

(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.)

Balmer Lawrie in News

The Economic Times
5.3.2015

Balmer Lawrie MoU

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) and Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd on February 25 for the development and implementation of an air travel module in the defence travel system. Currently the defence travel system provides the facility of booking railways tickets to armed forces personnel. After the development of the air travel module, air tickets can also be booked on the defence travel system. On this occasion,



Arvind Kaushal, IDAS (CGDA); Viren Sinha, C&MD (Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd) and senior officers representing both the organisations were present.

Business Standard
03.03.2015

TENDER CARE

BalmerLawrie signs MOU with CGDA



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) and BalmerLawrie & Co. Ltd. on 25 February 2015 for the development and implementation of an Air Travel module in the Defence Travel System. Currently the Defence Travel System provides the facility of booking railways tickets to Armed Forces personnel. After the development of the Air Travel module, air tickets can also be booked on the Defence Travel System. On this occasion, Mr. Arvind Kaushal, IDAS (CGDA), Mr. Viren Sinha, CMD, BalmerLawrie & Co. Ltd. and senior officers representing both the organisations were present.

dna

SATURDAY 07/03/2015 MUMBAI

Balmer Lawrie, CGDA sign MoU



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BUSINESS

Memorandum of Understanding signed

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) and Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited for the development and implementation of an air travel module in the Defence Travel System. Currently, the Defence Travel System provides the facility of booking railways tickets to armed forces personnel. It comes as a welcome move as Chandigarh has a number of armed forces personnel and after the development of the air travel module, air tickets can also be booked on the Defence Travel System. Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited is one of the oldest PSUs and is efficient in handling their travel needs.

Balmer Lawrie signs MOU with CGDA for air travel

Chandigarh: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) and Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd. for the development and implementation of an air travel module in the Defence Travel System. Currently, the Defence Travel System provides the facility of booking railways tickets to Armed Forces personnel. It comes as a welcome move as Chandigarh has a number of armed forces personnel and after the development of the air travel module, air tickets can also be booked on the Defence Travel System.

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MOU SIGNED ON AIR TRAVEL MODULE

CHANDIGARH: A memorandum of understanding was signed between the controller general of defence accounts (CGDA) and Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd for the development and implementation of an air travel module in the defence travel system. Currently, the defence travel system provides the facility of booking railways tickets to armed forces personnel. It comes as a welcome move as Chandigarh has a number of armed forces personnel and after the development of the air travel module, air tickets can also be booked on the defence travel system.

Strategic sale in PSUs: Government open to divesting over 51%; aims to collect Rs 28,500 crore

The government is open to selling more than 51 per cent in certain public sector entities as part of its 'strategic sale' through which it aims to collect Rs 28,500 crore next fiscal, a top finance ministry official said today. "Strategic sale means that you are looking for a strategic partner, not selling to

DoD wants subsidy roadmap before ONGC disinvestment

The Department of Disinvestment (DoD) wants the Government to lay out a roadmap for fuel subsidy sharing before the Rs 14,000 crore stake sale in Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), a top official said. The government had in 2014 planned to sell its 5 per cent stake in the state-run explorer but met with lukewarm response

retail investor," Finance Secretary Rajiv Mehrishi told reporters here. Asked if strategic will only mean below 51 per cent, Mehrishi said: "Not necessary". For the full fiscal 2015-16, the government hopes to garner Rs 69,500 crore through stake sale in PSUs. Of this, Rs 41,000 crore is estimated to come from minority stake sale in PSUs and the remaining Rs 28,500 crore from strategic stake sale. Mehrishi said the Finance Ministry would "go ahead" with the stake sales depending on need as well as the appetite in stock markets.

The Economic Times - 02.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/strategic-sale-in-psus-government-open-to-divesting-over-51-aims-to-collect-rs-28500-crore/articleshow/46434362.cms>

The Government is committed to the process of rationalizing subsidies and cut leakages, not cut subsidies

Budget proposals 2015-16 for Petroleum & Natural Gas sector. Various proposals have been made in the Budget 2015-16 which would lead to greater stability, clarity and continuity in the economy and the petroleum and natural gas sector. Subsidies will continue so that there is no adverse impact on the general public. As stated by the Finance Minister, the Government is committed to the process of rationalizing subsidies and cut leakages, not cut subsidies. Adequate funds have been provided for LPG and kerosene subsidies. Finance Minister appealed to the well-off strata, including those concerned for the welfare of the poor, to voluntarily give up subsidy on LPG. In context of rationalization and targeting of LPG subsidy, it was highlighted that under DBTL Rs.6335 crore have been transferred to over 11.5 crore beneficiaries.

