

(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 uploaded on intranet and website every Monday.)

Balmer Lawrie in News

BALMER LAWRIE INAUGURATES A NON-PROFIT CARDIAC AMBULANCE AT SILVASSA



Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd, the highly diversified PSE under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG), GOI as a part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has sponsored and implemented the services of a non-profit Cardiac Ambulance at Silvassa in association with DNH Medico Association, a registered

body of medical professionals of Dadra Nagar & Haveli. Chief Guest Sandeep Kumar Singh, District Collector, Silvassa and Guest of Honour, A Ratna Sekhar, Director [HR & CA], Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd flagged off the Cardiac Ambulance on December 13 at Silvassa during the inauguration function.

Mint –
15.12.2020

जनसेवा में भागीदारी निभाते हुए... बालमन लॉरी एण्ड कंपनी लिमिटेड मेडिको एसोसिएशन को प्रदान करेगा कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस के लिए अब दानह के लोगों को वापी पर नहीं रहना पड़ेगा निर्भर

सिलवासा। संघ प्रदेश दादरा नगर हवेली मेडिको एसोसिएशन दानह के जरूरतमंद मरीजों के लिए नई सौगात लेकर आया है। जी हां, दानह मेडिको एसोसिएशन ने जरूरतमंद मरीजों के लिए कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस उपलब्ध कराई

है। कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस सेवा शुरू करने के लिए बालमन लॉरी एण्ड कंपनी लिमिटेड ने जनसेवा में अपना दायित्व निभाते हुए सारा खर्च उठाया है। जिससे यह सुविधा दानहवासियों को उपलब्ध हो सके।

30 प्रतिशत की कीमत पर

यह कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस मरीजों को उपलब्ध हो जायेगी। हाल में कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस वापी से मांगायी जाती थी। परंतु अब दानहवासियों को जिससे काफी राहत मिलेगी उन्हें वापी पर निर्भर नहीं रहना पड़ेगा। 13 दिसंबर को बालमन लॉरी एण्ड

कंपनी लिमिटेड कार्डियाक एम्बुलेंस डीएनएच मेडिको एसोसिएशन को जनसेवा के लिए लोकार्पित करेगी। डीएनएच मेडिको एसोसिएशन ने यह स्पष्ट किया जो आर्थिक रूप से सक्षम नहीं है उन्हें यह सुविधा मुफ्त में उपलब्ध करवाई जायेगी।

UT Today –
12.12.2020

બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ કમ્પની લિ. કે સહયોગ સે દાનહ મેડિકો એસોસિએશન જરૂરતમંદ મરીજોં કો ઉપલબ્ધ કરાયેગી કાર્ડિયક એમ્બુલેન્સ

અસલી આજાદી ન્યૂઝ નેટવર્ક,
સિલવાસા 11 ડિસેમ્બર.

બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ કમ્પની લિમિટેડ
કે સહયોગ સે દાદરા નગર હવેલી
મેડિકો એસોસિએશન દાનહ કે
જરૂરતમંદ મરીજોં કે લિફ
કાર્ડિયક એમ્બુલેન્સ ઉપલબ્ધ
કરાને જા રહી હૈ. ઇસ કાર્ડિયક
એમ્બુલેન્સ કો સેવા શુરુ કરને હેતુ
બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ કમ્પની લિમિટેડ
દ્વારા જન સેવા હેતુ સારા સ્થાન
ઉઠાયા ગયા હૈ, નિસસે કો યહ
સુવિધા દાનહ મેં ઉપલબ્ધ હો
સકે. ઇસ ભાગીરથી પ્રયાસ કો

બડી વાત યહ હૈ કિ યહ સુવિધા
તૈસ પ્રતિશત કમ કીમત પર
ઉપલબ્ધ કરવાયી જાણી. અવ
તક દાનહ કે જરૂરતમંદ મરીજ
ઇસ પ્રકાર કી સુવિધા વાલી
એમ્બુલેન્સ કે લિફ વાપી પર નિર્ભર
કરતે હૈ. લેકિન 13 ડિસેમ્બર કો
બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ કમ્પની લિમિટેડ
યહ કાર્ડિયક એમ્બુલેન્સ ડીએનએચ
મેડિકો એસોસિએશન કો જનસેવા
હેતુ પ્રદાન કરેગી. ડીએનએચ
મેડિકો એસોસિએશન ને યહ બી
સ્પષ્ટ કિયા કિ જો લોગ આર્થિક
રૂપ સે સક્ષમ નહીં હૈં યહ



You are cordially invited to the inauguration of
Cardiac (Advanced Life Support) Ambulance
on 13th December 2020 at 10 am
at Grasses & Lubricants Plant, Silvassa
Chief Guest - District Collector, Silvassa
Guest of Honour - Director (HR&CA), Balmer-Laurie
will flag off the Ambulance

