



MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	February 15, 2019	February 22, 2019	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	35,808.95	35,871.48	(0.17)	
NSE Nifty	10,724.40	10,791.65	0.62	

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**POLICY WATCH**

- Cabinet nod for KUSUM- 40 GW solar rooftop schemes
- Government clears USD 4.25 billion Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS
- Government clears reform to enhance domestic oil and gas exploration
- Ministry of Water Resources approves projects worth USD 195 million
- Government approves new national electronics policy

Cabinet nod for KUSUM- 40 GW solar rooftop schemes

Cabinet has approved two schemes for promotion of solar power — one for the agriculture sector and the other for rooftops. Scheme consists of three components: setting up 10 GW grid-connected renewable power plants, each of 500 KW to 2 MW in rural areas; installation of 1.75 million standalone off-grid solar water pumps to fulfill irrigation needs of farmers not connected to the grid; and solarisation of existing 1 million grid-connected agriculture pumps.

Government clears USD 4.25 billion Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS

Government approved construction of a USD 4.25 billion worth Regional Rapid Transport System (RRTS) to connect the national capital with Meerut through Ghaziabad. 82 kilometer-stretch will be covered in less than 60 minutes by high-speed and green public transit.

Government clears reform to enhance domestic oil and gas exploration

Cabinet has approved a new policy framework on reforms in exploration and licensing (E&L) sector to enhance domestic exploration and production of oil and gas by providing more attractive terms to investors. Under the new policy framework, bidders of oil and gas blocks in the country will be encouraged to invest more in exploration activities and start sharing revenue with the Government only at the production stage.

Ministry of Water Resources approves projects worth USD 195 million

Ministry of Water Resources has approved sewerage infrastructure and other projects worth USD 195 million focusing on towns along river Yamuna, under programme 'Namami Gange'. Projects involve construction and renovation of sewage treatment plants, online monitoring systems of sewage treatment plants and other infrastructure projects.

Government approves new national electronics policy

Cabinet has approved a new electronics policy which aims to create a USD 400 billion electronic manufacturing ecosystem by 2025. Policy will support mobile manufacturing in the country to 1 billion units worth USD 190 billion of which 600 million units worth USD 110 billion will be exported from the country.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- **Four projects launched in North East for the development of Silk Sector**
- **Sugar production increases by 7% Y-o-Y**
- **Luxury spending records 4% growth rate from 2013 to 2018**
- **Domestic air passenger traffic rises 9.1% in January**
- **Gross loan of microfinance industry grows 6% to USD 9.13 billion in Q3**

Four projects launched in North East for the development of Silk Sector

Ministry has launched four projects in North East for the development of silk sector. These are namely Muga silk seed production centre in Tura, Meghalaya, silk printing and processing unit in Agartala, Tripura, Eri spun silk mill in Sangaipat, Imphal and development of sericulture in Mamit, Mizoram. Silk Printing & Processing unit in Agartala, Tripura has been setup at a total project cost of USD 520,884 for production, printing and processing of 150,000 meter silk per annum.

Sugar production increases by 7% Y-o-Y

Sugar production in 2018-19 season has increased by 7.7% to 21.93 mt (million tonnes) compared to 20.35 mt over same period of previous year. Maharashtra sugar production till February 2019 was 8.29 mt, compared with 7.47 mt produced last year same period. Tamil Nadu sugar mills have produced 350,000 tonnes of sugar as compared to 290,000 tonnes.

Luxury spending records 4% growth rate from 2013 to 2018

Luxury spending has registered a 4% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) from 2013 to 2018. Largest categories in luxury spending were fashion from high end boutiques with 42% of the total spend and jewellery at 32%. Electronics contributed 14% and shop boutiques 13%. Tier 1 cities luxury purchases increased by 23%.

Domestic air passenger traffic rises 9.1% in January

Domestic air passenger traffic rose 9.1% in January to 12.5 million passengers compared to 11.46 million passengers carried last year. Market share of SpiceJet, Jet Airways, GoAir, Air Asia, Vistara stood at 13.3%, 11.9%, 8.7%, 5.3% and 3.8%, respectively.

Gross loan of microfinance industry grows 6% to USD 9.13 billion in Q3

Gross loan portfolio of the microfinance industry grew 6% to USD 9.13 billion at the end of the third quarter from the previous quarter with an annual growth of 37%. Combined microcredit portfolio of all lenders at the end of 2018 was USD 22.11 billion of which NBFC-MFIs are leading with USD 8.44 billion and 38.17% market share, followed by banks with USD 7.37 billion and 33.37% market share.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- Hero Electronix sets up semiconductor chip design centre in Bengaluru
- MSREI buys majority stake in Pune's KSH Infra for USD 49 million
- InnoVen Capital invests USD 4.9 million in Xpressbees
- Future Consumer signs MoU with UAE Company
- Lite Bite acquires four Phoenix arm brands

Hero Electronix sets up semiconductor chip design centre in Bengaluru

Hero Electronix has opened a dedicated semiconductor chip design centre in Bengaluru. Centre has been set up by Tessolve, an engineering solutions firm which Hero Electronix had acquired in 2016. It will focus on the needs of Tessolve's clients, which include major global semiconductor companies along with strengthening its chip design offering.

MSREI buys majority stake in Pune's KSH Infra for USD 49 million

Morgan Stanley Real Estate Investing (MSREI) has bought a majority stake in Pune-based warehouse and logistics park developer KSH Infra Ltd for around USD 49 million. After the transaction, KSH Infra has been de-merged from KSH Distriparks Pvt. Ltd, which operates an internal container depot (ICD) in Pune and a pan-India third-party logistics business

InnoVen Capital invests USD 4.9 million in Xpressbees

InnoVen Capital, which provides loans to startups, has invested USD 4.9 million in e-commerce logistics provider Xpressbees. Xpressbees is an end-to-end e-commerce-focused logistics provider. Its services include first and last-mile delivery and reverse logistics with facilities, such as real-time tracking, multiple payment collection and processing options. It serves more than 10,000 pin codes across India, with 53 hubs and about 1,300 service centres.

Future Consumer signs MoU with UAE Company

Future Consumer has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UAE-headquartered T Choithrams & Sons, a chain of supermarkets, to sell its range of biscuits, wheat flour and bakery products in the Middle East. Brands like Tasty Treat, Sangi's Kitchen, Desi Atta Company, Golden Harvest and Mother Earth will be retailed in 60 supermarkets across the UAE, Bahrain and Qatar to help expand its overseas distribution.

Lite Bite acquires four Phoenix arm brands

Restaurant chain Lite Bite Foods has acquired four brands from Bellona Hospitality, the food and beverages arm of Phoenix Mills Group, for an undisclosed amount. Brands acquired include Shizusan, which has outlets in Mumbai, Pune and Bangalore, 212 All Day and All Good, and Bar Bar. liteBite owns close to 200 casual dining restaurants in the country including Punjab Grill, Street Foods and Tres.