

MARKET DASHBOARD

SENSEX

76,631.65  
▼ -931.25 (-1.20%)

NIFTY

22,037.50  
▼ -99.60 (-0.45%)

GAINERS & LOSERS

TOP GAINERS / BSE

Ola Electric Mobilit  
36.32, 6.06  
Thermax  
3,535, 244.00  
Ather Energy  
820.25, 49.60  
Honasa Consumer  
332.35, 19.00  
HFCL  
79.61, 4.44

TOP LOSERS / BSE

CCL Products  
1,076, -47.30  
Vishal Mega Mart  
112.07, -4.53  
BLS Int. Services  
286.91, -10.98  
InterGlobe  
4,449, -166.00  
Minda Corp.  
514.40, -18.15

TOP GAINERS / NSE

Hindalco  
985.65, 33.90  
HAL  
4,033, 125.00  
Power Finance Corp.  
428.05, 10.40  
Siemens Energy India  
2,768, 66.00  
Bosch  
36,770, 835.00

TOP LOSERS / NSE

InterGlobe  
4,449, -166.00  
Jio Financial Services  
238.84, -8.03  
Info Edge  
1,002, -30.31  
Ambuja Cements  
434.05, -12.70  
L&T  
3,896, -110.00

COMMODITIES

GOLD (MCDX 10 GRM)  
15,1480.00  
↓ (234.00)  
SILVER (MCDX 1 KG)  
2,55,000.00  
↓ (5000.00)

USD (\$) / INR(₹)

92.59  
↑ (0.47)

# Nifty ends above 23,750; Sensex tanks over 900 pts amid US-Iran ceasefire uncertainty

NEW DELHI: Benchmark indices ended lower on Thursday, snapping a five-day gaining streak, with the Sensex declining 931 points to close at 76,632 and the Nifty falling 222 points to settle below the 23,800 mark at 23,775.

Selling pressure was led by financial heavyweights, with HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank weighing on the benchmarks. Market breadth remained negative, with the NSE advance-decline ratio at 2:3.

The Nifty Bank index underperformed, declining 882 points to end at 54,822, with all constituents closing in the red. However, the midcap index bucked the broader trend, rising 179 points to settle at 56,979.

Among sectors, upstream oil companies saw some gains as Brent crude prices hovered near \$98 per barrel, while downstream oil firms remained under pressure.

On the stock-specific front, Honasa Consumer Ltd rose nearly 5% following a strong Q4 update. Anand Rathi Wealth Ltd gained 4% after its quarter-

ly results, while GM Breweries Ltd slipped 2%.

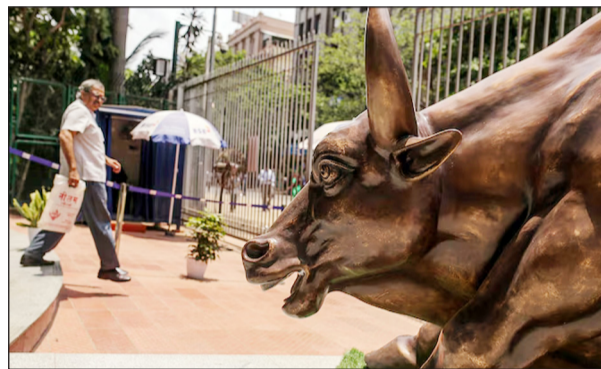
Escorts Kubota Ltd added over 2% after a brokerage upgrade by JPMorgan, and Bosch Ltd gained 3% after announcing the acquisition of Bosch Chassis Systems India.

Among other gainers, Bajaj Auto Ltd rose 2% following an upgrade by BofA Securities, while BEML Ltd edged higher after signing an MoU with DMRC for rail and metro project bids. Power equipment stocks also saw gains of up to 5% on positive brokerage commentary.

On the downside, Info Edge (India) Ltd declined 3% after its quarterly update, while InterGlobe Aviation Ltd, Jio Financial Services Ltd, Larsen & Toubro Ltd, and Shriram Finance Ltd were among the top Nifty losers.

In the IT pack, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd ended over 1% higher ahead of its Q4 earnings.

