Daily Economic News Summary: 27 October 2016

1. Cairn India to invest \$100 mn in Rajasthan gas fields

Source: Business Standard (Link)

Vedanta group company Cairn India plans to invest \$100 million with focus on Rajasthan gas fields. The company is targeting to increase gas production to 40-45 million standard cubic feet per day (mmscfd) by 2017 and to 100 mmscfd by 2018/19. The capital investment is estimated for FY17 with 80 per cent focus for development of Raageshwari Deep Gas(RDG) project and completion activities of Mangala Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR), a company spokesperson said. "The project is being developed in a phased manner to realise capital efficiency while maintaining production growth and is progressing on track. As part of Phase-1, eight out of the 15 wells have been brought online and will start adding to the production as per plan. Rest of the wells are also planned to be brought online by December 2016," the spokesperson said. Contract for low-cost augmentation of the existing facility will be awarded shortly. Tendering for enhancement of existing pipeline capacity is in advance stage and contract is expected to be awarded during Q3 FY17, he said.

2. Electric vehicle start-up Ather Energy bags Rs 205 cr from Hero MotoCorp Source: **Business Standard (Link)**

Pawan Munjal-led <u>Hero MotoCorp</u> has invested Rs 205 crore to pick up 26-30 per cent stake in domestic electric vehicle (EV) maker Ather Energy. Hero, the largest two-wheeler maker in the country will continue with its internal EV projects as well. "<u>Hero MotoCorp</u> intends to enhance its participation in the EV space by pursuing its internal EV program in addition to partnering with Ather. Adoption of environment-friendly fuel is a priority for Hero MotoCorp, as is propagating sustainable manufacturing through green facilities," the company said in a statement. Ather is a Bengaluru-based technology start-up engaged in the business of designing and manufacturing smart EVs and associated charging infrastructure. Founded in 2013, Ather has received funding from Tiger Global and Flipkart founders Sachin and Binny Bansal.

3. Sun Pharma launches authorized generics of 4 Daiichi Sankyo's drugs in US

Source: Live Mint (Link)

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, the world's fifth largest generic drug company, has launched authorized generics of four hypertension treatment drugs of Daiichi Sankyo Inc in the

US. The company has launched generics of all strengths of Benicar, Benicar HCT, Azor and Tribenzor tablets. The four drugs put together had an estimated market size of \$2.5 billion in the US in the 12 months ended August 31, according to data from global information and technology services firm, IMS Health. "The launch is pursuant to a distribution and supply agreement between Sun Pharma's wholly owned subsidiary and Daiichi Sankyo Inc, which grants the Sun Pharma subsidiary, exclusive rights to distribute these tablets in the US for a pre-determined period," Sun Pharma said in a stock exchange filing. Authorized generic is brand name drug produced by the innovator company and marketed as a generic product at a lower price without the brand name on its label. It may be marketed by the brand name drug company, or another company with the innovator firm's permission.

4. Nasscom: India will be home to 10,500 start-ups by 2020

Source: Live Mint (Link)

India has emerged as the third largest start-up base and such ventures are poised to grow 2.2 times to reach 10,500 by 2020 despite a perception that the ecosystem in the country has slowed down in the last year, says a report. India is in the third position just behind US and UK, and nearly 1,400 new start-ups are expected by end of 2016, up by 8-10% from last year, revealed the "Indian Startup Ecosystem Maturing—2016" report by Nasscom-ZINNOV. The report also finds that Bengaluru, the National Capital Region (NCR), and Mumbai continue to lead as the major start-up hubs in the country. In terms of vertical growth, investors are looking at domains like health-tech, fin-tech, and edu-tech. With a total funding of approximately \$4 billion, close to 650 start-ups were funded signifying a healthy growth of the ecosystem, the report said.

5. IBM to acquire Bengaluru-based IT firm Sanovi Technologies

Source: Live Mint (Link)

US software firm IBM Corp. on Thursday said it has signed an agreement to acquire Indian Information Technology (IT) firm Sanovi Technologies Corp. that deals in cloud computing-related software. "As a cloud-native company, Sanovi will strengthen our resiliency portfolio to manage broad range of applications, data, and IT systems of our clients, balancing digital and hybrid cloud transformation with increased regulatory compliance," said Martin Jetter, senior vice-president, Global Technology Services, IBM, in a statement. Upon closure of the deal, which is expected by the end of 2016, IBM plans to integrate the Sanovi capabilities into the IBM Global Technology Services unit. Financial details of the deal were not disclosed. Founded in 2003, Sanovi Technologies is headquartered in Bengaluru and operates in the US, the Middle East and Asia. The firm provides hybrid cloud recovery, cloud migration and business continuity software for enterprise data centres and cloud infrastructure. "Adding these capabilities along with advanced analytics will better enable IBM to bolster its software defined resiliency strategy and delivery of business continuity and disaster recovery services for clients undergoing digital and hybrid cloud transformation," the statement said.

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