News and Views...

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INDEX

INDUSTRY NEWS

India's daily Covid-19 count drops to 31,118, active cases further down

Though the number of daily Covid-19 cases has declined in the last few weeks, the Centre is concerned about the states which have high caseload. The Union home ministry has framed a set of guidelines to check the further spread of the disease which came into effect from December 1.

India on Tuesday recorded 31,118 new cases of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19), which pushed the nationwide tally to 9,462,809, according to Union health ministry update at 8 am.

The number of active cases dropped further, to 4,35,603, while 88,89,585 patients were discharged from hospitals in the last 24 hours, health ministry data showed. The number of recovered patients has now reached.

The country recorded 482 new fatalities due to the infection in the past 24 hours, the ministry said. With this, the death toll has reached 1,37,621.

India has conducted 140 million tests to detect Covid-19 in the past 11 months, of which 10 million tests were performed during the past 10 days alone, government data shows.

The first test to diagnose Covid-19 in the country was performed on January 23, and on Monday, India performed about 900,000 tests in a single day.

India's coronavirus tally had crossed the 9.4 million-lakh mark after 38,772 new infections were reported on Monday, as per the health ministry data.

On Sunday, the ministry had said that the national recovery rate stands at 93.71 per cent. It also said that India continues to have one of the lowest deaths per million population globally (presently 99). Though the number of daily cases has declined in the last few weeks, the Centre is concerned about the states which have high caseload of the infection. The Union home ministry has framed a set of guidelines to check the further spread of the disease which came into effect from December 1. These guidelines will remain in place till December 31.

The health ministry has also released measures to ensure compliance to Covid-appropriate behaviour in markets.

The ministry has recommended imposing fines for not wearing masks or not following physical distancing, opening markets on alternate days and closing them if large number of coronavirus cases are reported along with other measures.

The SOPs outlined that market places in containment zones shall remain closed. Shop owners and employees living in containment zones shall not be allowed entry into marketplaces, according to the ministry.

– Hindustan Times

Covid-19 cases per million lowest in India, says govt

The Union health ministry said on Tuesday India has been recording one of the lowest Covid-19 cases per million among the big nations reeling under the coronavirus pandemic. “The average daily positivity rate last week was 3.72%. Among all the big nations in the world, cases per million in India are the lowest. The last seven days trends show that European nations are witnessing a surge in Covid-19 cases,” said health ministry secretary Rajesh Bhushan.

Bhushan said India’s cumulative positivity rate has decreased from 7.15% to 6.69% during November 11-December 1 period. “In November 2020, the number of recoveries has been more than the number of new cases,” Bhushan said.

A total 12,78,727 cases were reported in November, a decrease from October’s 18,71,498, accounting for about 13.51 per cent of the total Covid-19 infections reported so far. A total of 88,89,585 people has recovered from the infection so far, pushing the national recovery rate to 93.94 per cent.

The health ministry official also confirmed that adverse events are unlikely to impact the delivery timeline of Covid-19 vaccine. “Whenever clinical trials start, subjects are expected to sign a prior informed consent form. This is global practice; it happens across all countries. The form tells the subject about possible adverse events that may happen in case one decides to participate in the trial,” Bhushan explained.

India on Tuesday recorded 31,118 fresh cases of the coronavirus disease, pushing the country’s tally to 94,62,809 and the death toll climbed to 137,621 after 482 new fatalities were recorded in the last 24 hours. India’s Covid-19 tally had crossed the 2 million mark on August 7, 3 million on August 23 and 4 million on September 5.

- Hindustan Times

ICMR approves CSIR's Covid-19 testing method

The Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) has approved a simple and fast method for Covid-19 testing which can not only increase the number of RT-PCR tests but can also bring down costs, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) said on Saturday. The method -- Dry Swab-Direct RT-PCR -- developed by CSIR's Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, is a variation of the existing gold standard RT-PCR method and can easily scale up the testing by 2 to 3 fold with no new investment of resources.

– Times of India

Phase 2/3 trials of Covid-19 vaccine Sputnik V commence in India

Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd and Russia's sovereign fund Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) on Tuesday said they commenced adaptive Phase 2/3 clinical trials for Sputnik V vaccine in India after receiving the necessary clearance from the central drugs laboratory, kasauli.

The Clinical Trials, which are being conducted by JSS Medical Research as the clinical research partner, will be a multicenter and randomized controlled study that will include safety and immunogenicity studies.

Dr Reddy's said it has also partnered with the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) of the Department of Biotechnology (BDT) for advisory support and for using BIRAC's clinical trial centres for the vaccine.

Commenting on the development, Dr Reddy's Laboratories Co Chairman and Managing Director GV Prasad said "This is another significant step as we continue to collaborate with multiple entities along with the government bodies to fast track the process for launching the vaccine in India. We are working towards making the vaccine available with a combination of import and indigenous production model."

On Monday, Dr Reddy's top brass, including Prasad and the company's chairman Satish Reddy had a virtual meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and updated him on the vaccine development front.

– The Times of India

India restricts international flights till 31 December, only selected flights allowed: DGCA

In a new order passed by the Government of India, international flight ban has been extended till 31 December by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) amid the ongoing novel coronavirus pandemic.

Only selected flights shall be allowed on case to case basis, the DGCA order read.

The notification, titled 'Travel and Visa restrictions related to COVID-19' said, "In partial modification of circular dated 26-06-2020, the competent authority has further extended the validity of circular issued on the subject cited above regarding Scheduled International commercial passenger services to/from India till 2359 hrs 1ST of 31St December, 2020."

"This restriction shall not apply to international all-cargo operations and flights specifically approved by DGCA," the order stated.

"However, International Scheduled flights may be allowed on selected routes by the competent authority on case to case basis," the statement added.

Earlier this month, the DGCA had extended the ban on scheduled international passenger flights till November 30.

"However, the international scheduled flights may be allowed on selected routes by the competent authority on a case-to-case basis," the DGCA said in its circular.

Ban on international flights: How can you travel

Anyone who wants to travel to foreign countries will have to depend on air bubble arrangements. Under an air bubble pact between two countries, special international flights can be operated by their airlines between their territories. As of now, India air bubble pacts with around 22 countries. These are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Bhutan, Canada, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Rwanda, Tanzania, the UAE, the UK, Ukraine and the US.

Special flights operating under Vande Bharat Mission

The country has been operating special international flights under the Vande Bharat Mission since May this year. The scheduled international passenger services have been suspended in India since 23 March due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

- Mint

PM Modi Visits Serum Institute In Pune, Last Stop Of 3-City Vaccine Tour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday visited India's top vaccine hubs to personally review the development of coronavirus vaccine and the manufacturing process. The visit, PM Modi's office said, was meant to help him get a "first-hand perspective of the preparations, challenges and roadmap in India's endeavour to vaccinate its citizens".

PM Modi began his three-city vaccine tour with a visit to pharma major Zydus Cadila's plant in Gujarat. Wearing a PPE kit, PM Modi reviewed the vaccine development process at the Zydus Cadila research centre in Changodar industrial area, over 20 km from Ahmedabad.

The drug maker has announced that the first phase of clinical trial of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate, ZyCoV-D, has been completed and it commenced the second phase of clinical trials in August.

"Visited the Zydus Biotech Park in Ahmedabad to know more about the indigenous DNA based vaccine being developed by Zydus Cadila. I compliment the team behind this effort for their work. Government of India is actively working with them to support them in this journey," PM Modi tweeted.

From Ahmedabad, PM Modi flew to Hyderabad where he visited Bharat BioTech, which is working on Covaxin, pitched as India's first indigenous vaccine candidate. The facility is around 50 km from Hyderabad.

