

MARKET DASHBOARD

SENSEX

73,134.32
▲ 1186.77 (1.64%)

NIFTY

20,935.15
▲ 407.11 (1.98%)

GAINERS & LOSERS

TOP GAINERS / BSE

GRSE
2,359, 387.00
Ola Electric Mobilit
25.89, 3.09
Mazagon Dock Ship
2,318, 253.00
Cochin Shipyard
1,339, 146.00
Alok Industries
12.45, 1.27

TOP LOSERS / BSE

Ipca Labs
1,508, -93.00
Dr. Reddys
1,210, -45.31
Hyundai Motor India
1,716, -61.80
Blue Star
1,556, -54.41
Ashok Leyland
149.11, -5.02

TOP GAINERS / NSE

Trent
3,527, 231.00
InterGlobe
4,181, 237.00
Kwality Wall's
23.77, 1.31
Adani Ports SEZ
1,385, 72.80
Adani Ent.
1,843, 83.70

TOP LOSERS / NSE

Dr. Reddys
1,210, -45.31
HDFC Life
572.95, -17.65
Cipla
1,196, -28.30
Sun Pharma
1,729, -28.71
NTPC
364.65, -6.00

COMMODITIES

GOLD (MCDX 10 GRM)
15,2950.00
▲ (3400.00)
SILVER (MCDX 1 KG)
2,55,000.00
▲ (5000.00)

USD (\$) / INR(₹)

93.71
▼ (-0.82)

Market rebounds sharply on de-escalation hopes; Nifty above 22,600, Sensex up 1,187 pts

MUMBAI: Indian equity indices ended on strong note with Nifty above 22,600 on April 1 on possible de-escalation of war between US-Iran. At close, the Sensex was up 1,186.77 points or 1.65 percent at 73,134.32, and the Nifty was up 348 points or 1.56 percent at 22,679.40.

We wrap up today's edition of the Moneycontrol live market blog, and will be back tomorrow morning with all the latest updates and alerts.

Markets staged a rebound on Tuesday, marking a strong start to the new financial year. The Nifty 50 opened gap-up, tracking positive global cues; however, selling pressure in the latter half of the session trimmed gains, with the index eventually settling at 22,679.40, up 1.56%.

Sectorally, metals, banking, and IT stocks led the recovery, while pharma witnessed relatively subdued participation. Broader markets outperformed, with midcap and smallcap indices advancing 2.5-3%, reflecting a strong risk-on sentiment.

The recovery was pri-



marily driven by optimism around potential geopolitical de-escalation, which improved global risk appetite. A decline in crude oil prices and bond yields further supported sentiment, particularly for emerging markets like India. Additionally, attractive valuations following the sharp correction in March, along with supportive global cues, triggered broad-based buying. The beginning of the new financial year also contributed to increased market activity.

From a technical perspective, the Nifty has witnessed a relief rally after a steep ~11% decline in

March; however, sustainability remains critical.

Immediate resistance is placed in the 23,000-23,200 zone, with a key hurdle at 23,500, while support is seen in the 22,300-22,000 range. Participants should closely monitor crude oil prices and the rupee for cues on the next directional move. From a trading standpoint, maintaining balanced exposure on both sides and preferring spread strategies over naked positions is advisable as a prudent risk management approach until the market stabilizes.

Today, the Indian stock

markets started the new financial year on a positive note, with both Sensex and Nifty 50 closing higher by 1.65% and 1.56%. Buying was seen across major sectors such as banking, auto, IT, and metals, as investors reacted positively to both global and domestic developments.

One of the main reasons for the positive closing was relief in global crude oil prices. Market sentiment improved after former U.S. President Donald Trump indicated that tensions around the Iran conflict may not escalate further and that there could be room for diplomatic progress.

Auto stocks remained in focus after March sales numbers came in better than expected. Maruti Suzuki India reported steady passenger vehicle sales, while Mahindra & Mahindra and Tata Motors also showed healthy growth. Strong tractor and utility vehicle demand indicated that rural and semi urban demand remained stable. Banking stocks also gained as easing crude prices improved the overall macro outlook for India.

Jet fuel prices up by 8.5%; flyers spared steep airfare hikes

NEW DELHI: Jet fuel prices for scheduled Indian carriers have been upped by about 8.5% in April, sparing the average air travellers big airfare hikes. Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices for scheduled airlines per kilo litre will now cost Rs 1,04,927 in Delhi, up from Rs 96,638.14 last month. At India's second busiest hub, the price is now Rs 98,247, up from Rs 90,451.87 last month.

This is a big relief to India's stressed airlines and flyers. The uber rich travelling on non scheduled, adhoc and charters will need to cough up a lot more as jet fuel for those flights has more than doubled. For their domestic flights the increase is about 11% and for their international flights, the same is about 107%.

A kilo litre (KL or 1,000 litres) of ATF for these operators at India's busiest aviation hub Delhi's IGIA will now cost Rs 2,07,341.22 — up 114.5% from Rs 96,638.14 last month — for domestic flights. This is the first time the price for them has crossed the Rs 2-lakh mark in Delhi, Kolkata, and Chennai.

