

(This document comprises news clips from various media in which Balmer Lawrie is mentioned, news related to GOI and PSEs, and news from the verticals that we do business in. This will be e-mailed on every Monday.)

### Balmer Lawrie rebrands 'Balmerol'

Balmer Lawrie, a leading manufacturer of greases in India, on Friday launched the new packaging for 'Balmerol' during a two day channel partner meet 2012 being held on 24th and 25th August, 2012 at Silvassa. Balmer Lawrie manufactures and markets greases, oils and speciality lubricants under the brand name of Balmerol. The greases and lubricants business undertook a rebranding exercise recently and the Balmerol logo has been given a new and modern look. This rebranding exercise is in alignment with its goal of not only maintaining its position as the largest manufacturer of greases in India, but also emerge as a globally competitive, transnational lubricants solution and service provider.

Around 60 distributors attended the event and visited the upcoming state-of-the-art greases and lubricants plant at Silvassa. Besides Silvassa, the company has plants in Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai. Balmer Lawrie is a Mini Ratna 1 public sector enterprise under the ministry of petroleum and natural gases. The company had reported nearly 2 per cent increase in net profit at Rs 45.63 crore for the first quarter ended June 30. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 44.91 crore in the same period previous fiscal. Total income of the company during the reported quarter increased 13 per cent at Rs 683 crore as against Rs 607 crore in the previous corresponding period.

*The Economic Times - 24.08.2012*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/indl-goods/svs/packaging/balmer-lawrie-rebrands-balmerol/articleshow/15635142.cms#>

### Balmer Lawrie

Balmer Lawrie, a pioneer in manufacturing greases in India, launched the new packaging for 'Balmerol' today during a two day Channel Partner Meet 2012 being held on 24th & 25th August, 2012 at Silvassa.

*The Times of India - 25.08.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/speednewsshow/15633426.cms>

### बामर लोरी के नए पैक्स का लॉन्च



सिलवासा। संघ प्रदेश दादरा नगर हवेली में स्थित भारत की ग्रीस उत्पादन करने वाली अग्रणी कंपनी बामर लोरी के चैनल भागीदार की बैठक 24 एवं 25 अगस्त को सिलवासा के रास रिसोर्ट में आयोजित की गई। इस अवसर पर बामर लोरी के नए पैक्स का लॉन्च किया गया। बामर लोरी बामरोल ब्रांड के नाम से ग्रीस एवं ऑयल का उत्पादन करती है। ग्रीस एवं लुब्रिकेंट्स विभाग ने हाल में पुनः ब्रांड का नाम देने का कार्य किया है तथा बामरोल लोगो को नया एवं आधुनिक स्वरूप दिया गया।

बैठक में 60 डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर्स ने भाग लिया। उन्होंने सिलवासा में अत्याधुनिक कला से बनाई गई ग्रीस एवं लुब्रिकेंट्स की नई फैक्ट्रियों का भी दौरा किया। इस कंपनी की अन्य फैक्ट्रियां कोलकाता, चेन्नई और मुंबई में हैं। बामर लोरी पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के अधीन मिनी रत्न-1 प्रकार का सार्वजनिक उपक्रम है। बैठक में दक्षिण भारत एवं पश्चिम भारत विभाग से आए कंपनी के संचालक के. गोपीनाथन (एक्जीक्यूटिव डायरेक्टर), आनंदासेन गुप्ता, अभिजीत राय शांतनु, सिलवासा कंपनी के मैनेजर सीआर विरमानी तथा डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर उपस्थित थे।



बामर लोरी द्वारा साझेदार मिलन समारोह का आयोजन सिलवासा में आयोजित किया गया। इस दो दिवसीय मिलन समारोह में दक्षिण भारत के 60 से अधिक वितरकों ने हिस्सा लिया। यह कंपनी ग्रीस बनाने वाली कंपनी है। इस समारोह में गोपीनाथन-निदेशक, आनंदा सेन गुप्ता, अभिजीत राय, शांतनु चक्रवर्ती, एस.सी. विरमानी विशेष रूप से उपस्थित रहे।

*Gujarat Vaibhav and Lok Tej - 26.08.2012*

## **PSUs may disclose financial impact of Govt largesse**

Financial cost of government giveaways through state-owned enterprises may become public, if a Parliamentary Panel has its way. The Standing Committee on Finance, headed by Yashwant Sinha, has recommended that the financial impact of all government directives on a public sector undertaking should be disclosed in the Board of Directors' report of the PSU. Such a move would be in the interest of functional autonomy and operational efficiency of the PSU, the panel said in its report on the Companies Bill, 2011. The Panel also felt that such disclosure would also minimise government interference in the management of PSUs.

If this recommendation were to become a reality, the financial impact of any government largesse such as loan write-offs, interest subvention and food-fuel-fertiliser subsidies would get truly reflected in the annual reports of the PSUs, say economy watchers.

*The Hindu Business Line - 21.08.2012*

[http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/economy/article3804187.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl\\_home](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/economy/article3804187.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl_home)

## **Air tickets get costlier**

Air tickets have become costlier with the airlines increasing the fuel surcharge by Rs 100 to Rs 150 following a steep hike in aviation fuel prices by the oil companies this month. The airlines have issued a circular to their travel agents informing them about Rs 100 hike in the fuel surcharge till 1,000 km and Rs 150 for flights going beyond that distance, a travel agent said. Oil marketing companies have hiked the jet fuel or ATF price by over 3.2 per cent on August 16, the third straight increase since July.