"The prime minister's visit serves as a great inspiration to our team, and further reinforces our commitment towards scientific discovery, solving public health issues, and the nation's fight against COVID-19," the company said in a statement.

After his hour-long visit to the facility, the PM proceeded to Pune where Serum Institute of India (SII), which has partnered with global pharma giant AstraZeneca and Oxford University for a COVID-19 vaccine, is based.

"As India enters a decisive phase of the fight against COVID-19, PM Narendra Modi's visit to these facilities and discussions with the scientists will help him get a first-hand perspective of the preparations, challenges and roadmap in India's endeavour to vaccinate its citizens," the Prime Minister's Office tweeted yesterday.

On November 24, Prime Minister while speaking with Chief Ministers of various states over the deteriorating pandemic situation in their states at a virtual meeting advised the states to establish cold storage facilities for COVID-19 vaccine beforehand and suggested them to prepare and send a plan for its distribution to the Central government.

This morning, India reported 41,322 fresh COVID-19 cases, 4% lower than on Friday, taking its overall number to 93.51 lakh cases and 1,36,200 deaths. The states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala were the most affected ones, with deaths ranging from 23 to 85 in the past 24 hours.

– NDTV.com

Will India's GDP turn positive by Q4FY21? Here's what analysts say

The economic outlook has improved with the Q2 gross domestic product (GDP) print, which indicates faster normalisation of the activities during the quarter with a stronger than expected pickup.

Overall, India's economy recovered faster than expected in the September quarter as a pick-up in manufacturing helped GDP clock a lower contraction of 7.5 per cent. The GDP had contracted by a record 23.9 per cent in the first quarter of 2020-21 fiscal (April 2020 to March 2021) as the coronavirus lockdown badly hit the economic activity.

Commenting on the figures, market watchers said that the GDP print was better than expected. However, sustainability is the key, especially after the festive season.

Here what economists and market experts said on the GDP figures:

Mihir Vora, Director & Chief Investment Officer, Max Life Insurance

India marked a technical recession with a Q2 real GDP contraction of -7.5 per cent and nominal GDP at -4 per cent. The number is marginally better than expectations and reflected unlocking of the economy, improvement in activity levels and pent-up demand. The number also may look higher as the initial estimates take into account data for larger companies, which have done better than the medium and small enterprises. The revised numbers including smaller company data may be a notch lower, but these will be available only after a few quarters.

Rural sector remained the bright spot. Good improvement in manufacturing was also a positive. On the expenditure side, as a proportion of GDP, private consumption as well as investments remained lower than pre-Covid levels.

With the government spending likely to improve in H2FY21, we believe further improvement in growth numbers would be seen. We expect Q3 GDP at -1.5 to -2 per cent whereas Q4 growth may be marginally positive if there are no further Covid-induced lockdowns.

S Ranganathan, Head of Research, LKP Securities

The contraction in GDP at 7.5 per cent in Q2 was ahead of the market expectation, which was going in with a contraction of 9 per cent. Two-wheeler demand was robust and so was the cement demand. The data is in sync with the Q2 earnings and the commentary put out by several corporates.

VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services

The 0.6 per cent expansion in manufacturing has come as a pleasant surprise. If this trend sustains, Q3 contraction will be very low and Q4 will post positive figures. If so, the annual contraction can be around 6 per cent. Sharp expansion in the first half of FY22 is on the cards. A 'V' shaped recovery in FY22 is in the realm of possibility. It is important to sustain the growth momentum.

B Gopkumar, MD & CEO, Axis Securities

September GDP print beat the market expectation with recovery in manufacturing that drives improvement in Q2, with a decent improvement seen in services. The agriculture sector continues to stand out during the quarter on better Kharif output. The growth outlook has improved with the Q2 GDP print. Now the market will look for sustainability of demand, especially after the festive season, and will be watchful of the high-frequency indicators.

Suman Chowdhury, Chief Analytical Officer, Acuité Ratings & Research

The significantly lower YoY contraction in

Q2 GDP at 7.5 per cent compared with 23.9 per cent in Q1 has been largely in line with our expectations given the effect of pent up demand in the economy after a protracted lockdown in large parts of the country. Going forward, however, we believe that the revival momentum in Q3 and Q4 will be critically dependent on the pickup in private
consumption during the festive season and a reduction in the intensity of the Covid pandemic. Any further resurgence of the pandemic and delay in the introduction of vaccines may constrain the expected GDP growth in Q3 and Q4.

Binod Modi, Head - Strategy, Reliance Securities

Better-than-expected GDP print is mainly supported by a strong rebound in
manufacturing. While the 2QFY21 GDP print marks a sharp sequential rebound, the market will be focusing more about the prospects of recovery in 2HFY21. Given a 2.5 per cent drop in Core Industries output for Oct 2020 and a sharp 13 per cent drop in consumptions (private + govt) in 2QFY21, a meaningful recovery in Q3 FY21 looks to be doubtful. We note that consumptions have always played an important role over the years to support economic growth. Hence, a faster recovery in consumptions is utmost important.

– The Economic Times

Delhi govt caps RT-PCR test rates by private labs at 800, down from 2,400

After orders of reducing Covid-19 RT-PCR test rates the national capital amid the surge in coronavirus cases, Delhi government on Monday capped the test rates at 800 from the existing rate of 2,400 in the private hospitals.

Delhi government also added that the Covid samples collected at labs, hospitals and collection facilities will not cost 800, including all charges-sample collection and testing cost at the site.

It also mentioned that samples collected through home visits, including all-charges collections, samples collection and testing costs, will be capped at 1,200.

"All private labs, hospitals shall display the revised rates at prominent places within 24 hours," the order stated. It also conveyed that the order comes into effect immediately and should be followed strictly.

Earlier, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said he has issued directives to reduce the price of the RT-PCR test in the national capital, saying it will help those going to private labs for COVID-19 tests.

Currently, people have to spend 2,400 for the RT-PCR test at private labs.

"I have directed that the rates of RT PCR tests be reduced in Delhi. Whereas tests are being conducted free of cost in govt establishments, however this will help those who get their tests done in pvt labs," Kejriwal tweeted.

Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain in reply to the chief minister's tweet said orders for this will be issued immediately.

RT-PCR and Rapid Antigen Test are two types of tests done to detect novel coronavirus. Both tests are done free at government testing centres and hospitals, but not at private clinics or hospitals. Currently, people have to spend 2,400 for the RT-PCR test at private labs.

Delhi has reported 1,487 new COVID cases in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of coronavirus cases to 35,091 on Monday, according to Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

- Mint

Pfizer/BioNTech Covid vaccine approved for use in UK to be rolled out next week

The UK has become the first western country to license a vaccine against Covid, opening the way for mass immunisation with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine to begin in those most at risk next week.

The vaccine has been authorised for emergency use by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Authority (MHRA), ahead of decisions by the US and Europe. The MHRA was given power to approve the vaccine by the government under special regulations before 1 January, when it will become fully responsible for medicines authorisation in the UK after Brexit.

The first doses of the vaccine will arrive in the coming days, said the company. The UK has bought 40m doses of the vaccine, which has been shown to have 95% efficacy in its final trials.

A Department of Health and Social Care spokesman said: “The government has today accepted the recommendation from the MHRA to approve Pfizer/BioNTech’s Covid-19 vaccine for use.

“This follows months of rigorous clinical trials and a thorough analysis of the data by experts at the MHRA who have concluded that the vaccine has met its strict standards of safety, quality and effectiveness.

“The joint committee on vaccination and immunisation will shortly also publish its latest advice for the priority groups to receive the vaccine, including care home residents, health and care staff, the elderly and the clinically extremely vulnerable. The vaccine will be made available across the UK from next week.”

