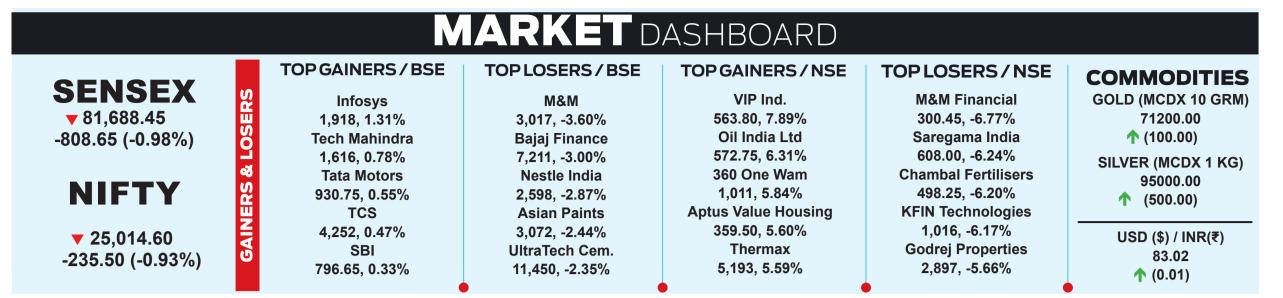
The **Earth News**

THE MARKET WATCH



Sensex sheds 808pts; Nifty ends near 25,000; FMCG drags, IT shines

MUMBAI: Benchmark equity indices, the BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50, ended the week's last trading session in negative territory, down nearly 1 per cent each, weighed down by selling across sectors.

The BSE Sensex shed 808.65 points or 0.98 per cent to 81,688.45. The index traded in the range of 81,532.68-83,368.32 today.

Similarly, the Nifty50 also dropped 235.50 points or 0.93 per cent to settle at 25,014.60 on Friday. The index traded in the range of 24,966.80-25,485.05 today.

The day ended in favor of bears as 37 out of 50 constituent stocks of Nifty50 ended in the red, dragged down by Mahindra & Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, Nestle India, BPCL, and Hero MotoCorp, with losses extending up to 3.54 per cent. Conversely, Infosys, ONGC, HDFC Life Insurance Company, Tata Motors, and Wipro were among the 13 constituent stocks that ended in the green, with gains ex-

tending up to 1.51 per cent.

That said, the fear index, India VIX, ended higher by 7.27 per cent at 14.13 points.

Broader indices ended in the red, with Nifty Midcap 1000 and Nifty Smallcap 100 settling down by 1.01 per cent and 0.90 per cent, respectively.

The sectors that bore the brunt of the downturn were FMCG, Auto, Media, Realty, and OMCs, all of which fell by more than 1 per cent. Notably, the Nifty Media index plummeted 2.53 per cent on Friday. However, IT and PSU Bank indices succeeded in eking out some gains, ending higher by 0.45 per cent

and 0.61 per cent, respectively, on Friday. Nifty fell for the fifth consecutive session forming a bear candle with a long upper shadow. This means that the upward retracement is happening in

a running manner. Over the week, Nifty fell 4.45 per cent retracing the gains of several weeks. This is a negative sign

though oversold conditions may mean a small pullback in the near term. Nifty could now take support at 24,753 and later 24,420 while 25,453 could act as a resistance in the near term. The bearish

sentiment continued as investors are monitoring the escalating conflict in the Middle East and have adopted a

sell-on recovery strategy. Crude prices have moved up sharply but may be restricted due to an increase in production from OPEC+. The drag was across sectors led by realty, auto, and FMCG except IT stocks, which gained due to expected benefits from US rate cuts and defensive nature. The pessimism on the market is expected to continue in the near term amidst rising crude prices and fund flows to cheaper markets like China.

New Nissan Magnite launched at Spl **Introductory** Price of Rs 5.99 lakh

KOLKATA: Nissan Motor India on Friday launched the New Magnite with bold aesthetics, enhanced safety, and advanced tech.

The Magnite's bold presence is accentuated by a tougher, more robust exterior that exudes confidence and enhances its already impressive road presence. The New Magnite continues its commitment to innovation and customer-centric design, hitting the market at an introductory

price of Rs 5.99 lakh, a 'Make-in-India, Make for the World' vision, surpassing cumulative sales of 150,000+ units till date

and making a powerful im-pact in both Indian and international markets since its December 2020 debut. The introduction of the

new Nissan Magnite marks a significant step in expanding the brand's export markets. The continuing demand and popularity of the 'Made in India' Magnite across international markets has allowed the company to expand its export footprint to 47 new markets taking the total export footprint to over 65 international markets now including Left-Hand Drive markets.