સુવિધા મુફત મેં ઉપલબ્ધ કરવાયી ઉપસ્થિતિ મેં કિયા જાણા. ઇસ
જાણી. ઇસ સુવિધા કા શુભારંભ અવસર પર બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ
કા 13 ડિસેમ્બર કો સુબહ 10 કમ્પની લિ. પ્રવંધન ઓર દાનહ
બને દાદરા નગર હવેલી કે મેડિકો એસોસિએશન જરૂરતમંદ કે
કલેક્ટર સંદીપ કુમાર સિંહ કો પદધિકારી ઉપસ્થિત રહેંગે.

દાનહ મેડિકો એસોસિએશન દ્વારા પ્રદેશની જનતા માટે કાર્ડિયાક એમ્બુલન્સ સેવા શરૂ કરાશે



સોમવારે રોજ દાનહ કલેક્ટર સંદીપ કુમાર સિંઘ કાર્ડિયાક
એમ્બુલન્સને લીલી ઝંડી બતાવી પ્રસ્થાન કરાવશે

(વર્તમાન પ્રવાહ ન્યૂઝ નેટવર્ક)

સેલવાસ, તા.૧૧: દાદરા નગર હવેલી
મેડિકો એસોસિએશન દ્વારા પ્રદેશના
જરૂરિયાતમંદ દર્દીઓ માટે કાર્ડિયાક એમ્બુલન્સ

ઉપલબ્ધ કરાવવામા આવી રહી છે. આ કાર્ડિયાક
એમ્બુલન્સની સેવા શરૂ કરવા માટે બાલમન
લોરી કંપની લીમિટેડ દ્વારા જનસેવા હેતુ બધો
અર્થ ઉઠાવી રહી છે. -વધુ પેજ ૭ પર

(પહેલા પાનાનું ચાલુ)
દાનહ મેડિકો
એસોસિએશન...

જેનાથી આ સુવિધા દાનહમાં
ઉપલબ્ધ થઈ શકે. આ ભગીરથ
પ્રયાસની મોટી વાત એ છે કે,
આ સુવિધા ત્રીસ ટકા ઓછી
કિંમતમા ઉપલબ્ધ કરાશે.

અત્યાર સુધી પ્રદેશના
જરૂરિયાતમંદ દર્દીઓએ આ
પ્રકારની સુવિધાવાળી એમ્બુલન્સ
માટે વાપી પર નિર્ભર રહેવું પડતું
હતું. પરંતુ આગામી ૧૩
ડિસેમ્બરના રોજ બાલમન લોરી
એન્ડ કંપની લિમિટેડ આ કાર્ડિયાક
એમ્બુલન્સ ડીએનએચ મેડિકો
એસોસિએશનને જનસેવા હેતુ

પ્રદાન કરશે.

એસોસિએશનને પણ નક્કી
કર્યું છે કે, જે લોકો આર્થિક રીતે
સક્ષમ નહીં હોય તેઓને આ
સુવિધા મફતમાં ઉપલબ્ધ કરવામા
આવશે. આ કાર્ડિયાક
એમ્બુલન્સને ૧૩મી ડિસેમ્બરને
સોમવારના રોજ કલેક્ટર શ્રી
સંદીપકુમાર સિંઘના હસ્તે લીલી
ઝંડી બતાવી ઉદ્ઘાટન કરવામા
આવશે.

CHANGE

Old Name : BAMANIYA
New Name : RAMJI CAR
Add.: HOUSE NO. 1014
VANAKBARA, DIU- 3625

Vartaman Pravah

– 12.12.2020

બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ કંપની ને સિલવાસા મેં નૉન- પ્રૉફિટ કાર્ડિયક એમ્બુલેન્સ કી દી સૌગત

■ બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ કંપની કે ઇચઆર એવં સીએ. રત્ન શેખર ઓર દાદરા નગર હવેલી જિલ્લા
કલેક્ટર સંદીપ કુમાર સિંહ ને કાર્ડિયક એમ્બુલેન્સ કો હરી ઝંડી દિશાકર કિયા રવાના



