

Hopes for healthy macro numbers, global cues lift equity markets

Mumbai, Sep 12: Investors' hopes for healthy macro-economic numbers, along with positive global cues on the back of easing geo-political tensions, lifted the key Indian equity indices -- the BSE Sensex and the NSE Nifty50 -- on Tuesday. According to market observers, both the key indices extended gains as healthy buying was witnessed for state-owned banks' stocks.

Consequently, the wider 51-scrip Nifty of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) gained 87 points or 0.87 per cent to close at 10,093.05 points.

Similarly, the Sensex of the BSE made healthy gains. It closed at 32,158.66 points, higher by 276.50 points or 0.87 per cent from the previous day's close at 31,882.16 points.

The Sensex touched a high of 32,172.46 points and a low of 31,950.24 points during the intraday trade.

"Markets rallied strongly on Tuesday to



close with healthy gains on the back of positive global cues. The Sensex in the process closed above the psychologically important 32,000-mark," Deepak Jasani, Head - Retail Research,

HDFC Securities, told IANS.

"Major Asian markets have ended on a positive note. European indices like DAX and CAC 40 traded higher."

On the currency front,

the Indian rupee weakened by 10 paise to 64.04 against the US dollar from its previous close at 63.93-94.

In investments, provisional data with the exchanges showed that

foreign institutional investors (FIIs) sold worth Rs 1,230.74 crore while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) purchased stocks worth Rs 1,313.08 crore.

"The BSE Sensex and

Nifty extended gains in the noon trade with fresh buying coming in state-owned banks like SBI and Bank of Baroda," said Dhruv Desai, Director and Chief Operating Officer of Tradebulls.

"Markets rose for the fourth straight session led by gains in metal, banking, FMCG and pharma shares."

Major Sensex gainers on Tuesday were: Tata Steel, up 3.30 per cent at Rs 683.15; Tata Motors (DVR), up 3.26 per cent at Rs 221.90; Sun Pharma, up 3.17 per cent at Rs 483.50; Tata Motors, up 3.14 per cent to Rs 387.20 and Hindustan Unilever, up 2.26 per cent at Rs 1,246.65.

Major Sensex losers were: Wipro, down 1.00 per cent at Rs 298.25; ONGC, down 0.76 per cent at Rs 162.15; Hero MotoCorp, down 0.72 per cent at Rs 3,917.55; NTPC, down 0.29 per cent at Rs 169.90; and PowerGrid, down 0.12 per cent at Rs 215.25.

India's factory output rises marginally by 1.2% in July

New Delhi, Sep 12: Shrugging off the contraction experienced in the previous month, Indian factory output in July rose marginally by 1.2 per cent as compared to the same month of last year, official data showed on Tuesday.

As per the new Index of Industrial Production (IIP), with the revised base year of 2011-12, factory output had declined by (-)0.1 per cent during June due to a drop in manufacturing, from a rise of 2.80 per cent reported.

The factory output had expanded by 4.5 per cent during July of 2016. On a year-to-date basis, the output rose by 1.7 per cent during April-July, 2017, which was much lower than the IIP growth rate of 6.5 per cent recorded in the corresponding period of last year.

Data released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) showed that July's modest turnaround was mostly led by a revival in electricity, which grew at 6.5 per cent over the same

month last year, and in "Other manufacturing" that grew at an impressive 20.9 per cent year-on-year.

Manufacturing output, which has the maximum weightage in the overall index, inched up at a marginal 0.1 per cent in July. The mining output during the month in consideration rose 4.8 per cent. Among the six use-based classification groups, the output of primary goods grew by 2.3 per cent, consumer non-durables by 3.4 per cent and infrastructure or construction goods by 3.7 per cent. In contrast, the output of intermediate goods declined by (-)1.8 per cent, consumer durables by (-)1.3 per cent and capital goods by (-)1 per cent.

"In terms of industries, eight out of the 23 industry groups in the manufacturing sector have shown positive growth during the month of July 2017 as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year," the CSO said.

