ATHARVA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

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27.02.2025

Business News Apdate

"Your Brain Is Like A Muscle The More You Use It, The Stronger It Gets."

Market Update	
Nifty 50	22,547.55
BSE Sensex	74,602.12
Nifty 500	20,418.75
Nifty MidCap 50	13,942.2
BSE MidCap	39,831.17

Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani announce Rs 50,000 crore investment in Assam

Industrialists Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani announced investment plans of Rs 50,000 crore each across various sectors in Assam on Tuesday. The announcements were made at the Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment and Infrastructure Summit in Guwahati, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking at summit, Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani said his conglomerate, through its Rs 50,000 crore investment, aims to accelerate Assam's growth and transform it into a technological powerhouse. "At the 2018 investment summit, I announced an investment of Rs 5,000 crore. Since then, the investments have crossed Rs 12,000 crore. This amount will quadruple and we will invest Rs 50,000 crore in the next five years," he said. Ambani noted that the state has moved from the "periphery to the centre of India's development map." He praised the government's 'Act East, Act First' initiative, emphasising that Assam has the potential to develop so

Source: Business Standard, February 25, 2025

FMCG major Adani Wilmar changes name to AWL Agri Business Limited

Adani Wilmar, the Adani Group's Fast-Moving Consumer Group (FMCG) unit, has changed its name to AWL Agri Business Limited, according to a report by *The Economic Times*. The move comes after securing an approval from its shareholders, the company said in a press release on Tuesday (February 25). The rebranding aims to align the company's identity with its core business activities and future growth prospects in the agri-business industry. The decision, which marks a significant shift for the company, reflects its expanded focus on the agriculture and food sector, added the press statement. According to media reports, Adani Wilmar (now AWL Agri Business Limited) is anticipated to intensify its efforts on introducing new products in FY26, targeting both affordable and high-end segments within kitchen essentials. This move is likely spurred by an expected urban demand recovery, fueled by income tax reductions outlined in the Budget. Additionally, the company's capital investment strategy

Source: Business Standard, February 25, 2025

Bharti Airtel stock jumps 3%, snaps 6-day losing streak on 5G core deal with Ericsson

Bharti Airtel, India's second-largest telecom provider, saw its shares jump nearly 3% in intraday trade on Tuesday, February 25, to ₹1,643 apiece after the company partnered with Ericsson's 5G Core technology to drive 5G evolution. Today's rise also ended the stock's six-day losing streak, during which it had lost nearly 7% of its value. In a regulatory filing today, the company announced its collaboration with Ericsson to deploy its secure, highperforming 5G Core network, benefiting millions of Airtel customers and enterprises across India. According to the company, this partnership will enable Airtel to seamlessly transition to a commercially live, full-scale 5G standalone network over time, bringing the advanced capabilities of 5G to its customers. "This deployment is a significant step towards making Bharti Airtel's network 5G Standalone-ready and future-proof. Ericsson's dualmode 5G Core enables monetization through network slicing-based services and network API exposure, unlocking new, innovative use

Source: Livemint, February 25, 2025

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Dulux paintmaker AkzoNobel repaints India strategy with ₹2,144 crore coatings biz buyout

Europe's largest paintmaker and owner of the Dulux brand, AkzoNobel N.V., will acquire the powder coatings business and international research centre from its Indian subsidiary AkzoNobel India Ltd. for ₹2,144 crore, the company said in a statement late Monday evening. The deal includes two key components: a ₹2,073 crore slump sale of the powder coatings business and a ₹70 crore transfer of the international research centre, both to be executed through separate business transfer agreements with an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of AkzoNobel N.V., proposed to be incorporated in India. In addition, AkzoNobel India will acquire intellectual property rights from AkzoNobel Coatings International B.V. for its decorative paints business in India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal for ₹1,152 crore. This IP transfer will make the Indian arm fully independent in terms of brand and

Source: Livemint, February 25, 2025

Elon Musk ships Starlink terminals for FAA upgrade, raises conflict of interest questions

Elon Musk is seeking to use Starlink's satellite internet terminals to update the United States Federal Aviation Administration's information technology networks, according to a Bloomberg report citing sources. Starlink is a subsidiary of Elon Musk's SpaceX. The report added that the upgrade is to the FAA's national airspace system. The FAA's air-traffic control (ATC) system manages 45,000 flights carrying nearly 30 lakh passengers in the US daily. However, Elon Musk's moves have raised eyebrows, with questions being raised over conflicts of interest for Elon Musk's companies. The sources told Bloomberg that a \$2 billion contract was already awarded to Verizon Communications Inc. in 2023 for the upgrade of critical infrastructure. Elon Musk has reportedly approved a a shipment of 4,000 Starlink terminals to the FAA last week and one such terminal has already been installed at the FAA's ATC technology lab in New Jersey, one source told the publication.

Source: Livemint, February 25, 2025

US sanctions four Indian firms over illegal Iranian oil trade

The United States has sanctioned four Indian entities for their involvement in the illegal shipment of Iranian oil to buyers in Asia. The firms—Austenship Management Private Ltd (Noida), BSM Marine Ltd (Gurgaon), Cosmos Lines (Thanjavur), and Flux Maritime (Navi Mumbai)—have been accused of violating US and UN sanctions aimed at restricting Iran's oil exports. According to the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), these companies played a critical role in transporting, selling, and marketing Iranian oil despite global sanctions. By facilitating these transactions, they allegedly helped bolster Iran's economy, undermining international efforts to curb its oil trade. Along with sanctioning the firms, the US has also targeted vessels associated with them. The Gabon-flagged tanker YATEEKA is linked to BSM Marine Ltd, while the Eswatini-flagged AMAK is connected to Austenship Management Private Ltd. Additionally, Flux Maritime LLP has been cited for its involvement in ship-to-ship transfers to facilitate Iranian oil shipments. The sanctions on these Indian firms are part of a broader US effort to crack down on entities aiding Iran's oil trade. The US recently sanctioned 16 new entities across various countries for their involvement in similar activities.

Source: Financial Express, February 25, 2025

Unilever CEO Schumacher to step down

chief executive Hein Schumacher will step down after less than two years in the role and be replaced by finance chief Fernando Fernandez, the consumer goods giant said on Tuesday. The departure comes just weeks after Unilever announced underwhelming full-year earnings and chose Amsterdam over London and New York as the primary listing for its ice cream business. Schumacher reset the group's strategy to address years of underperformance and laid out cost cuts last year, including separating its ice cream division and cutting thousands of jobs. Unilever, which owns Hellmann's mayonnaise, Dove soap and Ben & Jerry's ice cream, said there was no change to its 2025 outlook or medium-term forecast and that the board was committed to "further accelerating" Schumacher's growth plan. Schumacher, who joined in July 2023, will step down as CEO in March and leave the company on May 31. He is leaving by mutual agreement, the company said. Fernandez was finance chief for a

Source: <u>Reuters, February 25, 2025</u>

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