



MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	December 28, 2018	January 04, 2019	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	35,742.07	35,695.10	(0.13)	
NSE Nifty	10,754.00	10,727.35	(0.24)	

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**POLICY WATCH**

- Government approves USD 86.3 million subsidy sops to merchant exporters
- Cabinet amends to the 1926 Trade Union Act
- Government approves 11 projects to revive Saraswati river
- Cabinet Approves Continuation of Umbrella Scheme During 2017-18 to 2019-20
- RBI issues norms for restruvernment approves 11 projects to revive Saraswati river

Government approves USD 86.3 million subsidy sops to merchant exporters

Government has decided to provide 3% interest subsidy to merchant exporters, entailing an expenditure of USD 86.3 million to enhance liquidity with a view to boosting outbound shipments. Government had launched the interest subsidy scheme in April 2015 for five years for all manufacturing exporters. But merchant exporters were not covered under the scheme.

Cabinet amends to the 1926 Trade Union Act

Cabinet has approved amendment to the Trade Union Act, 1926 to bring transparency in tripartite discussions besides checking on arbitrary nominations and reducing litigations. Amendment provides for insertion of section 10A in the principal Act to power centre and state governments to recognize trade unions and federation of trade unions at central as well as state level.

Government approves 11 projects to revive Saraswati river

Government has approved 11 projects to revive Saraswati river. These include the construction of Somb Saraswati barrage, Saraswati reservoir and Adi Badri dam on Somb river, a tributary of the Yamuna that originates in the Shivalik Hills. Also, it involves interlinking of the Markanda river which is the course of the Saraswati through the Kainthla supply channel.

Cabinet Approves Continuation of Umbrella Scheme During 2017-18 to 2019-20

Cabinet has given its approval for continuation of five schemes under the “Umbrella Scheme for Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions” during the Fourteenth Finance Commission period 2017-18 to 2019-20. An overall outlay of USD 342.6 million for the scheme will be spent and would be funded 100% by Budgetary support. Components of social marketing of contraceptives, free Supply of Contraceptives are specifically targeted towards low income group people.

RBI issues norms for restructuring loans to MSMEs

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued norms for restructuring loans defaulted by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). RBI has permitted a one-time restructuring of existing loans to MSMEs that are in default but 'standard' as on January 1, 2019. To be eligible for the scheme, the aggregate exposure, including non-fund-based facilities of banks and NBFCs, to a borrower should not exceed USD 3.6 million as on January 1, 2019.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- CIL output grows 104 MT in 4 years
- 96% households get electricity connections
- Sugar production rises 6.7%
- UPI transactions rise 25%
- Startups raise USD 38.3 billion funding in 2018

CIL output grows 104 MT in 4 years

Coal India Ltd (CIL) production increased by 104 million tonnes (MT) in the last four years between 2014-15 and 2017-18. Imports have declined to 208 million tonnes (MT) from 217 MT in 2014. Coal production has increased by 7.4% in April-December (nine months) period of the ongoing fiscal. Coal India accounts for over 80% of the total domestic production in the country.

96% households get electricity connections

Government has connected about 96% of households across the country with electricity supply. About 4.28% or 10,68,160 which are left to be energised in Rajasthan, Karnataka, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has achieved 100% electrification.

Sugar production rises 6.7%

Sugar production till December 31, 2018 increased by 6.7% to 11.05 million tons of sugar, as compared to 10.35 million tons. Slightly higher production of 0.69 million tons is because Maharashtra and Karnataka sugar mills started their operations earlier this year.

UPI transactions rise 25%

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions rose 25% to USD 14.67 billion in December against USD 11.82 billion in November. Mobile wallet transactions for the month of October stood at 368.45 million with a value of USD 2.7 billion. Card transactions in October grew 9% in volume to 1.4 trillion and 12% in value to over USD 57.53 billion.

Startups raise USD 38.3 billion funding in 2018

Indian startups are estimated to have raised USD 38.3 billion in funding in 2018. Around 1,000 deals were signed by Indian startups in 2018 with areas like e-commerce, fintech, sustainability and renewable energy, transportation and logistics, health and wellness, and travel and tourism attracting the highest investments. In 2018, startups in Asia raised USD 172 billion, compared to USD 162.9 billion in US and USD 46.2 billion in Europe.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- **BSES Delhi discoms ink pact with SECI for 200 MW wind power**
- **BHEL receives USD 503 million order from West Bengal**
- **Dr Reddy's launches oral suspension drug in the US market**
- **Suven Life gets product patents from Brazil, Eurasia**
- **L&T Construction gets orders worth USD 152.5 million**

BSES Delhi discoms ink pact with SECI for 200 MW wind power

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) have signed agreements with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to procure 200 MW of wind-power. 100-MW each power is expected to be available to the two Delhi discoms from FY 2020-21 for a period of 25 years at a tariff of USD 0.04 per unit, including the trading margin.

BHEL receives USD 503 million order from West Bengal

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has received a USD 503 million order for setting up a 660 MW supercritical thermal power plant in Sagardighi Thermal Power Project Extension Unit-5 at Manigram village in Murshidabad district of West Bengal by West Bengal Power Development Corporation (WBPDC). Key equipment for the project will be manufactured at BHEL's Trichy, Haridwar, Bhopal, Ranipet, Hyderabad, Jhansi, Thirumayam and Bengaluru plants.

Dr Reddy's launches oral suspension drug in the US market

Dr Reddy's Laboratories announced the launch of **Sevelamer Carbonate** for oral suspension, used for **controlling serum** phosphorus in patients with chronic kidney disease on dialysis, in the US market. Newly launched product is in the strengths of 0.8 gm and 2.4 gm packets and is a therapeutic equivalent generic version of Renvela (sevelamer carbonate).

Suven Life gets product patents from Brazil, Eurasia

Suven Life Sciences has been granted a product patent by **Brazil and Eurasia** each for a **New Chemical Entity (NCE)** used in treatment of disorders associated with neurodegenerative diseases. These patents are valid through 2023 and 2034, respectively. It is useful in treatment of cognitive impairment associated with neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's disease, attention deficient hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), Huntington's disease, Parkinson's and schizophrenia.

L&T Construction gets orders worth USD 152.5 million

Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has got orders worth **USD 152.5 million in the domestic market. It has got a major order from** the Andhra Pradesh State FiberNet Limited (APSFL) for Bharatnet Phase-II works to establish an IP/MPLS Infrastructure covering the 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh. Scope of the work involves creation of a digital infrastructure-including-implementation, end to-end integration and commissioning of Internet Protocol/Multiprotocol Label Switching (IP/MPLS) Network, network operating centre, disaster recovery and cloud-based data centre.