	02-01-2018	% CHANGE
Sensex	33,812	-0.49
US Dollar	63.48	0.31
Gold	30,450	0.16
Brent oil	66.67	0.46

NIFTY 50		
		CHANG
Adani Ports		
Ambuja Cements		
Asian Paints	1142.75	0.90
Aurobindo Pharma	671.40.	-12.5
Axis Bank	559.50	-6.0
Bajaj Auto	3294.75	5.50
Bajaj Finance	1724.65	-1.0
Bharti Airtel	516.55	-11.3
Bosch	19721.75.	70.1
BPCL	499.80	8.80
Cipla	607.80	3.70
Coal India	270.05	3.40
Dr Reddys Lab	2409.20	5.0
Eicher Motors		
GAIL (India)	494.35	-4.3
HCL Tech		
HDFC	1703.25	19.50
HDFC Bank	1872.35	17.8
Hero MotoCorp		
Hindalco	271.90	0.7
HPCL		
Hind Unilever		
Indiabulls HFL		
ICICI Bank		
IndusInd Bank		
Bharti Infratel		
Infosys		
Indian OilCorp		
ITC		
Kotak Bank		
L&T		
Lupin		
M&M		
Maurti Suzuki		
NTPC		
ONGC		
PowerGrid Corp		
Reliance Ind		
State Bank		
Sun Pharma		
Tata Motors		
Tata Steel		
TCS		
Tech Mahindra		
UltraTech Cement		
UPL		
UF L	//3.45.	17./(

TT BUY TT SELL

.. 2.15

311.65

Euro 76.35 70 British Pound 85.74 81 Japanese Yen (100) 56.37 50 Chinese Yuan 9.74 51 Swiss Franc 65.12 65 Singapore Dollar 47.63 42 Canadian Dollar 50.44 50 Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 11 Source:Indian Bank	US Dollar	63.28	63.60
Japanese Yen (100) 56.37 50 Chinese Yuan 9.74 9.74 Swiss Franc 65.12 60 Singapore Dollar 47.63 44 Canadian Dollar 50.44 50 Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 11	Euro	76.35	76.74
Chinese Yuan 9.74 Swiss Franc 65.12 66 Singapore Dollar 47.63 47 Canadian Dollar 50.44 56 Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 18	British Pound	85.74	86.17
Swiss Franc 65.12 65 Singapore Dollar 47.63 47 Canadian Dollar 50.44 55 Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 15	Japanese Yen (100)	56.37	56.67
Singapore Dollar 47.63 4 Canadian Dollar 50.44 50 Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 1	Chinese Yuan	9.74	9.80
Canadian Dollar 50.44 50 Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 1	Swiss Franc	65.12	65.49
Malaysian Ringitt 15.74 1	Singapore Dollar	47.63	47.87
	Canadian Dollar	50.44	50.72
Source:Indian Bank	Malaysian Ringitt	15.74	15.82
	Source:Indian Bank		

January 02 rates in rupees with pre-vious rates in parentheses

Factory activity quickens in Dec.: PMI

'Survey reading of 54.7 shows fastest pace of expansion in five years; GST pushes up raw material costs'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Manufacturing quickened to the fastest pace in five years in December, bolstered by a sharp rise in output and new orders, according to a private sector survey.

The Nikkei India Puchasing Managers' Index registered a value of 54.7 in December, compared with 52.6 in November. A value over 50 indicates an expansion while one below 50 denotes

"The Indian manufacturing sector ended the year on a strong note, with operating conditions improving at the strongest rate in five years," IHS Markit said in the report. "The overall upturn was sup-



Without exception: The survey showed growth cutting across all three monitored categories. • REUTERS

ported by the sharpest increase in output and new orders since December 2012 and October 2016 respectively." In response to the improved inflows of new business, job creation quickened to the strongest since August

2012, according to the report. "This was consistent with the strongest improvement in the health of the sector since December 2012. Notably, the PMI reading was slightly stronger than the average (54.0) recorded since the inception of the survey in March 2005."

At the broad market group level, growth was seen across all three monitored categories (consumer, intermediate and investment). Higher order book volumes and improved underlying demand conditions reportedly contributed to greater production, IHS Markit said.

'Input cost inflation' "However, the sector continues to face some turbulence as delayed customer payments contributed to greater volumes of outstanding work," Aashna Dodhia, Economist at IHS Markit and author of the report said. "On the price front, July's Goods and Services Tax (GST) continued to lead to greater raw material costs, with input cost inflation accelerating to the sharpest since April."

Ms. Dodhia said firms were restricted in their ability to pass on higher costs to clients, which added upward pressure on margins.