અસલી આજાદી ન્યૂઝ નેટવર્ક,
સિલવાસા 13 ડિસેમ્બર। બામર લૉરી
ઇન્ડ કંપની ને સિલવાસા કે
જરૂરતમંદ લોગોં કે લિફ નૉન
પ્રૉફિટ કાર્ડિયક એમ્બુલેન્સ કો
સૌગત પ્રદાન કી. આજ બામર લૉરી
કે અલ્વહ ડૉ. લક્ષ્મણ સેઠિય,
સેક્રેટરી ડૉ. સુનીલ દત્ત પી. યાદ,
ટ્રેનર ડૉ. સુપરસિંઘ સેલંકી,
આઈટ ટ્રેનર પ્રસાંત રામ, યાવો
પટ્ટની સંક્રિત કંપની સ્ટાફ કો
ઉપસ્થિત રહી. બામર લૉરી ઇન્ડ
કંપની લિમિટેડ, ભારત સરકાર કી
પેટ્રોલિયમ એવં પ્રાકૃતિક ગેસ
મંત્રાલય (એમએપીએનવી) કે
અરીન અલ્પાલિક વિધિય
સાર્વજનિક ઉદ્યમ હૈ, (સમાચાર કા
સેપ પેજ 3 પર)

દાનહ મેડિકો એસોસિએશન દ્વારા પ્રદેશની જનતા માટે કારિયાક એમ્બ્યુલન્સની સેવા શરૂ કરાઈ

Vartaman Pravah – 14.12.2020



દાનહ કલેક્ટર સંદિપ કુમાર સિંઘ અને બાલમન લોરી એન્ડ કંપની નિર્દેશક રત્ન શેખરના હસ્તે લીલી ઝંડી બતાવી ઉદ્ઘાટન કરાયું

(વર્તમાન પ્રવાહ ન્યુઝ નેટવર્ક) કારિયાક એમ્બ્યુલન્સની સેવા શરૂ કરવા માટે બાલમન લોરી કંપની લીમિટેડ દ્વારા જનસેવા હેતુ બધે ખર્ચ ઉઠાવી રહી છે. જેનાથી આ સુવિધા દાનહમાં ઉપલબ્ધ થઈ શકે. આ ભગીરથ પ્રયાસની મોટી વાત એ છે કે, આ સુવિધા ગ્રીસ ટકા ઓછી કિંમતમાં ઉપલબ્ધ કરાશે. અત્યાર સુધી પ્રદેશના જરૂરિયાતમંદ દર્દીઓએ આ પ્રકારની સુવિધાવાળી એમ્બ્યુલન્સ માટે વાપી પર નિર્ભર રહેવું પડતું હતું. બાલમન લોરી એન્ડ કંપની લિમિટેડ આ કારિયાક એમ્બ્યુલન્સ ષીએનએચ મેડિકો એસોસિએશનને જનસેવા હેતુ પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવી હતી. એસોસિએશને એ પણ નક્કી કર્યું છે કે, જે લોકો આર્થિક રીતે સશક્ત નથી હોય તેઓને આ -દાનુ પેજ ૭ પર

(છેલ્લા પાનાનું ચાલુ) દાનહ મેડિકો એસોસિએશન...

સુવિધા મફતમાં ઉપલબ્ધ કરવામાં આવશે.

આ કારિયાક એમ્બ્યુલન્સને દાનહ કલેક્ટર શ્રી સંદીપ કુમાર સિંઘ અને કંપનીના નિર્દેશક શ્રી રત્ન શેખરના હસ્તે લીલી ઝંડી બતાવી ઉદ્ઘાટન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.

આ કારિયાક એમ્બ્યુલન્સમાં ઈસીજી, બ્લડ પ્રેશર મશીન, ઓક્સીજનની સુવિધા, વેન્ટીલેટર, ડિફીબ્રિલેટર, મલ્ટી પેરા મોનીટર, મહત્વપૂર્ણ સંકેતો, સેક્શન મશીન, હાઈડ્રોલિક સ્ટ્રેચર, બાર લેમ્પ, આવશ્યક ફર્નિચર અને વોશબેસિનથી સુસજ્જિત છે. જેનાથી દર્દીઓની સ્થિતિને સમજી શકાય અને તેનો ઈલાજ કરી શકાય.

આ એમ્બ્યુલન્સ પ્રદેશના લોકો માટે અને કંપનીના કર્મચારીઓ માટે 'નો પ્રોફિટ, નો લોસ'ના આધાર પર ઉપલબ્ધ કરાવવામાં આવશે. પ્રદેશના લોકોને સારી ચિકિત્સા સુવિધા ઉપલબ્ધ કરાવવા માટે કારિયાક એમ્બ્યુલન્સનું કિયાન્વયન કંપની દ્વારા એક મહત્વપૂર્ણ પગલું હોવાનું જણાઈ રહ્યું છે.

