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India's NSE and Singapore Exchange win approval for joint derivatives project

India's National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the Singapore Exchange (SGX) have been given the go-ahead for a planned collaboration in trading stock index-based products from an international financial center being developed in western India. The two said on Tuesday they had won regulatory approval for their plan, which has been under discussion for months and which envisages bringing trading of the SGX's Nifty futures contract, based on the NSE's Nifty 50 index, to the new center. They hope this will create a larger pool of liquidity for the product, as well as boosting activity at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT), an initiative led by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his home state. The collaboration remains subject to further approvals from relevant local authorities, the exchanges said, adding they were also working to resolve related arbitration proceedings. The two exchanges have been locked in a dispute after India's three main bourses unexpectedly announced in February last year that they would stop licensing their indexes to foreign bourses from August. ***(Tressa Swami, S.Y.B. Com / B/ 28)***

Meeting the Challenge of Disruptive Change

"Meeting the Challenge of Disruptive Change," by legendary economics scholar Clayton Christensen and business consultant Michael Overdorf, is one of the best business articles for entrepreneurs who need help getting a handle on change in their business. Growing pains are an inevitable part of any successful small business. This article helps business owners identify when their companies desperately need a change or how to handle change when it's thrown their way. The Harvard Business Review has a handful of small business articles that have withstood the test of time, but “Meeting the Challenge of Disruptive Change” is one of the best business articles to keep coming back to as you manage more and more employees.

(Qais Naushad Dabilkar/S.Y.B. Com/A/18)

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Goods and Services Tax (GST) is an indirect tax or consumption tax imposed in India on the supply of goods and services. It is a comprehensive multistage, destination based tax. Comprehensive because it has subsumed almost all the indirect taxes except few. Multi-staged as it is imposed at every step in the production process, but is meant to be refunded to all parties in the various stages of production other than the final consumer. And destination based tax, as it is collected from point of consumption and not point of origin like previous taxes. Goods and services are divided into five different tax slabs for collection of tax -0%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%. However, petroleum products, alcoholic drinks, and electricity are not taxed under GST and instead are taxed separately by the individual state governments, as per the previous tax regime. There is special rate of 0.25% on rough precious and semi-precious stones and 3% on gold. In addition, a cess of 22% or other rates on top of 28% GST applies on few items like aerated drinks, luxury cars and tobacco products. Pre-GST, the statutory tax rate for most goods was about 26.5%, post GST, most goods are expected to be in the 18% tax range. The tax came into effect from July 1, 2017 through the implementation of one hundred and first Amendment of the Constitution of India by the Indian government. The tax replaced existing multiple flowing taxes levied by the central and state governments. The tax rates, rules and regulations are governed by the GST council which consists of the finance ministers of center and all the states. GST is meant to replace a slew of indirect taxes with a federated tax and is therefore expected to reshape the country's 2.4 trillion dollar economy, but not without criticism. Trucks, travel time in interstate movement dropped by 20%, because of no interstate check posts. ***(Mansi Vaingwadekar/ S.Y.B. Com/B/62)***

Adani Group sets up new company to manage airport businesses

The diversified Adani Group is adding another revenue stream by entering the airport space and has set up a new company called Adani Airports Ltd. The group's flagship company Adani Enterprises has incorporated the new company for acquiring, promoting, operating, maintaining, developing, designing, constructing, upgrading, modernising, renovating, expanding and managing airports in India and abroad. "Adani

Airports Ltd is incorporated in India and registered with the Registrar of Companies at Ahmedabad in Gujarat on August 2 and is yet commence its business operations," Adani Enterprises said in regulatory filings at stock exchanges on Saturday.

In February, the Adani Group won the mandate to run all six government-owned airports that were put up for privatisation. It bagged a 50-year contract for the operation, management, and development of airports in Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Jaipur, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram, and Mangaluru to become the third-largest private airport operator after GMR Group and GVK Group.

(Bhavesh Tiwari/S.Y.B.Com / A/128)