



MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	March 3, 2017	March 10, 2017	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	28,832.45	28,946.23	0.39	
NSE Nifty	8,897.55	8,934.55	0.42	

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**POLICY WATCH**

- Labour ministry hikes minimum wage for agricultural workers
- Revised tax treaty with Singapore takes effect
- India-Portugal IT&E cooperation MoU approved
- Cabinet approves accession to global customs convention
- Government approves cash credit to Punjab for food procurement

Labour ministry hikes minimum wage for agricultural workers

The ministry of labour & employment has raised the minimum wage rate for agricultural labourers and mine workers. These minimum rates of wages are also applicable to employees engaged by contractors. In case the wage rates prescribed by state governments are higher than the rates fixed by the central government, then the former are deemed to be the minimum rates of wages payable.

Revised tax treaty with Singapore takes effect

India's revised tax treaty with Singapore, aimed at checking round-tripping of funds, has come into force. While most clauses of the amended treaty signed on December 30 took effect from February 27, the principal clause allowing levy of capital gains tax on investments routed through Singapore will come into force from April 1.

India-Portugal IT&E cooperation MoU approved

The Union Cabinet has given its ex-post facto approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Portugal on cooperation in the field of Information Technology and Electronics (IT&E). The MoU will help in developing a long term and sustainable cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual interest in the areas of IT&E in line with each country's laws and regulations.

Cabinet approves accession to global customs convention

The government gave its nod for accession to the ‘Customs Convention on International Transport of Goods’ which will help in faster movement of export goods. The convention will help Indian traders to have access to fast, easy, reliable and hassle-free international system for movement of goods by road or multi-modal means across the territories of other contracting parties of goods by road or multi-modal means across the territories of other contracting parties.

Government approves cash credit to Punjab for food procurement

The Union Cabinet has given its ex-post facto approval for settlement of Legacy Food Cash Credit Accounts (upto crop season 2014-15) of Punjab Government for food procurement operations. Early settlement of legacy issues will help the banks in disbursement of food credit in the larger interest of numerous farmers of the State and uninterrupted continuity in food procurement operations to ensure food security for the nation.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- **Start-ups account for 70 per cent of PE/VC deals in 2016**
- **Delhi Airport is second best among world's biggest airports**
- **Exim Bank extends USD 750 million loan to Nepal**
- **India fastest growing domestic air travel market, 22 months in a row**
- **30 per cent of area sown under rabi crops gets PM insurance cover**

Start-ups account for 70 per cent of PE/VC deals in 2016

Start-ups continue to make the highest contribution to private equity (PE) and venture capital (VC) deals in 2016, receiving the maximum investment of USD 2.5 billion, which constitutes 70 per cent of the transaction volumes. However, the investment value in start-ups declined by more than 50 per cent this year.

Delhi Airport is second best among world's biggest airports

Indira Gandhi International Airport has become world’s second best airport in the largest airport category – passenger capacity of over 40 million passengers per annum (MPPA), only after Incheon, South Korea. In 2011, the airport had achieved the position of world’s number 2, which it retained for three consecutive years till 2013. In 2014 it stepped up its position to world’s no. 1 rank in the 25-40 MPPA category and retained the rank in 2015.

Exim Bank extends USD 750 million loan to Nepal

The Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has approved USD 750 million loan to Nepal to finance its post-earthquake reconstruction projects. A separate USD 92.18 million line of credit (LOC) has been given to Tanzania to finance rehabilitation and water supply improvement in Zanzibar. The line of credit to Nepal is effective from February 24, 2017.

India fastest growing domestic air travel market, 22 months in a row

India has been the world's fastest growing domestic air market for 22 months in a row. This means in last 22 months, India has seen the highest growth in domestic air travel over the same month in previous year. India led domestic all markets in year-to-year growth for the 22nd month in a row. January traffic soared 26.6 per cent, marking the 15th consecutive month of 20 per cent-plus annual growth. Demand is being stimulated by strong flight frequency. (Globally) Domestic air travel climbed 9.9 per cent in January year-on-year.

30 per cent of area sown under rabi crops gets PM insurance cover

More than 19 million hectares have come under the ambitious Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana during the current rabi season, covering around 30 per cent of the total sown area of 64.5 million hectares. Currently, the total sum insured for the winter crops has jumped almost 50 per cent to USD 10,183.6 million, compared to the earlier season.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Tech Mahindra to buy CJS Solutions Group for USD 110 million**
- **Hotstar ties up with Zapr Media Labs for mobile audience analytics**
- **IDG Ventures India partners Axilor to invest in tech start-ups**
- **Larsen & Toubro wins power projects orders in Oman, UAE**
- **Syngene to develop nutrition products for Herbalife**

Tech Mahindra to buy CJS Solutions Group for USD 110 million

Software services firm Tech Mahindra Ltd on Monday has signed a definitive agreement to acquire CJS Solutions Group LLC, a US-based healthcare information technology consulting company that does business as The HCI Group. The deal values CJS Solutions at an enterprise value of USD 110 million. Tech Mahindra will make an upfront payment of USD 89.5 million for purchase of an 84.7 per cent stake in the firm. The balance stake of 15.3 per cent will be acquired over a period of three years.

Hotstar ties up with Zapr Media Labs for mobile audience analytics

Leading broadcaster Star India Ltd's digital streaming platform Hotstar and Zapr Media Labs, a Bengaluru-based media tech company, has announced a strategic partnership to drive the next wave of mobile audience analytics in India. The two companies will work together to create a deep understanding of mobile audiences that can be leveraged by brands to create personalized communication through advertising and offers.

IDG Ventures India partners Axilor to invest in tech start-ups

IDG Ventures India has forged an alliance with early-stage start-up accelerator and seed fund Axilor Ventures to invest in local technology start-ups and ventures that are working on disruptive ideas. IDG Ventures will mostly focus on start-ups that are working on so-called deep technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, blockchain, virtual reality and augmented reality as part of the new Frontier Tech Innovators programme.

Larsen & Toubro wins power projects orders in Oman, UAE

India's leading engineering firm Larsen and Toubro (L&T) has won projects worth USD 324 million including one in Oman. L&T has secured orders worth USD 174.5 million from Oman Electricity Transmission Company SAOC for turnkey construction of the 400/132 kV Qabel Grid Station and associated works. The company has secured two more orders from reputed customers for design, supply, construction and commissioning of five 132 kV substations in UAE.

Syngene to develop nutrition products for Herbalife

Syngene, the contract research and manufacturing unit of Biocon is looking to expand its business to work on products for customers that target Indian consumers. It has signed up HerbalLife Nutrition, a nutrition company to develop nutrition based products that can be sold by the company in the country. This is the first nutrition research and development lab in India by HerbalLife. The new facility is located in Syngene campus and has a separate Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) formulation lab to support product testing, sampling and end-product development.