



**MARKET MOVEMENT**

Major Indices	December 23, 2016	December 30, 2016	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	26,040.70	26,626.46	2.25	
NSE Nifty	7,985.75	8,185.80	2.50	

**INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE****POLICY WATCH**

- Sale of surplus land of four pharmaceutical PSUs cleared
- Cabinet approves International Solar Alliance
- Green signal for setting up Sagarmala Development Company
- CPWD to help Bhutan in green and sustainable construction
- Nepal, India agree third-country codeshare deal

**Sale of surplus land of four pharmaceutical PSUs cleared**

The Union Cabinet approved the sale of surplus land of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited, Rajasthan Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited and Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited, as would be required, to meet their outstanding liabilities. In this way, the national assets would be utilized in the best national interest.

**Cabinet approves International Solar Alliance**

The Union Cabinet gave its ex-post facto approval to the proposal of Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) for ratification of International Solar Alliance (ISA's) Framework Agreement by India. The ISA will strive to bring together more than 121 solar resource rich nations for coordinated research, low cost financing and rapid deployment.

**Green signal for setting up Sagarmala Development Company**

The Union government cleared a plan to set up Sagarmala Development Company (SDC) to provide equity support to port-led economic development projects, with an initial authorised share capital of USD 147 million and a subscribed share capital of about USD 13 million. The SDC's role will be to identify port-led development projects and assist special purpose vehicles (SPVs) in project development, bid out projects for private sector participation and put in place suitable risk management measures for strategic projects.

### **CPWD to help Bhutan in green and sustainable construction**

Central Public Works Department (CPWD), the construction major under the Ministry of Urban Development has agreed to assist Bhutan in green and sustainable construction of infrastructure. A Memorandum of Understanding in this regard has been signed between CPWD and Department of Engineering Services, Ministry of Works and Human Settlements, Royal Government of Bhutan for this collaboration.

### **Nepal, India agree third-country codeshare deal**

Nepal and India have agreed on a third-country codeshare deal which allows carriers of the two countries to share marketing services with airlines from third countries. The two neighbours signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the cooperative marketing arrangement. Nepal currently has third-country codeshare agreements with China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Bhutan, the UAE and Cambodia. Code sharing provides seamless connectivity between far-off destinations not served by direct flights.

## **INDUSTRY WATCH**

- **India third in green building rankings**
- **9.3 per cent growth in Foreign Tourist Arrivals in November 2016**
- **University of Chicago and India sign agreement to collaborate in telecommunications**
- **Government receives more than USD 49 billion in telecom space**
- **General insurance sector sees 29 per cent growth**

### **India third in green building rankings**

India has secured the third position this year in the US Green Building Council (USGBC) annual ranking of the top 10. China, currently battling red-level hazardous smog, led the rankings, followed by Canada.

### **9.3 per cent growth in Foreign Tourist Arrivals in November 2016**

India had a 9.3 per cent growth in Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in November 2016 over the same period in 2015. USA accounts for highest share of tourist arrivals followed by UK and Bangladesh in November 2016. Foreign exchange of USD 2128 million was earned through tourism in November 2016.

### **University of Chicago and India sign agreement to collaborate in telecommunications**

The University of Chicago and the Telecom Sector Skill Council of India (TSSC) have signed an agreement to bring UChicago expertise and training to India's fast-growing telecommunications workforce. Under the memorandum of understanding, UChicago will help TSSC, a public-private partnership focused on capacity building in the Indian telecom sector; create training programs focused on improving data analytic and digital skills.

### **Government receives more than USD 49 billion in telecom space**

The government has received more than USD 49 billion, or 70%, of the proposed investments in less than two years of the commitments, led by country's top business houses including Reliance Industries, Bharti Airtel and Aditya Birla Group. The investments so far are mainly to expand telecom networks and accelerate local electronics production.

### **General insurance sector sees 29 per cent growth**

The general insurance industry saw 29 per cent growth with premium collection of USD 1348 million for the month of November. Health was the most robust portfolio, ahead of motor and commercial lines with standalone insurers seeing 40 per cent increase at USD 59 million.

## **CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Morgan Stanley PE Asia buys 20 per cent in ZCL for USD 25 million**
- **Abertis buys two Macquarie toll road assets for USD 147 million**
- **Cadila healthcare arm acquires six brands from MSD pharma**
- **Vatika Hotels raises USD 73 million debt from Axis bank**
- **HealthifyMe raises USD 1 million from Dubai-based NB ventures**

### **Morgan Stanley PE Asia buys 20 per cent in ZCL for USD 25 million**

Morgan Stanley Private Equity Asia has picked up about 20% stake in ZCL Chemicals Ltd, formerly known as Zandu Chemicals, for USD 25 million. The capital, raised from the private equity arm of global financial services company Morgan Stanley, will be used to fund the company's growth. Mumbai-based ZCL Chemicals, manufactures active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and other chemical intermediates for the pharmaceutical industry.

### **Abertis buys two Macquarie toll road assets for USD 147 million**

Spanish infrastructure firm Abertis Infraestructuras SA has agreed to buy two operational toll road assets in south India from Macquarie Group Ltd for about USD 147 million. Abertis has signed a

share purchase agreement to buy the two build, operate and transfer (BOT) toll roads, the Farukhnagar-Jadcherla highway in Andhra Pradesh and the Trichy Tollways project in Tamil Nadu

### **Cadila healthcare arm acquires six brands from MSD pharma**

Zydus Healthcare Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Indian pharma major Zydus Cadila, has acquired six brands, namely Deca-durabolin, Durabolin, Sustanon, Multiload, Sicastat and Axeten, from pharma company MSD Pharmaceuticals India Private Limited, the local arm of US-based Merck & Co. Inc., for an undisclosed sum.

### **Vatika Hotels raises USD 73 million debt from Axis bank**

Vatika Hotels Pvt. Ltd, owned by real estate and hospitality firm Vatika Group, has raised USD 73 million in debt from Axis Bank Ltd, which it will use to expand its hotels and quick-service restaurant chain besides its business centres. The Gurgaon-based company will also invest part of the capital in a new venture, Grapes, under which it will launch co-working office spaces.

### **HealthifyMe raises USD 1 million from Dubai-based NB ventures**

Mobile health and fitness start-up HealthifyMe, run by Caeruz Ventures Pvt. Ltd, has received USD 1 million in funding from Dubai-based venture capital fund, NB Ventures. This is an additional investment to the USD 6 million in Series A funding that the company raised in May from IDG Ventures India, Inventus Capital and Blume Ventures. The company will use the fresh round of funds for expanding its team and on product development.