



## ECONOMY

### Economic Growth/Reforms

**1 Except petroleum, no sector saw growth in excise duty collections in FY14: CAG**

Petroleum products are the only category that showed a growth in excise duty collections during FY14, on a year-on-year. These products comprised 53 per cent of the total excise duty mop-up in the year, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) said on Tuesday.

**2 IMF upbeat on India, says 7.5% growth likely in 2015**

India is expected to grow by 7.5% this year compared to 7.2% last year, making it the world's fastest-growing economy, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in a report. "Growth will benefit from recent policy reforms, a consequent pickup in investment, and lower oil prices," the IMF said in a report released on Wednesday.

### Inflation/Recession

**2 Falling ` may force Rajan to hold back interest rate cuts**

Investors would be keenly looking for Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Raghuram Rajan's next moves on interest rates in the wake of the rupee weakening over the last few days. RBI's next policy review is scheduled for June 2.

### Public Finance Taxes And Duties

**2 Central funding will not pay for smart city infrastructure: Experts**

Experts are questioning the central funding for the smart city project since the union Cabinet earlier this week allotted `100 crore per city per year for five years. A total of `98,000 crore was approved by the Cabinet for 100 smart cities and rejuvenation of 500 others. The two schemes, Smart City Mission and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and urban Transformation, may merge at some point.

## INDUSTRY

### Industrial Growth & Production

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**Core sector growth falls 0.1% in March; 2014-15 growth at 3.5%**

A sharp drop in the production of steel, cement and refinery products resulted in a 0.1 per cent fall in the growth of the eight core industries in March, to its lowest rate in 17 months.

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**Jharkhand makes it easy to do business in State**

To simplify and rationalize rules and make the information Technology more effective, the Jharkhand government has launched "Ease of Doing Business" initiative in the state, an official said on Sunday (03.05.2015).



## CEMENT INDUSTRY

### 5 **Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover**

#### **Large cement manufacturers hit by unseasonal showers**

Sales volume for large cement companies fell in the three months ended March, traditionally a strong quarter before the June-to-September monsoon season slows construction activity, as unseasonal rain in many parts of the country that destroyed crops led to an unexpected drop in demand from rural areas.

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#### **Lakshmi Cement partners Snapdeal to sell products**

JK Lakshmi Cement on Friday (01.05.2015) said it has tied up with Snapdeal to offer its entire products range online.

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#### **Birla Corp posts `175 cr profit in 2014-15**

Birla Corporation Ltd has reported a 35 per cent increase in consolidated net profit of `175 crore for 2014-15 against `130 crore in the previous fiscal. The company's board has recommended a dividend of `6, or 60 per cent a share.

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### **New Projects/Expansions/Diversification**

#### **Holcim, Lafarge results to boost merger**

Swiss cement maker Holcim reported a jump in first-quarter net profit on Thursday, helped by asset sales, while its French merger partner Lafarge posted a better than expected rise in operating profit.

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### **Financing/Public Issues/Shares**

#### **Grasim net down 25% in Q4**

Grasim Industries, as Aditya Birla Group company, has reported 25 per cent fall in fourth quarter net profit at 507 crore against `679 crore due to lower realizations in its viscose staple fiber (VSF) business. Net sales were up five per cent at `8,820 crore (`8,418 crore).

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### **Housing & Building Construction**

#### **BMC to make bldg. nods easier, quicker**

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The BMC is attempting to streamline its notorious building proposal department from May 15 by curtailing permissions a developer requires to obtain building approvals and commencement certificate.

#### **Nepal's lone billionaire to build 1,000 houses**



- 9 With monsoon just few weeks away providing shelter for thousands whose houses were damaged in last month's quake is a big challenge for Nepal. Nepal's only billionaire Binod Chaudhary, 59, announced on Wednesday plans to construct 1,000 temporary houses in the quake affected districts and allot them for free.

### **Japan Identifies 11 Sites to Set Up Industrial Townships**

- 10 Shinzo Abe's government is firming up its promise to help Prime Minister Narendra Modi build India's infrastructure and promote domestic manufacturing as it doubles its investment in the country.

### **Centre pledges Mumbai port land for Maharashtra housing**

Mumbai's search for more land to decongest and expand has won support from the centre with Union shipping minister Nitin Gadkari promising to hand over 350 acres of land owned by the Mumbai Port Trust to the state government.

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## **ENERGY, FUEL & POWER**

### **Coal**

#### **CIL's Talcher coalfields resume production**

- 11 Production resumed at Talcher coalfields of Coal India in Odisha from Thursday (07.05.2015) evening, as villagers called off a strike following assurance on job offers.

### **Power Projects, Generation, Distribution & Tariff**

#### **Maharashtra eyes 14,400 MW from non-conventional sector**

To promote power generation through non-conventional sources, the Maharashtra government has plans to generate 14,400 MW power from the non-conventional sector in the next five years.

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## **TRANSPORT**

### **Railways**

#### **Railways' earnings up 12% in FY15**

- 13 Indian Railways' total revenue rose 12.2 per cent in 2014-15 to `1,57,880 crore as compared with `1,40,761 crore in 2013-14. Freight earnings, 66 per cent of the total, grew 12.7 per cent to `1,07,074 crore. And, passenger earnings registered a historic rise of 14.3 per cent to `42,866 crore, the ministry said.

### **Highways/Roads/Bridges**

- 13 **Infra Cos Keen to help Re-build Nepal**

Indian infrastructure companies are keen to participate in the earthquake struck Nepal's re-building programme, but fear that the country may take a while to



rebuild its infrastructure.

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## **After paver blocks' flop show, BMC to try stamped concrete**

After paver blocks turned out to be a flop show, angering citizens over the waste of public money, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) is back with a new plan to improve the condition of city roads and sidewalks.

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## **Karnataka CM reviews infra projects**

Karnataka has cleared 107 projects worth `53,343 crore with an employment potential of 55,544 persons during the financial year 2014-15. During 2013-14, the State has cleared 255 projects with an investment of `42,177 crore.

## **National Waterways Bill introduced in LS**

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A Bill seeking to develop 101 waterways across the country was introduced in Lok Sabha today amid government's contention that the measure is aimed at providing a cheaper mode of transport and reducing traffic burden on roads. The new 101 new inland waterways will be in addition to the five existing National Waterways.

## **MMRDA submits final plan for Virar-Alibaug Corridor**

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Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has submitted the alignment of the Virar- Alibaug Multimodal Corridor (VAMC) to the state government asking for it to be added to the regional plan.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Domestic steel consumption up 7% in April**

17 Buoyed by higher demand from the end-use segments such as construction and automobiles, domestic steel consumption grew to 5.5 MT in April this year, up 7.1 % compared to the same period last year.

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### **Tenders – Cement Concrete Roads (CC1– CC14)**

A1

### **Tenders – Housing (T15 – T16)**

F1

### **Tenders – Canal Lining (T17 – T20)**

### **Articles/Interviews (A1)**

### **Financial Results (F1 – F9)**

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