

NSE to route 10% of annual CSR corpus through Social Stock Exchange to support social impact projects

Mumbai (Maharashtra) [India], June 9 (ANI): The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has decided to earmark 10 per cent of its annual Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) corpus for deployment through projects listed on the NSE Social Stock Exchange (NSE-SSE), marking a significant step towards strengthening India's social impact financing ecosystem.

The exchange said the move reflects its commitment to promoting transparent, accountable and outcome-oriented philanthropy through regulated social sector funding mechanisms.

It said, "National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) announced its decision to earmark 10 per cent of its annual Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) corpus for deployment through projects listed on the NSE Social Stock Exchange (NSE-SSE)".

According to NSE, its CSR Committee had agreed in principle in March 2026 to deploy 10 per cent of the exchange's annual CSR corpus through the NSE Social Stock Exchange platform, subject to the necessary regulatory approvals.

The decision has now been operationalised following the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' Gazette Notifications issued on May 27, 2026, which permit companies to undertake CSR expenditure through



subscription to Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) Instruments listed on Social Stock Exchanges.

NSE said the latest regulatory changes have created an enabling framework for companies to channel a portion of their CSR spending through the Social Stock Exchange, allowing greater transparency and accountability in social impact funding.

The exchange believes that the Social Stock Exchange can serve as an effective market-based platform for directing capital towards credible social sector organisations through a regulated and transparent structure.

The exchange said the initiative is intended to support innovative social fi-

nancing mechanisms and contribute to India's broader developmental goals at scale.

Commenting on the development, NSE Chairperson Injeti Srinivas welcomed the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' decision to allow CSR spending through the Social Stock Exchange framework.

He said the move would improve transparency, visibility and the overall impact of CSR contributions.

"In support of this move, the NSE has decided to earmark 10% of its CSR spending for selected projects listed on the NSE Social Stock Exchange," Srinivas said. He also expressed hope that other major corporate CSR contributors would adopt similar ap-

proaches for their social impact spending.

According to Srinivas, wider participation by companies could strengthen the Social Stock Exchange ecosystem and position India as a global example in the area of corporate social responsibility.

The NSE said its decision shows its confidence in the transformative potential of the Social Stock Exchange and its ability to channel capital towards organisations working on social development initiatives in a transparent and regulated manner. The exchange added that the move is expected to contribute to the growth of innovative social financing models while helping scale social impact projects across the country.

Changing public behaviour, enforcing traffic norms biggest challenges in improving road safety: Gadkari

NEW DELHI, JUN 9: Road safety is a shared responsibility and citizen's participation is critical in reducing fatalities on India's road, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said on Monday, stressing that changing public behaviour and enforcing traffic laws remain the country's biggest challenges in improving road safety.

Addressing an event organised by mobility platform Rapido, Gadkari said India records nearly 5 lakh road accidents and 1.80 lakh fatalities annually.

"Road safety is a shared responsibility and citizen participation is critical to reducing fatalities on our roads...Our biggest problem is changing public behaviour and enforcing traffic laws," he said.

The number of road accident fatalities in India went up by 2.3 per cent to over 1.77 lakh in 2024, resulting in the deaths of 485 persons every day.

A total number of 4,80,583 road accidents have been reported by the police departments of states and Union Territories (UTs) in the country during the calendar year 2023, claiming 1,72,890 lives and causing injuries to 4,62,825 persons.

"Through the Rahveer



Scheme, we seek to encourage individuals to assist accident victims without hesitation and help save lives during the Golden Hour," the road transport and highways minister said.

During a road accident, every second matters, especially in the critical 'Golden Hour', when timely help can save a life.

To support and protect those who step forward in such moments, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways notified the Good Samaritan Rules in 2020 under Section 134A of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019.

The 'Rah-Veer' (Good Samaritan) Scheme also offers financial recognition and celebrates these indi-

viduals as real-life heroes who chose compassion over hesitation.

