



MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	July 01, 2016	July 08, 2016	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	27,144.91	27,126.90	(0.06)	
NSE Nifty	8,328.35	8,323.20	(0.06)	

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**POLICY WATCH**

- Government approves USD 1.5 billion for skill development plan
- Funding rules for startups eased
- Aviation ministry clears proposals for development of small airports in Uttar Pradesh
- Government launches new initiative to skill workforce for jobs abroad
- Centre approves setting up of a major port at Enayam

Government approves USD 1.5 billion for skill development plan

Government has approved an outlay of USD 1.5 billion for providing apprenticeship training to over 5 million youngsters in the next four years in its quest to create more jobs. The money allocated will be provided as incentive to industries to take more apprentices on board. There are some 230,000 young people who are undergoing apprenticeship training or training on the shop floor at thousands of factories. The government plans to increase this to 5 million by 2019-20.

Funding rules for startups eased

Rules related to access of funds by startups via the convertible note route have been relaxed. Funds received by a startup amounting to USD 37,880 or more by way of a convertible note, in a single tranche from a person, will not be treated as a 'deposit'. The convertible note is to be either converted into equity or repaid within a period of five years.

Aviation ministry clears proposals for development of small airports in Uttar Pradesh

Aviation ministry has cleared proposals for development of small airports in Uttar Pradesh. The aviation ministry will extend USD 60 million assistance to develop Agra, Allahabad, Kanpur

and Bareilly airports. Besides these an airport at Kushinagar will also be developed, for which USD 30 million will be given by government.

Government launches new initiative to skill workforce for jobs abroad

Ministries of external affairs (MEA) and skill development & entrepreneurship have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for implementing the Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PKVY), a skill development initiative. MEA role would be to support pre-departure orientation training, which will include language and soft skills training modules. The training offered will also be backed by an internationally recognised assessment and certification system.

Centre approves setting up of a major port at Enayam

The Centre has approved the setting up of a major port at Enayam near Colachel in Tamil Nadu. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) would be formed for the development of Colachel port, with an initial equity investment from the three existing major ports in Tamil Nadu. The SPV would develop the port infrastructure, including dredging and reclamation, construction of breakwater and ensuring connectivity links.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- **India becomes world's fourth-largest app economy**
- **First IoT centre launched in Bengaluru with five start-ups**
- **India maintains its lead over China in pharmaceutical exports**
- **6 Indian drug makers sign licensing deals for HIV, hepatitis C treatments**
- **Manufacturing PMI rises to three-month high at 51.7**

India becomes world's fourth-largest app economy

India has become the fourth-largest mobile app economy after China, US, and Brazil. The amount of time Indians spent on apps in the first quarter of 2016 more than doubled compared to that in the first quarter of 2014. In retail apps, the time spent grew by 11.5 times during the same period, driven by e-commerce majors like Flipkart-Myntra, Amazon, and Snapdeal. The time spent on video streaming apps grew by 7.4 times, with YouTube and Hotstar leading the way.

First IoT centre launched in Bengaluru with five start-ups

Five startups Wireless Controls, Uncanny Vision, LightMetrics, ThingsCloud and SAAR Microsystems have been chosen for the first Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Internet of Things

(IoT) in Bengaluru. The IoT centre, which allows startups to build a prototype and test them, will focus on building solutions for applications such as agriculture, automobile, telecom, healthcare and consumer goods.

India maintains its lead over China in pharmaceutical exports

India's pharmaceutical exports continued its lead over China in 2015. While India's pharma exports grew from USD 11.66 billion to USD 12.54 billion in 2015 recording a growth of 7.55%, China increased its exports of pharma products from USD 6.59 billion to USD 6.94 billion showing a growth of 5.3% during the same period. India moved ahead of China in all important markets such as US, European Union and Africa.

6 Indian drug makers sign licensing deals for HIV, hepatitis C treatments

A United Nations backed public health organisation the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) has signed a licencing agreement with six Indian drug makers namely Aurobindo Pharma Ltd, Emcure Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Hetero Labs Ltd, Laurus Labs Ltd, Lupin Ltd and Zydus Cadila or Cadila Healthcare Ltd to sell generic antiretrovirals (ARV) and the hepatitis C drug Daclatasvir in low and middle-income countries.

Manufacturing PMI rise three-month high at 51.7

Manufacturing in India has registered a significant uptrend and hit a three-month high in June to 51.7, backed by a stronger increase in new business orders. The main contributing factors to the upward movement in the PMI were stronger rates of growth in new orders and output, both of which reached three-month highs in June. Incoming new work rose across the three broad areas of the manufacturing economy, as did production. The best-performing category was consumer goods.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Amazon India invests in 6 new fulfilment centres**
- **VCats announces USD 250,000 seed funding into SaaS-based start-up DSYH**
- **Trident ties up with French brand Elle Decor to launch high end home textiles**
- **TeamLease acquires ASAP Info Systems for USD 10 million**
- **Hyperlocal delivery start-up Grab raises funds from UAE's Aramex Ventures**

Amazon India invests in 6 new fulfilment centres

Amazon India has invested in six new fulfilment centres ahead of the upcoming festive season. The additional capacity will open up 5.5 million square feet of storage space for sellers on the marketplace who use the fulfilled by Amazon service. Amazon India claims that close to 80% of its sellers use its fulfilment service. The marketplace offers premium services on orders fulfilled by Amazon including cash on delivery, guaranteed next-day, same day and Sunday delivery.

VCats announces USD 250,000 seed funding into SaaS-based start-up DSYH

Seed investment and innovation platform Venture Catalysts (VCats) has announced a seed investment of USD 250,000 into Don't Scratch Your Head (DSYH). The start-up has been accelerated at Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)'s GenNext Hub. DSYH is a software-as-a-service (SaaS)-based logistics reconciliation platform for e-commerce channels.

Trident ties up with French brand Elle Decor to launch high end home textiles

Trident Group has tied up with France based Lagardere Active Group to launch an exclusive range of home textiles under the renowned French lifestyle brand ELLE DECOR in India. ELLE DECOR products are sold in 80 countries worldwide. The ELLE DECOR collection has been launched in India with a premium range of bed and bath linen under various collections.

TeamLease acquires ASAP Info Systems for USD 10 million

TeamLease Services Ltd has acquired Bengaluru-based ASAP Info Systems Pvt. Ltd for USD 10 million. The acquisition will help it expand its footprint in the core IT hiring space. ASAP Info has over 1,000 associates and 171 core employees. TeamLease's core business is to provide temporary staffing solutions for companies across sectors. Its clients include Microsoft India, LG Electronics, ICICI Lombard, Bata India and Larsen & Toubro. TeamLease was also the first temporary staffing solutions firm to get listed on the Indian bourses, earlier this year.

Hyperlocal delivery start-up Grab raises funds from UAE's Aramex Ventures

Grab a Grub Services Pvt. Ltd that runs hyperlocal logistics service Grab has raised debt from United Arab Emirates-based logistics firm Aramex Ventures Llc. Funding will be used to enhance the technology and roll out newer service verticals over the next year. The Mumbai-based company, founded in 2012 has clients including Snapdeal, Zomato, McDonalds, Big Bazaar, RBL Bank, Pantaloons, Faasos, Pizza Hut, etc. It provides services ranging from on-demand, reverse deliveries, first-mile and last-mile management.