



सत्यमेव जयते

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Newsletter

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News from India

Acquisition of foreign assets by Indian firms to get boost; EXIM Bank to give concessional loans for overseas projects

To boost India's acquisition of overseas strategic assets, the Cabinet on 17th September cleared a scheme for concessional finance for Indian companies bidding for infrastructure projects. The Cabinet cleared a scheme to enable EXIM Bank to offer concessional finance to support Indian companies bidding for strategically important infrastructure projects abroad. This will help Indian companies to bid for large projects abroad.

A Cabinet statement said the strategic importance of a project to deserve financing under this scheme will be decided on a case by case basis by a committee chaired by Department of Economic Affairs Secretary (DEA) The Deputy National Security Adviser will also be a member on the committee.

The World Bank has maintained India's growth forecast: for the year when other multilateral agencies and even the Reserve Bank of India think global situation will drag down the country's growth. In its twice-a-year South Asia Economic Focus released on Sunday, the World Bank said India will grow 7.5 per cent in the current fiscal, same as its earlier June forecast. Read more at:

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/49221312.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Govt. Allows Trading of Access Spectrum : The Government has decided to allow trading of access spectrum. Spectrum trading shall be allowed only between two access service providers, holding Cellular Mobile Telephone Service License, and all access spectrum bands earmarked for Access Services by the Licensor will be treated as tradable spectrum bands. More Details at: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx?relid=128668>

Ernst & Young survey says India most attractive country for investment:



India has been named the most attractive country for investment in a survey of more than 500 global investors published by accounting firm **EY** (Ernst & Young). 32 per cent of the 505 executives questioned said India was their favoured market for investment, with China second on 15 per cent of the vote, followed by Southeast Asia, Brazil and North America.

India trumps China, US : in wooing FDI worth \$31 billion during H1 FY16: With \$ 31 billion of foreign capital inflows, India has surpassed China and the US to take the pole position in attracting largest FDI in the first half of 2015, according to a report published in Financial Times, London, that said "India grabs investment league pole position."

The report said India has attracted \$ 31 billion of FDI in H1 2015, ahead of \$ 28 billion of China and \$ 27 billion of US. "A ranking of the top destinations for greenfield investment (measured by estimated capital expenditure) in the first half of 2015 shows India at number one, having attracted roughly \$ 3 billion more than China and \$ 4 billion more than the US," the FT report said. India is tracking well ahead of where it was at this time last year: it has more than doubled its midyear investment levels, attracting \$ 30 billion by the end of June 2015 compared with \$ 12 billion in the first half of last year. The report said that in 2014 India ranked fifth in terms of capital investment, after China, the US, the UK and Mexico.

India to be in Top-3 Pharma manufacturing countries by 2020:



As per the TechSci Research Report released here today India is expected to be in top three pharmaceutical manufacturing countries with a turnover of \$55 billion by 2020. The report was released at the Assocham and Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers conference on intellectual property rights (IPR) in pharmaceuticals in Ahmedabad.

FDI allowed via partly paid shares, warrants; prior government nod not required for raising money: The government has decided to consider foreign investments in partly paid shares and warrants eligible instruments under the foreign direct investment policy, bringing greater flexibility in their use to raise capital.

"The government has reviewed the extant FDI policy...to allow partly paid shares and warrants as eligible capital instruments for the purpose of the FDI policy," the department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) said on Tuesday in a notification amending the consolidated FDI policy circular 2015.

E-Visa facility would be extended to 37 more countries:

Currently, we have given e-Visa facility to 113 countries and the number will go upto 150 soon, Tourism Secretary Vinod Zutshi said at the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) function. Zutshi said the discussions are on with concerned ministries including external affairs and home ministry and it is expected that extension of the e-Visa facility to more countries

soon. He said involvement of all stakeholders is required for promotion of tourism in the country. A total of 22,286 tourists used e-Visa facility to visit India in August this year, compared to 2705 in August, 2014.

News in Russia

The Russian president has signed an order to the government to raise the capital of the Far East and Baikal Region Development Fund by December, 2015. The Russian president has ordered the government to consider granting a status of free port to sea ports in the Far East of the country, according to documents seen by PRIME Tuesday. In July, the president signed a law on establishment of the Vladivostok free port for 70 years with a possibility of prolongation. He also proposed to consider free port status for other ports of the Far Eastern regions.

