

# Adani, JSW, PSA looking to bag ₹7K cr Tuticorin project

SHINE JACOB  
Chennai, 24 March

A ₹7,056 crore outer harbour project by VO Chidambaranar (VOC) Port in Tuticorin is garnering interest from domestic and global majors in the sector, such as Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Singapore's PSA International, Dutch major Van Oord, JM Baxi, and JSW, among others, according to sources close to the development.

The project aims to capitalise on the newfound investor interest in the region, spurred by mega investments such as the ₹16,000 crore electric vehicle manufacturing unit by Vietnamese major VinFast, the Indian Space Research Organisation's second spaceport in Tamil Nadu's Kulasekarapattinam, and Singapore's Sembcorp's ₹36,238 crore investment in renewable energy.

The envisioned project aims to elevate VOC Port into the inaugural transshipment hub on India's East Coast. The VOC Port Authority has already issued the request for qualification. This initiative involves viability gap funding (VGF) from the Government of India and is structured as a public-private partnership on a design-build-finance-operate-transfer basis.

"In the pre-application conference, we have seen interest from PSA, Adani, Bolloré Logistics, JM Baxi, Van Oord, and ISPL. JSW and Premier Infrastructure are also in touch with the port," said a source aware of the development.

This project includes the construction of two container terminals, involving preparatory work such as dredging and building a breakwater at the port, with a capacity to handle 4 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU).

With the state securing the top rank among 30 others in the national planning



## STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE

- The port is around 80 nautical miles from the arterial East-West International Maritime Route
- Availability and ease of multi-modal connectivity, access to all major cities
- Strategically positioned, enjoys the advantages of being close to 16 container freight stations
- Abundant land for industrial development

agency's Export Preparedness Index, the Tuticorin port emerges as a vital element in propelling Tamil Nadu towards its goal of becoming a \$1 trillion economy by 2030.

Multiple big-ticket projects recently launched in Tuticorin and nearby districts include, other than VinFast, India's first International furniture park, Tata Power project, and Sembcorp project, among others. Anticipated to reach 25 million TEU by 2025, the demand for the Indian container market is substantial. The Government of India is actively promoting the development of existing terminals on the East coast to capture the transshipment traffic currently routed through Colombo and Singapore.

Presently, Jebel Ali (United Arab Emirates) handles 2 per cent, Port Klang (Malaysia) 3 per cent, Singapore 10 per cent, and Colombo (Sri Lanka) 60 per cent of Indian transshipment containers.

The winner will get a 45-year concession period with a revenue share holiday for the initial 10 years and a 15-year performance guarantee holiday.

According to a source, the advantage of this port is its strategic location, as it is closest to the peninsula, around 80 nautical miles from the arterial East-West International Maritime Route, along with its all-weather port nature.

Strategically positioned, the port also enjoys the advantages of being close to 16 container freight stations and over 2.5 million square feet of warehouse space within a 5 kilometre radius. The port has been designated as one of the three exclusive hubs for green hydrogen and offshore wind power in India. The government is offering a VGF of up to ₹1,950 crore for the project. Two berths, totalling 2,000 metres in quay length, will be developed in two distinct phases (1,000 metres each).

## 2ND ANNIVERSARY NEXT MONTH

# Tata Neu refreshes look, eyes food delivery foray

SHIVANI SHINDE  
Mumbai, 24 March

Ahead of its second anniversary, Tata Neu, the multi-purpose super app of the Tata group is refreshing its design, and may also venture into the online food delivery space by leveraging the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), sources said.

The salt-to-steel conglomerate's e-commerce project has embarked on a sleek, immersive design, transforming its user interface (UI) from black to the new all-white background.

The super app was launched on April 7, 2022, to coincide with an IPL game.

"The change in the UI was long overdue. From a tech rea-

soning, white is the preferred colour, when a platform is more transactional. In many cases, the space between widgets will be down by 15-20 per cent," said a source, who is also the developer.

"Initially, it will be for a closed user group and will be rolled out in just two cities.

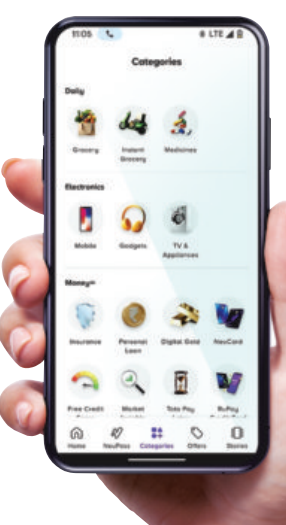
These cities may be Bengaluru and Delhi," an industry source said.

