MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	July 29, 2017	August 04, 2017	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	32,309.88	32,325.41	0.05	
NSE Nifty	10,014.50	10,066.40	0.52	1

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

POLICY WATCH

- India signs 3 pacts with Russia for construction of kudankulam NPP
- India ties up with Japan for Infrastructure development
- Government approves rail connectivity projects in Tamil Nadu and Kerala
- Government launches e-RaKAM portal for selling agri produce
- CBDT signs 9 advance pacts with taxpayers under GST

India signs 3 pacts with Russia for construction of kudankulam NPP

India has signed 3 contracts with Russia to construct Unit 5 and 6 for the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant ('NPP'). Contracts are signed between ASE Group of Companies (a part of ROSATOM State Atomic Energy Corporation) and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India ('NPCIL'). It includes priority design works, supply of working documentation and main equipment.

India ties up with Japan for Infrastructure development

India has tied up with Japan to develop infrastructure projects in northeastern states. Projects include infrastructure, disaster management and other natural priorities of NER (North-Eastern Region) like tourism, handicrafts, handlooms, water resources and power, etc. This will enable country to attract investments in the region.

Government approves rail connectivity projects in Tamil Nadu and Kerala

Government has approved 3 railway connectivity projects worth USD 607 million in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. These projects are 102 km from Vanchi-Maniyachchi-Nagercoil via Tirunelveli stretch in Tamil Nadu, 160 km from Madurai-Vanchi and Maniyachchi-Tuticorin stretch and 86.56 km link between Thiruvananthapuram and Kanyakumari.

Government launches e-RaKAM portal for selling Agri produce

Government has launched a portal e-RaKAM to provide a platform to sell agricultural produce. E-RaKAM is a first-of-its-kind initiative that leverages technology to connect farmers of the smallest villages to the biggest markets of the world through internet. The initiative will bring together the farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Public Sector Units (PSUs), civil supplies and buyers on a single platform to ease the selling and buying process of agricultural products.

CBDT signs 9 advance pacts with taxpayers

Central Board of Direct Taxes ('CBDT') has signed nine unilateral Advance Pricing Agreements ('APAs') with Indian taxpayers to reduce litigation by providing certainty in transfer pricing. The international transactions covered in these nine APAs include provision of software development services, provision of IT enabled services, provision of engineering design services, distribution, contract manufacturing, etc.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- Engineering exports increases 123% in June to china
- Telecom sector receives FDI worth USD 9.79 billion
- Tea production up 4.51% in H1
- Fruits and Vegetables exports rise in April-May
- UPI transactions records growth of 10% in July

Engineering exports increases 123% in June to china

Export of engineering goods to china has increased by 123% at USD 629 million during April-June this fiscal due to rise in shipments of non-ferrous metals. Shipments in the first quarter of 2017-18 rose by 10.57% to USD 72.21 billion while imports surged 32.78% to USD 112.2 billion. Overall exports grew by 4.39% to USD 23.56 billion in June. Shipments of engineering goods from India to China aggregated USD 234 million in June against USD 94 million in the same month last year.

Telecom sector receives FDI worth USD 9.79 billion

Telecom sector has received Foreign Direct Investment ('FDI') of over USD 9.79 billion since 2014-15. FDI inflows were USD 2,894.94 million (2014-15), USD 1,324.40 million (2015-16), USD 5,563.69 million (2016-17) and USD 7.36 million (April-May 2017). FDI up to 100 % is allowed in manufacturing of telecom products under the automatic route.

Tea production up 4.51% in H1

Tea production between January to June 2017 has increased by 4.51% per cent to 443.15 million kg from 424.04 million kg during January to June 2016. Production has increased in south India by

6.44% to 26.62 million kg during June 2017. Production in north India was 116.40 million kg in June 2017.

Fruits and Vegetables exports rise in April-May

Exports of Fruits, vegetables and seeds increased by 5.48% to USD 309.54 million during April- May 2017 compared to USD 293.3 million during same period last year. In Financial Year 2016-17, 3.39 million tonnes of vegetables worth USD 860 million and 820,000 tonnes of fruits worth USD 751 million were exported.

UPI transactions records growth of 10% in July

Transaction volumes of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) grows by over 10% to 11.63 million worth USD 525 billion in July. 9.36 million transactions were recorded in May with a total value of USD 430 million and 10.35 million transactions in June with a total value of USD 476 million. Of the total UPI transaction volume, more than 22% are merchant-based. UPI is currently offered by 52 banks.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- ONGC gets government approval for acquisition of GSPC
- Glenmark Pharma gets USFDA approval for anti-herpes drug
- NTPC signs loan agreement of USD 1.02 billion for UP project
- Flipkart launches 'Billion' brand to sell made in India products
- Marico acquires a South African hair styling brand Isoplus

ONGC gets government approval for acquisition of GSPC

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation ('ONGC') has received government approval for acquisition of Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation's ('GSPC') entire 80% stake in Deen Dayal West ('DDW') gas field in Block KG-OSN-2001/3 in the Bay of Bengal for USD 1.2 billion. ONGC will also pay part consideration of USD 200 million to GSPC towards acquisition rights for discoveries other than DDW field in the block.

Glenmark Pharma gets USFDA approval for anti-herpes drug

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals has received final approval from United States Food and Drug Administration ('USFDA') for Acyclovir Ointment USP (5%) used for treatment of herpes virus. The company's current portfolio consists of 121 products authorized for distribution in the US marketplace and 64 Abbreviated New Drug Applications ('ANDA') pending approval with the drug regulator.

NTPC signs loan agreement of USD 1.02 billion for UP project

National Thermal Power Corporation ('NTPC') has formalized a loan agreement for USD 1.02 billion to finance capital expenditure of a 1,320 MW power project being set up in Uttar Pradesh. This will also be utilized partly to refinance costlier loan from a consortium of banks and financial institutions. To ease future cash flows, the loan offers extended repayment period.

Flipkart launches 'Billion' brand to sell made in India products

Flipkart Ltd has launched a new brand called Billion-across categories such as home appliances and fashion. Brand is positioned as made-in-India and made-for-India both to cater needs of all income groups. Flipkart has already launched mixer grinders, cookware, backpacks and irons under the brand and will expand to other categories later this year.

Marico acquires a South African hair styling brand Isoplus

Marico has acquired a South African hair styling brand Isoplus for around USD 5.5 million. Isoplus is leader in the styling products with 27% market share and annual sales of USD 4.6 million. At present, Marico has brands such as Caivil, Black Chic and Hercules in South African aftercare maintenance, chemical treatments and hair colour segments.