



MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	September 21, 2018	September 28, 2018	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	36,841.60	36,227.14	(1.66)	
NSE Nifty	11,143.10	10,930.45	(1.90)	

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**POLICY WATCH**

- Government approves new telecom policy
- Cabinet clears USD 763.6 million package for sugar industry
- Approval of MoU between India and Uzbekistan
- Centre approves USD 1.18 billion for border infrastructure and management
- Government clears construction of 626,000 more houses

Government approves new telecom policy

Cabinet has approved National Digital Communications Policy to address emerging technology areas like 5G, Internet of Things and machine to machine communication. It also envisages 50 Mbps of broadband connectivity to every citizen in five years. Policy focus on promoting domestic telecom products and equipment manufacturing with preference to indigenous manufacturers and encourage participation of technology start-ups in the sector.

Cabinet clears USD 763.6 million package for sugar industry

Government has approved a USD 763.6 million package for the sugar industry that includes production assistance of USD 574 million to cane growers and transport subsidy of USD 189.6 million to mills for export up to 5 million tonnes in the marketing year 2018-19. Export of 5 million tonnes of sugar under the Minimum Indicative Export Quota (MIEQ) during 2018-19 is also approved by compensating expenses towards internal transport, freight, handling and other charges.

Approval of MoU between India and Uzbekistan

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Uzbekistan for strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism gets approval. It will help the two countries in creating an institutional mechanism for enhancing cooperation in the tourism sector. It will also help in increasing

foreign tourist arrivals from Uzbekistan to the country. In addition, MoU shall explore to incorporate the best practices in order to implement the measures that will realize the objectives set out in it.

Centre approves USD 1.18 billion for border infrastructure and management

Centre has approved USD 1.18 billion for 60 projects being implemented under the umbrella scheme of Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM) to meet requirements like construction of roads, schools, primary health centres, promotion of rural tourism, border tourism, promotion of sports activities, cleanliness mission, supply of drinking water, community centres, connectivity, drainage, to enable sustainable living in border areas. Projects are being implemented in 17 states having the international borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Government clears construction of 626,000 more houses

Ministry of housing and urban affairs has approved the construction of 626,000 more affordable houses under its flagship Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (Urban), with an investment of USD 3.6 billion. Central assistance for the same will be USD 1.3 billion.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- **Government signs pact with Indian Oil Corporation to set up bio-CNG plants**
- **Power companies import 26% more coal in August**
- **Domestic air passengers grew 17.17% to 11.35 million in August**
- **FDI in telecom grows 5-fold in 3 years**
- **Government increases customs duty on 19 items**

Government signs pact with Indian Oil Corporation to set up bio-CNG plants

Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL) for setting up bio-CNG plants based on paddy straw and other agri-waste with total capacity of about 1,000 tonnes per day of compressed biogas in the state. The first such compressed biogas plant (CBP) is likely to be set up in Kurukshetra. This will result in annual production of about four lakh tonnes of compressed biogas per annum.

Power companies import 26% more coal in August

Power companies has imported 26% more coal in August compared with the same month last year, even though their total coal consumption did not rise. Compared with July, imports were 11% higher while coal consumption by power generators was only 2% more. Total coal consumption by the power sector in August was around 50 million tonnes, one million tonne more than in July this year.

Domestic air passengers grew 17.17% to 11.35 million in August

Passengers carried by domestic airlines registered a growth of 17.17% to 11.35 million in August 2018 as compared to 9.69 million in August 2017. IndiGo flew the maximum number of passengers at 4.75 million in July 2018, followed by Jet Airways with 1.56 million and Air India carried 1.44 million passengers. SpiceJet recorded the highest load factor at 93.6% by carrying 1.40 million passengers and GoAir flew 1 million passengers during August

FDI in telecom grows 5-fold in 3 years

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the telecom sector rose to USD 6.2 billion in the last fiscal, a near five-fold increase from USD 1.3 billion in 2015-16. New sectoral policy in works envisages the FDI in the telecom space to reach USD 100 billion by 2022.

Government increases customs duty on 19 items

Government has increased import duty government on 19 'non-essential items' which include air conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines and ATF (aviation turbine fuel). Rates on compressor for air conditioners and refrigerators are raised by 10% from current 7.5%. Also, with the rise in import duty on jet fuel, flying may become costlier. The new import duty rate on ATF will now be 5% from nil earlier.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- Flipkart acquires Israel's Upstream Commerce
- L&T Technology Services receives USD 40 million deal
- Infosys receives USD 62.2 million deal from PSPC
- Tata Steel receives approval to set up unit in Odisha
- Foodpanda expands to 13 new cities

Flipkart acquires Israel's Upstream Commerce

Flipkart has acquired Israel-based Upstream Commerce for an undisclosed amount to strengthen its selection and pricing capabilities. Buyout of Upstream Commerce offers cloud-based, automated competitive pricing and product analysis solutions and promote Flipkart's ability to deliver insights to its sellers.

L&T Technology Services receives USD 40 million deal

L&T Technology Services (LTTS) has received a deal worth USD 40 million to provide digital content management services to a technology company's industrial products segment. It will cover Engineering Content Management (ECM) programmes in the US and European regions. LTTS will provide expertise and support in building content management capabilities with the help of new technologies such as artificial intelligence and virtual reality.

Infosys receives USD 62.2 million deal from PSPC

Infosys Public Services has received a USD 62.2 million contract by Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) to modernise and automate their procurement processes. New solution will provide an intuitive, web-based portal for PSPC and its suppliers to access procurement information and services in both English and French.

Tata Steel receives approval to set up unit in Odisha

Tata Steel Processing and Distribution Ltd is setting up a manufacturing unit at an investment of USD 12 million and it received the investment approval from the Government of Odisha. Manufacturing unit to produce of steel doors and windows with capacity of 1.80 units per year will be set up at Kalinganagar industrial complex, Jaipur in odisha.

Foodpanda expands to 13 new cities

Online food ordering and delivery platform Foodpanda India has expanded its delivery network to 13 new cities as part of its expansion strategy. company's delivery network already exists in seven cities namely Bengaluru, Mumbai, New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune. 13 cities where Foodpanda has launched operations include Jaipur, Chandigarh, Kanpur, Lucknow, Indore, Ahmedabad, Nashik, Nagpur, Mysore, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Visakhapatnam and Coimbatore.