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IN THIS ISSUE:



EXTEND AND EXPAND TO JOIN HANDS FOR THE INDUSTRY

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PRIDEX & CARDEX FOR YOU

Print Bulletin urges members to approach clients to discuss Pridex and Cardex trends, if not done already. Know more about the trend on page 06.

SPECIAL FEATURE A DOT-MATRIX OF SKILLING INDIA

A key member of Print Bulletin and our fraternity is contributing big towards skilling India.





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FROM THE PRESIDENTS' DESK

Dear Members

I want to be better than my predecessor at BMPA. I do not make this comment lightly. In my predecessor, I find the embodiment of everything I would like a President to be for BMPA and the industry. Therefore I tell myself that in aiming to be him if I reach even the midpoint, then I would at least know that my path and track are aligned correctly. This is my way of appreciating him. The team I have at BMPA are my radar, sonar and steer. Good for me that my North Star is always there with me, on the starboard side of this journey we undertake for you, the industry members.

As this issue sits between the conclusion of Navratri with Dussera and the upcoming Diwali; I wish you all a fortuitous future and warm family tidings.

This issue also sees the roll-out of Printers' Premier League – PPL18 that will be tentatively on December 15, at the Western Railway Grounds, Mumbai. The venue is now PPL's Adda; as much as the NCPA is the headquarter of PS, which will be on January 24, 2019. The much awaited and the prestigious MMS' Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony will be held on March 2, 2019, at Hotel The Sahara Star near the domestic terminal of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai.

Besides BMPA and MMS, we also have the changing of guards at AIFMP. We send fraternal greetings to AIFMP President Raveendra Joshi and his team of Office Bearers. Our candidates for the AIFMP elections lost a hard-fought contest by a whisker. BMPA and MMS will always try to do their best for the print fraternity at the national level working with AIFMP.



Nitin N. Shah

Tushar Dhote

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Enjoy a tongue-in-cheek presentation of the recent political news and views by our industry veteran Vishwanath Shetty of The PrintWorks.





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It is the time to consolidate and cooperate

In conversation with the newly elected President of BMPA Nitin N. Shah, Print Bulletin brings you the new team's plans for the Association and its members.



Congratulations Mr Shah for being elected as the 63rd President of BMPA. As President, what are your immediate priorities for the Association and the industry?

To run a print company in the current times, one needs enormous Capex (capital expenditure). Moreover, we all need to run the company through whatever may be the market situation to take care of the escalating fixed costs, recurring liabilities, and a few more. These form the minimum amount to run the business. All input prices are going up, and the bottom-lines are eroding day after day. The funding from the financial institutes is becoming tougher to secure. For the better valuation of your company, the top-line must be robust. To survive, we need to be in tune with the current market and the business trend.

As a President, I want to make my fellow members understand that we are all sailing in the same boat. It is the time for us to consolidate. Let me explain before you raise your brows!

Be it big or small, all players in any industry grapple with IMC; the three pressures — investment, marketing and competition. We are no different we too face IMC. In such a scenario we must build confidence among our members and educate them that this is the time for consolidation. I am working with a set up that my client will remain my client and I will be your client to deliver specialised needs of my clients. The flow is vice versa as well; your client will remain your client and to meet its needs you will become my client. This way we shall play on our strengths and specialisations. It will also mean less investment, marketing, and competitive pressure for all of us. This should be the goal, and as a President, I am willing to be the torch bearer to promote this concept

across our members and the industry.

At Award, we practise this set up of consolidating business and cooperating with specialised service providers in the industry. That way we both are confident of delivering the best quality to our clients, without either of us having to invest in IMC.

Your core activity at Award is packaging; against that backdrop what do you plan to do through the Association for the Packaging vertical of our industry?

BMPA has Carton Forum, whose members are from the packaging vertical. I have been associated with Carton Forum for the past four years. We have done quite a few workshops about packaging.

Let me tell you, the packaging is not about a board, the cutting, the creasing and so on. Packaging has to speak for itself and the product it packages; that should be the idea and the quality execution of packaging. If the product with good packaging is on the shelves, the layperson will first interact with the packaging. What is inside? What would be the quality of the product packaged inside? The packaging as our product communicates this about our client's product to the end-customer. With the years of experience in the field, we have gained these insights into packaging products, its design and a range of other aspects.

I have been sharing with my fellow printers and with the media outlets as well that though the packaging is where all the perceived action is, the commercial printers need not divert their IMCs forcibly. Let me elaborate. If you want to sell the product, marketing is required; that's where the printed materials come into play. That's where the commercial printing gets their share of the business. Whether you are a commercial printer or a packaging converter, how well you adapt yourself to the current market requirements and innovate is all that matters to flourish in the market.

In the early 2000s, one four-colour and one cutting machine were enough; the rest of the things were outsourced. You still find such set-ups in small towns and upwardly mobile villages across the country. When the commercial printers say we are few and far between and our business is diminishing, I would suggest that you must move ahead with time. Packaging has evolved and survived because it has kept pace with the evolving market demands. On the contrary, I would say the marketing and publicity material is increasing. Each and every product and service is increasingly publicised through a range of channels from digital, social media, to print. The demand from the market is much higher; how we

develop and grow in this market will decide the fate and the future of commercial printing vertical.

My logic is simple: if the packaging is required, the commercial is also needed. Here, my idea of consolidating the business and the industry will help us. It is no secret that we do commercial job work; we work with a commercial printer. When they receive a packaging job, we do it for them. I want to bring the understanding of such consolidation and cooperation to my industry fellows.

Would you kindly share the goals you have set for yourself and the team during your tenure?

Past many BMPA Presidents have tried their best, and I want to carry forward the work, with a few of my ideas.

Great Capex is required to start a printing or packaging business operation in the current times — on part with any other manufacturing industry. Be it Make In India or the Goods and Service Tax (GST), our industry wasn't acknowledged in the prior, and with the latter, we had to struggle to make our voice heard. The industry suffered enormously after the rollout of GST.

I would be happy if we are recognised as a manufacturing industry, not a service industry.

What projects, from the current set or the new ones, would you want to lead and take to new heights?

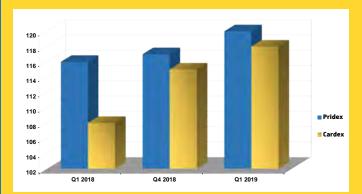
Through the BMPA Projects, we have covered most aspects of our industry. Also, my competent colleagues are taking care of most of the projects for many years now. This is where I would like to give myself an opportunity to think out-of-the-box and propose new projects to take forward.

One of the pet projects is to set up a full time mechanical and electrical team with BMPA. This team will offer the technical support all the member printers, especially the small printers. They will also arrange small weekly workshops for the staff at each print facility educating the workforce about preventive maintenance and resolving the minor issues.

The second project is about quality testing. I want to keep a few pieces of testing equipment at the BMPA Secretariat with a full-time quality and testing professional. It will be of great help for the smaller printers who do not have the quality lab. They would approach BMPA, send the samples in and the BMPA personnel will test the samples and certify it if it meets the quality standards. I envision it as a service to the printers across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, not just restricted to our members.

•

PRIDEX AND CARDEX TO EMPOWER YOUR PRICE-NEGOTIATIONS



Use Cardex-Pridex to your advantage

Cardex and Pridex are updated every quarter. Print Bulletin will update you on the trend each quarter comparing the data with the previous quarter. The two indices present a clear, scientific and straightforward trend of the input costs for your business and make it easy for you to understand the cost input for your business.

