

Corporate Snapshot International

Business Updates: World US Retail Sales fall



US retail sales have unexpectedly fallen in June as households have trimmed largely on the purchases of cars and a variety of alternative products.

The retail sales slipped by 0.3% in the month of June, and it was the weakest reading since February, after May's downwardly revised 1% increase.

Toshiba's President Hisao Tanaka resigns over accounting scandal



Toshiba's President Hisao Tanaka has resigned over an accounting scandal. A committee reviewing its earnings **has said that the corporate had inflated its operational profit by ¥156 billion (\$1.25 billion) over six years, up to 2014.**

The scandal is **the** biggest accounting fraud in the past years and it came out only when Japan introduced new **company** governance rules **to draw in additional** foreign investment. **It has**

necessitated the listed firms to have freelance outside **administrators.**

The Company has said that it would correct its earnings reports in light of the findings given by the outside panel.

Delta Air Lines to rehabilitate Japan's Skymark Airlines Inc

Delta Air Lines has been **projected** as a sponsor to rehabilitate Skymark Airlines **INC** by the bankrupt Japanese carrier. If the move is approved by a majority of creditors, it **might facilitate** Delta use Tokyo's Haneda **field** as a transit hub for passengers. Currently, Delta's connecting opportunities **area unit** has been **restricted as a result of it's** no alliance partner in Japan.

Toyota lags behind Volkswagen in world's biggest automaker race

Toyota has said that it has sold 5.02 million vehicles worldwide between January and June this year, falling below earlier figures from Volkswagen of 5.04 million units sold in the same period.

US-based General Motors has acquired the third position with 4.86 million in sales.

In April, Toyota announced that it was ending a freeze on building new factories by unveiling plans for a \$1.0 billion plant in rising industry power Mexico and another production line in China.

China starts its first unmanned factory in Beijing

Chinese firm specializing in precision technology has set up the first unmanned factory at Dongguan city where all the processes are operated by robots.

The Company is named as Changing Precision Technology Company in Dongguan, also known as the "world factory", which manufactures cell

phone modules. 60 robot arms at 10 production lines polish the modules day and night.

Data at the Dongguan **manufacturing plant** shows that since the robots came to the plant, the defect rate of **merchandise** has gone down from over **twenty five** per cent to **five** per cent **and therefore the production capability** which was **8,000 items** per person per month has been **enlarged** to **21,000** pieces.

Fly Dubai proposes for SpiceJet Stake



The Gulf LCC's flydubai has proposed for a stake in SpiceJet. **Once,** its competitor Qatar Airways had been in initial talks with SpiceJet owner Ajay Singh for a **potential** investment. Now, with SpiceJet scripting a dramatic recovery **underneath** Singh and Qatar Airways **following** him **smartly,** fly Dubai has re-started talks with the Indian LCC. Singh **can take** the airline **that provides a more robust** deal in terms of **evaluation** and future growth prospects of SpiceJet that he had launched in 2005.

Britain's Pearson to sell its 50 per cent stake in The Economist Group

Britain's Pearson has confirmed that it is in discussion with The Economist Group Board and trustees regarding the potential sale of their 50 per cent share in the group.

According to people familiar with the discussions, it has been stated that a number of suitors have been looking at the Economist along with the FT, including Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters and Axel Springer, co-owner of POLITICO's European edition.

Any change of ownership would need the consent of the holders of the A shares, which include the Cadbury, Rothschild, Schroder and Agnelli families.

Pearson could get as much as £500 million for its stake, although the price is subject to ongoing negotiations.

The WTO members sign \$1.3 trillion IT trade deal

The WTO headquarters in Geneva, reached a tentative accord by 54 WTO members on 18 July representing major exporters of information technology products to eliminate tariffs on more than 200 such products.

Annual trade in these 201 products is valued at over \$1.3 trillion per year, and accounts for approximately 7% of total global trade today. This is larger than global trade in automotive products — or trade in textiles, clothing, iron and steel combined.

Eliminating tariffs on trade of this magnitude can have an enormous impact. It will support lower cost as well as in several different sectors that use IT product as inputs and also it will produce jobs and will facilitate to grow up more the GDP growth round the world.

China, India surge metals & other energy consumption to 50% globally

The World Bank has stated that the energy prices has risen to 12 percent in the quarter, with the surge in oil offset by declines in natural gas (down 13 percent) and coal prices (down four percent). However, the Bank expects energy prices to average 39 percent below 2014 levels.

