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 12 /--/ Indian visitors spent a record USD 13.6 billion in the US last year, positioning India on the sixth spot among the top 10 international markets for the US in terms of visitor spending. As many as 1.17 million Indians visited the US in 2016. India is ranked 11th in terms of number of international visitors to the US in 2016. A total of 75.6 million international visitors came to the US in 2016 for business, medical, education and leisure purposes, who collectively spent USD 244.7 billion across the country. Compared to 2015, visitor arrivals decreased by two per cent and visitor spending decreased one per cent. It was the first decline in visitors since 2009, the US Department of Commerce said in its latest annual report. In 2016, travel and tourism was the largest services export for the US, comprising 33 per cent of services exports and 11 per cent of exports overall, it said. China (USD 33 billion), Mexico (USD 20.2 billion), India (USD 13.6 billion), and South Korea (USD 8.6 billion) all experienced an increase in both spending and visitations. China was up 15 per cent in the number of arrivals and nine per cent in spending; South Korea was up 12 per cent in visitations and four per cent in spending; Mexico was up two per cent in visitations and three per cent in spending. India on the other hand increased four per cent in arrivals and an impressive 14 per cent in spending. The remaining top markets experienced declines. "The US has enjoyed increased visitor spending from travellers originating out of India in every single year ever reported, save one (spending was absolutely flat in 2009)," the annual report said.

Mahindra to sell China tractor JV stake for RMB 82m

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12 /--/ Mahindra and Mahindra group Friday said it would exit from its China joint venture for tractor business, Mahindra Yueda Yancheng Tractor Company, by selling entire stake for RMB 82 million (nearly Rs 80 crore). The Indian conglomerate has plans to independently operate in China. Mahindra and Mahindra holds 51 per cent stake in the Chinese JV through its wholly owned subsidiary Mahindra Overseas Investment Company (Mauritius) Limited.

"Mahindra Overseas Investment Company (Mauritius) Limited (MOICML)... has agreed to sell its entire shareholding of 51 per cent in Mahindra Yueda Yancheng Tractor Company Ltd (MYYTCL), China. Upon receipt of requisite regulatory approvals and completion of other formalities, MYYTCL will cease to be a subsidiary of MOICML...," Mahindra and Mahindra said in a regulatory filing. The company is selling entire stake to Jiangsu Yueda Investment company (2 per cent stake), Jiangsu Yueda Group (39 per cent) and Yan Bingde (10 per cent) for an aggregate amount of 82 million RMB or about Rs 80 crore.

QUOTATION NOTICE

Sealed quotations are hereby invited for N.I.Q. No.-04/A.E./BNESD-I/P.W. Dte. of 2017-18 circulated vide Memo No.-278/BNESD-I dt. 07.08.17 of the A.E., P.W. Dte., Bidhannagar East Sub-Division-I for total 01 (one) no. work. Last date of application-16.08.2017. Details of N.I.Q., terms and conditions may be seen at the office and from departmental website-**www.pwdwb.in**

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Assistant Engineer, P.W. Dte
Bidhannagar East Sub-Division-I

ICA-T3317(2)/2017

NIT No. 10 of 2017-18 of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Barasat Division

Open Tender are being invited by the Executive Engineer, PWD Barasat Division, Barasat, North 24 Parganas Last date of Application-16.08.2017 upto 2.00 PM Details are available in the website http://www.pwdwb.in and office notice board.

EE (P.W.D.) Barasat Division

Government. of West Bengal
E-Tender Notice
e-NIT No. 05 of 2017-18 of S.E., N.H. Circle-III

The u/s invites online 'NIT' from eligible bidders through e-procurement as per schedule mentioned in the respective notice for the work of "Laying of Mastic Asphalt wearing coat from Airport More at 561.40 km to Guruduara More at 563.000 kmp of NH-31 including mending of pot holes in the District of Darjeeling during the year 2016-17" amounting to Rs.59,01,460.00, by 17.00 hrs on 31.08.2017 through the web portal: ***https://wbtenders.gov.in***. Tender ID: **2017_NH_123264_1.** Other details may be downloaded from the above web site.

