MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	July 15, 2016	July 22, 2016	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	27,836.50	27,803.24	(0.11)	
NSE Nifty	8,541.40	8,541.20	(0.20)	

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

POLICY WATCH

- CCEA approves proposal for USD 2.61 billion power plant in UP
- NDMC signs agreement with NEERI to develop sewage treatment plants
- First railway station redevelopment on PPP model finalised
- Union Government clears setting up Sagarmala Development Company
- NHAI awards USD 80 million contract in Rajasthan

CCEA approves proposal for USD 2.61 billion power plant in UP

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved a plan to set up a 1,980 mw thermal power plant at Ghatampur in Uttar Pradesh. The project is estimated to cost USD 2.61 billion. The power project, with three 660 mw units, will be set up by a Joint Venture (JV) of Neyveli Lignite Corp and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam. It will supply the electricity generated at the plant mainly to the host state.

NDMC signs agreement with NEERI to develop sewage treatment plants

New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has signed an agreement with National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to develop 12 sewage treatment plants (STP). In the first phase, 12 STPs will be installed and each will have a capacity of treating sewage water ranging from 50,000-100,000 litres. All these plants will be connected to parks which will help the horticulture department to maintain the parks.

First railway station redevelopment on PPP model finalised

The Indian Railways Station Redevelopment Corporation has signed an agreement with a consortium of two private companies, selected through bidding, for modernisation of the Habibganj railway station in Madhya Pradesh. The selected bidder is a consortium of Bansal Construction Works and Prakash Asphalting & Toll Highways (India) Ltd. The cost of station redevelopment is USD 15 million and the estimated cost in case of commercial development is USD 45 million.

Union Government clears setting up Sagarmala Development Company

The Union government cleared a plan to set up Sagarmala Development Company (SDC) to provide equity support to port-led economic development projects, with an initial authorised share capital of USD 150 million and a subscribed share capital of USD 13.6 million. The SDC's role will be to identify port-led development projects and assist Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) in project development, bid out projects for private sector participation and put in place suitable risk management measures for strategic projects.

NHAI awards USD 80 million contract in Rajasthan

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has awarded a USD 80 million contract for widening of Salasar-Nagaur Section of national highways 65 in Rajasthan. The 120 km long Salasar-Nagaur section would be executed on Hybrid Annuity Mode and completed is 30 months from the date of commencement of the project.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- India's exports grow 1.27% in June
- Approval granted for setting up of IT/ITES SEZs
- GSM telecom operators add 3.5 million subscribers in June
- Truck, radial tyres imports up 40% during April-June quarter
- Services exports up 13% at USD 13.46 billion in May

India's exports grow 1.27% in June

India's merchandise exports grew in June and were up 1.27% in the month. Exports in June were USD 22.5 billion compared with USD 22.2 billion in the year ago period. 18 out of 30 exporting sectors showed growth in shipment with handicrafts leading the pack with 91.98% increase.

Approval granted for setting up of IT/ITES SEZs

Government has approved the proposal for setting up of IT/ITES Special Economic Zones in many parts of the Country. As on date, the Board of Approval (BoA) has approved 259 proposals for setting up of SEZ relating to Information Technology/Information Technology Enabled Services (IT/ITES)/ Electronic Hardware sectors SEZs in many parts of the country. The letter of approval granted to a SEZ developer is valid for a period of three years within which time effective steps are to be taken by the developer to implement the approved proposal.

GSM telecom operators add 3.5 million subscribers in June

The GSM subscriber base has grown to 776.97 million as mobile telecom operators have added 3.5 million subscribers in June. Airtel led the growth among operators, adding 1.4 million new customers and taking its total mobile subscriber base to 255.73 million. Vodafone added 0.7 million new ones, to increase its base to 199.38 million. Idea Cellular added 0.69 million and its base has increased to 176.23 million. Aircel added 0.67 million, to 88.93 million.

Truck, radial tyres imports up 40% during April-June quarter

Imports of truck and bus radial (TBR) tyres surged 40% during April-June, while those of passenger car radials increased 22%. Imports of TBRs reached 150,000 units a month from an average100,000 units in fiscal 2016. Over three years, the imports jumped sevenfold to 420,000 units in Q1.

Services exports up 13% at USD 13.46 billion in May

Services exports rose by 13.4% to USD13.46 billion in May this year compared to USD11.87 billion in May 2015. Also, services import in May 2016 increased by 25.4% at USD 7.9 billion compared to USD 6.32 billion in the year-ago month. The services sector contributes about 55% to the country's gross domestic product.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- Dabur acquires South African cosmetics trading firm Discaria
- Boston Scientific launches first integrated facility in India
- Indian Hotels sells iconic Taj Boston for USD 125 million
- Aspire Home Finance raises USD 166 million from IFC for expansion
- Granules to acquire 12.5% stake in US-based drug maker USpharma

Dabur acquires South African cosmetics trading firm Discaria

Consumer goods firm Dabur has acquired South African cosmetics manufacturing and trading firm Discaria Trading for an undisclosed amount. Following this acquisition, Dabur is likely to set up a greenfield manufacturing facility in South Africa. Dabur intends to sell its Namaste range of hair care products, which caters to ethnic African population, and cosmetics under the Vatika hair care and DermoViva skin care brands.

Boston Scientific launches first integrated facility in India

Medical devices firm Boston Scientific has launched its first integrated facility in India to develop and sell minimally invasive technologies fit for India and the greater Asian market and train physicians in using them. The 100,000 sq ft facility comprises research and development, training and commercial center. The research and development (R&D) center will focus on creating market-appropriate products based on unmet clinical needs in emerging markets, and will also serve as a global product engineering center

Indian Hotels sells iconic Taj Boston for USD 125 million

Indian Hotels Company, which runs 100 hotels in 62 locations under the Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces brand, has sold the iconic Taj Boston Hotel in the US for USD 125 million to a consortium of real estate developers. The consortium of buyers includes New England Development, Eastern Real Estate, Rockpoint Group, Lubert-Adler and Highgate.

Aspire Home Finance raises USD 166 million from IFC for expansion

Aspire Home Finance Corporation has raised USD 15 million debt from International Finance Corporation (IFC) to fund its expansion in the lower and middle income housing market segments. Aspire Fincorp plans to raise USD 447 million in all from various institutions this fiscal and major funding sources currently are banks and mutual funds.

Granules to acquire 12.5% stake in US-based drug maker USpharma

Granules Pharmaceuticals Inc, a wholly-owned subsidiary Granules India Ltd has entered into an agreement to acquire 12.5% stake in US-based drug maker USpharma Inc. This investment will enable Granules to participate in product selection and have right of first refusal to market the select products which are under development by USpharma.