

(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.)

## **Move to give PSUs more autonomy in M&As and joint ventures**

The department of public enterprises (DPE) has proposed that boards of central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) be given greater autonomy to select technology partners, joint venture partners and to acquire companies. The department also demanded that deal struck by CPSEs not be opened for investigation unless there was a clear evidence of wrongdoing.

The demands, made by the department recently to a group of ministers (GoM) headed by Finance Minister P Chidambaram, assume importance as charges of corruption fly thick and fast, affecting the decision making process of public sector units. The department has also sought a review of its model conduct rules to impose punishment on erring employees of CPSEs even after retirement, said those in the know. The GoM said the department may revisit the rules to this effect, sources added.

DPE, a nodal department for most public sector units, wanted the CPSEs to obtain in-principle clearance in advance from their administrative ministry for entering into competitive negotiations with prospective partners, companies to be acquired and joint ventures.

*Business Standard - 10.06.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/move-to-give-psus-more-autonomy-in-m-as-and-joint-ventures-113060900337\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/move-to-give-psus-more-autonomy-in-m-as-and-joint-ventures-113060900337_1.html)

## **Govt ready to split CIL into smaller units: Shriprakash Jaiswal**

The government is ready to split state monopoly Coal India (CIL) into smaller companies that will compete with each other if experts feel that such a move is good for the country, Coal Minister Shriprakash Jaiswal told ET.

Jaiswal said the government would encourage public-private partnership (PPP) in coal and encourage development of state-owned mines by private firms as this would increase efficiency, boost output and reduce the scope of allegations of misconduct, which have haunted the allocation of coal blocks. He also rejected charges of

## **Sebi turns focus to PSUs on minimum holding norms**

After cracking its whip on 105 private sector companies that failed to meet minimum public holding norms, market regulator Sebi has turned its focus to about a dozen PSUs that need to comply with these regulations in next 60 days with sale of shares worth about Rs 3,600 crore.

At the same time, Sebi is also considering further actions against the non-compliant private sector companies, in addition to the orders passed against them last week.

Such actions might include monetary penalties and initiation of adjudication proceedings and a final call on this would be taken by the end of this month after receipt of responses from the companies against whom an interim order was passed on June 4. At the same time, Sebi has begun the process of sending reminders to about a dozen listed PSUs that are yet to attain a minimum public shareholding of 10 per cent by August 8, a senior official said.

*Economic Times - 09.06.2013*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/regulation/sebi-turns-focus-to-psus-on-minimum-holding-norms/articleshow/20505563.cms>

## **Govt says PSUs will meet public float deadline: Sebi**

Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board (Sebi) on Thursday said the government has assured it that the public sector units will meet the August deadline to bring down their promoter stake to 90 percent.

"I have been assured by the government that they will follow the deadline," Sebi Chairman U K Sinha told reporters on the sidelines of the Skoch banking summit here.

As per the minimum public shareholding norms, the government-run companies shall have a minimum public float of 10 percent by

malpractices and losses in allocating blocks saying that the next auction would determine their true value, not calculations made sitting on an armchair.

*Economic Times - 03.06.2013*

[http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-03/news/39714563\\_1\\_coal-india-block-allocation-coal-blocks](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-03/news/39714563_1_coal-india-block-allocation-coal-blocks)

## **Government planning 10% stake sale in IOC**

The government has invited bids to appoint merchant bankers to manage a 10% share sale in the state-run Indian Oil Corporation through a share offer, a government statement said on Thursday. The government plans to raise Rs 40,000 crores through share sale in state-run companies during the current fiscal year 2013/14. The last date for submitting bids in June 26, the statement said.

*Business Standard - 06.06.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/government-planning-10-stake-sale-in-ioc-113060600209\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/government-planning-10-stake-sale-in-ioc-113060600209_1.html)

## **Income Tax department to scan salary slips of top executives for TDS**

Income Tax department has decided to scan the salary structure of top executives of large corporates and PSUs to examine hidden tax opportunities in the perks and reimbursements made to them.