Use the data to your advantage

BMPA-Managing Committee Member and the thought-leader for the Cardex and Pridex, Sanjay Patel said at the BMPA High Point 2018, "Printers are using the twin-indices — Cardex and Pridex — to benefit their cost negotiations with the clients. Printers are also benefiting from the indices by

gaining a better understanding of the input cost pressures on their business. Those who follow the Cardex and Pridex will know what I mean, so I urge you all to make the most of these scientific data tools to enhance financial sustainability."

What are the latest trends?

As per the latest Cardex and Pridex data published by CRISIL on July 31, 2018, Cardex stands at 118 (Q1 FY2019) whereas for the same period a year ago it stood at 108. This movement translates into a year-on-year increase of 9.25%. Pridex, for the similar corresponding period, has moved up by 3.44% year-on-year from 116 (Q1 FY2018) to 120 (Q1 FY2019). FY2013-2014 is the base year for the twin indices with index value at 100.

Where is the indices data?

You can access the Pridex and Cardex by following the link: https://tinyurl.com/yayqnp2k OR scan the QR code below and bookmark it on your smartphone's Internet-browser for quick access. The twin Indices are published as a legitimate means to demonstrate and justify rising costs faced by our industry. Leverage the advantages evolving from a reliable and scientific tool by CRISIL.













LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

2 MARCH 2019 , SAHARA STAR DOMESTIC AIRPORT, MUMBAI

Extend and expand to join hands for the industry

In conversation with the newly elected President of MMS, Tushar Dhote, Print Bulletin tries to understand the new team's plans for MMS and its members.



Congratulations Mr Dhote for being elected as the President of MMS for the second consecutive term. As the President, what are your immediate priorities for the organisation and the industry?

MMS has a great legacy of Presidents who looked into the basic labour problems of the printing industry when it was registered under the Union ACT. Even today the labour issues in the industry persist in this metropolitan city. Being the financial capital of India, Mumbai offers labour and space at a significant premium to any industry; we are not an exception. Therefore, our focus is to guide the printers, so they guard profitability for the long-term sustainability of the business and the industry at large.

In your tenure, what goals would you want to set for yourself and the team?

In this tenure, I wish to undertake a five-point agenda. First and foremost improve MMS memberships through our programme MMS at your Doorstep. Second, plan and organise MMS Training Programmes for entrepreneurs and managerial decision-makers of our industry. Thirdly, continue facilitating the Round Table Power Lunches with the MMS Lifetime Achievement Awards. Forth, I would like to form a Grievance and Legal Cell at MMS to resolve the disputes for member printers. Moreover, the fifth is the Factory Visits for the benefit of our members.

Would you please introduce the core Team MMS? What are the strengths of each of your core team members?

MMS core team consists of the following members:

Medha Virkar, Immediate Past President, Core competence in Government Relations

- 2. Prakash Canser, VP Strategist and Negotiator
- 3. Ashok Holkar, VP Organisation and planning
- 4. Mehul Shah, Hon. Secretary PR and Corporate Planning, Membership Drive
- 5. Kedar Ambekar Hon. Joint Secretary Content and New Projects
- Anand Limaye, Past President Advisor in Projects and Liaison
- 7. Uday Dhote, Past President Finance and Taxation
- Rajiv Joshi Hon. Treasurer

What do you plan to do through MMS for the different vertical of our industry?

BMPA already has Carton Forum and the programmes like Share To Benefit. MMS Members are a part of these two programmes being BMPA members as well. MMS has members from Commercial and Packaging verticals, however, in our joint journey, I would prefer not to duplicate the efforts at MMS since and BMPA's sector-focused programmes exist.

Knowledge-sharing has always been a strong focus on MMS' activities. How do you plan to expand it and while making it more accessible and inclusive?

Yes, we would like to focus on the entrepreneurs and the managerial staff who can take critical decisions, while making buying or CAPEX choices for the businesses. We want to upgrade their knowledge and decision-making skills by sharing the latest technological advancements with equipment, consumables, software, and more. Our training programmes are and will remain focused on the decision-makers of the industry.

What do you propose to strengthen the existing alliances and forge new ones to take forward MMS and the interest of its members?

At MMS we believe: teamwork is dream work. Our collaboration with BMPA and other associations is very strong, and we feel that by sharing knowledge, the industry gains more. We all gain the bargaining power when we come together.

I believe the difference between the right and the wrong is easily determined with more thoughts shared on a joint forum.





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LABELEXPO INDIA 2018

A DOT-matrix of skilling India

Uday Dhote, Director of DOT and the past president of MMS was a member of the jury for the IndiaSkills 2018 for the Print Media Technology skill. We caught up with him to know more.



(C) Shrenik Gugale (Gold medal and a cash prize of ₹ 1,00,000/-), Sahil Jamdar (R) Silver, ₹ 75,000/-) and Shriniwas Kulkarni (L) (Bronze, ₹ 50,000/-)

Young India is changing and for better; skilling youth has become a priority. Skills play an essential role for any country to achieve sustainable economic development for a skilled society creates opportunities for growth, better problem solving and above all, productive economic activity. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) of the Government of India has adopted a structured approach to skill development across India.

National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), working under MSDE, has set eyes on taking India's skill development initiatives at global standards through active participation of states across India by organising a nationwide IndiaSkills competition every even year. Uday Dhote, Director at Dhote Offset Technokrafts and the DOT Institute of Graphic Communication, said, "NSDC and MSDE have brought together over 70 corporate organisations and academic institutes besides over 20 state governments to realise the vision of establishing India as the skill capital of the world." The IndiaSkills competition organised at the zonal, the state, the region and the national level will be open to any Indian youth below 21 years, providing an excellent platform to demonstrate best skills acquired by the youth from across the cities, towns and small villages in India.

IndiaSkills 2018, the second edition of the national-level competition, was held at Aerocity in New Delhi between October 3 and 5, with a grand awards ceremony at Vigyan

Bhavan in New Delhi on October 6, 2018.

The stage is set for print media technology

"It is for the first time the Print Media Technology was introduced in IndiaSkills 2018, and I was among the four jury members for this skill to judge the skills and the works of the finalists reaching the national level," says Mr Dhote. Besides Mr Dhote. G. Lukman from

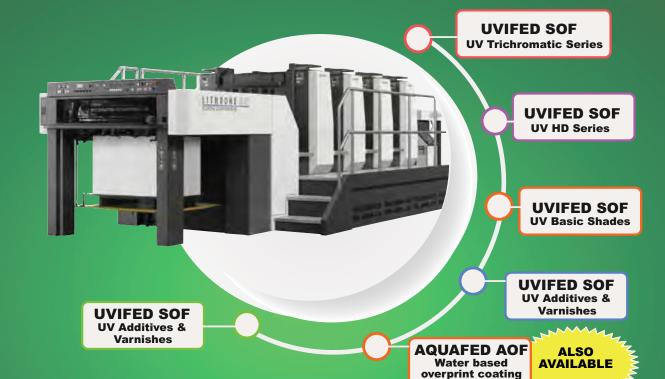
DOT Institute of Graphic Communication, Sameer Prabhune and Dr Ambarish Pandey were the jury members for the skill.

