

Business News Update

20 June 2025

“Always Do Your Best. What You Plant Now, You Will Harvest Later.”

Founders can now hold employee stock options post listing, says SEBI

In a bid to increase ease of doing business for market participants, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved proposals to allow founders to hold employee stock options even after listing, relax regulations for alternative investment funds (AIF), and allow public sector undertakings (PSUs) with minimal public shareholding to delist, among other actions. In its board meeting that concluded on Wednesday, the markets regulator said that founders or promoters can now continue to benefit from employee stock options even after listing, if they started receiving them at least one year prior to filing for IPOs. Moreover, compulsory convertible securities (CCS) will be exempted from a minimum shareholding period of one year, akin to equity shares. This will assist companies contemplating reverse flipping. Reverse flipping is when Indian start-ups, originally

Source: [The Hindu, June 18, 2025](#)

Goyal optimistic about signing first tranche of U.S. trade deal before July 9

As the clock ticks towards U.S. President Donald Trump’s ‘reciprocal tariffs’ to kick in on July 9, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has expressed optimism that India and the U.S. could sign a preliminary or early tranche of a larger trade deal before that date, though he stopped short of confirming a deal would be signed. “We are in continuous dialogue. I have always been an optimist,” Mr. Goyal said in an interview with The Hindu on the fringes of a conference organised by the India Global Forum 2025 in London. “I’m very confident that, given that the U.S. and India are very friendly countries, trusted partners, both wanting to have resilient, reliable, trusted supply chains, both vibrant democracies, we will be able to come up with a win-win for the businesses of both countries,” Mr. Goyal added. Failure to sign such a deal would, as things stand, would result in Indian goods

Source: [The Hindu, June 19, 2025](#)

Uno Minda to invest Rs 210 crore in new EV parts facility at Sambhaji Nagar

Uno Minda has announced plans to set up a new manufacturing facility for its Casting Division at Sambhaji Nagar, Aurangabad. The company will invest approximately Rs 210 crore in setting up this facility. The capital expenditure will be made in a phased manner over the next five years. According to the Detailed Project Report (DPR) approved by the board, the plant will cater specifically to the increasing orders from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) for casting parts used in electric vehicles. At present, the company does not have any manufacturing capacity for casting parts. However, the new facility aims to add a production capacity of 3,629 metric tonnes per annum. The expansion will be rolled out in phases, with the first phase expected to begin operations in the second quarter of the financial year 2026-27. The decision was taken during a meeting of the

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

Amazon commits Rs 2,000 crore to strengthen operations, technology and workforce well-being in India

Amazon India has announced that the company is planning to invest Rs 2,000 crore (over \$233 million) in 2025 aimed at enhancing its operations infrastructure, improve associate safety and well-being programmes, and develop new tools and technology for its fulfilment network. Amazon said that the funds will be used to launch new sites and upgrade existing facilities across its fulfilment, sortation, and delivery network. In a statement, the company said, “This new investment builds on top of Amazon’s investments in creating an operations network that helps the company deliver to all serviceable pin-codes across India.” Abhinav Singh, VP-Operations, Amazon India and Australia., said, “For over a decade now in India, we have been focused on building the best-in-class logistics infrastructure—designed to deliver with safety, speed, scale, and reliability for our customers across the country. These latest investments reflect our commitment to continually expand and upgrade our operations across

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

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Los Angeles Lakers owners sell majority stake in the team at \$10 billion valuation

The Buss family has agreed to sell a majority stake of the Los Angeles Lakers to businessman Mark Walter in a deal that values the team at \$10 billion, according to people with knowledge of the terms. The sale would mark a new record for NBA valuations. The Crypto.com Arena, where the Lakers play, is owned by AEG and is not included in the deal. CNBC's most recent Official NBA Team Valuations ranked the Lakers as third in the league in terms of value, at \$7 billion. "Mark Walter is entering into an agreement to acquire additional interests in the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers, which he has been a stakeholder since 2021," a representative for Walter said in a statement to CNBC. The Lakers did not immediately respond to a request for comment. As part of the deal, Jeanie Buss will retain a minority stake in the team she has owned since her family purchased the franchise in 1979 for \$67.5 million. She will also retain her governor seat. Walter is CEO and co-founder of Guggenheim Partners and

Source: [CNBC, June 18, 2025](#)

AI avatars in China just proved they are better influencers. It only took a duo 7 hours to rake in more than \$7 million

Avatars generated by artificial intelligence are now able to sell more than real people can, according to a collaboration between Chinese tech company Baidu and a popular livestreamer. Luo Yonghao, one of China's earliest and most popular livestreamers, and his co-host Xiao Mu both used digital versions of themselves to interact with viewers in real time for well over six hours on Sunday on Baidu's e-commerce livestreaming platform "Youxuan", the Chinese tech company said. The session raked in 55 million yuan (\$7.65 million). In comparison, Luo's first livestream attempt on Youxuan last month, which lasted just over four hours, saw fewer orders for consumer electronics, food and other key products, Baidu said. Luo said that it was his first time using virtual human technology to sell products through livestreaming. "The digital human effect has scared me ... I'm a bit dazed," he told his 1.7 million followers on social media platform Weibo, according to a CNBC translation.

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

China floods Brazil with cheap EVs triggering backlash

The world's largest car-carrying ship - with the equivalent of 20 football fields of vehicles - completed its maiden journey late last month to dock in Brazil's Itajai port. But not everyone is cheering its arrival. China's top producer of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles, is offering Brazilian car shoppers relatively low-priced options in a market where the green-car movement is still in its infancy. Brazilian auto-industry officials and labor leaders worry that the vast influx of cars from BYD and other Chinese automakers will set back domestic auto production and hurt jobs. BYD has deployed a growing fleet of cargo ships to accelerate its expansion overseas, with Brazil becoming its top target, according to Reuters analysis of shipping data and company statements. The late-May shipment was the fourth of the Chinese carmaker's ships to dock in Brazil this year, totaling around 22,000 vehicles, according to Reuters calculations. BYD, the world's top producer of electric and plug-in hybrid cars, is the largest among

Source: [Reuters, June 19, 2025](#)

Global IPO activity slumps in 2025 as tariffs, volatility weigh

Global equity IPOs have plunged this year, weighed down by heightened business uncertainty from U.S. tariffs, elevated market volatility and higher interest rates that have raised funding costs and made listings less appealing for issuers. According to LSEG data, as of June 17, global IPO volume has declined about 9.3% year-on-year to \$44.3 billion, the lowest level in nine years. U.S. IPO volumes dropped 12% to \$12.3 billion, while Europe saw a sharper 64% decline to \$5.8 billion. In contrast, Asia-Pacific IPO volumes have risen 28% to \$16.8 billion so far this year. President Donald Trump's tariffs, which included a 10% blanket levy plus targeted duties on U.S. trading partners, re-ignited tensions in April. Despite his subsequent pause and negotiations on trade and tariffs, businesses globally are uncertain about demand and investment. "It's not prudent for companies to go public right now. The volatility in the market is unprecedented," said Isabelle Freidheim, founder and managing partner at

Source: [Reuters, June 19, 2025](#)