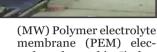
India to become 5th country to operate hydrogen-powered trains

NEW DELHI: Indian Railways has engaged Germany's TUV-SUD to conduct a third-party safety audit for the country's first hydrogen train. Officials familiar with the plan anticipate trial runs to commence in December 2024 for this rolling stock.

With this development, India will join Germany, France, Sweden, and China as the fifth nation worldwide to operate hydrogen-powered trains.

Additionally, five Hy-drogen Fuel Cell Based Tower Cars (maintenance vehicles) are being developed, each estimated to cost Rs 10 crore per unit. An official informed ET, "The Indian Railways will have 35 trains under the Hydrogen for Heritage initiative at an estimated cost of Rs 80 crores per train with another Rs 70 crores investment in ground infrastructure per route on various heritage

or hilly routes.' The official added, "The System integration Unit battery and two fuel unit synchronization tests have been successfully



Furthermore, a pilot project is underway to retrofit a Hydrogen Fuel cell on an existing Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) rake, along with the necessary ground infrastructure. This train is sched-

done.'

uled to operate on the Jind-Sonipat section of Northern Railway. "Integration of prototype train is planned in Integral Coach Factory, Chennai,' the official added.

The hydrogen for the train in Haryana will be provided by a 1-megawatt trolyser located in Jind. GreenH Electrolysis

released a statement indicating that this electrolvser will function continuously, generating approximately 430 kg/ day of hydrogen.

The statement also mentioned, "The refuelling infrastructure at Jind will also have a 3,000 kg hydrogen storage, hydrogen compressor, and two hydrogen dispensers with pre-cooler integration, allowing for quick refuelling of the trains.

Bangladesh, India & Nepal sign 40 MW Garth Brooks accused of sexual assault, Trump Jr mocks another 'White Dude for Harris'

electricity deal

DHAKA: Bangladesh. India and Nepal inked a 40-megawatt energy deal in the presence of Sveda Rizwana Hassan, the Environment, Forest, Climate Change, and Water Resources advisor of the Bangladesh government, media reports said.

The tripartite power sales agreement was signed in a ceremony in a Kathmandu hotel by the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), and India's NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited (NVVN), according to the Dhaka Tribune.

This deal allows 40 MW of power to flow from Nepal to Bangladesh via India for five months, from June to November.

Deepak Khadka, Nepal's Energy, Water Resources, and Irrigation Minister; Nazmul Ahsan, Bangladesh's Water Resources Secretary; and Ghanshvam Nepal's Ambassador to Bangladesh, also attended the ceremony on Thursday.

Rizwana Hassan emphasised that this agreement is a crucial step towards growing regional energy commerce.

"This is not just about meeting our immediate energy needs but also about ensuring the longterm energy security of our nations in an environmentally friendly man-

ner," she said. Earlier, the environment advisor met with Nepal's Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli at the Singha Darbar to address bilateral issues.

The environment adviser is in Nepal on a two-day visit to witness the signing of the historic power sale deal between Bangladesh, Nepal, and India.

artist has initiated legal ac-Bhandari, tion against country music star Garth Brooks, accusing him of raping her in a hotel room and subjecting her to other unwanted sexual advances. The accusations In her speech, Syeda

include sending explicit text messages and inappropriate physical contact. The woman, identified as Jane Roe in the lawsuit, claims Brooks exposed himself to

her on multiple occasions. She also alleges that the trauma from the alleged rape was so severe that it led her to contemplate suicide.

NEW YORK: A makeup

After the allegations came to light, Donald Trump Jr tweeted: "Another White Dude for Harris" referring to the group of white celebrity supporters of Vice President Harris. Garth Brooks sang

Amazing Grace Biden-Harris' inauguration in 2021. Brooks, despite being a country music star often associated with more conservative audiences, ac-

cepted the invitation to perform, framing it as a gesture to help heal political and social divisions in the country. Brooks later remarked that he viewed the performance as a "statement of unity," emphasizing that it was not a political decision but one intended to bring people together, regardless of party affiliation. His choice to participate in the inauguration reflected his belief in using music as a unifying force.

Now Brooks closeness to the administration is being used by the Trump campaign to target the Harris campaign. The Harris campaign is under-fire for numerous reasons including her husband Doug Elmhoff's affair with a nanny during his first marriage and allegations of assaulting his ex-girlfriend in 2012.

The lawsuit suggests that Brooks is trying to prevent his millions of fans from learning about the alleged actions he committed against a female employee



who, it is claimed, did nothing to warrant such treatment. It is further reported that Brooks previously filed a lawsuit in a Mississippi federal court, alleging the woman had threatened to tarnish his reputation unless he paid a large sum of money. The federal lawsuit, filed under the pseudonym John Doe, accuses the woman of attempted extortion, defamation, and caus-

ing emotional distress.