Business activity hits another post-lockdown high: Nomura

Business activity in India surged to another post-lockdown high, with the Nomura India Business Resumption Index (NIBRI) hitting 92.9 for the week ended December 13. The weekly tracker gained strongly from 89.6 recorded in the previous week, Nomura said in a note on Monday. "The NIBRI has been racing ahead in recent months, with a 4.4 pp (percentage point) jump in November and December tracking at ~4.6 pp higher than November levels," Nomura economists Sonal Varma and Aurodeep Nandi said in the note. Mobility remained strong as evidenced by Google's workplace and retail and recreation mobility indices, along with Apple's driving index, the note said. India's labour participation rate remained stable at 41.8% compared with 41.9% a week earlier, while power demand rose 1.9% following a 0.4% decline in the preceding week, it said. Nomura expects the benefits of post-lockdown normalisation and festive pent-up demand, what it earlier termed as 'residual' festive mobility and demand, to continue.

The Economic Times - 15.12.2020

<https://epaper.timesgroup.com/Olive/ODN/TheEconomicTimes/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=ETKM%2F2020%2F12%2F15&entity=Ar01311&sk=2926B5E0&mode=text>

SBI research rejigs FY21 contraction forecast

State Bank of India (SBI) Research has tempered its projection of India's FY21 growth contraction to

Crisil projects slower FY21 GDP contraction at 7.7%

Rating agency Crisil has projected a slower contraction of 7.7% for the Indian economy in the ongoing fiscal, compared to 9% forecast in September on the back of "faster-than-expected" recovery in the second quarter, but called for more fiscal measures to sustain it. The agency expects the growth to bounce back to 10% in FY22 led by a very weak base and global rising tide effect, but added that the permanent loss to the economy would be 12% in real GDP terms. "Our forecast for fiscal 2021 thus remains predicated on the pandemic's trajectory and, importantly, what the government does to stimulate a well-rounded recovery in the coming months," Crisil said in a report released on Monday. The second quarter print of -7.5% prompted a recalibration of the S&P Group firm's previous estimate. "Pent up demand, support from agriculture and select export sectors, and cost savings for corporates engineered this recovery," the report said. Crisil emphasised that the direct fiscal spending component of the government's existing stimulus package was inadequate to galvanise demand and it expected further support soon.

The Economic Times - 15.12.2020

<https://epaper.timesgroup.com/Olive/ODN/TheEconomicTimes/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=ETKM%2F2020%2F12%2F15&entity=Ar01302&sk=D687F172&mode=text>

S&P Raises India GDP Forecast To 7.7% Contraction In FY21

S&P Global Ratings on Tuesday raised India's growth projection for the current financial year

7.4% from -10.9% earlier on the back of acceleration seen in many high-frequency indicators. Over half or about 58% of 41 indicators in its nowcasting model, such as revenue earning of freight traffic, weekly food arrival and petrol and diesel consumption showed acceleration in the third quarter, the report released on Wednesday said. The state-run lender's research wing also lowered its estimate of this year's fiscal deficit to 8% of gross domestic product (GDP) from 10.3% before, to reflect the compression in government expenditure in the current and previous quarter, according to the report. While the model estimates marginal positive growth in the ongoing quarter at 0.1%, FY22 would see 11% growth, primarily due to the base effect, it said. The revision aligned its forecast with that of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the market's revised projection post-Q2, but the report noted that its projections were predicated on the absence of another wave of infections. The RBI raised its forecast for FY21 growth to -7.5% from -9.5% earlier while global rating agency S&P revised its expectations of India's FY21 GDP contraction to -7.7% from -9% before.

The Economic Times - 17.12.2020

<https://epaper.timesgroup.com/Olive/ODN/TheEconomicTimes/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=ETKM%2F2020%2F12%2F17&entity=Ar00815&sk=2BD5BBF1&mode=text>

Indian economy should be back on track, hoping for robust growth in 2021: DEA Secretary

Economic Affairs Secretary Tarun Bajaj on Friday assured investors that the pace of reforms would continue in the coming months, including in the upcoming Budget. Talking about the state of the economy, he said the central bank has indicated a slight positive growth both in the third and fourth quarters of the current financial year. The Indian economy had contracted by an unprecedented 23.9 per cent during the first quarter of this fiscal due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. However, the pace of contraction narrowed in the second quarter to 7.5 per cent. On revenue mobilisation, Bajaj said, "the advance taxes numbers have also been better than what we had anticipated, and now the shortfall of total revenue that we have has actually come down as compared to the second quarter...or as compared to September 15 when the second advance taxes had come." Agriculture has done better-than-anticipated and has been the real green shoot, he pointed out. "All in all, we are hoping that the economy should be back on track and we are hoping for a good robust growth in the next year obviously because of the low base effect also," he added.

to -7.7% from -9% estimated earlier on rising demand and falling Covid-19 rates. For the next financial year 2021-22, S&P projected growth to rebound to 10%. Its revision in growth forecast for the current fiscal reflects a faster-than-expected recovery in the September quarter. "Rising demand and falling infection rates have tempered our expectation of Covid-19's hit on the Indian economy. S&P Global Ratings has revised real GDP growth to negative 7.7% for the year ending March 2021, from negative 9% previously," S&P said in a statement. A faster recovery keeps more of the economy's supply side intact and can set India up for more prolonged above-average growth during the recovery phase, it added. India's gross domestic product fell 7.5% in the July-September quarter, against a contraction of 23.9% in the April-June quarter. Earlier this month, Fitch Ratings also revised its growth forecast for India to -9.4%, from -10.5%, on signs of economic revival, while the Asian Development Bank said the economy is likely to contract 8% as against the earlier forecast of 9% contraction, on faster recovery.

