

## 'PROACTIVE APPROACH' Railways looks to increase share in automobile freight loading

NIVEDITA MUKHERJEE  
New Delhi, October 26

INDIA'S AUTO INDUSTRY is boosting the freight loading of Indian Railways like never before. From Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Motors and Hyundai to new entrants like MG Motors and Kia, there is a line-up of auto majors for using the railway rakes.

A sharp setback caused by the national lockdown to battle Covid pandemic saw automobile loading by railways falling to abysmally low level of just 2 rakes in April 2020, but this was soon reversed. The loading increased progressively to 33 rakes in May, 112 rakes in June, 159 rakes in July, 243 rakes in August and 287 rakes in September. The auto loading volume surpassed the year-ago level in July itself and skyrocketed since then. The September level was 120% higher than in the year-ago month.

Of course, the share of automobiles in the railways' freight volume and revenue is still very low; the transporter relies on bulk commodities like coal, grains, iron ore and cement for much of its freight receipts.

According to the Railway



Board, IR's share for transporting small passenger vehicles has shot up from about 4.5% in FY18 to about 14% in July 2020 and this may increase to 20% by FY22 and 30% by FY24. Officials attribute the incipient trend of increase in use of railway rakes for transporting automobiles to "proactive approach" of Railways, increase in rolling stock and sharp decline in transit time. However, the current spike could also be due to the relative easiness and safety that transportation by rail offers, given the Covid-19 protocol.

The percentage share of IR in Tata Motors' automobile transportation rise from low single-digit level to above 10% over the past four months. Mahindra is also seeing a big spurt in transport of vehicles by rail. "In Q2FY21, M&M has dispatched an average of 38 rakes per month against an average of 13 per month in Q2FY20. In three years, we plan to facilitate 22% of our dispatch through train from the current level of 12%," said Veejay Nakra, CEO for automotive division, M&M.

The cumulative loading of

836 rakes in the April-September of 2020-21 has surpassed the loading of 731 rakes in the same period of 2019-20. Currently, IR operates two types of rakes (a rake is a full train) — small rake which can carry 100-125 cars and a big rake which can carry 275 to 318 cars.

India is expected to be the world's third largest automotive market in terms of volume by 2026, driven by an industry which manufactures 26 million vehicles annually. The potential is obvious. Expansion of tracks, regular maintenance work, measures to enhance freight capacity and speed of trains, exemption of automobile traffic from payment of terminal charges, freeze on haulage charges and opening up of seven new terminals for automobile traffic at various zones are turning IR into an attractive proposition for the auto sector, the officials said.

Automobile loading was just 0.28% the IR's freight receipts of ₹1.23 lakh crore in FY20. The drive is to change this, with IR pulling out all stops to make automotive loading a more robust channel of growth.

## India, US to ink landmark defence agreement today

Separately on Monday, foreign minister S Jaishankar and his US counterpart Mike Pompeo discussed 'shared concerns and interests'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, October 26

INDIA AND THE US will ink a landmark defence pact on Tuesday that will provide for sharing of high-end military technology, logistics and geospatial maps between their militaries, officials said after defence minister Rajnath Singh held wide-ranging talks with his US counterpart Mark T Esper.

During the talks, Singh and Esper explored ways to further deepen cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, enhance military-to-military ties, and reviewed key regional security challenges including in India's neighbourhood, officials said.

The sources said, while deliberating on regional security challenges, the two sides briefly touched upon India's border row with China in eastern Ladakh. "The two minis-

ters expressed satisfaction that agreement of BECA (Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement) will be signed during the visit," the defence ministry said in a statement.

The Indian side at the 2+2 dialogue will be led by Jaishankar and Singh. After his delegation-level talks with Esper, Singh tweeted that the discussions will add new vigour to India-US defence relations.

"India is delighted to host the US Secretary of Defence, Dr Mark Esper. Our talks were fruitful, aimed at further deepening defence cooperation in a wide range of areas. The discussions will add new vigour to India-US defence relations & mutual cooperation," he said in the tweet.

In its statement, the defence ministry said Singh and Esper reviewed bilateral defence cooperation spanning military-to-military cooperation, secure communication systems and information sharing and defence trade.

"Both the Ministers expressed satisfaction at the close engagements between the respective Armed Forces. They discussed potential new areas of cooperation, both at service level and at the joint level," it said.

