

17 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 40,284.19 ▼ 72.50 NIFTY: 11,884.50 ▼ 10.95 NIKKEI: 23,416.76 ▲ 113.44 HANG SENG: 26,681.09 ▲ 354.43 FTSE: 7,320.12 ▲ 17.18 DAX: 13,225.31 ▼ 16.44

GOLD ₹38,775 RUPEE 71.84 OIL \$62.80 SILVER ₹45,250

SECTOR WATCH FINANCE

RBI to revamp norms to govern housing finance companies, UCBs

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 18

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) is reworking the regulations for housing finance companies (HFCs) and urban co-operative banks (UCBs) to improve governance, internal control mechanisms and put in place checks and balances in the system.

The RBI is looking to set up a College of Supervisors to augment supervisory skills among regulatory staff

banks (SFBs), payments banks, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) and micro-finance institutions (MFIs). "It is, therefore, necessary for them to adopt robust technology to enable them to provide banking services at lower costs and with adequate safeguards.

SHARES OF SEVERAL PSU LENDERS RISE ON NSE Essar Steel resolution: Banks may recover 90% of their exposure

SUNNY VERMA NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 18

STATE BANK of India (SBI), ICICI Bank, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank (PNB), Union Bank of India and Bank of India are set to benefit most from the Supreme Court judgment in the Essar Steel Insolvency case, with banks expected to recover 90 per cent of their exposure to the Essar Steel account, according to markets analysts and bankers.

Lenders may get resources to deal with fresh stress

THE SUPREME Court's recent judgment in the Essar Steel case, and the government's move to provide for resolution of financial service providers through the NCLT mechanism under the IBC, are expected to bring back the momentum in the IBC-led process for resolution of bad loans.

For IBC, asset size for NBFCs set at ₹500 cr

New Delhi: The RBI can now seek resolution of NBFCs having assets worth at least Rs 500 crore under the insolvency law. The Ministry Corporate Affairs (MCA) Monday issued a notification specifying the categories of financial service providers (FSPs) that can be taken up for resolution under the "generic framework" of the IBC. PTI

Vodafone Idea, Airtel to hike tariffs from Dec 1; first for sector in over five years

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, NOV 18

VODAFONE IDEA (VIL) and Bharti Airtel Monday announced they will increase tariff prices from December 1 — the first such hike in tariffs in India's cut-throat telecom market since 2012. While the quantum of the hike in the mobile service rates was not announced, the move potentially sets the stage for a progressive upward revision of tariffs, which could have a positive impact on the bottomlines of India's telecom players.

COAI SEEKS 3-YR MORATORIUM

The Cellular Operators Association of India has pitched for the government granting telecom companies a three-year moratorium followed by an extended timeline for payment of all statutory dues at easier interest rates

In the past too, investors have burnt their fingers in the sector: Norway's Telenor ASA, the UAE's Emirates Telecomunications Group Co. PJSC and Russia's Sistema PJSC wrote off investments worth about \$2.5 billion, after the Supreme Court cancelled licenses in 2012 following allegations of corruption in the spectrum allocation process.

\$14 bn foreign PE to Indian real estate in five years

Indian real estate attracted nearly \$14 billion of foreign private equity (PE) between 2015 and third quarter of 2019, according to latest data by real estate services firm Anarock

Infographic showing 75% of overall \$14 billion contributed by top five foreign investors (Blackstone, Brookfield, GIC, Ascendas, Xander) and 63% of total foreign investments backed commercial real estate. Lists domestic PE funds and top five domestic funds.

Wadhawans' assets auction: RBI Guv meets ED, police officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 18

The first step in the process is likely to begin Tuesday if the ED gives a go-ahead to the court to auction movable properties belonging to the Wadhawans

Monday morning. This is the first time since the case came to light that all concerned parties are coordinating to ensure that the process of auctioning assets and paying back depositors is carried out swiftly. While HDIL owes PMC Bank Rs 4,355 crore (including the principal amount and interest), assets of the company's attached by the police are approximately worth over Rs 4,000 crore.

An officer present at Monday's meeting said, "The main focus was to ensure that the auctioning process is not delayed so that the depositors can be repaid the amount they have lost." Officers said they are hopeful that the auctioning of assets belonging to the Wadhawans would be good enough to cover the amount by which they have defaulted.

Virar and Nallasopara, while movable assets include two nine-seater planes, one speedboat, three luxury cars and three all-terrain bikes, among others. While the immovable assets are believed to be worth at least Rs 2,500 crore, the total value is expected to yield over Rs 4,000 crore, an officer said.

Bezos: Our business in India is doing extremely well ... growing rapidly

LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 18



"Our business in India is doing extremely well. It's growing very rapidly," Bezos said. He said the head of his India Responding to another question, the Amazon head said he "definitely" wants to go to space, asserting that he is having a great deal of fun doing everything that he does.

of other things that he wants to accomplish and is currently focused on them. "Governing and running are two different skill sets," he said. The US-based Amazon is pumping in over Rs 4,400 crore (more than \$600 million) in its various units in India including marketplace and food retail to provide them more ammunition to compete against rival Flipkart. Amazon, which is locked in a battle against Flipkart, had registered cumulative losses of over Rs 7,000 crore across various units in 2018-19.

YAHOO JAPAN, LINE CORP DEAL SoftBank to create \$30 billion technology giant

REUTERS TOKYO, NOVEMBER 18

SOFTBANK CORP plans to merge internet subsidiary Yahoo Japan with messaging app operator Line Corp to create a \$30 billion tech group, as it strives to compete more effectively with local rival Rakuten and US tech powerhouses.

AMID RAKUTEN EXPANDING ITS BUSINESS

The merger of Japan's most popular messaging app and one of Japan's top online retailers is the latest consolidation in its tech industry, and comes as Rakuten is expanding into SoftBank's core business with the launch of mobile services

Holdings Corp, would aim to complete its merger with Line, owned by South Korea's Naver Corp, in October 2020. The companies plan to reach a definitive agreement by next month under which SoftBank Corp and Naver will form a 50:50 venture that would control Z Holdings, which in turn would operate Yahoo Japan and Line.