"Challenges remain as the economy adjusts to recent shocks, but the overall upturn was robust compared to the trend observed for the survey history," Ms. Dodhia said. "This outlook was shared by the manufacturing community as sentiment picked up to the strongest in three months amid expected improvements in market conditions over the next 12 months," she added.

connection points, the older

operators blamed free calls

offered by Reliance Jio for a

"tsunami" of network traffic.

commended a hefty penalty

of ₹3,050 crore on top three

telcos - Airtel, Vodafone and

Idea - for denial of intercon-

important aspects of inter-

The new regulations cover

nection to Reliance Jio.

The regulator had also re-



On a high: The expansion has propelled RIL into the top five petrochemical producers globally. • REUTERS

RIL raises ethylene capacity twofold

Largest off-gas cracker unit adds heft

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) has commissioned the world's largest off-gas cracker facility at its Jamnagar complex, completing its multi-billion-dollar expansion which has seen it doubling the ethylene capacity and entering the league of the top five petrochemical producers globally.

The commissioning of the cracker plant increases RIL's combined ethylene capacity to close to four million metric tonnes per annum at its five sites.

With this, Jamnagar in Gujarat has also become home to the world's largest operating refinery off-gas cracker, RIL said in a statement. The oil major also runs the world's largest single location petroleum refinery at Jamnagar with a 60-million-tonne annual capacity.

Refinery integration

Commissioning of the ethylene plant integrates feedstock with the two refineries nearby, thus providing sustainable cost advantage to RIL over its global peers.

"The world's first ROGC

and downstream plants marks a paradigm shift in profitability and sustainability of our petchem business as the complex deeply integrates our feedstock, reducing cost massively," chairman Mukesh Ambani was quoted as saying. "This expansion once again showcases our competitive adefficient vantage in execution of complex projects."

'Concludes \$16-bn plan' According to RIL, the fa-

cility is the world's first ever and the largest refinery offgas cracker complex of 1.5 mmtpa capacity along with downstream plants and utilities. "This is the largest ever expansion of RIL's petrochemicals portfolio, and is also the last leg of the multibillion dollar capex cycle, which was also one the largest capex programmes globally in the sector in recent times," it said.

In 2014, the company had announced a \$16 billion capex plan at Jamnagar.

Ethylene from the ROGC is used in downstream plants to produce monoethylene glycol (MEG) and

SBI nets ₹1,772 cr. via insufficient balance

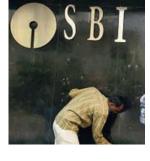
'Amount exceeds the bank's Q2 profit'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Country's largest lender SBI netted a windfall of ₹1,771.67 crore, more than its second quarter profit, from customers for non-maintenance of monthly average balance in savings accounts in eight months of 2017-18, Finance Ministry data showed. SBI has close to 40.5 crore savings account customers. The SBI, after a gap of six

years, had reintroduced the monthly average balance charges from April 1, 2017. After criticism, it reduced the charges with effect from October 1.

"On an average balance of ₹3,000 in metro, SBI earns ₹6 only per month, whereas for a minimum balance of ₹1,000 in rural, bank earns ₹2 per month which is



meagre when compared to the services offered and corresponding costs incurred by the bank (free cheque book, 8 free ATM transactions, free branch transactions)," the bank said in a statement. The Ministry data showed the bank charged ₹1,771.67 crore from customers on account of non-maintenance of minimum average balance between April and November 2017.

TRAI interconnect rule has a ₹1 lakh a day penalty proviso

Requires telcos to act on interconnection request in 30 days

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued new interconnectivity regulations mandating service providers to enter into an interconnection agreement "on non-discriminatory basis" within 30 days of receiving a request from another operator.

The 'Telecom Interconnection Regulations 2018', which will come into effect from February 1, 2018, also provide for a daily penalty of up to ₹1 lakh per service area for operators violating the

Prolonged battle The regulations follow a pro-

longed battle between Jio



Airtel, Vodafone and Idea, on the issue. While Reliance Jio had alleged that its subscribers were unable to make calls to other networks as other operators were not providing adequate inter-

connection such as interconnection agreement, provisioning interconnection and augmentation of points of interconnections, disconnection of ports, and financial disincentive on interconnection issues. The regulations will apply to all service providers offering telecom services in India, TRAI said.

polyethylene.

+ AI identifies 33 assets for sale

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Air India has identified 33 properties that will be put on sale as part of the state owned carrier's divestment, Parliament was informed on Tuesday. A maximum of 10 properties had been identified in Mumbai alone, besides three each in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru and Pune, land and building in Mauritius, and two flats in Hong Kong.

"Air India Limited has presently identified 33 properties for sale," Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha told the Rajya Sabha. "Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the Turn Around and Financial Restructuring Plan of Air India, including the monetization of Air India assets, in April 2012," he added.

