

Business News Update ^{13 June 2025}

"You Have To Dream Before Your Dreams Can Come True."

Vedanta eyes investment grade rating, plans to cut debt to \$3 bn by FY27

London-based Vedanta Resources Ltd (VRL) is targeting an investment grade credit rating on the back of its sustained deleveraging, the proposed demerger at its Indian subsidiary, Vedanta Ltd, and its robust growth, operational efficiencies and strong financial performance. VRL is committed to reducing its total debt from the current \$5 billion to \$3 billion by FY27 while strengthening its critical minerals, transition metals, energy and technology portfolio. A person aware of the matter said that VRL, at a recently held investor conferences in Hong Kong and Singapore, shared that the company is looking for an immediate credit rating upgrade to BB levels by proactively refinancing and prepaying its high-interest cost \$550 million private credit facility due in August 2026.

Source: Business Standard, June 12, 2025

Bank of Baroda tops bidding for Jet Airways' BKC office in insolvency auction

In a move under the ongoing Jet Airways insolvency proceedings, Bank of Baroda has emerged as the highest bidder for the defunct airline's 83,000 sq ft office space in Mumbai's Godrej BKC commercial tower, located in the Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC) business district, according to a report by The Economic Times. The property, comprising an entire floor in the 19-storey commercial tower, was put up for sale last month by a government-appointed liquidator. The reserve price was fixed at ₹335.24 crore. Brookfield has right of first refusal on BKC office Following the bidding process, the liquidator is now expected to notify Brookfield Asset Management, which holds the right of first refusal (ROFR) on the property. Brookfield has 15 days to decide whether it will match Bank of Baroda's offer to acquire the asset. The report said that Brookfield is likely to exercise its ROFR. The global investment firm already owns two floors in the same tower, purchased in 2020 for ₹490 crore as part

Source: Business Standard, June 12, 2025

SEPC wins ₹650 crore EPC contract for 133 MW solar project in Maharashtra

Engineering solutions provider SEPC on Thursday said it has bagged a Rs 650-crore order to set up solar capacities totalling 133 MW in Maharashtra. The company has received a letter of award from Parmeshi Urja Ltd, Kolkata, for EPC solar power projects at 26 locations in four districts of Maharashtra, it said in a statement. The scope of work involves the design, engineering, supply, installation, testing, and commissioning of plant and equipment, including civil and structural works for a 133 MW Solar Power Project, to be implemented across four districts in Maharashtra -- Sambhaji Nagar, Dhule, Solapur, and Nanded, as per the statement. The project is part of the PM-KUSUM Yojana, a central government scheme aimed at promoting solar energy for agricultural and rural use. The execution timeline is expected to be 12 to 18 months from the commencement date. The total value of the order is Rs 650 crore, the company said. The company is focused on providing turnkey solutions in power, water

Source: Business Standard, June 12, 2025

What makes a strategy truly people-first? Sowjanya Reddy has a few ideas

In an age where algorithms dictate decision-making and every facet of work is being quantified, organisations face a paradox: how to maintain a human-centred culture while staying relentlessly data-informed. At first glance, data and empathy seem at odds—one cold and clinical, the other warm and nuanced. But Sowjanya Reddy, Senior Vice President and Global Enterprise HR Business Partner at Nielsen, offers a radically different perspective. At the intersection of analytics and empathy, she believes, lies the future of truly people-first organisations. At Nielsen—a global leader in audience measurement and data analytics—Reddy and her team have been reengineering what "people-first" actually means. Gone are the days when the term merely implied employee-centric policies or surface-level engagement activities. Today, it's about deeply embedding human experience into the heart of strategic business decisions, using data not to distance but to deepen understanding. For many