"DOT Institute of Graphic Communication is now a part of the Media Entertainment Skills Council (MESC) and the academic partner to the IndiaSkills programme for the Print Media Technology. With the industry partner Heidelberg, we shall play a key role in rigorously training the three winners of the Print Media Technology skill to prepare them for the WorldSkills 2019, a global competition held by the WorldSkills Organisation," Mr Dhote adds, "The competition in Print Media Technology was held over three days with three test projects every day. For the first two days, tests were held in

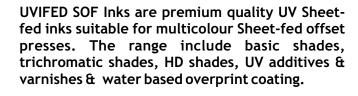




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Besides Mr Dhote, G. Lukman from DOT Institute of Graphic Communication, Sameer Prabhune and Dr Ambarish Pandey were the jury members for the skill.

the campus at Aerocity, and the third day, the competitors were taken to the facility of Replika Press Private Limited at Kundli, Sonipat in Haryana under the auspices of Heidelberg. The students were judged for their skills in each and every minutest activity involved in the projects."

Proving their skills through the stringent standards set by the competition, one of the IndiaSkills 2018 winners will represent India in the WorldSkills 2019 competition that will be held in Kazan, Russia between August 22 and 27 in the next year. The Print Media Technology winners of IndiaSkills 2018 and the potential candidates to represent the skill at WorldSkills 2019 are Shrenik Gugale (Gold medal and a cash prize of ₹ 1,00,000/-), Sahil Jamdar (Silver, ₹ 75,000/-) and Shriniwas Kulkarni (Bronze, ₹ 50,000/-).

A celebration of skills and competitive advantage

IndiaSkills 2018 hosted over 400 competitors, competing in 46 skills including seven traditional skills and four demo skills. The Competition was lauded for being uniquely inclusive by opening its entries to the people with disabilities (PwDs) through Abilimpics or the Olympics for the PWDs; as many as 60 participants competed across ten skills in the Abilympics. A total of 164 winners were awarded medals in their respective skills. Maharashtra topped the medals tally with 23 medals, followed by Odisha at 21 medals, Karnataka and Delhi won 16 medals each, and Chandigarh had 12 winners.

WorldSkills – global showcase of skill excellence

The WorldSkills was founded in 1950 with the vision to bring youth, industries and educators together to give youth the chance to learn, experience, and compete in their skill of choice. WorldSkills, with its 52 skills from across industry and service sectors, supported by partners, industries, governments, volunteers, and educational institutions, aims to improve the world through the power of skills. It has 75 member-countries and regions, all working with youth, educators, governments, and industries to help prepare the youth of today to become the workforce for the jobs of tomorrow.









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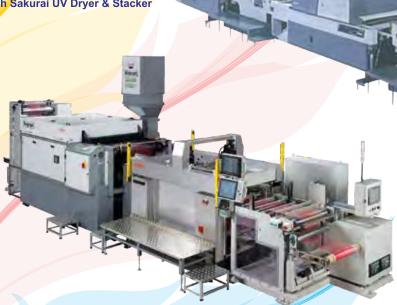


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Re-imagine: the new mantra for success

With a diverse experience of consulting with some of the iconic businesses in India, Vijay Menon's interaction at B-HIP 2018 was insightful. Read and know for yourself...



Vijay Menon, key-speaker for B-HIP 2018 presented business ideas through inspiring presentations of stories from India's iconic business successes to a humble and inspiring teacher from Dakshin Kannada.

BMPA's annual general meeting is always a purposeful learning and social event; never a mere business transaction to meet the compliance requirements. Popular among the members as High Point, this year it was branded as B-HIP 2018 — short for BMPA High Point 2018. Young and hip indeed it was thanks to the fantastic venue at The Club Mumbai, the food and the drinks but what really made it lively was the critical speaker Vijay Menon's remarkable storytelling through his fast-paced yet impressively detailed and thoroughly engaging yet sharp speech about reimagining business to achieve new heights of excellence and success.

We are a product company into service

Wait! Did I read it right? You read it correctly.

Sharing the story of Bhavarlal Jain, the maverick founder of Jain Irrigation Systems, Mr Menon said, "I met Bhavarlal Jain when he was 86. I asked him a straightforward question to understand the fundamentals of his successful life. His answer was simple: refusal to accommodate

anything less than excellent in my personal life. Moreover, when you replicate it in the professional life what you create is not a company but a movement.

Jain Irrigation, operating from Jalgaon in Maharashtra, is the second largest micro-irrigation systems manufacturer in the world. Interestingly enough, over 17% of the company's revenue is today generated out of the service-focused agricultural commodities trade business. This is the result of a complete re-imagination of the micro-irrigation systems business.

Jain Irrigation found out that the input cost of the farmer varies between 26% to 33% for power. Second greatest hurdle the farmers face is the shortage



The greatest and the most enduring capital is the world is 'thinking'.
One becomes a great thinker not because one is intelligent but because one understands the fundamentals of life and living.

- Vijay Menon





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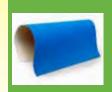
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Vijay Menon's remarkable storytelling through his fast-paced yet impressively detailed and thoroughly engaging yet sharp speech gripped the B-HIP audience.

of finance from the organised sector due to poor farming

outcomes, the uncertainty of returns and many more issues. With such high costs and inadequate financing, if farming is not sustainable, why would the farmers buy irrigation systems? This question sparked a thought at Jain Irrigation.

"Now we look at the person who buys our product. Our efforts are now focused on empowering the farmers, supporting farming so that they generate

business to invest in our products," Mr Menon shared what Bhavarlal Jain told him. Jain Irrigation started a cooperative to trade in agricultural commodities. The members are those who have purchased the Jain irrigation system.



A rustic Bengali man in Amul summed up the fundamentals of success at Amul when he said, "we are taught here that you would first have to be defeated by yourself to be defeated by others. Your failure is your decision."

The produce of the farmers is stored in the warehouse, Jain Irrigation becomes the conduit for selling the produce, and because of it, farmers get much better price than a minimum support price defeating the agro-price fluctuations. This has improved the farming revenue for the farmers, and with the support from Jain Irrigation, the banks are

after the farmers for offering finance.

While interacting with speaker Mr Menon, Bhavarlal Jain highlighted the thought behind the success of the



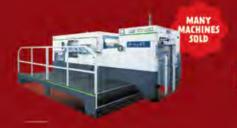
AGM proceedings: BMPA's annual general meeting is always a purposeful learning and social event; never a mere business transaction to meet the compliance requirements.





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376 and 377: Meritorious students from GIPT, Mumbai; SIES, Navi Mumbai and Maharashtra Mudran Parishad's IPTR were felicitated at B-HIP 2018 at the hands of key-speaker Vijay Menon and Nitin N. Shah, President, BMPA.

Jain Irrigation System's agricultural commodities trade business. Mr Jain said, "I was looking at the customer

profitability, not my profitability. This is how my customer looks at me as a partner and not a profiteering business."

Amul: a vision to change India through dairy

"At Amul, I asked an open house audience: who is your greatest competitor? Their answer was an

eye-opener. The milk vendor who delivers milk from door to door on the bicycle is my biggest competitor," Mr Menon continued explaining the amazing confidence and the culture of servitude that backs the success of Amul across the nation and the precise reason behind the intriguing answer at Amul.

The fact that Amul operates in a sector in India – dairy and food products – where their most significant competitor is the largest of the sector global Fortune500 company,

Nestle, besides over half a dozen other companies spread across India. Some, like Mother Dairy, loosely modelled after the milk cooperatives that fuel Amul.

The Amul employees, however, believe and live up to the trust of the ordinary Indian consumer and the farmer in India. Amul employees know that milk is a matter of trust and a symbol of love and care, especially in

India. Through the company's journey, Amul has ensured that they keep the trust of the farmers, the suppliers of milk by paying them fair and on-time, and of the consumers by maintaining the best quality standards through the production process and the supply chain of the products.