*Business Standard - 22.08.2012*

<http://www.business-standard.com/generalnews/news/air-tickets-get-costlier/47035/>

## **Airline industry woes chip away passenger choices**

Air passengers face higher fares, fewer flight choices and crowded aircraft as European carriers trim seating capacity growth or cut routes altogether, as they battle to salvage profits and fend off the impact of rising fuel prices. With jet fuel prices near record highs at the same time as taxes and airport charges rise, airlines are curbing the growth of capacity - the number of seats they

## **Public sector enterprises nominees play an independent role: Government**

The government is likely to specify that its nominees in public sector enterprises (PSEs) will play a role independent of their other official positions, a move aimed at addressing charges by foreign investors of interference in state-run firms.

The ministry of heavy industries has circulated a Cabinet note which seeks to separate the role of the government directors on the boards of PSEs from their positions in the government, a senior official told ET.

The ministry's note comes after the UK-based hedge fund, The Children Investment Fund Management (TCI), dragged the government to court for interfering in coal prices. TCI also plans to sue the Coal India board for breach of fiduciary duties and abuse of minority shareholders.

*The Times of India - 22.08.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Public-sector-enterprises-nominees-play-an-independent-role-Government/articleshow/15598199.cms>

## **Indigo becomes the top airline in domestic aviation market**

Indigo airline recently ousted Jet airways to become the top airline in the domestic aviation market. This growth was not propelled only by fleet and network expansion, said industry experts. The airline's passenger friendly policies, the introduction of business class seats and networking with the travel agents were also reasons for the growth. Till date, Indigo has been on top of the on-time performance list. Operating on schedule is one of the main reasons people, particularly business travellers, prefer the airline.

*The Times of India - 26.08.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Indigo-becomes-the-top-airline-indomestic-aviation-market/articleshow/15761956.cms>

## **Container freight station coming up**

With the possible relaxation in the cabotage law the logistics business in the city is all set to boom. The number of container freight stations (CFS) is also on the rise. MIV Logistics Pvt Ltd, a company promoted by Infrastructures Kerala Limited (INKEL) in association with MFar Enterprises Pvt Ltd and VKL Estates Pvt Ltd is developing a container freight station at Vallarpadam on 18.5 acres of land taken on

make available - and the frequency of some flights to lower costs and not drive away customers already spooked by rising fares.

According to the Association of European Airlines, capacity among its member airlines eased by 4.6 percent in the first half of this year compared with the year-earlier period.

*Reuters - 24.08.2012*

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2012/08/23/us-europe-airlines-capacity-idINBRE87M13Z20120823>

### **Smaller cities favoured for upcoming logistic hubs**

An acre of land in Oragadam, near Chennai, today costs Rs 2.50 crore, while it used to be around Rs 80 lakh three years ago. With the auto sector turning Oragadam into its hub, not only has the price of land gone up in and around the area, but it has also opened enormous business opportunities for logistics and warehousing operations.

Once the Goods and Service Tax (GST) is implemented there will be a great demand for logistic and warehouse operations, said V.N. Sridharan, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Kailash Logistics, which has a large logistics park in Oragadam. He said goods worth Rs 5,000 crore are manufactured in the zone every month.

*The Hindu Business Line - 27.08.2012*

[http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3824419.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl\\_home](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3824419.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl_home)

### **Panel for study on decline in tea output**

The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its 102nd report on the performance of plantation sector - tea and coffee industry, has suggested that the Union Department of Commerce should analyse the reasons behind the continuous decrease in the country's tea production and to redeem the situation.

Since export is dependent on production, the Committee recommends the Department to take necessary measures to increase tea production in the country with emphasis on quality. Moreover, as orthodox tea fetches more earnings in the global market, it will be in the fitness of thing that production of orthodox tea should be increased in the country, the Committee says.

lease from Cochin Port Trust for 30 years at an estimated cost of Rs 70 crore.

The facility is expected to be partly operational by December and fully operational by October 2013. When fully commissioned it will have a capacity to handle 1 lakh 20-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) per annum, both for export and import. The facility will have a warehouse of 60,000 sqft capacity. It will have an open yard of over 5 lakh sqft for storage of containers.

*IBN Live - 25.08.2012*

<http://ibnlive.in.com/news/container-freight-station-coming-up/284775-60-122.html>

### **India sees growing demand for warehouses**

According to the latest findings from CBRE Group (a large commercial real estate services firm), the country witnessed an increased market activity for warehouses and logistic spaces during the first half of FY 12. Demand for logistics and warehousing spaces was not limited to big cities such as Delhi NCR (national capital region), Mumbai and Bangalore, but was also spread across other tier II cities.

"E-tailers invested heavily into strategically located assets and have been taking up quality warehousing space across India, primarily in NCR, Mumbai and Bangalore. Availability of large land parcels at relatively low cost, connectivity to multiple markets across states and industrial clusters, has led to the emergence of some tier-II and tier-III cities as favoured destinations for the development of logistics parks and warehouses," CBRE noted.

*The Times of India - 21.08.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/India-sees-growing-demand-for-warehouses/articleshow/15588387.cms>

### **Independent directors raise questions listing ONGC Videsh**

Independent directors of ONGC are believed to have raised some questions on the proposed move to list ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), the company's overseas investment arm. Sources close to the development said that besides the timing of the move, the independent directors also wanted to know the intent behind such a decision. "The issue has not been put on back-burner, but the company is going to do a detailed study of the questions raised by the independent directors before taking it any further," an official said.

To fund overseas acquisitions, it was proposed to list OVL to raise approximately Rs 5,000 crore. Another issue that will need to be

*Assam Tribune - 23.08.2012*

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/detailsnew.asp?id=aug2412/at06>

considered is whether the matter will require Department of Disinvestment approval.

Those tracking the company say that before taking any decision, the sentiments of employees, too, need to be addressed. OVL has always been treated as part of ONGC, drawing internal resources from ONGC.

*The Hindu Business Line - 22.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/stock-markets/article3807906.ece>