Natural gas prices are projected to

decline across all three main markets US, Europe and Asia and coal prices to fall by 17 percent. According to the report, China's consumption of metals and coal has surged to roughly 50 percent of world consumption, and India's to a more modest 3 percent for metals, and 9 percent for coal. Going forward, while demand from India is likely to be a major factor in shaping consumption of industrial commodities, China will be important in driving global demand for energy given its efforts in rebalancing growth.

Reliance Industries' shale gas business in the US turns negative



Reliance Industries' returns on the average capital utilized in its shale gas business within the U.S. have turned negative within the June quarter owing to falling crude oil costs that has made shale gas production unviable for all U.S. players. So far, RIL has invested with \$8.5 billion in its 3 shale gas joint ventures there.

As a result, RIL is scaling down on its cost to \$275 million within the June quarter and analysts expect a twenty five per cent year-on-year reduction in cost within the phase.

IOL Chemicals receives US FDA nod for Ibuprofen facility



IOL Chemicals and prescribed drugs (IOLCP) has received the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA)'s approval for its Ibuprofen anti-inflammatory producing facility set at Barnala, Punjab.

With this, IOLCP is going to be able to garner further business for its flagship Ibuprofen in USA, world's largest pharmaceutical market.

This can result into higher worth, further export turnover and better margins. The company's producing facility already holds CEP certification for its products Ibuprofen, Metformin Hydrochloride & Lamotrigine from European regulators.

The Barnala facility has already been approved by various regulatory agencies including Brazil's Anvisa, WHO and MOH, Japan.

Thomas Cook (India) buys rival Kuoni's travel biz in India and Hong Kong



Indian-Canadian Promoter, Prem Watsa-backed Thomas Cook (India), would purchase rival Kuoni's travel businesses in India and Hong Kong for Rs 535 crore or about \$85 million.

Thomas Cook and Kuoni's tours have businesses in India and Hong Kong and both would still operate as separate entities. The 134-year-old Thomas Cook would pay Rs 320 crore to feature consumer-travel brands like Sita, SOTC and Distant Frontiers to its

portfolio in India, helping it overtake Peter Kerkar-owned Cox & Kings and also to become the highest player. It will pay the balance Rs 215 crore for Kuoni's Hong Kong travel business. The deal marks the Switzerland-based Kuoni's exit from the tour business in India that it had entered in May 1996 through the acquisition of SOTC and also the sale is an element of its international strategy to specialize in being a B2B travel service player.

Microsoft agrees to invest about \$100 million in Uber



Microsoft has agreed to invest about

\$100 million in Uber Technologies at a valuation of roughly \$50 billion. The San Francisco-based company, led by Chief Executive Officer Travis Kalanick, has been utilizing the money to expand its operations to cities across the world. Uber is currently valued at \$51 billion, making it the foremost venture-backed startup within the world.

Uber, that was earlier valued at \$40 billion, has benefitted from investors who view its car-booking technology as the future of transport.

Canon unveils new series of colour office printers



Canon has launched a replacement series of workplace color printers, the image RUNNDR ADVANCE C350i, and also the image RUNNDR ADVANCE C3300 series. They are equipped with hard disks which will store mails and messages and an advanced box collaboration feature which will save, preview, rename, or print files.

Corporate Snapshot National

Flipkart hires Yahoo veteran



Yahoo veteran Eric Dorothea Lange has joined Flipkart as the vice-president of product management.

Previously, Lange served as the vice-president of product management in the ads division for Yahoo. Lange has been writing code professionally for over thirty years. As a vice-president at Yahoo, he managed the analytics and publisher products for the company's \$2 billion ad business. He jointly spearheaded Yahoo's self-made acquisitions of the mobile advertising and analytics company Flurry and also the video advertising platform BrightRoll.

Former Infosys CEO SD Shibulal invests in Falcon

Former Infosys corporate executive SD Shibulal has invested an undisclosed sum in child security tracker Falcon. Falcon allows faculty administrations to trace the protection of its students by recording info regarding child's boarding and disembarking points from the bus from home to high school and back. Falcon tracker works when its software, loaded on a tablet, is carried by the school administrative staff with details of all the students' boarding and disembarking points along the bus route. The data is stored in the cloud and can be accessed by schools through an online portal. It also equips parents to know the location of the bus and the route, real-time.

