

MARKET WATCH		
	17-01-2020	% CHANGE
Sensex	41,945	0.03
US Dollar	71.08	-0.21
Gold	40,590	0.08
Brent oil	64.77	0.19

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	387.60	-3.35
Asian Paints	1830.05	-5.10
Axis Bank	739.90	2.60
Bajaj Auto	3118.10	6.00
Bajaj Finserv	9715.00	-92.85
Bajaj Finance	4231.75	11.50
Bharti Airtel	500.05	-26.15
BPL	453.90	-7.90
Britannia Ind	3124.45	-25.80
Cipla	480.30	0.05
Coal India	207.90	-2.35
Dr Reddys Lab	3034.35	-96.90
Eicher Motors	21292.20	-244.05
GAIL (India)	126.35	-2.40
Grasim Ind	768.25	12.20
HCL Tech	598.80	5.55
HDFC	2453.95	-28.15
HDFC Bank	1278.15	-9.50
Hero MotoCorp	2454.00	19.50
Hindalco	210.05	0.40
Hind Unilever	2060.30	11.05
ICI Bank	532.05	-5.10
IndusInd Bank	1352.25	-34.20
Bharti Infratel	218.25	-24.80
Infosys	767.85	0.85
Indian Oil Corp	122.65	-1.50
ITC	239.95	-0.80
JSW Steel	273.35	-4.10
Kotak Bank	1698.10	-3.45
L&T	1304.20	-15.10
M&M	569.30	1.85
Maruti Suzuki	7520.15	57.50
Nestle India Ltd.	15439.45	84.55
NTPC	121.20	-0.25
ONGC	125.40	0.90
PowerGrid Corp	197.40	0.95
Reliance Ind	1581.00	43.10
State Bank	318.00	-5.30
Sun Pharma	454.60	5.55
Tata Motors	197.30	-0.25
Tata Steel	495.25	0.85
TCS	2219.10	-19.70
Tech Mahindra	778.45	-4.40
Titan	1188.75	-4.15
UltraTech Cement	4486.75	14.40
UPL	589.25	1.15
Vedanta	159.50	-2.75
Wipro	251.10	0.65
YES Bank	39.25	-0.70
Zee Entertainment	281.70	2.00

EXCHANGE RATES		
Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on January 17		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	70.88	71.20
Euro	78.76	79.12
British Pound	92.53	92.95
Japanese Yen (100)	64.35	64.64
Chinese Yuan	10.33	10.38
Swiss Franc	73.33	73.66
Singapore Dollar	52.64	52.88
Canadian Dollar	54.28	54.54
Malaysian Ringitt	17.48	17.57

Forex reserves rise to record high of \$461.21 bn
MUMBAI
India's foreign exchange reserves rose \$58 million to an all-time high of \$461.21 billion in the week to January 10, according to RBI data. PTI

Centre sets higher GST mop-up target

Tightens noose around evaders; Revenue Secretary monitoring collections

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI

With less than three months to go before the current financial year ends, enforcement actions have multiplied and pressure has mounted on revenue officers to augment GST collections in the remaining period of the fiscal.

Directing field officers to go after fraudsters and non-filers using data analytics, the Revenue Department has fixed the GST target for January and February at ₹1.15 lakh crore each while the March collection is to be ₹1.25 lakh crore. Official sources said about 40,000 companies had been red-flagged for availing excess or fraudulent ITC (input tax credit) and other tax-related wrongful issues, through data analytics. "Field formations have been directed to



On the radar: About 40,000 companies had been red-flagged for availing excess or fraudulent ITC. - RAMESH SHARMA

conclude ITC recuperation without any overreach but in a stipulated time frame," an official said. There are 1.2 crore GST registrants across India. Sources said GST authorities would look into the mismatch of supply and purchase invoices, mismatch in GSTR-1, GSTR-2A and

GSTR-3B, failure to file returns and over-invoicing, among others to put the heat on the tax dodgers.

