



June, 2010

Issue: 1 Vol: 30

Confederation of Indian Industry-
Northern Region

ECONOMY AND POLICY UPDATE

Economic & Policy Update is a monthly review, presenting the macro economic developments, industry trends, up-to-date news and an analytical view of policies and notifications, issued by the northern states.

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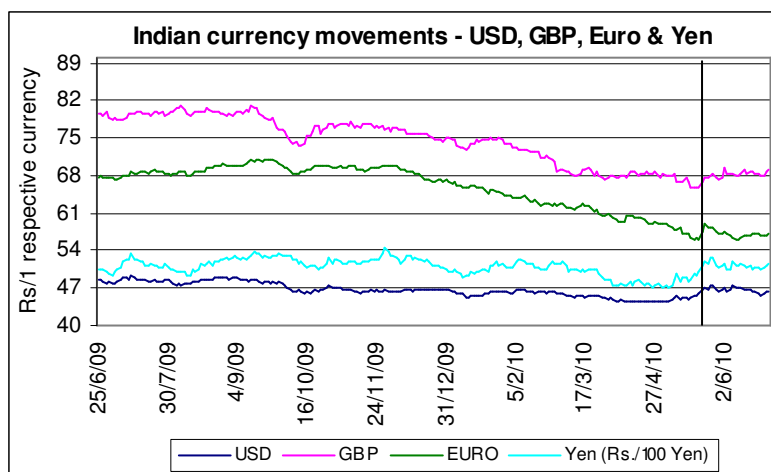
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SECTION I: MONTHLY UPDATE OF MACRO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

(May 25 - Jun 24, 2010)

Indian Rupee records fluctuating trend against major currencies

The Indian Rupee witnessed a fluctuating trend against most of world currencies during the period May 25, 2010-Jun 24, 2010. Though, the period ended on a good note for Indian Rupee. The entire period saw the Indian Rupee tracking the overseas currency movements with the Euro and British Pound strengthening against the US Dollar for most part of it. Gains in the domestic stock market on back of a return in risk appetite globally also helped Indian Rupee in its upward movements against

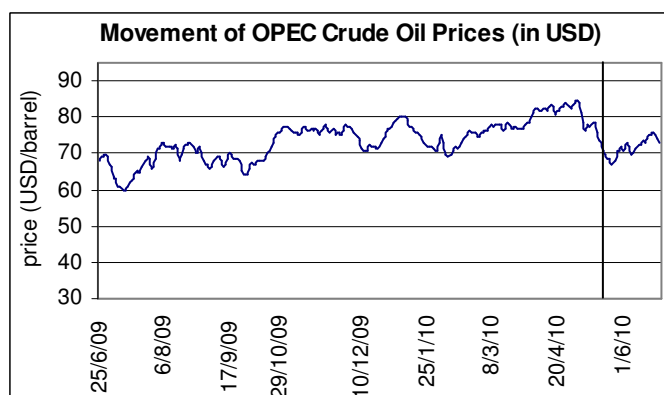


Source: RBI and Cygnus Research

the US Dollar. However, there were a few infrequent phases of downward movement when the Indian Rupee tracked the US Dollar's gains over other major currencies. The downward movements were further aggravated by the occasional choppy domestic share market during the period. The Indian Rupee appreciated by 2.4% against the US Dollar, 2.0% against the Euro and by 2.5% against the Japanese Yen during the period May 25, 2010-Jun 24, 2010. The domestic currency, however, registered a depreciation of 1.9% against the British Pound during the same period. Moreover, on June 19, 2010, Chinese Central Bank loosened its de facto peg against the US Dollar resulting in more buying interest in Australian Dollar and other currencies. China's central bank announced plans to enhance flexibility in the Yuan's exchange rate, though it also ruled out a one-time revaluation and said any strengthening of its currency would be gradual. The People's Bank of China also said that the Yuan's 0.5% trading band against the US Dollar will stay in place.

Oil prices records fluctuating trend

The crude oil price of OPEC Reference Basket (ORB) recorded a fluctuating trend during the period May 25, 2010-Jun 24, 2010, with long spells of price gains. Though, the period started with oil prices falling below USD67 on May 25, 2010, the lowest since early October 2009. This was largely due to market volatility as uncertainties about oil demand re-emerged amid disappointing macroeconomic data and concerns about the impact of Europe's debt crisis. However, thereon oil prices increased significantly as a weaker US

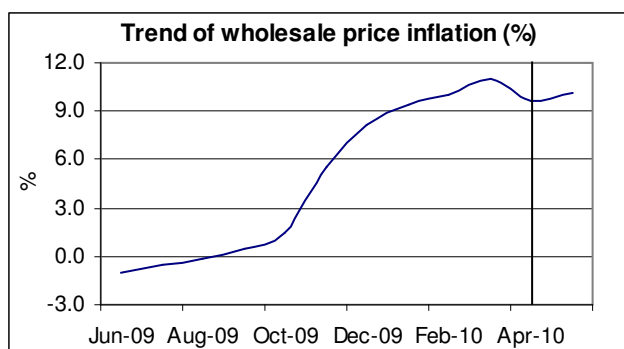


Source: OPEC and Cygnus Research

dollar bolstered all dollar denominated commodities including crude oil prices. Oil prices witnessed a 3-day declining streak towards the end of period under consideration as crude oil stockpiles in the US rose unexpectedly on back of increased imports. Between May 25, 2010 and Jun 24, 2010, the crude oil prices increased by 9.1% to reach USD72.9 per barrel on Jun 24, 2010.

Inflation on rise, again

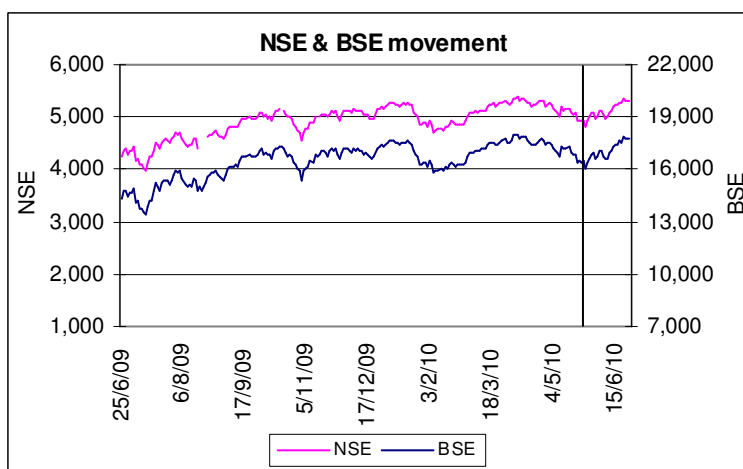
The average Wholesale Price Inflation (WPI) for the month of May 2010 increased to 10.16% as against 9.59% during the previous month. The rise in WPI inflation rate was primarily driven by non-food articles, minerals and the low base effect. The average inflation rate for commodities under the 'primary articles' group stood at 16.60% in May 2010 against 13.88% during the previous month. Within the primary articles group, inflation rate for food articles was recorded at 16.49% in May 2010 against 16.87% in April 2010, while inflation rate for non-food articles stood at 18.6% in May 2010 against 10.53% during the previous month. Inflation rate for minerals in the primary articles' group stood at 8.30% during May 2010 as against -6.84% in April 2010. The average inflation rate for the "fuel, power, light & lubricants" group stood at 13.05% during May 2010 as against 12.55% in the previous month. The inflation rate for manufactured products stood at 6.41% during May 2010 as against 6.70% in the previous month. As per the All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW), the year-on-year inflation during April 2010 was 13.33% as against 14.86% in March 2010.



Source: MOSPI and Cygnus Research

Nifty & Sensex record positive trend

The Indian stock market witnessed a positive trend from May 25, 2010 to Jun 24, 2010. Except for a few instances of downward movement, both NSE Nifty and BSE Sensex registered long phases of upward movement during the period. Though, the period started on a not-so-encouraging note as both NSE Nifty and BSE Sensex tumbled to their lowest levels in more than 3 months on May 25, 2010. This was largely due to a slump in world stocks amid tensions in Korea and anxiety over global debt levels and sovereign default fears. However, thereon the market rebounded, tracking recovery in world stocks triggered by bargain hunting and China's support for the euro zone. During the second half of period under consideration, the stock market recorded a 7-day gaining streak (Jun 9, 2010 to Jun 17, 2010) to settle at one and half month highs after a largely successful Spanish bond auction eased worries about the euro-zone crisis. Both, NSE Nifty and BSE Sensex grew by 10.7% during May 25, 2010-Jun 24, 2010.



Source: NSE, BSE and Cygnus Research

Leading Indicators

Important Economic Indicators			
GDP Growth (%) at factor cost (2004-05) prices	7.4 (Apr-Mar 2009-10)		6.7 (Apr-Mar 2008-09)
	8.6 (Jan-Mar 2010)		5.8 (Jan-Mar 2009)
	% Change		
	April 2010 over April 2009	April 2010 over March 2010	April 2009 over April 2008
IIP Growth*	17.6	-9.1	1.1
Mining	11.4	-16.0	3.4
Manufacturing	19.4	-8.9	0.4
Electricity	6.0	-5.0	6.7
	May 2010 over May 2009	May 2010 over April 2010	May 2009 over May 2008
Six Core Industries Growth	5.0	2.5	3.2
Coal	0.1	2.8	10.4
Electricity Generation	6.4	1.3	3.0
Crude Petroleum	5.8	2.6	-4.3
Petroleum Products	7.7	4.7	-4.3
Finished Steel	2.5	4.9	2.8
Cement	8.6	-1.0	11.8
International Trade			
Exports (USD billion)	16.9 (Apr 10) ^β - 36.2% growth over corresponding period of 2009-10		12.4 (Apr 09) [#] - 33.2% decline over same period of 2008-09
Imports (USD billion)	27.3 (Apr 10) ^β - 43.3% growth over corresponding period of 2009-10		19.1 (Apr 09) [#] - 36.6% decline over same period of 2008-09
Credit Indicators			
Prime Lending Rate (%)	11.00-12.00 (May 22/28, 2010)	11.00-12.00 (Apr 20, 2010)	11.00-12.00 (May 22, 2009)
Non-Food Credit (Rs. billion)	32,359 (June 04, 2010)	31,751 (May 07, 2010)	26,981 (Jun 05, 2009)
Advanced/Leading Indicators			
Railway Freight (million tonnes)	74.2 (May 10) - 3.5% growth over corresponding period of 2009-10		71.7 (May 09) - 2.5% growth over corresponding period of 2008-09
Automobiles Sales (million units)	1.2 (May 10) - 30.0% growth over corresponding period of 2009-10		0.9 (May 09) - 8.9% growth over corresponding period of 2008-09
Domestic Aircraft Passengers (millions)	4.8 (May 10) - 21.8% growth over corresponding period of 2009-10		3.9 (May 09) - 4.5% decline over corresponding period of 2008-09
New Telecom Subscription (million connections)	15.9 (May 10) - 38.7% growth over corresponding period of 2009-10		11.4 (May 09) - 35.2% growth over corresponding period of 2008-09
Source: RBI, MOSPI, PIB, Ministry of Finance and Cygnus Research			
Note: * Latest available data is up to Apr 2010; ^β Provisional figures ; [#] Revised figures			

SECTION II: INDUSTRY SALES TREND

INDUSTRY SALES TREND-REGION WISE

Region	Y-on-Y (%) Q4 FY 10
North	Up 12.9
South	Up 4.7
East	Up 9.2
West	Up 10.5
<i>Source: CMIE –Prowess</i> <i>Note: Industry sales trends are based on reported sales figures of listed companies</i> <i>Industries include Financial Services, Manufacturing, Irrigation, Mining Electricity, Non-Financial Services, Construction and Others</i>	

