

THE INSTITUTE OF **COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA**

	Telephones :		+91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035			
			+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619			
1			+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204			
	Fax	:	+91-33-2252-7993			
			+91-33-2252-1026			
			+91-33-2252-1723			
	Website	:	www.icmai.in			

DAILY NEWS DIGEST BY BFSI BOARD, ICAI

December 21, 2021

12, SUDDER STREET, KOLKATA – 700 016.

- IDBI bank only has 16.72 crore outstanding loans to Sanghavi Exports: Stock Exchange Filing : IDBI Bank has informed stock exchanges that it has an outstanding loan of Rs. 16.72 crore to diamond firm Sanghavi Exports International Pvt. Ltd. and not Rs. 6710 crore as claimed by some media reports. It said the reports were factually inaccurate. The bank also stated that the account has been declared a non-performing asset and has been fully provided for. The lender has taken action to recover its dues as per its filing to the stock exchanges. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/idbi-bank-only-has-16-72-croreoutstanding-loans-to-sanghavi-exports-stock-exchange-filing/articleshow/88397959.cms
- Bank employees responsible for customer's trust, not to be reinstated in case of loss of confidence: HC: The Delhi High Court has said that bank employees have the larger responsibility of ensuring the banking system's integrity as well as maintaining the trust of customers and therefore their reinstatement ought not be permitted when there is a loss of confidence due to misconduct. Justice Prathiba M Singh, while setting aside an industrial tribunal's order rejecting the termination of a bank employee who allegedly transferred funds to his personal accounts, stated that customers repose their faith in bank officials who enjoy a fiduciary relationship with them and even a suspicion of misconduct based on some evidence is sufficient to uphold their dismissal from service. "Once there is a loss of confidence, that too by a bank qua one of its officials, the standard on which such loss of faith/confidence is to be tested cannot be a very high standard. Even a suspicion or doubt, with some credibility or some evidence, would be sufficient to objectively uphold the dismissal from service.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/bank-employees-responsible-for-customers-trust-not-tobe-reinstated-in-case-of-loss-of-confidence-hc/articleshow/88393691.cms

Banks recover Rs 13,100 cr from assets sale of defaulters like Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi: Nirmala Sitharaman: • Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said that banks have recovered Rs 13,109.17 crore from asset sale of fugitives like Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi. She said this while replying to a discussion on the second batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants which was approved by the Lok Sabha amid uproar by the Opposition over various issues. The Supplementary Demands for Grants authorised the government to spend an additional Rs 3.73 lakh crore during the current fiscal.

https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/banks-recover-assets-from-vijay-mallya-nirav-modi-mehul-choksi-1890083-2021-12-20

PSBs recover more than Rs 5.49 lakh crore over last 7 fiscal years: Govt in Lok Sabha: The government has taken comprehensive steps to reduce NPAs and to effect recovery, enabling public sector banks to recover more than Rs 5.49 lakh crore over the last seven fiscal years, the Lok Sabha was informed on Monday. In a written reply, Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad said that with regard to the details of the recovery rate of non-performing assets (NPAs), the RBI has informed that it has not formally defined 'recovery rate' in the context of NPAs in the banking industry. "Comprehensive steps have been taken by the Government to reduce NPAs and to effect recovery, which enabled PSBs to recover Rs 5,49,327 crore over the last seven financial years," he said.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/psbs-recover-more-than-rs-5-49lakh-crore-over-last-7-fiscal-years-govt-in-lok-sabha/articleshow/88392343.cms

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an may M grantavina		Website	:	+91-33-2252-1723 www.icmai.in

- Axis pips Kotak, Indusind for Citi's India consumer biz: Axis Bank has emerged as the frontrunner to buy Citi's consumer business in India, piping rival contenders Kotak Mahindra Bank and Indusind Bank, said people in the know. Axis and Citi has signed an exclusivity agreement to hold bilateral negotiations as the Wall Street bank has already informed the others about their decision. Citi has been expecting around \$2 billion from the sale as the US bank under CEO Jane Fraser has been looking to exit consumer banking in 13 countries, including India. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/axis-pips-kotak-indusind-for-citis-india-consumer-biz/articleshow/88396351.cms
- RBL Bank raises Rs 5.20-cr fund via CSR initiative for inclusive education: RBL Bank on Monday said it has raised Rs 5.20 crore through a corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative focused on cycling in a bid to support education of underprivileged and special needs children. The private sector lender-organised its 8th edition of cyclothon which had 159 cyclists pedal over 1.14 lakh km since October this year to raise the money for two schools, one each located in Hyderabad and Maharashtra, a statement said. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/news/rbl-bank-raises-rs-5-20cr-fund-via-csr-initiativefor-inclusive-education/articleshow/88396176.cms
- Average value of UPI, RuPay transactions below Rs 2000, marking stagnancy: Last week, the government decided to incentivise banks and fintech players by paying them a percentage of transaction value per transaction made through the domestic RuPay debit card, or a below-Rs 2,000 transaction made using Unified Payments Interface (UPI). A quick look at transactions under the two modes shows that the average value of transaction is below Rs 2,000 for use of RuPay card at Point-of-Sale machines (PoS), on e-commerce platforms, and for UPI transactions.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/finance/average-value-of-upi-rupay-transactions-below-rs-2000-marking-stagnancy-121122000704_1.html

