

- 📌 **2G verdict:** SC cancels 122 licenses issued after Jan 2008, Within 2 months the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) will recommend fresh guidelines on the grant of new licences. The government will make its decision after one month after submission of the recommendations.
- 📌 **Outlook for the Indian Economy:** Inflation to be in between 6 and 7 per cent and Growth Rate to be above 7 per cent by March End 2012.
- 📌 In December 2011, the **growth rate of eight core industries** was 3.1% compared to their 6.3% Growth in December 2010. During April-December 2011-12, the cumulative growth rate of the Core industries was 4.4% as against their growth at 5.7% during the corresponding period in 2010-11.
- 📌 India is likely to produce 250.42 million tonnes of **foodgrains** during 2011-12 compared to 232.07 million tonnes last year. This is 18.35 million tonnes higher than 2010-11. Wheat production is expected to reach 88.31 million tonnes, pulses 17.28 million tonnes and **cotton** 34.09 million bales (of 170 kg. each) this year. Total production of rice in the country is estimated at 102.75 million tonnes which is an all time record. Production of wheat estimated at 88.31 million tonnes is also a new record. As a result of significant increase in production of rice and wheat, the estimated production of total foodgrains during 2011-12 stands at a record level of 250.42 million tonnes which is higher than the target of 245 million tonnes fixed for the year. The estimated production of foodgrains for the year is also higher by 5.64 million tonnes as compared to earlier record foodgrains production of 244.78 million tonnes achieved during last year. The production of **pulses and oilseeds** is estimated at 17.28 million tonnes and 30.53 million tonnes respectively. Production of cotton estimated at 34.09 million bales (of 170 kg. bales) is also a new record. The estimated production of **sugarcane** stands at 347.87 million tonnes which is higher by 5.09 million tonnes as compared to last year.
- 📌 Rs. 332.87 crore have been released to seven States for extending **green revolution to east India** in the current financial year (2011-12) as on 20.1.2012.
- 📌 The Cabinet has approved the proposal to provide **preference to domestically manufactured electronic products**, in procurement of those electronic products which have security implications for the country and in Government procurement for its own use, consistent with our World Trade Organization (WTO) commitments.
- 📌 **Vodafone Group and Piramal Healthcare** announced that the latter has agreed to purchase approximately 5.5% of the issued equity share capital of Vodafone India Limited (VIL) from Essar for a cash consideration of approximately Rs 3007 crore (£385 million), taking Piramal's total shareholding in Vodafone India to 11%.
- 📌 The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution has made the **amendment in Packaged Commodity Rules** which will make it mandatory for traders and manufacturers to sell consumer items in standardized packets and weights. The new rules will be effected from July 01, 2012.
- 📌 **Healthy seas and coasts** would pay healthy dividends in a green economy, according to a report released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): Green investments in the marine sector can bring tide of economic and social benefits. Sustainable fishing, shipping and tourism among sectors that could create jobs and growth.
- 📌 **Global output is projected to expand by 3¼ percent in 2012.** This is largely because the euro area economy is now expected to go into **a mild recession in 2012** as a result of the rise in sovereign yields, the effects of bank deleveraging on the real economy, and the impact of additional fiscal consolidation. The global recovery is threatened by intensifying strains in the euro area and fragilities elsewhere. Financial conditions have deteriorated, growth prospects have dimmed, and downside risks have escalated. Rapidly restoring confidence in both Europe and globally is crucial to protecting the battered international financial system and rebuilding the ailing recovery, threatened particularly by strains within the euro zone, panelists at a discussion on the global economic outlook said in Davos.
- 📌 The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for waiver of condition stipulated in Para 2.8 of the CCEA note for the project of "**Conservation and Management Plan for Dal-Nigeen Lake in Srinagar**", J&K under the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP).
- 📌 The coverage of farmers under **Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS)** has gone up from 35 thousand in Kharif 2007 to 61.6 lakh in Kharif 2011. Claims worth Rs. 972 crore have been settled so far. The overall coverage under the scheme is 1.95 crore farmers over an area of 2.78 crore hectares.
- 📌 **Crop insurance claims** worth Rs. 22135 crore have been settled as on 19.1.2012 benefitting 4.86 crore farmers in the country. With Rs. 4099 crore, Andhra Pradesh is on the top followed by Gujarat (Rs. Rs. 3917 crore), Rajasthan (Rs. 2621 crore), Maharashtra (Rs. 1873 crore), Bihar (Rs. 1794 crore) and Karnataka (Rs. 1635 crore).
- 📌 **India signs MOU with USA on Labour and Employment:** MoU for cooperation in the areas of Skill Development, Youth Employment, Occupational Safety and Health and Mines Safety will help us in increasing our know-how in the areas of accreditation systems, self-regulation and auditing through collaboration, exchange and sharing of ideas, etc with USA.
- 📌 India exempts Essential Commodities to **Bhutan** from export bans, Target of developing 10000MW Hydropower in Bhutan on schedule , India-Bhutan trade to double in less than Five Years: Anand Sharma



- ✦ The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (**TRAI**) has released a Pre-consultation Paper on "**Allocation of Spectrum in 2G band in 22 Service Areas by auction**" for comments of the stakeholders.
- ✦ **Prime Minister has approved the constitution of a National Council for Senior Citizens.** The Council would advise the Central and State Governments on issues related to welfare of senior citizens and enhancement of their quality of life with special reference to (a) policies, programmes and legislative measures; (b) promotion of physical and financial security, health and independent and productive living, and (c) awareness generation and community mobilization.
- ✦ **India seeks to Invest in Pharma Sector in Belarus:** AIMS to provide 50% of Domestic Production, Pushes for Long term Agreement for Potash Fertilizer from Belarus, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia heads Indian Delegation at Fifth India-Belarus IGC at Minsk.
- ✦ **India's Exports** during December, 2011 were valued at US\$ 25015.89 million (Rs.131775.95 crore) which was 6.71 per cent higher in Dollar terms (24.48 per cent higher in Rupee terms) than the level of US\$ 23442.07 million (Rs. 105856.90) during December, 2010. **India's Imports** during December, 2011 were valued at US\$ 37753.36 million (Rs.198873.00 crore) representing a growth of 19.81 per cent in Dollar terms (39.76 per cent in Rupee terms) over the level of imports valued at US\$ 31511.08 million ( Rs. 142293.94 crore) in December, 2010. **Oil imports** during December, 2011 were valued at US\$ 10279.3 million which was 11.20 per cent higher than oil imports valued at US\$ 9243.6 million in the corresponding period last year. **Non-oil imports** during December, 2011 were estimated at US\$ 27474.1 million which was 23.38 per cent higher than non-oil imports of US\$ 22267.5 million in December, 2010. The **trade deficit** for April-December, 2011-12 was estimated at US\$ 133272.03 million which was higher than the deficit of US\$ 96210.22 million during April-December, 2010-11.
- ✦ Anand Sharma invites **French Luxury Goods** companies to establish manufacturing bases in India, India to get US\$ 100 billion in Nuclear Power Sector.
- ✦ **Draft National Water Policy (2012)** released for comments till 29th February, 2012.
- ✦ The recommendation of the **Working Group on MSMEs Growth for 12th Five Year Plan** aims at giving a new thrust to the MSME sector. The working Group has identified the Game Changers: Finance, Technology, Infrastructure, Marketing, Skill Development and Institutional Structure implementation of which will give a boost to the MSME sector in the Global Market.

**As a matter of Fact ;)**



**"The conventional definition of management is getting work done through people, but real management is developing people through work."**  
*~ Agha Hasan Abedi*