Repaying wrongful ITC
While GST authorities will send SMS and emails to all such offenders, taxpayers, who have taken ITC wrong-

fully, can voluntarily repay amounts equal to the inadmissible credit before punitive action is taken.

"Field formations have been exhorted to put forward special efforts and to initiate actions against wilful tax evaders or those who are using fake invoices or inflated or fake e-way Bills," the official quoted above said.

"Principal Chief Commissioners and Chief Commissioners would have to update their efforts put in the field to curb tax evasion and leakages, the action taken on checking fake or huge ITC claims, mismatch in returns filed, etc. on a daily basis," he said. Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey is closely monitoring the revenue mop-up exercise and holding high-level review meetings with top officials to augment GST revenue.

Market is slow, decision cycles are longer, says L&T Tech

'Engineering world has changed rapidly, it's all about digital'

MINI TEJASWI

BENGALURU

Things are now a bit slow in the marketplace. As a result, business decision cycles are getting longer and this environment is likely to continue as most matured economies around the globe are expecting low GDP growth in 2020, cautions Keshab Panda, MD and CEO at L&T Technology Services Limited (LTTS).

In an exclusive chat with *The Hindu*, Mr. Panda, however, said, "The reality is that the engineering world has changed rapidly and today it's all about digital, automated reality and virtual reality."

And, therefore, it was important for manufacturers and factories globally to keep their operational costs down, increase up-time, en-



Keshab Panda

sure better energy utilisation, enhance productivity and push up profitability. "Technology is the only thing that will help them achieve all these at one go," he said.

Hiring freshers overseas
Mr. Panda said his company had taken a conscious decision to hire freshers from

campuses in the U.S., Europe and Israel.

"There are areas where data can't go out of the customer country, especially in aerospace and defence projects. We will hire local employees for such projects," he said. LTTS plans to hire over 200 freshers in the quarter ending March. Foreign employees now account for 29% of the company's total strength of 16,787.

On LTTS' Q3 performance, he said, "We had strong performance in three segments - transportation, plant engineering, and medical devices that are each growing in excess of 20% year-on-year. Digital and leading-edge technologies - the growth driver for ER&D, contributed to 41% of Q3 revenues and grew by 29%."

Vodafone Idea tanks 39%, Bharti Airtel gains 4%

Moratorium on AGR dues expected

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Shares of Vodafone Idea tanked over 39% on Friday to ₹3.66, while those of Bharti Airtel gained over 4% to touch its 52-week high of ₹498.65 in a firm Mumbai market on Friday.

This comes after the Supreme Court on Thursday rejected telcos' review plea to reconsider its decision on the adjusted gross revenue (AGR) which may force them to cough up to ₹1.3 lakh crore.

Vodafone Idea has AGR dues of about ₹44,000 crore, while Bharti Airtel has AGR dues of about ₹34,000 crore.

Telcos can still file a curative petition in the apex court, though it is done only to cure gross miscarriage of justice, and analysts see very low chance of success

HCL Tech net up 13%, IT major betters revenue guidance

Revenue for FY20 to grow 16.5%-17% in constant currency

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

HCL Technologies on Friday posted a 13% increase in its consolidated net profit at ₹2,944 crore for the quarter ended December 2019, while revising upwards its revenue growth forecast on the back of optimism on demand environment.

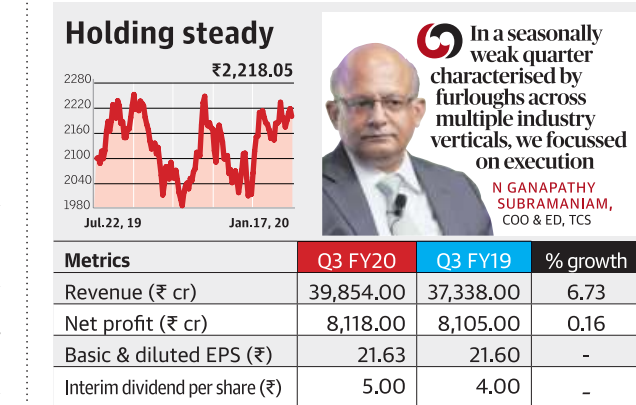
The company, which had registered a net profit of ₹2,605 crore in the October-December 2018 quarter as per Indian Accounting Standards, said its revenue from operations grew 15.5% to ₹18,135 crore from ₹15,699 crore in the year-ago period.