The department, during its recent deliberations with top I-T and CBDT officials here, decided to strengthen its Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) obtained from salaries of employees, regime in order to collect more revenue under this category.

*Economic Times - 03.06.2013*

[http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-03/news/39714718\\_1\\_income-tax-department-tds-tax-top-executives](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-03/news/39714718_1_income-tax-department-tds-tax-top-executives)

## **IATA urges government not to single out aviation industry in terms of 'tax and regulations'**

Forecasting that airlines will earn only four dollars per passenger, "less than the cost of a sandwich at most places", global airlines association IATA urged governments not to view the aviation industry as "elite" and, therefore, not to single it out in terms of 'tax and regulations'

*The Economic Times - 04.06.2013*

August and private sector companies had to bring down promoter stake to 75 per cent by June 3 this year.

*Zee news - 06.06.2013*

[http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/finance/govt-says-psus-will-meet-public-float-deadline-sebi\\_77571.html/govt-says-psus-will-meet-public-float-deadline-sebi\\_77571.html](http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/finance/govt-says-psus-will-meet-public-float-deadline-sebi_77571.html/govt-says-psus-will-meet-public-float-deadline-sebi_77571.html)

## **Backgrounder: Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises**

Keeping in view the importance of Corporate Governance principles in ensuring transparency and enhancing the trust of stakeholders, the Government had, in 2007, approved the Guidelines on Corporate Governance for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). These guidelines were formulated by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) keeping in view relevant laws, instructions and procedures.

*Press Information Bureau - 07.06.2013*

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx?relid=96487>

## **Retirement age of central govt employees may be increased to 62**

In the poll year, the central government employees may get a pleasant surprise of an increase in their retirement age to 62 years from 60 years at present. The Cabinet is likely to consider a proposal to this effect later today. There are around 50 lakh central government employees in India. The last time, government raised retirement age of central government employees was in 1998-- from 58 to 60 years. Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan are the main assemblies which will go to polls later this year. The general elections are due in 2014.

*Business Standard - 04.06.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/retirement-age-of-central-govt-employees-may-be-increased-to-62-113060400493\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/retirement-age-of-central-govt-employees-may-be-increased-to-62-113060400493_1.html)

## **IATA lifts airline profit forecast on record seat occupancy**

Airline earnings will be 20 per cent higher this year than forecast just three months ago as capacity cuts help pack planes to record levels, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said today. Carriers are likely to generate net income of \$12.7 billion in 2013, the industry group said today. That compares with a forecast of \$10.6 billion issued on March

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/transportation/airlines/-aviation/iata-urges-government-not-to-single-out-aviation-industry-in-terms-of-tax-and-regulations/articleshow/20417961.cms>

### **Airlines can't charge extra for more than 12 seats: Govt**

After stopping airlines from charging passengers extra for choosing window and aisle seats, the civil aviation ministry has decided that it will also define the seats for which airlines can charge more as part of the unbundled service system.

*The Indian Express - 08.06.2013*

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/airlines-cant-charge-extra-for-more-than-12-seats-govt/1126635/>

### **Concor ends joint venture with NYK Line**

State-owned rail rake provider Container Corporation of India (Concor) has ended its auto-logistics joint venture (JV) with NYK Line of Japan, formed a year-and-a-half ago. Conyck Cartrack, the 50:50 JV, did not take off as expected, said Anil K Gupta, chairman and managing director of Concor.

*DNA - 10.06.2013*

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/1845904/report-concor-ends-joint-venture-with-nyk-line>

### **Concor looks to reduce dependence on railways**

Container Corporation of India Ltd (Concor), the state-owned rail rake provider, is looking to slowly reduce its dependence on railways as it focuses on becoming an end-to-end logistics provider. Anil K Gupta, chairman and managing director of Concor, spoke on the company's plans.