Matt Hancock, the health secretary, said the first doses would be issued to the most vulnerable people. The UK will have 800,000 doses available next week, he said.

“This is fantastic news. The MHRA, the fiercely independent regulator, has clinically authorised the vaccine for rollout. The NHS stands ready to make that happen,” he told Sky News.

“From early next week we will start the programme of vaccinating people against Covid-19 here in this country. The MHRA have approved it as clinically safe and we have a vaccine, so it’s very good news”.

Hancock said rolling out the vaccine across the UK would be “challenging” because it needed to be kept at -70C. A network of 50 hospitals was ready to deliver the first jabs, he said, and specialist vaccination centres were being built.

He said the vaccine would also be available from some GPs and pharmacists if they have cold storage facilities.

– The Guardian

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This program will cover Industry Updates, Launch of New Technologies, Partnership Opportunities, Industry Views & CSR activities. The purpose of this program is to keep customers up to date with developments in the Industry.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Steel scrap prices stay strong in Asian market

Steel companies have supplied 56,446.245 tonnes of medical oxygen from their integrated plants to various hospitals across the country till October-end, the Ministry of Steel has said. To aid the supply of oxygen in the country, Union Minister of Steel Dharmendra Pradhan in September had directed steel plants to start supplying liquid medical oxygen (LMO), which is a crucial medical requirement for a coronavirus patient.

The steel ministry had also made operational a portal wherein plant-wise information regarding availability of oxygen and daily supply by various plants and states to which such supplies have been made is provided. "Integrated steel plants (ISPs) in the public and private sector have been supplying LMO to meet the requirement of oxygen in hospitals across the country. 56,446.245 MT (metric tonne) LMO was supplied by steel plants to various states during the period from September 11, 2020 to October 31, 2020," the ministry said in an update. However, the ministry did not provide names of plants and companies that are engaged in work of supplying oxygen.

According to the statement, 37,364 tonne LMO was supplied by private sector units and 19,081.47 tonne by Steel CPSEs. Majority supply was made to three states of Karnataka (14,251.9 tonne), Andhra Pradesh (7,467 tonne) and Maharashtra (7,332.6 MT). This contribution is in addition to what the steel plants made in jointly fighting the COVID-19 spread in the country.

Major steel companies like SAIL, RINL, JSPL, JSW Steel and Tata Steel had set up isolation wards, distributed food packets, masks, hand sanitizers and offered other medical assistance to the communities living near their facilities and offices in various states.

According to official data, steel PSUs alone contributed over Rs 250 crore towards the PM-CARES Fund to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

– The Economic Times

JSW Steel in the process of acquiring land for steel plant in Odisha: Director Jayant Acharya

Domestic steel major JSW Steel is in the process of acquiring land at Jagatsinghpur in Odisha where it has proposed to set up a 13.2 MTPA greenfield steel plant, a top company official said.

Speaking to PTI, JSW Steel Director - Commercial Marketing and Corporate Strategy Jayant Acharya said it is the same site near the port of Paradip where POSCO was keen to set up a 12 MTPA steel plant.

The Odisha government and POSCO had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard in 2005. However, the South Korean steel giant had to abandon its proposed Rs 52,000-crore project due to multiple reasons from delay in environmental clearances to protests by locals.

The pact ultimately expired in 2010 and was not renewed again.
"We have plans to expand through both acquisitions and brownfield expansions and then followed by greenfield (project) if we are looking in terms of Odisha," Acharya said.
The company plans to set up an integrated steel plant of 13.2 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) capacity in Odisha along with a 900 MW power plant for captive usage with an investment amount of Rs 53,700 crore.
Replying to a question on land acquisition for setting up the project, Acharya said, "We have already identified that (land) and the acquisition of that land is going on. Along with the Odisha government...we are doing...the land acquisition part."
It is the same land where POSCO was earlier looking to set a 12 MTPA steel plant, he said.
However, Acharya didn't provide a timeline for completion of land acquisition process.
The process is on and such processes take some time, he said.
"Whatever necessary allocations are coming to us which are ready for payment we would be doing that," Acharya added.
JSW Group had approached the Odisha government for land after POSCO shelved its plan to set up the steel plant.
Subsequently, all statutory clearances given to POSCO were transferred to JSW Steel.
Last year in December, the hearing for the company's project was conducted.
"JSW's hearing was conducted peacefully and successfully. That is a huge development. The integrated project has been passed unopposed with almost the same investment that POSCO was looking for...We expect the work to start soon on the Rs 53,700 crore project," IPICOL Managing Director Nitin B Jawale had said.
The Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha (IPICOL) is the single point of contact for all industrial investments in the state.

– The Economic Times

Hitachi to Launch the EX2000-7 Excavator in October 2021

Hitachi Construction Machinery Co Ltd announced the launch of the Hitachi EX2000-7 ultra-large hydraulic excavator to be taken October 2021. The EX2000-7 is remodeled from EX1900-6 and consumes up to 19 percent less fuel while maintaining the same productivity. The EX2000-7 has high durability of structural parts achieved by the design employed on the current EX-7 series machines and it can incorporate support services for repair works and inspections based on ICT and IoT.
In addition, it achieves higher fuel efficiency due to an entirely new hydraulic circuit, an addition of a work mode selection function, etc. Because of drastic cutbacks in fuel consumption, the machine contributes to reduction of environmental impact and the life-cycle cost.
At an operating weight of 193 tons, the excavator is one of the smaller Hitachi EX-7 ultra-large excavators; high demand is expected from small-to-medium-sized mining and quarrying operations, to which fuel efficiency is critically important.
The EX2000-7's impressive 19 percent fuel saving has been achieved through a range of new designed, energy-efficient features that have made the engine more compact while retaining outstanding productivity. When compared with its predecessor, the EX1900-6, the EX2000-7 can save as much as 460 tons of CO2 emissions per year per machine.

– Modern Manufacturing India

Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan calls for reducing imports of finished steel goods

Union Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Wednesday called for reducing imports of finished steel goods. He urged the industry to leverage technology and resources available in the country.

"We are the second largest producer of steel in the world, (but) for our own consumption we have to import finished goods," Pradhan said while addressing the 'Virtual National Mining Summit 2020', organised by industry body PHD Chamber.

He said sufficient raw materials are available in the country, while the technology to produce various steel products is already available.

...today even many MSMEs are importing their raw material, be it scrap or low grade metals. The import cost is cheap compared to producing them in the country. We will work to address this issue also," he added.

Minister of State (MoS) for Steel Faggan Singh Kulaste had earlier asked steel makers to identify the grades of steel which are not manufactured in the country but are widely used, and to develop them in India.

Industry players can conduct research and development (R&D) activities, go for transfer of technology or form joint venture to set up special grade steel plants in the country, he had said.

"India is the second largest producer of steel in the entire world, yet it is fully dependent on imports for special grade steel. In 2019-20, imports of 6.778 million tonne (MT) took place and India exported 8.356 MT...In monetary terms, import of Rs 44,683 crore happened while export was (lower) at Rs 36,726 crore," Kulaste had said.

– The Economic Times

Tata Steel tests coking coal samples from Russia for producing steel: CEO Narendran

Tata Steel NSE 1.46 % has tested coking coal samples from Russia for making steel through the blast furnace route, its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer T V Narendran said.

The development assumes significance in the domestic steel industry as a fruitful result of the experiment would break the monopoly of Australia in coking coal supply to India.

According to official data, the country imports about 56 million tonnes (MT) of coking coal worth around Rs 72,000 crore. Out of this, about 45 MT is imported from the continent nation alone.

"We have imported some coking coal from Russia. The east coast of Russia is a good source," Narendran told PTI.