Mr Menon concluded the Amul story with a compelling fact that he was told

by an employee of Amul working in Bardhaman (erstwhile Burdwan), West Bengal. "The employee handed over a handout to me," Mr Menon shared, "and he told me, you add the revenues of the biggest five multinational corporate players in India in our sector in India, and yet we beat them. They add up to roughly about ₹14,000 crore while we are alone at ₹37,000 core."

Amul's growth and success in India is quite a remarkable feat because, at the time of Independence of India, we

imported over 80% of our dairy products from Denmark, New Zealand and Switzerland. With the birth and growth of Amul, a milk cooperative started by Tribhuvandas Patel in pre-Independence Gujarat, India not-only gained the self-sustainability in milk production but has achieved production surplus. Amul brought professionalism to cooperatives



"The worst thing you can do to yourself is tolerated, justify, legitimise, eternalise and glorify a mistake. That is an eternal recipe for disaster." Andre Agassi



"The greatest and the most enduring capital is the world is 'thinking'. One becomes a great thinker not because one is intelligent but because one understands the fundamentals of life and living." Vijay Menon



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in India and brought dairy revolution in the country one farmer at a time.

On a mission to eradicate preventive blindness

"I am personally interested in how small ideas turn into great growth stories and lead the change. Aravind Eye Hospital is one such example from India," said Mr Menon when he elaborated on this unique institute that bewilders the best business-

management gurus with its unique business model that marries free eye surgeries to the needy with enormous scale of operations with less than 10% patients paying the full cost of their treatment. It is the world's largest ophthalmic service provider; India's 1-3% eye surgeries and 0.7-1% of the daily global eye surgeries take place in

Aravind Eye Hospital. The average productivity of a surgeon at Aravind is 18 times the surgeon in India, 35% higher than a surgeon in Europe and 65% higher than a surgeon in the USA. The volume does not compromise the quality of service to the patients: Royal College of Ophthalmology report says that Aravind's quality performance in 18 of the 20 parameters is better than Harvard, one is on par and one is 'intolerable levels.' The Hospital operates at an unimaginable business model of high volume, low cost and high quality. The founder Dr G. Venkataswamy explained the almost impossible business model in his words: I never lost the imagination of a child. I find happiness by creating happiness. Learning from the standardisation of McDonald's, Dr Venkataswamy changed the ophthalmic surgeries in India and the world forever.

Aravind Eye Hospital was founded in 1976, by Dr G. Venkataswamy, a man known to most of us simply as Dr V. In an eleven-bed hospital handled by four medical officers, he saw the potential for what is today, one of the most extensive facilities in the world for eye care. Over the years, this organisation has evolved

into a sophisticated system dedicated to compassionate service for sight. The Aravind Eye Care System now

> serves as a model, for India, and the rest of the world.

Through the talk, Mr Menon shared the most inspiring stories of great leaders including India's most loved President in the recent years, Late APJ Abdul Kalam; Chairperson of Godrej Industries Adi Godrej; Tennis champion Andre Agassi, and many more. Bringing home the message, Mr Menon cautioned,

"At times our success is the cause of our failure; success brings both, money and ego. It is the ego that fails a



Venkataswamy, Padma Shri

Eye Hospital.

recipient and founder of Aravind

thinker.



AIFMP GC 30 September AIFMP's AGM and the change of guards

At the 65th annual general meeting of All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) the new team was elected for the term 2018-2019. The new team headed President Raveendra Joshi visited New Delhi for their first Office Bearers' Meeting earlier in October. "Our mission for the year is to reach each and every printer in the country," speaking at the reception organised in New Delhi by Greater Delhi Master Printers Association (GDMPA) Mr Joshi said, "I have already persuaded all four regional Vice Presidents to reach out to the remotest location-based printer of their region. I have also persuaded them to visit the affiliate association of their region at least once in their term."









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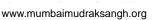
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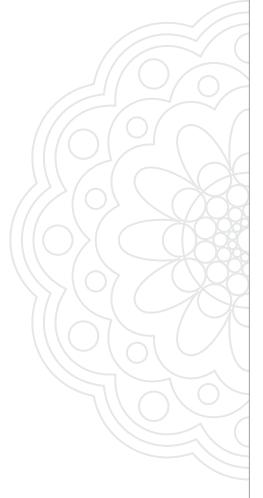
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Impressive 360 degrees

Software that turns your 2D ideas into a full-fledged 3D structure is the new face of product packaging and designing.

Leaping high from ideas to reality

Embracing new technologies before the earlier new becomes old is the fast-track trend of this century. Moreover, when we speak about visualising our ideas and expecting the artwork on paper, the 3D packaging software that brings your product from 'your concepts onto the shelves' is an amazing value add. The visual transformation from flat, two-dimensional packaging to 3D-rendered presentation has already started, a few things like consumer testing and mock pack-shots are lagging behind. These issues are resolved as the 3D software, especially the Esko's application, takes you through a journey from the first idea to the last stage of consumer use.

A designer's canvas

Earlier a range of technical hurdles and the lack of suitable technology restricted the designing and 3D rendering of the packaging. However, this concept-turned-reality is an opportunity for the designers to design their product in any form. Now you can have software-based trials to see how your product

will look like or how it would perform under various applications.

With these innovative and impressive presentation aids, one can stay ahead in the sharp-edge market competition with distinct styling and the quality of your product. Printers have to strive to make their product prominent, and the real-life, interactive 3D products help present these ideas to the clients. Complex shapes and sizes, vivid range of colours, and adaptive designs to accommodate diverse materials, printers do not have to rely on the traditional ways now. The canvas is open for experimentation and delivering an excellent experience to the client and the end user; be it the real world or the online virtual marketplace.

The work-efficient tool

The software makes it easier for the designers and the brand owners to check the smallest details and mistakes before going for expensive production steps; undoubtedly reducing errors massive costs associated with them. One can achieve greater accuracy with minimal faults and least failures through the design and approval process and can save time, money and energy as well.



Esko Studio enables the designers and printers to present their ideas in real-world applications to the clients right at the click of a button. Image: www.packaginginnovation.com





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LEARNING CURVE

The aim is to allow the brand makers to function with the 3D designing along with speed. The 3D software enables us to look at the product more practically and transparently along with being more thoughtful and sensible in its use for the consumer. The product feasibility and application-performance can be made an inherent part of the design process achieving greater resource optimisation on the design and creative process, eliminating the need for dummy products for the client presentations.



Ground up 3D packaging design and presentation is most suitable for the new age online customer who compares and shop the products online from among tens and hundreds of product offerings. Image: by Shahid Abdullah, in the public domain at https://pxhere.com/en/photo/1445129

Skeleton behind the skin

New age online customer prefers to log onto the online store and make the best choice from among the different products showcased on the website. Due to the unique see-through facility that provides enough transparency into the product, the 3D packaging designed with these features supplements competitiveness. In the world of fast moving consumer goods, climbing the ladder of profitability and preferences this 3D packaging is of great use.

An essential aspect of all this process; the printers should not restrict their focus only on the cost of the product. Stepping out of this circle by widening their gaze, instead of selling it as a commodity they should render consumer 'service.' Well, after all the promotion aspect is as important as the creation and creativity. E-commerce, social media sites and other facilities can be used to aid the promotion part of your product. With the photo-realistic pack-shots, there is no need for real life photo-shoots and bravo! Your 'product model' is ready to walk the ramp.



