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## **DAILY NEWS DIGEST BY BFSI BOARD**

10 April 2024



**Paytm Payments Bank's MD and CEO Surinder Chawla resigns:** Paytm Payments Bank's Managing Director and CEO Surinder Chawla has tendered his resignation on April 8, according to a stock exchange filing. Chawla is stepping down citing personal reasons and to explore better career prospects. He will be relieved from PPBL on June 26, the release stated. One 97 Communications stated again in the release to the stock exchanges that 'nearly all agreements between the company and PPBL have been terminated', and the board of Paytm Payments Bank has been reconstituted with five independent directors, including an Independent Chairperson, and no nominees from the company. One 97 Communications said it continues to collaborate with banking partners to enhance merchant acquiring and UPI services.

#### (Moneycontrol)

**Hinduja Group enters MF space as IIHL picks up 60% in Invesco AMC:** Hinduja Group's IndusInd International Holdings (IIHL) on Tuesday announced entering the asset management space with the acquisition of a 60 per cent stake in US-based Invesco's domestic arm Invesco Asset Management India (IAMI). Invesco Mutual Fund (MF) is the 17th-largest fund house in India with average assets under management (AUM) of over Rs 74,300 crore in the March quarter. According to Invesco, the India arm manages nearly Rs 85,400 crore through mutual fund schemes and offshore advisories. IIHL and Invesco have formed a joint venture (JV) for the purpose. The latter will hold a 40 per cent stake in the JV. The two companies will become the sponsor of the fund house. The deal is subject to regulatory approvals, the companies said in a press release.

#### (Business Standard)

**RBI launches survey of manufacturing companies:** RBI conducts quarterly OBICUS survey since 2008, gathering production details, order data, and inventory levels confidentially. This data aids in monetary policy formulation. The next policy meeting is set for June 2024. The information



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collected in the survey includes quantitative data on new orders received during the reference quarter, backlog of orders at the beginning of the quarter, and pending orders at the end of the quarter. *(Economic Times)* 

**HDFC Credila raises USD 100 mn through ECB route for loan book expansion:** Education loans-focused lender HDFC Credila Financial Services on Tuesday said it has raised USD 100 million in external commercial borrowing (ECB). DBS Bank's IFSC banking unit in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) said in a statement that it led the syndicated loan. The funds will be used for growing the retail education loan franchise, it said. "We are pleased to have concluded a USD 100 million ECB transaction with DBS Bank as the lead arranger," Credila's Managing Director and Chief Executive Arijit Sanyal said.

(Economic Times)



**Skymet predicts normal monsoon in India this year:** Private weather forecaster Skymet, which had accurately predicted 2023 monsoon rainfall, has said the monsoon in 2024 could be normal and quantitatively 102 per cent of the long period average (LPA) of 87 cm, with an error margin of (+/-) 5 per cent. In April 2023, Skymet predicted monsoon rainfall to be "below normal" at 94 per cent of LPA and the June-September season ended with 94.4 per cent precipitation. However, the rainfall in August 2023, which was 36 per cent lower than normal, could not be predicted by any agency. Rainfall between 96 per cent and 104 per cent of LPA is considered 'normal' while rainfall between 90 per cent and 95 per cent is categorised as 'below normal'. A normal rainfall this year may help farmers in deficient States such as Karnataka and Maharashtra facing water shortage in many places to plan sowing of kharif crops, which starts from June with the arrival of monsoon, on time. (*Business Line*)

**Road ministry capex surpasses Rs 3 lakh crore in 2023-24:** The ministry of roads transport and highways recorded the highest ever capital expenditure of Rs 3.01 lakh crore in 2023-24 with both government and private expenditure at an all-time high at Rs 2.64 lakh crore and Rs 34,805 crore respectively, a senior government official said on Tuesday. The ministry constructed 12,349 km of national highways in 2023-24, the second highest so far, compared to 10,331 km in 2022-23 while



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the projects awarded in 2023-24 stood at 8,581 km. The highest construction so far has been 13,327 km done during 2020-21.

#### (Economic Times)

**MNRE extends deadline for R&D proposals under National Green Hydrogen Mission:** The New & Renewable Energy Ministry has extended the deadline until April 27 for the submission of research and development proposals under the National Green Hydrogen Mission, a release said on Tuesday. The ministry on March 16, 2024, invited R&D proposals under the mission from the industry. The last date for submission was April 12. While the 'Call for Proposals' is receiving encouraging responses, some stakeholders have requested more time for submission of R&D proposals, the release said. "In view of such requests and to allow sufficient time to the institutions for submitting good-quality proposals, the ministry has extended the deadline for submission of proposals to 27th April 2024," the ministry said.