The CEO said this while replying to a question related to the company's contribution to the steel ministry's ongoing efforts to reduce India's dependence on select countries for sourcing of coking coal.

Earlier, the ministry asked the steel makers to get in coking coal from Russia and test the raw material at their plants and update on the result of the same.

Coking coal is a key raw material used for making steel using the blast furnace route, besides iron ore.

"We support the government's initiative to look at Russia as a source (of coking coal). It is a good option for us to have, otherwise we are overdependent on Australia," he said.

He added that Australia also often has cyclone and weather issues. "For many reasons, it is good for us to have more than one option. We have explored and tried out some material."

Tata Steel produces steel using blast furnace at its 11-MTPA (million tonnes per annum) plant at Jamshedpur in Jharkhand and 3-MTPA plant at Kalinganagar in Odisha.

When contacted Tata Steel for details with respected to the experiment, a company spokesperson said, "There is no information available at the moment related to it."

Earlier, Steel Authority of India NSE 3.10 % Ltd (SAIL) Chairman A K Chaudhary also informed about similar initiatives being undertaken by the state-owned steel maker. In an interview with PTI, he had said the domestic steelmakers depend heavily on imported coking coal.

The company is looking at new destinations and vendors for sourcing coking coal from the international market to avoid dependence on limited sources, Chaudhary said.

Besides Australia, part of coking coal demand is also met from South Africa, Canada and the US.

– The Economic Times

VDW Revises Production Forecast for German Machine Tool Industry

VDW (The German Machine Tool Builders' Association) has revised its production forecast for the current year owing to the second wave of coronavirus, expecting a decline of about 30 percent, which represents a loss of € 5 billion in terms of production volume. At approximately € 12 billion, this volume is still 2 billion above the posted 2009-10 financial crisis, and the industry return is expected to its 2019 level only in the medium term.

The German machine tool industry in the third quarter of 2020, the orders received were 29 percent down on the same period last year, whereas from within Germany the orders fell by 26 percent. Orders from abroad also were 30 percent fewer and in the period from January to September the orders fell by 33 percent. In addition, domestic orders were 27 percent down on the previous year. There was a 36 percent reduction in the level of orders from abroad. Partial lockdowns have been imposed in Germany and in many other European countries, making it difficult for machine tool customers to plan investments and make decisions. Asia, and China in particular, is recovering faster, the situation in Europe, by contrast, remains much more tense.

The electronics industry, medical technology, ventilation equipment and consumer-related areas such as the food and packaging industry are few client sectors to post gains amidst the current crisis. The automotive industry, on the other hand, has also been badly hit by the crisis but is profiting from rising demand in China, yet the structural change towards new types of drives is heavily felt, and investment budgets are increasingly being reapportioned.

"The machine tool industry is now fully in the grip of the second corona wave," asserted Dr Wilfried Schäfer, Executive Director, VDW. "The economic indicators rose in the third quarter, but any hopes of a short-term improvement are now fading fast. Orders received in the third quarter remain at the low level of the previous months."

– Modern Manufacturing India

Nippon Steel and ArcelorMittal plot Indian expansion blitz

Nippon Steel and ArcelorMittal will more than double the steel production capacity of their Indian subsidiary to 23 million tons a year by the 2030s, looking to expand their foothold in a promising market.

The expansion plan, involving fresh investments and acquisitions, far outstrips an increase to between 12 million tons and 15 million tons that the two steelmakers cited when they acquired Essar Steel India late last year. The company, since renamed AM/NS India, currently can produce about 9.6 million tons of steel products a year.

The partners envision a larger share of a national market that is catching up with China as a global driver of the industry. Nippon Steel forecasts Indian demand for steel products swelling to 230 million tons a year by the 2030s, or 2.3 times the current level, and aims to boost capacity to at least 10% of that figure.

The two companies spent roughly $7 billion on the Essar acquisition, with ArcelorMittal holding a 60% stake and Nippon Steel 40%. The subsidiary ranks as India's No. 4 steelmaker with a share seen at less than 10%, behind Tata Steel, JSW Steel and Steel Authority of India.

Though details of the investment plan have yet to be hammered out, it likely will include building and expanding blast and oxygen furnaces as well as a coke oven at the main AM/NS India steelworks in Gujarat. Boosting capacity for both crude steel production and downstream processing will increase overall output of steel products.

Acquisitions are in the cards as well. AM/NS India in July purchased Odisha Slurry Pipeline Infrastructure, which manages and operates a pipeline used to transport iron ore, enabling Indian ore to be shipped efficiently to coastal areas. The company was originally under the umbrella of the former Essar but was sold amid the steelmaker's financial difficulties.

The reacquisition "was a necessary investment to return its business infrastructure to the way it should be," said a representative from Nippon Steel's global business development sector.

Though India's steel market was dealt a blow by the coronavirus pandemic, it has rebounded quickly. Crude steel output plunged more than 60% on the year in April amid a nationwide lockdown, but ticked up 1% to 9.06 million tons in October, the first increase in eight months.

Shaktikanta Das, governor of the Reserve Bank of India, on Thursday noted a "stronger than expected" pickup in economic activity.

Other steelmakers also are investing more aggressively in the Indian market. JSW said in October that it would spend about 15 billion rupees ($203 million), including payments to creditors, to acquire Asian Colour Coated Ispat, a local producer of steel sheet.

India churned out 111.2 million tons of crude steel last year, an 80% increase over a decade. U.K.-based consultancy Wood Mackenzie anticipates continued growth in demand there over the medium to long term, even while steel consumption in China and other markets declines as infrastructure investment runs its course.

India is particularly crucial to Nippon Steel. Demand looks certain to shrink in its home market of Japan, and the steelmaker faces intense competition with Chinese rivals abroad. The company forecasts a net loss of 170 billion yen ($1.63 billion) for the fiscal year ending in March, due largely to the coronavirus pandemic.

Though the company has steelworks elsewhere in the world, including in Brazil and Sweden, India accounts for half its overseas crude steel production capacity.

Nippon Steel will need to get on the same page as ArcelorMittal regarding the details of their plans there, but Atsushi Yamaguchi of SMBC Nikko Securities sees benefits to the partnership.

"Teaming with ArcelorMittal will enable it to take proactive measures such as investing," Yamaguchi said.

There are potential instabilities that could complicate its plans.

These include the risk of New Delhi changing key policies or imposing new regulations. The former Essar fell prey to this when it invested in a new plant after the government guaranteed a steady supply of natural gas, only for this supply to be curtailed later, slashing the facility's capacity usage to just 35% and contributing to the company's financial deterioration.

The acquisition of Essar itself took nearly two years due to a court battle over how to prioritize payouts to creditors.

Companies in the steel industry, a major source of greenhouse gases, also may face headwinds from efforts to combat climate change, as India has ratified the Paris Agreement on climate.

– Metal Junction

JSW Steel approaches Bombay HC against Goa govt's cess of Rs 156.34 crore

JSW Steel on Wednesday has moved the Bombay High Court challenging the applicability of the Goa state government's order to pay a cess of Rs 156. 34 crore for transport of coal.

"As per records obtained by Mormugao Port Trust, you have transported 3,12,69,986 metric tonnes of coal/coke material during the financial year 2014 to July 2018 which is liable to a cess of Rs 50 per tonne…the company to pay Rs 156.34 crore within 15 days of receipt of this notice," said the assessing authority of Transport enforcement department, South Margao Goa in the demand notice sent to the company.

Government of goa has introduced the rural improvement and cess act 2000 for the welfare of protecting the rural communities of Goa and is levied on a host of material, including iron ore, other ores, hazardous and inflammable material, besides coal and coke.

The cess payable under the act shall be assessed and collected in case of materials generated or extracted within the state, at the point of its extraction for transportation.