Manroland web systems and Goss International complete business combination

Manroland web systems and Goss International, the long-time web offset printing manufacturers and service providers, recently completed the transaction to combine their businesses. The new company will operate under the brand name 'manroland Goss web systems' and will be the strongest supplier to web printing companies worldwide. Alexander Wassermann, CEO of manroland web systems, will become CEO of the new company with global headquarters in Augsburg, Germany. The company's North American headquarters will be in Durham, NH. Mohit Uberoi, previous CEO of Goss International, will stay connected with the business as a board member and assist the management team with business integration.

Mr Wassermann has clear plans: "Both the companies were on a sustainable path to success. We will strengthen this path by increasing our global reach, continuing our innovative and focused R&D activities, and enhancing our market presence through targeted consolidation. Our customers will be able to choose from an even broader portfolio of products and services, supported by the industry leading e-commerce platform MARKET-X."

manroland Goss web systems will concentrate on four main business areas: System Solutions (highly automated press and post-press equipment including pre-owned offerings, press relocations), Engineered Solutions (mechanical, automation and closed-loop solutions for all types of presses), Service Solutions (best-in-class service in parts, labor, tele-support and performance based service agreements) and E-Commerce Solutions (electronic marketplace for efficient ordering and logistics performance for all suppliers to the web offset industry).

The starting point for the merger is promising, with the new company relying on the combined expertise of its 1000+ employees and its suppliers. Both manroland web systems and Goss will leverage their successful structural and technological developments in recent years within new product development, expansive after market product offerings and development of a lean business structure in line with overall market trends to build a strong business platform for the future. With its broad range of products and services, the new company will be the high-performance partner for all web printers. The common goal is to support the performance of customers with a best-of-the-best approach.



A monthly dose of business compliance

A panel of consultants helps Print Bulletin from time to time to keep you up-to-date about changes about your print business. This time we have extensive tax updates, besides the updates about FEMA, Banking sector and the Companies Act.

GST updates

TD/TCS provisions effective from October 1, 2018

The Government of India (GOI) vide Notification #50 /2018 –CT dated September 13, 2018 has notified October 1, 2018, as the date on which the provisions of section 51 (Tax Deducted at Source or TDS) will be effective with respect to a department of Union and State Government, local authority and government agencies and notified persons as specified below:

- An authority or a board or any other body
 - set up by an Act of Parliament or a State Legislature; or
 - established by any Government, with fifty-one per cent or more participation by way of equity or control, to carry out any function.
- 2. Society established by the Central Government or the State Government or a Local Authority under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (21 of 1860);
- 3. Public sector undertakings.

Therefore, with effect from October 1, 2018, above notified persons are required to deduct TDS at 1% each in case

of intra-state and 2% in case of interstate supply for total value of supply exceeding ₹2.5 Lacs under a contract and the amount so collected shall be paid to the Government by the deductor within 10 days after the end of the month in which such deduction is made.

Comments: TDS deposited will flow from Electronic Cash Ledger of Deductor to the Electronic Cash Ledger of the deductee by the process of GSTR-7 returns. Deductor will not need to be registered in every State but will be able to pass the amount deducted as CGST-SGST or as IGST into any State where the deductee is supplying from. The

working of this form of flow of amount in GSTN will be very interesting to note.

E-way bill in case of storing of goods in warehouse of the transporter

GOI vide Circular #61/35/2018-GST dated September 4, 2018 has clarified various issues faced by transporters providing warehousing

facilities due to which they need to get themselves registered and maintain detailed records.

In this regard an alternative method to escape from above obligations has been provided where transporter's warehouse can be declared as an additional place of business by the recipient taxpayer. On declaring



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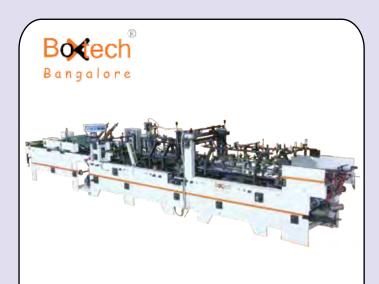
the full update about GST

On declaring transporter's warehouse as the additional place of business, the transportation under the e-way bill shall be deemed to be concluded once the goods have reached the transporter's warehouse (recipient taxpayer's additional place of business). Image: Axisadman CC-A-SA3.0 Wikipedia





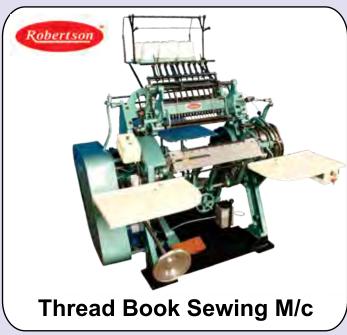
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transporter's warehouse as the additional place of business, the transportation under the e-way bill shall be deemed to be concluded once the goods have reached the transporter's warehouse (recipient taxpayer additional place of business). Hence, e-way bill



GOI vide Circular #59/33/2018-GST dated September 4, 2018 has clarified various refund related issues. Image: stevepb CCO Pixabay

validity in such cases will not be required to be extended.

Further, the obligation of the transporter to maintain accounts and records shall continue as a warehouse keeper. Furthermore, as per rule 56 (7) of the CGST Rules, books of accounts in relation to goods stored at the transporter's warehouse (i.e., the recipient taxpayer's additional place of business) by the recipient taxpayer may be maintained by him at his principal place of business. It may be noted that the facility of declaring additional place of business by the recipient taxpayer is in no way putting any additional compliance requirement on the transporters.

Remarks: Inclusion of transporter's address as additional place of business is truly remarkable as the only resolution to transit-holding of goods.

Clarification on the refund related issues

GOI vide Circular #59/33/2018-GST dated September 4, 2018 has clarified various refund related issues which are explained below:

Submission of invoices for processing of claims of refund: In view of the difficulties being faced by the claimants in providing invoices for processing of refund claims, it has been decided that the refund claim shall be accompanied by a print-out of FORM GSTR-2A of the claimant for the relevant period for which the refund is claimed. In some situations, the proper officer may call for the hard copies of invoices (not mentioned in GSTR-2A due to some reason) if he deems it necessary for the examination of the claim for refund. However, it is emphasised that the proper officer shall not insist on the submission of an invoice (either original or duplicate) the details of which are present in FORM GSTR-2A of the relevant period submitted by the claimant.

The claimant shall also submit the details of the invoices on the basis of which input tax credit had been availed during the relevant period for which the refund is being claimed in Annexure-A manually along with the application for refund claim in FORM GST RFD-01A.

System validations in calculating refund amount:

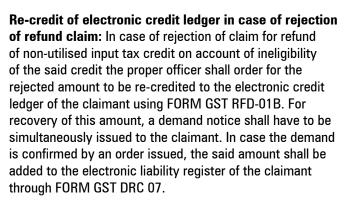
Currently the common portal is supposed to calculate the refund amount following a prescribed procedure. However, the prescribed procedure is not presently available on the common portal. Therefore, till the time such facility is made available on the common portal, the taxpayers are advised to follow the given order for utilizing the ITC and the balance not utilised shall be eligible for refund for all refund applications filed after the date of issue of this Circular.

- a) Integrated tax, to the extent of balance available;
- b) Central tax and State tax/Union Territory tax, equally to the extent of balance available and in the event of a

shortfall in the balance available in a particular electronic credit ledger (say, Central tax), the differential amount is to be debited from the other electronic credit ledger (i.e., State tax/ Union Territory tax, in this case).

