



**MARKET MOVEMENT**

Major Indices	May 11, 2018	May 18, 2018	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	35,535.79	34,848.30	(1.93)	
NSE Nifty	10,806.50	10,596.40	(1.94)	

**INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE****POLICY WATCH**

- **Government launches National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy**
- **Government approves USD 735.6 million for micro irrigation fund**
- **Cabinet approves enhancement of budget for Spectrum for Defence Services**
- **3 FDI proposals worth USD 478 million gets clearance**
- **Cabinet approves tax information exchange pact with Brunei**

**Government launches National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy**

**National Wind-Solar Hybrid policy is announced that provides a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV systems** for optimal and efficient utilization of transmission infrastructure and land, reducing the variability in renewable power generation and thus achieving better grid stability. It mandates procurement of power from a hybrid project on tariff-based transparent bidding process, for which government entities may invite bids.

**Government approves USD 735.6 million for micro irrigation fund**

**Government has approved funds of USD 735.6 million for the setting up of a dedicated micro irrigation fund (MIF)** under the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard). Allocation will be made in instalments of USD 294.3 million in 2018-19 and USD 441.3 million in 2019-20. Under the programme, Nabard will extend loans to state governments during this period. Loans can be paid back in 7 years, including a grace period of two years. Total financial implication on interest subvention on the loans will be about USD 110.3 million.

### **Cabinet approves enhancement of budget for Spectrum for Defence Services**

Cabinet has given its approval for enhancement of budget by USD 1.66 billion for Network For Spectrum (NFS) project for laying of alternate communication network for Defence Services for release of spectrum over and above USD 1.66 billion. NFS project will boost the communication capabilities of the defence forces in a major way leading to enhanced national operational preparedness. Project will also have forward linkages to other related industries such as telecom equipment manufacturing and other telecommunication related services.

### **3 FDI proposals worth USD 478 million gets clearance**

Finance ministry has cleared three foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals worth USD 478 million in April. Proposals included CVC Asia Pacific (Singapore) Pte and Alcon Laboratories (India) Pvt Ltd and of Hindustan Infracore Pvt Ltd which sought approval for foreign investment from DP World Global Investment BV, Netherlands amounting to 65% of paid-up share capital.

### **Cabinet approves tax information exchange pact with Brunei**

Cabinet has approved signing of tax information exchange agreement between India and Brunei. Agreement enables the competent authorities of India and Brunei to provide assistance through exchange of information, relevant to the administration and enforcement of the domestic laws of the two countries concerning taxes.

## **INDUSTRY WATCH**

- Exports rise 5.17% in April
- Fuel demand rises 4.4% in April
- Natural rubber consumption rise 6.4% in 2017-18
- NALCO signs MoU with Government of India for FY 2018-19
- Sports tourism industry registers 10-12% growth

### **Exports rise 5.17% in April**

Merchandise exports rose 5.17% in April to USD 25.91 billion while imports grew 4.6% to USD 39.63 billion. Major commodity groups of export that registered positive growth year-on-year were engineering goods (17.63%), organic & inorganic chemicals (38.48%), drugs & pharmaceuticals (13.56%), cotton yarn/handloom products (15.66%) and plastics (30.03%).

### **Fuel demand rises 4.4% in April**

Fuel demand rose 4.4% in April to 17.67 million tonnes as compared to 16.91 million tonnes in the same month last year due to increased auto fuel and cooking gas (LPG) consumption. Rise was led by a 9.2% growth in petrol at 2.28 million tonnes followed by 2.6 per cent growth in diesel consumption at 7.15 million tonnes. Jet fuel sale grew by 13.4% to 6,92,000 tonnes.

### **Natural rubber consumption rise 6.4% in 2017-18**

Natural rubber consumption rose 6.4% to 1110,660 tonnes in 2017-18. Import of Natural Rubber increased by 10.1% to 469,433 tonnes in 2017-18 from the previous year due to favourable price situation. Around 70% of import was through duty paid channel.

### **NALCO signs MoU with Government of India for FY 2018-19**

National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has signed MoU with Government and set target of USD 1.37 billion revenue from operations for FY 2018-19. It has also set a target of 2.1 million tons for production of Alumina with 100% capacity utilisation and an optimum Aluminium production target of 415,000 tonnes. Reduction in net carbon consumption as part of improvement in production efficiency will be the focus apart from promoting commercialisation of new R&D products.

### **Sports tourism industry registers 10-12% growth**

Sports tourism is witnessing 10-12% growth as Indians are visiting other countries to attend sports event. Indians travel to Australia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and England to watch cricket matches, however, over the last 10 years there is a growing interest to watch the Olympics, the Soccer World Cup and Grand Prix Formula One motor events. Industry is projected to rise up to USD 5.72 trillion by 2021.

## **CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dilip Buildcon signs pact with NHAI for USD 890 million project
- TCS expands presence in Arkansas, US
- Stempeutics signs deal Cipla for stem cell drug
- L&T Construction receives orders worth USD 359 million
- Glenmark Pharma launches generic version of asthma drug in Denmark

### **Dilip Buildcon signs pact with NHAI for USD 890 million project**

Dilip Buildcon signs contracts with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for road projects aggregating to USD 890 million. Highway projects will be executed in Karnataka, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra under hybrid annuity mode.

### **TCS expands presence in Arkansas, US**

**TCS has expanded operations in Arkansas, US with over 200 employees joining the company as part of the USD 2 billion deal with Transamerica.** TCS will manage life insurance, annuity, supplemental health insurance, and workplace voluntary benefits products along with administration of more than 10 million policies with Transamerica. Little Rock office is a new US business centre for TCS, adding to its existing office in Bentonville, Arkansas that hosts more than 150 employees.

### **Stempeutics signs deal Cipla for stem cell drug**

**Stempeutics Research has signed an out-licensing deal with Cipla for its stem cell therapy product Stempeucel, indicated for treating critical limb ischemia.** Under this agreement, Cipla will get exclusive marketing rights for five years in India for critical limb ischemia due to atherosclerotic peripheral arterial disease (CLI-PAD) with Stempeutics manufacturing and supplying the product to Cipla.

### **L&T Construction receives orders worth USD 359 million**

**L&T Construction has bagged orders worth USD 359 million in the domestic market under Saubhagya scheme for electrification works in urban and rural areas, augmentation of 33/11kV substations and replacement of conductors with aerial bunched cables.** It has also secured an order from the Department of Disaster Management for the construction of underground power cable network on turnkey basis in the eastern region of India.

### **Glenmark Pharma launches generic version of asthma drug in Denmark**

**Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Europe Ltd has launched a generic version of Seretide Accuhaler, used to treat asthma, in Denmark.** Product was developed by Celon Pharma and Glenmark has marketing and distribution rights for the product across 15 European countries. Glenmark is the first generic company to receive regulatory approval for substitution in Denmark for its generic of Seretide Accuhaler.