"In the instant case, you (JSW Steel) have transported coal/coke material into the state wherein the entry point is Mormugao Port," the demand notice said.

The case came up for admission on 22nd of October 2020, and was heard on preliminary issues.

JSW, defended the challenge on maintainability of the petition by stating that the constitutional vires of the Act was being challenged in the instant case, which did not require the issuance of any particular notice, the company said

As per industry sources, the demand notice has also been sent to Sesa Sterlite, a Vedanta Group company, Adani Enterprises and Vedanta Ltd.

The case is posted for further hearing on 26 th of November 2020.

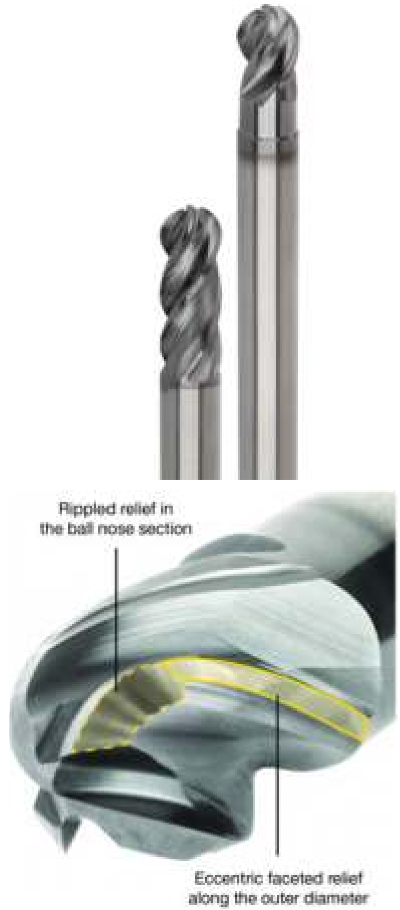
– The Economic Times

Forms & Gears Partners with Sandvik

The partnership offers cutting-edge turnkey and digitization solutions to clients in India, South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand.
Swedish giant Sandvik Coromant has partnered with one of Asia's oldest and largest fixture building companies Forms & Gears to offer clients cutting-edge engineering solutions that reduce cycle times, increase productivity, enhance quality and reduce operator dependence.
The two companies have inked an MoU that would cover India, South East Asia, New Zealand and Australia. Forms & Gears, which was founded by RT Varghese an engineer from IIT Kahargpur, has been in the fixture building business for 48 years. The company has a worldclass, state-of-the-art fixture building facility situated in Guindy, Chennai. The company supplies fixtures to the world's leading companies in Automobile, Machine Tool and other sectors, in ten countries across the world.
Forms & Gears is a joint venture with Bangalore-based public limited company ASM Technologies, a company specializing in Engineering Design, AI, ML and Engineering related IT. Forms & Gears and ASM have 750 design engineers, making them one of the strongest global Engineering Workholding companies.
Sandvik Coromant is a global leader in cutting tools headquartered in Sandviken, Sweden and is represented in more than 150 countries with around 7,900 employees worldwide. It is part of the business area Sandvik Machining Solutions within the global industrial group Sandvik. In 1942, Sandvik Coromant began in a modest shop in Sandviken and has over time transformed into a global industry leader. At the very core of Sandvik's DNA lies a passion for engineering and pushing boundaries, always in close relation with customers. The company has been very successful in introducing almost six new products to the market every day.
Vinay Deshpande, Vice President, Strategic Relations, Sandvik Coromant, who's been with the company for over 25 years, says, "Sandvik Coromant has been operating in India for the last 62 years and has its head office, production units and the Sandvik Coromant Tech Centre in Pune. As a technology leader, we keep challenging our own technology. We have around 40,000 cutting tool products and we launch 3,000 products every year. Fifty percent of Sandvik Coromant's turnover comes from the products that are less than five years old. One of our biggest strengths is working in turnkey projects with Machine Tool manufacturers and our strategic partner Forms & Gears by offering Fixtures. With this approach, we will be able to offer complete solutions to our customers in the value chain with Single Point Contact."

Both Sandvik and Forms & Gears have also invested considerable time and money into Industry 4.0 products. Forms & Gears' Industry 4.0 solution approaches IoT from the aspect of the Fixture and Sandvik's CoroPlus has a comprehensive solution for the connected machine shop. Reji Varghese, Managing Director, Forms & Gears, says, "The two products perfectly sync with each other to offer the customer an array of various outcomes that would give insights into a number of areas that could bring down costs, improve productivity and efficiency, increase knowledge sharing and collaborative working."

– Modern Manufacturing India



Kennametal introduces the HARVI I TE four-flute ball nose end mill

Kennametal has introduced an expansion to the HARVI™ I TE series, the HARVI I TE four-flute ball nose end mill. Designed for highly productive 3D roughing and finishing operations, it delivers lower machining cost through maximum metal removal in a broad range of materials.

Anatomy of a high performer

The HARVI I TE ball nose end mill features an innovative proprietary relief that requires a closer look. In the most critical area – the ball nose section – a wavy contour shapes the rippled relief which provides improved coolant flow into the cutting zone.

Maximum productivity, maximum tool life in 3D milling operations: The HARVI I TE four-flute ball nose end mill with the rippled relief in the ball nose section.

The rippled relief enables higher feeds and speeds as well as increased depth of cuts by advanced vibration damping and lower cutting forces.

On the outer diameter, the relief changes its shape, and turns into the eccentric faceted relief. The eccentric faceted relief provides exceptional edge strength, geometric accuracy, lower cutting forces and makes this end mill series very versatile.

Other geometry advancements of the square end styles —including a twisted end face, chip gashing, and a variable helix angle—have also been engineered into this new solid carbide end mill.

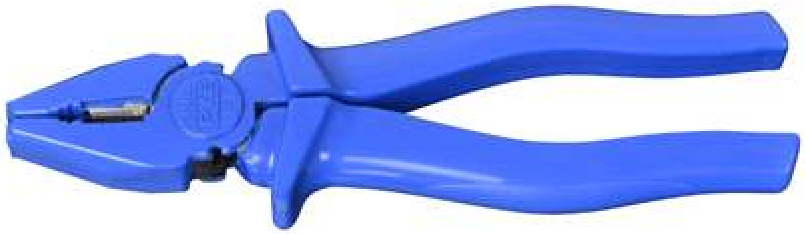
– Machine Tools World

PYE Tools Private Limited

The company has recently launch Folding Cutter - suitable for cutting twisted wires and Fully Insulated Plier suitable for using at voltages up to 8 kv.

Folding Cutter - suitable for cutting twisted wires

Fully Insulated Plier suitable for using at voltages up to 8 kv.



Gautam Group

Facilities Foundry:

With a manufacturing capacity of 36000MT p.a of casting, the foundry division is divided into two units considering customer requirements with respect to Quality, Cost & Delivery. We manufacture SG Iron & Grey Cast Iron castings.

We can produce most grades of Grey Iron Castings from GG20 to GG30 per DIN EN 1561 and Ductile Iron Castings from GGG40 to GGG60 per DIN 1693 or according to customer specification.

Semi-Automated DISA Make Arpa 1300 Jolt Squeeze Moulding Line Foundry

- Box size: 1000 mm x 900mm x 400/300mm
- DISA make fully automated sand plants with 60MT/ hour capacity
- Draft angles within 1.5 degree and mis-match within 0.5 mm
- Core setting of core assemblies of 120 Kg
- In-mould cooling of 90 minutes followed by 3 hours of air-cooling for large castings

Mechanized ARPA Lines From DISA India With Completely Automated Sand Plants (ARPA 900/450)

- 600mm x 550mm x 190mm.
- 700mm x 800mm x 150mm/150mm.
- Fully automated Sand Plants with 40MT/hour to 24 MT/hour capacity
- Automated mould handling system with auto punch-out (knockout) system
- Hand Molding for Big & Large parts
- 3000mm x 2000mm x 1000mm.
- 400mm x 300mm x 100mm/100mm.

