MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	August 31, 2018	September 07, 2018	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	38,645.07	38,389.82	0.66	1
NSE Nifty	11,680.50	11,589.10	0.78s	1

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

POLICY WATCH

- Cabinet approves establishment of permanent campus of seven new IIMs
- Telecom Commission approves setting up National Trust Centre
- Government approves proposal to increase wages of artisans by over 36%
- Cabinet approves incentives for industries, eateries
- Delhi government nods 13 km-long elevated corridor

Cabinet approves establishment of permanent campus of seven new IIMs

Cabinet has approved the establishment and operationalization of permanent campus of seven new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) at Amritsar, Bodh Gaya, Nagpur, Sambalpur, Sirmaur, Vishakhapatnam and Jammu, and their recurring expenditure at a total cost of USD 523 million. Each of these IIMs will construct an area of 60384 Sqm, which will have complete infrastructural facilities for 600 students in each IIM.

Telecom Commission approves setting up National Trust Centre

Telecom Commission has approved a new National Trust Centre to be created for certifying devices and applications for machine-to-machine (M2M) communication, a new-age technology with core concepts like smart homes. Machine-to-Machine (M2M) communications forms the basis for automated information exchange between machines. It can impact various industries like smart cities and grids, transportation systems and healthcare, among others.

Government approves proposal to increase wages of artisans by over 36%

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) on has approved a proposal by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to increase the wages of artisans by over 36 %. With this, the wages will be increased from USD 0.07 per hank previously to USD 0.10 per hank. This proposal for increase in wages to Khadi spinners, along with payment of government subsidy Modified Market Development Assistance (MMDA), will be implemented with effect from August 15, 2018.

Cabinet approves incentives for industries, eateries

Delhi cabinet has approved incentives to promote usage of clean fuels in Delhi. Incentives for industries between USD 693 (for small industries) to USD 1386 (for large industries) to switch over to Piped Natural Gas (PNG) are approved. Grant of 50% subsidy of the cost or maximum subsidy of USD 69.3 per tandoor, whichever is less, to switch from coal-based tandoor to electricity or gas-run tandoors. Pollution regulator will finalise the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), application form and format of inspection report for processing the case for grant of subsidy.

Delhi government nods 13 km-long elevated corridor

Government has approved and directed its Public Works Department (PWD) to build a 13 kilometre-long elevated corridor that will run along the Yamuna river. New road will be constructed between Signature Bridge near Wazirabad in north Delhi and Kalindi Kunj bypass in the south. Department will now conduct a feasibility study before a detailed project report is prepared.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- Major Ports registers growth of 5.13%
- Coal import rises 12% to 79 million tonnes in April-July
- India Inc's foreign borrowing rises 74% to USD 2.18 billion in July
- Hiring grew by 33% from August 2017 y-o-y
- Crude steel output rises 8% in July

Major Ports registers growth of 5.13%

Major ports in India have recorded a growth of 5.13% and together handled 288.38 million tonnes of cargo during the period April to August, 2018 as against 274.32 million tonnes handled during the corresponding period of previous year. Highest growth was registered by Kamarajar Port (17.24%), followed by Deendayal Port (11.16%), Paradip (10.93%), Cochin (10.13%) and Kolkata (9.01%).

Coal import rises 12% to 79 million tonnes in April-July

Coal import rose 12% to 78.7 million tonnes during April- July 2018 compared to 70.3 million tonnes (MT) coal in April-July in 2017. Coal import in July increased by 42% to 20.79 mt (provisional), over 14.64 mt (revised) in the same month previous year. Increase in coal and coke imports in July is mainly due to a 12.9% growth (month-on-month) in non-coking coal shipments.

India Inc's foreign borrowing rises 74% to USD 2.18 billion in July

India Inc foreign borrowing rises 74% to USD 2.18 billion in July through External Commercial Borrowing compared to USD 1.89 billion from a year ago period. Of the total borrowings (ECB), USD 1.75 billion was raised through automatic route and rest from approval route of the ECB. Among the major automatic route borrowers included JSW Steel USD 165 million for modernisation project, Dewan Housing Finance Corporation USD 240 million for refinancing of earlier ECB and GE Diesel Locomotive USD 121 million for refinancing of rupee loan.

Hiring grew by 33% from August 2017 y-o-y

Hiring Activity grew 33% from August 2017 to 2018 year-on-year (y-o-y) basis. Talent demand for Sales/Business Development professionals increased by 8% as compared to July 2018, recording an overall 18% growth during the month. Among key locations, highest demand in August 2018 was recorded in Delhi-NCR (10%), followed by Bengaluru (5%) Pune (5%) and Jaipur (4%) as compared to July 2018.

Crude steel output rises 8% in July

Crude steel output increased by 8% to 9 million tonnes (mt) in July 2018 compared to 8.33 mt produces in July 2017. Global crude steel production rose 5.8% to 154.6 mt in July 2018 compared to July 2017. China's crude steel production increased by 7.2% to 81.2 mt in July 2018 compared to 75.7 mt in the same month of 2017.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- NIIF signs USD 400 million agreement with Singapore's Temasek
- Ashok Leyland opens electric vehicle facility at Ennore
- Haier signs MoU with UP to set up USD 416 million plant at Greater Noida
- L&T Construction bags receives worth USD 368 million from MSRDC
- Aurobindo Pharma acquires dermatology business from Sandoz

NIIF signs USD 400 million agreement with Singapore's Temasek

Temasek Holdings has agreed to invest USD 400 million in the National Infrastructure Investment Fund (NIIF). NIIF intends to invest in core infrastructure with a focus on transportation, energy and urban infrastructure. With the entry of Temasek, NIIF's Master Fund is now one of the largest infrastructure funds in India, after IDFC Alternatives and ICICI Infrastructure Fund. NIIF manages around to USD 3.4 billion across three investment vehicles.

Ashok Leyland opens electric vehicle facility at Ennore

Ashok Leyland has opened a new electric vehicle facility at its Ennore plant. Design, prototyping, testing, and solutions design can be carried out at the commercial vehicle major's first integrated facility. Company plans to start working on new product platforms in electric vehicles such as eLCV (light commercial vehicle), low floor city buses, last mile connectivity and power solutions products. In-house facilities cover testing for motors, battery modules and packs, power electronics laboratory.

Haier signs MoU with UP to set up USD 416 million plant at Greater Noida

Haier has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Uttar Pradesh Government for a 123-acre land parcel to set up its USD 425 million industrial park at Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh.

New plant would have the capacity to produce two million units of refrigerators, one million units of LED TVs, one million units of washing machines and air conditioners in a year when fully completed.

L&T Construction bags receives worth USD 368 million from MSRDC

Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has received orders worth USD 368 million from Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC). New orders worth USD 290 million is received for the construction of the six-lane Nagpur Mumbai Super Communication Expressway in Maharashtra and USD 77.5 million for construction of 1.837 kilometer dual bridge -Thane Creek Bridge-III from MSRDC.

Aurobindo Pharma acquires dermatology business from Sandoz

Aurobindo pharma announced that it has acquired the dermatology and oral solid business from Sandoz Inc for an upfront purchase price of USD 900 million in cash which will be will financed through a fully committed debt facility. Acquisition will add approximately 300 products including projects in development as well as commercial and manufacturing capabilities in the US for Aurobindo.