

Banking**PNB takes top slot in FE Best Bank Survey (FE-1)**

"The feelings is like coming first in class but it also casts a big responsibility on you to keep up the performamnce. Others should work hard to achieve this kind of recognition", K R Kamath, chiarman & managing director of Punjab National Bank, put it effusively about wining the top spot among nationalised banks at the FE Best Banks Survey 2010.

SBI commits \$1.5 bn loan to Bharti (Tol-19)

With the approval of Middle-east and African telecom major. Zain group's board to sell its' African assets to Bharti Airtel, the Indian telecom giant is entering to a second largest acquisition ever done by an Indian company in any sector. Bharti has entered into a funding arrangement with a consortium of banks led by Standard Chartered Bank to fund the transaction immdiately. Bankers and fund managers feel that Bharti, with an annual net profit of over Rs 9,500 crore (\$2.1 billion), will not have much problem in financing the deal through debt.

Banks bulking up balance sheets to meet credit growth target (Tol-19)

The banks may meet the revised 16 per cent non-food credit growth projected by the Reserve Bank of India for the current fiscal.

Japanese bank lends Rs 460 cr to ICICI Bank (Tol-19)

The Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC) announced on Wednesday that it has signed an agreement with ICICI Bank under which it would provide a loan of around Rs 460 crore to support trade finance.

RBI**RBI hints at further rate rise to tackle inflation (BS-10)**

The Reserve bank of India (RBI) indicated another round of policy rate increases with Governor D Subbarao suggesting more monetary tightening might be in order to manage inflationary expectations,even if it meant sacrificing some growth.

Former RBI chief welcomes move to issue new bank permits (BL-6)

Dr Y.V.Reddy, former RBI governor, has welcomed the Government's move to allow the central bank to issue new bank licences, but cautioned that the objectives should be "realistic" and the process of granting of licences "sound".

Indian Economy**Fuel prices togo up with introduction of Euro IV (Tol-19)**

Petrol prices in cities like Delhi and Mumbai go upby Rs 0.41 per litre and diesel by Rs 0.26 a litre from April 1 when cleaner Euro-IV grade auto fuel replaces existing grade in 13 big citites, oil secretary S Sundareshan said on Wednesday.

Inflation worry signals end to easy money policy (BL-1)

The Reserve Bank of India will continue with its exit strategy from the accomdative credit policy, consodering that demand side pressure on inflation is builing up, said the RBI Governor, Dr D. Subaarao.

NACIL, Air India Charters bonds issues get explicit sovereign guarantee (BL-6)

The National Aviation company of India Ltd and Air India Charters Ltd have been given an explicit sovereign guarantee for their Rs 795 crore bond issues to part-financing fleet acquisition.

Article**Price stability and growth (BL-8)**
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