Business Standard - 02.03.2015

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/the-government-is-committed-to-the-process-of-rationalizing-subsidies-and-cut-leakages-not-cut-subsidies-115030200384_1.html

Contribute to Swachh Bharat, govt asks PSBs

It isn't just the common man who will have to bear the burden of funding the Swachh Bharat campaign. The government also wants public sector banks to contribute to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pet project. Last month, the finance ministry wrote to state-run bank chiefs, asking them to tap into their corporate social responsibility (CSR) fund so that they could contribute to the Swachh Bharat Kosh, being managed by the expenditure department. Of course, the letter was not a diktat from the

from foreign investors over lack of clarity on subsidy ONGC has to shell out every quarter. Disinvestment Secretary Aradhana Johri said foreign investors wanted to know the future subsidy sharing roadmap of the government before buying shares in the disinvestment of the oil major. ONGC and other oil producers have to bear a part of the losses that fuel retailers incur on selling LPG and kerosene at government-controlled rates. There is no formula to decide on their share and it is communicated on an ad-hoc basis every quarter.

The Economic Times - 08.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/dod-wants-subsidy-roadmap-before-ongc-disinvestment/articleshow/46491396.cms>

Budget 2015: Government allocates \$388 million to fill oil storage

The government has provided 24 billion rupees in the revised budget estimates for the current fiscal year to fill its first strategic crude reserves, a statement said on Monday, indicating oil could be purchased by end-March. A fall in oil prices helped Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to present a budget that loosened the reins on public spending to drive growth as the federal government could save billions of dollars in oil subsidy. India, the world's No.4 crude consumer, is building storage facilities at three locations in the south of the country to hold a total 36.87 million barrels of oil, enough to cover about 13 days of its needs in case of a supply disruption. The first underground facility at Vizag that can hold 9.75 million barrels is completed and ready for commissioning.

The Economic Times - 03.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/budget-2015-government-allocates-388-million-to-fill-oil-storage/articleshow/46427115.cms>

Shell opens global IT centre in Bengaluru

Global energy major Royal Dutch Shell plc has opened its global information technology (IT) centre in this tech hub for developing and delivering IT projects in-house. "The in-house global IT centre will provide jobs for thousands of techies by 2020, as we invest in the centre to be an integral part of our global IT project delivery and support network," Shell India's chairman Yasmine Hilton said here Friday. The Hague-based Anglo-Dutch oil and gas multinational is one of the leading investors in

government, which is the majority owner. "You are requested to consider the objective of this great Abhiyan of Swachh Bharat and take a decision suo moto with regard to contribution in the Kosh in the form of donations, etc," said a source, quoting from the missive. Two state-run lenders, IDBI Bank and Bharatiya Mahila Bank, have, however, been exempted from making contributions to the Swachh Bharat Kosh, which has been set up to finance sanitation programmes.

Times of India - 09.03.2015

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Contribute-to-Swachh-Bharat-govt-asks-PSBs/articleshow/46498155.cms>

Jan infra output growth at more than a year's low of 1.8 pct

India's annual infrastructure output growth slowed to more than a year's low of 1.8 percent in January, mainly dragged down by a sharp slowdown in crude oil and natural gas production, government data showed on Monday. The output had expanded 2.4 percent year-on-year in December. The infrastructure sector, which comprises coal, crude oil, oil refining, natural gas, steel, cement, electricity and fertilisers, accounts for 37.9 percent of India's industrial output.

Business Standard - 02.03.2015

http://www.business-standard.com/article/reuters/jan-infra-output-growth-at-more-than-a-year-s-low-of-1-8-pct-115030200816_1.html

Govt wants Sebi, not RBI, to regulate money market

The government has proposed to amend the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act to take away money market regulatory powers from the central bank and bring it under the purview of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi). Though the proposal wasn't mentioned in Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's Budget speech, the Finance Bill proposes to amend sections 45U and 45W of the RBI Act, which effectively takes away the central bank's powers to regulate government securities and other money market instruments. The amendment to section 45W says, "Any direction issued by the Reserve Bank of India, in respect of security, under chapter III D of the Reserve Bank of India Act, shall stand repealed." Usha Thorat, former deputy governor of RBI, said, "Certain powers in relation to regulating money market instruments and products and derivatives based on these instruments were given to RBI in 2005-06 by amending the RBI Act and this

India's energy sector among global integrated energy firms. "We aim to attract the best talent in the industry and provide opportunities for them to build world-class business solutions," Hilton said on the occasion. Shell has projects and technology centre in the city, employing about 1,000 scientists and engineers as part of its projects & technology business worldwide.