However, for applications already filed and pending with the tax authorities, where this order is not adhered to by the claimant, no adverse view may be taken by the tax

authorities.

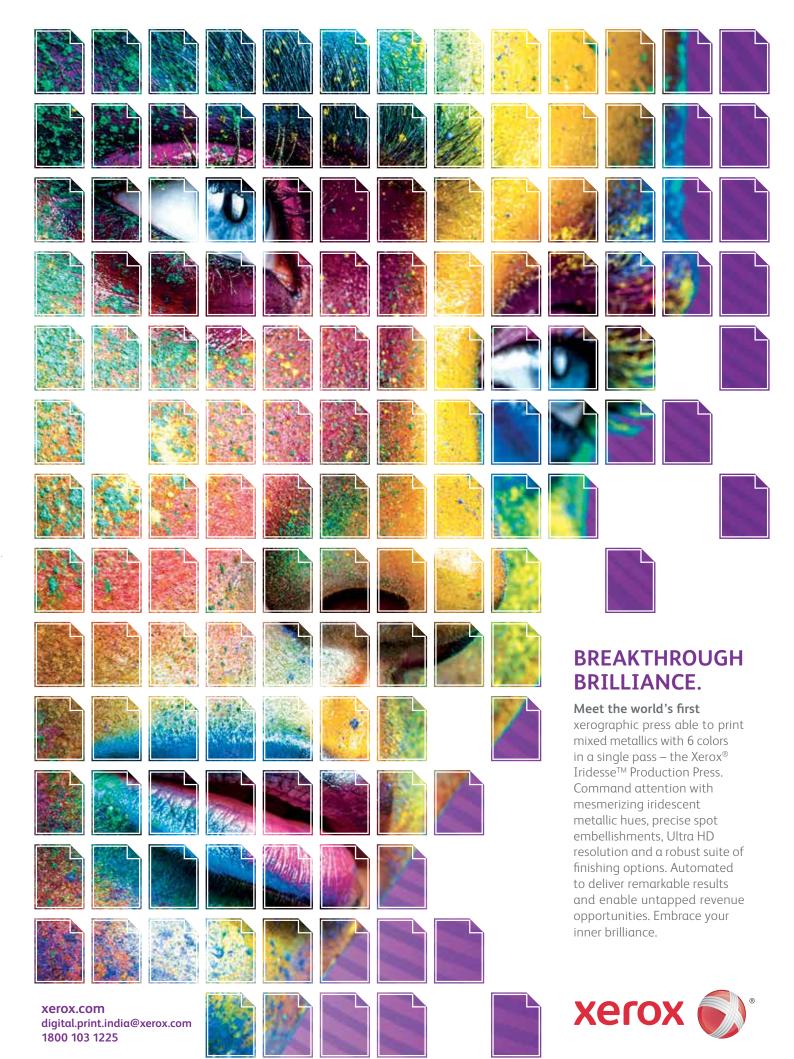


Alternatively, the claimant can voluntarily pay this amount, along with interest and penalty, if applicable, before service of the demand notice, and intimate the same to the proper officer in FORM GST DRC-03.

In case of rejection of claim for refund, the rejected amount shall be re-credited to the electronic credit ledger of the







claimant using FORM GST RFD-01B only after the receipt of an undertaking from the claimant to the effect that he shall not file an appeal against the said rejection or in case he files an appeal, the same is finally decided against the claimant.

For example where against a refund claim of ₹100, only ₹80 is sanctioned (₹15 is rejected on account of ineligible ITC and ₹5 is rejected on account of any other reason). As described above, ₹15 would be re-credited with simultaneous issue of notice for recovery of ineligible ITC. ₹5 would be re-credited (through FORM GST RFD-01B) only after the receipt of an undertaking from the claimant

Scope of rule 96(10) of the CGST Rules: it is clarified that the restriction for claiming refund of IGST paid on exports of goods or services applies only to those purchasers/importers who are directly

purchasing/importing supplies on which the benefit of reduced tax incidence or no tax incidence under specified notifications has been availed.

the sanctioned amount.

Disbursal of refund amount after sanctioning by the proper officer: In view of the refusal to disburse the sanctioned amount by a tax authority calling into question the validity of the sanction order on certain grounds, It is clarified that the remedy for correction of an incorrect or erroneous sanction order lies in filing an appeal against such order and not in withholding of the disbursement of

If any discrepancy is noticed by the disbursing authority, the same should be brought to the notice of the counterpart refund sanctioning authority, the concerned counterpart reviewing authority and the nodal officer, but the disbursal of the refund should not be withheld. It is hereby clarified that neither the State nor the Central tax authorities shall refuse to disburse the amount sanctioned by the counterpart tax authority on any grounds whatsoever, exception account of malfeasance or fraud committed by taxable person.

It is further clarified that any adjustment of the amount sanctioned as refund against any outstanding demand against the claimant can be carried out by the refund disbursing authority if not already done by the refund sanctioning authority.

Status of refund claim after issuance of deficiency memo: In this regard It is clarified that show-cause-notices are not required to be issued where deficiency memos have been issued. A refund application which is re-submitted after the issuance of a deficiency memo shall have to be treated as a fresh application. No order in FORM GST RFD-04/06 can be issued in respect of an application against which a deficiency memo has been issued and which has not been resubmitted subsequently.

Treatment of refund applications where the amount claimed is less than ₹1,000: In this regard, it is clarified that the limit of rupees one thousand shall be applied for each tax head separately and not cumulatively. The limit would not apply in cases of refund of excess balance in the electronic cash ledger.

Income Tax

Tax audit report needs to be approved by the tax payers

As per the section 44AB of Income Tax Act, the books of accounts for the relevant previous year are required to be audited by a Chartered Accountant and the audit report has to be electronically filed prior to or along with

the return of income before the due date. In order to assist to you in complying with these requirements and procedure, your attention is drawn to the following.

- 1. Taxpayer whose total sales, turnover or gross receipts from business exceeds ₹1 crore or where Professional receipts exceed ₹50 lac:
- 1. It is mandatory to fill the Part A of Schedule Profit & Loss A/c and part A of Balance Sheet and also to file the Audit report u/s 44AB of Income Tax Act where the Total Sales, Turnover or Gross Receipts of the business exceeds ₹1 crore or where Professional receipts exceed ₹50 Lakh for the Financial Year 2017-2018.
- 2. The Audit Report u/s 44AB has to be electronically filed prior to or along with the return of income before the due date.
- The taxpayer has to approve the Audit Report u/s 44AB after it is e-filed by the Chartered Accountant. Without taxpayer approval, the submission of the Audit Report u/s 44AB is NOT COMPLETE.
- For the purpose of all the provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961, the date of approval by the taxpayer will be considered as the date of filing of the Audit Repor u/s 44AB.
- 2. Taxpayer reporting Presumptive income under section 44AD:
 - As per the provisions of Income Tax Act, the benefit of Section 44AD shall not be applicable where the gross receipts from business exceeds ₹2 cr in the financial year 2017-2018.
 - Hence, where the gross receipts/total turnover from the business exceeds ₹2 cr, it is mandatory to fill the Part A of profit and Loss A/c and Part A of Balance Sheet and also file the Audit Report u/s 44AB of Income Tax Act.





