

(This document comprises news clips from various media in which Balmer Lawrie is mentioned, news related to GOI and PSEs, and news from the verticals that we do business in. This will be e-mailed on every Monday.)

## News on Balmer Lawrie

### Hindustan Times

Kolkata, Thursday, May 9, 2013

#### Balmer wins 'Container Freight Station of the Year' award

**KOLKATA:** Balmer Lawrie's container freight station in Chennai won the "Container Freight Station of the Year" award for demonstrating highest productivity, low turnaround time and achieving environmental and safety certifications during the year 2011-12. The award was given by the Gateway Media recently. **HTC**

### Business Standard

Kolkata, Wednesday, 8 May 2013

#### Balmer Lawrie's Container Freight Station at Chennai wins the Award



Balmer Lawrie's Container Freight Station at Chennai won the "Container Freight Station of the Year" Award, given away by Gateway Media, in recognition of

demonstrating highest productivity; low turnaround time and achieving environmental and safety certifications during the year 2011-12. The award also recognizes the active role of the company in making investments to add further capacities during the year. Mr. Ananda Sengupta, COO [Logistics Infrastructure] received the award on behalf of the Company in a function held on April 18, 2013 at Hotel Vivanta by Taj - President, Mumbai.

## 47 profit-making CPSEs fail to comply with CSR norms: CAG

As many as 47 profit-making CPSEs failed to comply with the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) norms prescribed by the government in 2011-12, said CAG in its report tabled in Parliament today. "Out of the total 110 CPSEs earning profit of more than Rs 10 crore, 47 CPSEs did not comply with the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) norms in terms of the minimum CSR budget/expenditure. As such, the compliance was about 57 per cent only in terms of number of CPSEs," it said.

It said the compliance was not encouraging in case of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) earning profit between Rs 10 crore and Rs 100 crore, as 30 out of 44 CPSEs did not comply with the guidelines, it added. Under the new norms, which came into effect from April 1, 2013, PSUs with a profit of less than Rs 100 crore are required to contribute 3 per cent of their net profit for undertaking such activities and companies with income between Rs 100-500 crore are required to earmark 2-3 per cent. "The compliance was not satisfactory in case of CPSEs earning profit between Rs 100 crore and Rs 500 crore, as 12 out of 27 CPSEs failed to comply with the minimum

## No independent director in 21 CPSE boards

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report on 422 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) for three years up to 2011-12, placed in Parliament today, said that 21 enterprises had no independent director and eight were functioning without any whistle blower mechanism. Reviewing the compliance with Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) guidelines on corporate social responsibility (CSR) by 110 enterprises, the CAG said 47 had not complied in terms with the minimum budget requirement. Even among the 39 CPSEs earning profit of more than Rs 500 crore, five had not met the minimum expenditure limit.

As per revised DPE guidelines, the CPSEs are to take at least one project mandatorily for development of a backward district. The CPSEs will have to disclose the reasons for not fully utilizing the budget allocation for CSR and sustainability activities for a year. The accounts of 303 government companies and corporations showed the government had invested Rs 2,04,417 crore directly in the equity capital of these enterprises. Loans amounting to Rs 61,410 crore were also received by the CPSEs

requirement of CSR budget/expenditure," the auditor said.

*The Economic Times - 07.05.2013*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/47-profit-making-cpses-fail-to-comply-with-csr-norms-cag/articleshow/19933666.cms>

## **Government should set time-frame for revival of sick units: Panel**

A Parliamentary panel today asked the government to set time-frame for revival of sick Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs).

"There is an inordinate delay in getting approval from the government which is affecting revival proposals after receipts of recommendations for revival from the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE)," said the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry. The panel said in its report laid in Parliament that it is of the firm opinion that this state of affairs defeats the very purpose of revival.

The 31-member committee, headed by Rajya Sabha MP Tiruchi Siva, said delayed action by the government exceeding period up to 6 years can render the financial packages redundant. The highly dynamic market environment in which the CPSEs operate also makes delayed revival attempts meaningless. Therefore, the panel recommended that the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) should take initiative to establish an appropriate time-line for the government to take action on the revival recommendations of a sick CPSE, it said.

*The Economic Times - 08.05.2013*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/government-should-set-time-frame-for-revival-of-sick-units-panel/articleshow/19953871.cms>

## **CAG slams 15 CPSEs for defaulting issue of bonus shares**

Comptroller and Auditor General of India today slammed 15 central public sector enterprises for defaulting in issue of bonus shares including Gas Authority of India Limited, Oil India, National Thermal Power Corporation and Steel Authority of India Limited among others. The audit report of the CPSEs also revealed that none of the 481 companies audited had a specific dividend policy.