Meanwhile, Bharat Forge Ltd fell 3% after its board approved the restructuring of its German steel forging operations.



On the currency front, rupee ended at 92.66/\$ against Wednesday's close of 92.58/\$.

"Whenever NSE does get listed, it is going to provide a valuation benchmark tailwind for the entire exchange space. More importantly, if you look at the options volumes, they seem to be retaining their buoyancy.

This business is showing far lower cyclical than capital market plays in general.

To some extent, you are seeing money rotating out of other capital market plays like AMCs or brokers and moving into exchanges, which are relatively more stable, platform-driven

businesses. As scale kicks in, they offer significantly higher operating leverage. So to that extent, the benefit is coming through on the exchanges side.

"I think we are sitting on healthy returns right now, and we continue to believe that metals as a commodity, and white metals in particular, are going to have a structurally strong run for many years. On one side, we are seeing disruptions in Bahrain and UAE as far as production capacity is concerned, and on the other, Indian companies are adapting to green energy within their manufacturing base. As a result, there is a dual advantage.

## Accessibility can unlock USD 191 bn economic potential

NEW DELHI: Svayam, an accessibility advocacy organisation founded by industrialist Sminu Jindal, in collaboration with KPMG, released a whitepaper highlighting that India can unlock an estimated USD 191 billion (Rs 16.08 lakh crore) in economic value by addressing accessibility gaps across key sectors.

Titled "Does Accessibility Make Economic Sense?", the report examines how accessibility can drive economic gains in tourism, sports, transport, and information and communication technology (ICT), positioning it as a core economic lever. The whitepaper notes that up to 34 per cent of India's population—over 486 million people—experience reduced mobility, including elderly individuals, caregivers, and those with temporary or situational limitations. At the household level, the impact extends to nearly half the population.

According to the report released on Wednesday, the unrealised economic opportunity stems from gaps in infrastructure, services, transport systems, and digital access, which limit participation, consumption, and productivity.

## Tata Consultancy Services reports 12% rise in net profit at Rs 13,718 crore

MUMBAI: TCS Q4 FY26 results: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India's largest IT services major, reported a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 13,718 crore for the fourth quarter of financial year 2025-26. This is a 12% year-on-year rise in net profit. Revenue from operations also rose 10 per cent compared to the previous year, reaching Rs 70,698 crore. The company's board approved a final dividend of Rs 31 per share. For the financial year ended March 31, 2026, TCS said the final dividend will be paid on the third day after the conclusion of its 31st Annual General Meeting. According to its exchange filing, the company's total shareholder payout through dividends for FY26 stands at Rs 39,571 crore. The PAT rose 29 per cent sequentially from Rs 10,657 crore reported in Q3FY26. Revenue also showed an uptick, increasing 5.4 per cent quarter-on-quarter, while growth stood at 1.2 per cent on a constant currency basis. For the full financial year, the company reported revenue of Rs 2,67,021 crore, reflecting a 4.6 per cent rise compared to the previous year, although it registered

a decline of 2.4 per cent in constant currency terms.

TCS said it clinched three large deals in the fourth quarter, taking the total contract value (TCV) for the period to \$12 billion. "We are pleased to report the third consecutive quarter of sequential growth, supported by three mega deals with a \$12 billion TCV, highlighting the strength of our five-pillar strategy and our AI-led positioning across services. It is equally encouraging that this momentum was broad-based across major markets and most industries," said K Krithivasan, CEO and MD, TCS. The big part of the management discussion centred on how the company is adjusting to the rise of AI and positioning itself amid an uncertain environment. Aarthi Subramanian, COO of TCS, said FY26 was a significant milestone in the firm's AI journey. "In Q4, our annualized AI revenues surpassed \$2.3 billion, driven by the accelerated deployment of AI solutions," she added. Ahead of the quarterly results, shares of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) closed at Rs 2,587.75, up Rs 28 or 1.09% on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

## Sanjay Khanna appointed as chairman of BPCL

MUMBAI: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), a Fortune Global 500 company and a Maharatna PSU, today announced that the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Sanjay Khanna, currently Director (Refineries), as the Chairman & Managing Director (C&MD) of the Company. According to a press statement issued here, the appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet based on the recommendation of the Search-cum-Selection Committee (SCSC), under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Khanna will assume charge, effective from the date of assumption of office, and will hold the position till his superannuation on May 31, 2029, or until further orders. With extensive experience in refinery operations and project execution, Khanna is expected to further strengthen BPCL's strategic focus on value-added products, petrochemical integration, operational efficiency, and long-term energy security, while driving sustainable growth in an evolving energy landscape.

