

MARKET MOVEMENT

Major Indices	April 03, 2020	April 10, 2020	% Change	Change
BSE Sensex	27,590.95	31,159.63	12.93	↑
NSE Nifty	8,083.80	9,111.90	12.71	↑

INDIAN ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**POLICY WATCH**

- **CBIC allows traders to import, export goods without furnishing bonds**
- **CCI approves Hitachi's stake-buy in ABB's power grid arm**
- **India relaxes ban on exports of Paracetamol, Hydroxychloroquine**
- **Government exempts customs duty, cess on essential medical goods**
- **Irdai grants exemptions to merged banks on corporate agency matters**

CBIC allows traders to import, export goods without furnishing bonds

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has allowed traders to submit an **undertaking instead of furnishing bonds** required by customs for assessment and clearing of goods in order to prevent delays or disruption in exports or imports caused by Covid 19 pandemic. The relaxation applies to central and state PSUs, manufacturers or actual users, importers, authorised economic operators, status holders and all importers availing warehousing facilities. There will be certain conditions, including one that the trader gives a commitment to furnish the bonds, latest by July 5, 2020.

CCI approves Hitachi's stake-buy in ABB's power grid arm

Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved **acquisition of 80.1% stake in ABB Management Holding AG** by Hitachi Ltd for USD 11 billion. The deal is expected to be complete by the first half of 2020. Japanese firm Hitachi is the parent company of the Hitachi group of companies and is active in business segments, including IT solution, energy solution, industry solution, mobility solution, and smart life solution. Besides, ABB is involved in development, engineering, manufacturing and sale of products, systems and projects in the power grids sector.

India relaxes ban on exports of Paracetamol, Hydroxychloroquine

India relaxed a ban on exports of paracetamol and hydroxychloroquine (HCQ), both used in Covid-19 therapies, and placed them in the licensed category. Companies producing the drug have been asked to submit production details on a weekly basis. Quantity to be exported will be decided by the expert panel led by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).

Government exempts customs duty, cess on essential medical goods

Government has removed customs duty and health cess on ventilators, face and surgical masks, personal protection equipment and Covid-19 test kits to promote availability of these products. These exemptions will also be applicable on inputs used to manufacture these items.

Irdai grants exemptions to merged banks on corporate agency matters

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has granted relaxation to merged Public sector banks by allowing them to act as corporate agents of more than three entities in life, general and health insurance companies for a period of twelve months from the date of merger (April 1, 2020) for existing contracts of the acquired banks. Acquiring bank may continue arrangement with more than 3 entities in each of the life, general and health categories of insurers for a period of 12 months from the date of merger by transfer of the existing insurance arrangements of the acquired banks.

INDUSTRY WATCH

- **Data consumption in rural area rises 100%**
- **Industrial production grows to 4.5% in February**
- **NHAI achieves Construction of 3,979 km National Highways in FY 2019-20**
- **E-commerce firms tie up with retailers and e-grocers**
- **Total traffic handled at Major Ports grows 0.82% from April to March 2020**

Data consumption in rural area rises 100%

Data consumption in rural India on the network of CSC SPV rose nearly 100% within a month. Based on the growth trend, data consumption on the CSC SPV network is estimated to have increased by nearly 100% till date. Beside the growth of data consumption in rural areas, there has been a high demand of FTTH (Fiber to Home). In the month of March, more than 300,000 subscribers registered across 50,000 Gram Panchayats for FTTH.

Industrial production grows to 4.5% in February

Industrial production grew at 4.5% during February, majorly driven by mining and manufacturing activity as well as power generation. Manufacturing sector output grew at a rate of 3.2% in February compared to a contraction of 0.3% in the same month a year ago. Electricity generation increased by 8.1% as against a growth of 1.3% in February 2019. Mining sector output increased by 10% compared to a growth of 2.2% earlier.

NHAI achieves Construction of 3,979 km National Highways in FY 2019-20

National Highway Authorities of India (NHAI) has accomplished construction of 3,979 km of national highways in the financial Year 2019-20 as compared to 3,380 Km construction in the FY 2018-19. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has envisaged a highway development programme Bharatmala Pariyojana which includes development of about 65,000 km national highways. NHAI has been mandated development of about 27,500 km of national highways under Bharatmala Pariyojna Phase-I.

E-commerce firms tie up with retailers and e-grocers

E-commerce firms tie up with retailers and e-grocers to help in last mile delivery Agencies

Some retailers such as More, Future Group and Spencer's Retail are also partnering with residential welfare associations for bulk deliveries to manage the queue in stores. Uber, Domino's Pizza, Rapido, Zypp, Swiggy, Zomato and Scootsy have all ventured into grocery delivery in partnerships with retail chains such as Big Bazaar, Spencer's Retail and Nature's Basket, and online grocers BigBasket and Grofers.

Total traffic handled at Major Ports grows 0.82% from April to March 2020

Total traffic handled at Major Ports from April to March 2020 grew 0.82% to 704.63 million tonnes against 699.10 million tonnes handled during the corresponding period of the previous year. During April to March 2020, Container tonnage and TEUS (Twenty Foot Equivalent Units) were 146,934 and 9,988 thousand respectively, whereas it was 145,451 and 9,877 thousand during April to March 2019 registering a growth of 1.02% in Container tonnage and 1.12% in Container TEUs.

CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Zupee raises USD 8 million in Series A funding led by Matrix Partners**
- **L&T receives larger order from Indian Army**
- **Tata Power Solar bags NTPC contract for USD 247.55 million**
- **TOTAL completes USD 530.40 million deal with Adani group**
- **Swiggy raises additional USD 43 million in Series I round**

Zupee raises USD 8 million in Series A funding led by Matrix Partners

Online gaming company Zupee has raised USD 8 million in a Series A funding round. Investment round was led by Matrix Partners India along with participation from Falcon Edge Capital, WestCap Group, Orios Venture Partners and Smile Group, which was Zupee's early stage investor. There are more than 2,000 live quiz tournaments running on the app every day, covering over 100 topics.

L&T receives larger order from Indian Army

L&T Construction has received a large order estimated around USD 357.70- 715.41 million from the Indian Army to establish a unified network management system to manage, support and operate the countrywide armed forces network under the Network for Spectrum (NFS). Project consist the development of a Cloud based IT infrastructure on Infrastructure as a service (IAAS) model. The scope also includes Next Generation Operations System and Software (NGOSS) based Unified Network Management System, Eight Network Operations Centers (NOCs) consisting of National NOCs, Disaster Recovery NOCs.

Tata Power Solar bags NTPC contract for USD 247.55 million

Tata Power Solar will build the 300 MW CPSU-II for NTPC at an all-inclusive price of USD 247.55 million. Commercial Operation Date (COD) for this grid-connected solar photovoltaic project is set for September 2021. Thus, the order book of Tata Power Solar stands at approximately USD 1.22 billion, including external and internal orders.

TOTAL completes USD 530.40 million deal with Adani group

TOTAL Gas & Power Business Services has announced the closure of its deal with Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) for USD 530.40 million. Equal share of 50% will be owned by AGEL and TOTAL in the JV. Additionally, the JV houses 2.148 GW operating solar projects operating across 11 States in India.

Swiggy raises additional USD 43 million in Series I round

Swiggy, the food delivery platform, has received an additional USD 43 million funding as part of its ongoing Series I round. The Series I round was initiated in February this year and had raised USD 113 million led by existing investor Prosus N.V., along with participation from Meituan Dianping and Wellington Management Company.