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- 3. Taxpayer is advised to follow process as per SI. No. 1 above strictly in such cases. The benefit of Section 44AD is not available in such cases.
- Taxpayer whose gross receipts in profession exceed ₹50 lac:
 - It is mandatory to fill the Part A of Schedule Profit & Loss A/c and part A of Balance Sheet
 - and also file the Audit report u/s 44AB of Income Tax Act where the gross receipts in profession exceeds ₹50 lac for the Financial Year 2017-2018.
 - 2. The audit report has to be electronically filed along with the return of income before the due date.
 - The taxpayer is also required to approve/reject the audit report once the same is e-filed by the Chartered Accountant.
 - For the purpose of all the provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961, the date of approval by the taxpayer will be considered as the date of filing of the Audit Report.
 - In case of companies ask your auditors to forget to upload report in form 29b computation of book profit and thereon and also to approve by assessee.
 - 6. Every company to which section 115JB of income tax act, 1961 applies, is required to file Form 29B certifying that book profits have been computed in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act. Further, the Form 29B should be electronically filed along with the return of income before the due date. For the purpose of all the provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961, the date of approval by the taxpayer will be considered as the date of filing of the Audit Report.

Due date for the assessee under tax audit and other audits has been extended to october 31, .2018.

Companies Act and legal

Relaxation of additional fees and extension of last date of filing of Form BEN-2 under the Companies Act, 2013

Ministry of Corporate Affair (MCA) vide General Circular #07/2018 dated on September 6, 2018 have given relaxation of additional fees and extension for Form BEN2.



Union Finance Minister assured of credit availability to the NBFCs in the light of IL&FS default. Image: Sumedh Kadoo CC-SA3.0 Wikipedia

The BEN form relates to disclosures by the companies of the ultimate beneficial owners. This form is introduced for obtaining the real ownerships behind all corporate entities.

As there were many issues and representation, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has allowed that the time limit for filing the BEN-2 form would be 30 days from the date of deploymentof BEN-2 e-form on the MCA-21 portal and no additional fee shall be levied if thesame is filed within 30 days from the date of deployment of the said e-form.

Impact: Relief was granted to stakeholders as last date of filing of BEN-2 under the Companies Act, 2013 was extended for 30 days from the date of deployment of BEN-2 e-form on MCA-21 portal without additional fees. The said form is not yet been notified.

Amendment in the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014

MCA vide notification dated September 20, 2018 has granted central Government to amend the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014.

In exercise of the powers conferred under second proviso to sub-section (1), sub-sections (4), sub-section (6) of section 149, sub-section (3) and (4) of section 150, section 151, Sub section (5) of section 152, section 153, section 154, section 157, section 160, sub-section (1) of section 168 of and section 170 read with section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), the Central

Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014, namely: in the rule 12A of the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors)







Rules, 2014, the words and figures "before September 15, 2018," the words and figures "before October 5, 2018" shall be substituted.

Banking update

Monetary limit for filing cases DRT is not ₹20 lac

GOI has increased the monetary limit to ₹20 lac for filing loan recovery application in the Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) by the banks and financial institutions. As a result any bank or financial institution cannot approach DRTs

if the claim amount is less than Rs. 20 lakh. This amount is enhanced to help reduce the pending cases.



Website screenshot of www.psbloansin59minutes.com

MSME credit in less than an hour

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has launched a transformative initiative in the MSME credit space. The web portal www.psbloansin59minutes.com will enable inprinciple approval for MSME loans up to ₹1 crore within 59 minutes from SIDBI and five Public Sector Banks (PSBs).

It is a strategic initiative of the SIBDI-led PSB consortium incubated under the aegis of Department of Financial Services (DFS). The portal sets a new benchmark in loan

processing and reduces the turnaround time from 20-25 days to 59 minutes. Subsequent to this in-principle approval, the loan will be disbursed in 7-8 working days.

Rise in bank credits and desposits Bank credit grew by 13.49% in the fortnight ended August 31, 2018. The total bank credit as on 31 St August 2018 stood at ₹87,89,259 crore. The credit during the same period a year ago

stood at ₹77,44,237 crore. In the fortnight ended August 31, 2018, deposits grew by a mere 8.8% to ₹116,45,870 crore from ₹106,96,099 crore in the same period last year. Loans to Agriculture and allied activities rose by 6.6% during the same period.

Raghuram Rajan cautions on MSME lending

Former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India Raghuram Rajan has warned that the next build-up of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) could be in the loans to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) under the credit guarantee schemes. Mr Rajan advised that the government should now concentrate on sources of the next crises and should refrain from setting ambitious targets. He said that

credit targets were sometimes achieved by abandoning appropriate due-diligence, thereby creating the environment for future NPAs. Both Mudra and Kisan Credit cards have to be examined more closely for potential credit risk. He also pointed out that the Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSME (CGTMSE) run by SIDBI is a growing contingent liability and needs to be examined with urgency.

GOI to take all measures to ensure NBFC liquidity

On the backdrop of the default on a series of its coupon payments by one of the biggest names in the Non-banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) — the Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) — due to which there was panic selling in the equity market which pulled the markets down, the Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said that the government is ready to ensure credit is available to NBFCs. and adequate liquidity is maintained/provided

to the NBFCs.

Scan the QR code to read

the full update about

Banking

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BOBST to showcase unique label equipment automation Labelexpo India 2018



Visitors to the BOBST stand B12, in Hall 1 at Labelexpo India 2018 can expect to see and hear the latest from the frontiers of labels and package printing and converting and discover the full range of expertise within the very comprehensive scope of BOBST solutions. These range from narrow- to wide-web, offering a host of printing and converting technologies and options. The advantages of high automation and production of trending label specialties will be the focus of the seven daily demonstrations on the stand in the shape of an M5 inline UV flexo and multi-process printing and converting line.

The configuration of the M5 on show will feature several digital technologies that are part of the Digital Automation programme, including the REVO 7-colour extended gamut printing and the Digital Flexo and DigiGap systems for digitally automated print and diecutting pressure control and closed loop print quality/ pdf control at all speeds. The M5 advanced level of automation delivers the assurance of quality and colour consistency under any conditions irrespective of the application run on the line, be it labels, flexible or folding carton. Other than having to manually load the plate cylinders for job changes, the M5 is run from a touchscreen, therefore, it is not dependent on the skill of the operator. Live demonstrations will also show the capabilities of the M5 remote connectivity features to exploit data and further improve the production process and the pressroom efficiency.

The rich variety of samples on display will take visitors through the visual and tactile experience of the quality of the output printed and converted on BOBST equipment. The wide portfolio of services will also be presented to show converters how BOBST can support them in keeping equipment at extraordinary levels of performance and quality. The Labelexpo India will be held between November 22 and 25, 2018 at the India Expo Centre and Mart in New Delhi.

Domino opens new state-of-the-art Fluids Manufacturing Facility

Domino Printing Sciences is marking its 40th anniversary with the opening of its new fluids manufacturing facility in Liverpool, UK. Through the company's investment in advanced industry production processes, the 175,000 sq. ft. (16,000 sq. m) site will provide Domino with a significant increase in productivity and capacity and a reduction in lead times. The expansion has created 19 new jobs, bringing the total workforce of the factory to 88 over the next nine months. Five times larger than the previous site, the new building includes a manufacturing area, quality assurance labs, dedicated customer training and seminar facilities, administration offices and conference facilities, as well as a ten-metre high warehousing space. From here the finished products will be shipped directly to Domino's customers, sales channels and more than 200 distributors worldwide.

The new facility also incorporates the latest technology, including in-line mixing capability, palletisation systems, innovative materials handling processes, automated filling lines with high speed rotary filling heads, and robotic automated handling systems.