Tata Neu is launching its food delivery services in collaboration with ONDC and magicpin, they added.

During last year's ICC Cricket World Cup, food orders for magicpin jumped two-fold.

The slew of changes come on the back of the appointment of Navin Tahilyani as the company's chief executive

officer last month. "Within the company there is excitement. He has been busy meeting all the business heads of the business, but he has also kicked off an



employee survey to gauge the sentiment within the firm," said a source in the know.

An e-mail sent to the company remained unanswered till the time of going to the press.

Since Tahilyani took over the reins in February this year, he has held numerous review meetings, they said.

"In his first address to the employees, he said that the big focus will be collaboration and data. His view is that we have to be kings of data and that there has to be a single source of all data," said a source in the know. They also added that NeuPass rewards programmes have crossed the over 120 million base.

Tata Digital reported revenues worth ₹204.35 crore in FY23, a 13x jump from ₹15.9 crore it clocked in FY22.

# VW TO BET ON PREMIUM PERFORMANCE-DRIVEN CARS

Volkswagen is seeking to cash in on the increasing demand for its premium performance-oriented offerings in metro and tier II and III cities as it looks to grow sales by 15 per cent in India this year, according to a senior company official.

Volkswagen Passenger Cars India, sells premium performance-oriented variants of its models SUV Taigun and sedan Virtus with a 1.5-litre petrol engine under the 'GT' trim. It has now brought a 1-litre

petrol engine in the GT lineup to increase affordability. "Earlier, there was no sub-segment of a performance SUV or a performance sedan... So, when we introduced the GT on the Taigun and Virtus that basically created that space, which now everybody's coming into," Volkswagen Passenger Cars India Brand Director Ashish Gupta told PTI.

Bullish on the growth of the sub-segment, he said it has been fuelled by how

the customer preferences are evolving over a period of time with the top-of-the-line features, safety topping their demand list and are willing to pay for it. "They're not willing to compromise. So, definitely, this is a space which will continue to grow," Gupta asserted. Earlier, the GT was available only in a 1.5-litre petrol engine option, and around 35-40 per cent of sales were from the GT on both Taigun and Virtus, he added.

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# Hyundai's TN unit...



(Above) A staff member being trained using virtual reality-based immersive technology at the firm's premises; (right) Employees scan vehicle parts using AI technology



"We have a dedicated IoT team that leverages a substantial amount of data. These engineers analyse the data points to identify patterns, allowing us to proactively pinpoint potential issues and greatly reduce downtime in the future," he adds.

This digitally connected shop generates 12 billion data points per year. The company is leveraging this data with AI and ML technology to make data-driven decision-making. A separate team of more than 80 data scientists is working day and night to assess this data.

In various divisions of the plant, such as the assembly shop, body shop, press shop, or end-of-the-line, AI and computer vision technologies play a significant role.

Let's consider the assembly shop, where all engine, suspension, electrical, and underbody parts are fitted into the car. Complete testing of the cars is conducted in the assembly shop, with AI-powered vision aiding in achieving zero defects.

"Earlier, the operator had to remember all 450 variants and hence it was time-consuming and had chances of error too. Now he has to just scan. That itself is digital," he adds.

In the body shop too, where full-body shells are built from panels, automated robotic arms are used for intricate welding operations that ensure superior and consistent build quality. Here also, deep learning vision system is used to improve the process quality.

In the press shop, one could see AI-based panel crack detection to identify the panel crack early during the pressing process. This computer-controlled line converts sheet metal into body panels with high dimensional accuracy

and consistency. Engine shops, where engines are made, also use AI-based vision to identify the surface defects in the machining line ensuring 100 per cent field quality.

While moving through the plant, one could see a VR zone. Here, staff were being trained to do their respective works virtually using VR-based immersive technology, to ensure that before getting into the floor, they get a hang of the nature of their jobs.

"We have a high-speed vision system. All machine lines are monitored with the in-line digital monitoring system. In maintenance, we have robot

predictive maintenance to identify failures upfront. The supply chain also we have got an automatic mobile robot in logistics," adds Krishnan.

At the end of the line too, deep learning techniques are used to analyse the testing parameters to improve the machine throughput.