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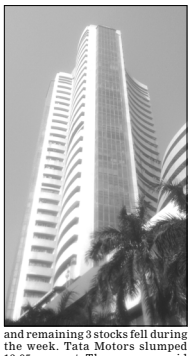
Sensex, Nifty snap 5-week winning streak on profit-booking

MUMBAI, AUGUST 12 /--/ Both the S&P BSE benchmark Sensex and NSE 50-share Nifty snapped their 5-week winning streak by tumbling 1,112 points and 356 points respectively due to profit-booking from investors in view of global tension amidst foreign capital outflows.

Anupam Singhi, COO, William O'Neil India said," Trading restrictions announced by SEBI on 331 entities suspected to be shell companies affected the sentiment". There was no respite for the market, as North Korea's warning on a possible missile strike on the U.S. Pacific territory of Guam, spooked the global markets. The Nifty started the week at 10,074.80 and traded in the range of 9,685.55-10,088.10. The index finally closed at 9,710.80, down 3.53 per cent from last Friday's close. The Nifty had gained by 545.50 points or 5.73 per cent in previous five weeks. After opening at 32,377.80 points, the Sensex gave away 3.44 per cent in this week to close at 31,213.59. During the week, the Sensex traded in a range of 31,128.02-32,396.14. The Sensex had gained by 1,403.80 points or 4.54 per cent in previous five weeks. The first ever mid-term economic survey that was tabled in the Parliament during the week, has pointed to downside risks to the government's earlier GDP growth forecast of 6.75 per cent -7.50 per cent for FY 2018. Meanwhile, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) and foreign institutional investors (FIIs) sold shares worth Rs 1,824.63 crore during the week, as per Sebi's record including the provisional figure of August 11. The broader market also depicted strength. The S&P BSE Mid-Cap index tumbled by 710.68 points or 4.60 per cent to settle at 14,726.27. The S&P BSE Small-Cap index slumped by 890.30 points or 5.59 per cent to settle at 15,036.33. The decline in the both the indices was lower than the Sensex's fall in percentage terms.

weekly-review

Among sectoral and industry indices, realty declined by 9.80 per cent followed by healthcare 7.71 per cent, auto 6.10 per cent, power 5.37 per cent, capital goods 4.49 per cent, bankex 3.48 per cent, FMCG 3.16 per cent, oil&gas 3.01 per cent, metal 2.57 per cent, teck 1.76 per cent, IT 0.99 per cent and consumer durables 0.61 per cent. Among the 31-share Sensex pack, 28 stocks rose



and remaining 3 stocks fell during the week. Tata Motors slumped 13.95 per cent. The company said that the company and Skoda ceased discussions around potential partnership. Tata Motors and Skoda Auto have performed a joint technical feasibility and commercial evaluation of a potential collaboration. Based on intense and constructive discussions, both the companies have jointly concluded that the envisioned areas of partnership may not yield the desired synergies as originally assessed. Nevertheless, the two companies have decided to keep in touch for future areas of collaborations.

It was followed by Tata Motors DVR 12.66 per cent, Sun Pharma 10.92 per cent, Dr Reddy 10.37 per cent, SBI 8.12 per cent, Adani Ports 5.61 per cent, Coal India 5.36 per cent, M&M 5.07 per cent, Lupin 5.06 per cent and Reliance 4.68 per cent. While, Tata Steel rose 3.59 per cent. The company reported consolidated net profit of Rs 921.09 crore in Q1 June 2017 compared with net loss of Rs 3183.07 crore in Q1 June 2016. Tata Steel's consolidated net sales rose 18.9 per cent to Rs 29386.76 crore in Q1 June 2017 over Q1 June 2016. It was followed by Infosys 0.24 per cent and Wipro 0.21 per cent. The total turnover during the week on BSE and NSE rose to Rs 23,778.08 crore and Rs 1,43,020.34 crore, respectively, as against last weekend's level of Rs 17,711.06 crore and Rs 1,33,786.99 crore. (PTI)

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