# ACROSS THE GLOBE

## Ambassador Preeti Saran re-elected to key UN body for new 3-Year term

NEW YORK: Veteran diplomat Preeti Saran has been re-elected to the prestigious UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) for a fresh three-year term starting 2027, in recognition of her expertise in steering the body through complex global socio-economic challenges.



Missions in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas.

"I feel honoured to be re-elected member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which administers the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights," she said.

She noted that the committee comprises 18 independent international experts who monitor the

implementation of the covenant by state parties.

"As the largest democracy in the world, the Indian growth story, particularly in the last 15 years, is exemplary in fulfillment of these basic human rights for its people to have a full, free, safe, secure and healthy life," Saran said.

"In fact, my election as Chair of this Committee last year, the first Indian to hold this position, was a recognition of India's contribution and leadership in promoting and protecting these human rights globally," she said.

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"In fact, my election as Chair of this Committee last year, the first Indian to hold this position, was a recognition of India's contribution and leadership in promoting and protecting these human rights globally," she said.

In February last year, Ambassador Saran was elected as chair of CESCR for a two-year term.

Ambassador Saran superannuated from service after serving as the secretary (east) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) from March 2016 to Sep-

tember 2018.

As the secretary (east), she was responsible for policy formulation and implementation of India's relations with countries in East Asia, Southeast Asia, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean region.

Ambassador Saran was the Indian Sherpa and leader of the senior official meetings (SOM) at several multilateral events and summits, including the BRICS, the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), ASEAN-India annual summits and the East Asia summit.

She was also India's Ambassador to Vietnam and Consul General in Toronto. Her other notable overseas assignments include her stints at the Indian missions in Moscow, Dhaka, Cairo and Geneva.

## Macron calls Sharif, expresses 'serious concern' over Israeli attacks on Lebanon

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and France on Thursday expressed "serious concern" over the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

During a "warm and cordial" telephone conversation between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and French President Emmanuel Macron, the latter conveyed his good wishes to the prime minister for the success of the upcoming peace talks in Islamabad.

According to the PM Office, President Macron called Sharif and congratulated him for Pakistan's mediation efforts that had resulted in the ceasefire between Iran and the US and brought both sides to the negotiating table.

"Both leaders expressed their serious concern over the ongoing aggression in Lebanon and stressed upon the urgent need to end the violence and killings, so that peace could be re-established in the entire region," according to the

PMO statement.

While thanking President Macron for supporting Pakistan's diplomatic efforts, Sharif reaffirmed that Pakistan would continue to strive for peace and stability in the region.

The two leaders also agreed to remain in contact.

Earlier in the day, in Beirut, Lebanon's health ministry said at least 203 people were killed in widespread Israeli strikes in central Beirut and other areas of Lebanon on Wednesday.

Pakistan is set to host the high-stakes in-person talks between the US and Iran on Friday, aiming to consolidate a fragile ceasefire and avert further escalation in West Asia.

The US and Iran agreed to a two-week conditional ceasefire early Wednesday, followed by a face-to-face meeting in Islamabad to settle the differences and convert the ongoing truce into a lasting peace.

## Nepal PM sacks Labour minister for misusing post to benefit wife

KATHMANDU: Prime Minister Balendra Shah on Thursday sacked a minister for misusing the post to benefit his wife, 15 days after he took charge of the office. Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security Dip Kumar Sah has been relieved from his post on Thursday at the recommendation from the ruling Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), according to the Prime Minister's secretary.

RSP president Rabi Lamichhane had recommended Shah to take action against Sah for misusing dignity of position by being involved in re-appointment of his wife as a member of the Health Insurance Board after her tenure had expired, it said.