Melting Capacity - Induction Furnaces

- Inductotherm make induction furnaces of capacities ranging from 0.5 ton to 1.5 ton crucibles
- Total connected capacity of around 7MW with 6 furnaces and Cupola for Duplexing
- Ductile Iron treatment done by sandwich method with timely pouring
- Pouring done via EOT cranes.
- Core Making - Cold Box Technology
- PLC controlled Cold Box Core Shooters
- Pneumatic sand transporter and PLC controlled binder dosing units
- Core sand drying plants
- Core painting and baking ovens with trolley storage
- 150 Kg core shooter - 1 Nos
- 30 Kg core shooter - 1 Nos
- 5 Kg core shooter - 6 Nos
- 20lts Shell Core shooter - 2 Nos
- Core Making - Cold Box Technology
- Wheelabrator / Disa Make hanger type shot blasting machines for good shot coverage
- In-house fettling and painting facilities with mechanized conveyor type paint booth

Core Making - Cold Box Technology

- Environmental consciousness via use of dust collectors, cyclones, scrubbers and other Pollution Control Equipments
- STPs and rain water harvesting employed to save water
- Provision of PPE for all workmen to ensure personnel safety
- Returnable packaging employed where permissible

GS Machineries

GSCore Shooter: We provide you solutions for both cold box and hot box core shooting technology. We manufacture core shooters that can produce complex core shapes with short cycle time, completely automated till core ejection to reduce the cost of labor. Our Core Shooters produces cores ranging from 0.5 kg to heavy 200 Kg cores.

Combined with our amine scrubber you can reduce the effects of amine for operators during cold box core shooting process.

GS Amine Scrubber: Cold box process is the most commonly used process for the production of sand-casting cores throughout the world. They are made by solidifying core sand which is usually quartz or zirconium sand under Tri Methyl Amine fog. Long-term exposure of Tri Methyl Amine fog leads to health hazards for operators. To provide a safe odor free working environment for operators in core shop, the amine gas is to be absorbed from the core shooter and is to neutralize. Neutralization is done with the sulphuric acid solution and results in the formation of amine sulfate which is a neutral salt.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Partnership gives an excellent opportunity to stand out from the crowd, reinforce, enhance and establish corporate visibility amongst the targeted audience. Partnership is a great way to reinforce your brand message with benefits including:

- Enhance your leadership status
- Educate and inspire a targeted audience with your products and services
- Raise brand awareness and create preference to a targeted audience
- Build leadership status in the industry
- Create positive PR and raise awareness of the organization as a whole
- Build brand positioning through associative imagery
- Create internal emotional commitment to the brand
- Provide innovative solutions to the industry
- Provide revenue generating ideas

MEDIA SPEAK

India opting out of RCEP credit positive for steel producers: Report

India's decision to walk out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) may just be a boon in disguise for the steel producers, an India Ratings and Research report said.

India has walked out of the regional trade alliance. Many in India have criticised India's decision as the country could lose out the trade block in some areas such as bargaining power to maintaining high exports.

The India research said that in the long run India's decision could fare well for domestic steel producers. Indian steel sector's credit dynamics would remain robust and resilient as India has shied away from signing RCEP. Over the past decade, Indian steel producers have intermittently witnessed severe margin pressures, led by a swarm of steel imports at cheap prices from RCEP members such as China, South Korea, Japan and Vietnam. Any multilateral free-trade agreements (FTA) particularly comprising China could otherwise have posed additional credit risks for domestic steel producers, the report said.

"Moreover, Indian steel producers have low reliance on exports and opting out should not materially impact India's long-term investments and export plans under National Steel Policy 2017. Significant capacity expansion plans in India are largely based upon a healthy medium-to long-term demand outlook. Ind-Ra expects India's long-term domestic steel demand growth should remain robust at around 7%, supported by healthy economic growth and gross fixed capital formation," the report added.

– The Economic Times

Immense effort, innovation required to bring manufacturing back on rails

Despite the green shoots being spoken about regarding the economy there are certain problems which are cropping up. Among the Covid-19 deaths in India, which have reached almost 1.10 lakhs, almost half have occurred among the below-60 age group. Which means the country's workforce has been significantly impacted. This means it will be an uphill task to get the economy back on rails and particularly, the manufacturing segment.

As a twin shock to the economy, industrial production declined eight per cent in August, while retail inflation rose to an eight-month high of 7.34 per cent in September, further delaying a rate cut by the central bank to bolster the shrinking economy.

Decreased output in the manufacturing, mining and power generation sectors further pulled down industrial output, which had contracted 1.4 per cent in August 2019.

Manufacturing sector's output decreased by 8.6 per cent, while the production of the mining and power segments was down 9.8 per cent and 1.8 per cent, respectively.

According to a statement issued by the ministry of statistics and programme

implementation, it might not be appropriate to compare the IIP in the post pandemic months with the IIP for months preceding the pandemic.

Manufacturing of capital goods, which happens to be a barometer of investment, fell 15.4 per cent in August against a contraction of 20.9 per cent earlier. There has also been a decline in the output of consumer durables by 10.3 per cent against a contraction of 9.7 per cent in August 2019. Furthermore, consumer non-durable goods production declined by 3.3 per cent compared with a growth of 3.1 per cent a year ago.

Unfortunately, the contraction in IIP in July has been revised to (-)10.8 per cent from the (-) 10.4 per cent provisional data released last month. However, the IIP in May has been revised marginally to a 33.4 per cent contraction from a 33.9 per cent decline.

As the festive season arrives, the automobile industry has started moving ahead but celebrations are muted as the big question is how long the acceleration will last. Although there's a pent-up demand but the blow from the coronavirus pandemic along with an already sharply slowing economy means buying is still very tentative. While the industry startled analysts in August with a 14 per cent jump in passenger vehicle sales and a three per cent rise in two-wheeler buying, nobody's willing to place any bet on the coming months.

In August last year, car sales had dropped by 41 per cent – the steepest decline in two decades. Following the nationwide lockdown implemented on March 24, April turned out to be a nightmare for the automotive industry as it registered zero sales. The automobile sector, in general, has been much transformed by the COVID-19 outbreak

On September 24, motorcycle maker Harley Davidson announced that it was calling quits on its manufacturing and sales operations in India as part of a restructuring operation put into place as a consequence of the economic climate triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak. With the approval of its 'The Rewire' plan, it will also look to retrench 70 employees while it identifies a local partner to serve its existing customers in the Indian market. Its decision to exit the Indian market makes it one of the first casualties in an automobile sector that has been wreaked by the fallout resulting from the virus outbreak. In truth, the pandemic could not have arrived at a worse moment for India's auto-makers who were already reeling from record low sales in 2019.As per its projections, the passenger vehicle segment is expected to decline to just over 19,00,000 units this year, lower than the volumes seen over a decade ago. The segment registered sales of just 5,52,429 units between April and August – an alarming 49 per cent less than it did in the same period last year.Of late, the World is planning the strategic decoupling of China from its respective manufacturing ecosystem. Over the years, China has developed a strong ground connection through an unbeatable competitive advantage with the globe's manufacturing value chain. Their reach to the sector has been expanded beyond China's domestic boundary, integrating all domestic stakeholders with the global counterpart at respective levels. They effortlessly proliferated and created a seamless production process reaching all the global customers' doorstep using their ahead of time thinking.