Well, the story is not over here.

The company has deployed an AI solution using deep learning image analytics in safety for human entry prevention in auto zones in body and assembly shops.

In the supply chain too, it has successfully implemented solutions to

optimise outbound truck routes and freight structures, achieving substantial cost savings.

The company is also looking to analyse inventory levels and reorder points using AI, ensuring optimal stocks are maintained to meet market demand.

On the way out of the factory, employees showed the latest tech entry to the plant, a collaborative robot (cobot) that is one of the most advanced technologies for product assessment at this smart manufacturing site. Well, the future AI plans also include demand forecasting using historic data, and more predictive maintenance, among others.

To take the technology further ahead, a tie-up with the World Economic Forum is also being planned.

"Tamil Nadu is a key state for implementing all these technologies. The government is supporting and has an innovation laboratory (lab). The World Economic Forum is also going to make an advanced manufacturing hub in Tamil Nadu for advanced manufacturing and sustainability practices. That lab will support Tamil Nadu and other states as well. We will be partnering that centre as well," he adds.

The next on their bucket list of technologies are generative AI, digital twin and robotic process automation. In terms of sustainability, the plant is already depending on renewable energy as a source of 63 per cent of its power requirement and has set a target of achieving 100 per cent by next year.

As one moves out of the unit, the Hyundai slogan comes to mind: 'New Thinking, New Possibilities'. Indeed, through new thinking, Hyundai is moving closer to becoming a lighthouse factory in the next few years.

# IT industry opposes union's call to end...

A former C-level executive from a Bengaluru-based IT firm said most companies in the sector follow global best practices in human resources and should, therefore, be exempt from archaic labour laws.

"We are a global industry with business across geographies and employees all over the world, so we should be exempted from the labour department's ambit," he said on condition of anonymity.

Some companies have urged the Karnataka labour ministry to have broad stakeholder discussions with labour union leaders and the IT sector to evaluate the potential consequences of withdrawing the exemption.

Vikas Sharma, founder and director of Hi-Com Networks, an internet services provider, suggested gradual implementation or transition periods to minimise any negative effects on businesses while also protecting workers' rights. If IT/ITeS companies were to be brought under the

labour law, the Sharma said, calling for government can consider workers' rights and fostering developing procedures for sustainable growth in the equitable and open hiring, IT sector.

# Bajaj Auto...



CRISIL has assigned a 'CRISIL AAA/Stable/CRISIL A1+' rating to BACL. "The ratings certificate factor in the expectation of strong support and the company's strategic importance to Bajaj Auto. The ratings are driven by adequate capitalisation of BACL and its experienced management team," it said, explaining the rationale behind the ratings. "These strengths are partially offset by the nascent stage of the company's operations and its ability to successfully operate as an independent captive financier," it said.

Bajaj Auto during the April-February FY24 period sold over 2 million 2W units in the domestic

market, 25 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) growth. Its 3W units saw 60 per cent Y-o-Y growth at 426,749 units during the same period. The total domestic sales for the period stood at 2.5 million units, up 30 per cent Y-o-Y.

After the third quarter earnings, Deven Choksey Research said strong growth and market share gain in the over 125 cc segment in both 2W and 3W domestic market were major contributors to Bajaj Auto's revenue and profitability. Analysts expect it to maintain healthy margin levels through continued traction in the domestic 3W and the over 125 cc 2W segment.

# 'EV push may lead to large-scale entry of Chinese firms'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, 24 March

The government's push to boost domestic manufacturing of electric vehicles (EVs) may lead to large-scale entry of Chinese auto firms in the local market, a report by think tank the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said on Sunday.

China's automotive industry, buoyed by substantial state support, has grown rapidly in electric vehicle technology, making it a leading exporter of EVs and related components, GTRI said.

The renewed policy push to make India a hub for e-vehicle manufacturing and efforts of the private sector will lead to a sharp increase in dependence on auto component imports from China, the report said.

India's auto component imports were \$20.3 billion in 2022-23 of which 30 per cent came from China. As the EVs are getting greater focus in the country, the auto component imports from China may increase further because it has a greater hold over the EV components' global supply chain. The report said that in the "next few years, every third electric vehicle and many passenger and commercial vehicles on India roads could be those made by Chinese firms in India alone or through joint venture with Indian firms".

GTRI founder Ajay Srivastava said that Indian market entry provides a much-needed relief to Chinese firms.



