MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	December 21, 2018	December 28, 2018	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	35,742.07	36,076.72	0.93	1
NSE Nifty	10,754.00	10,859.90	0.98	1

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

POLICY WATCH

- Government extends deadline for US MNCs to submit information by 3 months
- Government tightens norms for etailers
- Cabinet approves setting up of the NCIM Bill, 2018
- Government announces USD 644 million assistance to Bhutan
- Cabinet approves plan to list 6 state-owned firms

Government extends deadline for US MNCs to submit information by 3 months

Government has extended deadline to submit global revenues, profit and sales to the taxman by three months under Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) framework. Most multinational companies in India are required to submit these details, except those based in countries that are not part of the OECD. Companies have to report the details annually and for each tax jurisdiction in which they do business. This report is called the Country-by-Country (CbC) Report.

Government tightens norms for etailers

A new rule is inserted in the policy bars any entity related to ecommerce platforms from selling on that site and imposes a limit on how much one vendor can sell on a particular portal. The policy also prohibits ecommerce platforms from giving any preferential treatment to any supplier. New framework will come into force on February 1, 2019.

Cabinet approves setting up of the NCIM Bill, 2018

Cabinet has approved the draft National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine (NCIM) Bill, 2018 to replace the existing regulator Central Council for Indian Medicine (CCIM) with a new body to ensure transparency. NCIM will promote availability of affordable healthcare services in all parts of the country.

Government announces USD 644 million assistance to Bhutan

Government has announced USD 644 million assistance to Bhutan for its 12th five year plan. Hydropower cooperations a key aspect of bilateral ties and that work on the Mangdechhu project will soon be completed. These plans articulate the government's socio-economic development priorities that are implemented over a five-year period. India has closely been associated with them since the beginning.

Cabinet approves plan to list 6 state-owned firms

Cabinet has approved a plan to list six government-owned companies and dilute stake in Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd (KIOCL) through a share sale. Companies of list are Telecommunication Consultants Ltd, RailTel Corp India Ltd, National Seed Corp India Ltd, Tehri Hydro Development Corp Ltd, Water & Power Consultancy Services Ltd and FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals Ltd.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- Private sector report 41% growth in net profits in Q2 2018-19
- Japanese firms in India rises to 1,441
- Mutual funds add USD 43 billion to assets base in 2018
- Government extends ban on import of milk products from China for four months
- Consumer goods output rises 12.1% in October

Private sector report 41% growth in net profits in Q2 2018-19

Private sector non-finance firms reported a 41% growth in net profits during the July-September quarter, despite higher expenditure as other income contributed to growth. Combined net profits of 2700 non-finance listed firms rose 41% to USD 10.3 billion (year-on-year) during July-September 2018, from USD 6.86 billion a year ago. Strong growth is observed in manufacturing sector profits mainly in chemical and chemical products; iron and steel; and petroleum products industries, textile industry etc.

Japanese firms in India rises to 1,441

Number of Japanese companies operating in India has risen by 5% to 1,441 till October this year compared to 1369 companies last year. Manufacturing sector accounts for half of the total Japanese companies. Bilateral trade between the countries has increased to USD 15.7 billion in 2017-18 from USD 13.6 billion in 2016-17.

Mutual funds add USD 43 billion to assets base in 2018

Mutual funds have added USD 43 billion to their asset base in 2018 supported by consistent rise in the SIP flows and a strong participation of retail investors despite volatile markets. Asset Under

Management (AUM) of the industry rose by 13% to USD 343.46 billion in 2018 by November-end from USD 304.25 billion at the end of December 2017. Investor count is also estimated to have grown by over 13 million during the year.

Government extends ban on import of milk products from China for four months

Government has further extended the ban on import of milk and its products, including chocolates, from China for four months till April 23 next year. Ban was first imposed in September 2008 and later extended from time to time. Ban was imposed on apprehensions of presence of melamine in some milk consignments from China. Melamine is a toxic chemical used for making plastics and fertilisers.

Consumer goods output rises 12.1% in October

Consumer goods output including both durable and non-durable goods in October rose 12.1%. Capital goods rose 16.8% in October. demand was driven due to latent demand in the marketplace as well as lower goods and services tax (GST) on appliances. Government had reduced GST on washing machines and refrigerators by 10%, while GST of TV screens up to 27 inches is reduced from 28% to 18%.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- Radiant Life Care acquires Max Healthcare
- Zydus Cadila gets USFDA nod for 2 drugs
- L&T Construction receives orders worth USD 337.3 million
- AI startup Tranzmeo raises funding from HPCL
- Lupin partners with AbbVie to develop, commercialise novel oncology drug

Radiant Life Care acquires Max Healthcare

Radiant Life Care Private Limited has acquired a majority stake in Max Healthcare Institute Limited from Max India Limited. Combination of Radiant and Max Healthcare will create the largest hospital network in North India, which will become among the top three hospital networks in India by revenue and the fourth largest in India in terms of operating beds.

Zydus Cadila gets USFDA nod for 2 drugs

Zydus Cadila has received final approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to market the drug in the strengths of 75 mg, 100 mg and 150 mg Doxycycline Hyclate delayed-release tablets, used to treat bacterial infections. Drug will be produced at the group's formulations manufacturing facility at SEZ, Ahmedabad.

L&T Construction receives orders worth USD 337.3 million

Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has received orders worth USD 337.3 million in the domestic market. L&T's water and effluent treatment and transportation infrastructure business has got an order worth USD 183.3 million from Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA). It has also received an order worth USD 154 million from the Madhya Pradesh Jal Nigam Maryadit (MPJNM).

AI startup Tranzmeo raises funding from HPCL

Artificial intelligence (AI) startup Tranzmeo has received an undisclosed pre-seed funding from Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd (HPCL) for its AI-powered product. Funds will be used to accelerate research and development of its advanced, proprietary technology and product line-up, promote business development opportunities. HPCL will also join the board of Tranzmeo.

Lupin partners with AbbVie to develop, commercialise novel oncology drug

Lupin and AbbVie has announced a partnership to develop and commercialise Lupin's novel oncology drug to treat hematological cancers for an upfront fee of USD 30 million and up to USD 947 million on achieving certain milestones. Lupin will be entitled to receive a double-digit royalty on the sales of the product and will retain commercial rights to the programme in India.