Sovcomflot is the only privatization included in Russia's 2016 draft budget with no sale of 19.5% in oil major Rosneft or flagship carrier Aeroflot is foreseen due to the poor economic situation, Federal State Property Management Agency Director Olga Dergunova told reporters. The agency will sell Rosneft and Aeroflot when the situation improves, according to the official.

Russia's reserves of oil and gas condensate of C1 and C2 categories rose by over 430 million tonnes and gas reserves rose by over 500 billion cubic meters from January 1 to September 15, the Natural Resources and Environment Ministry said in a statement, citing preliminary data of the Federal Mineral Resources Agency. Russia's coal reserves increased by over 220 million tonnes in the period, the ministry said

The Energy Ministry is offering to fully switch to market principles of gas pricing at the Russian market after 2020, First Deputy Energy Minister Alexei Teksler said at a presentation of the draft energy strategy until 2035. Until 2020, the government will "improve the (pipeline) network gas price regulation," Teksler said. The ministry also offers liberalization of access to export supplies for

independent gas producers and development of liquefied natural gas (LNG) production at the first stage, and a competitive access to the united pipeline export channel at the second stage, he added. The Energy Ministry does not abandon an idea of granting access to the shelf to independent companies if there is a need to accelerate any of the shelf projects and to raise additional investments, Minister said.

Bilateral/ Multilateral

Visit of External Affairs Minister of India Mrs. Sushma Swaraj to Russia, 19 - 21 October 2015



External Affairs Minister of India, H.E. Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, paid an official visit to Russia from October 19-21, 2015.

Minister Swaraj held bilateral meeting with Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, and co-chaired the 21st Session of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation with H.E. Mr. Dmitry Rogozin on October 20. The meetings were held in the traditionally friendly atmosphere, which is characteristic to the special and privileged strategic partnership between our two countries. External Affairs Minister also attended BRICS Industry Ministers meeting on October 20, 2015. During the visit, Minister Swaraj met with the eminent Indologists and interacted with Indian community in Russia during a reception hosted in her honour by the Embassy of India.



EAM encouraged the Indian community to participate in flagship programmes of the government like Make in India, Digital India and Skill India initiatives and mission mode programmes such as Swachh-Bharat, SwachhVidyalaya and Namami Gange.

BRICS Ministerial Meetings: Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister for Ministry of Science & Technology & Earth Sciences represented India at a meeting of BRICS Ministers of Science, Technology and Innovation On 28 October, as part of a series of official events under Russia's presidency of the group of five countries. Shri Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State (Home) led the Indian delegation at BRICS meeting on Migration held in Sochi on 8th October 2015.



Shri Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundariya, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare visited Moscow for the 5th Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Agriculture and Agrarian Development on 9th October, 2015.

Russian sovereign wealth fund Rusnano Management Company will create a \$2-billion (Rs 13,000 crore) fund with equal contribution from Indian financial institutions to invest in joint venture companies formed between the two countries which will develop defence and aerospace equipment with high-end technology. The fund will be a subset fund of the National Infrastructure Investment Fund (NIIF) launched to invest in new infrastructure companies and stressed ones which are starved of capital. The entire plan is part of the Make In India initiative."

Read more at:

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/49405601.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

India's Foreign Investment Promotion Board cleared an application of local cellular operator Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd. (SSTL), a unit of Russian multi-industry holding Sistema, on an increase of a stake held by foreigners beyond the currently allowed 74%. Sistema owns 56.68% in SSTL, while Russia's Federal State Property Management Agency holds 17.14%. The remaining shares are split between Indian minority shareholders.

The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) may finance projects of the country's major truck maker Kamaz in India and China, RDIF's Head Kirill Dmitriyev said in a statement to media. In 2010, Kamaz launched a joint venture with Vectra Group in India, but the Indian partner withdrew from the project. The maximum capacity of the plant stands at 5,000 trucks annually.

Russian power engineering company Atomenergomash will start supplies of reactor room equipment for the second stage of India's Kudankulam nuclear power plant in 2016. In 2014, both countries signed a framework agreement on construction of the third and fourth units at the plant, to be launched by March 2021. "Atomenergomash has signed a contract for a package supply of reactor room equipment for a third and fourth power units of the Kudankulam station. The products will be made and delivered to the station in 2016–2018," Atomenergomash said. Rosatom's unit Atomstroyexport is building the Kudankulam

plant in India's southern state of Tamil Nadu under a contract signed in 1988. The plant's first unit was launched in July 2013.