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## Sebi bans Yashovardhan Birla, several others from securities mkts for 2 yrs

SEBI HAS BARRED Birla Pacific Medspa, Yashovardhan Birla and eight others from the securities market for two years for mis-utilisation of the IPO proceeds. Birla Pacific Medspa, which came out with offer documents in March 2011, had floated its over ₹65-core IPO in June 2011.

The regulator found that the company made misstatements

in the prospectus in respect of the objects of the IPO.

Sebi has barred Yashovardhan Birla and eight other individuals from accessing the securities market and further prohibited them from buying, selling or otherwise dealing in securities for two years, while one individual has been prohibited from the capital markets for six months.

—PTI

## Govt proposes law to tackle country's deadly air pollution

THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT informed the Supreme Court that it is framing a new law to tackle one of the worst air pollution problems in the world.

The government told the court that it is drawing up a comprehensive law to check the menace. The new law is for air quality management in the National Capital Region and adjoining areas, and setting up a permanent body for the purpose, said Solicitor General Tushar Mehta. The draft of the law would be submitted in the court soon.

Delhi along with several in

north India cities are among the top polluted areas in the world and the air quality index plummets to hazardous during winters. The toxic air costs the country as much as 8.5% of its gross domestic product, according to World Bank calculations, besides shortening the lives of citizens. Authorities are prompted into action each year but the air quality has gone from bad to worse in the last decade due to burning of farm residue, coal powered power plants, vehicles, inadequate solid waste management, festive crackers and politics.

—BLOOMBERG

## 'NPAs' at NHAI needs to be weeded out: Gadkari

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, October 26

UNHAPPY OVER A 'delayed' work culture at the NHAI, Union minister Nitin Gadkari on Monday said it was time to show the door to 'non-performing assets' complicating and delaying projects by creating obstacles.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has become a breeding ground for inefficient officials who are creating hurdles and referring every matter to committees and it was time to 'suspend' and 'terminate' them and bring in reforms in its functioning, the Road Transport, Highways and

## Gadkari to lay foundation of 9 highway projects in Tripura

UNION MINISTER Nitin Gadkari will on Tuesday lay the foundation stones of nine highway projects in Tripura to be built at over ₹2,752 crore, the government said on Monday. The projects will enhance socio-economic conditions of the locality, it said. "Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari will lay the foundation stones of nine national highway projects with a total length of nearly 262 km," the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said in a statement.

—PTI

MSME Minister said. He was addressing a virtual gathering during the inauguration of NHAI building at Dwarka which took

about nine years to complete. "Non-performing assets (NPAs) not worth of doing even vermiculture are preserved here

## Gujarat HC begins live streaming proceedings on trial basis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
Ahmedabad, October 13

The Gujarat High Court on Monday started live streaming of proceedings of its first court on an experimental basis.

Anyone willing to view the live proceedings could access the link of the Youtube channel from the homepage of the Gujarat High Court website, Chief Justice Vikram Nath said in an order.

The order said proceedings of the Division Bench No 1 [First Court] of the High Court will be telecast live, purely on an experimental basis, and the "aspect of continuing with or adapting the modality of live court proceedings will be decided based on the outcome of this trial".

All HC benches have been functioning through video conferencing since March 24.

"In the Model Video Conferencing Rules as prescribed by the Committee of the Supreme Court of India, it has been provided that the public will be allowed to view the court hearing conducted through video conferencing," said the Chief Justice.

## Kerala gold smuggling case: Man held in Kochi upon arrival from UAE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, October 26

THE NATIONAL INVESTIGATION Agency (NIA) on Monday arrested a man wanted in connection with the Kerala gold smuggling case as soon as he arrived from the UAE to Kochi, an official spokesperson said.

Rabins K Hameed, a resident of Muvattupuzha in Kerala's Ernakulam district, will be pro-

duced before a designated court on Tuesday for his remand by the agency, spokesperson and NIA Deputy Inspector General Sonia Narang said in a statement.

The case pertains to the seizure of 30 kg gold worth ₹14.82 crore on July 5 from diplomatic baggage at Air Cargo of Trivandrum International Airport by Customs (Preventive) Commissionerate, Cochin.

Investigation in the case

has revealed that Hameed, while being in the UAE and India, had conspired with the arrested accused Ramees K T, Jalal AM, and others.