*Business Standard - 07.05.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/cag-slams-15-cpses-for-defaulting-issue-of-bonus-shares-113050700788\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/cag-slams-15-cpses-for-defaulting-issue-of-bonus-shares-113050700788_1.html)

directly from the government as on 31 March 2012. The government realised Rs 13,894 crore on disinvestment of its shares (with face value of Rs 268 crore) in two CPSEs.

*The Statesman - 07.05.2013*

[http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=455444&catid=40](http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=455444&catid=40)

## **Government sets up inter-ministerial panel on aviation hubs**

The Union cabinet Thursday approved the setting up of an inter-ministerial group (IMG) for the development of aviation hubs in the country. "The cabinet has approved setting up of an IMG to work out a policy to develop aviation hubs in the country," Information and Broadcasting Minister Manish Tiwari said Thursday after meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

The civil aviation ministry has proposed to develop international as well as regional aviation hubs in the country which will not only cater to transit passengers but also take care of the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) needs of the airlines.

According to a report by FICCI-KPMG -- "India: The Emerging Aviation Hub", the country has a potential of becoming a global aviation hub and the third largest aviation market in the world by 2020 if conducive policies to the growth of the civil aviation sector and focus on quality, cost and passenger interest are pursued.

*Business Standard - 09.05.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/government-sets-up-inter-ministerial-panel-on-aviation-hubs-113050900903\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/government-sets-up-inter-ministerial-panel-on-aviation-hubs-113050900903_1.html)

## **Meet on investment strategies of PSUs**

The Prime Minister's Office has convened a meeting of the heads of central public sector enterprises, including BHEL, SAIL and GAIL (India) Ltd, tomorrow to take stock of their capacity expansion and investment plans against the backdrop of a slowdown in industrial growth. The chairman and managing directors of PSUs such as NTPC, Power Grid Corporation, Oil India, IOC and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd are likely to attend the meeting, which is being convened by the principal secretary to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, a source said.

*The Telegraph - 12.05.2013*

[http://www.telegraphindia.com/1130513/jsp/business/story\\_16891101.jsp#.UZBwfKLTxU0](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1130513/jsp/business/story_16891101.jsp#.UZBwfKLTxU0)

## Top PSU bosses may get fixed terms

The government is planning to set a minimum fixed tenure of three years for CMDs and directors of state-run companies in a bid to provide continuity and shore up decision making and investment decisions. Uncertainty of tenure has hurt PSUs as often the top bosses complete their tenure in the midst of an important investment decision.

*The Times of India - 11.05.2013*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Top-PSU-bosses-may-get-fixed-terms/articleshow/20007860.cms>

## Steps for credible fiscal roadmap

The Finance Commission is set up under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution once in every five years, to recommend the sharing of the net divisible proceeds of Union taxes between the Central government and the States and also the grants-in-aid of revenues of the States. The latest Fourteenth Finance Commission, set up in January, is required to submit its report by October 2014, with its recommendations covering the five years from April 1, 2015.

*The Hindu Business Line - 11.05.2013*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/steps-for-credible-fiscal-roadmap/article4702890.ece>

## Jet goes the AI way, reduces free baggage limit by 5kg

Within days of the national carrier reducing free check-in baggage limit by five kilograms, Jet Airways has followed suit, showing the first signs of how the government's new unbundling airfare policy will make air travel expensive. Air India and Jet Airways, India's only two full-service carriers, on Thursday announced they will charge Rs. 250 more on every extra kg of baggage irrespective of the distance of the journey.

*The Hindustan times - 09.05.2013*

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/SectorsAviation/Jet-goes-the-AI-way-reduces-free-baggage-limit-by-5kg/Article1-1057565.aspx>

## No increase in foreign tourists in Apr; Forex earnings up by

The foreign exchange earnings from tourism increased by 7.5 per cent in April as compared to the same period last year, even though there was no change in the number of foreign tourists. The

## Trade unions oppose parking EPFO funds in PSU ETFs

Trade unions today said they will oppose the Finance Ministry's proposal of investing a part of retirement fund body EPFO's huge corpus of over Rs 5 lakh crore in the exchange traded funds (ETF) of central public sector undertakings. Trade unions have been opposing the idea of EPFO fund exposure to equity as it involves high risk of capital erosion.