Food prices push India's retail inflation higher in August

New Delhi, Sep 12: A rise in food prices pushed India's annual retail inflation higher in August, official data showed on Tuesday.

According to the data furnished by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, August's consumer price index (CPI) inflation shot-up a full one percentage point to 3.36 per cent from a rise of 2.36 per cent in July.

On a sequential basis, the country's Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) rose to 1.52 per cent during the month under review when compared to July 2017.

However, on a year-on-year (YoY) basis, the country's August retail inflation was lower than the 5.05 per cent CPI rate reported for the corresponding month of last year.

The YoY CPI in urban areas ruled higher at 3.35 per cent, whereas in rural India it rose by 3.30 per cent.

As per the ministry's data, retail inflation on a YoY basis edged higher due to a rise in the prices of food items like vegetables, cereals, milk-based products, meat and fish.

The data on a YoY basis showed that vegetables in August became costly by 6.16 per cent, while cereals prices rose by 3.87 per cent.

Other notable categories such as milk-based products became dearer by 3.58 per cent and meat and fish recorded a rise of 2.94 per cent.

Food and beverages during the month under consideration recorded a rise of 1.96 per cent over the same month last year.

Among non-food categories, the "fuel and light" segment's inflation rate accelerated to 4.94 per cent in August.

Online hiring activity in India up 14% in August: Monster.com



New Delhi, Sep 12: Online recruitment activity in India registered a 14 per cent increase in August over the same month a year ago, reported a survey on Tuesday.

The Monster Employment Index for last month stood at 279, which was a 14 per cent increase over the 244 registered in August 2016, thus also recording the highest rise in this fiscal.

"Ahead of the festive season, Home Appliances lead the top growth sectors with a 54 per cent year-on-year growth in August 2017," a Monster.com statement said here. "The jobs scenario in the country has subtly improved with a 14 per cent year-on-year growth according to the Monster Employment Index for August 2017," Monster.com MD (APAC and Middle East) Sanjay Modi said in a statement.

"The new GST tax regime is expected to have a positive impact on ease of doing business, thereby making it conducive for foreign investors and companies. However, its impact for reasonable job growth is going to take some time," he added.

The survey showed city-wise e-recruitment activity exceeded the year-ago level in 7 of the 8 cities monitored by Monster.com.

Kolkata (up 46 per cent) recorded the highest annual growth in hiring as in the previous month. Among other major cities, Mumbai (up 11 per cent) was the only other tier-1 city to exhibit a double-digit annual growth rate. Chennai was marginally up by one per cent, while Delhi-NCR last month was down one per cent below the hiring level in August

2016.

Of the 27 industry sectors monitored by the index, 21 saw increased demand. The Home Appliance sector led all monitored industry groups charting a 54 per cent growth over last year, followed by NGO/social services (up 38 per cent) and banking and financial services (up 35 per cent).

Home Appliances' "hiring on the month eased by three per cent for the first time following incessant growth since February 2017," the statement said.

"Online demand in the sector increased by nine per cent and 25 per cent respectively in the past three-months and six-months," it added.

Online recruitment activity in the e-commerce sector saw a marginal growth of one per cent over the level a year ago. The BPO/ITES hiring decline by 20 per cent in August was the steepest among the monitored industry sectors.

In terms of occupation, online demand exceeded the August 2016 level in 12 of the 13 occupation groups monitored by the index. Sales and business development professionals saw the steepest annual growth of 35 per cent in August, up from 29 per cent in July.

ENTERTAINMENT

Prasoon Joshi holds 1st board meeting of newly instituted CBFC Board

The first meeting of the newly constituted CBFC Board was held by chairman Prasoon Joshi on Monday.

The meeting was attended by board members Gautami Tadimalla, Jeevitha Rajashekar, Mihir Bhuta, Naresh Chandra Lal, Neil Scott Nongkynrih, Ramesh Patnaje, TS Nagabharna, Vani Tripathi Tikoo, Vidya Balan, Vivek Agnihotri and Waman Kendre. Also present at the meeting was the CEO Anurag Shrivastava.

