



Business News Update

20 February 2025

“Dream Big, Work Hard, And Stay Focused.”

Experience at best: Gurugram woman’s interview reveals Zomato's culture

In a viral post on social media, a Gurugram woman shared an unexpected yet memorable experience during an interview at Zomato—now rebranded as Eternal. The woman, identified as Kashish Goyal, had applied for a role at the company but soon realized she might not be the right fit. However, since she was already there, she decided to go through with the process. During the first round, Kashish was given a 15-minute test. It quickly became clear to her that the role required stronger technical skills than she currently possessed. She could have chosen to push through, pretend, or walk out—but instead, she took a different approach. She openly admitted to the interviewers that she wasn’t the best fit for the position. Expecting an awkward or dismissive response, she was instead met with something entirely unexpected. “They sat with me for 20-30 minutes, had a real conversation, and genuinely tried to understand if they could help in any way. No judgment—just a group of awesome people

Source: [People Matters, February 18, 2025](#)

Workers' strike continues at Samsung India's Chennai unit; talks fail

The talks between Samsung India and striking workers at its Sriperumbudur unit in Tamil Nadu failed on Wednesday. The strike began on February 5, after the management took disciplinary action against three employees. E Muthukumar, Samsung India Workers’ Union (SIWU) president and CITU Kancheepuram district secretary, said that CITU will intensify the strike starting Thursday. The union vowed to physically lock the factory gates on February 21, determined to block the entry of “illegal contract” workers. Workers from industrial parks like RNS SIPCOT, Vallam Vadagal, Irungattukottai, and Mambakkam are set to stage protests in support of Samsung’s labour force. "Samsung remains committed to resolving any issues by directly engaging with our workers. We do not condone illegal activities carried out by certain workers that threaten industrial peace and workplace safety. It is important for all employees to adhere to company policies, and those who violate these

Source: [Business Standards, February 19, 2025](#)

BP weighs potential sale of Castrol Lubricants unit amid Elliott push

BP Plc, in which activist investor Elliott Investment Management has built up a nearly 5 per cent stake, is considering a potential sale of its lubricants business, according to people familiar with the matter. The oil major’s unit, which operates under the Castrol brand, could be worth about \$10 billion in a deal, the people said, asking not to be identified as the matter is private. A sale of the business is one of the many options BP is considering to win back investor confidence after years of under performance, the people said. The unit is also among the assets that Elliott has identified for potential disposals, the people said. BP might announce the potential divestment during its capital markets day on Feb 26, they said. Deliberations on the potential disposal are ongoing and no final decisions have been made, the people said. Representatives for BP and Elliott declined to comment. The Castrol brand serves customers in more than 150 countries in the automotive, marine, industrial, aerospace and

Source: [Business Standard, February 19, 2025](#)

Kinetic Engineering Ltd appoints Vinayak Shevade as Chief Financial Officer

Shevade, a Chartered Accountant and Commerce graduate from Mumbai University, has previously held key leadership roles at Kinetic Honda Motor Limited, Mahindra Two Wheelers Limited, and Kinetic Engineering Ltd. With over three decades of expertise in financial planning, risk management, and regulatory compliance, he is well-positioned to support KEL’s financial transformation and long-term objectives. Vinayak Shevade on his new role: “I look forward to contributing to its financial strength and supporting its ambitious growth plans. My goal over the next two years is to strengthen the company’s financial position by driving higher turnover, improving EBITDA and net profit, and optimizing financial leverage. I look forward to contributing to KEL’s growth journey and long-term success.” “Vinayak’s deep financial expertise and leadership will be instrumental in driving KEL’s

Source: [People Matters, February 17, 2025](#)

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Hain Celestial opens fourth distribution center, doubling network capacity

The opening of the facility completes a multi-year distribution transformation project Hain Celestial began in September 2023. In addition to the Georgia location, the company now has distribution centers in Perris, California; Allentown, Pennsylvania; and Chicago, with the latter opening this past December. Hain, which makes Terra chips and Garden Veggie Snacks, among other brands, operates all four facilities in conjunction with a third-party logistics company, per the release. “So as volumes peak, as we have peak promotional period, we were, in some cases, three or four days from resupply to some of our or key markets,” President and CEO Wendy Davidson said on a Feb. 10 earnings call. “So now having distribution nodes in all the various parts of the country allows us to be a better partner to our customers.” The new facility will reduce costs in fuel and maintenance, leading to multimillion dollar savings for the company, per the release. However, Davidson said on the call that the exact

Source: [SupplychainDive, February 11, 2025](#)

Meta To Lay 50,000 Kilometres Undersea Cable To Link Five Continents

Facebook and Instagram parent company Meta has said it will lay an undersea cable stretching across five continents to carry data, including for developing artificial intelligence. The cable will run for more than 50,000 kilometres (31,000 miles) between the US, South Africa, India, Brazil and “other regions”, Meta wrote in a blog on Friday. Global digital communication relies on a vast network of undersea conduits, with roughly 1.2 million kilometres of cable already installed, according to a 2024 report by the US-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Digital giants like Meta have recently muscled into the world of subsea cables, long dominated by specialist companies like America’s SubCom, France’s ASN, Japan’s NEC and China’s HMN. Intercontinental data flows underpin swathes of global economic activity, but suffer regular accidental damage from incidents like underwater landslides, tsunamis or dragging ship anchors. They can also be targets for deliberate

Source: [News18, February 18, 2025](#)

‘India supplies 47% generic medicines to US...’: IPA responds to Trump’s 25% tariff threat

United States President Donald Trump has said that he will impose tariffs on automobile, semiconductor and pharmaceutical imports of around 25 percent and the announcement is set to come as soon as April 2. The new duties, if implemented, would widen the president’s trade war. Earlier, the US President has announced 25 per cent tariffs on steel and aluminum that are set to take effect in March. On Tuesday, he shared specifics details on which other sectors would be hit with fresh barriers. Asked about similar levies on pharmaceutical drugs and semiconductor chips, the president said: “It’ll be 25 per cent and higher, and it’ll go very substantially higher over a course of a year.” Trump said he wanted to give companies “time to come in” before announcing new import taxes. “When they come into the United States and they have their plant or factory here there is no tariff, so we

Source: [Financial Express, February 19, 2025](#)

China deal-making ramps up after years of decline as domestic companies prepare for Trump tariffs

China is starting to see a rebound in its mergers and acquisition scene after years of decline as the government’s stimulus measures start to bear fruit, while pressure from Donald Trump’s tariffs is also driving industry consolidation. In 2024, China’s M&A activity was on course to log its fifth straight year of decline, until the final quarter of the year, which saw a sudden acceleration in activity. The value of deals conducted during that period jumped 78.5% to \$129 billion from \$72 billion in the previous quarter, data from Dealogic showed. And deal-making is about to pick up more, according to industry watchers whom CNBC spoke to. The uptick in deal flow in the fourth quarter of 2024 was in part fueled by stimulus efforts introduced by policymakers in late September, said Vivian Wong, head of M&A Analytics at ION Analytics, which is under the same group as Dealogic. Those

Source: [CNBC, February 19, 2025](#)