Speaking at the opening of the new facility, Nigel Bond, Domino CEO, said: "This facility will accommodate the expansion of our fluids manufacturing capacity in line with growing demand, including a wider range of products and greater volumes. Not only will this meet our customers' rapidly changing requirements, but also enable them to be even more responsive and competitive within their own marketplaces."



The building also possesses significant sustainability credentials, ranging from roof-mounted photovoltaic cells that generate solar power, to drains that send rainwater and surface water into attenuation ponds for natural drainage or evaporation.





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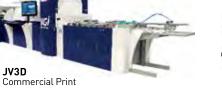
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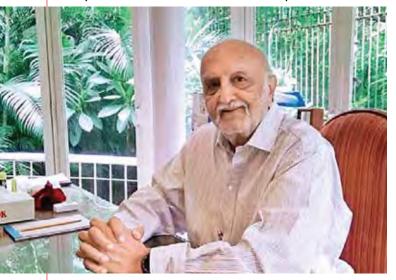
Vishful Thinking



In this column, our industry veteran Vishwanath Shetty of The PrintWorks presents us his tongue-in-cheek view of the recent political news.

An apology for an apology is what is needed...

On September 26, all newspapers published the apology of Waris Pathan, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) leader and a member of legislative assembly (MLA) from Byculla, Mumbai. The apology, you won't believe, was for chanting *Ganapati Bappa Morya* when the leader visited a Ganapati pandal in his constituency. The *maulvis* trolled him on social media and criticised him for worshipping Lord Ganesha; idol worshipping is against Islam. MLA Pathan succumbed to the trolling by the religious leaders. He released the apology: "A few days ago I did something that was wrong. I, in the name of Prophet Mohammad, seek Allah's forgiveness for this and promise that I will never do it again." How foolish for a political leader to succumb to such pressures from



Dr Vijaypat Singhania Image: https://www.mumbailive.com

religious leaders? Now isn't it vishful of this political leader to please the clerics and displease the voters or the Janata? I think he owes an apology for an apology!

Desh ka chowkidar chor(?)

Rahul Gandhi (RaGa), President of the largest opposition party, the Indian National Congress (Congress), called the Prime Minister (PM) of India a *chor* or a thief on a daily basis for over five days in the last week of September, confirmed Times Now on September 26. As the Bharatiya Janata Party's prime ministerial candidate in the 2014 general elections, Narendra Modi had announced that he would be a *chowkidar* or the gatekeeper protecting the wealth and welfare of India. In the run-up to the 2019 general elections, RaGa has mounted an attack on the BJP-led government and especially on PM Modi over the

Rafale row.

An ally of Congress, the Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar commented in a television interview on September 26 that people do not doubt Modi's intentions. This comment came as a scarcely veiled rebuttal of the Congress president's battle cry: *gali gali mein shor hein, chowkidar chor hein.*

What a vishful political scene? RaGa is vishful that he will get the mass support to his proclamation chor for the PM, and Sharad Pawar is vishful in keeping his cards open as highly talked about Maha Ghatbandhan is now being called the cut bandhan by the media. We call it the gaath or the knot bandhan!

I am ready to be PM if allies support

"I am ready to be the PM if allies support," reportedly said RaGa on October 6. All leading newspapers of the country reported the statement as the proof of RaGa's readiness to be the PM of India. All this happens two days after Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati rebuffed Congress for an alliance in Madhya Pradesh state assembly elections. RaGa is yet hopeful of his alliance with BSP as he thinks the logic that applies to state politics is different from the strategy for the national politics. This is not the first time he has expressed 'if they want me, sure...I will.' willingness. Interestingly, RaGa's willingness comes after the recent exit of whatever parties from the Mahaghatbandhan to declare that they will choose the PM candidate after the 2019 polls. This indeed is thinking vishfully positive without asking the question even once: who isn't ready to be the PM if they get the support?

Minimal transfers in Karnataka

Udayavani, a leading Kannada daily, recently reported about the large-scale transfers of the public utility officers in Karnataka. Chief Minister (CM) HD Kumaraswamy claimed that the transfers have been minimal. In reality, however, a total of 526 engineers have been transferred across 13 different levels! Every new government vishfully transfers officers from public offices to suit their needs and favours. Count 526 and say minimal; isn't it way too much vishful indeed?

The court clears the publishing of 'The incomplete man'

In a civil suit filed on September 25, the Chairperson of the Raymond Group Gautam Singhania sought to stop































his father Dr Vijaypat Singhania from working on the book 'The incomplete man' — the book title taking a jibe at India's celebrated fabric brand Raymond's slogan. Mr Jr Singhania alleged that the contents of the book were defamatory to him as well as his family. The son didn't want the tell-all story by his father, published by Penguin Random House. Recalling the old and famous Raymond slogan 'a guide to the well-dressed male,' should the latest phenomenon now be vishfully called 'a guide to the ill-dressed family' while the book is still in the process of stitching?

The 'right' that seems to be 'wrong'

"Women who visit Shabarimala should be ripped into two..." said a BJP supporter Tulasidharan Nair in Kerala as per the report in Times of India on October 13. The Supreme Court of India recently passed an order allowing women of all ages to enter the Sabarimala shrine, challenging an age-old religious belief and practice. The Woman's rights activists fought to get the right to enter the shrine which has not gone well with the women in Kerala. It is the case of women fighting for a right that women do not yearn for! The women in Kerala, opposing the Supreme Court order ask a simple question: show us one woman who is dying to enter the Sabarimala shrine. Women in Kerala are so happy to fast for 41 days with the husbands and the family, observing the vrut as they call it before their husbands venture on the padayatra. The women further warn: do not disturb our pious place and practice.

Now are the Supreme Court of India and the women's rights activists vishful to change the set practice and give women a right that they do not need? Is the Supreme Court in a hurry to please the masses? Should we not be more sensitive towards the religious practices no matter whether you practice any religion or not?

Was Sidhu stumped?

Surprised? Don't be!

Indian cricketer, comedian and politician Navjot Singh Sidhu, the minister from Punjab, shared a complex and somewhat weird thought at the Literature festival in Kasauli. "when I go to Tamil Nadu, I don't understand the language; I understand one or two words. Not that I don't like the food, but can not have it for a long time. The culture is totally different," Mr Sidhu adds, "but if I go to Pakistan they speak Punjabi and English. I relate to them more." Vishful loose tongues do not relate to the reality in life and speak with their mind closed. He doesn't see people speaking English in Tamil Nadu, but in Pakistan, yes he meets them. Strange is his thoughts that he cannot relate to the culture in Tamil Nadu, a state in his own country. Is he now Vishful of contesting election across the border?



A home away from home for Sidhu? The feeling is strange! Image: https://images.in.com/uploads/2018/10/FotoJet-4-10.jpg?ver=0.2

A distinct, defiant 'me too'

My readers aware of marketing terminology will know 'me too' is otherwise also known as 'also-rans.' These are the products or the ideas without a differentiation. In other words, these are the generic products. Of late, however, the term has become very popular for a different reason; the #MeToo campaign on the social media is empowering many women and men to share their stories of workplace harassment. I believe the marketing gurus will have to rewrite the books redefining the term 'me too' from something generic to something courageous and empowering. The jokes about #MeToo floating around the messaging apps can vishfully entertain you for the whole day, but it is these jokes that are me too in the most conventional sense – without a differentiation. This time though, I am vishful that the campaign makes us think about and changes the way we interact with each other across identities in our lives, personal and professional.

MeToo #MeToo #Me

Redefining the me too, one story at a time. Image: Published by Wolfmann under CC-A-SA 4.0 on Wikipedia





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