Talking about this, Prasoon Joshi said, "It was important to have this meeting as early as possible for the board members to know each other and exchange valuable ideas. The board comprises of accomplished people and it was enriching to have meaningful discussions around the functioning of the body."

"The way forward will draw from the collective wisdom and experience of this group. We got



a lot of valuable insights from these interactions and I am thankful to all the Board members for being focused with an intricate approach. The purpose is clearly to make things better for all stakeholders where there

is mutual respect and collaboration," he added.

"It was felt that the constant fine-tuning of our sensibilities towards changing world of cinema is desirable and also that the processes should be further

streamlined for the benefit of the industry practitioners," he further said.

The CBFC board also decided that soon they would have an industry interaction to share the refinement of the processes and take industry inputs to make the certification process as smooth as possible.

New board member Vidya Balan commented, "Our first meeting was a great first step in the right direction ... towards understanding our role as the board and determining our approach. It was reassuring to know we are all on the same page."

Continuing board member Vani Tripathi Tikoo said: "It's a huge way forward. The fact that we sat for several hours and thrashed out most of the issues we have been faced with is a big step. The spirit of understanding and sensitivity to art is the take away from this progressive meet."

Sooraj Pancholi wants sister and him 'out of' Kangana-Aditya Pancholi row



Bollywood actor Sooraj Pancholi has recently requested everyone to keep his sister and him out from the ongoing battle of words between father Aditya Pancholi and his former girlfriend Kanagana Ranaut.

On the same note, after posting a series of tweets, Pancholi deleted his Twitter handle. Requesting the media platforms to leave his sister and him out of the "current situation", he said that he "would like to keep away from the mess." Before deleting his Twitter handle, Sooraj wrote, "Its my humble request to all the media platforms out there! To please keep my sister and me out of the current site.

I have nothing against anyone and I would like to keep away from the mess... its something that I have been trying to avoid for years. And I think its not right for anyone to tag my sister or me in every single article about it.. Please think of it as a son or a daughter.. say whatever you want but please do not invl us in it.. Thank you."

For the unversed, the fearless 'Queen' star in a recent interview with a Hindi news channel accused Aditya Pancholi, saying, "This man who was my father's age hit me hard on my head when I was 17. I started bleeding. I took out my sandal and hit him head hard and he started to bleed too. I lodged a FIR

against the man."

However, Aditya Pancholi demanded legal proof to the 'Rangoon' star's allegations against him, to which Kanagan's sister Rangoli tweeted, "Why should the reigning Queen of the film industry should scum to this small time goons bullyingWho has multiple complaints on him lyk mlstation neighbors physcl asoln n on duty polc officers beaten.....lso hs wyl brags bout hs affairs n d son is a part f a runin murdr case, y sud Kangana bothr with dis family f d millennium..Y c'n't he himself go 2 Versova Police station and chek 10 years old recrdz 2 remov the complain dat he wans 2 see 2day in 2017? (sic)."

Jacqueline Fernandez laughs off rumours about unfollowing Alia Bhatt!

Amidst rumours that all is not well between Bollywood beauties Jacqueline Fernandez and Alia Bhatt, sources close to both the actresses state that all is well between them.

Both the actresses have been finding this news extremely funny and have been often heard telling their friends that they are rather intrigued about where all this news is coming from.

A source revealed, "Both Jacqueline and Alia have had a hearty laugh over the matter. They both follow each other on Twitter. But Jacqueline has never followed Alia on Instagram. The news came in as a surprising revelation for the ladies as well."

The source further revealed, "Jacqueline and Alia are known to be extremely cordial with each other. Whenever they meet the actresses get along really well."

On the work front, Jacqueline will next be seen in 'Judwaa 2' alongside Varun Dhawan, the movie also stars Taapsee Pannu in pivotal role. On the other hand, Alia will next be seen with Vicky Kaushal in 'Raazi', produced by Junglee Pictures and Dharma Productions.

