

# BUSINESS NEWS UPDATE

**“Be The Change That You Wish to See in The World.”**

## **Shares of Cochin Shipyard gain 6% as stock trades ex-split**

Shipbuilding company, Cochin Shipyard, will be trading ex-split with effect from today, January 10. The company had announced a sub-division of its equity share from a face value of Rs 10 each to a face value of Rs 5 each. On December 14, 2023, in a regulatory filing, the company informed the exchanges that January 10 had been decided as the date of record for determining the eligibility of shareholders for the sub-division/split of existing equity shares. Over the past year, shares of Cochin Shipyard have soared over 175 percent and were trading nearly 4 percent higher at close on January 9. In late December 2023, stocks of Cochin Shipyard had gained on signing a contract with the Ministry of Defence on December 19, for a value of Rs 488.25 crores. According to the filing, the work package includes repair and maintenance of the equipment and systems onboard the naval vessel. The order is expected to be completed by Q1FY2025.

Source: [Money Control, Jan 10, 2024](#)

## **Exporters fear business loss from protracted Red Sea crisis**

Indian exporters are yet to see any large-scale rejection of export consignments or demand to re-negotiate contracts as a result of the Red Sea blockade, but are increasingly worried that any inordinate delay in the resolution of the crisis might seriously jeopardise their business. Exporters of textiles and apparel have already started witnessing an increase in transit time in some cases, and rise in freight, but still has the buyers' confidence intact. In most cases, it is the buyer who pays for transport, sources from the exporting community say. Sensing delays, some of the buyers are opting to take cargo by air specially of seasonal fashion items because any delay will mean missed sales, managing director of Joyti Apparels and past chairman of Apparel Export Promotion Council said.

Source: [Financial express, Jan 10, 2024](#)

## **Moody's downgrades rating on senior unsecured bonds issues by Vedanta Resources**

Ratings agency Moody's Investors Service on Tuesday said it has downgraded its rating on the senior unsecured bonds issued by Vedanta Resources to Ca from Caa3. The rating for the Corporate Family Rating (CFR) of Vedanta Resources was also downgraded to Caa3 from Caa2, Moody's said. "We view the debt restructuring as default avoidance and assess that the creditors have incurred an economic loss with respect to the original promise. We consider the transaction to be a distressed exchange under our criteria, which underpins our downgrade of VRL's ratings," Moody's Senior Vice President Kaustubh Chaubal said. Last week, Vedanta Resources, the UK-headquartered parent company of Vedanta group, received bondholders' approval to restructure four series of bonds. "Proforma the debt restructuring, holdco VRL's near-term liquidity will improve only slightly and its refinancing wall will start building up as it approaches its next bond maturity in April 2026.

Source: [Hindu Business Line, Jan 10, 2024](#)

## **BlackRock to cut 3% of workforce, aims for larger employee strength by end of 2024**

Financial giant BlackRock has announced plans to lay off about 3 per cent of its current workforce, citing a need to streamline operations and adapt to changing market conditions, as reported by Reuters. Despite the layoffs, BlackRock remains optimistic about its future growth prospects. The company expects to have a larger workforce by the end of 2024, driven by hiring in key areas such as technology and alternative investments. The workforce cut is expected to affect around 600 employees out of BlackRock's 19,800 manpower as recorded till December 2022, according to a report by Reuters. The layoffs are not focused on a specific team, but can affect anyone from different departments, reported Reuters. The stocks of asset managers are up by 5 per cent in 12 months, which is very less when compared with 22 per cent gain in the benchmark S&P 500.

Source: [Livemint, Jan 10, 2024](#)