Yes Bank among the first to occupy office at GIFT



Yes Bank has received an opportunity to line up with IFSC banking units (IBUs) in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) that would be among the primary firms to possess a workplace there. The Indian Financial System Code, better known as the IFSC code, is an alphanumeric code. This code innovatively identifies a bank branch that participates in two of the major electronic funds settlement in the country, RTGS and NEFT.

The bank has already acquired office premises on lease in an IFSC area and has identified staff from its international finance desk. Yes Bank has also decided to go in for an additional international credit rating from Standard & Poor's. The bank already has a rating from Moody's.

Volvo to export buses from India to Europe



Volvo has been actively exploring opportunities to provide to new markets and also aims to boost India's role in its export plans.

Volvo Buses plans have coincided with central government's efforts to push producing through the 'Make in India' initiative.

The Company plans to use India for exporting its factory-made buses within the country to developed markets in Europe. The primary bus created within the Indian facility is going to be unveiled later this year in Europe.

Bank of America's \$1bn contract proposal to IT vendors



The Bank of America has circulated an invitation for proposal (RFP) that has many volunteers' like Infosys, TCS and Accenture gear along with other global IT companies. It requires core IT services like application development and maintenance (ADM), testing and infrastructure management services (IMS).

Bank of America is the second-largest bank company within the US by assets. Its 2008 acquisition of Merrill made it the world's largest wealth management corporation and a significant player within the investment banking market.

IATA accuses DIAL of high aeronautical charges

International Air Transport Association (IATA) has criticized the Delhi International Airport Pvt Ltd (DIAL) for not reducing aeronautical charges as directed by the Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) last year. In 2012, AERA had given DIAL 340% hike in user charges, which it had implemented immediately, while last year the authority had directed 78.4% reduction in charges which the airport operator had challenged and had not implemented it.

Adani to purchase Gangavaram Port for \$2.1b

Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone has plans to purchase Gangavaram Port close to Vishakhapatnam for \$2.1 billion, a deal which would create the country's eastern seaboard to capture the freight traffic in Bay of Bengal.

Adani is anticipated to maneuver ahead with the deal after securing funding support from a Group of banks.

India's deepest port, Gangavaram is promoted by the D V S Raju family and has non-public equity major Warburg Gregory Pincus as a stockholder. The Raju family owns 58% stake, while Warburg Pincus has 31%. The government of Andhra Pradesh holds about 11% in the port company. It's been reported that Adani was in preliminary talks to buy Warburg's minority stake.

General Motors announces recall of 1.55 lac cars in India



General Motors has announced the recall of 1.55 lac vehicles in India, its largest such exercise within the country. It is being done to address emissions and specification issues. 4,000 units of the diesel variant of Sail model will also be recalled to address a potential engine issue.

GM India has said that it will contact all affected customers to correct the fitting of the remote keyless entry free of charge. It has requested the customers who have considerations relating to the performance of their remote keyless entry accessory to go to their nearest Chevrolet dealer for a free inspection.

General Motors sells Beat, Captiva, Cruze, Enjoy, Sail, and Sail Hatchback, Spark and Tavera models in India under the Chevrolet brand.

Wipro Enterprises files case against Heinz India



Wipro, that owns Glucovita Bolts brand of chewable tablets, has filed an appeal in the Madras High Court against a single-judge order, which had dismissed its plea for an interim injunction against Heinz's usage of the trademark, Glucon-D. Wipro has said that its product Glucovita Bolts was a market leader between 2012 and 2015. Wipro has claimed Heinz's product is almost similar with its trademark.

SpiceJet to purchase single-aisle jets from Boeing & Airbus SpiceJet Ltd. has been in talks with Boeing Co. and the Airbus Group SE to shop for over a hundred single-aisle jets valued at \$11 billion at list costs.

The discussions are for airliner A320neo and Boeing 737 Max aircraft. A deal could be signed during the current financial year, which ends March 31.

Any new investment in SpiceJet in all probability would take the shape of latest shares or debt. In March last year, the carrier had made an order for 42, 737 Max planes valued at \$4.4 billion. The Max is an upgraded version of the single-aisle 737, the world's most widely flown jetliner, and features new, more-efficient engines.

The A320neo is upgraded version of Airbus's popular plane.

Snapdeal elevates Amit Maheshwari as Exclusively.com's CEO



E-commerce Company, Snapdeal, has elevated Amit Maheshwari as the Chief Executive Officer of the recently acquired online premium fashion destination, Exclusively.com. Maheshwari was last serving as Senior Vice President (Fashion) at Snapdeal. Snapdeal had acquired Exclusively in February this year and the appointment is a part of its efforts to build the website as India's largest premium fashion

destination.