This journey to the manufacturing world was predominantly unopposed until Corona came into light. India imported goods worth $ 62.40 billion from Apr'19 to Feb'20 indicating our dependence on them. They are supplying goods worth around $ 2500 billion to the entire world.

The world market is now seeking to have a possible alternative in the fast-changing supply chain domain.
Regionalisation is fast replacing
globalisation under the slogan 'go-local'.China has not entered into the global market overnight.
They strategically penetrated the market through a long market invasion strategy. Their Govt. has subsidized their manufacturing cost through various incentives. Power tariffs are very low for the manufacturing sectors. Besides Power, they are provided with many export-oriented product incentives attracting more SSI and MSMEs in the export business. They have dedicated a few cities with earmarked product categories. Their industry-specific manufacturing city has been planned by the Chinese Government long ago. Road and rail connectivity is of world-class quality, making the transport cheaper.
The export market contributes
significantly to the Chinese economy. Their consistent trade-balance indicates their economic strength.Finding a possible option to do away with China from the manufacturing value chain ultimately is a strategic call and a long-term process. This cannot be achieved in a short-term manner. China has put in a lot of efforts to establish its
manufacturing strength, making the world ecosystem Chinese dependent. It made others learn to live with ease with their lowest price and faster doorstep delivery, competing local markets. By understanding customer pain points, they have developed a customized export model to mitigate their remote existence. Their business model is tightly coupled with the destination countries' value chain to dominate the customer countries' production process.

– Machine Tools World

FIMI urges Centre to immediately put complete ban on illegal export of iron ore pellets

Miners' body FIMI has urged the Centre to immediately put a complete ban on illegal exports of iron ore pellets stating that such a move would help meet the domestic requirement of the key material used in making steel. In a recent letter to Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, FIMI also made a plea to the government for urgent intervention to introduce a price monitoring and regulation mechanism for sale of steel by integrated producers so as to ensure that there is no unreasonable hike in domestic steel prices due to any increase in international iron ore prices.
"We also request you to put immediately complete ban on illegal exports of iron ore pellets by private entities other than exports by KIOCL. Such a facilitation would lead to meet the requirement of iron ore of domestic steel industry to this extent," the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) said. The steel sector has been facing an acute shortage of iron ore, which is a key raw material for making steel.
"It can starkly be observed that 9 million tonnes of iron ore pellets have been exported mainly illegally by the pellet manufacturers other than KIOCL. "Moreover, 62-64 per cent Fe (iron) is required for manufacturing of pellets. Had this illegal exports of pellets by private entities not been allowed, domestic steel industry would have met their requirement to that extent," FIMI said.

Automotive Aftermarket Industry gearing for growth in the new normal

With Indian economy moving towards total unlock, the Indian automotive sector is strongly accelerating towards a promising direction. As recorded in September, a 20 percent month-on-month uptick was seen in domestic sales of automobiles (excluding commercial vehicles) as greater need for health, safety and security is prompting people to buy passenger automobiles and rely less on public transportation.

The rising demand for personal mobility has also contributed to growth in fuel sales especially petrol and diesel, which is now expected to return to pre-COVID levels by the end of current financial year. A modest year-on-year increase in GST collections of September is also tell-tale sign of economic recovery and resuming pace in business operations. As demand for first and second-hand vehicles continue to expand, the need for auto repairs and servicing will increase bringing a corresponding growth in the automotive aftermarket segment. To further amplify this growth, industries in aftermarkets must adopt digital business models to broaden their reach and capture demand from customers across a wider geography.

Similarly, collaboration will significantly help auto component manufacturers who are looking to deepen their aftermarket presence across growth clusters in micro-markets. Offering tremendous opportunity to the segment, India's leading international trade fair for the automotive service industry – ACMA Automechanika New Delhi will re-unite auto component makers under a secure b2b environment, where they can explore innovations for the 'new normal' and engage in invaluable business exchange.

For the coming edition of the trade fair, organizers Messe Frankfurt India and Automotive Component Manufacturers Association(ACMA) are also looking into the hybrid exhibition model. Whiledigital integration can enable a broader reach, physical exhibition will continue to provide a stronger environment for collaboration in the aftermarket segment.

Highlighting the importance of deep localization in strengthening the Indian aftermarket industry, Raj Manek, Executive Director & Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd. shared: "With mobility trends and consumer sentiments shifting in favour, Indian auto component makers should upscale their manufacturing capabilities to harness global demand and gain a strong hold in Asian aftermarkets. Deep localisation of supply chain in conjunction with government's initiative for 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' will also be a key prospect, as it will help the Indian aftermarket industry emerge more resilient and strongly independent in the long run."

Mr Vinnie Mehta, Director General – Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA), while expressing happiness on the better than expected recovery in the PV and Two wheeler segment, remained cautiously optimistic for the ensuing months after the festive season:"There are lots of challenges ahead, especially as we are not yet out of the pandemic; local lockdowns accompanied with logistics issues continue to pose a challenge for the industry. Going forward, a stable policy and regulatory regime, with a singular benign GST rate for the auto component industry among others would provide a fillip to the sector."

"With emphasis on 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' by the Government, the automotive industry in India is focusing on deep localisation which would not only make the industry globally competitive but also add to the benefit of the consumers by making available products of superior quality at affordable price points." Mehta said.

Currently, the auto-components industry accounts for 2.3 per cent of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs around 5 million people directly and indirectly. As auto component manufacturers look for a stronger approach, localising manufacturing operations, adopting omni-channel models and focusing on collaboration would greatly help in regaining momentum in the market.

– Machine Tools World

Grand **Business Carnival**

6 co located events and one Grand Business Carnival for Metal, Machinery and Manufacturing industries

- HTF - for **Advanced Hand Tools, Power Tools and Fasteners**
- CWE - for **Advanced Cutting and Welding Equipment & Technology including Laser Technology**
- IMEX - for **Latest Machine Tools** (CNC, Laser, Shot Blasting, Measuring & Testing Equipment and more......)
- UMEX – for **Economical Pre-owned machinery in the industry**
- World of Metal – **for Mineral, Metal, Metallurgy & Materials**
- TECHINDIA - for **Engineering and Manufacturing** (Pumps, Valves, Compressors and more........)

A Sneak Preview

- Expected Presence of **500+** leading Exhibitors from **15+** countries

- **4 Open Seminars**
  > Hand Tools, Power Tools & Fasteners Know-How
  > Advancements In Cutting & Welding Equipment
  > Machine Tools: Bringing Depth to Manufacturing in Industries
  > Technology Innovation for Metal & Metallurgy Industries

- Various New Launches by exhibitors.

Business Connect Program

- Market News & Views, a weekly e news alert program covering Industry Updates ,Launch of New Technologies , Partnership Opportunities , Industry Views, CSR activities

- International Business Networking Program (IBNP) a monthly webinar covering key industry across Indian as well as some neighboring countries including China, Taiwan, Bangladesh, etc

- Open Seminars during the event, a unique opportunity to have face to face interaction with industry leader and knowledge transfer

Contact Us

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WORLD OF METAL | CWE CUTTING AND WELDING EQUIPMENT EXPO | IMEX INTERNATIONAL MACHINE TOOLS EXPO | UMEX USED MACHINERY EXPO | TECHINDIA ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING EXPO | HAND TOOLS EXPO | FASTENER EXPO

3-5 SEPTEMBER 2021 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, India

SOME LEADING COMPANIES AT THE EVENTS

Asian Cranes & Elevators

The company having started up manufacturing in 1980, is today one of the leading Indian designer & manufacturer of wide range of material handling equipments under the brand names of ASIAN and NATIONAL & spreads over in more than 2,00,000 sq ft of covered area with state of art manufacturing facilities.