SALES TREND OF MAJOR INDUSTRIES IN NORTHERN REGION

Industry	Y-on-Y (%) Q4 FY 10	
	Overall India	Northern Region *
Manufacturing Sector		
Agro and Food Processing Industry	Up 9.2	Up 5.8
Pharmaceuticals	Up 11.9	Up 13.8
Textile	Up 19.3	Up 19.7
Sugar	Up 20.6	Up 16.6
Auto and Auto Components	Up 25.3	Up 30.2
Consumer Durables	Up 14.6	Up 20.5
Metals and Minerals	Up 9.3	Up 13.6
Leather and Leather Products	Up 10.1	Up 8.7
Services Sector		
IT & ITES	Up 7.2	Up 6.3
Hotel & Tourism	Down 4.2	Down 15.8
<i>Source: CMIE –Prowess</i> <i>Note: Industry sales trends are based on reported sales figures of listed companies</i> <i>Note: Northern region consists of Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand</i> <i>NA- Not Available</i>		

Foreign Direct Investments

FDI equity inflows in USD Million into Northern States					
Region	Mar, 2010	Feb, 2010	Mar, 2009	% growth of Mar, 2010 over Feb, 2010	% growth of Mar, 2010 over Mar, 2009
Delhi, parts of UP & Haryana	310	642	0	-51.8	NA
Chandigarh, Punjab, HP, Haryana	7	164	0	-96.0	NA
Rajasthan	4	0	10	36200.0	-62.6
UP & Uttarakhand	17	0	0	11193.3	NA
Source: DIPP and Cygnus Research					
Note: NA- Not Applicable; Regions are as per RBI classification					

State-wise IEMs proposed in March 2010						
State	No of IEMs			Investment in Rs Million		
	Mar, 2010	Mar, 2009	% change	Mar, 2010	Mar, 2009	% change
Chandigarh	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Delhi	1	3	-66.7	0	170	-100.0
Haryana	10	5	100.0	1,150	1,730	-33.5
Himachal Pradesh	23	2	1050.0	9,980	30	33166.7
J&K	3	0	NA	2,990	0	NA
Punjab	12	10	20.0	4,090	1,480	176.4
Rajasthan	15	10	50.0	5,980	6,710	-10.9
Uttar Pradesh	18	13	38.5	10,790	2,940	267.0
Uttarakhand	109	10	990.0	35,100	3,670	856.4

Source:: DIPP and Cygnus Research
Note: NA- Not Applicable; Regions are as per RBI classification

State-wise IEMs implemented in March 2010						
State	No of IEMs			Investment in Rs Million		
	Mar, 2010	Mar, 2009	% change	Mar, 2010	Mar, 2009	% change
Chandigarh	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Delhi	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Haryana	1	2	-50.0	0	0	NA
Himachal Pradesh	2	0	NA	420	0	NA
J&K	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Punjab	1	3	-66.7	350	1170	-70.1
Rajasthan	6	0	NA	14300	0	NA
Uttar Pradesh	4	0	NA	0	0	NA
Uttarakhand	69	9	666.7	6090	110	5436.4

Source:: DIPP and Cygnus Research
Note: NA- Not Applicable; Revisions are as per RBI classification

SECTION IV – IN FOCUS

The MSME Sector in North India

MSME Sector in India

The Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector in India is highly heterogeneous in terms of size of the enterprises, variety of products and services produced and the levels of technology employed. While one end of the MSME spectrum contains highly innovative and high growth enterprises, more than 94% of MSMEs are

unregistered, with a large number of them established in the informal or unorganized sector. As on 31st December, 2009, there were nearly about 26.5 million enterprises in this sector, which accounts for 45% of the manufactured output and 8% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2008-09. MSMEs contributed close to 40% of all exports from the country and employ nearly 60 million people, which is next only to the agricultural sector. There are over 6,000 products ranging from traditional to high-tech items, which are being manufactured by the MSMEs in India. Some of the major sub-sectors in terms of manufacturing output are food products with 18.97% (as on 31st December, 2009), textiles and readymade garments with 14.05%, basic metal (8.81%), chemical and chemical products (7.55%), metal products (7.52%), machinery and equipments (6.35%), transport equipments (4.5%), rubber and plastic products (3.9%), furniture (2.62%), paper and paper products (2.03%) and leather and leather products (1.98%). The micro and small enterprises (SMEs) have shown an average growth of 18% over the last five years (i.e. from 2005-06 to 2009-10).

Table 1: Performance of MSME sector in India			
Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Number of MSMEs (Mn)	26.1	27.3	28.5
Fixed Investment (Rs.bn)	5008	5582	6218
Employment (Mn)	59.5	62.6	65.9
Exports (Rs.bn)	1825	2020	2235
<i>Source: Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises</i>			

MSMEs in North India

The region-wise distribution of MSMEs shows that a significant number of these enterprises are concentrated in North India. Uttar Pradesh alone has around 1.2 million MSME units, which includes 500,000 registered units. With more than 8,200 industries in the state, MSMEs are considered as the backbone of industrial growth in Haryana. Punjab, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh are also important hubs for MSMEs in the region.

Issues & Challenges

An increasingly globalised world, marked by competition and innovation, is posing newer and varied challenges to the MSMEs in North Indian states. Some of the most common issues and challenges faced by these units are:

- **Inadequate financial support:** Lack of availability of adequate and timely credit, high cost of credit and collateral requirements are some the financial hurdles faced by MSMEs in the region.
- **Lack of skilled manpower:** Limited training and capacity building of staff in North Indian states asks for investment in human resource development.
- **Insufficient market support:** Lack of adequate networking opportunities and inability to promote products and services in domestic and international markets further hinders MSMEs in the region.
- **Restricted scale of operations:** Because of their small size, individual MSMEs are handicapped in achieving economies of scale in procuring equipment, raw materials, finance and consulting services.
- **Technological laggardness:** Low technology levels and lack of access to modern technology also have an adverse impact on the industry performance.

Central Government Initiatives

Recognizing the importance of MSME sector and the various constraints being faced by it, the Government of India (GoI) has initiated several measures towards ensuring unbiased growth opportunity for the sector.

Recent policy initiatives

- Implementation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006. Some of the salient features of the Act are as follows:
 - (i) Provides statutory basis to Procurement Preference Policies of Central & State governments for goods & Services provided by micro & small enterprises.
 - (ii) Provides for a statutory National Board for MSMEs to advise the Central Government on matters under the Act.
 - (iii) Strengthens the legal provisions to check delayed payment to micro and small enterprises.
 - (iv) Provision for ensuring timely and smooth flow of credit to MSMEs.
- Reservation/de-reservation of products for manufacture in the micro and small enterprise
- National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP)
- Prime Minister's Task Force on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises was set up under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to consider various issues faced by MSMEs. Some of the recommendations of the Task Force include:
 - (i) Introduction of a Public Procurement Policy for MSMEs at the earliest
 - (ii) Priority to MSMEs in offset policy of the government
 - (iii) Scheduled commercial banks should achieve 20% growth in credit year-on-year to MSEs and strictly adhere to the allocation of 60% thereof to micro enterprises.
 - (iv) The stimulus package announced by the government/RBI/IBA may be extended upto 31st March 2011.
- The 4th All India Census of MSMEs was conducted. Some of the findings include:
 - (i) There are a total number of 26.1 million MSMEs in 2006-07;
 - (ii) There are 1.5 million registered MSMEs and 24.6 million un-registered MSMEs;
 - (iii) Sickness in MSMEs increased marginally from 13.98% in 2001-02 to 14.47% in 2006-07
 - (iv) MSMEs are largely concentrated in Apparel, Food Products and Beverages and Maintenance of Personal and Household goods segments.

Policy measures proposed by Indian policymakers

- Reserve 20% as priority sector lending to MSMEs
- Provide 20% reservation for non-strategic purchases of government departments and public sector units from the MSME sector
- Collateral free loans of up to Rs 1 million for highest credit-rated MSMEs
- Loans from the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust For Micro And Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) must incentivise lending institutions by faster feedback mechanism
- The CGTMSE must facilitate access to international capital bond markets
- Involve large enterprises in development of MSMEs clusters on private-public partnerships (PPPs)
- Develop integrated cluster competitiveness programmes
- Promote low-cost information and communication technologies (ICT) solutions for MSMEs
- Provide best in-class training and have an industry and 'management function' wise plan through PPP
- Mentor and hand-hold MSMEs with PPP model
- Facilitate international partnerships for MSMEs
- Incentivise innovation and R&D culture in MSMEs
- Encourage incubation with best in-class practices
- Encourage environmental compliance at an early stage

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has been implementing the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) since 2008-09 for generating employment through setting up of 'micro enterprises'. An amount of about Rs6.0 billion was earmarked for the implementation of PMEGP Scheme during 2009-10, of which Rs5.6 billion has been provided

as margin money subsidy. A total of 37,530 MSME units were assisted during the year with 8,802 belonging to North Indian state. North Indian states also accounted for over 28.3% of the total subsidy allocated during the year.

Table: Subsidy provided to MSMEs in North India under PMEGP (2009-10)			
State/UT	Subsidy Allocated: 2009-10 (Rs. million)	Number of Units Assisted	
		2008-09	2009-10
Chandigarh	4.5	16	30
Delhi	8.0	1	85
Haryana	108.2	484	466
Himachal Pradesh	64.2	309	485
Jammu & Kashmir	156.6	680	1805
Punjab	121.6	266	587
Rajasthan	203.3	540	1059
Uttar Pradesh	869.7	2724	3628
Uttarakhand	48.5	384	657
Total	1584.5	5404	8802
<i>Source: Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises</i>			

Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro & Small Enterprises

To ensure better flow of credit to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) by reducing the risk perception of financial institutions and banks in lending without collateral security, the Central Government announced a Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro & Small Enterprises. During 2009-10, loans worth more than Rs.6,875 billion were approved for 151,387 MSEs spread across

the country. A total of 51,896 MSE units belonging to North Indian states received credit assistance worth around Rs.2,058 billion during the year.

Table: Loan offered to MSMEs in North India under Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro & Small Enterprises (2008-09 & 2009-10)				
State / UT	2008-09		2009-10	
	Proposals Approved	Amount (Rs. billion)	Proposals Approved	Amount (Rs. billion)
Chandigarh	182	11.1	946	33.5
Delhi	419	64.6	1298	203.5
Haryana	682	49.1	2226	163.9
Himachal Pradesh	844	36.8	3073	192.1
Jammu & Kashmir	315	5.8	907	26.8
Punjab	1137	60.0	3461	220.5
Rajasthan	3552	68.6	11712	302.0
Uttar Pradesh	6321	158.5	26526	816.8
Uttaranchal	340	16.6	1747	98.8
Total	13,792	471.0	51,896	2,057.8
<i>Source: Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises</i>				

Credit to the sick MSEs

For the rehabilitation of sick MSEs financial assistance, by way of debt restructuring, including fresh loans is provided by primary lending institutions (PLIs), including commercial banks, which provide credit to the MSEs. As per the data compiled by the RBI from the scheduled commercial banks, out of 8,168 potentially viable sick MSEs, 2,330 sick MSEs were put under nursing by the end of March, 2009. Among North Indian states, Uttar Pradesh with 876 sick units under nursing led the pack. Uttar Pradesh was followed by Delhi (92), Chandigarh (69), Punjab (13), Haryana (12) and Rajasthan (1). No SMEs in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand were put under nursing until the specified period.

State/Union Territory-wise number of sick MSEs under nursing as at the end of March, 2009	
State/UT	Number of sick MSEs under nursing
Chandigarh	69
Delhi	92
Haryana	12
Punjab	13
Rajasthan	1
Uttar Pradesh	876
<i>Source: Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises</i>	

Measures initiated by RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently taken several measures to enhance credit delivery to the employment intensive MSE sector. RBI have issued guidelines from time to time thereby advising banks to grant collateral free loans up to Rs.500,000 sanctioned to the units of MSE sector. Further, banks have also been advised to lend collateral free loans up to Rs.2.5 million, based on good track record and financial position of the units. A Working Group was set up by RBI to review the Credit Guarantee Scheme of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises and suggest measures to enhance its usage. The RBI has also constituted a Working Group on Rehabilitation of Sick SMEs and based on the recommendations of the Working Group, banks have been advised to undertake a review and put in place a Loan Policy governing extension of credit facilities, Restructuring/ Rehabilitation policy for revival of potentially viable sick units/ enterprises and a Non-discretionary One Time Settlement scheme for recovery of non-performing loans.

