

MARKET WATCH		
	02-01-2020	% CHANGE
Sensex	41,627	-0.78
US Dollar	71.38	-0.22
Gold	39,892	0.10
Brent oil	66.21	0.23

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	383.15	5.50
Asian Paints	1790.65	-2.55
Axis Bank	756.95	8.25
Bajaj Auto	3121.00	-29.10
Bajaj Finserv	9505.60	127.15
Bajaj Finance	4246.05	14.75
Bharti Airtel	455.20	1.90
BPCL	487.55	-4.10
Britannia Ind	3053.40	13.75
Cipla	473.50	-2.40
Coal India	211.10	-0.85
Dr Reddys Lab	2864.90	-14.50
Eicher Motors	21600.85	-474.95
GAII (India)	123.55	2.35
Grassim Ind	766.35	23.85
HCL Tech	573.55	1.60
HDFC	2466.40	32.45
HDFC Bank	1286.75	8.15
Hero MotoCorp	2429.45	-3.10
Hindalco	220.15	5.85
Hind Unilever	1938.05	1.50
ICICI Bank	540.60	3.85
IndusInd Bank	1529.00	44.70
Bharti Infratel	253.65	-0.80
Infosys	734.70	-2.15
Indian OilCorp	127.00	1.05
ITC	239.85	1.75
JSW Steel	276.45	8.35
Kotak Bank	1671.55	-2.50
L&T	1345.30	35.35
M&M	539.85	3.25
Maruti Suzuki	7329.85	18.15
Nestle India Ltd.	14729.35	-49.70
NTPC	121.40	-0.15
ONGC	128.05	0.60
PowerGrid Corp	195.10	-0.40
Reliance Ind	1535.30	25.70
State Bank	339.30	4.85
Sun Pharma	434.95	0.65
Tata Motors	193.75	9.30
Tata Steel	484.85	17.10
TCS	2157.65	-9.95
Tech Mahindra	766.05	3.95
Titan	1155.60	0.85
UltraTech Cement	4244.80	179.80
UPL	595.45	7.20
Vedanta	159.45	4.85
Wipro	248.30	0.60
YES Bank	47.35	0.70
Zee Entertainment	289.60	0.95

EXCHANGE RATES		
Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on January 02		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	71.17	71.49
Euro	79.61	79.97
British Pound	93.92	94.38
Japanese Yen (100)	65.43	65.72
Chinese Yuan	10.22	10.27
Swiss Franc	73.29	73.63
Singapore Dollar	52.80	53.04
Canadian Dollar	54.72	54.97
Malaysian Ringitt	17.40	17.49
Source:Indian Bank		

BULLION RATES CHENNAI		
January 02 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses		
Retail Silver (1g)	50.4	(50.9)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3736	(3742)

Committee of Creditors extends Jet’s EoI deadline

‘Final extension before liquidation’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Committee of Creditors (CoC) of Jet Airways (India) Ltd., at their seventh meeting held in Mumbai, approved a proposal to extend the deadline for accepting Expression of Interest (EoI) from interested parties to January 15, 2020 from the earlier January 6, 2020.

They have also decided that this would be the last extension of deadline, failing which liquidation proceedings will kick in.

Recently, the NCLT, Mumbai, had granted 90 days’ extension for the resolution of Jet Airways case.

A few more players other than the Synergy Group of Brazil are in the fray.

These include the Hinduja Group, Hyderabad-based ground handling company Turbo Aviation, and a Dubai-based fund.



In anticipation of a favourable news, Jet Airways stock on Tuesday closed with a gain of 4.99% at ₹32.60. The CoC also decided to get some of Jet Airways assets released and may have to make payment.

A member of the CoC said they discussed about the contours of releasing such assets. A European cargo service provider seized a Boeing 777-300 plane of Jet Airways at Amsterdam on account of non payment of dues and this aircraft may be released.

India’s Arabica output at all-time low

Rains, floods, landslides hit a chunk of plantations last year

MINI TEJASWI BENGALURU

India’s Arabica production has hit an all-time low this coffee-picking season, which commenced a fortnight ago.