Under the scheme, anyone who helps an accident victim receive medical attention within the Golden Hour is eligible for a Rs 25,000 reward and a Certificate of Appreciation, with recognition available up to five times a year for repeat acts of bravery.

He said the government has also come up with a modified scheme to provide cashless treatment for road accident victims nationwide, under which they will be entitled to a maximum amount of Rs 1.5 lakh per accident per person for a maximum period of 7 days from the date of the accident.

Gadkari said the government has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on 4E's, i.e. Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care.

Accordingly, he said various initiatives have been taken for road safety in the country.

The minister said that the highways ministry has spent Rs 40,000 crore in removing black spots.

Road stretches where accidents occur frequently are designated as black spots.

Referring to contributions of the automobile sector in India's economic growth, he said this sector contributes maximum GST to the Centre and state governments, and also provides employment to 4.5 crore youth.

"When I took charge as transport minister, the size of the Indian automobile industry was Rs 14 lakh crore. The size of the Indian automobile industry now is Rs 23 lakh crore," Gadkari said.

Presently, the size of the US automobile industry is Rs 78 lakh crore, followed by China (Rs 47 lakh crore) and India (Rs 22 lakh crore). (PTI)

China's exports jump 19.4% in May from a year earlier, despite Iran war

HONG KONG, JUNE 9: China's exports picked up pace in May, rising 19.4% from a year earlier, its customs agency said Tuesday, as technology-related shipments remained robust despite impacts from the Iran war.

The stronger than expected performance was an improvement from April's 14.1% year-on-year increase.

Imports in May jumped 27.4%, also at a faster pace compared with April's 25.3% year-on-year expansion.

Exports to the US in May surged more than 35% from the year before, after an 11%

increase in April.

China's shipments to the US had fallen sharply for most of the months since US President Donald Trump returned to the White House last year, as shipments to regions like Southeast Asia and Europe surged.

The strength in exports has been supported by shipments of autos and technology and artificial intelligence-related products such as semiconductors and computing equipment.

Exports are a "shock-absorber" for China, helping its economy weather a spike in global energy prices that have driven inflation world-

wide, said Wei Li, Head of Multi-Asset Investments at BNP Paribas Securities (China). The global AI boom and a rising worldwide shift to green technology are also helping.

"Ships, chips, autos, and batteries continue to find strong demand amid the global tech boom, and higher prices along the tech supply chain have helped support the value growth for trade," said Lynn Song, chief economist for Greater China at Dutch bank ING.

For autos, China's biggest electric vehicle maker BYD said it sold more than 160,600 vehicles abroad in May, up 80% from a year

earlier.

Trump's meetings in Beijing with Chinese President Xi Jinping in mid-May have raised hopes for an improvement in trade between the world's two largest economies after the two leaders agreed to set up boards of trade and investment.

Chinese leaders have set a 4.5% to 5% annual economic growth target for 2026, slightly below the "around 5%" goal for 2025, and the slowest expansion goal since 1991. ING's Song said a strong start to the year should help China stay on track to meet its full-year growth target. (AP)

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9: Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) has inked a securities purchase agreement to acquire a 100 per cent equity stake in IntelliSmart Infrastructure for Rs 3,050 crore.

IntelliSmart Infrastructure is a leading smart metering JV between National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) and Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL), a statement said.

According to the statement, AESL has executed a binding securities purchase and subscription agreement (SPA) to acquire a 100 per cent equity stake in IntelliSmart Infrastructure.

The proposed acquisition will strengthen AESL's position as India's largest smart metering platform with over 4.7+ crore smart meters.

The proposed Rs 3,050 crore transaction includes the acquisition of 100 per cent of the equity share capital of IntelliSmart and re-



demption of the optionally convertible debentures of IntelliSmart held by NIIF.

The completion of the transaction is subject to regulatory and other customary approvals.

IntelliSmart is among leading owners and operators of smart meter assets with a total portfolio of 2.2+ crore meters across Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Assam.

IntelliSmart's presence across high-growth consumer markets provides a strong runway for future expansion.