Bloomberg Quint - 16.12.2020

<https://www.bloomberquint.com/business/s-p-betters-india-growth-forecast-to-7-7-this-fiscal>

CPI at 3-month low, WPI at 9-month high

Retail inflation dropped to a three-month low at 6.93% in November but stayed above the central bank's upper margin of 6% yet again, ruling out any immediate easing in rates. Food inflation cooled last month, driven by a fall in vegetable inflation. Separately released data on Monday showed India's wholesale inflation firming to a 9-month high of 1.55% driven by manufactured items while that in vegetables declined. Retail inflation, based on the consumer price index (CPI), was a six year high of 7.61% in October. Inflation in food and beverages dropped to 8.76% in November from 10.16% in the previous month, data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation showed. Vegetable inflation fell to 15.63% in November compared to 22.5% in October as prices of onions, potato and tomato shot up. "The headline CPI inflation for November printed appreciably lower than our expectations, benefiting from stable vegetable prices at the retail level. While this provides welcome relief, it is unlikely to prove adequate for any imminent rate easing," said Aditi Nayar, principal economist at ICRA. However, core inflation rose further to the highest in nearly two

The Economic Times - 20.12.2020
<https://auto.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/industry/indian-economy-should-be-back-on-track-hoping-for-robust-growth-in-2021-dea-secretary/79820499>

India's exports dip 8.74% in Nov; trade deficit narrows to \$9.87 bn

India's outbound shipments contracted for the second consecutive month in November after recording positive growth just for a month in September, as the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic hit consumer demand in India's largest markets in Europe. Exports fell 8.7% while imports contracted 13.3%, resulting in a 10 month high trade deficit of \$9.9 billion, according to revised trade data released by the commerce ministry. China's exports, in contrast rose 21.1% in November, the fastest growth since February 2018, while imports grew 4.5%, leading to a record trade surplus of \$75.4 billion. Major Indian export items that dragged down growth include petroleum products (-59.7%), engineering goods (-8.1%), chemicals (-8.1%), readymade garments (-1.2%) while pharmaceuticals (11.1%), gems & jewellery (4.1%), electronic goods (1%) registered positive growth. Items that drove imports and trade deficit include non-ferrous metals (9.1%), chemical products (36.1%), electronic goods (12.3%), fertilizers (29.3%) and gold (2.7%).

Mint - 16.12.2020
<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/india-s-exports-dip-8-74-in-nov-trade-deficit-narrows-to-9-87-bn-11608038748879.html>

EPFO net new enrolments rises 56% to 11.55 lakh in October

Net new enrolments with retirement fund body EPFO rose by 56 per cent to 11.55 lakh in October compared to 7.39 lakh in the same month last year, according to its latest payroll data, providing a perspective on formal sector employment amid the coronavirus pandemic. The net payroll additions, however, have registered a slight dip in October compared to 14.19 lakh in September this year, according to a statement by the Labour Ministry. Provisional payroll data released by the EPFO last month had shown that net new enrolments stood at 14.9 lakh in September this year. Latest data released on Sunday showed that net new enrolments in April were in the negative zone at (-) 1,79,685 against the figure of (-) 1,49,248 released in November. This means that the number of members who exited the EPFO

years at 5.51% in November compared to 5.46% in October.

The Economic Times - 15.12.2020
<https://epaper.timesgroup.com/Olive/ODN/Th eEconomicTimes/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc =ETKM%2F2020%2F12%2F15&entity=Ar01309&sk=4F9DE580&mode=text>

Govt to push investment, strategic sale

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Thursday that the government had taken several measures to support the economy, and will continue with public investment, while pressing ahead with strategic sale of state-run companies. Several economists have suggested that the government needs to support economic revival for which Sitharaman had said that stimulus of close to Rs 30 lakh crore had been provided by the Centre and the RBI. Addressing the annual general meeting of the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the finance minister also said that no amount of intervention will be adequate to deal with the crisis triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic. While pointing to clear signs of economic revival, the FM said there was interest from global investors, given that India had strong fundamentals, along with a stable government and the ability to push through reforms. She said the reforms have helped generate significant interest from overseas investors. "A lot of sovereign funds and pension funds are keen to come to India.