Rajaram takes on advisory role at Livspace

Gokul Rajaram, product engineering lead at San Francisco-based payments firm Square, is taking over the role of a special consultant of home design and decor startup, Livspace.

Anuj Srivastava, chief executive officer and co-founder of Livspace, has said that Rajaram's role as associate consultant would involve him in operating closely with the startup on areas like product, technology and deciding ways for growing the market, scaling the corporate in addition to facilitate throughout fund-raising.

Rajaram has additionally made an angel investment within the Bengaluru-based company that is backed by Helion Venture Partners, Inventor Venture Partners and Jungle Ventures.

M & M launches automatic variants of Scorpio



The Mahindra Scorpio Automatic's costs begin at Rs. 13.13 lakh (ex-showroom, Delhi) for the 2WD variant and Rs. 14.33 lakh (ex-showroom, Delhi) for the 4WD variant. Now obtainable in a total of eleven variants, Mahindra offers the Scorpio with a alternative of two engine choices, namely, 2.2-litre mHawk and a couple of 5-litre M2DICR (base variant - S2) diesel. The utility vehicle maker has placed the automated gear case variant at high of the line-up. The arrival of the Scorpio's automatic variant comes close in the heels of the

launch of the Hyundai Creta. The South Korean auto maker has launched its compact SUV on July 21, and had received over 28,500 enquiries and more than 10,000 bookings before its launch.

ONGC plans to invest \$8.8bn in KG oil and gas



State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has plans to take a position of over \$8.8 billion in transportation to produce its much-touted KG-basin oil and gas discoveries by 2018-19.

ONGC has divided twelve oil associated gas finds within the block KG-DWN-98/2 or KG-D5 and gas discovery in an adjacent G-4 block the Bay of geographical region into 3 clusters to quickly bring them to production.

Gas made from Cluster-1 is projected to be taken to Platform in shallow water depths through an 18-inch, 16.1 klick pipeline and treated and later exhausted to Odalarevu onshore terminal in province through 20-inch, 35.5km pipeline for sales.

Oil made from Cluster-2 is projected to be taken on to associate FPSO (Floating Production Storage associated Offloading) anchored in high-sea through an 18-inch, 21.5 klick pipeline. Whereas oil can then be transferred to tankers for transportation to refineries, gas made aboard are exhausted on to mounted platform through a 18-inch, 21.4 klick pipeline.

Chinese firm, Broad Sustainable Building (BSB), eager to work in Gujarat

A delegation from the Chinese firm, Broad Sustainable Building (BSB), has

visited the town and gave presentation of their works to Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) officers. The delegation had representatives of the corporate that has engineered twenty five bridges in China in record time. This was the first visit of the corporate representatives to visit India with associate aim to participate in India in the endeavor initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

They have claimed to construct using pre-fabricated technology. The fabric used is principally glass and steel and it is energy economical and earth quake resistant.

Hyundai to raise car prices by up to Rs 30,000

Hyundai Motor Asian country Ltd would increase automobile costs across all models, excluding that of sports utility vehicle Creta, by up to Rs 30,000 from 1 August onwards in sight of rising input prices. The price hike by the country's second largest maker can apply to the Hyundai Eon, i10, Grand i10, Xcent, i20, i20 Active, Verna, Elantra and state capital.

Rakesh Srivastava, Sr. Vice Chairman, sales and selling, Hyundai Motor Asian country Ltd., has said that the increase has been necessitated by increase of input prices. He has further added that the customers are required to bear these prices as they expect that with these exclusive offers from dealers the customers can still be delighted.

Dabur to extend Hajmola drinks



The Indian FMCG major Dabur is presently extending its well-liked biological process complete Hajmola into the ready-to-drink food class. The new complete herbal drink Hajmola Yoodley is about to be launched in six Indian flavours.

The unorganized marketplace for such drinks is larger and is calculable to be a minimum of Rs 1,400 greater in size.

The new Hajmola Yoodley ready-to-drink beverage range has been launched all over the country in a 250ml pack, priced at Rs 30. It would be available in six different variants Awaara Aam Panna, Nimboora Shikanji, Go Goa Guava, Jhakaas Jaljeera, Golmaal Golgappa and Kabhi Kala Kabhi Khatta.