"Acquisition of IntelliSmart enhances our scale and execution capabilities, enables us to support India's power distribution modernisation through technology-led solutions," said Kandarp Patel, CEO, AESL in the statement.

The acquisition is expected to deliver synergies through economies of scale, optimisation of operations and maintenance costs, and integration with AESL's broader energy and infrastructure platform.

"IntelliSmart is proud to be part of this milestone transaction, which has created value for its stakeholders," said Anil Rawal, MD & CEO, IntelliSmart.

IntelliSmart's evolution into one of the country's leading smart metering platforms reflects NIIF's ability to build and scale infrastructure businesses in emerging sectors of national importance, said Vinod Giri, Managing Partner, NIIF, in the statement.

EESL has been committed to enabling energy efficiency and digital transformation across India's power sector," said Akhilesh Dixit, CEO, EESL, in the statement. (PTI)

India Inc to dole out salary hikes of up to 10.2 pc across industries in FY27: Report

MUMBAI, JUNE 9: Corporate India is likely to see salary increments in the range of 8.6 per cent to 10.2 per cent across industries this financial year, primarily driven by sustained demand for skilled and execution-focused talent, a report said on Tuesday.

TeamLease Services' report, Jobs and Salaries Primer 2026-27, projects average salary increments of 8.6 per cent to 10.2 per cent, mainly led by high growth sectors including EV and EV Infrastructure, FinTech, Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.

"India's salary landscape in 2026-27 is becoming more differentiated and execution-led. Increment trends are increasingly being shaped by sector-specific growth and specialised skills. At the same time, compensation growth is no longer concentrated only in traditional metro markets.

"Emerging cities are steadily strengthening their position in the talent economy, supported by industrial expansion, enterprise investments, and evolving business ecosystems," TeamLease Services Senior Vice President Balasubramanian A said.

The high-growth industries led by EV and EV Infrastructure are expected to register salary increments in the range of 9.6 per cent to 10.2 per cent, the report based on inputs from 1,268 businesses across 23 industries and 20



cities said.

Salary increments for Electrical Engineers are projected at 11.2 per cent, Quality Control Inspectors at 10.9 per cent, IT Support Executives at 10.3 per cent, and both Quality Assurance Engineers and Site Engineers at 10.2 per cent.

Meanwhile, industries under the sustainable growth category, including Automotive, Retail, Insurance, and BPO, are expected to follow with increments between 8.9 per cent and 9.5 per cent.

While overall growth remains moderate, select roles continue to push beyond this band, led by Project Engineers at 10.7 per cent, and EHS Officers, IT Support Executives, and Relationship Executives at 10.1 per cent.

A more measured compensation trend is visible across gradual growth indus-

tries such as Banking, Construction and Real Estate, Telecommunications, and Textiles, where increments are projected between 8.6 per cent and 8.8 per cent.

Even within this conservative range, certain roles stand out, including Site Engineers at 9.8 per cent, Telecallers at 9.7 per cent, and IT Support Executives, along with Financial Reconciliation Analysts at 9.5 per cent each.

According to the report across functional areas, growth momentum is most visible in Sales and Marketing, Engineering, and IT.

In IT, Associate Software Engineers are projected to grow at 9.7 per cent, while IT Support Executives continue to see steady demand across Information Technology, Healthcare, and Pharmaceuticals, reinforcing the impor-

tance of foundational digital roles in enterprise transformation.

At the city level, Chennai at 9.7 per cent, Pune and Hyderabad at 9.6 per cent each, and Ahmedabad at 9.5 per cent are set to lead salary increment markets in FY27.

Emerging cities, such as Visakhapatnam at 9.5 per cent and Nagpur at 9.4 per cent, are also gaining traction, supported by manufacturing expansion and industrial corridor development.

