Daily Economic News Summary: 2 November 2016

1. BGR Energy gets Rs 2,600-crore project for 800 Mw pant in TN

Source: Business Standard (Link)

BGR Energy Systems Ltd, an engineering and contracting company for power projects in the country, said that it has received a Rs 2,600 crore worth balance of plant (BoP) contract by the state-run Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd (TANGEDCO) for the 800 Mw North Chennai Thermal Power Project. The contract completion period is 36 months from the date of award. TANGEDCO's order for the BoP, which is the associated civil works for setting up a coal-based manufacturing plant, is for the 1x800 Mw North Chennai Supercritical Thermal Power Project Stage-III in the premises of existing facility at Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu. The contract is for design, engineering, manufacturing, fabrication, assembly, inspection, testing, transportation, erection, testing and commissioning of the BoP mechanical, electrical and control & instrumentation works, including associated civil works for establishment of the plant, said the company. The expansion project includes setting up a large coal handling system with facilities to unload coal from the ships and a 765 kv gas insulated switchgear-based substation, it added. With this order, the company's order book at present stands at around Rs 7,429 crore.

2. Ujaas Energy extends rally on winning order from Airports Authority of India Source: Business Standard (Link)

Ujaas Energy has surged 9% to Rs 37.10 on BSE in intra-day, extending its Tuesday's 12% rally on the back of heavy volumes, after the company said that it has bagged order from Airport Authority of India (AAI). "The company has received an order for design, manufacture, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of rooftop grid connected solar PV system of 158 Kwp from Airports Authority of India VSI Airport, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar", Ujaas Energy said in a statement. On October 15, the company said that it had received an order for design, manufacture, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of grid interactive rooftop and small solar PV power plants on 364 houses with a capacity of 4 & 5 Kwp at various locations in two districts of Uttarakhand.

3. Mahindra & Mahindra gains on strong tractor sales in October Source: **Business Standard** (Link)

Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) has moved higher by 3% to Rs 1,359 on the BSE,

bouncing back 4% from early morning lows, after reporting a strong 61% year on year (YoY) growth in total tractor sales at 45,177 units in October 2016. M&M' Farm Equipment Sector (FES) sold total (domestic + exports) 27,280 units during October 2015, the company said in a statement. "This season's rainfall has been normal resulting in healthy water levels in reservoirs. Expectation of good Kharif crop coupled with continued good sentiments will positively impact demand going forward," Rajesh Jejurikar, president and chief executive – Farm Equipment and Two Wheeler Division, M&M said. Meanwhile, M&M, India's leading SUV manufacture, reported 1% YoY growth in its auto sales at 52,008 vehicles in October, 2016 compared to 51,383 vehicles during October, 2015.

4. Strides Shasun gets USFDA nod for anti-HIV drug Abacavir

Source: The Mint (Link)

Strides Shasun Ltd on Tuesday said it got approval from US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) for anti-retroviral Abacavir tablets used in the treatment of patients with HIV infection. Strides said the US approval is for 300 mg dosage form. The product will be manufactured at the company's USFDA approved facility at Bengaluru and marketed by Strides in the US market, the company said in a statement. "The product will be launched immediately," it added. According to IMS sales data, the US market for Abacavir is approximately \$30 million. Shares of Strides rose 1.31% to close at Rs1,056.70 on BSE, while the benchmark Sensex declined 0.19% to 27,876.61 points.

5. Economy to gain momentum in second half of FY17: Assocham

Source: Business Standard (Link)

The economy is expected to fare better in the second half of the current financial year, backed by a likely rise in sales and improved capacity utilisation, though fresh investments and jobs creation might be a concern, according to a report from the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Assocham). More spending on infrastructure, largely by the government, is seen as the most important driver for a turnaround in the economic outlook for the second half, the period between October and March, it added. About 66 per cent of those polled in the Assocham Bizcon Survey expected improved sales and capacity utilisation during the second half but remained uncertain on fresh investment. A majority (55.6 per cent) believe employment conditions will not improve in the coming days. And, 38.9 per cent feel their profits might not change in the ongoing quarter. The second best driver for an optimistic outlook is effective policy reform, followed by a stable exchange rate for the rupee, despite global uncertainty on account of the US Federal Reserve's next policy move and the bitterly fought polls there.

By Nandini Malhotra

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