The central disciplinary commission of the RSP on Wednesday had submitted its recommendation to remove Sah from the post,

Prime Minister's press advisor Deepa Dahal told media persons.

The prime minister has assumed the responsibility of the Labour Ministry now.

In a related development, Lamichhane had also recommended that Minister for Health and Population Nisha Mehta be cautioned for failing to handle the matter of re-appointment of Sah's wife seriously.

Acting on that recommendation, the prime minister has issued a warning to Minister Mehta, Dahal said.

In March, fresher Shah – popular only as Balen – and his RSP rode to power decimating the traditional parties in the first general elections since last year's violent Gen Z protests that sought generational change and corruption-free regime.

## Aus Chancellor Stocker to visit India next week to strengthen bilateral ties

NEW DELHI: Austria's Federal Chancellor Christian Stocker will undertake a four-day visit to India beginning April 14 to shore up bilateral cooperation in a range of areas including trade, investment and critical technologies.

The top Austrian leader will hold extensive talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on India-Austria bilateral ties and exchange views on regional and global issues, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday.

Stocker's trip will mark both his inaugural official visit to Asia and his first trip to India.

The Austrian leader

will be accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising Federal Minister of Economy, Energy and Tourism Wolfgang Hattmannsdorfer, senior officials and business leaders.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Federal Chancellor Christian Stocker will hold discussions on strengthening bilateral cooperation across a wide range of areas," the MEA said.

"They will also exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest, including cooperation in multilateral fora. Prime Minister will host a lunch in honour of the visiting dignitary," it said.

## China denies reports of support to Iran's military during war with US

BEIJING: China's Defence Ministry on Thursday denied reports that Chinese firms provided satellite imagery and semiconductor chip manufacturing equipment to the Iranian military in the midst of the US-Israeli war against Iran. China firmly opposes the dissemination of speculative and insinuating disinformation targeting China by relevant parties, Defence Ministry spokesperson Zhang Xiaogang said. He was responding to questions on reports stating that Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC) had provided chip manufacturing equipment to the Iranian military.

# United Kingdom accuses Russia of covert Submarine operations in British waters

LONDON: Britain on Thursday accused Russia of conducting covert attack submarine operations in and around its waters, which it said had been successfully repelled by its armed forces. The Ministry of Defence claimed British aircraft and warships identified a Russian attack submarine entering international waters in the High North several weeks ago and tracked its activity around the clock. The operation in the North Atlantic was said to have been part of a "Russian bluff", while other specialist vessels conducted " nefarious activity" near critical underwater infrastructure.

"I am determined to protect the British people from paying the price for [Russian President] Putin's ag-

gression in their household bills," said Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

"That is why we will not shy away from taking action and exposing Russia's destabilising activity that seeks to test our resolve.

"Our Armed Forces are among the best in the world, and the British public should be in no doubt that this government will do whatever it takes to defend our national and economic security, wherever in the world that is needed," he said.

According to the ministry, service personnel quickly established that the submarine was deployed as a distraction and worked closely with allies – including Norway – to identify and monitor other Russian undersea naval units from the Main Director-

ate of Deep Sea Research (known as GUGI) conducting nefarious activity over critical undersea infrastructure elsewhere. "While the eyes of many – understandably – were on the Middle East, our British Armed Forces were simultaneously responding to rising Russian threats north of the UK," said Defence Secretary John Healey, who led a Downing Street press conference to reveal details of the operation. "As we act to defend our interests and Allies in the Middle East, we are tackling increasing threats to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) in the High North, maintaining strong support for Ukraine and protecting our UK homeland.

"To Putin, I say this: we see you, we see your activity over our under-

water infrastructure. You should know that any attempt to damage it will not be tolerated and would have serious consequences," he said.

The UK said its campaign of overt action was intended to ensure the Russian units knew that they were being monitored and were no longer covert as planned. Both the GUGI units and the Akula class submarine are said to have since "retreated home, having failed to complete their operation in secrecy".

The target is believed to have been subsea fibre optic cables essential for all digital communications, with over 99 per cent of international data traffic, including voice calls and internet data – underpinning global banking, trade, and communications.