According to the federal suit. Brooks' team maintains that the woman's allegations are untrue and motivated by malice, asserting that her public accusations were an attempt to extort money from him. The suit seeks to prevent the woman from continuing what is described as "extortionate conduct," along with compensation for damages.

confidence that Brooks would be held accountable for his actions and viewed the preemptive lawsuit as a desperate attempt to silence their client.

As reported by Variety, the makeup artist began working for Brooks' wife, Trisha Yearwood, as a hairstylist in 1999 and later began working more closely with Brooks himself. She claims that Brooks engaged in inappropriate behaviour towards her, including emerging from a shower naked, forcing her to touch his genitalia, and pressuring her to perform oral sex. She also alleges that Brooks raped her during a trip to Los Angeles in May 2019 while attending a Grammy tribute event.

Further accusations include Brooks regularly discussing sexual fantasies in front of her, sending inappropriate text messages, and pressuring her to unbutton her shirt so he could grope her and masturbate.

Pakistan sanctions Rs 45 bln for military to protect Chinese business interests

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan government authorised an additional Rs 45 billion budget for the military forces, mostly to increase their capabilities to defend Chinese business interests in Pakistan and maintain international border fences, media reports said.

According to a cabinet resolution, Rs 35.4 billion would be allocated to the military and Rs 9.5 billion to the navy for different objectives. Pakistan Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb presided over the ECC meeting on Thursday, The Express Tribune said.

According to a statement published by the Pakistan Finance Ministry, the ECC also evaluated and accepted the Defence Division's application for a technical extra grant of Rs 45 billion for already authorised defence service projects for the cur-

rent fiscal year. It is the second largest additional grant granted for the military forces since the budget was approved in June.

Earlier, the ECC provided Rs 60 billion for Operation Azm-e-Istehkam. These supplemental grants

rity Division South, which

was in charge of securing

the China-Pakistan Eco-

nomic Corridor (CPEC) in

worth \$26.8 billion are in

the pipeline, and many of

those have been included in

projects

of Rs 2.127 trillion.

southern areas.

CPEC phase II.

About 26

rorist group in Afghanistan, its terrorists come to the exceed the defence budget country from abroad, acting Afghan Foreign Minister The ECC granted Rs16 Amir Khan Muttaqi said on billion for the Special Secu-Friday.

"With regard to the Islamic State terrorist group, there are no IS strongholds within Afghanistan. IS infiltrates from outside the country using its overseas centers and strongholds," the official told reporters at the sixth meeting of the Moscow format consultations on

No IS bases located in Afghanistan: Acting FM KABUL: There are no bas-

Afghanistan. The meeting es of the Islamic State terin Moscow is focused on strengthening the national reconciliation process in Afghanistan, enhancing regional engagement with the interim government, and combating terrorism and drug trafficking. The Taliban (under UN sanctions for terrorism) came to power in Afghanistan in August 2021, toppling the US-backed government as the United States and NATO troops were leaving the country after almost 20 years of military presence there.

US federal jury convicts 3 officers in fatal Tyre Nichols beating

The woman is repre-

sented by attorney Doug-

las Wigdor, who is known

for handling numerous

high-profile cases, includ-

ing many #MeToo law-

suits. Wigdor and his team

have praised their client's

bravery in bringing her

complaint against Brooks,

suggesting that sexual pred-

ators exist across various

industries, including coun-

try music. They expressed

WASHINGTON: Three former police officers have been convicted on federal charges related to the 2023 fatal beating of Tyre Nichols in Memphis, sparking nationwide protests and calls for law enforcement reform, media reports said on Friday.

Three individuals were found guilty of witness tampering, but were cleared of the most severe charge: violating 29-year-old Nichols's civil rights by causing death. According to Al Jazeera

reports, one officer, Demetrius Haley, was nevertheless convicted of violating Nichol's civil rights, causing bodily injury, as well as witness tampering.

The federal witness tampering charges carry a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, with the expected sentencing in January, the report said.

Haley and the two other ex-officers, Tadarrius Bean and Justin Smith, were among the five members of a special police unit accused

of beating Nichols to death on January 7, 2023.

According to reports, the beating was captured on police body camera footage and video from a nearby street-pole camera, which have gone viral.

They show Nichols fleeing a traffic stop, after being pepper-sprayed and tasered. He ran towards his mother's house, but police caught up to him first, pulling him to the ground, where he was then punched, kicked, and beaten with a baton.