MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	March 20, 2020	March 27, 2020	% Change	Chang e
BSE Sensex	34,103.48	29,815.59	(12.57)	+
NSE Nifty	10,023.65	8,660.25	(13.60)	+

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

POLICY WATCH

- Cabinet approves MoU between India and Germany in Railway sector
- Government approves inclusion of the AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres in NAM
- Cabinet approves Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme
- Cabinet approves extension of rebate in taxes on export of garments
- Construction of Aligarh-Harduaganj flyover gets approval

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Germany in Railway sector

Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Ministry of Railways, Government of India with DB Engineering & Consulting GMBH of Germany for technological cooperation in the Railway Sector. It includes identified areas of cooperation, which include high speed rail, speed raising of existing routes, development of world class stations, heavy haul operations and modernization of rail infrastructure etc.

Government approves inclusion of the AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres in NAM

Government has approved the inclusion of AYUSH Health and Wellness Centre (AYUSH HWC) component of Ayushman Bharat in National AYUSH Mission (NAM). Proposal entails an expenditure of USD 486.3, USD 316.15 million as Central Share and USD 170.23 million as State share for operationalization of AYUSH HWCs within a period of five years.

Cabinet approves Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme

Cabinet has approved financial assistance to the Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC2.0) Scheme for development of world class infrastructure along with common facilities and amenities through Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMCs). These EMCs would aid the growth of the ESDM sector,

help development of entrepreneurial ecosystem, drive innovation and catalyse the economic growth of the region by attracting investments in the sector, increasing employment opportunities and tax revenues.

Cabinet approves extension of rebate in taxes on export of garments

Cabinet has given its approval for continuation of Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) from 1st April, 2020 onward until such time that the scheme is merged with Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP). Scheme is for apparel and made-ups and is expected to make the textile sector competitive by rebating all taxes/levies which are currently not being rebated under any other mechanism.

Construction of Aligarh-Harduaganj flyover gets approval

Construction of Aligarh-Harduaganj flyover by Ministry of Railways. The total length of the railway flyover will be 22 kilometer. Project is expected to be completed by 2024-25 at a cost of over USD 170.4 million. Flyover at Aligarh going over the existing Delhi-Howrah main line is an operational necessity and is essentially required to remove the bottleneck to traffic movement.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- Mineral output rises 4.4% in January
- Crude steel output grows 1.5%
- ARCI develop technology to improve fuel efficiency
- NTPC signs share purchase pacts to acquire stakes in THDCIL, NEEPCO
- Senior living projects in South India grows 65%

Mineral output rises 4.4% in January

Mineral production has increased by 4.4% against production during the same month last year. Coal production in January was at 75 million tonnes, lignite at 4.5 million tonnes, bauxite at 2.1 million tonnes and chromite at 0.44 million tonnes. Copper concentrate production stood at 12,000 tonnes, gold at 160 kg, iron ore at 22.9 million tonnes, lead concentrate at 3600 million tonnes, limestone at 33.6 million tonnes, magnesite at 7000 tonnes and diamond at 2,437 carat.

Crude steel output grows 1.5%

Crude steel output grew by 1.5% to 9.56 million tonnes (mt) in February 2020 compared to 9.42 mt production in February 2019. Global crude steel production for the 64 countries rose 5.4% to 143.29 mt in

February 2020 compared to 154.46 mt in May 2018. China reported 5% growth, United States 3% and Japan 2.2% in February 2020.

ARCI develop technology to improve fuel efficiency

International Advanced Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI) has developed ultrafast laser surface texturing technology, which can improve the fuel efficiency of internal combustion engines. In this technology, a pulsating laser beam creates micro-dimples or grooves on the surface of materials in a very controlled manner. Such textures can trap wear debris when operating under dry sliding conditions and sometimes provide effects like enhancing oil supply (lubricant reservoir) which can lower friction coefficients and may enable reduced wear rate.

NTPC signs share purchase pacts to acquire stakes in THDCIL, NEEPCO

NTPC has entered into Share Purchase Agreements (SPAs) with Central Government to acquire its 74.49% equity stake in THDC India Ltd (THDCIL) for USD 995.3 million and its 100% equity in North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO) for USD 530.8 million. Pact is also signed for the acquisition of beneficial ownership in six equity shares held by the nominees of the President of India in THDCIL.

Senior living projects in South India grows 65%

South Indian cities have emerged as the major hub for senior living projects with nearly 65% of the overall senior living projects. There are at least 40 senior living projects by the top 14 players across the country either under construction or completed and occupied. Of this, nearly 26 projects are located in South India. Prominent senior living hubs in south India include Coimbatore, Puducherry, Chennai, Bengaluru, Kodaikanal, Mysuru, Kochi and Kanchipuram.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- IndiGrid completes acquisition of ENICL from Sterlite Power
- Bigbasket acquires Bengaluru-based milk delivery app
- HUL acquires VWash from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals
- Cipla gets USFDA nod for generic acid reflux drug
- Ashoka Buildcon arm executes concession pact with NHAI

IndiGrid completes acquisition of ENICL from Sterlite Power

India Grid Trust (IndiGrid) has acquired a transmission asset, East North Interconnection Company Limited (ENICL), from Sterlite Power at a value of USD 134 million. IndiGrid's AUM will grow by 10% to USD 1.6 billion with this acquisition where it's asset portfolio will grow to nine power transmission projects, with a total network of 20 power transmission lines spanning across more than 5,800 circuit kilometres across 13 Indian states.

Bigbasket acquires Bengaluru-based milk delivery app

Bigbasket, an online grocery delivery start-up has acquired 100% stake in Bengaluru-based milk delivery app DailyNinja for USD 15-20 million. BB Daily, the company's milk delivery service will expand its daily business by 150 to 200% over the next 12 months. Currently, DailyNinja has around 110,000 customers transacting daily which will now help BB Daily strengthen its user base.

HUL acquires VWash from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals

Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) signed an agreement with Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd to acquire its intimate hygiene brand VWash. HUL will be entering into the niche intimate hygiene category with this acquisition. The brand has a leadership position and fits well into the white spaces in our Beauty & Personal Care business.

Cipla gets USFDA nod for generic acid reflux drug

Cipla received final approval from the US health regulator for generic Esomeprazole for oral suspension in the strengths of 10mg, 20 mg and 40 mg used for treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease. This is a generic version of AstraZeneca Pharmaceutical's Nexium and is used in treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease, risk reduction of NSAID-associated gastric ulcer, among others.

Ashoka Buildcon arm executes concession pact with NHAI

Ashoka Buildcon has announced execution of a concession agreement with National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) for USD 137.5 million road project in Karnataka. Project includes four laning of Tumkur-Shivamogga section in Karnataka on hybrid annuity mode under Bharatmala Priyojana (Package - III).