Business Standard - 06.03.2015

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/shell-opens-global-it-centre-in-bengaluru-115030600468_1.html

FDI in services sector up 44 per cent during April-December

With government taking steps to improve the ease of doing business and attracting foreign investments, FDI inflows into the services sector grew by 44 per cent to \$2.29 billion in the April-December period of the current fiscal. The sector, which includes banking, insurance, outsourcing, R&D, courier and technology testing, had received foreign direct investment (FDI) worth \$1.59 billion during April-December, 2013-14, according to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

The Economic Times - 08.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/fdi-in-services-sector-up-44-per-cent-during-april-december/articleshow/46490768.cms>

RBI cuts repo rate by 25 bps ahead of policy schedule once again

Raghuram Rajan, governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), seems to be enjoying surprising the markets by cutting rates unannounced and ahead of monetary policy reviews. After the rate cut on January 15, the Bank has cut rates by 25 basis points on Wednesday morning bringing the key repo rate down to 7.50%. Rajan said, "Given low capacity utilisation and still-weak indicators of production and credit off-take, it is appropriate for the Reserve Bank to be pre-emptive in its policy action to utilise available space for monetary accommodation. He gave two factors to defend his second surprise rate cut before the monetary policy. First, the still weak state of certain sectors of the economy as well as the global trend towards easing suggests that any policy action should be anticipatory once sufficient data support the policy stance.

DNA - 04.03.2015

happened after a lot of discussion.

Business Standard - 07.03.2015

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/finance-bill-wants-sebi-to-regulate-money-market-115030600506_1.html

Union Budget 2015-16 shows commitment towards tourism: Industry

The Union Budget 2015-16 has considerably focused into the tourism sector. The successful Visa on Arrival Scheme which was introduced a year back for 43 countries has been increased to 150 countries in a phased manner. Focus on development of World Heritage Sites – churches and convents of old Goa, Hampi, Elephanta caves, Leh palace, Varanasi temple town, Jallianwala Bagh etc to be developed to make them more tourist-friendly. Madhavan Menon, managing director, Thomas Cook (India) said, "The Government's pro-tourism strategic vision sees continuum and we applaud the vision and long term initiatives of Budget 2015 – 2016 including expanding the VoA scheme to 150 countries in a phased approach as also the welcome move of eliminating some of the concerns and apprehensions that tourists as well as operators had as to how this system operates; Focus on developing World Heritage Sites is of huge value given that many are in a bad shape and have received scant attention in the past."

The Financial Express - 02.03.2015

<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/lifestyle/travel-tourism/union-budget-2015-16-shows-commitment-towards-tourism-industry-2/49510/>

DGCA sets up unit to monitor airfares

Regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has set up a tariff monitoring unit to check on air fares on certain routes selected randomly to ensure that airlines stay within the price range set by them. An analysis has shown that fares remain well within the range displayed by the airlines on their websites, minister of state for civil aviation Mahesh Sharma said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. The minister clarified that air fares are not regulated by the government. "Under the provision of Sub Rule (1) of Rule 135, Aircraft Rules 1937, airlines are free to fix reasonable tariff having regard to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristics of services, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing tariff," he said.

Mint - 03.03.2015

http://www.livemint.com/Companies/kH06o3Rbnj_rSaYmloAL8XL/DGCA-sets-up-unit-to-monitor-air-fare.html?utm_source=copy

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-rbi-continues-to-surprise-cuts-repo-rate-by-25-bps-ahead-of-schedule-once-again-2066026>

Narendra Modi's \$1 trillion plan revives tax-free rail debt

India's decision to allow tax-free bonds after a 12-month hiatus should cut borrowing costs for a \$1 trillion development push. Finance minister Arun Jaitley said in his budget speech last month that tax-free bond sales to individuals for rail, road and irrigation projects will be permitted from 1 April. While issuance wasn't banned as such this fiscal year, offerings halted because no quotas were allocated. India plans to spend about Rs.8.5 trillion upgrading its antiquated rail network over the next five years, budget documents released in New Delhi show, as it seeks to support economic expansion as fast as 8.5% next year. A second international airport for Mumbai is in the works, as is a dedicated rail transport corridor for freight between Delhi and Mumbai, the nation's two largest cities. "Tax-free bonds will reduce the cost of borrowing for issuers and will have a multiplier effect on job creation," Indian railway finance corp. managing director Rajiv Datt said.