The Times of India - 18.12.2020
<https://epaper.timesgroup.com/Olive/ODN/Ti mesOfIndia/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=TOI KM%2F2020%2F12%2F18&entity=Ar01502&sk=4FB23C87&mode=text>

World faces long-term oil supply gap despite COVID demand destruction

Inadequate investment in exploration and new drilling may leave the world without enough oil in 20 to 30 years despite a shift towards renewable power sources, top energy analysts say. The long-term outlook contrasts with today's situation where plunging oil demand due to the coronavirus crisis has left the market oversupplied, prompting the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, Russia and their allies, a group known as OPEC+, to curb output. Weak demand has piled pressure on producers and energy majors as they seek to pivot to low-carbon energy. It has sapped them of funds to invest in new oil assets so they can meet an expected rise in crude demand as the global economy recovers. The Paris-based International Energy Agency said it was not

subscription was more than those who joined or rejoined the scheme. Earlier in July, provisional data had shown net new enrolments for the month of April stood at 1 lakh, which was revised down to 20,164 in August and further lowered to (-) 61,807 in September and (-) 1,04,608 in October.

Moneycontrol - 20.12.2020

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/economy/epfo-net-new-enrolments-rises-56-to-11-55-lakh-in-october-6250421.html>

India's petrol sales up 10 per cent in December so far, diesel lags

India's petrol consumption spiked 9.5% in the first fortnight of December from a year ago but diesel demand still ran 5% short of the pre-pandemic days, indicating the economy is yet to come out of the woods. Data shows diesel sales of public sector retailers, who command about 90% of the market, rose 1.6% in the first fortnight of December from the same period of November. Diesel consumption, one of the barometers of economic activity, had fallen 7% from the year-ago period in November after shooting past the pre-pandemic level for the first time in eight months in October, clocking a 6% year-on-year growth. In contrast, petrol demand jumped more than 9.5% over the year-ago period on the back of a 4% increase in passenger car sales in November.

The Economic Times - 17.12.2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/indias-petrol-sales-up-10-per-cent-in-december-so-far-diesel-lags/79771232>

India plans USD 60-bn investment in gas infrastructure: Pradhan

Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday said the government has planned a USD 60-billion investment for creating gas infrastructure in the country till 2024, and gas' share in the energy mix is expected to rise to 15 per cent by 2030. Currently, gas accounts for 6 per cent in the country's total energy mix. Speaking at ASSOCHAM Foundation Day Week 2020, the minister said, "On the investments front, we have envisaged a spend of USD 60 billion in creating gas infrastructure till 2024, including for pipelines, LNG terminals and CGD (city gas distribution) networks." He further told, "We are ushering a gas-based economy by increasing the share of natural gas in India's primary energy mix from 6.2 per cent to 15 per cent by year 2030." India's first automated national-level gas trading platform was launched in June this year to

clear if adequate investment in oil supplies "will come in time and, if it does come, where it will come from." Sufficient long-term oil supplies "should not be taken for granted," it wrote in its annual outlook.

The Economic Times - 17.12.2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/world-faces-long-term-oil-supply-gap-despite-covid-demand-destruction/79758166>

Covid-19 sparks gas boom in India with oil refiners at full tilt

India hasn't put the pandemic behind it, but its oil refineries have. Three state-run processors including Indian Oil Corp., the nation's top refiner, are currently operating at close to 100% capacity or higher, according to people with knowledge of the matter. Behind the recovery is strong demand for gasoline and liquefied petroleum gas as many opt to drive their own cars over taking public transport and cook at home to avoid restaurants. The situation in the world's No. 2 oil market follows a full rebound in top consumer China, and underscores how Asian markets are leading crude's rally even as vaccines offer hope for a wider revival. The uneven nature of India's recovery shares similarities with its neighbour's revival -- gasoline use in both nations spiked when people returned to work -- while demand for diesel in the still-flagging South Asian economy lagged that of China.

Mint - 17.12.2020

<https://www.livemint.com/industry/energy/covid-19-sparks-gas-boom-in-india-with-oil-refiners-at-full-tilt-11608162916212.html>

Govt vows to end 'energy poverty': Oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan

India, one of the world's top energy consumers, is preparing a road map to achieve Aatmanirbhar Urja or self-reliance in energy, petroleum and natural gas minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Thursday. India, one of the world's top energy consumers, is preparing a road map to achieve Aatmanirbhar Urja or self-reliance in energy, petroleum and natural gas minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Thursday. India—the world's third-largest crude oil importer and the fourth-largest importer of liquefied natural gas (LNG)—has set a target of reducing its oil dependence by 10 percentage points to 67% (based on import dependence of 77% in 2014-15) by 2022. Pradhan said India now consumes just 6% of the world's primary energy. "Our per capita consumption of energy is about 40% of the

promote and sustain an efficient and robust gas market and foster gas trading in the country. Coverage of CGD projects are being expanded to 232 geographical areas spread over 400 districts, with potential to cover about 53 per cent of the country's geography and 70 per cent of population, he added.