#### (Economic Times)

**India plans to raise steel production capacity three-fold by 2047:** India aims to triple its domestic steel production capacity to 500 million tonnes per year by 2047 while reducing emission intensity to 2.25 tonnes of CO2 per tonne of crude steel production by fiscal year 2029, with further reductions targeted by 2047. These targets surpass the goals outlined in India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the steel sector.

#### (Economic Times)





**Tesla in talks with Reliance to set up EV manufacturing arm in India:** Tesla may be scouting for a local partner to set up its operations in India. Highly placed sources say the US electric vehicles major is in talks with Reliance Industries for a possible joint venture to build the manufacturing facility in the country. "Talks are at initial stages and have been ongoing for over a month," said a person aware of the development. The source said the move shouldn't be construed as RIL's entry into the automobile space. RIL's objective in the joint venture is to build capacities for electric vehicles in India.

#### (Business Line)

**Ola Cabs to exit international markets this month:** Ride-hailing major Ola Cabs has decided to shut down its existing operations in the international markets like the UK, Australia, and New



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Zealand by the end of this month. The company has started sending out notifications to users about the impending closure, with operations set to cease in Australia from April 12. Ola had announced its rollout in Australia and New Zealand in 2018. Ola wants to consolidate its domestic operations and prepare for an impending initial public offering (IPO).

#### (Financial Express)

**India ranks third with 67 unicorns; Byju's, PharmEasy dropout:** With a total of 67 unicorns, India ranked third on the global list but was a far cry compared with the two giants – the US and China – who reigned with 703 and 340 high growth start-ups. The drop-outs from the unicorn chart in 2023 were Byju's and PharmEasy, according to a report by The Hurun Research Institute. There are a total of 1,453 unicorns in the world, with the world minting one unicorn every two days over the last year. TikTok owner ByteDance retained the title of being the world's most valuable unicorn worth \$220 billion, despite threat of a US ban, while the total value of the world's unicorns reached \$5 trillion, which is equivalent to the GDP of Japan.

(Financial Express)



# **REGULATION & DEVELOPMENT**

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**Angel Tax valuation method 'solely' assessee's choice, says Delhi HC:** The Delhi High Court has upheld that taxpayers can choose an option for Angel Tax valuation. However, the Income Tax Department can go for independent Fair Market Value (FMV) determination. Experts feel that the method adopted by the department should not be different from that used by taxpayers. In the matter of Agra Portfolio and the Income Tax Department, the method in question was Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) to determine Fair Market Value (FMV). DCF refers to a valuation method that estimates the value of an investment using its expected future cash flows. Accordingly, the present value of expected future cash flows is arrived at by using a projected discount rate. Based on that, an unlisted company allots shares to the angel investor.

The Income Tax Department did not accept the valuation. It independently ascertained the face value of the shares by adopting the Net Asset Value (NAV) method. This method is applied to fund valuation and pricing, which is arrived at by dividing the difference between assets and liabilities by the number of shares held by investors. Because of the different methods adopted, the value of a share ascertained by the IT Department was much lower than what the firm reported. Since it received no relief from the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), the firm moved the High Court.

(Business Line)



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**USISPF appoints former revenue secretary Tarun Bajaj to head US-India Tax Forum:** The US-India Tax Forum, an US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) initiative, has appointed Tarun Bajaj, the former Revenue Secretary and Secretary of Economic Affairs to the Government of India, as the new head of the Forum. Joined USISPF as an advisor to the Board of Directors in January 2024 his appointment is a testament to his significant experience and expertise in economic affairs and taxation matters. During his tenure with the Indian government, he managed both the direct and indirect tax revenues for the government by working towards shaping fiscal policies and promoting economic growth. He was also instrumental in stabilising the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

#### (Financial Express)





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### NICHE MARKETING

- Niche marketing is defined as channeling all marketing efforts towards one well-defined segment of the population. There is one important thing to understand that 'niche' does not exist, but is created by smart marketing techniques and identifying what the customer wants..
- Niche marketing is a marketing tactic deployed to target a specific market segment which is unique. Niche market is often created by identifying what a customer wants and this can be done if the company knows what the customer needs and then tries to deliver a better solution to a problem which was not presented by other firms. A niche market does not mean a small market, but it involves specific target audience with a specialized offering. By doing so, the company becomes a market leader and it becomes possible for other firms to enter that particular segment. For example, there are various cinema halls across India, but there are few which have recliner seats to offer. Not everybody wants to watch a movie by paying 5x-6x times the cost of a normal ticket. Hence, the target audience is very different and the hall is also only open at places where the company feels that it would be able to tap into target audience especially in posh areas.



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FOREX (FBIL 1.30 PM) INR / 1 USD : 83.3176 INR / 1 GBP : 105.2324 INR / 1 EUR : 90.2535 INR /100 JPY: 54.8800	Treasury and Internal Audit of Gen	of MSME Credit).
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