Mint - 09.03.2015

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/VxqcmDsZ6ko1DfPzzAPGK/Narendra-Modis-1-trillion-plan-revives-taxfree-rail-debt.html>

AAI has developed 49 non-metro airports: Minister

The government on Tuesday said that the state-run Airports Authority of India (AAI) had developed 49 non-metro airports so far. According to Minister of State (MoS) for Civil Aviation Mahesh Sharma, AAI had identified 63 non-metro airports for development. The AAI has so far completed development work on 49 airports. "The AAI has identified 35 non-metro airports initially and 28 more non-metro airports subsequently for development," the minister said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. "Out of these, AAI has so far completed the work at 49 airports."

Yahoo.com - 03.03.2015

<https://in.finance.yahoo.com/news/aai-developed-49-non-metro-124403091.html>

Railways Launch Portal, Mobile App for Complaints

The Indian Railways have launched a web portal and a mobile application for customers to lodge their complaints and make suggestions. The mobile app based on android/windows platform can be freely downloaded. One can also track the status of the complaints registered. Complaint Management System (COMS) portal, www.coms.indianrailways.gov.in, hosts both mobile app and web based complaints and suggestions. People can also register complaints through SMS on number +91-9717630982. A link to the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) will also be provided. The mobile application, which can be downloaded from Google Play Store, has been implemented using Android 2.3.3 (and above) platform and would be made available for Windows Phone 8.1 and above.

The New Indian Express - 08.03.2015

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/hyderabad/Railways-Launch-Portal-Mobile-App-for-Complaints/2015/03/07/article2702131.ece>

Tour operators fear cancellations as UAE issues travel advisory

Tourist arrivals from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) might be impacted with the UAE government advising its citizens against travelling to India in view of the swine flu outbreak. Homa Mistry, chief executive officer, Trail Blazer Tours India, said: "UAE is an important market for us. While business visitors come round the year, we receive leisure tourists during winter and June-August. The Emiratis mostly visit Mumbai, Kerala and Goa. They are high spenders and the average length of stay is a week or longer. While we don't see a significant impact immediately, there could be cancellations if the swine flu outbreak is not brought under control."

Business Standard - 06.03.2015

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/tour-operators-fear-cancellations-as-uae-issues-travel-advisory-115030600157_1.html

China's Fosun acquires 5% stake in Thomas Cook

Shanghai's Fosun International, one of China's fastest-growing conglomerates, yesterday pumped in around £100 million into Thomas Cook to acquire a 5-per cent stake. It intends to double that stake in the world's oldest travel company to 10 per cent through open-market share purchases. Fosun, set up by four Chinese

Tourists getting noticed: India's mobility score rises to 50 from 32 in 2008, says UN's Visa Openness Report

In the fight for global travellers, tourists from India are getting noticed, with more countries making special efforts to ease visa formalities for its citizens. The Visa Openness Report 2014 by the United Nations World Tourism Organization says India has improved on its mobility score - the extent to which tourists can travel around the world without visa hassles. "When comparing data between 2014 and 2008 for the promising outbound markets of Brazil, Russian Federation, China, India and South Africa (BRICS), it becomes clear that the destinations are making special efforts to facilitate visa formalities for tourists originating from these prospering economies," the report said.

The Economic Times - 07.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/travel/tourists-getting-noticed-indias-mobility-score-rises-to-50-from-32-in-2008-says-uns-visa-opennessreport/articleshow/46480581.cms>

India pipped China in air travel demand for January '15: IATA

Indian carriers in January clocked one of the highest average load factors on domestic flights among countries in the BRIC region, Australia, Japan and the US, according to data realised by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Indian carriers got 84% loads closely following airlines in Brazil which clocked 84.6%. American carriers filled 79.3% of their planes on an average, Chinese airlines filled 77.6% of their planes, and airlines in Australia got 76.2% occupancy on average. Indian carriers, led by SpiceJet have been garnering high load factors with discounted fares. Starting December cash-strapped SpiceJet cut massive capacity which led to a decline in seats offered in the market and a rise in average occupancies for airlines.