Russian state-owned oil major Rosneft has signed an agreement to sell 15% in Vankorneft, the operator of the Vankor hydrocarbon field's development, to India's ONGC. The agreement will improve the two companies' strategic cooperation and possibly boost partnership under other large-scale projects, Rosneft quoted its CEO Igor Sechin commented.

Russian hydropower giant RusHydro plans to increase its presence in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan, CEO of the company's unit RusHydro International B.V. Roman Zorabyants in an interview to a corporate newspaper. RusHydro International is a general contractor for the second stage of the Upper Siang hydropower plant with an installed capacity of 3750 megawatts. "India is of strategic importance for RusHydro. It has a huge hydro potential, which is actively developed. We hope to increase our presence in the region, not only in India, but in Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan," he said

➤ Visits/Events

At the invitation of the Governor of Kaliningrad region, H E Mr P S Raghavan, Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation paid an official visit to the Kaliningrad region from 21 to 22 September 2015. Ambassador visited the Kaliningrad Chamber of Commerce & Industry and met with its President, Mr Alexander Zinovyev, and other members of the Chamber along with prominent industrialists and businesspersons from the region. Both sides appreciated the opportunities available for mutual cooperation in the field of agriculture, logistics, shipbuilding, diamond processing, and engineering sectors. Ambassador visited the Yantar Shipyard which has a long history of cooperation with India in the field of shipbuilding. Recalling the excellent cooperation between Yantar Shipyard and Indian Navy, Ambassador reiterated that both sides should work together on new projects in the shipbuilding sector in the future. The Indian delegation then visited Kaliningradgazautomatika, one of the leading

manufacturers of forging material and oil & gas equipment in Kaliningrad region, to explore the possibility of cooperation with Indian companies.

A 15 member strong delegation comprising officers from Tea Board of India (TBI) and member companies of Indian Tea association (ITA) visited Moscow and participated in the World Food Moscow, one of the biggest exhibitions related to food products held in the Russian Federation. A total of 29 companies from Food & processed food sector were present at the exhibition apart from two stalls set up by Tea Board of India and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), representing Government of India. It was the 'tea delegation's' second visit this year after a trip in February coinciding with "Prodexpo-2015."

Seventeen Indian travel companies participated in the OTDYKH (Leisure) International Trade Fair of Tourism and Travel at CROCUS EXPO Exhibition Centre in Moscow from 15-18 September 2015. India Tourism (Incredible India) as well as Goa, Kerala and Uttarakhand Tourism Departments exhibited at the Exhibition. Prominent Indian companies in travelling field like Air India, Citrus Hotels, Tamarind Tours, Ancient India Travel, Orange BMC, Somatheeram, Minar Travel, Capar Travel, Leela Goa Hotel, Indian Holidays and Sita India were also represented at the Fair.

Exhibitions/Fairs in India

International fair of the pharmaceutical industry : The CPhI India will take place on 3 days from Tuesday, 01. December to Thursday, 03. December 2015 in Mumbai.
www.cphi-india.com

Fair location: Bombay Convention & Exhibition Centre BCEC, Western Express Highway 400063 Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

India International Trade Fair, New Delhi :

Date: 14-11-2015 To 27-11-2015
Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

New Delhi World Book Fair, Delhi

Date: 09-01-2016 To 17-01-2016
Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Global Exhibition on Services

Date: 24-02-2016 To 26-02-2016
Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Aahar-The International Food & Hospitality Fair, New Delhi

Date: 15-03-2016 To 19-03-2016
Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Exhibitions/Fairs in Russia

Moscow International Tool Exhibition - MITEX 2015:

Dates: November 10–13, 2015: 10.00–18.00

Venue: Expocentre Fairgrounds, Pav.#2

PharmTech

Int'l Trade Fair of Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Manufacturing

November 24-27, 2015, Moscow, Russia
Crocus Expo

www.pharmtech-expo.ru

Woodex

Int'l Exhibition of Machinery, Equipment and Materials for Timber, Wood-working and Pulp and Paper Industries

November 24-27, 2015, Moscow, Russia
Crocus Expo

www.woodexpo.ru