Source: <u>People Matters, June 12, 2025</u>

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Business News Apdate

America's uncertainty is Europe's power play, CEOs tell CNBC

Europe's top bosses are urging the continent to capitalize on recent volatility amid hopes U.S. exceptionalism is waning — and Europe can cash in. From Unicredit to Goldman Sachs, top European leaders told CNBC in exclusive interviews that Europe has a huge opportunity ahead. The numbers tell part of the story, with Europe's Stoxx 600 up over 8% compared to a 5% jump for the S&P 500 since Nov. 1, 2024, just days ahead of the U.S. election. Bank of America said in a report dated June 5 that U.S. equities had seen outflows of \$7.5 billion over the previous three weeks, while European stocks benefited from inflows of \$2.6 billion over the same period. Earlier this year, meanwhile, data from Morningstar showed that investors withdrew 2.8 billion euros (\$3.2 billion) from U.S. equity ETFs in the month to the middle of March, while shifting 14.6 billion euros into European ETFs. Goldman Sachs International Co-CEO Anthony Gutman told CNBC that the convergence in U.S. and European growth rates came about quickly this year and was a big factor prompting investors to shift money toward Europe

Source: CNBC, June 12, 2025

Trade tensions aren't stopping Chinese companies from pushing into the U.S.

Chinese companies are so intent on global expansion that even the biggest stock offering to date on Shanghai's tech-heavy STAR board counts the U.S. as one of its biggest markets, on par with China. Shenzhen-based camera company Insta360, a rival to GoPro, raised 1.938 billion yuan (\$270 million) in a Shanghai listing Wednesday under the name Arashi Vision. Shares soared by 274%, giving the company a market value of 71 billion yuan (\$9.88 billion). The United States, Europe and mainland China each accounted for just over 23% of revenue last year, according to Insta360, whose 360-degree cameras officially started Apple Store sales in 2018. The company sells a variety of cameras — priced at several hundred dollars — coupled with video-editing software. Co-founder Max Richter said in an interview Tuesday that he expects U.S. demand to remain strong and dismissed concerns about geopolitical risks. "We are staying ahead just by investing into user-centric research and development, and

Source: CNBC, June 12, 2025

BP takeover speculation heats up as UAE oil giant ADNOC enters the fray for gas assets

UAE oil giant ADNOC has joined the fray of firms said to be circling some of BP's highly prized assets, as takeover speculation for the embattled energy major kicks into overdrive. Abu Dhabi National Oil Company is thought to be weighing up a move for some of the London-listed firm's assets, should the oil major break up or seek to divest more units, Bloomberg reported Wednesday, citing unnamed sources familiar with the matter. ADNOC is reportedly most interested in BP's liquefied natural gas (LNG) assets, although it is also said to have considered a full takeover of the company. It is understood by Bloomberg that any prospective deal would likely take place via ADNOC's international unit, XRG. Spokespeople at BP, ADNOC and XRG declined to comment on the speculation when contacted by CNBC. A protracted period of underperformance relative to its industry peers has thrust BP into the spotlight as a prime takeover candidate. British rival Shell, as well as U.S. oil giants

Source: CNBC, June 12, 2025

Oracle shares soar as AI cloud demand propels revenue forecast

shares surged nearly 8% in premarket trading on Thursday after the company raised its annual revenue forecast, driven by strong demand for its AI-related cloud services. The stock has risen nearly 6% so far this year as confidence in the software sector remained strong despite geopolitical tensions, even as analysts warn that U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs could undermine Big Tech's AI investments. Earlier this year, Oracle, whose cloud offerings help companies build their AI infrastructure, announced a joint venture called Stargate to deliver large-scale computing capabilities to OpenAI. "Oracle's once-stodgy image levels up to 'cloud-native mage,' and the competitive map now looks less like a classic three-player real time strategy and more like a battle-royale with everyone dropping in, looking for compute loot", said Michael Ashley Schulman, partner at Running Point Capital Advisors. Oracle expects total revenue to be at least \$67 billion for fiscal 2026, CEO Safra Catz said on a post-earnings call.

Source: <u>Reuters, June 12, 2025</u>

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