The Economic Times - 04.03.2015

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2015-03-04/news/59767136_1_indian-carriers-air-travel-demand-iata

Air India operates four 'all women crew' flights

To mark International Women's Day, national carrier Air India today operated four 'all-women crew' flights to international and domestic destinations, with one flown by two pilots who were also part of the maiden such feat in the world way back in 1985. Air India was the first carrier in the world to operate an

graduates with \$4,000 in 1992, is now worth \$7 billion. The Chinese company, chaired by entrepreneur Guo Guangchang, who styled himself as "the Warren Buffett of the East", bought French travel giant Club Med last month in a deal worth €939 million. He said it was about tapping into new growth opportunities in the biggest and fastest-growing leisure market in the world, adding, China was even bigger than the US last year in terms of the number of foreign trips.

Domain-b - 07.03.2015

http://www.domain-b.com/companies/companies_t/Thomas_Cook/20150307_purchases.html

Full-service airlines go full tilt at loyalty programmes

With the entry of a new challenger in the premium services space, Vistara, a key differentiator between its offerings and those of incumbents like Jet Airways and Air India will be the loyalty rewards programmes. Even as no-frill carriers compete largely on costs, the war between Indian full-service airlines may well play out through their loyalty programmes. The first signs of competition in this space are already visible: Jet Airways, which is looking to protect its base, tweaked its frequent flyer programme last month, soon after Vistara, a JV between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines, commenced operations in January.

The Financial Express - 07.03.2015

<http://indianexpress.com/article/business/companies/full-service-airlines-go-full-tilt-at-loyalty-programmes/>

Thomas Cook creates 'Travel Quest' to focus on student segment

Travel services provider Thomas Cook (India) has decided to focus on the student market through 'Travel Quest Study Tours' as the business potential of this segment in India is quite significant. As per the data from UGC and National University of Education, there were over 13.6 lakh schools in the country in 2012. "With enrolment increasing by 13 per cent and nearly USD 70 billion being spent on private education, the business potential of the student market in India is significant and increasing rapidly, Thomas Cook India said. Hence, in a strategic initiative to leverage this untapped market potential, Thomas Cook intends to target the student sector by setting up a dedicated 'Travel Quest' vertical comprising experienced professionals across the educational and travel domain, it added. Commenting on the development, Thomas Cook (India) MD Madhavan Menon said: "Our strategic

all—women crew in 1985. Budget carrier SpiceJet and regional airline Air Costa also operated such flights to mark the Day. Air India operated all women crew flights to international and domestic destinations to celebrate the occasion of International Women's Day today, the airline said in a release.

The Hindu Business Line - 08.03.2015

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/air-india-operates-four-all-women-crew-flights/article6971786.ece>

Vistara to launch maiden services to northeast

Tata's full service passenger carrier Vistara Tuesday announced its foray into the northeast with the addition of Guwahati and Bagdogra to its domestic network. According to the airline, it will commence services from April 2 on Delhi-Guwahati-Bagdogra-Delhi route. "We've had lots of customers asking us to fly to the eastern India over the past month, so we're delighted to launch this new route in response to the customer demand," Vistara chief executive Phee Teik Yeoh said in a statement. "The addition of this route reaffirms our commitment to promote regional connectivity in India, and contribute to the Government's efforts to boost trade and opening up development avenues for people in these regions."

Business Standard - 03.03.2015

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/vistara-to-launch-maiden-services-to-northeast-115030300424_1.html

Amadeus signs deal with China Airlines

Amadeus has announced a deal with China Airlines, the flag carrier of the Republic of China (Taiwan), for the adoption of the full Amadeus Altéa suite of solutions. Importantly for the carrier's domestic business, the deal also marks Amadeus' first Chinese language IT offering to an airline. The extensive long-term agreement with China Airlines and its subsidiary, Mandarin Airlines, to implement the Passenger Service System (PSS) and e-commerce platform, used by more than half of the SkyTeam Alliance, means that Amadeus Altéa will now be the leading PSS in the Taiwanese market, a release states. K C Kuey, Assistant Vice President - New PSS Program, China Airlines, said, "We are pleased to partner with Amadeus as they support us in catering to the growing Taiwanese travel market as well as the broader Asian aviation and travel industry.

business intent is clear: to address the business opportunity posed by the growing student market in the absence of organised players in the market."

