

BIA SUDDHI

**Volume - 26
April 1, 2024**

Part A: Trade, Investment, Economy, industry & Commerce update

1. India's forex reserves rise by \$140 million to hit fresh peak of \$642.63 billion.

India's forex reserves increased by \$140 million to touch its all-time high of \$642.631 billion during the week ended March 22, the Reserve Bank said. This is the fifth consecutive week of a jump in the overall reserves. The kitty had increased by \$6.396 billion to \$642.492 billion in the previous reporting week.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/25am2pfz>

2. Coal ministry eyes asset monetization worth nearly Rs. 55,000 crore in FY25.

The union ministry of coal is targeting monetization of assets worth ₹54,721 crore in FY25, about 9% higher than the ₹50,118 crore target set in FY24. In the 11 months to February, the ministry had surpassed its FY24 target, having monetized assets worth ₹55,148 crore.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/bddktd8d>

3. Govt. restores ALMM list for solar module manufacturers.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) said that it has re-imposed the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) order for solar photovoltaic (PV) modules from April 1, 2024. In FY24, the ALMM was put on hold for the entire fiscal year to provide relief to solar PV manufacturers, who were faced with limited domestic availability. However, in February 2024, the Ministry put the reimposition under abeyance "till further orders".

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/yr36j85x>

4. CEA issues norms for quality control in raw materials of cables, conductors.

The electric power lines are important system elements carrying the power from generating stations to the ultimate consumers. It is an established fact that the conductors used in the construction of electric power lines should be of high quality material. Aluminum ingots, wire rods and wires are used in manufacturing of the conductors. To ensure the quality of conductors, the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) along with Ministry of Mines and DPIIT had brought out the quality control orders (QCOs).

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/4sp33dka>

5. Centre to fast-track enrolment of unorganised workers on e-shram.

The Centre is looking to fast track onboarding of unorganised sector workers on e-Shram portal, which provides a universal account number (UAN) to unorganised sector workers and supports them with skilling and employment initiatives.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/yw3dy8rj>

6. Core sector growth at 3 month high of 6.7% in February.

Output growth in eight core infrastructure sectors that include electricity, steel, cement and crude oil, accelerated to three-month high of 6.7% in February from 4.1% in the previous month, official data released showed.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/yc8d7deu>

7. Sops, tier-2 cities top focus in tech's Karnataka GCC Policy wishlist.

As Karnataka readies a policy to boost Global Capability Centres (GCC) -- the first draft of which is expected in June -- top executives told ET that the policy should include investment in the growth of infrastructure in tier 2 cities through initiatives like Beyond Bengaluru. Local incentives on new and renewed investments based on employment creation in the State is another top suggestion. Industry leaders said that there should be single window approval cells and fast track resolution on issues reported. The policy should provide a mechanism for the industry to address requirements from various wings of the State government, they said.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/2pt66sa5>

8. India needs more employment intensive growth and good quality jobs, says ILO.

There is "no alternative" for India to have growth led by labour-intensive manufacturing at least for the next 10 years to absorb seven-eight million youths who will join the labour force annually, a report jointly prepared by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Institute for Human Development (IHD) has said.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/3r529bub>

9. India plans to replace minimum wage by living wages by 2024; Here's what it could mean.

India is reportedly planning to adopt the living wage in place of the minimum wage. The shift can be expected by next year. New Delhi has approached the International Labour Organization (ILO) to help it chalk out a framework to assess and operationalise the living wages, the report added. India is a founding member of the ILO, which was set up in 1919.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/ywhu5zr3>

10. RBI may hold rate yet again to focus on inflation management, says experts.

The RBI may again keep the key interest rate unchanged in April as it is likely to focus more on bringing down inflation to the 4 per cent target after concerns over economic growth abated with GDP growth estimated at nearly 8 per cent, said experts.