- Equifax to add more 'buy now, pay later' plans to credit reports: A popular kind of "buy now, pay later" plan is coming to credit reports. Early next year, Equifax Inc. will begin recording installment plans that allow shoppers to make four biweekly payments instead of covering the full cost at checkout. The move is meant to give lenders a fuller picture of people's financial commitments, including how much they owe on these plans. https://www.livemint.com/industry/banking/equifax-to-add-more-buy-now-pay-later-plans-to-credit-reports-11639919957289.html
- Equitas SFB empanelled as Maharashtra govt banking partner: Equitas Small Finance Bank on Monday said it
 has been empanelled as a banking partner of the Government of Maharashtra to offer its services to the state
 government employees. As per an agreement, Equitas Small Finance Bank is entitled to distribute salaries and
 allowances to the existing employees as well as make provision of pension to pensioners, thereby providing
 solutions to institutions and value-added services for individuals, the bank said in a release.
 https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/equitas-sfb-empanelled-as-maharashtra-govtbanking-partner/2384086/
- **RBI conducts three-day VRRR auction worth Rs 2 lakh crore:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducted a threeday variable rate reverse repo (VRRR) auction worth Rs 2 lakh crore, which began on December 20, under its liquidity adjustment facility. During variable rate reverse repo auctions, banks lend their excess liquid reserves to the central bank, getting between 3.8-3.9 percent interest. While previously, the general period for such VRRRs has either been 7, 14 or 28 days, this is the first time the RBI has decided to conduct a three-day variable rate reverse repo auction.



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Telephones :		+91-33-2252-1031/1034/1035		
		+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619		
		+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204		
Fax	:	+91-33-2252-7993		
		+91-33-2252-1026		
		+91-33-2252-1723		
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https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/announcements/rbi-to-conduct-a-vrrr-worth-rs-2-lakh-crore-7844431.html

- EPFO adds 12.73 lakh subscribers in Oct: Retirement fund body EPFO has added 12.73 lakh net subscribers in October, registering an increase of 10.22 per cent compared to the same month last year, according to the latest payroll data. "The provisional payroll data of EPFO released on 20th December 2021 highlights that EPFO has added 12.73 lakh net subscribers during the month of October 2021," a labour ministry statement said. According to the statement, year-on-year comparison shows an increase of around 10.22 per cent in net payroll additions in October, 2021 as compared to 11.55 lakh net subscribers added during October 2020. https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/epfo-adds-1273-lakh-subscribers-in-october/article37999866.ece
- Banks to offer ₹5,000 OD to women SHG members: Banks will offer ₹5,000 overdraft (OD) to verified women Self Help Group (SHG) members having Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts to meet their credit needs without insisting on security and end use amid the ongoing pandemic. In this regard, the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has formulated a ₹5,000 OD scheme to provide hassle-free credit to low-income group/ underprivileged women within the existing PMJDY OD scheme of ₹10,000. https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/banks-to-offer-5000-od-to-women-shgmembers/article37998541.ece
- PCA Framework for NBFCs brings further parity with banks in terms of regulations: Ind-Ra: The Reserve Bank of India's prompt corrective action (PCA) framework for non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) brings further parity in terms of the regulations between banks and non-banks, due to the increased size and scale of NBFCs and interconnectedness with banks, along with the scale-based regulation implemented in October 2021 and the alignment of asset quality classifications implemented in November 2021, says a report of India Ratings (Ind-Ra). The move also establishes a regulatory course of action in an event of a breach of certain parameters, thus acting as an early warning signal. In case of any breach, the NBFC's performance will be measured over four consecutive quarters on risk threshold parameters to declassify the NBFC placed under PCA, it added.
 https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/pca-framework-for-nbfcs-brings-further-parity-with-banks-in-terms-of-regulations-ind-ra/article37995499.ece
- Shivalik SFB charts growth plans over next five years : Commercial banks have greater opportunities for growth that are not always available to cooperative banks, said Suveer Kumar Gupta, Managing Director and CEO, Shivalik Small Finance Bank. "As a cooperative bank, there are certain restrictions... more freedom is provided to commercial banks and somehow, it seemed more mainstream," he said, while outlining Shivalik SFB's plans to grow its business volume by five to six times in the next five years from about ₹2,000 crore at present. Shivalik SFB was the first urban co-operative bank to get approval from the Reserve Bank of India for transition to small finance bank and went live on April 26, 2021.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/shivalik-sfb-charts-growth-plans-over-next-five-years/article37996230.ece