Parekh takes helm at Infosys

To focus on helping clients "digitally reinvent" themselves

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Salil Parekh, who took the reins as CEO at Infosys on Tuesday, vowed to sustain vices provider by focussing on helping clients "digitally reinvent" themselves. The 53-year-old former

Capgemini veteran has his work cut out as he takes charge after his full-time predecessor Vishal Sikka had resigned in August in the wake of a public spat with co-founder N.R. Narayana Murthy on issues of poor corporate governance and irregularities in the acquisition of an

A spokesperson for Infosys said they would not issue a statement on the contents of a speech Mr. Parekh made on his first day at Infosys, and only confirmed that he had addressed employees.

"This year is off to a great



Salil Parekh

start as I begin my journey as CEO of the company," Mr. Parekh said, according to a source privy to the information. "I am excited to lead the company on its path of helping the clients digitally reinvent themselves for sustained business growth. This area has a great scope for each of us to put forth our best. We will work together to accelerate our transformations. We can fulfil this role by being ready for the future and re-skilling ourselves," Mr. Parekh had said.

Mr. Parekh was one of the five deputy CEOs at Capgemini and also served as the gemini India and Capgemini U.S. LLC since February

He is the second outsider to take up the CEO's job in Infosys after Mr. Sikka.

"Salil brings with him years of exemplary experience in various fields, and his skills expertise and leadership abilities are complimentary to ours as an organsaid Nandan isation." Nilekani, a co-founder and non-executive chairman of the Infosys board.

"We are hopeful that this combination is highly successful and look forward to partnering with him on this journey," Mr. Nilekani said in a statement to employees on

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS) THROUGH **GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH** ROADS AND BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT (NATIONAL HIGHWAYS)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Bids are invited online from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the table belo S.E/R&B/NH ATP NIT.No.:51/SE.NH.ATP/A.E/AEE2/2017-18, Date: 28.12.2017 NIT. No.: 51 Name of Work: Package for Consultancy services for Authority' Engineer for supervision of Civil Construction works for proposed 4-lane ROBs and its approaches in existing Level Crossing (i)lieu of 23/SPL Class at km. 3.600 & (ii) 18A/SPL, class at km. 7.800 on NH-18 in the State of Andhra Pradesh under EPC ode (2nd Call). 1) Date and Time Publishing the Bidding Documents: 08.01.201 at 15-00 Hrs. 2) Last Date and Time for receiving queries: 22.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting at Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, (R&B) NH & CRE AP Vilavawada: 22.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. 4) Period of Downloading of Biddin Documents: 08.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. to 07.02.2018 upto 13-00 Hrs. 5) Last Date and Time of Submission of Bids in online : 07.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs. 6) Last Date and Time of Submission of Hard Copies: 07.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs. 7) Opening o Technical Bids at Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, (R&B) NH & CRF, AP, Vijayawada

08.02.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. Detailed NIT Bid Documents (Corrigendum / Addendum i

any) are available at India through website : https://eprocure.gov.in

Sd/- Sri M. Siva Kumar, M.Tech Superintending Engineer, (R&B) NH Circle Sai Nagar, Anantapuram - 515 001

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES Basudevpur, Dist- Keonjhar. Bid Identification NO.CCE,KIP (KCD)- 10/2017-18 (Pertaining to Kanpur Canal Division, Jhumpura) of tender paper & Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the bid in respect of the wo action of Godhuli Distributary System including its structures of Kanupur Irrigation troject" will be received online through e-procurement portal in the designated Banks (SBI/IC) of HDFC Bank) payment gateway instead of the respective mode/shape mentioned in til mical bid document (Crose-I) which is mandatury from dt. 11.12.2017 as per voiks Departme vernment of Odisha No.07679800032015-17276/W dt.06.12.2017 (available in technical I turnent in website). Accordingly the critical dates are rearranged as tabled below. Availability of tender Date & Date & time of opening bid PAN Card, Affidavit department officials. 02.01.2018 17.01.2018 | 09.01.2018 | 20.01.2018 | To be intimated office hours. All other terms and conditions remain unaltered Further details can be seen from the e-procuremen

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS) THROUGH

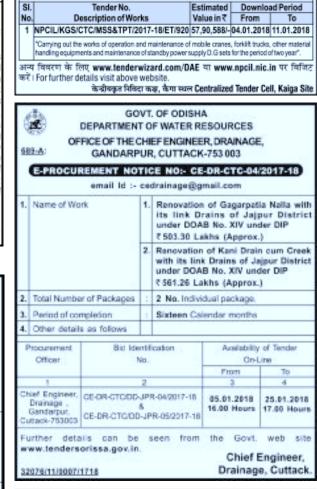
> NOTICE INVITING TENDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Chief Construction Engineer,