Also, the Reserve Bank's rate-setting panel - Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) - may take cues from the central banks of some major economies like the US and UK, which are apparently in wait-and-watch mode on interest rate cuts.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/4kp5kw79>

11. Interim relief to luxury shoemakers as Centre extends QCO implementation.

Norms mandating foreign luxury shoemakers and popular athleisure brands such as Nike and Adidas to stamp their shoes with the ISI mark – ubiquitous in India but not so elsewhere – will come into force in August, two officials said, outlining a move that is set to be resisted by these footwear firms.

Currently, foreign shoemakers, including well known French luxury brands such as Louis Vuitton, Dior and Christian Louboutin, are able to export their shoes to India without such restrictions and this exemption has been extended till August.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/4yuysw4u>

12. Space 2.0: India has entered a new era of space research and private investments.

With focussed investments and a spurt in research and innovation, domestic space tech firms are charting a new course for India's space economy dreams, said a group of space industry experts. From groundbreaking missions to Mars, the Moon and close to the Sun, India's space endeavors have captured the world's attention, and even inspired a brand new generation of space enthusiasts.

Now, the aim for India's fledgeling space startups is to become a part of the global space ecosystem and leverage the incredible engineering diaspora India has created over the decades. This was the overwhelming consensus among a group of experts from the industry discussing the spurt in ancillary space tech startups on the second day of the Mint India Investment Summit 2024.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/4ybn9b3c>

13. Amid Bengaluru water crisis, Karnataka issues heatwave advisory for employers in the state.

Amid weather department's forecast of higher-than-normal temperature in many parts of the state, Karnataka Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao has advised the public and employers to take measures to protect themselves against the rising temperatures in the

state. The state is already facing a severe water crisis, with drought-like conditions, in many parts of the state. Reservoir levels have dropped to multi-year lows due to lower fall. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recently requested his Maharashtra counterpart Eknath Shinde to release water from Warna/Koyna Dam to the Krishna River and Bhima River to meet the needs of both humans and livestock in northern Karnataka.

Full story:

<https://tinyurl.com/44syar6h>

Part B: Infrastructure maintenance & development, Interactive sessions, CSR etc.,

I. Infrastructure maintenance and development

1. E- toilet operation and maintenance (6 nos).



Current Status: Switching from 'Pay & Use mode' to 'Free mode' and the re-stickering work completed. These E-toilets are placed within Bidadi industrial area for the benefit of our members. Earlier users had to pay a small fee for usage.

II. CSR Projects

1. Anganavadi building Construction at Vrishabhavathi village

Sponsored by Toyota Logistics Kishor India Pvt. Ltd.



Current Status: 100% building construction work is completed and the building was inaugurated on 26th March'24.

2. Installation of High mast light - 1 no.

Sponsored by Toyoda Gosei South India Pvt Ltd



Current Status: Installation and commissioning work is completed at Jollywood junction.

III. Operational cost of Centralised Solid Waste Management Facility.

For the last financial year ending March 31, 2024, the entire operations of CSWM Facility is done through the contributions made towards donations and CSR by TT Steel Service Pvt. Ltd, Toyota Tsusho India Pvt. Ltd and Transystem Logistics International Pvt. Ltd. Our thanks to both of them. **The solid municipal wastes are collected from each Members' door step and from the local villages at "Zero Cost."** For the first few months of the current FY, Toyota Tsusho India Pvt. Ltd has come forward to sponsor the operational costs of the CSWM facility.



BIA FOUNDATION

The first edition of the **Toyota Greater Bengaluru Bidadi Half Marathon 2024** was held on Sunday, March 24, 2024 at Bidadi Industrial area. The event was a roaring success with over 3,000 participants.

The theme of the Run was '**RUN FOR SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY**'. 'Safety' is focused due to the celebrations of March month as National Safety Month. 'Sustainability' is included in the theme to support the UN's 2030 target on Sustainable Development Goals. The Run had 21 Kms, 10 Kms, 5 Kms and 3 Kms as race categories. The Net Proceeds (*i.e Income minus Expenditure*) of the Run is being used for the purpose of charity and donations in support of the community and to enable a sustainable society.