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e-bid Ref no: 514/RMLIMS/HRF/Med-474/2024 Dated: 22.03.2024  
**e-Bid Corrigendum Notice I**

Some Correction in the e-Bids Notice No. 474/RMLIMS/HRF/Med/2024 dt 01.03.2024 for rate contract of reputed & genuine Manufacturers/Importers only, for executing a rate contract of Supply of Medicines for a period of two years with renewal for 3rd year, hence following changes have been made:-

1. The clause (Section IV General Condition of Contracts Point 11) for the submission of "Dr. RMLIMS, Lko supply not for sale" be deleted and to be replaced with "Hospital Supply Only".
2. The Clause (Section IV General Condition of Contracts Point 10 (b) Sub Point (II)) for the submission of "MRP should not be written/embossed/should be defaced with indelible ink on any labels otherwise it will be disqualified for that supply." be deleted and to be replaced with "MRP should not be written/embossed and should not be defaced with indelible ink on any labels otherwise it will be disqualified for that supply."
3. The scheduled last date for submission of tender bid no. 474/RMLIMS/HRF/Med/2024 dt 01.03.2024 is dt 18.04.2023, which may be extended and will be opened on 20.04.2024 at 11:00 AM.
4. The clause (Section VII Specification as per Annexure A"-List of Drugs & Medicine some product has added on new item list attached.
5. The clause (Section 10) format of Price Bid (BOQ.xls file) as "Total Rate of Inclusive GST/Unit (10+11) instead of "Total Offer Rate (9+10)"
6. Other terms and conditions of tender will remain unchanged.

The details of submission of e-Bids are available on e-tender portal <http://etender.up.nic.in> and details are also available in our website [www.drmlims.ac.in](http://www.drmlims.ac.in) for reference only. The Director reserves the right to cancel any or all e-Bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Director



**ESAB INDIA LIMITED**  
CIN: L22995TN1987PLC058738  
Regd. Office: Plot No.13, 3rd Main Road, Industrial Estate, Ambattur, Chennai 600 058.  
Telephone No: 044-4228 1100 | Email id: investor.relations@esab.co.in

NOTICE is hereby given that the following share certificates issued by the company are stated to have been lost or misplaced or stolen and the registered holders of the shares have applied to the company for issue of duplicate share certificate.

NOTICE OF LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATES				
NAME OF THE SHAREHOLDER(S)	Folio No.	Certificate No.	Distinctive Nos.	Shares
SITA EMANI	S02138	24536 81344 - 81346	4447611-4447710 7154601-7154795	100 195
SAVITABEN C PATEL HITESHKUMAR C PATEL	S05006	27406	4734611-4734710	100

The public are hereby warned against purchase or dealing in any way with the above said share certificates. Any person(s) who has / have any claim(s) in respect of the said share certificates should lodge such claim(s) with the company at its registered office at the address given above within 15 days of the publication of the notice after which no claim will be entertained and the company will proceed to issue the duplicate share certificate(s).

Place : Chennai  
Date : 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024  
For ESAB India Limited  
G. Balaji  
Company Secretary



**SANGAM (INDIA) LIMITED**  
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**Corrigendum to Notice of Extra Ordinary General Meeting**  
This has reference to the notice dated 05th March, 2024 convening the Extra Ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of M/s. Sangam (India) Limited on Wednesday, 27th March, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. through Video Conferencing ("VC"). Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") (herein referred as "Notice"), for seeking your approval for matters contained in the said Notice. The notice of EGM has already been circulated to all the shareholders of the Company in due compliance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, read with the Rules made thereunder.

Subsequent to issuance and circulation of EGM notice a typographical error has been noted in the first Para of resolution. Revised para to the Notice of EGM shall be read as under:  
"In the first Para of resolution please read the financial year 2023-24 in place of financial year 2022-23".

This corrigendum and the original Notice of EGM shall be placed before the shareholders in the ensuing EGM to be held on Wednesday, 27th March, 2024 for their approval. This corrigendum is also being placed at the website of the Company [www.sangamgroup.com](http://www.sangamgroup.com), the website of the stock exchange(s), where the shares of the Company are listed.

By Order of the Board of Directors  
For Sangam (India) Limited  
Sd/-  
Anurag Soni  
Managing Director

Date : 23rd March, 2024  
Place : Atun, Chittorgarh Road,  
Bhiwara, (Raj.) 311001