He had also arranged funds and purchased gold at Dubai for smuggling to India through diplomatic baggage.

The NIA Special Court at Ernakulam had issued a non-bailable warrant for the arrest of Hameed.

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**Extract of Consolidated Financial Results  
for the Quarter and Half year ended 30-Sep-2020**  
[₹ in crores except per share data]

Particulars	Quarter Ended 30-Sep-2020	Half Year Ended 30-Sep-2020	Quarter Ended 30-Sep-2019
	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited
Total Income from operations (net)	2017	4073	2005
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items	384	786	296
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and after exceptional items	384	786	296
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax and exceptional items	310	631	244
Total Comprehensive Income (after tax)	372	708	212
Equity Share Capital	84.62	84.62	84.62
Other Equity excluding Revaluation Reserve*			
Earnings per share (of ₹ 5/- each)			
Basic	18.32	37.30	14.48
Diluted	18.32	37.30	14.48

\* Other Equity excluding Revaluation Reserve as on 31-Mar-2020 was ₹ 4739 crores.

**Notes :**  
1 Summary details of stand-alone audited financial results of Torrent Pharmaceuticals Limited :  
[₹ in crores]

Particulars	Quarter Ended 30-Sep-2020	Half Year Ended 30-Sep-2020	Quarter Ended 30-Sep-2019
Net income from operations	1640	3367	1603
Profit before tax	356	726	393
Profit after tax	283	581	328
Total Comprehensive Income (after tax)	341	659	302

2 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Financial Results for the quarter and half year ended 30-Sep-2020 filed with Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the same, along with the notes, are available on [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com), [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and on the Company's website [www.torrentpharma.com](http://www.torrentpharma.com).

**Place : Ahmedabad, Gujarat  
Date : 26-Oct-2020**

**LYNX MACHINERY AND COMMERCIALS LTD.**  
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**NOTICE**  
Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements), Regulations, 2015 NOTICE is hereby given that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on **Monday, 02<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020**, at the registered office of the Company at Warden House, 340 J.J. Road, Byculla, Mumbai 400008, inter-alia, to consider, approve and take on record the Un-audited Financial Results of the Company for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter & six months ended **30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020**. The said intimation is also available on the Company's website at [www.lynxmachinery.com](http://www.lynxmachinery.com) under Investors Relation section and also available on the website of the Stock Exchange at [www.mseil.in](http://www.mseil.in).

For LYNX MACHINERY AND COMMERCIALS LIMITED  
Sd/-  
Pradyumna Jajodia  
Place : Mumbai Director  
Date : 26.10.2020 (DIN 00138175)

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**AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS**  
[₹ in Lakhs]

Sl. No.	Particulars	Three months ended/ As at		Half year ended/ As at		Year ended/ As at March 31, 2020
		September 30, 2020 (Audited)	September 30, 2019 (Audited)	September 30, 2020 (Audited)	September 30, 2019 (Audited)	
1	Premium Income (Gross) <sup>1</sup>	13,08,965	10,24,341	20,73,309	16,93,785	40,63,473
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	29,958	11,921	68,725	49,705	1,41,354
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and /or Extraordinary items)	29,958	11,921	68,725	49,705	1,41,354
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and /or Extraordinary items)	29,973	12,984	69,062	50,175	1,42,217
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)] <sup>2</sup>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
6	Equity Share Capital (Paid up)	1,00,005	1,00,000	1,00,005	1,00,000	1,00,003
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve and fair value change account.)	8,57,591	6,96,192	8,57,591	6,96,192	7,88,389
8	Earnings Per Share (face value of ₹10/- each)					
	1. Basic (not annualised for three / six months) (in ₹)	3.00	1.30	6.91	5.02	14.22
	2. Diluted (not annualised for three / six months) (in ₹)	3.00	1.30	6.90	5.02	14.22

**Note:**  
1) Premium income is gross of reinsurance and net of Goods and Service Tax (GST).  
2) The Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) are currently not applicable to Insurance companies in India.  
3) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly financial results are available on the website of the Stock Exchanges ([www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com) and [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com)) and the Company ([www.sblife.co.in](http://www.sblife.co.in)).

**For and on behalf of Board of Directors**  
Mahesh Kumar Sharma  
Managing Director & CEO  
(DIN: 08740737)

Place: Mumbai  
Date: October 26, 2020

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