We thank all our Members, Sponsors, Volunteers, Partners, Police Dept., District administration and well wishers for making it a grand success. Few glimpses are given below.



Chief Guests during the Flag Off Ceremony

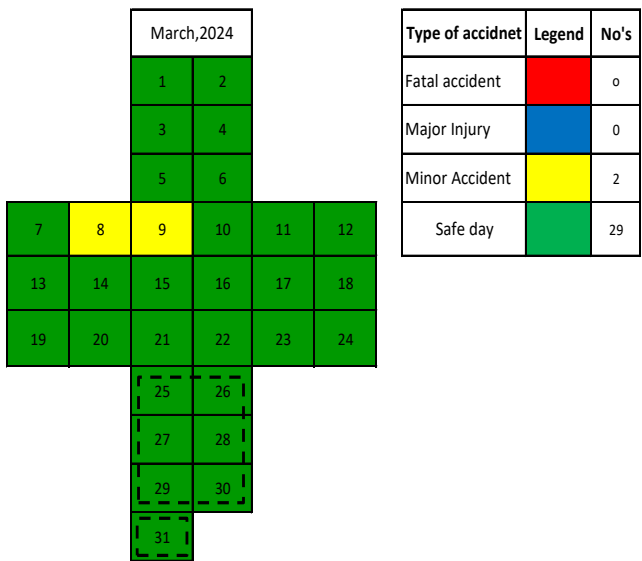
1. Dr. S Selva Kumar, IAS, Hon'ble Principal Secretary, Department of Commerce & Industries, GoK
2. Dr. Avinash Menon Rajendran, IAS, Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner & District Magistrate, Ramanagara Dist., GoK
3. Mrs. Geetanjali Kirloskar, Chairperson & Managing Director, Kirloskar Systems Pvt. Ltd and Chairperson, Toyota Tsusho Insurance Broker India Pvt. Ltd

Guest of Honours at the Ceremony

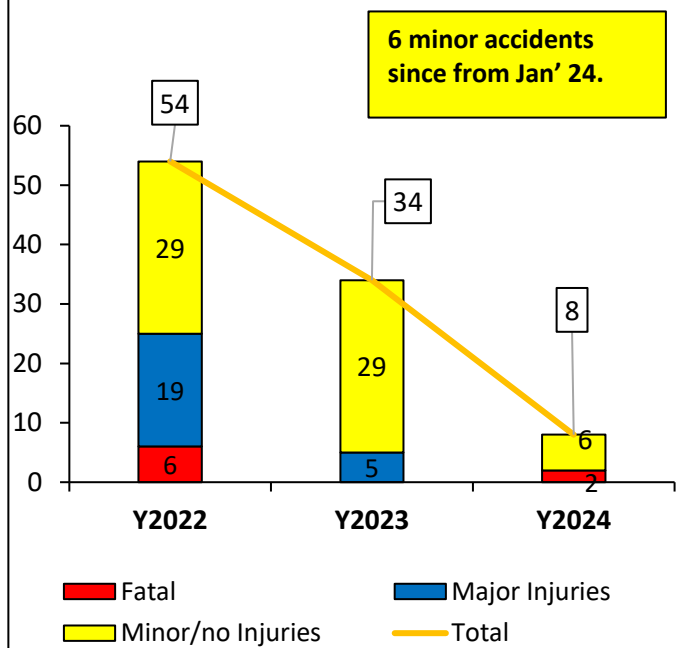
1. Mr. Karthik Reddy, IPS, Hon'ble Superintendent of Police, Ramanagara Dist, GoK.
2. Mrs. Anju Bobby George, Former India Olympian & SVP of Athletics Federation of India
3. Mr. K Srinivas, Hon'ble Director of Factories, Boilers, Industrial Safety & Health, GoK

Part C: Accident trend at Bidadi industrial area

Road accident summary - daily



Road accident Summary - Yearly



Our goal is “Zero Accident” on our roads. We thank you for all the support. Let us work together to make it happen.



BIDADI INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

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