



FE SUNDAY

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FINANCIAL EXPRESS ON SUNDAY READ TO LEAD



WORDSWORTH

ROUTE TO REFORM

Excerpts from *The Third Pillar* talk of how India needs a more independent pvt sector Page 5

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SMALL TOWNS TAKE HUGE LEAPS

- With UDAN, air travel becomes affordable for the common man
- More people now travel by air than in AC trains
- 100 airports are now operational in comparison to 75 in 2014

NAMUMKIN AB MUMKIN HAI

WHAT'S INSIDE

SPOTLIGHT, P7

Women at work

Ahead of International Women's Day, we bring you stories of women who have made a success of themselves despite all odds—fighting financial constraints, societal pressures and taking up offbeat jobs not normally associated with the gender

Central Bank puts NPAs on the block

● Stressed assets worth over ₹3,300 crore up for auction

FE BUREAU Mumbai, March 2

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA on Saturday put on the block stressed assets worth ₹3,322 crore, including its exposure to Essar Steel India with an outstanding balance of ₹423.61 crore, Bhushan Power & Steel (₹1,550.07 crore) and Alok Industries (₹1,251.10 crore), to be sold on a full-cash basis to any interested bank, asset reconstruction company, non-banking financial company or foreign investor. Notably, all three stressed accounts are under-

EXPOSURE TO ESSAR Steel India with an outstanding balance of **₹423.61 crore**, Bhushan Power & Steel (**₹1,550.07 cr**) and Alok Industries (**₹1,251.10 cr**) to be sold

resolved under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, Essar Steel has witnessed the most number of lenders wanting a quick exit. Only last month, State Bank of India finally shelved its plans to sell its ₹1,543-crore exposure to Essar Steel amid poor response despite several extensions. Last week, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal directed its Ahmedabad bench to take a decision on ArcelorMittal's resolution plan for the debt-laden Essar Steel by March 8.

In fact, among stressed accounts currently being

Chanda Kochhar appears before ED in Mumbai

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Mumbai, March 2

FORMER ICICI BANK CEO Chanda Kochhar and husband Deepak Kochhar appeared before the Enforcement Directorate in Mumbai on Saturday in connection with a money-laundering case related to a bank loan fraud, officials said. The two reached the central agency's regional office in Ballard Estate area around noon, a day after the ED raided their premises.

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TV not reporting agenda but setting it: FM

● Says this gives opportunity for print and radio to strike back

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, March 2

UNION FINANCE MINISTER Arun Jaitley Saturday said those in public life have to use alternative modes to communicate directly with people, as news channels are increasingly resorting to "agenda setting" instead of reporting. This, he said, presents a golden opportunity for print media and radio to strike back.

Speaking at a function in the national capital to release a book titled *Mann Ki Baat - A Social*

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Chat with IAF hero

Defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman meets Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman at a medical facility in Delhi on Saturday. Officials said she conveyed to him the nation's pride in his courage and determination, while he narrated details of his captivity in Pakistan to her

RBI penalises IDBI Bank, Dena Bank

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, March 2

THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹2 crore on Dena Bank and ₹1 crore on IDBI Bank for non-compliance with various directions, regulatory filings said Saturday.

In a filing to the BSE, Dena Bank said the Reserve Bank has imposed a penalty of ₹2 crore on it for non-compliance with the directions issued on February 20, 2018.

In a separate filing, IDBI Bank said the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹1 crore on the bank for contravention of its regulatory directions on time-bound implementation and strengthening of SWIFT-related operational controls.

"The bank has put in place necessary corrective actions to strengthen its internal control mechanisms so as to ensure that such incidents do not recur," IDBI Bank said in the filing.

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Quick Picks

Extradition order for bookie

THE UNITED Kingdom's home secretary Sajid Javid has ordered the extradition of alleged bookie Sanjeev Chawla to India to face charges of cricket match-fixing dating back to 2000, reports PTI. PAGE 16

ODD & EVEN

ROHNI PHORE

LET'S TALK...

Choppers under Udan likely to use airports

● With no heliports in sight even after a year of announcing services, airports seem best bet

FLIGHT PLAN

- 76 helicopter routes, mainly in hilly regions, were awarded in January 2018
- A senior government official said state-owned Pawan Hans could be allowed to fly helicopters between existing airports in Himachal Pradesh
- A total of 24 heliports are to be developed in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Manipur

has three airports and it is easier to mark a heliport at existing facilities," the official said.

Airports at Shimla, Bhuntar and Kangra in the state could be connected with scheduled chopper services with proposed heliports at Kasauli, Manali and Mandi yet to come up.

A total of 24 heliports are to be developed in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Manipur.

"The state governments have been slow in constructing heliports. Some have not even identified sites. They are likely to take more time as they have to be licensed by the regulator," the official added.

operations under the regional connectivity scheme (RCS). No heliport has come up so far under the Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (Udan) scheme since 76 helicopter routes, mainly in hilly regions, were awarded in January 2018.

A senior government official said state-owned Pawan Hans could be allowed to fly helicopters between existing airports in Himachal Pradesh. "It is one of the proposals to kick-start helicopter operations under Udan. Himachal

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