Amul to get a "well-known" trademark



Amul will soon get a "well-known" trademark, making certain incomparable protection not simply in India but across the globe. The step taken by the government can make sure that the brand is not used by anyone in anyplace or for any product.

The Indian list includes Bata, Bajaj, Bisleri, Nirma and Infosys, among the native brands, whereas international players like Cartier, Dunhill, Playboy, Mars and Yahoo have received well-known emblems. Indian as well as international laws provides for well-known brands as a special class, whereas some even create a distinction with renowned brands.

They are given protection as a result of the brand becoming extremely well-known and popular. The well-known trademarks have been granted in India which was granted through courts after companies have sought action in infringement cases.

Tata Motors reduces its sales, production targets for JLR in China

India's Tata Motors Ltd has reduced costs, sales and production targets at its luxury Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) arm in

China as there is very slow economic growth in China as far as automotive market in China is concerned and it has also decreased the sales of automakers from BMW to General Motors.

Sales, including exports, of commercial and passenger vehicles for the quarter stood at 1, 17,439 units which are very much low as compared to the corresponding quarter last fiscal. It may be noted that Tata Motors India was heavily losing cash for the past 3 years.

Prudential Financial acquires Deutsche India fund management Business

Prudential money Inc's has acquired the Deutsche plus Management's Indian fund management business. The Deutsche deal would facilitate Pramerica Asset Managers Pvt Ltd, which runs its fund management business in a joint venture with local partner Dewan Housing Finance Corporation.

Deutsche's exit is the latest among a series of foreign companies to quit India's highly-competitive fund business. The acquired amount for the sale of the Deutsche India is not yet disclosed.

The Prudential Financial Company of America, is a Fortune Global 500 and Fortune 500 company whose subsidiaries provide insurance, investment management, and other financial products and services to both retail and institutional customers throughout the United States and in over 30 other countries.

Sun Life desires for bigger stake in Indian insurance venture

Canadian Insurance Underwriter Sun Life money INC is desirous of raising its stake in its Birla Sun life Assurance Venture in India because it has weighted many acquisition opportunities in Asia and North America.

Birla Sun Life is a joint venture with Indian conglomerate Aditya Birla

Group and is one of India's biggest insurance companies.

Sun Life also owns 49 percent of Birla Sun Life Asset Management, the fourth largest mutual fund company in India.

Sun Life has been on an acquisitive streak and has announced at least three deals so far this year.

NALCO wants to set up \$2.6 billion Iran aluminium complex



India's National Aluminium Co Ltd (NALCO) desires to line up an aluminium smelter and an associated power plant in Iran priced as \$2.6 billion..

India and Iran have maintained an in depth relationship despite the U.S.-led trade restrictions over Iran's nuclear programme.

The company has the capability of 2.28 million tonnes a year of alumina from naturally occurring bauxite.

Snapdeal ties up with Shoppers Stop Ltd



Snapdeal has entered into an exclusive strategic partnership with Shoppers Stop in order to create the Shoppers Stop experience in the digital marketplace or to get things delivered from the closest Shoppers Stop store. This facility is firstly going to be launched in North India. This can reach alternative regions of the country over future twelve months.

Further, consumers will also be able to exchange or return the products bought on the Shoppers Stop brand store on Snapdeal at any of the 74 Shoppers Stop stores across 35 cities.

This partnership can leverage Shoppers

Stop's incomparable complete assortment and Snapdeal's pan India reach to form a superlative and holistic omni-channel retail expertise for customers across the country.

Xiaomi launches first Smartphone manufactured in India



Xiaomi, the Beijing based smartphones company launched its first made in India smartphone. In July 2014 the company entered India, which has become the largest market after China for the company's low-priced, feature-rich phones. Xiaomi had forayed into the Indian market through the online route in partnership with e-Commerce giant Flipkart. Xiaomi phones are being manufactured in Sri City in Andhra Pradesh at its Foxconn facility.

Rajesh Exports acquires European gold refiner Valcambi



India's gold and diamond jewellery maker and exporter Rajesh Exports Ltd has acquired Switzerland-based precious metals refiner Valcambi SA in an all-cash deal for approximately Rs.2,540 crore.

The acquisition was made through Rajesh Exports' Singapore subsidiary, which acquired European Gold Refineries Holding SA, the firm that holds a 100% stake in Valcambi.

Valcambi, which generates revenue in excess of \$38 billion, is a zero-debt company with considerable cash surplus.