State-level Initiatives

State	Issues & Recommendations	Current Status
Chandigarh	Notify Price Purchase Preference Policy in government purchases for MSMEs.	Under Consideration
Delhi	Implement Single Window System in the state to attract industries.	Accepted
Haryana	Revision of Industrial Policy of Haryana.	Under Consideration
Himachal Pradesh	Earmark land for MSMEs in the land banks created by the state.	Under Consideration
	Increase capital subsidy ceiling for MSEs from Rs.3.0 million to Rs.7.5 million in line with higher investment limits as per the new MSME classification	Under Consideration
Jammu & Kashmir	Removal of mandatory requirement of notified 'Khasra Numbers' for availing incentives under the special GoI package	Accepted
Punjab	Lay down one time settlement policy for sick units for dues from financial institutions.	Accepted
Rajasthan	Draft New Industrial Policy for Rajasthan.	Accepted
Uttar Pradesh	New Industrial Policy of Uttar Pradesh.	Under Consideration
Uttarakhand	Effective implementation of Price Purchase Preference Policy for MSMEs in the state and a comprehensive review in line with the best practices of other states.	Under Consideration

SECTION V: POLICY, INVESTMENT AND NOTIFICATION TRACKER

CHANDIGARH

POLICY TRACKER

Collector rates up in Chandigarh (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 04/06/2010)

The Chandigarh administration has increased collector rates by 25% in rural and by 60% in urban areas. The new collector rates for residential property would be Rs39,936 per square yards. The hike in collector rates will mop-up more revenue for the administration and will reduce the role of black money in property transactions.

Industrialists seek relief from Chandigarh administration (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 04/06/2010)

Industrialists in Chandigarh have appealed to the UT administration to withdraw violation notices served for temporary constructions. They appealed for the relocation of industrial tenants in the upcoming Industrial Area, Phase III, who are facing risk of closure due to the policies of the administration as they are generating a major portion of revenue in the form of Central and State taxes and employment to many skilled, semi-skilled and migrant labourers.

News

Excise and taxation dept. gets Rs59.7bn (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 17/06/2010)

The department of revenue, Ministry of Finance, has sanctioned Rs59.7 million to the department of excise and taxation, Chandigarh administration, as a part of the project under the CT-MMP. The plan advocates definition of institutional mechanisms and core policies for managing e-governance initiatives. The department has proposed introduction of e-registration, e-filing, e-payment, e-forms, e-refunds and e-redressal of grievances. This will help the dealers of Chandigarh to easily have access to all the services on anytime anywhere basis. The project will be executed in a span of two years.

Transport hub & commercial centre to come up at Chandigarh airport (Source: Indian Express, Date: 18/06/2010)

The upcoming international airport in its master plan has decided to construct a transport hub and the commercial development centre on the land acquired from the Indian Air Force. In all, the Indian Air Force is to handover 2.5 acres of land for the construction of upcoming international airport.

Centre's nod for night tourism in city (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 14/06/2010)

The Chandigarh administration received Central Government's nod for night tourism, which involves opening of Le Corbusier's architectural wonders in the high-security Capitol Complex area. The Ministry of Tourism had approved a special grant of Rs50 million for night tourism at the Capitol Complex.

CHANDIGARH

INVESTMENT TRACKER

Surya Pharma to raise Rs5bn (Source: Business Standard, Date: 02/06/2010)

Surya Pharmaceutical Ltd announced plans to raise Rs5 billion through various instruments like Rights Issue, Global Depository Receipts (GDRs), American Depository Receipts (ADRs), Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs) and External Commercial Borrowings (ECB). Part of the proceeds from the issues would be utilised to fuel the company's business plan, which involves setting up new API manufacturing unit and also in expanding group's Pharmaceutical retail chain 'Viva' which has presence in Punjab, Chandigarh, and Delhi.

DELHI

POLICY TRACKER

Delhi hikes circle rates (Source: Business Standard, Date: 15/06/2010)

The Delhi government increased circle rates by up to three times for sale and purchase of properties in all colonies across the city. The Delhi Cabinet has fixed Rs9,000 per square metre as the lowest rate, while the upper limit will be Rs125,000 per sq metre, instead of Rs43,000 at present. The government expects to see a rise of over Rs4 billion in revenue earning, as the collection through registration fee would increase due to a rise in circle rates. The move is expected to result in a rise in real estate prices.

Property tax in Delhi increased (Source: Times of India, Date: 15/06/2010)

The Delhi government's decision to increase circle rates of land and immovable properties in all circles has prompted the MCD to revise its property tax rates upwards. As per the revised rates, colonies falling under category A and B will now have to pay 12% property tax. The categories from C to H will see a rise of 1% from the previous rate — 10% to 11% for categories C and E and from 6% to 7% for properties under category F to H. The rate for commercial properties falling under A and B categories has been increased from 10% to 15% and from 10% to 12% for categories C to E. There is no change in the tax rate for categories F, G and H.

Govt. to issue alcohol licences to eateries (Source: Times of India, Date: 18/06/2010)

Delhi government is in the process of issuing licences to eateries allowing the serving of "softer" alcoholic drinks. The move is in line with the government's efforts to make the city more tourist-friendly ahead of the Commonwealth Games. The new L-4d licence will cost Rs200,000 for 50 people and Rs250,000 for 100 people. However, a restaurant has to meet several conditions like a MCD trade licence, fire clearance and separate toilets for men and women to obtain the licence.

News

CNG price goes up in Delhi (Source: Times of India, Date: 16/06/2010)

Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (IGL), the sole supplier of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in the national capital, hiked prices by over 25%. Its rates will go up by Rs5.60 per kg from the current rate of Rs21.90. The hike was necessitated because of the government's decision to raise natural gas prices from Rs3.20 per cubic meter to Rs7.50.

HC direct Delhi Govt. to close illegal bottled water units (Source: Times of India, Date: 31/05/2010)

The Delhi High Court has directed the Government to tighten the noose around illegal units manufacturing and selling bottled drinking water without a licence and Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification. The High Court also constituted a committee for the purpose.

Rs114bn Annual Plan cleared for Delhi (Source: Indian Express, Date: 17/06/2010)

An Annual Plan (2010-11) of Rs114 billion has been finalised for Delhi. The Plan will be funded with the Central Plan Assistance of Rs12.84 billion and Delhi government's own resources of Rs101.16 billion.

Govt. to crack down on illegal constructions (Source: Times of India, Date: 12/06/2010)

In a bid to check illegal constructions across the capital, particularly on agriculture land, Delhi Government directed departments concerned to come down hard against such activities. Action will also be taken against those found carrying out construction activities in 1,639 unauthorised colonies, which are being considered for regularization by the government.

DELHI

INVESTMENT TRACKER

Yishion to open first store in Delhi (Source: Economic Times, Date: 08/06/2010)

Yishion a Chinese retail major that specialises in apparels and accessories has formed 50:50 joint venture with Delhi-based marketing and distribution firm Upmarket Group to setup 125 sales outlets across India by 2012. The company will open its first exclusive store in the national capital by September 2010.

Delhi starts work on waste-to-power project (Source: Indian Express, Date: 27/06/2010)

The Delhi government has initiated work on India's first major waste-to-power project. The public-private partnership project at Okhla will convert 1,950 mega tonnes of municipal waste into power everyday. The Rs2 billion project is in partnership with Jindal SAW and Jindal Ecopolis.

DELHI

NOTIFICATION TRACKER

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

F. No. F. 19(52)/Tpt./Sectt./2010/2502

Date: 09.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by the second proviso to sub-clause (ii) of clause (b) of sub-section (1) and sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Delhi Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1962 (57 of 1962) as amended by the Delhi Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 2004 (Delhi Act 4 of 2005), the Lieutenant Governor of National Capital Territory of Delhi is pleased to change, with immediate effect, the existing description of Motor Vehicles and the amounts of tax with respect to Motor Vehicles mentioned under "Group-A – Motor vehicles fitted solely with pneumatic tyres" in Part B of Schedule I to the said Act by the following, namely, :-

PART - B

	Description of Motor Vehicle	Amount
	(1)	(2)
		Rupee
Group - A	Motor Vehicles fitted solely with Pneumatic tyres	
1.	Two wheelers costing upto Rs. 25,000/-	2% of the cost price
2.	Two wheelers costing above Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 40,000/-	4% of the cost price
3.	Two wheelers costing above Rs. 40,000/- and upto Rs. 60,000/-	6% of the cost price

Note: For full text the aforesaid notification may be referred to.

By order and in the name of the Lieutenant Governor
of the National Capital Territory of Delhi,

(R.K. VERMA)
SECRETARY-CUM-COMMISSIOENR (TRANSPORT)

HARYANA

POLICY TRACKER

Haryana approves 4% VAT on liquor (Source: Financial Express, Date: 17/06/2010)

The Haryana cabinet approved the proposal of the excise and taxation department to maintain VAT rate at 4% on all types of liquor when sold in the state for the first time for consumption as per Excise Policy for the year 2009-10 and 2010-11.

New industrial policy soon (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 12/06/2010)

The Haryana government is working on a new industrial and investment policy. The present industrial policy would be “revisited” and work on it was in progress. The new policy would take into account the problems being faced by the industry. The new policy would have a committee representing both the government and the industry.

News

Planning Commission suggests cess on farm power to boost water table (Source: Economic Times, Date: 08/06/2010)

The Planning Commission has expressed concern over Haryana’s rapidly falling water table, reportedly at the rate of 0.33 meters every year. As a result, the country’s apex planning body has advised the state government to impose a cess on electricity used for cultivation and use the funds to replenish depleting ground water. The Planning Commission suggests that the state must try to reduce the demand in a sustainable manner.

NABARD sanctions Rs1.07bn for rural infra in Haryana (Source: Financial Express, Date: 26/06/2010)

National Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned a loan of Rs1.07 billion to Haryana for providing drinking water supply in 64 villages of Narnaul Tehsil in Mahendragarh district.

RIL's Haryana SEZ gets extension (Source: Business Standard, Date: 09/06/2010)

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has got a year’s extension for its special economic zones in Haryana. The company had sought more time from the Union ministry of commerce and industry to start operation in the SEZs, citing global economic slowdown as the reason.

Gurgaon to pay more for power (Source: Times of India, Date: 16/06/2010)

The Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (HERC) has approved hike in power tariff citing increase in fuel cost. Residents pay a tariff of 2.63 paise per unit for the first 40 units consumed but now they will have to shell out 22 paise more on the same. While the increased tariff of 22 paise is applicable for the first 300 units, the consumer would have to pay 27 paise per unit after that. Haryana has one of the highest power tariffs in the country.

KU approves Rs400mn budget (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 10/06/2010)

The Executive Council of Kurukshetra University approved Rs400 million budget for 2010-11, which provided for Rs280 million under the non-plan expenditure and Rs120 million under the planned expenditure. The Executive Council also approved allocation of Rs100 million provided by the state government for the development of Kurukshetra University Postgraduate Regional Centre in Jind.

HARYANA

INVESTMENT TRACKER

Everonn bags Haryana Govt. project (Source: Financial Express, Date: 04/06/2010)

Everonn Education Ltd. has entered into an agreement with the Haryana Government for implementation of comprehensive computer education project (CCEP) in 213 Schools of 20 districts across Haryana. The project, valued at Rs470 million, is for a time span of five years.

Ministry of Tourism sanctions eco-tourism projects (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 11/06/2010)

The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned eco-tourism projects for Morni, Pinjore and Yamunanagar regions of Haryana to be completed at a cost of Rs32.9 million. A mega project for Yamunanagar, Panchkula and Paonta Sahib, and the construction of a heliport at Kurukshetra are among the projects identified for consideration in the coming year.

Haryana to improve power facilities in Panipat (Source: Financial Express, Date: 25/06/2010)

The Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (UHBVN) and the Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam (HVPN) have jointly made a comprehensive plan to strengthen the distribution and transmission network in Panipat at a cost of Rs5.5 billion. The project will be implemented in a phased manner in the next four to five years.