The Hindu Business Line - 04.03.2015

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/travel/thomas-cook-creates-travel-quest-to-focus-on-student-segment/article6959197.ece>

Major ports and highways to contribute 2 per cent of GDP: Nitin Gadkari

Road Transport, Highways and Shipping Minister Nitin Gadkari today said efforts are on to develop all 12 major ports so that they, along with the highways sector, contribute 2 per cent of India's GDP. Addressing media after a MoU for export of cars was signed between Kamarajar Port and Toyota, Gadkari said the company is exploring more countries, apart from South Africa, for exporting its vehicles. "Exports from Kamarajar Port (earlier known as Ennore) will touch 26,000 unit this fiscal. Toyota Kirloskar has entered into a pact with the Port for long-term shipments of cars from there," the Minister said.

The Economic Times - 03.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-transport/major-ports-and-highways-to-contribute-2-per-cent-of-gdp-nitin-gadkari/articleshow/46443719.cms>

A new service helps ships change routes, conserve fuel

Shipping companies can now lower the fuel consumption of their ships plying on some key sea-lanes, thanks to a new product unveiled by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (Incois). The Institute has launched a customised service for the shipping industry in the form of daily bulletins on Ocean State Forecast along standard shipping routes. The bulletins will cover ocean surface information and forecast on winds, swell waves, sea currents, high waves and rainfall for the next two days. This will help ships to make changes in their routes to avoid sea and weather turbulence. AK Gupta, CMD of Shipping Corporation of India, said weather routing of ships played an important role in fuel savings. Wind speeds, swell waves and other ocean conditions make an impact on the speed of the ship and fuel consumption.

The Hindu Business Line - 05.03.2015

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/a-new-service-helps-ships-change-routes-conserve-fuel/article6959733.ece>

Their Chinese language offering, tailored to suit our needs, is testimony to how they consistently place customers first. This will go a long way in helping us become increasingly flexible and scalable in our operations."

Travel Biz Monitor - 08.03.2015

<http://www.travelbizmonitor.com/Top-Stories/amadeus-signs-deal-with-china-airlines-26785>

Transport industry seek clarity on tax deducted at source rules

Big companies in India's road transportation industry, already burdened with high working capital requirement in a sluggish economy, are confounded by the Budget's proposal to deduct tax at source for firms plying, hiring, leasing and owning more than 10 trucks. Transporters are unable to understand whether this 'burdensome' provision to deduct 2% tax at source is applicable to truck owners like Transport Corporation of India (TCI) and Patel Integrated Logistics or/and to those who ply trucks without owning it such as Mahindra Logistics.

The Economic Times - 07.03.2015

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-transport/transport-industry-seek-clarity-on-tax-deducted-at-sourcerules/articleshow/46480350.cms>

Safexpress opens new logistics park in Jammu

Supply chain and logistics firm Safexpress opened a new logistic park in Jammu last month. Spread across 80,000 square feet, this ultra-modern Logistics Park is strategically located on the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway 1A. Speaking at the launch ceremony, Rubal Jain, director (Corporate Strategy), Safexpress said, "Jammu is a key city in northern India and has a number of small industries. From the supply chain and logistics perspective, Jammu holds strategic importance due to its location, skilled manpower and favourable government policies. This facility will serve as a trans-shipment hub as well as a warehousing facility.

Auto Car Pro - 04.03.2015

<http://www.autocarpro.in/news-national/safexpress-logistic-park-jammu-7826>

India ranks third lowest in having women in leadership roles

India ranks third lowest in the proportion of business leadership roles held by women, at 15 per cent; falling below the global average, reveals an annual survey from Grant Thornton, conducted ahead of International Women's Day (March 8). Japan which sits at the bottom of the global rankings at 8 per cent and Germany at 14 per cent, join India at the bottom of the rankings. Globally, 22 per cent of senior roles are held by women, a slight improvement up from 19 per cent in 2004 but, down from 24 per cent last year, highlighting broad stagnation. And almost a third of businesses have no women in senior leadership roles. "Japan and India may be at very different stages of their development but they share certain cultural features, such as strong hierarchy and patriarchal societies, which prevent women from reaching the upper echelons of the business world," said Pallavi Bakhru, Director, Grant Thornton Advisory Private Ltd.