OTP can't secure payments: RBI rolls out stricter digital payment rules

NEW DELHI: With the beginning of the new financial year, India's digital payments landscape is poised for a major security overhaul as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) rolls out stricter authentication norms from April 1. The move comes in response to rising transaction volumes and increasing fraud risks. RBI aims to strengthen the country's payment ecosystem with more robust and adaptive safeguards.

Under the updated rules, all digital transactions will now require two-factor authentication (2FA). This means that every transaction must incorporate at least one dynamic element such as a one-time password, biometric verification (fingerprint, face ID, etc.) or device-based authentication, according to ET. Previously, OTPs alone were sufficient, but experts have raised concerns over vulnerabilities to phishing and SIM-swap attacks. According to Sanjay Tripathy, CEO and Co-Founder of

cross-border payments platform BRISKPE, "The RBI by mandating risk-based checks has formalised a framework that encourages a variety of authentication mechanisms beyond just SMS-based OTPs. The requirement for an Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) in cross-border card-not-present transactions is a critical step to increase trust and reduce risks, benefiting both businesses and customers." The RBI's new framework signals a shift from rigid rule-based compliance to principle-driven regulation, promoting innovation while establishing a strong baseline for payment security. Several banking and financial rules are set to change from April 1 affecting credit card users, FASTag holders, RuPay debit cardholders, PAN applicants and bank customers. SBI Card, for instance, has revised the redemption structure for its Cashback SBI Card, allowing statement credit redemption only in multiples of 4,000 reward points.



WCL powers India with 63 mn tonnes coal output in 2025-26

NAGPUR: Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) has registered significant achievements in coal production, despatch and overburden removal during the financial year 2025-26, a press release said. According to the release, during this period 2025-2026, WCL produced 63.03 Million Tonnes of coal, achieved 60 Million Tonnes of coal despatch and carried out 354.33 Million Cubic Metres of Over Burden Removal (OBR). These achievements are the result of several positive initiatives undertaken by the company throughout the year. During FY 2025-26, WCL obtained incremental Environmental Clearance for 5.375 Million Tonnes, the release said.

In addition, the company secured Stage-II Forest Clearance for 207.76 hectares of forest land across seven projects, the highest number of forest clearances obtained in a single financial year since company's inception. To make coal mining operations more efficient and safer, WCL has increasingly adopted modern technologies such as Continuous Miner and Surface Miner.

ACROSS THE GLOBE

Trump's shifting Iran war rhetoric causes uncertainty in markets and administration

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump's constantly shifting signals on the war with Iran have reportedly created growing uncertainty, not just among foreign governments and markets, but even within his own administration.

Officials who have long supported Trump are increasingly skeptical about both the conflict and the president's ultimate objectives. Some aides, speaking on condition of anonymity, described White House decision-making as heavily improvised, Axios reported.

The presidential aides argued that Trump lacks a specific plan. His decision-making pattern ranging from rapid escalations to sudden pullbacks, appears highly unpredictable.

At different points, his aides have believed he was preparing for a major military push, only to later hear him talk about winding down operations and declaring victory, Axios reported.

"Nobody knows in the end what he's really thinking," one senior advisor said, while a former official described Trump's approach consistently evolving on a weekly basis, with no fixed strategy or even a layout in place.

Others close to the president argue that the unpredictability is deliberate, with GOP Senator Lindsey Graham claiming that the lack of clarity itself was part of the plan to create confusion within enemies, while Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth framed it as a tactic to keep adversaries off balance.

Another administration official described the approach as intentionally contradictory, making it difficult for allies and adversaries alike to anticipate US moves.

Trump has increasingly spoken about ending the war within a span of "two to three weeks," in a bid to exit the campaign quickly, and declare victory, as Tehran has shown massive resilience, with the Houthis also entering the war, significantly raising difficulties for the US to engage militarily.

As per officials close to him, he still continues to engage with more hawkish voices, including Graham and conservative commentator Mark Levin, even as some long-time allies caution against deeper escalation.

US' regional partners in West Asia are also watching closely, with officials in Israel, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE also expressing concerns over the prospect of a US exit, all the while Iran's military, though weakened, still retains significant weapons capability.

Simultaneously, however, the US continues to build up its military assets in the region, maintaining options for further escalation even as discussions over an exit strategy continue to take place.

Scenarios under consideration include a "final blow" to key Iranian military infrastructure, and nuclear facilities. Another concept being discussed inside the administration is a longer-term approach sometimes described as "mowing the grass," involving periodic strikes to limit Iran's capabilities without committing to sustained ground operations.

Indian-origin man's car plows into crowd outside UK pub, remanded to custody

LONDON: An Indian-origin man was remanded to custody on Wednesday after he was charged with dangerous driving as his car hit people and injured seven outside a pub in the UK.