The Economic Times - 17.12.2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/india-plans-usd-60-bn-investment-in-gas-infrastructure-pradhan/79777449>

ONGC begins production in Bengal basin, making it India's eighth functional

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited has begun crude oil production from the Asokenagar-1 well, Bengal Basin in 24 Paragana district. This has made the Bengal basin India's eighth producing basin, joining the ranks of Krishna-Godavari (KG), Mumbai Offshore, Assam Shelf, Rajasthan, Cauvery, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt and Cambay. A company statement said, "The Asokenagar-1 well was completed as an oil producer under Early-Monetization Plan issued by the Government of India. This makes ONGC having discovered and put to production seven out of the eight producing basins of India covering 83 percent of established oil and gas reserves." According to the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, there are 26 sedimentary basins in India, covering a total area of 3.4 million square kilometer. Of these, 16 are onland basins, 7 located both onland and offshore and 3 completely offshore. ONGC said that it has sent its first hydrocarbon consignment produced during well testing to Indian Oil Corporation Limited's Haldia Oil Refinery on November 5, 2020. This producing basin was dedicated to the nation by Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan on Sunday.

Business Standard - 21.12.2020

https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/ongc-begins-production-in-bengal-basin-making-it-india-s-eighth-functional-120122000495_1.html

BPCL to consider buying Oman Oil stake in Bina refinery

Privatisation-bound Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has said its board will on Thursday consider buying out Oman Oil Company in the Bina refinery project in Madhya Pradesh. BPCL board will also consider merging Bharat Gas Resources Ltd (BGRL) with itself, the company said in a filing to the stock exchanges on Tuesday. BPCL holds 63.68 per cent stake in Bharat Oman Refineries Ltd (BORL), which built and operates a 7.8 million

global average. This, however, is rapidly changing," he said. Every dollar per barrel increase in crude prices inflates India's oil import bill by ₹10,700 crore on an annualized basis. This can sharply impact the government's finances and its efforts to control inflation and revive economic growth.

Mint - 18.12.2020

<https://www.livemint.com/industry/energy/india-developing-roadmap-for-self-reliance-in-energy-oil-minister-pradhan-11608196885821.html>

Entry of big pvt equity players set to heat up BPCL takeover

Covid inflicted doubts over the sell-off process for BPCL has now given way to the prospect of heated competition among all interested parties driving up valuation for the state-run refiner. According to analysts, the entry of marquee private equity players Apollo and I Squared, having experience in the energy sector, in the BPCL disinvestment process has given new dimension to the whole exercise. Apollo is a major player with a \$77 billion private equity portfolio, and an energy-savvy investor. Among its most notable investments, Apollo acquired LyondellBasell (RIL was also interested) under bankruptcy in CY09, which yielded 6X returns when they exited in CY14 for \$12 billion. I Squared, though smaller with \$13 billion asset under management (AUM), is also a focused player in energy and utilities, and has generated 30-40 per cent CAGR returns in certain investments in the sector. These two are expected to heat up competition along with Vedanta which has also put its hat in BPCL disinvestment and plans to aggressively to take control of the prized fuel refiner.

The Economic Times - 18.12.2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/entry-of-big-pvt-equity-players-set-to-heat-up-bpcl-takeover/79789356>

Indian companies' oil & gas output from overseas fields drops 11%

Output of Indian companies from overseas oil and gas fields has fallen 11 per cent so far this year on the natural decline in fields, production cuts by Russia and the UAE to meet OPEC plus supply reduction commitments, and pandemic-induced capex delays. The output declined to 12.8 million metric tonnes of oil equivalent (mmtoe) during April-October this year from 14.4 mmtoe in the same period last year.

tonne oil refinery at Bina in Madhya Pradesh. The company board will on December 17 "consider a proposal for according 'in-principle' approval" for "acquisition of 36.62 per cent of equity shares in BORL from OQ S.A.O.C. (formerly known as Oman Oil Company S.A.O.C.)," it said. This would amount to the acquisition of 88.8 crore equity shares from OQ. The board would also consider a proposal to approach the Madhya Pradesh government for acquiring 2.69 crore warrants held by it in BORL. The meeting would also consider "merger of Bharat Gas Resources Ltd (a wholly-owned subsidiary of BPCL) with BPCL," the filing said. BPCL incorporated BGRL for handling the natural gas business in June 2018.