*The Hindu Business Line - 09.05.2013*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/trade-unions-oppose-parking-epfo-funds-in-psu-etfs/article4699144.ece>

## Air India cuts domestic free baggage allowance from 20kg to 15kg

The free check-in baggage for domestic flyers is all set to be reduced from 20 kg to 15 kg and a host of other charges are on the way. Air India has decided to reduce the free baggage limit for economy passengers to 15 kg and will charge anywhere between Rs 200 to Rs 250 per kg for excess weight. While AI is planning to implement this from next week itself to cash in on the holiday travel (summer break in north India begins this weekend), all other airlines are going to follow suit soon.

*The Times of India - 07.05.2013*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Air-India-cuts-domestic-free-baggage-allowance-from-20kg-to-15kg/articleshow/19924219.cms>

## Travel agents keep shutter down over air fare issue

Over 3,000 travel agents across the country kept their businesses shut on Tuesday protesting alleged opaque airfare practices by airlines, and also demanded restoration of agency commission, Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) claimed. "The bandh was a big success as some 3,500 travel agents from across the country, including Mumbai and Delhi voluntarily did not work today in support of our demands," TAAI President Iqbal Mulla said in Mumbai.

*NDTV - 07.05.2013*

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/travel-agents-keep-shutter-down-over-air-fare-issue-363938>

## Air trips get more expensive for travel-heavy passengers

Now, extra baggage and preferred seat are going to cost you more as you plan an air travel. Within days of the civil aviation ministry allowing airlines to unbundle services, IndiGo

forex earnings from tourism in April 2013 was Rs 7,248 crore as compared to Rs 6,745 crore in the same month last year, registering a growth of 7.5 per cent, according to Tourism Ministry data. However, the foreign tourist arrival in April 2013 was 4.52 lakh which was the same in the corresponding period last year.

*Business Standard - 08.05.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/no-increase-in-foreign-tourists-in-apr-forex-earnings-up-by-113050800544\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/no-increase-in-foreign-tourists-in-apr-forex-earnings-up-by-113050800544_1.html)

### **IndiGo announces new rates for preferred seating**

The Delhi-based low-cost airline IndiGo has introduced IndiGo Seat Plus in which a passenger will be charged a premium of Rs 500 for sitting in Rows 1, 2, 12 and 13 on a domestic flight and Rs 800 for an international flight. For all other window and aisle seats which are pre-booked, a passenger will be charged Rs 200 for a domestic flight and Rs 300 for an international flight.

*The Hindu Business Line - 09.05.2013*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/indigo-announces-new-rates-for-preferred-seating/article4698167.ece>

### **Private bidders give port sector a miss**

In times when private investment is being pegged as crucial to economic growth of the country, private port projects are throwing a spanner. With bids from private sector not forthcoming, the shipping ministry is now planning to invest in a project at Visakhapatnam port which has been put out for bid twice in the past one year and attracted no private participation.

*Business Standard - 11.05.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/private-bidders-give-port-sector-a-miss-113050800842\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/private-bidders-give-port-sector-a-miss-113050800842_1.html)

today decided to charge an additional Rs 200 for each aisle and window seat. Only the middle seat would not attract any additional charge. And, if you want a seat in the front row or next to the emergency exit — both with more leg space — you will have to fork out an additional Rs 500.

*Business Standard - 09.05.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/air-trips-get-more-expensive-for-travel-heavy-passengers-113050800689\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/air-trips-get-more-expensive-for-travel-heavy-passengers-113050800689_1.html)

### **Adventure tour specialist Totally India launched**

UK-based The Tailor Made Groups Company Ltd and India-based Sea & Sky Travel Pvt Ltd have come together to launch Totally India, an adventure specialist company. Totally India, with offices in the UK and India, is an online and offline company promoting tourism products and destinations of India in the global source markets. The company is the brainchild of Derek Moore, Managing Director, The Tailor Made Groups Company Ltd and Sheikh Bashir, Owner, Sea & Sky Travel.

*Travel Biz Monitor - 11.05.2013*

<http://www.travelbizmonitor.com/adventure-tour-specialist-totally-india-launched-20342>

### **Eastern corridor: \$1.25 billion loan pact with WB likely by June**

Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd is likely to sign a \$1.25 billion loan agreement with the World Bank by June for developing the second phase of Eastern Corridor between Kanpur and Mughalsarai.

*NDTV Profit - 12.05.2013*

<http://profit.ndtv.com/news/industries/article-eastern-corridor-1-25-billion-loan-pact-with-wb-likely-by-june-322116>