The Hindu Business Line - 08.03.2015

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/india-ranks-third-lowest-in-having-women-in-leadership-roles/article6971760.ece>

Petronet CEO not to get extension as union Oil Minister looks for new CEO

The Oil Ministry has decided not to extend tenure of Petronet LNG Ltd's CEO A K Balyan till his superannuation in July 2016 and has instead begun search for the new head of the India's largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) importing firm. Balyan was appointed Managing Director and CEO of Petronet for a five-year term beginning July 16, 2010, with the condition that it could be extended till his superannuation age of 65 years. Sources said the ministry, whose secretary is the Chairman of the company, has decided against giving Balyan, who turns 64 in July, an extension.

The Economic Times - 04.03.2015

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2015-03-04/news/59767374_1_petronet-lng-ltd-petronet-ceo-indian-oil-corp

H L Samariya takes charge as NFL CMD

H L Samariya, has taken over additional charge as Chairman & Managing Director of National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) on 2nd March 2015. A Civil Engineer, Samariya is a senior IAS officer of 1985 batch, Andhra Pradesh Cadre. He is, presently, Joint Secretary in the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India. Samariya has rich and varied administrative experience. He is also on the Board of other fertilizer companies such as Indian Potash

Hyderabad is best city to live in India: Global survey

Leaving behind India's more traditional business centres such as Mumbai and Bangalore, the city of pearls Hyderabad is the best city to live in the country, says a global survey. According to consultancy firm Mercer's 'Quality of Living Report-2015', notwithstanding its top rank among Indian cities, Hyderabad globally ranks at 138th position in a list of 230 cities around the world in terms of standard of living. The list is topped by Vienna for the second consecutive year. Besides Hyderabad, the list figures seven other Indian cities -- Pune (145), Bangalore (146), Chennai (151), Mumbai (152), New Delhi (154) and Kolkata (160). "Over time, Hyderabad has emerged as a city of choice due to factors such as improved options for international schools and a fine choice of reputable English speaking schools," Mercer said.

The Hindustan Times - 05.03.2015

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/hyderabad-is-best-city-to-live-in-india-mercer/article1-1323189.aspx>

No 'Suitable' Candidate To Lead Air India

The government has failed to find a "suitable" candidate to head the loss-making national carrier Air India, whose chairman and managing director Rohit Nandan is on a 10-months extension, which expires in August this year. Public Enterprises Selection Board, which conducted interviews for selecting a new CMD for the state-run airline, did not find any candidate "suitable", and recommended that the government may choose an "appropriate" course of further action for selection, official sources said here tonight.

Business World - 04.02.2015

<http://www.businessworld.in/news/business/aviation/no-suitable-candidate-to-lead-air-india/1762449/page-1.html>

Rajshekhkar takes charge today as Director (Fin), BCCL

K S Rajshekhkar (GM, NCL/CIL) took charge as Director (Finance), Bharat Coking Coal Limited from March 02. Amitava Saha, the outgoing Director (Fin) BCCL, received farewell at BCCL HQ on February 28 and paved the way for Rajshekhkar to take over as Director (Finance), BCCL.

Indian Mandarins - 03.03.2015

<http://www.indianmandarins.com/rajshekhkar->

Limited (IPL) and ICS Senegal.

Millennium Post - 04.03.2015

<http://www.millenniumpost.in/NewsContent.aspx?NID=97163>

Raikar takes over as Director (Ops), Goa Shipyard Ltd

S P Raikar has taken over as new Director (Operation), Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL). Raikar has succeeded Mr Rangila Chaudhary who retired from the post of Director (Ops) on February 28. Prior to this new responsibility Raikar had been serving with Goa Shipyard Limited in the rank of General Manager, Production.

Indian Mandarins - 03.03.2015

<http://www.indianmandarins.com/raikar-takes-over-as-director-ops-go-shipyard-ltd/>

[takes-charge-today-as-director-fin-bccl/](http://www.indianmandarins.com/takes-charge-today-as-director-fin-bccl/)

Additional charge of Jt MD (Air India) to S Venkat; Nasir Ali repatriates

S Venkat (Director, Finance) has been given the additional charge of Joint Managing Director, Air India. The post has fallen vacant after Nasir Ali (Jt MD, Air India) repatriated to his cadre after completing his extended tenure. Nasir has reported back to the Ministry of Finance and is awaiting for his next posting which is expected shortly.

Indian Mandarins - 04.03.2015

<http://www.indianmandarins.com/additional-charge-of-jt-md-air-india-to-s-venkat-nasir-ali-repatriates/>