Seven people, including three women, were injured, some seriously, outside the Bishop Blaise pub in Friar Gate in Derby at around 9.30 pm on Saturday when a black Suzuki Swift, driven by Sandhu Ponnachan, a 36-year-old originally hailing from Punjab, mounted the pavement, Derbyshire Police said.

Ponnachan has also been charged with six counts of causing grievous bodily harm with intent, one count of attempted grievous bodily harm, and one count of possession of a bladed article.

Of the victims, aged between 36 and 52, four have been discharged from hospital, police said.

Ponnachan, who now lives in Derby, northeast of London, was arrested seven minutes after the incident.

On Wednesday, he appeared at Southern Derbyshire Magistrates' Court, when police said he showed no emotion. Ponnachan, wearing glasses and dressed in a plain grey T-shirt, grey jogging bottom and light blue croc-type footwear, spoke only to confirm his personal details, including his address. He was remanded to custody until an appearance at Derby Crown Court on April 29.

District Judge Jonathan Taaffe began the hearing by addressing Ponnachan directly: "You face a number



of charges from an incident on March 28th. It's said that upon that date you drove dangerously and that you committed acts that have unlawfully and maliciously caused grievous bodily harm to a number of people." "Given the nature of the charges, they can only be dealt with at the crown court," the judge said.

In a statement to the media at Derbyshire Po-

lice's south divisional headquarters after the court hearing, Chief Superintendent Emma Aldred said there would be extra patrols in the city this weekend. She said: "This incident has naturally sent shockwaves through the community of Derby and beyond. Earlier, a BBC report said Counter-terrorism police had joined the investigation but the Derbyshire force said it was a "common practice for an incident of this nature" and officers were "keeping an open mind about the potential motives."

Indian citizen injured in drone attack in UAE

DUBAI: An Indian national was injured when he was hit by shrapnel from a drone intercepted by the air defence system in the United Arab Emirates on Wednesday, local government said.

The incident occurred near the Umm Al Thuob Industrial Area in Umm Al Qaiwain, one of the seven emirates, state-run WAM news agency reported.

The Umm Al Qaiwain Government Media Office confirmed that the relevant authorities in the emirate responded to an incident that occurred near a facility in the Umm Al Thuob Industrial Area, resulting from falling shrapnel following the successful in-

terception of a drone by air defence systems.

"The incident led to the injury of one Indian national," the agency quoted the office as saying.

Earlier last week, five Indians were injured in the UAE after debris fell in the vicinity of the Khalifa Economic Zones Abu Dhabi (KEZAD) as a ballistic missile was intercepted by the country's air defence system, local media reported on Saturday.

Before that, on Thursday, an Indian national was among the two killed in the UAE when debris of missiles intercepted by the country's air defence system fell on a street, Abu Dhabi Media Office reported.

Al-Qaeda operative sent to 33-year jail term in Pakistan

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan has handed down a 33-year jail term to an Al-Qaeda operative for planning to carry out an attack in a busy market place in Punjab province, the Counter Terrorism Department said Wednesday.

The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) said it arrested from Sahiwal district of Punjab, some 200 kms from Lahore, the Al-Qaeda operative Junaid Ashraf acting on a tip-off in October last year.

During interrogation, Ashraf, a resident of Anwar Colony, Tando Muhammad Khan of Sindh province, revealed that he was given a task to carry out an explo-

sion in a busy market place in Sahiwal.

Some 2,212 grams of explosive material, primacord, electronic devices, mobile phones, electric detonators, system components, an iron box and a pistol were recovered from him.

"On Tuesday, the anti-terrorism court (ATC) Sahiwal special judge awarded Ashraf a jail term of 33 years and also imposed a fine of PKR 5,000 on him in light of evidence furnished by prosecution," the CTD said.

The convicted terrorist had received instructions from his accomplices in Afghanistan, the CTD claimed.

Starmer defends NATO as President Trump questions US membership

LONDON: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has defended NATO as the world's "most effective military alliance," following comments by US President Donald Trump suggesting the US might leave the alliance.

Starmer emphasised the UK "won't be dragged into any war" and will act in its national interest. He stressed the importance of strong ties with Europe for defense, security, and economic stability.

"But I'm equally clear that when it comes to defense and security, and our economic future, we have to have closer ties with Europe."

Starmer's comments

come in stark contrast with Trump who dismissed the military alliance as a "paper tiger" and questioned Britain's naval readiness, also hinting he would reconsider US membership following conflict with Iran.

Meanwhile, French President Emmanuel Macron praised Europe's "predictability" during a visit to Japan on Wednesday by saying that there are countries that "could hurt you without even informing you" in an apparent swipe at Donald Trump.

The US president lashed out at France on Tuesday, writing on social media that Paris had been "very unhelpful" during the war



with Iran, which has since spread across the Middle East.

"I'm well aware that sometimes Europe can be seen as a continent that is slower than others," Ma-

cron said in Tokyo.

NATO members have been cautious about reopening the Strait of Hormuz, the vital oil shipping route Iran closed after attacks by the US and Israel.