Kanupur Irrigation Project, Basudevpur, Keonjha

NIT. No.: 50/17-18 Name of Work: Consultancy services for preparation of DPR fo "Construction of Bridge at km. 186/10 of Madanapalli - Naidupeta Road NH 71" (3rd Call). 1) Date and Time Publishing the Bidding Documents: 08.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. 2) Last Date and Time for receiving queries : 22.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. 3) Date nd Time of Pre-Bid Meeting at Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, (R&B) NH & CRF Vijayawada: 22.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. 4) Period of Downloading of Bidding Documents: 08.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs. to 22.02.2018 upto 13-00 Hrs. 5) Last Date and Time of Submission of Bids in online : 22.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs. 6) Last Date and Time of Submission of Original Documents: 22.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs. 7 Opening of Technical Bids at Office of the Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, (R&B) NH & CRF, Vijayawada on.: 23.02.2018 at 11-00 Hrs. Detailed NIT Bid Document Corrigendum / Addendum if any) are available at through website https://eprocure.gov.in

Sri M. Siva Kumar, M.Tech.



GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH (R&B) Department (National Highways)

Amendment to the following Tender Notice Name of Work: Consultancy services for preparation of Detailed Project Report for 4/6 Lane Access Controlled Green Field Expressway Connecting New Capital City Amaravathi to Anantapuramu with connectivity to Kurnool and Kadapa in the State

Nit. No.: S.E/R&B/NH ATP NIT. No: Amendment 44/SE/NH/ATP/AEE1/2017-18

Date : 18.12.2017					
Description	Published as	Now Read As			
Date and Time of Publishing the Bidding	28.12.2017 at	05.01.2018 at			
Documents	15-00 Hrs.	15-00 Hrs.			
Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting in the Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, (R&B) NH&CRF, AP, Vijayawada	12.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs.	22.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs.			
Period of Downloading of Bidding Documents	12.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs.	22.01.2018 at 15-00 Hrs.			
Last Date and Time of Submission of Bids online	28.12.2017 at 15-00 Hrs. to 12.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs.	05.01.2018 at 15.00 Hrs. to 20.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs.			
Last Date and Time of Submission of Hard Copies	12.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs.	20.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs.			
Opening of Technical bid in the office of the Engineer-in-Chief, (R&B) NH&CRF, AP, Vijayawada on	12.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs.	21.02.2018 upto 15-00 Hrs.			

Detailed NIT Bid Documents (Corrigendum / Addendum if any) are available through ebsite: https://eprocure.gov.in Sri M.Shiva Kumar, M.Tech.

Superintending Engineer, (R&B) NH Circle, Sai Nagar, Anantapur-515 001

Oil trades near strongest levels since 2015 'Geopolitical risks from Iran, Kurdistan, Libya may set the pace for the year' REUTERS tures brokerage Oanda in

SINGAPORE/LONDON

Oil prices posted their strongest opening to a year since 2014 on Tuesday, with crude rising to mid-2015 highs amid large anti-government rallies in Iran and ongoing supply cuts led by OPEC and

U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures traded flat at about \$60.40 by 1200 GMT after hitting \$60.74 earlier in the day, their highest since June 2015. Brent crude futures, the international benchmark, were also flat at around \$66.80 after hitting a May 2015 high of \$67.29 a barrel earlier in the day.

It was the first time since January 2014 that the two crude oil benchmarks opened the year above \$60 per barrel. "Growing unrest in Iran set the table for a bullish start to 2018," the U.S.based Schork Report said in



Tightening supplies: Oil markets have been supported by a year of production cuts led by the OPEC and Russia. ■REUTERS

a note to clients on Tuesday. "Geopolitical risks are clearly back on the crude oil agenda after having been absent almost entirely since the oil market ran into a surplus in the second half of 2014," Biarne Schieldrop, chief commodities analyst at SEB, said, also citing Kurdisthe unrest in Iran, which is a major oil exporter, market sentiment was bullish.

"Falling inventories globally and strong economic growth offset the restart of the Forties pipeline and the resumption of production following a pipeline outage in Libya," said Jeffrey Halley, senior market analyst at fu-

Oil markets have been supported by a year of production cuts led by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and

U.S. production impact U.S. commercial crude oil inventories have fallen by almost 20% from historic highs last March, to 431.9 million barrels. However, rising U.S. production is somewhat hampering the outlook

into 2018.

"U.S. tight oil production growth warrants close monitoring as it could spoil OPEC's market-balancing efforts, pushing the market into surplus in 2018," Barclays bank said. U.S. oil production has risen by almost 16% since mid-2016, to 9.75 million bpd at the end of last

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH ROADS AND BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT (NATIONAL HIGHWAYS)

ine from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the table bel S.E/R&B/NH ATP NIT.No.:50/SE,NH,ATP/AEE2/2017-18, Date: 28.12.2017

> Superintending Engineer, (R&B) NH Circle Sai Nagar, Anantapuram - 515 001

tan and Libya. Even without