News

Haryana to develop 9 new sectors in Gurgaon (Source: Times of India, Date: 02/06/2010)

The Haryana Government has decided to develop six residential and three commercial sectors in Gurgaon to meet the growing demand for housing and commercial space. These sectors - 58 to 65 and 65 to 67 - will be developed over an area of about 850 acres. The state government has started acquiring land in eight villages around Gurgaon.

Jhajjar project to be carried out under PPP mode (Source: Financial Express, Date: 29/05/2010)

Haryana has created a new transmission infrastructure by signing an agreement with Jhajjar KT Transco Pvt. Ltd. for the execution of Jhajjar Power Transmission Project under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Two 400 kv substations at Kabulpur (Rohtak) and Dipalpur (Sonapat) along with associated lines would be set up under the agreement to evacuate power from the upcoming 1,320 mw Mahatma Gandhi Thermal Power Project, Jhajjar. First-ever transmission project in the country to get viability gap funding (VGF) support from the Central Government sanctioned under the PPP mode.

Haryana to invest on commodity hubs-cum-wholesale facilities (Source: Financial Express, Date: 05/06/2010)

Haryana state agricultural marketing board has proposed to set up hi-tech vegetable and fruit management facilities at the commodity hubs-cum-wholesale markets in several cities. Under the National Horticulture Mission, the board is installing pre-coolers, cold stores, ripening chambers and packing houses at 11 cities in the state. In the first phase, the commodity hubs will be set up and be made operational. The total outlay for the first phase is Rs673.1 million, under which a subsidy of Rs165.2 million has been given by the Centre.

Haryana allots Rs15bn for health sector (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 03/06/2010)

The Haryana government has launched a scheme worth Rs15 billion to improve the health

infrastructure and upgrade the present medical services in the state. This is the first state in the country to start free-of-cost medical check-up scheme of every child and to provide free-of-cost medicines in state-run government hospitals.

Mewat board to spend Rs106.5mn on education (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 17/06/2010)

The Mewat Development Board has earmarked Rs106.5 million for the education sector out of its total budget of Rs180 million for the financial year 2010-11. The board approved the setting up of an institute of hotel management and a school of science and maths in the region.

HARYANA

NOTIFICATION TRACKER

EXCISE AND TAXATION DEPARTMENT

No. S.O. 74/H.A. 6/2003/S. 60/2010

Date: 08.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (1) read with sub-section (3) of section 60 of the Haryana Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (6 of 2003) and with reference to Haryana Government, Excise and Taxation Department, notification No. Web. 4/H.A. 6/2003/S. 60/ 2010, dated the 13th May, 2010, the Governor of Haryana hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Haryana Value Added Tax Rules, 2003, namely :-

1. These rules may be called the Haryana Value Added Tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 2010.

2. In the Haryana Value Added Tax Rules, 2003, in rule 47 in sub-rule (1), for the existing table, the following table shall be substituted, namely:—

TABLE

Sr. No.	Capacity of Kiln	Category	Lump sum tax payable in lieu of tax for the period 1-10-2009 to 30-09-2010
1	2	3	4
1.	Brick kiln of capacity of more than 33 number of Ghorī	+A	Rs. 2,68,800/- plus Rs. 9360/- per additional Ghorī above 33 Ghorī
2.	Brick kiln of capacity of 28 to 33 number of Ghorī	A	Rs. 2,68,800/-
3.	Brick kiln of capacity of 22 to 27 number of Ghorī	B	Rs. 2,10,000/-

Note: For full text the aforesaid notification may be referred to.

RAMENDRA JAKHU,
Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary
to Government, Haryana, Excise and Taxation Department.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

POLICY TRACKER

Hike in power tariff (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 10/06/2010)

The State Electricity Regulatory Commission ordered a steep hike in energy charges across the board affecting an increase ranging from 30 paise to 55 paise per unit for various categories. However, small industries and agriculture sector have been spared from the tariff hike. While, the tariff for commercial category has been increased by 30 paise from Rs4.30 to Rs4.60 per unit, the rate of agriculture power has been left unchanged at Rs1.80 per unit (50 paise after subsidy). The tariff for small industrial category remains unchanged at Rs3.70 per unit.

News

Govt. nod to restructuring of power board (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 09/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh government gave its nod to the proposal for restructuring of the state electricity board. The restructuring scheme is approved under the Electricity Act, 2003, for re-vesting assets and liabilities from the state government to HP State Electricity Board (HPSEB) Ltd and Himachal Pradesh Transmission Corporation (HPTC) Ltd. All assets, rights and liabilities of the boards will be transferred to 'HPSEB Ltd' except, interstate transmission lines or transmission lines not being essential part of distribution system, which will go to the state transmission utility (STU).

TIN facility for dealers launched (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 29/05/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh government launched the Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) facility to dealers registered under the HP VAT Act and CST Act in the state by presenting certificates. TIN number would benefit the traders immensely since it would be useful for their tax-related issues. Dealers in possession of TIN would be able to trade their goods and commodities hassle-free from other states to Himachal Pradesh which had been made mandatory in many other states.

HPSEB signs purchase agreement with NTPC (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 30/05/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB) signed a power purchase agreement with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for supply of power from the Rupsiyabagar Kasiyabara hydro-power project (NTPC) in Uttarakhand. The HPSEB has given a requirement of 50 MW from the project which will be commissioned in four years. The tariff for the electricity supplied from the project will be determined by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

HPERC hikes power tariff in Himachal (Source: Indian Express, Date: 11/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (HPERC) announced an increase of 30 paise per unit in the power tariff for domestic and commercial consumers. The tariff for the agriculture sector and small and medium industries has been kept unchanged for 2010, but large industries will have to pay 55 paise more per unit. The current monthly tariff per kilowatt for commercial supply is Rs4.3 per kwh.

SJVN gives rebate to power utilities (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 18/06/2010)

The public sector Sutej Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) is providing rebate to power utilities for timely fulfilment of commercial obligations. The company has extended a rebate of Rs 21.67 crore to the utilities to which power is supplied from the 1,500 MW project. The major beneficiary of the rebate is the government of Himachal Pradesh which gained Rs82.1 million. The other main beneficiaries are PSPCL Rs39.9 million and UPPCL Rs24.8 million.

NABARD to promote JLGs in Himachal (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 22/06/2010)

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) announced plans to promote Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) in a big way in Himachal Pradesh. The scheme would provide adequate credit support to farmers with small landholdings. Under the scheme, farmers could form JLGs having 4 to 10 members to avail agriculture loans up to Rs50,000 per member without requiring to furnish an collateral security.

New skill development centre in Himachal Pradesh (Source: Business Standard, Date: 05/06/2010)

CII Northern region, in association with the Indian Institute of Skill Development, is setting up a skill development centre in the industrial town of Parwanoo in Himachal Pradesh. The Centre will explore higher standards in the field of vocational education to help create and train about 16,000 employable youth in the next two years. The key objective of this centre is to provide quality industry oriented courses.

Govt. starts e-shopping facility for handicrafts (Source: Business Standard, Date: 07/06/2010)

The government of Himachal Pradesh has started e-shopping facility of its exotic hand-made products. The state-run Handicrafts and Handloom Corporation has launched a website, www.himachalcrafts.com, which showcases the famous traditional local products for domestic and global handicraft buyers.

Pollution board steps up drive against erring units (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 22/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board has stepped up its drive to check industrial units releasing untreated waste into water bodies. The board is conducting surprise night raids on such units.

Govt. to promote cultivation of medicinal plants (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 20/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh state government has decided to promote cultivation of medicinal plants on commercial scale in view of increasing popularity of traditional system of medicines. The hill state accounts for 7.23% of the nation's bio-diversity. A road map has been prepared for large-scale cultivation of medicinal plants to give thrust to herbiculture under which 37 herbal and aromatic species of medicinal plants have been selected.

Govt. debars private universities from running distance courses (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 18/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh government has decided to incorporate a specific provision, debarring the private universities from running distance courses. They will also not be permitted to confer honorary degrees like the state universities or accept donations in any form. The state government would also set up an independent regulatory authority to oversee functioning of private universities and institutions of higher education.

5,340 trained in fruit processing (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 11/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh government is providing training to people in home-scale preservation of fruits, vegetables and other farm produce to ensure value addition at low costs. As many as 5,340 persons were imparted training at Fruit Processing Training Centre's (FPTC) of Hamirpur and Una during 2009-10 as compared to 1,718 persons in last year.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

INVESTMENT TRACKER

Wynn Telecom to set up handset unit in Himachal (Source: Economic Times, Date: 01/06/2010)

Wynn Telecom, a leading handset maker, announced plans to invest Rs5 billion over the next two years to expand its brand and set up manufacturing base in India. The company is setting up a handset manufacturing plant in Himachal Pradesh with a capacity of 1.2 million handsets a month. Wynn Telecom will invest Rs2.7 billion towards the new unit, which is expected to be operational by September 2011.

Work on Rohtang tunnel project starts (Source: Business Standard, Date: 05/06/2010)

Work was scheduled to start on the Rs14.58 billion Rohtang tunnel project on June 28, 2010. The tunnel will connect landlocked Leh in Jammu & Kashmir by an all-weather road from Manali in Himachal Pradesh. The traffic tunnel will be built below the snow covered 13,050 ft high Rohtang pass and reduce the distance between the Kullu and Lahaul valleys by 48 km. Afcons Infrastructure in collaboration with Strabag as the building contractor will build the ambitious project. The project is expected to be completed by 2015.

Work on Dhola-Sidh project to begin by March 2011 (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 13/06/2010)

The work on Dhola-Sidh, the first hydel project of Hamirpur district, being built on the Beas near Nadaun by the Sutlej Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN), would begin by March 2011. The clearance for term of reference (TOR) for the project, which has now been upgraded from the proposed 40 MW to 66 MW, was granted recently by the Union Ministry of Environment. This had been done to make it economically viable while keeping its height at 61m without making any changes in the water level. The total estimated cost of the project would be Rs5 billion.

ADB to fund projects in Himachal (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 12/06/2010)

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed in principle to fund projects aimed at tourism promotion, laying of transmission lines and urban development schemes in Himachal Pradesh. Infrastructure development and mega projects in the tourism sector will help generate employment and revenue for the people of the state. Also, there is an urgent need to raise valley wise single dedicated transmission lines to evacuate power from hydropower projects out of the valley to the main grid.

5 national highways sanctioned for Himachal (Source: Indian Express, Date: 16/06/2010)

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways sanctioned five new national highways for Himachal. This will add additional road length of 494.875 km to the national highway network of the state. The five new highways include Hamirpur-Sujanpur-Palampur (59.775 km); Brahmpukhar-Bilaspur-Ghumarwin-Sarkaghat-Lad Bhadol-Bajjnath; Bharmour-Chamba-Dalhousie-Pathankot (133 km); Taradevi-Jubbarhatti-Kunihar-Ramshehar-Nalagarh-Ghanauli (106.4 km) and Chandigarh-PGI (Baddi) Punjab Pokhran-Nalagarh-Ramshehar-Arki-Shalaghat (83.9 km). There are 11 national highways in the state at present.

News

4-laning of Pinjore-Nalagarh highway gets approval (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 14/06/2010)

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has approved four laning of the Pinjore-Baddi National Highway. The 35-km four laning from Pinjore to Nalagarh would also include a bypass

from Surajpur-Basola. The four laning would follow the design of built, operate and transfer where the government would not incur any expenditure and toll barriers would be set up to collect tax. It would follow a PPP approach.

Shah canal to be completed by 2011 (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 14/06/2010)

Work on the Shah canal project would be completed in 2011. One side of the 31.5 km canal would be made functional in November 2010. Total cost of the canal would be about Rs3.1 billion and it would irrigate 15,262 hectares land in 93 villages of Changar area of Kangra district. Total length of the canal would be 70 km out of which 50 km had already been constructed.

Plans to rejuvenate tea industry in Himachal (Source: Indian Express, Date: 02/06/2010)

Chaudhary Shrawan Kumar University of Agriculture will start a project to revive tea industry in Himachal Pradesh by developing an organic tea garden over an area of 150 hectares. The project entails rejuvenating the abandoned tea gardens and exploring the possibilities of tea cultivation in Chamba and Mandi districts. The Union Ministry for Commerce and Industry has announced help to revive tea industry in the state.

Govt. to make arrangements for apple marketing (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 22/06/2010)

The Himachal Pradesh government plans to make quality arrangements to facilitate marketing of apple and apple products in the state. Adequate apple collection centres would be set up in the state by the HPMC and HIMFED and along agro industries they would ensure marketing of apple under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). The government has also formulated a plan to provide quality carton boxes for apples at reasonable prices.

Rayat-Bahra Group inks MoU with 16 companies (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 18/06/2010)

Rayat-Bahra University has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with 16 leading corporate of the country to impart direct in-course training to students. The corporate would establish centres for excellence in the university. The university would provide basic infrastructure while the corporate would provide service of senior staff for training the students. The main objective of centres of excellence would be to provide opportunity to the companies to train engineering and management graduates as per their specific needs. This would also increase employability of the students.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

NOTIFICATION TRACKER

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (STAMP REGISTRATION)

No. Rev.1-4(Stamp)1/78-Loose

Date: 14.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 9 of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (Act No. II of 1899) as applicable to the State of Himachal Pradesh and in continuation to this department notification no. Rev. 1-4(Stamp)-1/78-loose, dated 29th September, 2009, as published in the Rajpatra (Extra-Ordinary), Himachal Pradesh, dated 3rd October, 2009, the Governor of Himachal Pradesh is pleased to add the words “and Banks” after the words “Financial Institutions” appeared in the 5th line of the above notification dated 29th September, 2009.

By order,

(P. C. Kapoor)

F.C.-cum- Principal Secy. (Revenue) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

DEPARTMENT OF MPP AND POWER

No. MPP-A(3)-1/2001-IV

Date: 21.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

The enclosure mentioned as Schedule-“A” in para 3(1)(i) page 3 of this department Notification of even number dated 10-6-2010 be read as part and parcel of the notification dated 10-6-2010.

By order,

(Deepak Sanan)

Principal Secretary (Power) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the power conferred by Section 131(2), 132, 133 and other applicable provisions of the Electricity Act 2003, the Government of Himachal Pradesh (hereinafter the State Government) hereby makes the following Transfer scheme for providing and giving effect to the transfer of functions, undertakings, assets, properties, rights, liabilities, obligations, proceedings and personnel of erstwhile 'Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board', which stand vested in the Government of Himachal Pradesh under section 131 (1) of the Electricity Act, 2003 vide Notification No. MPP-A(3)-1/2001-IV dated 15.6.2009 read with notification No. MPP-A(3)-1/2001-IV dated 3.10.2009, to the extent and in the manner provided for hereinafter in the corporate entities constituted for the purpose.

1. Short title, extent and commencement:

- (1) This Scheme maybe called the 'Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Reforms Transfer Scheme, 2010'.
- (2) This Scheme shall extend to the whole of the State of Himachal Pradesh and also to such Assets, Properties, Rights, Liabilities, Obligations, Proceedings and Personnel of the erstwhile Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board as vested in the Government of Himachal Pradesh vide notification dated 15.6.2009 under section 131(1) of Electricity Act, 2003.
- (3) This Scheme shall come into force on the date of its publication in the official gazette.

Note: For full text the aforesaid notification may be referred to.

By order,

(Deepak Sanan)
Principal Secretary (Power) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

No. _____

Date: 10.06.2010

हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार
उद्योग विभाग

—0—

संख्या:इण्ड—ए(एफ)10—2/2009 दिनांक:शिमला—171002

3.6.2010

शुद्धिपत्र

कृपया इस विभाग द्वारा जारी समसंख्यक अधिसूचना दिनांक 28.5.2010 के पैरा-3 में “तहसील सदर, जिला बिलासपुर” के स्थान पर “तहसील नालागढ़ , जिला सोलन” पढ़ा जाए ।

अवर सचिव (उद्योग)
हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ।

JAMMU & KASHMIR

POLICY TRACKER

News

J&K seeks GI for state's famous handicrafts (Source: Financial Express, Date: 31/05/2010)

Jammu and Kashmir government is seeking geographical indication (GI) for the state's famous handicraft products like papier-mache and walnut wood items under "Kashmir brand." The documentation has been completed for preparing on application for khatambandh (highly designed hand-made roof). Once the GI registration is received for these products it will help to build up "Brand Kashmir" in handicrafts.

EFA to improve employment scenario by popularizing policy (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 16/06/2010)

The Employment Facilitating Agency (EFA) held detailed discussions to popularise the new employment scheme, 'Sher-e-Kashmir Employment and Welfare Programme for Youth'. The purpose of the recently established agency was to synergise employment opportunities available in various sectors of the economy. The EFA has been tasked to oversee the functioning of employment-related organisations and monitor the progress of employment programmes, besides identifying and creating employment opportunities in the service sector.

Center to promote clean energy in the state (Source: Tribune News service, Date: 14/06/2010)

The Union Ministry for New and Renewable Energy aims to generate 20,000 MW from solar energy in the state in the next 10 years. The ministry would also explore possibilities to produce more power from water and wind energy to minimise the huge expenditure on the exploitation of conventional sources of energy. There are 11 hydroelectric projects under execution in the state, which on completion would produce about 12 MW. Solar lights and solar power plants were also being installed in 10 different villages of Kargil district to meet the local requirements.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

INVESTMENT TRACKER

Six new bridges to come up in J&K (Source: Financial Express, Date: 31/05/2010)

Jammu and Kashmir government announce plans to construct six new bridges in Tangmarg area of Baramulla district to connect various villages. To cost around Rs150 million, the new bridges will boost horticulture and other economic activities of the area throughout the year. An irrigation project worth Rs340 million has also been approved by the state government to upgrade major canals in Tangmarg.

News

4 J&K hydel projects to be completed in 2010 (Source: Economic Times, Date: 01/06/2010)

The Center announced that four hydel projects namely, Sewa-II HEP (120 MW), Nimoo Bazgo HEP (45 MW), Chutak HEP (44 MW) and Uri-II (240 MW) in Jammu and Kashmir are likely to be completed by the end of 2010. The projects, together, are expected to generate 449 MW of electricity. These are part of the 11 hydel projects in the state allocated under the Prime Minister's Reconstruction Programme. Three projects, namely Uri-I (480 MW), Salal-I and II (690 MW) and Dulhasti (390 MW), have already been completed and commissioned.

J&K to promote flower farming (Source: Financial Express, Date: 04/06/2010)

The Jammu and Kashmir government plans to develop flower farming in the state on commercial lines to tap the growing demand for cut flowers. The valley's cool climate is apt for cultivating flowers all through the year and the floriculture department will expand its activities to the block level to harness the state's potential. The department will carry out campaigns across the Valley and generate farmer interest in flower cultivation.

J&K to construct stadia across state (Source: Financial Express, Date: 12/06/2010)

The Jammu and Kashmir government, with an intention to promote sports in the state, has decided to construct stadia at all tehsils and district headquarters. The programme would be carried out in a phased manner. The government also plans to impart training to youth in various sports activities.

JAMMU & KASHMIR
NOTIFICATION TRACKER

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

SRO 321

Date: 01.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 118 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir, the Governor is pleased to direct that the following amendment shall be made in J&K Financial Code Volume-II; namely;

In Annexure 'A' to Rule 5 Appendix 6 J&K Financial Code Volume-II;

In Note-1 below S. No. 18-B, the words and figures "Rs.40/- and Rs.80/-" shall be replaced with the words and figures "Rs.130/- and Rs.250/-" respectively.

The figures – "1-3-1982" appearing in the line below Note ibid shall be substituted by the figures – "01.06.2010".

By order of the Governor

Sd/-
(Sudhanshu Pandey)
Commissioner/Secretary to Government,
Finance Department.

PUNJAB

POLICY TRACKER

Punjab to allow construction on vacant plots for 15 years (Source: Indian Express, Date: 21/06/2010)

The Punjab government has decided to allow construction on vacant plots in Mohali and the rest of the state within 15 years from the date of possession. This will be done on payment of a nominal fee and if the Estate Officer is convinced that the building could not be completed due to reasons beyond the control of the allottee. So far, the allottees were required to construct on the plot within three years from the date of possession, failing which the Estate Officer was required to resume the plots in accordance with provisions of Section 45 of the Punjab Regional and Town Planning and Development Act, 1995.

Punjab offers sops to developers (Source: Indian Express, Date: 20/06/2010)

The Punjab government has offered major concessions to developers and builders investing in Mohali, Ludhiana and rest of Punjab. The External Development Charges (EDC) and Licence Fee (LF) have been cut drastically up to 55% to make the housing, commercial and institutional sectors affordable. The promoters of mega and super mega projects have also been allowed to deposit the reduced EDC and LF in instalments instead of one-time advance deposit mandatory till now. The government has reduced up to 90% of the EDC and LF for the promoters of senior secondary schools.

PPCB field officers can now grant NOC to industry (Source: Indian Express, Date: 20/06/2010)

The Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) has decided to decentralise the powers vested with the head office and allow field officers to grant no-objection certificates (NOC) to industrialists. Any industrialist with an investment up to Rs150 million would not have to go to the PPCB head office in Patiala as field officers up to the rank of chief engineers will be authorised to give clearance. The head office will intervene only if there is any problem.

Punjab to regulate private employment agencies (Source: Financial Express, Date: 25/06/2010)

The Punjab government has come up with a draft proposal to regulate functioning of private employment agencies coming up in the state. The state government has decided that these units must register themselves with the department of employment generation and training.

NOCs not required for units in mixed land-use areas (Source: Times of India, Date: 20/04/2010)

The Punjab government has decided to exempt industries from getting no-objection certificates (NOCs) from Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd (Powercom), Punjab Pollution Control Board and Municipal Corporation to run units in mixed land-use areas. This exemption will only be available to non-polluting industries. This is expected to save entrepreneurs a lot of hassle.

Apartment property Act to be amended (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 18/06/2010)

The Punjab government has announced plans to amend the Punjab Apartment Property Regulation (PAPR) Act, 1995, to insert stringent provisions to deter builders from building unauthorised colonies. The government directed the Punjab State Power Corporation to install 66 KV grid substations within premises of licensed colonies by charging a lump sum amount of Rs30 million from promoters in addition to 5% ex-gratia on the account of escalation in the cost of electrical equipment and material.

News

Punjab Annual Plan for 2010-11 pegged at Rs91.5bn (Source: Business Standard, Date: 12/06/2010)

The Annual Plan 2010-11 for Punjab has been finalised at Rs91.5 billion as against Rs86.0 billion for 2009-10, a 5% rise. The outlay includes an additional Central assistance of Rs3.33 billion earmarked for the priority projects, with 30% as the central grant component.

Punjab likely to see increase in maize acreage as farmers bet on monsoon (Source: Economic Times, Date: 14/06/2010)

Maize acreage in Punjab is expected to increase by about 150,000 hectares to 282,000 hectare this season. With monsoon expected to be normal this year, production is expected to increase significantly as compared to last year which was hit by a drought.

State to enforce minimum standards (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 08/06/2010)

The state government has decided to enforce minimum standards for running of government and private drug de-addiction centres. The centres would now have to be registered with the Health Department and can function only after the department gives them license. The treatment centres (STCs) will have facilities for inpatients as well as outpatient treatment, including detoxification, antagonist therapy, and opium substitution therapy. While, the counselling centres (SCCs) will have facilities for substance use disorder awareness, counselling and rehabilitation through psychological means on an outpatient basis.

State can create monopoly for trade, business (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 08/06/2010)

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has ruled that the state can create a monopoly in favour of corporations owned or controlled by it for trade, business, industry or service. The Article 19 of the Constitution of India states that reasonable restrictions can be imposed by the state by making law relating to professional or technical qualifications necessary for practising any profession or carrying on any occupation, trade or business. Monopoly can also be created by the state in favour of the state or corporations owned or controlled by the state for any trade, business, industry or service to the exclusion, complete or partial of others.

Laser Leveling: The new trend in Punjab agricultural sector (Source: Business Standard, Date: 05/06/2010)

Land leveling using laser leveler machines is the new trend coming up in the Punjab agricultural sector. The technology adapted from the construction sector has proved as panacea for agriculturists and it also helps in improving the depleting water table. The technology increase yield by 10-15% and saves 30% irrigation water, which ultimately leads to cut in diesel and electricity costs and also in manpower. At present, the state has more than 2,000 laser leveler machines in operation, leveling about 1 million acres.

Powercom to refund amount recovered from non-agri sectors (Source: Financial Express, Date: 26/06/2010)

Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (Powercom) has decided to make immediate refund of the amount recovered from different categories of non-agricultural consumers for the period April 1, 2009 to September 8, 2009, on account of enhancement effected in the tariff order for 2009-10. The amount works out to be about Rs3.34 billion and Punjab Government has agreed to compensate Powercom by refunding this amount in six equated monthly instalments.

Punjab targets to be power surplus by 2013 (Source: Financial Express, Date: 26/06/2010)

Punjab is constructing three thermal power plants with an investment of Rs520 billion. The state government has constituted a high-power generation projects committee to monitor the

implementation of new power projects. The government targets to be power surplus by 2013.

Punjab ready for dual GST (Source: Business Standard, Date: 09/06/2010)

The Punjab Planning and Finance Ministry has declared that the state is ready for implementation of GST by 2011. However, the state has requested the centre to exclude purchase tax from GST. Purchase tax is the tax charged on the purchase of food grain from Punjab, for the central pool. If purchase tax was made part of the GST then the state would lose revenue to the tune of over Rs10 billion.

Punjab industrialists seek electricity duty under VAT (Source: Business Standard, Date: 17/06/2010)

Industrialists from Punjab have requested the state government to make electricity duty on power VATable. Electricity duty, which was fixed at 11 paise per unit since the last 25 years and was fixed at 5% on advalorem basis since 2004-05, has been doubled to 10%.

Integrated e-governance project for municipal bodies in Punjab (Source: Financial Express, Date: 12/06/2010)

The Punjab government has decided to introduce an integrated e-governance project for all municipal bodies. The project aims at setting up service delivery infrastructure in the suvidha centres (facilitation centres) across the state. Punjab has hired the services of Deloitte, a global accounting and consulting firm. The consultant started its research in February 2010 and the state paid Rs3.2 million to the firm to carry out the task.

Four-laning of road up to Attari border complete (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 16/06/2010)

Under the Central Government's plan to provide world-class infrastructural facilities in and around the holy city of Amritsar, the two-year long process of four-laning of the stretch of road from Verka chowk to Attari-Wagah border is complete. The project was initiated by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI). The road is now open for public.

PUNJAB

INVESTMENT TRACKER

A2Z to set up 3 co-gen power plants in Punjab (Source: Business Standard, Date: 06/06/2010)

A2Z Maintenance & Engineering Services announced plans to set up three co-generation power plants in Punjab. The projects will be carried out in collaboration with sugar mills on a Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) model for a period of 15 years. A2Z will provide steam and power for operating the manufacturing process of the sugar mills during the crushing season.

Ludhiana Municipal Corporation clears Rs650mn projects (Source: Times of India, Date: 02/06/2010)

The Ludhiana Municipal Corporation has sanctioned Rs650 million to the bridges and road construction department for construction of roads and other development works. With an intention to maintain greenery in the city, the corporation has kept aside over Rs13.4 million for plantation drive in all the zones. In order to ensure clean water supply, the corporation has sanctioned 16 gas chlorinators at an estimate of Rs1.4 million.

MBIL launches new project in Mohali (Source: Business Standard, Date: 01/06/2010)

Delhi-based Mariners' Buildcon Indian Ltd (MBIL) announced launching of its new project "Mohali Oceanic" at Mohali. The project, coming over an area of 25 acres, would offer 200 independent expandable villas to cater to the demand of Indian mariners. The 200 villas coming over plot area of 300 square yards and built up area of 1,850 square feet has been priced at Rs8 million.

Punjab to spend Rs3.42bn on healthcare facilities (Source: Business Standard, Date: 05/06/2010)

The Punjab government would invest over Rs3.42 billion on construction of new hospitals and up-gradation of existing hospitals, community and primary health centres throughout the state. As many as 29 new community health centres (CHCs) had been sanctioned. Out of Rs3.42 billion, Rs750 million would be meted out from the state budget, Rs440 million from state's developing authority, Rs830 million from rural development fund, Rs800 million from the Punjab Infrastructure Development Board and Rs600 million from National Rural Health Mission.

Govt. approves industrial park to be set up by GMADA (Source: Indian Express, Date: 23/06/2010)

The Punjab government gave nod to the Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA) for setting up an industrial mega park over nearly 2,000 acres. The area would be made available to the prospective entrepreneurs for setting up their ventures. The proposed industrial park would further propel the pace of industrial development in the state.

News

State tourism board prepares maps of popular destinations (Source: Indian Express, Date: 04/06/2010)

The Punjab Heritage and Tourism Promotion Board is preparing detailed tourist maps of Amritsar and Patiala to help visitors enjoy the popular destinations in a better and easier way. The maps would provide information on major places of interest, various categories of accommodations available, important trains and flight schedules and popular hotels and restaurants. The initiative is in line with the Punjab government's efforts to promote tourism in the state.

Punjab promotes village tourism (Source: Financial Express, Date: 01/06/2010)

The Punjab government is developing a model village at Amritsar with an intention to promote village tourism in the state. Everything associate with village life in Punjab is going to be showcased at this Rs130 million project. The project is being jointly funded by the Centre and the state. The Centre has given a grant of Rs65 million for the project and the rest would come from the state government. This project is being executed through the Punjab heritage and tourism promotion board.

Rs56.5mn plan for greening Mandi Gobindgarh (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 24/06/2010)

The Fatehgarh Sahib Forest Department has submitted an action plan worth Rs56.5 million to plant maximum saplings in Mandi Gobindgarh to reduce its pollution content. The pollution content in Mandi Gobindgarh has been rising for the last few years due to rolling mills, furnace industry and other factories besides the increasing traffic.

Cycle part manufacturers explore new options (Source: Business Standard, Date: 08/06/2010)

Cycle part manufacturers in Ludhiana are exploring new vistas in the auto sector. Realising the promising future which auto parts hold, many units have already or are contemplating diversification. Competition in cycle parts has also started breeding from the cycle manufacturers. The manufacturers who till now were sourcing orders from the cycle part manufacturers, have gradually moved into manufacturing of few of the cycle parts themselves. All these factors are encouraging small cycle part manufactures to diversify.

Ludhiana MC approves 22 new projects (Source: Times of India, Date: 14/06/2010)

The Ludhiana Municipal Corporation approved 22 new projects with an intention to develop the city. Major works approved included construction of railway over bridges, six-laning of road along Sidhwan canal, flyovers and beautification of the city entry points.

State to lease 5 closed sugar mills (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 20/06/2010)

The Punjab Government has decided to lease five closed sugar mills of the cooperative sector to private parties on BOOT (build, own, operate and transfer) basis. The five mills include Faridkot sugar mill; Tarn Tarn Sugar mill; Jagraon sugar mill; Zeera sugar mill and Patiala sugar mill. The total assets of the closed mills are worth Rs2.87 billion with liabilities to the tune of Rs2.35 billion. The government has also decided to lease 3 closed distilleries located at Nakodar, Gurdaspur and Nawanshahr to private bidders on BOOT basis for a period of 10 years.

Govt. prepares Rs7.5bn project to increase carrying capacity of canals (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 11/06/2010)

The Punjab state government has prepared a Rs7.5 billion project for increasing the carrying capacity of all canals of the state. The canal system in Punjab is five decades old and the water- carrying capacity of these canals had gone down by 30%. The Planning Commission has given a positive response to the proposed project and the state government is waiting for green signal from the Union Government.

Rs600mn forest plan drawn up (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 09/06/2010)

The Punjab Government has drawn up a Rs600 million plan for the preservation of natural forests, management of wild life and infrastructure development along with related activities in the state. Punjab would adopt biodiversity conservation to protect local fauna and flora.

Rs723.7mn for infrastructure in 5 religious towns (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 12/06/2010)

The Punjab government cleared a proposal of Rs723.7 million to provide state-of-the-art infrastructure, including water supply (Rs83.0 million) and sewerage facilities (Rs282.5 million), in 5

religious towns of Punjab. Besides, Rs358.2 million had been earmarked for internal infrastructure such as parks, street lighting, concrete paving of internal roads and white washing and painting of walls. The 5 towns include Baba Bakala in Amritsar district, Khadoor Sahib, Goindwal Sahib and Chola Sahib in Tarn Taran district and Kiratpur Sahib in Rupnagar district.

PAU gets USD1.5mn research project (Source: Tribune News Service, Date: 19/06/2010)

Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) has got a wheat research project funded by the US to the tune of USD1.5 million for a period of three years. The main goal of the project is to identify and characterise an alternative dwarfing gene system for wheat and other cereals in order to alleviate adverse effects of the currently used dwarfing genes. The project will be carried out in collaboration with the Washington State University, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Purdue University, and University of Wisconsin, COMSATS University Abbottabad (Pakistan and Punjab Agricultural University).

Project funded by WB to revive Ludhiana knitwear industry (Source: Business Standard, Date: 28/06/2010)

A project partly funded by the World Bank and by development agencies from Germany and Britain is helping the Ludhiana knitwear industry to overcome a grave labour shortage, while empowering women in the region. Termed 'Implementing business development services for medium, small and micro enterprises (MSMEs)', the project is presently in its second phase.

RAJASTHAN

POLICY TRACKER

Rajasthan announces new policy for agro-based sector (Source: Times of India, Date: 10/06/2010)

The Rajasthan government announced a new policy for promotion of agro-processing and agri-business that would provide many first-of-its-kind incentives to bring about a paradigm shift in agriculture in the state. The policy is aimed at changing agriculture from merely an activity of harvesting of crops and its disposal in the local mandis to processing and value addition, diversification of produce and quality improvement to make it more remunerative and sustainable.

News

SC asks Rajasthan HC to decide afresh on service tax on consumer goods (Source: Financial Express, Date: 16/06/2010)

The Supreme Court has asked the Rajasthan High Court to examine afresh whether the optional service charge recovered in advance from consumers on sale of refrigerators will be part of sale price, thus making consumer goods manufacturers liable to pay service tax in the state. The state government had earlier asked the consumer goods makers to pay sale tax at the rate of 12%.

RAJASTHAN

INVESTMENT TRACKER

GVK bags Rs8.5bn road project (Source: Economic Times, Date: 01/06/2010)

GVK Power & Infrastructure Ltd. won bid for a highway development project in Rajasthan that would cost around Rs8.5 billion. The project was awarded by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and involves four laning of a 165km stretch of NH 76.

HSMI to set up second factory in Rajasthan (Source: Economic Times, Date: 03/06/2010)

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India (HMSI) announced plans to set up the company's second factory at Rajasthan by 2011. The new facility will have an annual production capacity of 600,000 vehicles. With this, company's total production capacity is expected to increase at 2.2 million units per annum.

Shree Cement lines up Rs4.5bn for new projects (Source: Economic Times, Date: 23/06/2010)

Shree Cement announced plans to invest Rs4.5 billion towards setting up a 1.5 million tonne clinker unit and a grinding unit in Rajasthan. The projects will be funded through internal accruals. Cement from these two units will cater to the North Indian market, which has been witnessing a 10% annual growth in consumption of key building material. Shree Cement now produces 12 million tonne a year.

Murli Indst to dilute stake to partly-fund cement plant (Source: Economic Times, Date: 18/06/2010)

Murli Industries announced plans to dilute equity at the company level or project levels to partly-finance investment in a cement plant coming up in Rajasthan. The plant with an annual capacity of 3 million tonne will have a 50MW of power plant. The company has acquired land and work on cement plants will start in the next three months.

News

Union Minister announces mega project for Rajasthan (Source: Times of India, Date: 08/06/2010)

The Union Minister for Commerce and Industry announced the setting up of country's first national manufacturing zone in Rajasthan. The zone would be integrated with the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project, under which mega-size infrastructure facilities would be created along with a dedicated railway freight corridor.

RAJASTHAN
NOTIFICATION TRACKER

COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT

No.F.16(327)VAT/Tax/CCT/06/344

Date 17.06.2010

CIRCULAR

Order under sub-section (2) of section 17 of the RVAT Act, 2003

Vide Notification No. F.12(22)FD/Tax/10-93 dated 09.03.2010, provisions have been made for made for provisional refund of tax to the following class of dealers:

- (i) who file returns electronically and submits Bank Guarantee for a period of three years of an amount equal to the amount refundable to him. along with an undertaking to the effect that in case of failure of verification of deposit of amount of credit of input tax, he shall repay, forthwith, the amount of refund granted to him along with interest at such rate as may be notified under section 55 of the Act,

or

- (ii) who file returns electronically and has increase in his net annual tax liability by ten percent or more over the immediately preceding year, the assessing authority shall grant provisional refund of fifty percent of the refund granted to such dealer in the immediately preceding year, on submission of an application along with undertaking to the effect that in case of failure of verification of deposit of input tax credit, the amount of refund granted shall be repaid along with interest.

The existing provisions are not consistent with the earlier provisions, therefore, order No. F.16(327)VAT/Tax/CCT/06/553 dated 07.08.2009, is hereby withdrawn.

Additional Commissioner (Tax),
Commercial Taxes,
Rajasthan, Jaipur.

CIRCULAR

Order under sub-section (2) of section of the RVAT Act, 2003

Vide Notification No. F.12(22)FD/Tax/IO-93 dated 09.03.2010, provisions for provisional refund of an amount equal to fifty percent of refund granted in the immediately year have been made for the dealers who file returns electronically subject to the condition that the increase in net annual tax liability is ten percent or more in the immediately preceeding year, on submission of an application along with undertaking to the effect that in case of failure of verification of deposit of input tax credit, the amount of refund granted shall be repaid along with interest.

In order to give effect to this amendment, and to provide early refund to such dealer(s) it is directed that where an application for claim of refund in accordance with the provisions of the rule 27 or 28, as the case may be, have been submitted by the said class of dealer to the assessing authority or the officer authorized by the Commissioner, refund to the extent of fifty percent of refund granted in the immediately preceding year shall be allowed in such cases within 30 days from the last date to filing of the return for the relevant quarter.

In case where refund have been issued of fifty percent of refund granted in the immediately preceding year, the assessing authority shall take step on priority basis to finalize the pending assessments of such dealers and to verify the transactions up to first point in the series of sales, within six months of the grant of refund on the basis of which refund has been claimed, to ensure actual deposit of tax so refunded, and to get verified the declaration forms by the dealer in support of concessional rate of tax and issue the refund of the balance amount.

Note: For full text the aforesaid notification may be referred to.

Additional Commissioner (Tax),
Commercial Taxes,
Rajasthan, Jaipur.

CIRCULAR

Order under sub-section (2) of section 17 of the RVAT Act, 2003

Vide Notification No. F.12(22)FD/Tax/10-93 dated 09.03.2010, provisions for provisional refund have been made for the dealers who file returns electronically subject to the condition of submission of Bank Guarantee for a period of three years of an amount equal to the amount refundable along with an undertaking to the effect that in case of failure of verification of deposit of amount of credit of input tax, the amount of refund granted shall be repaid along with interest at such rate as may be notified under section 55 of the Act.

In order to give effect to this notification, and further to provide early refund to the dealer(s) who submits Bank Guarantee of an amount equal to the amount refundable for a period of three years, it is directed that refund to the extent of refundable amount shall be allowed within 30 days from the last date of filing of the return for the relevant quarter, on submission of an application in accordance with the provisions of the rule 27 or 28, as the case may be, along with an undertaking to the effect that in case of failure of verification of deposit of amount of credit of input tax, the amount of refund granted shall be repaid along with interest at such rate as may be notified under section 55 of the Act, on an application submitted by such dealer in accordance with the provisions of the rule 27 or 28, as the case may be.

In case where refund have been issued, the assessing authority shall take step on priority basis to finalize the pending assessments of such dealer(s), and to verify the transactions up to first point in the series of sales, within six months of the grant of refund on the basis of which refund has been claimed, to ensure actual deposit of tax so refunded, and to get verified the declaration forms by the dealer in support of concessional rate of tax and issue the refund of the balance amount.

Note: For full text the aforesaid notification may be referred to.

Additional Commissioner (Tax),
Commercial Taxes,
Rajasthan, Jaipur.

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of Section 21 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No.4 of 2003), I, Niranjana Arya, Commissioner, Commercial Taxes, Rajasthan, being of the opinion that it is expedient in public interest so to do, hereby extend the date of submission of the fourth quarterly return (i.e. for the period ending on March 31, 2010) for the year 2009-2010, to be furnished by the class of registered dealers as notified under sub-rule (7) of rule 19 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Rules, 2006, or any other dealer who files return electronically under clause (i) of sub-rule (1) of Rule 19A up to 30.06.2010.

(Niranjana Arya)
Commissioner,
Commercial Taxes,
Rajasthan, Jaipur.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT (TAX DIVISION)

No.F. 12(142)FD/Tax/09-22

Date 09.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 5 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No.4 of 2003), the State Government being of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendment in this department's notification No.F.12(63)FD/Tax/2005-70 dated 11.7.2006 (as amended from time to time), namely:-

AMENDMENTS

In sub-clause (4) of clause 3.0 of the said notification, after the existing expression "immediately preceding year." the following expression shall be added, namely :-

"However, the composition amount for the year 2010-11, shall not be increased and it shall be equal to the composition amount which was payable by the unit for the year 2009-10, on the condition that composition amount already deposited, if any, shall not be refunded."

By Order of the Governor,

(Bhawani Singh Detha)
Dy. Secretary to the Government

No. F. 12 (42) FD/Tax/10-19

Date 07.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No. 4 of 2003), the State Government being of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendment in this Department's notification No. F. 12 (15) FD/Tax/2008-PT-54 dated 27.8.2008, with immediate effect, namely:-

AMENDMENTS

In the said notification,-

(i) for the existing expression "accessories exceeds four percent", the expression "accessories exceeds five percent" shall be substituted.

(ii) for the existing expression "goods at the rate of four percent", the expression "goods at the rate of five percent" shall be substituted.

By Order of the Governor,

(Bhawani Singh Detha)
Dy. Secretary to the Government

No.F. 12(42)FD/Tax/10-21

Date 07.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 8 read with sub-section (4) of section 18 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No.4 of 2003), the State Government being of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendments in this Department's notification No.F.12 (33) FD/Tax/08-80 dated 10.11.2008, with immediate effect, namely:-

AMENDMENTS

In the said notification,-

(i) for the existing expression "thereof exceeds 4%", the expression "thereof exceeds 5%" shall be substituted.

(ii) in condition No. 2, for the existing expression "extent of 4% of, the expression "extent of 5% of shall be substituted.

By Order of the Governor,

(Bhawani Singh Detha)
Dy. Secretary to the Government

No.F.12 (42)FD/Tax/10-20

Date 07.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No.4 of 2003), the State Government being of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendments in this Department's notification No.F.12 (84) FD/Tax/2009-45 dated July 30, 2009, with immediate effect, namely:-

AMENDMENTS

In the said notification,-

(i) for the existing expression "rate of tax exceeds 4%", the expression "rate of tax exceeds 5%" shall be substituted.

(ii) for the existing expression "goods at the rate of four percent", the expression "goods at the rate of five percent" shall be substituted.

By Order of the Governor,

(Bhawani Singh Detha)
Dy. Secretary to the Government

No.F.12(42)FD/Tax/10-18

Date 07.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No.4 of 2003), the State Government being of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendment in this Department's notification No.F.12 (63) FD/Tax/2005-27 dated 28.4.2006, with immediate effect, namely:-

AMENDMENTS

In the said notification, for the existing expression "rate of tax exceeds 4%", the expression "rate of tax exceeds 5%" shall be substituted.

By Order of the Governor,

(Bhawani Singh Detha)
Dy. Secretary to the Government

No.F.12(42)FD/Tax/10-17

Date 07.06.2010

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Act, 2003 (Act No.4 of 2003), the State Government being of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendment in this Department's notification No.F.12 (84) FD/Tax/2009-11 dated July 8, 2009, with immediate effect, namely:-

AMENDMENTS

In the said notification, for the existing expression "rate of tax exceeds 4%", the expression "rate of tax exceeds 5%" shall be substituted.

By Order of the Governor,

(Bhawani Singh Detha)
Dy. Secretary to the Government

UTTAR PRADESH

POLICY TRACKER

UP to revise property registration rates (Source: Financial Express, Date: 12/06/2010)

Registration of properties in Uttar Pradesh is expected to become costlier from July 1, 2010, as the state government has directed the district magistrates to revise circle rates. With revision in the circle rate, land and property rates are likely to increase further in the state.

News

Power projects get industry status (Source: Times of India, Date: 17/06/2010)

In a bid to propel expansion in power sector, the Uttar Pradesh government has accorded status of industry to all new power projects coming up in the state. A proposal to this effect was cleared by the State Energy Task Force (ETF). By way of industrial status, the new power projects will be entitled to get various incentives and concessions allowed under the industrial policy in terms of trade tax relaxation and priority in land allotment for the projects. The twin objective of the decision is to rope in private investors for setting up new power projects and also resolve shortage of 3,000 mw per day which is being imported at a very high cost to meet the state's requirements.

UP eyes 16% growth in tax mop-up (Source: Financial Express, Date: 25/06/2010)

The income tax department of Uttar Pradesh east circle has fixed a target of registering another 16% growth in its tax collections in the 2010-11 fiscal. The department had collected Rs28.9 billion in 2009-10 fiscal as against Rs26.1 billion in 2008-09.

UHBVN launches 4-point programme to reduce powercuts (Source: Indian Express, Date: 26/06/2010)

The Uttar Haryana Bijli Vittaran Nigam (UHBVN) has designed a four-point programme to overcome the problem of frequent powercuts. The first step towards improving the situation is to convert the open conductors into aerial-bunched cables, thus, curtailing breakdowns caused by trees that fall on wires during storms. The department has also strengthened the complaint centre by appointing additional staff to address complaints of breakdown.

CII strives to improve agri-economy in UP (Source: Business Standard, Date: 02/06/2010)

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has lined up mega events focussing on farmers and agri-economy in Uttar Pradesh. It will organise two agricultural conclaves in association with the state government to brainstorm how to augment farmers' income by boosting farm production, cutting losses and introducing new technologies.

UP adopts tough posturing over sugarcane dues (Source: Business Standard, Date: 11/06/2010)

The Uttar Pradesh government is preparing to act tough against the private sugar millers over pending dues of Rs5.85 billion for the 2009-10 crushing season. Against the total sugarcane dues of Rs132.51 billion for the crushing season, farmers had been paid Rs126.66 billion. Earlier, Recovery Certificates (RCs) had been issued against some mills for their failure to clear dues in the stipulated time frame. The government is gearing up to pursue the RCs in right earnest.

Shot in the arm for Brand Uttar Pradesh (Source: Business Standard, Date: 15/06/2010)

Uttar Pradesh excelled in a Centre-funded e-governance pilot project run in six districts of the state. The pilot project was being run in Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Sitapur, Sultanpur and Rae Bareilly districts. The success of the pilot project has prompted the Centre to give a green signal to its implementation in all the 71 districts of the state. The state government will receive Rs2.6

billion funds for the pan-UP roll out of the e-governance project.

UP needs massive pvt investment (Source: Business Standard, Date: 17/06/2010)

Uttar Pradesh, which has witnessed private investment to the tune of Rs220 billion in the last 3 years and expects total investments of almost Rs1,500 billion in the public-private-partnership (PPP) projects, still needs massive private investment to keep pace with the country's growth rate. According to the Plan paper, UP needs public and private investments of about Rs2,360 billion and Rs5,750 billion respectively during the current 11th Five Year Plan (2007-12). The state government is making fast amends to boost private investment by introducing the single-window clearance system, organising investors' meet and providing sops to the industry.

Farmers encouraged to use SRI technique (Source: Times of India, Date: 18/06/2010)

The system of rice intensification (SRI) technique is gaining popularity among farmers of Allahabad and Kaushambi. The district authorities are also encouraging farmers to adopt the SRI technique as it is scientific and yields better crop in short period.

Phase II of Rosa power plant switched on (Source: Times of India, Date: 18/06/2010)

The Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group (ADAG) owned Reliance Energy announced synchronisation of the company's second unit of 300 mw capacity at Rosa thermal power station in Shahjahanpur district with the state grid. The total capacity of Rosa thermal power station costing Rs60 billion is 1,200 mw. The other two units, of 300 mw capacity each, will come up by March, 2012.

UP excels in credit scheme for unorganised sector (Source: Business Standard, Date: 23/06/2010)

Uttar Pradesh has excelled in a central credit scheme - Swarojgar Credit Card (SCC) - for the self employed in the unorganised sector by achieving over 88% of the target. The scheme was introduced in 2003 to provide easy and timely credit to artisans, handloom weavers, fishermen, rickshaw pullers and other such self employed persons, especially in the rural areas. Against the target of 30,000 cards in 2009-10 financial year, different banks in Uttar Pradesh have achieved the mark of 26,438.

UTTAR PRADESH

INVESTMENT TRACKER

Integrated waste management plant to come up in Kanpur (Source: Business Standard, Date: 05/06/2010)

Infra firm a2z Infrastructure announced plans to set up India's first integrated municipal solid waste management plant in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Majority of the fuel used in the plant will be RDF (Refuse Derived Fuel) derived from solid waste, which is considered a better replacement for coal with lesser emissions. It is scheduled to be operational by March 2011 and will have the capacity to produce 15 Mw power.

UEMC Opus plans Rs15bn township (Source: Business Standard, Date: 02/06/2010)

UEMC Opus, a 50:50 joint venture (JV) between the Malaysian construction company - UEM Constructions and Opus Properties of North India, has lined up a township project in Uttar Pradesh. 'Danat-a-Pearl', will need an investment of Rs15 billion and focus on providing apartments in the middle and lower income group segments, planned to come up along National Highway 24, on the Hapur Road, and will be spread over 500 acres.

New unit at Jhansi increases Bhel's transformer capacity (Source: Financial Express, Date: 04/06/2010)

State-owned power equipment maker Bhel has set up a new core and tank shop at its transformer manufacturing facility at Jhansi, thereby enhancing the manufacturing capacity from 8,500 mva to 15,000 mva per annum. The company would invest Rs1.5 billion in the Jhansi unit within the next two years to enhance the locomotive manufacturing capacity to over 100 locos per year. The initiatives are in line with company's strategy to be prepared for emerging business opportunities in transmission and distribution.

Reliance Infra bags Delhi-Agra project (Source: Financial Express, Date: 02/06/2010)

Reliance Infrastructure (R-Infra) has won Rs29.6 billion project from the NHAI for six-laning of 180-km Delhi-Agra road passing through Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The project would be carried out on design, build, finance, operate and transfer toll basis (DBFOT) under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP).

News

Bids for UP townships opens (Source: Business Standard, Date: 07/06/2010)

The financial bids for the townships proposed to be developed by private developers and consortiums in Uttar Pradesh were scheduled to open in June 2010. Five companies, including Eldeco, Mantri Housing, Supertech, Shristi and DLF, were in fray after qualifying the Request for Proposal (RfP) round in January 2010. The townships would be developed outside the jurisdiction of the local municipalities and development authorities.

UP records 130% growth in investments (Source: Times of India, Date: 01/06/2010)

During 2009-10, actual investments in Uttar Pradesh increased by over 130%. The state attracted investments worth about Rs120 billion compared to Rs52 billion during 2008-09. According to the state industry department, about 37,000 industrial units were established during 2009-10 in, out of which 87 were heavy industries that together entailed investment of Rs70 billion.

UP to rope in private players for bus-terminal upgrading (Source: Financial Express, Date: 23/06/2010)

In a bid to improve the quality of road transport facilities, the Uttar Pradesh government is

envisaging development of bus stations-cum-commercial complexes infrastructure at 242 existing bus terminals under PPP. A total investment of Rs22 billion would be needed for the project, which is to be developed under DBFOT.

WB to give Rs40bn to UP Govt. for Ganga cleaning project (Source: Indian Express, Date: 15/06/2010)

The World Bank is expected to give a financial assistance of Rs40 billion to the Uttar Pradesh government for the cleaning up of River Ganga to be undertaken under the National Ganga River Basin Authority in various towns of the state. In Uttar Pradesh, Kanpur, Allahabad and Varanasi are the focus areas as the river is mostly polluted in these towns. The World Bank has also recommended the state government to form a special purpose vehicle (SPV) for the management of Ganga cleaning.

Bids for UP sugar mills opened (Source: Business Standard, Date: 08/06/2010)

The bids for the 11 Uttar Pradesh State Sugar Corporation Ltd (UPSSCL) mills have been opened. The combined reserve price of all the 11 UPSSCL units put on block out of the total 33 units is around Rs6.4 billion total capacity of over 25,000 tonnes sugarcane crushed per day (TCD). The mills are Amroha in JP Nagar; Bijnore, in Bijnore district; Bulandshahr; Chandpur, in Bijnore; Jarwal Road in Bahraich; Khadda in Kushi Nagar; Mohiuddinpur in Meerut; Rohanakalan in Muzzafarnagar; Saharanpur; Sakhotitanda in Meerut; and Siswabazar in Maharajganj. Ten companies had evinced interest, including Triveni Engineering, Indian Potash, Patel Engineering, Dwarikesh Sugar, Wave Industries, Lakshmipathy Balaji Sugar and Distilleries, DCM Shriram, PBS Food, Ticola Sugars and SBEC Bio Energy.

UP Power Corp to cut carbon footprint (Source: Business Standard, Date: 15/06/2010)

Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd (UPPCL) is embarking on 40 projects to cut carbon footprint in the region of operations of its five distribution companies. Once implemented, these projects are touted to effect saving of 1,080 Mw of peak demand to the power-starved UPPCL and its distribution companies viz. Purvanchal, Madhayanchal, Dakshinanchal, Pachhimanchal and KESCO.

UP to start work on 8-lane road along Ganga canal (Source: Times of India, Date: 17/06/2010)

The Uttar Pradesh government is all set to start work on an 8-lane expressway connecting Greater Noida and UP-Uttarakhand border in Muzaffarnagar along the Upper Ganga canal. The access-controlled expressway project will have the design speed of 120 kmph. The stretch will not only provide an alternate route to the congested NH-58 (Delhi-Haridwar) but also divert the truck traffic carrying sugarcane from national highway.

LU starts MTA to cater to need of tourism industry (Source: Times of India, Date: 13/06/2010)

The revival of MBA (tourism) course has come in the form of a two year full-time Masters in Tourism Administration (MTA) in the Lucknow University (LU). The programme will be administered by the Institute of Tourism Studies (ITS), LU. The faculty of arts will be responsible for academic purposes and awarding the degrees to the students.

UTTAR PRADESH
NOTIFICATION TRACKER

SANSTHAGAT VITTA, KAR EVAM NIBANDHAN ANUBHAG-2

No.KA.NI.-2-901/XI-9(81)/91-U.P.Act-30-2007-Order-(61)-2010

Date 28.06.2010

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of following English translation of Government notification no. KA.NI.-2-901/XI-9(81)/91-U.P.Act-30-2007-Order-(61)-2010 dated June 28, 2010:

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Uttar Pradesh Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Areas Act, 2007 (U.P. Act no. 30 of 2007) read with section 21 of the Uttar Pradesh General Clauses Act, 1904 (U.P. Act no. 1 of 1904), the Governor is pleased to make with effect from June 29, 2010, the following amendment in Government notification no-KA.NI.-2-2757/XI-9(1)/08-U.P.Act-30-2007-Order-(31)-2008 dated September 29, 2008 as amended from time to time:-

AMENDMENT

In the Schedule to the aforesaid notification, for entry at serial number 3, the following entry shall columnwise be substituted, namely:-

Sl. No.	Description of goods.	Rate of tax.
1	2	3
3.	Natural Gas	5% of the value of goods.

By Order,

(Durga Shanker Mishra)
Pramukh Sachiv.

No.KA.NI.-2-939/XI-9(81)/91-U.P.Act-30-07-Order-(62)-2010

Date 28.06.2010

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of following English translation of Government notification no. KA.NI.-2-939/XI-9(81)/91-U.P.Act-30-07-Order-(62)-2010 dated June 28, 2010:

NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS the State Government is satisfied that it is expedient so to do in public interest,

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers under section 6 of the Uttar Pradesh Tax on Entry of Goods Into Local Areas Act, 2007 (U.P.Act no. 30 of 2007), the Governor is pleased to allow with effect from June 29, 2010, a rebate to the extent of the amount of tax payable by a dealer on sale or purchase of natural gas under the Uttar Pradesh Value Added Tax Act, 2008 (U.P. Act no. 5 of 2008), from the tax leviable under the said Act of 2007 on entry of the said goods into the local area subject to the condition that the amount of rebate shall not exceed the amount of entry tax levied.

By Order,

(Durga Shanker Mishra)
Pramukh Sachiv.

UTTARAKHAND

POLICY TRACKER

Uttarakhand to legalise contract farming (Source: Financial Express, Date: 29/05/2010)

Uttarakhand is expected to pass the Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act, setting the stage for private companies like RIL and ITC to get into contract farming in the state and set up private mandis.

Uttarakhand gives tax incentives on agro-forestry products (Source: Business Standard, Date: 11/06/2010)

The Uttarakhand government lowered VAT from 12.5% to 4% on fibre and particle boards made from eucalyptus and poplar trees. The new measure would provide a boost to ramp up production in the state's agro-forestry-based industry.

News

State may get free power if hydel projects are scrapped (Source: Business Standard, Date: 04/06/2010)

The Centre has assured the Uttarakhand Government that the hill state would be compensated with 2,000-Mw of free power in case all the three major hydel projects - Loharinag Pala, Pala Maneri and Bhaironghati - were scrapped.

Uttarakhand seeks Rs68bn for annual plan (Source: Business Standard, Date: 14/06/2010)

Uttarakhand seeks an enhanced annual plan size of Rs68.0 billion for 2010-11. This is 21% more than the last year's plan size which was fixed at Rs55.7 billion with additional assistance of Rs4.0 billion for 'mahakumbh'. The government plans to devote Rs29.7 billion towards economic services which includes infrastructure, transport, industry and agriculture sectors

UTTARAKHAND

INVESTMENT TRACKER

News

NTPC to invite fresh bids for Lata Tapovan project (Source: Financial Express, Date: 30/05/2010)

State-run NTPC is expected to invite fresh bids for the 171 MW Lata Tapovan Hydroelectric Project in Uttarakhand. The project is being developed by NTPC's 100% subsidiary NTPC Hydro Ltd (NHL) and has sent its recommendation for floating fresh tender to NTPC board which is likely to approve soon.

Uttarakhand to promote cow urine business (Source: Business Standard, Date: 17/06/2010)

The Uttarakhand government plans to promote cow urine business in a big way. The government has decided to set up a cow institute at the holy city of Rishikesh on the public private partnership (PPP) mode. The government would provide nearly 20 acres of land at Rishikesh for setting up the cow centre which would be christened as cow science and technology institute. The government has set a target of preparing 10000 liters of distilled concentration of cow urine per day at the new institute.

Emami set to win bid for first ayush gram in Uttarakhand (Source: Business Standard, Date: 28/06/2010)

The Emami Group is all set to win the bid for establishing Uttarakhand's first ayush gram at Bhowali sanatorium in Kumaon region. An ayush gram will have a hospital with 100 beds, a wellness centre, a hotel, a herbal garden, a yoga centre, a drug manufacturing unit and pharmacy among various other features.

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