Coffee Board chairman M.S. Boje Gowda said this year’s Arabica yield would fall more than 50% after the torrential rains, floods and landslides during August-September last year washed away a sizeable chunk of plantations and destroyed coffee plants in Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Kodagu and Wayanad districts.

“Plantations were hit by heavy rains, floods and landslides. The entire top soil got washed away. Farmers didn’t have funds to maintain their gardens or buy manure. [So], the crop is poor



From 1.5 lakh tonnes five years ago, India’s Arabica production fell to 80,000 tonnes last year. — GP SAMPATH KUMAR

and the quantity too low this season,” he said.

Most Arabica farmers are reporting a production decline of 50%, while the exact size of the output for this year will be known by end of January. Five years ago, India’s Arabica production was 1.5 lakh tonnes. It fell to 80,000 tonnes last year, he

Nifty closes at a record high amid global rally

PBC easing reserves norm brings cheer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Buoyed by a strong surge in the global markets, the Indian benchmark indices registered significant gains on Thursday, with the broader Nifty closing at a new all-time high.

The 50-share Nifty gained 99.70 points, or 0.82%, to close at a record high of 12,282.20. Meanwhile, the Sensex ended the day at 41,626.64, up 320.62 points, or 0.78%.

Market participants attributed the rally to the announcement by the Chinese central bank – People’s Bank of China (PBC) – that it would take steps, including lowering the reserve requirement ratio, to boost economic growth. “Global markets cheered the news that China’s central bank has cut the amount of cash that all banks must hold as

reserves, releasing around 800 billion yuan (\$114.91 billion) in funds to shore up the slowing economy,” said Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

U.S.-China deal

“Sentiments also got boosted by U.S. President Donald Trump’s announcement on Tuesday that the Phase 1 trade deal with China will be signed on January 15,” he added.

The announcement led to a global rally with the Hang Seng gaining over 1%.

Most of the European markets were also trading strong with some of the benchmarks gaining over 1% during the trading session.

Back in India, the market breadth was quite strong with more than 1,700 gainers on BSE, as against less than 800 declines.

IRDAI norms for standard health cover

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Regulator IRDAI on Thursday issued guidelines on standard individual health insurance, asking general and health insurers to offer a product that can take care of basic health needs of customers with a maximum sum insured of ₹5 lakh and a minimum of ₹1 lakh.

The product will be named Arogya Sanjeevani Policy, succeeded by the name of the insurance company. No other name is allowed in any of the documents, according to the guidelines issued by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Sugar output drops by close to a third

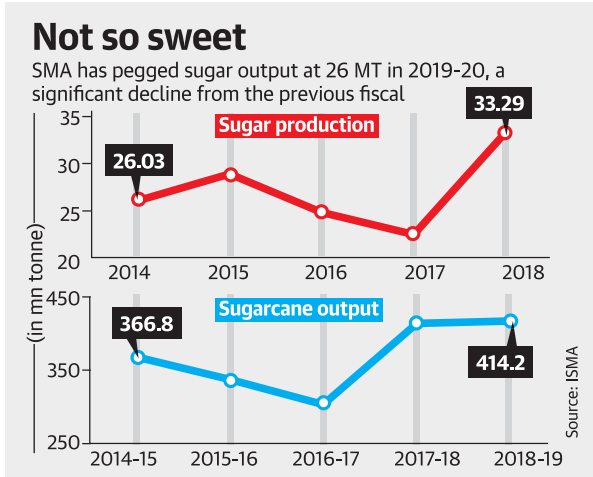
Production in first 3 months of marketing year at 7.79 MT, prices remain stable, exports at good pace

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The country’s sugar production has fallen sharply by 30.22% to 7.79 million tonne (MT) in the first three months of current marketing year ending September, but ex-mill prices have remained stable so far, helping mills clear cane payment to farmers on time, ISMA said.

However, sugar exports are happening at a good pace, Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA), quoting market data, said, adding mills have so far contracted for shipment of over 2.5 MT of sugar under the government’s MAEQ (Maximum Admissible Export Quantity Quota).

Ex-mill sugar prices have remained steady in the range of ₹3,250-3,350 per quintal



in north India and at ₹3,100-3,250 per quintal in south India, ISMA added.