In contrast, cities including Surat at 8.4 per cent (down from 8.9 per cent), Chandigarh at 8.5 per cent (down from 9.9 per cent), and Lucknow at 8.7 per cent (down from 9.1 per cent) are witnessing lower levels of growth compared to the previous year, added the report. (PTI)

Tata Steel's community initiatives span six states, impacting nearly 7 million lives: Official

RANCHI, JUNE 9: Tata Steel's interventions in healthcare, education, livelihoods, tribal development and climate resilience have positively impacted 6.9 million people across six states, and the company is committed to scaling up its community development programmes, a senior official said.

The initiatives are being implemented through Tata Steel Foundation, which anchors the company's corporate social responsibility programmes.

The foundation spent around Rs 480 crore for community development programmes in FY26 and mobilised additional resources through partnerships with financial institutions and development agencies, Tata Steel vice-president (corporate services) Dr Sundara Ramam told PTI.

"We impacted 6.9 million lives across Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab. We spent Rs 480 crore on community development programmes in FY26. Besides, another Rs 80 crore was mobilised through partnerships with institutions such as Standard Chartered Bank and the Gates Foundation," he said.

In August 2024, the foundation partnered with Standard Chartered Bank to implement the Integrated Watershed and

Climate Proofing Project in the Noamundi block of Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district.

The initiative aims to conserve soil and water resources and improve the socio-economic status of communities in the watershed area, covering around 1,500 households in 15 villages, he said.

Ramam also said healthcare continues to be a major area of intervention. Tata Steel's healthcare ecosystem includes the 1,000-bed Tata Main Hospital in Jamshehpur and medical facilities at Kalinganagar, Meramandali, West Bokaro and Jharia.

The foundation's Ranchi Cancer Care programme has expanded its outreach across several districts of Jharkhand, supporting screening, early diagnosis and referrals for specialised treatment, he said.

In the education sector, initiatives such as 'Masti Ki Pathshala' were taken up with vulnerable and out-of-school children to facilitate their integration into the formal education system, the company official said.

"Under Masti Ki Pathshala, children from the poor strata are identified and sent to regular schools. The children, including ragpickers and slum dwellers, are now going to school. Even some of them who were on drugs were motivated to go to school...There is a

pilot project for such children in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack in association with the Odisha government," Ramam said.

The foundation is working in 10 towns in Odisha, and that can be replicated in other states, he said.

It also supports the preservation of indigenous tribal languages, including Ho, Mundari and Santhali, while its 'Samvaad' platform promotes tribal culture, heritage and knowledge systems, he said. Launched on 15 November 2014 to commemorate the birth anniversary of tribal icon Birsu Munda, 'Samvaad' is a platform where different tribes in India and some from outside were brought together, he said.

Ramam said tribal cuisine is also being promoted through the initiative, including collaborations with hotels of the Taj group, and a book documenting tribal food traditions has been published.

"At its heart, 'Samvaad' is a platform for cultural assertion, learning, and collaboration. It brings forward stories of resilience, revival, and community wisdom, while creating opportunities for tribal communities to reclaim their narratives, strengthen livelihoods, and engage with wider society on their own terms," the company said.

Tribal cuisine is one of the elements of the initiative, which

speaks of the tribal identity through its culinary heritage and the spirit of the community.

"This project is an initiative aimed at preserving, promoting, and mainstreaming the rich culinary heritage of India's tribal communities. At its core, tribal cuisine is not merely about food – it is a powerful expression of tribal identity, heritage, and lived knowledge systems," the company said.

The initiative uses tribal cuisine as a medium of dialogue and dignity, enabling communities to reclaim narratives around their food, identity, and knowledge systems, it said.

Sports development remains another key pillar of Tata Steel's community engagement efforts.

"The company spends about Rs 60-70 crore annually on sports promotion through academies and high-performance centres across disciplines such as hockey, football, archery, athletics, swimming and rowing," Ramam said.

According to the company, athletes nurtured through the steel maker's sports ecosystem have earned one Padma Bhushan, 12 Padma Shri awards, one Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna, six Dronacharya Awards, 42 Arjuna Awards and one Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award.