It has successfully delivered a comprehensive range of material handling equipments globally in all segments i.e. Heavy Steel Plants, Rolling Mills , Mines, Paper Plants, Cement Plants, Power Plants, Hydroelectric Power Stations, Heavy Engg Industries, Pipe Mills, Automotive Industries, Galvanizing Industries, Chemical & Pharmaceutical Units, Woolen & Dyeing Mills, Container Handling, Light Engg & Production Engg Industries, Defence etc.

To serve our customers in the best possible ways, we are constantly developing advanced overhead material handling equipments. With our total commitment to continual development & improvement of our all services we hit the ground running. The group has fully equipped R & D Department to manufacture high quality products with best performance and overall values.

The group has firm belief in innovation & leadership through technology

Investments in continous development of our products, productions & professional customer service networks allows us to comply with the requirements of tomorrow's world.

Ever since its inception, the group managements firm belief of top quality products & commitment, resulting huge lists of highly satisfied customers which is ever growing & we had become a important partner of Material Handling Equipment Industry easing the workload of our customers.

But even top quality products & commitment cannot replace personal contact to customer making After Sales Services as the most critical part of the job. The products are designed for long operating life providing optimum service to user. In addition to this most prompt & efficient After Sales Service Wing has been working round the clock along with readily availability of spares of equipments as well as comprehensive maintenance contracts.

Our special easy to maintain design of equipment provide maximum benefit to the end-users i.e. shop floor

G.S. Machineries

G.S. Machineries was started in the year 1999 to build core shooter and other foundry machinery. Since then the company has sold more than 500 machinery in & around India. Our product portfolio includes Sand casting equipment, Aluminum casting equipment, Surface blasting, Band Saws and other special purpose machines. Based on the experience gained from the installed machines and customer feedbacks the company strives to build machines that better fit your production needs and innovate new projects.

Enviropol Engineers Pvt Ltd

ENVIROPOL has been pioneer world-wide in supplying Air Pollution Control (APC) Systems and Bagasse Dryers across industries. Today, it is rated number one amongst few Indian companies for an active presence in the entire spectrum of APC business.

- Technocrats promoted group
- Founded in year 2003
- Corporate office located in Noida.
- Total employee strength 100+
- Global presence in 20+ countries
- More than 350+ installations world wide
- Manufacturing facilities spread over 90000 sq.ft

Our Mission:

To deliver innovative, reliable and cost effective eco-friendly solutions to our customers for producing green energy and managing healthier environment for future generations

Our Vision:

Engineering for Excellence to create Healthier Environment

Accreditation:

- Technology Tie up with Swidish Comapny for WESP, U.S company for EGB, European comapny for FGD.
- Under Approved Vendor List of Prestigious
- Consultants including MECON, ERCOM, AGEC & GASCO
- Various Publication on Air Polution Control and Bagass Drying Globally
- Invited For Techinical Session On Bagasse Drying at Vietnam
- Participation in over 100+ Exibitions Accross Globe
- Wide spread agent network including in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam & Kenya

Gautam Group

Since 1962 in Castings, Gautam Group has years of successful business behind them and with the company thriving on challenges and innovation, it is more than ready to grab future opportunities. We have become one of the leading foundries in Gujarat, India, by producing Cast Iron, Ductile (SG) Iron Casting & Machined Components. We have a production capacity of 36000 Metric Tons per annum with our new expansion.

We are an ISO/TS 16949 certified company, supplying various parts like Housings, Front Axle Supports, 4WD Drive Axle Parts, Counter Weights to Original Equipment Manufacturers in Tractor, Auto & Engineering industries. At Gautam, we ensure Value Addition and are committed to achieve total customer satisfaction by rendering best quality components through continuous improvement in its Quality Process together with ethical business standards and integrity.

Taparia Tools Ltd.

Taparia Tools started manufacturing hand tools in 1969 in India in technical collaboration with a reputed company of Sweden.

The company has a well laid out fully equipped factory located at Nashik, The plant is located on a total area of 42832 Sq.Mtrs and All the manufacturing facilities required for production of hand tools are under one roof – one location. Out of the total of 1200 work force of this, the number of people engaged in direct production is 1000. The remaining are in administrative and management.

The company's research and development department is manned by Mechanical Engineers and Metallurgists equipped with latest CAD design facilities etc.From its inception, the company has laid high emphasis on the quality of its products. It has well established quality control department to monitor the quality of the product at different stages of production. In fact Taparia tools meet and some cases exceed the U.S. Federal Specifications of hardness and torque value besides meeting Indian, British and German standards. Taparia tools are guaranteed against manufacturing and raw material defects and are replaced free with no question asked.

The company has fully absorbed the production technology of its Swedish collaborator. In addition to manufacturing facility the factory has a fully equipped Quality Assurance Department and laboratory for meticulous and continuous testing of raw materials up to the final finished products. The Company has equipments for checking the chemical, physical and Metallurgical quality of raw materials and finished goods.

The Company's manufacturing facilities includes modern Forge shop, Machine shop, Heat treatment, Polishing, Nickel chrome plating and so on.

Electrotherm (India) Ltd

Electrotherm (India) Limited, an ISO 9001:2015 certified, public limited company, was founded in 1983 to cater to the needs of all segments of steel industry, foundries and heat treatment industry. Today, Electrotherm is a well diversified conglomerate having businesses in the field of Engineering & Technologies catering to steel and foundry industry; transformer manufacturing; steel making; ductile iron pipe making; manufacturing of battery operated vehicles; renewable energy; transmission line tower and education.

The Engineering & Technologies (E&T) division of Electrotherm is a leading designer and manufacturer of Induction Melting Furnaces, Electric Arc Furnaces, Metal Refining Konverters (AOD), Electrotherm Refining Furnaces (patented for design & process), High Speed Continuous Casting Machine, Power Distribution and Furnace Transformers and other equipment for Steel Plants, Foundries, Induction Heating and Hardening equipment for Heat Treatment. The E&T division is a customer centric organization delivering total solutions. It is particularly renowned for providing end-to-end solutions for steel melt shops from iron ore to long product, supplying sturdy and highly efficient plant and machinery and rendering outstanding pre and post sales services to its customers around the world. Due to high level expertise and vast experience, Electrotherm (E&T) is the most preferred mini steel plant maker up to 1 million ton per year capacity through various alternative routes. Moreover, Electrotherm (E&T) is the only Indian company having CE marking for its Induction Furnaces LRF and MRK, certified by UL Laboratories, USA.

The E&T division of Electrotherm has supplied over 5500 equipments for various applications, 2500 furnaces for steel, alloy steel and stainless steel making, 1400 furnaces for ferrous and non-ferrous foundries and around 750 equipment for heat-treatment applications. It has exported over 600 furnaces to 58 countries around the world. Besides, it has made several mini steel plants overseas on turnkey basis in countries like Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and some African countries for capacities ranging from 50,000 TPA to 1,000,000 TPA.

The Electric Arc Furnaces of Electrotherm are designed and manufactured under technical collaboration with Vitkovice Heavy Machinery, Czech Republic. Rest of the major machineries, including Coal based DRI plants and power plant utilizing waste heat generated by rotary Kilns, are designed and manufactured by in-house expertise and facilities at Electrotherm.

Being a customer centric organization with focus on meeting changing needs of its customers, Electrotherm has full-fledged Research & Development Centre at its Corporate Office & Works in Ahmedabad with state of the art manufacturing set up and modern office complex.

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Basic Protective Measures

USE FACE MASK

CLEAN AND DISINFECT

WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY

KEEP DISTANCE FROM OTHERS

AVOID TOUCHING EYES, NOSE OR MOUTH

STAY AT HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK