



Policy Developments

☞ The Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change has approved in principle the National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency. In a statement, the Prime Minister said that the Mission will enable about Rs. 75,000 crore (approx \$15.6 billion) worth of transactions in energy efficiency and will help to save about 5% of India's annual energy consumption, and nearly 100 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year by 2015. The most innovative and challenging new initiative to be introduced under the Mission is the "Perform, Achieve and Trade" mechanism which would assign energy efficiency improvement targets to the country's most energy-intensive industrial units, with the provision of allowing them to retain any efficiency improvements in excess of their target in the form of Energy Savings Certificates, called ESCerts. Units will also be allowed to use ESCerts which they have purchased to meet their targets. The other major goal of the Mission is the promotion of Energy Service Company (ESCO) based upgrades to energy efficiency in buildings, municipalities and agricultural pumpsets. [More](#)

☞ The Government of India has unveiled the Foreign Trade Policy for 2009-2014 which has set the target to achieve an annual export growth of 15% over 2010-11 with an annual export target of US\$ 200 billion by March 2011 and aiming to double India's exports of goods and services by 2014. The highlights of the policy include higher support for market and product diversification, export promotion credit guarantee scheme at zero duty, extension of duty entitlement passbook scheme till December, 2010 and several sector specific measures. [More](#)

☞ Reserve Bank of India has decided to introduce Interest Rate Futures (IRF) on a 10-year Government of India security. The notional coupon shall be 7% with semi-annual compounding. [More](#)

☞ The Government of India has approved the proposals for induction of supercritical technology through bulk ordering of 11 super critical units of 660 MW (totalling 7260 MW) by NTPC Ltd for itself, for its

joint ventures companies, and on behalf of Damodar Valley Corporation. The Government has decided to go for the bulk tendering of super-critical units with emphasis on development of indigenous manufacturing facility as per a phased manufacturing programme so that domestic manufacturing capacity of super-critical units is established in the country. [More](#)

☞ SEBI has decided to amend the SEBI (Disclosure and Investor Protection) Guidelines, 2000 in order to simplify the rights issue process as well as to make it more efficient and effective. It has decided to allow an issuing company to utilize the proceeds of right issue only after the basis of allotment of rights share is finalized. As per existing regulations, the issuing company was allowed to utilise the rights issue proceeds collected after satisfying the designated stock exchange that minimum 90% subscription has been received. [More](#)

☞ The Government of India has announced a High Level Task Force on Medium and Small Scale Enterprise (MSME) sector to provide a fillip to it. The Task Force will formulate an agenda for action after deliberations with all the stakeholders. [More](#)

Economic News

☞ India's agricultural export turnover is expected to double in the next 5 years; according to Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority. The turnover is set to rise from \$9 billion at present to nearly \$18 billion by 2014. [More](#)

☞ The Bombay Stock Exchange has launched an index that will track the value of newly listed companies for a period of up to two years after listing and will initially comprise 45 companies that were listed in the past two years. [More](#)

☞ Fund houses in USA have launched five more India-specific exchange-traded funds (ETFs) to tap the growth potential of India. ETFs are open-ended funds that are designed to track specific indices and trade just like any other stock. [More](#)

🌀 The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is launching new industrial projects totaling nearly \$9 million to benefit industry in India. It includes a \$5.9 million Integrated Cluster Development Programme for India which will focus on technology, management, skill development and the environment and will be implemented by 2014. [More](#)

🌀 Foreign institutional investors' (FIIs) net investments in Indian equities crossed \$8 billion in the first eight months of calendar year 2009. The data includes stocks bought by FIIs through the Qualified Institutional Placement route and public offers, buybacks and also investments in unlisted companies. [More](#)

🌀 Maharashtra has received investment commitments worth around Rs 10,605 crore (approx \$2.21 billion) under its mega project policy. The State Government has signed memoranda of understanding with eight companies for projects mainly in the steel, power, cement, and automobile sectors. [More](#)

Corporate News

🌀 Cairn India, the domestic subsidiary of UK based oil explorer Cairn Energy, and India's ONGC plan will jointly invest \$4 billion to scale up production capacity of its oil fields at Barmer in Rajasthan by 25,000 barrels of oil per day (bopd) to 200,000 bopd. [More](#)

🌀 Indian arm of global software company, SAP has recorded over 100% growth in licence fee revenues in the quarter ended June, 2009 even as developed markets like the US and the UK struggle to grow. [More](#)

🌀 Panacea Biotec Ltd has bagged a three-year contract worth over Rs 1,067 crore (approx \$222 million) from UNICEF to provide the agency with EasyFive vaccine, a protection against five dreaded pediatric diseases. [More](#)

🌀 Cryo-Save, the Belgium-based stem cells company providing storage and support solutions, is making India its Asia-Pacific hub. The company also plans to create a network of hospitals to help build a large stem cell bank. [More](#)

🌀 Japanese tyre manufacturer Bridgestone, which has a plant at Pithampur, near Indore, will set up a second facility near Pune at an investment of Rs 2,050 crore (approx \$426.52 million). The leading tyre manufacturer's Pithampur plant caters to several big vehicle manufacturers, and the Pune plant is expected to offer logistical advantages due to the presence of auto majors, including Mahindra International, Tata-Fiat, General Motors India, Volkswagen and Bajaj Auto in the region. [More](#)

🌀 Toyota Motors plans to make India a hub for small cars to be exported to its global markets. Toyota has earmarked Rs 3,200 crore (approx \$665.79 million) for 2008-11 to set up a second plant in Bangalore to make 200,000 cars from the current 80,000 units. [More](#)

🌀 Japanese auto company, Nissan has decided to shift the entire production of its small car, Micra, from the UK to India. Nissan also plans to manufacture four more models in India, involving a total investment of over Rs 2,000 crore (approx \$416 million). [More](#)

🌀 Harley Davidson plans to set up a subsidiary in India and launch its motorcycle in India in 2010. The company is looking for local dealer partners to help establish the Harley Davidson brand and business in India for the long term. [More](#)