The Economic Times - 15.12.2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/bpcl-to-consider-buying-oman-oil-stake-in-bina-refinery/79741049>

Anil Agarwal eyeing Indian disinvestment program with a \$10 bn war chest

Commodities tycoon Anil Agarwal is planning to invest \$10 billion through a new partnership targeting government privatisations in India. The billionaire is teaming up with London-based Centricus Asset Management Ltd. to seek investments in Indian companies offering substantial growth opportunities, according to a statement Thursday. They will look to turn around companies being sold off as part of the country's Rs 2.1 trillion (\$29 billion) divestment program. Agarwal made a fortune buying state companies and fixing them up, building a metals and mining powerhouse under the umbrella of Vedanta Resources Ltd. He's now seeking to repeat that success, betting he can spot gems among the dozens of companies being put on the block by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration. The entrepreneurial dynamism in India "can be harnessed to unlock incredible transformation in the public sector," Agarwal said in the statement. "We believe that this strategy can, and will, play a crucial role in the country's ongoing industrialization."

Business Standard - 18.12.2020

https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/vedanta-s-anil-agarwal-looks-to-invest-10-bn-via-govt-privatisation-deals-120121700390_1.html

Air travel picks up in November

Domestic air passenger travel is showing signs of picking up with the passing of each month. On a month-on-month basis, it showed an improvement with 39.43 lakh and 52.71 lakh people opting for air travel in the country in

India's domestic production of oil and gas has also fallen 9 per cent in the same period. "Principally, some major international projects of ONGC Videsh have been impacted by host governments being members of OPEC+ group of countries and complying to agreed-upon production cuts. Due to this factor, production has been affected at Vankor in Russia, Lower Zakum in UAE, ACG Azerbaijan and GPOC project in South Sudan," ONGC Videsh, the overseas arm of state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corp, said in an emailed response to ET's query.

The Economic Times - 18.12.2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/indian-companies-oil-gas-output-from-overseas-fields-drops-11/79789042>

RIL, BP start production at Asia's deepest gas field

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) and BP Plc on Friday said production has started from the R-Cluster, an ultra-deep-water gas field in the KG D6 block, off the east coast of India. Billed as Asia's deepest offshore gas field with water depth of more than 2,000 metres, the field was initially expected to start production in June but the covid-19 pandemic delayed those plans. RIL and its partner, London-based BP, had in June 2017 announced an investment of ₹40,000 crore in three sets of gas discoveries to reverse flagging production in the KG D6 block. These are R-Cluster, Satellite Cluster and MJ field. R-Cluster is the first to come on stream. RIL said these clusters combined are expected to meet 15% of India's gas demand by 2023. "This is a significant milestone in India's energy landscape, for a cleaner and greener gas-based economy. Through our deep-water infrastructure in the Krishna Godavari basin, we expect to produce gas and meet the growing clean energy requirements of the nation," Mukesh Ambani, chairman and managing director, RIL, said.

Mint - 19.12.2020

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/ril-bp-announce-first-gas-from-asia-s-deepest-gas-field-11608289831495.html>

GAIL (India) announces appointment of director

GAIL (India) announced the appointment of Usha Suresh, Senior Economic Advisor, MoP&NG on the Board of Directors of GAIL (India) Limited w.e.f. 10 December 2020 for a

September and October, respectively. However, year-on-year, the numbers are still lower — 51 per cent down at 63.54 lakh passengers in November compared with the corresponding period last year, the aviation regulator said on Friday. While IndiGo carried 34.23 lakh passengers in November, a 53.9 per cent share of the total domestic market, SpiceJet flew 8.4 lakh passengers, which is a 13.2 per cent share of the market, according to data shared by the DGCA. The occupancy rate at SpiceJet was 77.7 per cent in November. For IndiGo, Vistara, GoAir, Air India and AirAsia India, the rate was 74 per cent, 70.8 per cent, 70.8 per cent, 69.6 per cent and 66.3 per cent, respectively.

The Telegraph - 19.12.2020

<https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/air-travel-picks-up-in-november/cid/1801014>

period of 3 years on co-terminus basis or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Business Standard - 15.12.2020

https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/gail-india-announces-appointment-of-director-120121200438_1.html

Somnath Nandi assumes charge as Director (Technical) of NMDC

Somnath Nandi assumed charge as Director of (Technical) of NMDC Limited, the country's largest iron ore producing Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Steel, on Friday. Prior to joining NMDC Limited, he was Executive Director, heading Environment Management Division and Growth Division at SAIL, Kolkata. According to an earlier order from the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), he has been appointed to the post for with effect from December 18, till the date of his superannuation i.e. December 31, 2022, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

PSU Watch - 18.12.2020

<https://psuwatch.com/somnath-nandi-assumes-charge-as-director-technical-of-nmdc>