"... this quarter we have crossed an annualised run rate of \$10 billion. Our pipeline stands at an all-time high, we are expecting a higher conversion of this pi-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

here. With no relief on dues from SC, Jefferies Equity Research expects either the SC or government to provide relief in terms of payment options. "We expect a moratorium on AGR dues for two years and staggered payments post that, over a period of time, aiding cash flows. This will be similar to the spectrum dues. We build this in our base case," Jefferies said in a research note. According to Jefferies, even with the reliefs, AGR dues are a drag on Vodafone and would affect operations. "The price increases are positive, but given [the] high leverage, we expect the 4G rollout to be lower than peers, with Vodafone losing market share. We retain U/P," the report said.



TCS net up a tad; BFSI, retail prove a drag

Interim dividend of ₹5 announced

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

India's largest information technology exporter, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), reported a marginal 0.16% increase in its third quarter net profit to ₹8,118 crore.

Sales to the banking, financial services and insurance, as well as retail segments were challenging during the seasonally weak quarter, affecting metrics. Rise in profit was reported on a 6.7% growth in revenue to ₹39,854 crore, aided by currency gains, compared to a year earlier. The operating margin stood at 25%, with the net margin at 20.4% during the quarter.

"We saw the sectoral trends of the first half of the year continue to play out in the third quarter," said TCS MD and CEO Rajesh Gopinathan.

"Our robust order book during the quarter reflects our ability to pitch innovative technology solutions to address the business needs of different stakeholders in [client] enterprises."

When asked about the impact of the NCLAT judgement on the reinstatement of Cyrus Mistry as Tata Sons chairman, he said, "There will be no impact as the mat-

ter was referred to Supreme Court and it ordered a blanket stay." TCS announced an interim dividend of ₹5 per share.

'Focussed on execution'

N. Ganapathy Subramaniam, COO and executive director, said, "In a seasonally weak quarter characterised by furloughs across multiple industry verticals, we focused on execution, while continuing to invest for future growth. Having onboarded over 30,000 trainees in the first half of the year, we worked on driving up utilisation in Q3 and had good outcomes. Our client metrics were also very good, with additions across most revenue buckets."

Sectorwise, Life Sciences & Healthcare climbed 17.1%, manufacturing rose 9.2% and communications and media increased 9.5%.

Among geographies, Europe rose 15.9%, North America and Asia Pacific climbed 4.1% and 5.7%, respectively, while India grew 6.4%.

TCS shares fell 0.91% to ₹2,218 on the BSE on Friday, valuing the firm at ₹8.32 lakh crore, making it India's second-most valued company after Reliance Industries.

Yes Bank ratings put under review

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Moody's on Friday placed Yes Bank's long-term foreign currency issuer rating of B2 under review, with the direction uncertain. The rating agency has downgraded Yes Bank's Baseline Credit Assessment (BCA) and adjusted BCA to caa2 from b3.

"The placing of Yes Bank's deposit rating of B2 under review reflects Moody's expectation that the bank's standalone viability is getting increasingly challenged by its slowness in raising new capital." Because the viability of the bank absent a large capital injection is in question, Moody's has downgraded the bank's standalone credit profile or its BCA to caa2 from b3," it said.



C. Vijayakumar

peline to booking in this quarter," HCL Technologies president and CEO C. Vijayakumar said.

The company said it now expects revenue for the current fiscal to grow in the range of 16.5%-17% in constant currency as against a forecast of 15%-17% earlier.

"At the year-to-date mark, we are at about 17.8%. We