*DNA - 05.06.2013*

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/1844017/interview-concor-looks-to-reduce-dependence-on-railways>

20, and represents a 67 per cent gain on last year's profit of \$7.6 billion.

*Business Standard - 04.06.2013*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/iata-lifts-airline-profit-forecast-on-record-seat-occupancy-113060400075\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/iata-lifts-airline-profit-forecast-on-record-seat-occupancy-113060400075_1.html)

### **Government won't regulate airlines' unbundling of fares: Ajit Singh**

Ajit Singh, the Union civil aviation minister is categorical when he says his ministry won't regulate the unbundling of fares. Speaking to ET on a host of issues, the minister admits when the economy slows down, airline travel is the worst hit, as people cut back on travel.

*The Economic Times - 10.06.2013*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/opinion/interviews/government-wont-regulate-airlines-unbundling-of-fares-ajit-singh/articleshow/20515147.cms>

### **Concor sees a shift towards heavier container movement**

A gloomy export-import (EXIM) trade and slowdown in domestic economic growth has made it difficult for all firms in the transportation business. It was no different for public sector Container Corporation of India (Concor), a Rs 4,406 crore listed firm, which is an incumbent and market leader in the container rail business segment and accounts for 75 per cent of market share.

*The Hindu Business Line - 10.06.2013*

[http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/concor-sees-a-shift-towards-heavier-container-movement/article4797312.ece?ref=wl\\_industry-and-economy](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/concor-sees-a-shift-towards-heavier-container-movement/article4797312.ece?ref=wl_industry-and-economy)

### **Land acquisition for freight corridors 89% complete**

The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd (DFCCIL) has acquired 89% of the 10,667 hectare land required for the 3,326 km western and eastern corridors, which are being developed at a cost of Rs 33,000 crore. There has been a significant leap in the land acquisition compared with 2010 when the corporation could manage to acquire only 555 hectare.

*DNA - 05.06.2013*

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/1844020/report-land-acquisition-for-freight-corridors-89pct-complete>

## **PM approves Amritsar to Kolkata corridor**

In a huge boost to industrial development and job-creation in seven states in north and east India, the government on Friday paved the way for the creation of the Amritsar-Delhi-Kolkata industrial corridor parallel to the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor of the Railways.

*The Indian Express - 08.06.2013*

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/pm-approves-amritsar-to-kolkata-corridor/1126572/>

## **15 line up for BHEL CMD post**

More than a dozen candidates, including senior IAS officer Shishir Priyadarshi are in race for the top job at India's biggest power-equipment maker Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL).

Government head-hunters, the Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB) has called 15 candidates for interviews on June 20 to select Chairman and Managing Director of BHEL, sources said.

*Economic Times - 07.06.2013*

[http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-07/news/39815198\\_1\\_bhel-cmd-top-job-ias](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-07/news/39815198_1_bhel-cmd-top-job-ias)

## **Flying to get more expensive after privatization**

Flying from Chennai airport is going to be an expensive affair as the move to lease it out to a private company or consortium will push up costs. Passengers will have to pay a far higher user development fee than the one proposed now as sources say the private owner may not be able to generate much revenue from shops and lounges inside the terminals. This is because the new terminals are constructed in a linear fashion with minimum space for such facilities.

*The Times of India - 06.06.2013*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Flying-to-get-more-expensive-after-privatization/articleshow/20453325.cms>

## **J. S. Kaushal has joined as Director (Personnel) in CWC**

Jasbir Singh Kaushal has joined as Director (Personnel) in Central Warehousing Corporation on 3rd June 2013.

He has 33 years of rich experience in all facets of HR function out of which 30 years in Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Itself.

*Sarkaritel.com - 03.06.2013*

<http://www.sarkaritel.com/j-s-kaushal-has-joined-as-director-personnel-in-cwc/>