Landmark achievement: Jan Dhan accounts surpass the 44-cr mark: As the calendar year draws to a close, the total number of beneficiaries under the Centre's financial inclusion scheme, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), has crossed the 44 crore mark. According to the latest government data, the total number of accounts opened under PMJDY stood at 44.05 crore, with a total balance of ₹1,47,812 crore as on December 8. The total number of accounts stood at 41.43 crore in the same period last year.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/landmark-achievement-jan-dhan-accountssurpass-the-44-cr-mark/article37999189.ece



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- Karnataka Gramin Bank in pact with Care Health Insurance: The Bellari-headquartered Karnataka Gramin Bank (KGB), sponsored by Canara Bank, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Care Health Insurance Ltd to market health insurance products for customers of the bank across 22 districts of Karnataka. Quoting Shreenath Joshi, Chairman of KGB, a media statement said the products will go a long way in building a sense of security amongst the customers in the current Covid pandemic situation. https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/karnataka-gramin-bank-in-pact-with-care-health-insurance/article37995842.ece
- Edelweiss General Insurance and PhonePe partner for digital motor insurance: Edelweiss General Insurance has partnered with PhonePe for digital motor insurance products. "The partnership will help EGI reach out to PhonePe's vast and growing network of customers and offer them simple, end to end digital solutions in the motor insurance segment," said a statement on Monday. PhonePe customers can now purchase EGI's motor insurance policy in just a few clicks with zero paperwork and can opt for add-on benefits like depreciation protect, engine protection, consumable expense protect, roadside assistance, key and lock protect, to suit their individual needs, it further said.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/edelweiss-general-insurance-and-phonepe-partner-for-digital-motor-insurance/article37995233.ece

- Razorpay raises \$375 million: Fintech unicorn Razorpay has raised \$375 million Series F funding from Lone Pine Capital, Alkeon Capital, and TCV, at a valuation of \$7.5 billion. Other investors, including Tiger Global, Sequoia Capital India, GIC and Y Combinator also participated in the round. Till now, Razorpay has raised a total of \$741.5 million funding since its inception in 2014. With this round, the company's valuation has more than doubled from \$3 billion in April. Talking about this jump, Harshil Mathur, CEO and co-founder, Razorpay, told BusinessLine, "The major factor is that our business scaled massively in the last two years on the back of increased digitisation, increased growth in SMB merchants, and the start-up ecosystem in general. https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/razorpay-raises-375-million-in-fresh-funding-valuation-doubles-to-7-5-billion-11639987224307.html
- Sensex down over 1,100 points at closing, Nifty below 16,700 amid heavy sell-off: The BSE Sensex closed at 55,822.01, down 1,189.73 points or 2.09 per cent. It recorded an intra-day high of 56,538.15 and a low of 55,132.68. The Nifty 50 closed at 16,614.20, down 371.00 points or 2.18 per cent. It recorded an intra-day high of 16,840.10 and a low of 16,410.20. Only three scrips -- Cipla, Hindustan Unilever, Dr Reddy's closed in the green on the Nifty 50. BPCL, Tata Motors, Tata Steel, IndusInd Bank and Bajaj Finance were the top losers. https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/stock-markets/sensex-down-over-1100-points-at-closing-nifty-ends-below-16700-amid-a-heavy-sell-off/article37996565.ece
- Investors lose over ₹11.45 lakh cr in two days of market sell-off: Investors have lost a hefty ₹11,45,267.43 crore in two days as the domestic equity market continued to face severe drubbing amid a global sell-off. The BSE benchmark Sensex plunged 1,189.73 points or 2.09 per cent to close at 55,822.01 on Monday. During the day, it tanked 1,879.06 points to 55,132.68. The benchmark had tumbled 889.40 points or 1.54 per cent to close at 57,011.74 on Friday.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/stock-markets/investors-lose-over-1145-lakh-cr-in-twodays-of-market-sell-off/article37998611.ece

• Gold price today dip for second day in a row, silver rates drop: Gold prices in India dipped today, extending losses to the second day though the drop was moderate amid firm global rates. On MCX, gold futures were down 0.04% to ₹48575 per 10 gram while silver fell 0.45% to ₹61,856 per kg. In global markets, gold edged

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higher to regain \$1,800 per ounce levels as concerns over the rapidly spreading Omicron coronavirus variant boosted the metal's safe-haven appeal.

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https://www.livemint.com/market/commodities/gold-price-today-dip-for-second-day-in-a-row-silver-ratesdrop-11639971419201.html

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