“Since the Centre has not increased the fair and remunerative price (FRP) for 2019-20 as also State govern-

ments like Uttar Pradesh, Utarakhand and Punjab have not hiked the state advised price (SAP), ex-mill prices remain stable and mills are in a better position to be able to pay cane prices to the farm-

ers on time,” ISMA said.

Releasing the latest production data, it said the country’s total sugar production has dropped to 7.79 MT till December 2019 from 11.17 million tonne in the same period of the 2018-19 marketing year (October-September).

In its first estimate, ISMA had pegged sugar production lower at 26 MT this year from 33.16 MT in 2018-19.

Sugar production in Maharashtra – the country’s largest sugar producing State – dropped to 1.65 MT till December 2019 against 4.45 MT in the same period last year, the data showed.

Sugar recovery

The average sugar recovery in Maharashtra has declined to 10% from 10.5% achieved in the year-ago period due to

loss of sucrose content in the flood-affected sugarcane crop.

About 137 sugar mills were in operation till December 2019 against 189 mills in the same period last year.

Production in U.P. rises

Production in Uttar Pradesh, the country’s second largest producing State, rose to 3.31 MT so far compared to 3.10 MT a year ago.

On exports, ISMA said the government is in the process of reviewing actual exports made by mills against MAEQ during October–December 2019 quarter, and has already announced in the policy to reallocate unexported quota to the sugar mills that have exported and are willing to take additional quota beyond their MAEQ.

ONGC wins all 7 oil, gas blocks

Potential estimated at 33 billion barrels of oil, oil-equivalent

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Thursday walked away with all the seven oil and gas blocks on offer in the latest bid round that saw just eight bids coming in.

ONGC signed contracts for the seven blocks at an event where Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and other Ministry officials were also present.

“These seven blocks are adding exploration acreage of 18,510 sq. km spread over three sedimentary basins of India and have a resource potential of approximately 33 billion barrels of oil and oil equivalent gas,” he said.

The latest licensing round for allowing companies to explore for oil and natural gas was held on revamped terms but saw only ONGC



Dharmendra Pradhan

and Oil India Ltd. participating. ONGC put in bids for all seven blocks on offer, while Oil India put in an offer for one block at the close of bidding on October 31, 2019.

ONGC was the sole bidder for five blocks in Madhya Pradesh and one in West Bengal and it was locked in competition with Oil India for one block in Rajasthan.

ONGC walked away with all the seven blocks on superior bids. According to the Directorate General of Hy-

Divestments in Air India, BPCL unlikely this fiscal

Process is facing delays, says official

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

In what can potentially hurt the math for the ongoing fiscal, a senior government official said strategic divestments in Air India, BPCL and Container Corporation are ‘unlikely’ to be completed in FY20. Work on all these companies is on and the process is facing delays due to “surprises” encountered once the wheels began moving, the official from the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (Dipam) said.

The Ministry had budgeted to garner ₹1.05 lakh crore from divestments during the fiscal. When asked if the strategic divestment in BPCL, which alone can fetch the government over

₹60,000 crore if it were to sell its entire 53% stake, will be completed this fiscal, the official said, ‘unlikely’.

On Container Corporation (Concor) and Air India as well, the official said the sale would not go through in the current fiscal ending March 31. The official said the government is preparing the financial statements and getting the data room ready for the sale.

Till now, the industry has shown ‘excitement’ over the companies which are being floated, the official said, adding that there are additional details which may be sought by potential bidders.

The strategic sale in Shipping Corporation of India is at a certain stage and going strong, the official said.

Bharat Bond debuts on bourses

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Bharat Bond Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) made its debut on the bourses on Thursday with the units closing marginally above the issue price of ₹1,000.

While the units of Bharat Bond ETF maturing in 2023 closed at ₹1,000.75, those with a 10-year maturity in 2030 settled the day at ₹1,002.

Further, about 45,000 units of the ETF were traded on Thursday.

Earlier in the day, Anuradha Thakur, Joint Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) said the strong response that the offering received has given the government confidence for similar issuances in the future.