

MARKET DASHBOARD

SENSEX

76,015.28

▼ -1312.91 (-1.69%)

NIFTY

22,795.75

▼ -319.91 (-1.38%)

GAINERS & LOSERS

TOP GAINERS / BSE

ITD Cementation  
956.45, 141.00  
Dr Lal Pathlabs  
1,573, 206.00  
R R Kabel  
1,775, 204.00  
HFCL  
126.04, 10.00  
Vedanta  
294.65, 23.10

TOP LOSERS / BSE

Zen Tech  
1,528, -143.00  
Kajaria Ceramic  
1,105, -83.16  
Sapphire Foods  
193.77, -11.85  
Sona BLW Precision  
575.45, -31.80  
GRSE  
2,778, -153.00

TOP GAINERS / NSE

Adani Ports SEZ  
1,743, 85.30  
Adani Ent.  
2,486, 77.30  
Eicher Motors  
7,329, 220.00  
HUL  
2,309, 58.40  
Jio Financial Services  
252.74, 6.38

TOP LOSERS / NSE

Bharti Airtel  
1,827, -59.71  
Kotak Bank  
371.65, -11.66  
Dr. Reddys  
1,287, -35.71  
ONGC  
292.90, -6.66  
TCS  
2,431, -42.60

COMMODITIES

GOLD (MCDX 10 GRM)  
14,920.00  
↓ (1310.00)  
SILVER (MCDX 1 KG)  
2,65000.00  
↓ (10000.00)  
USD (\$) / INR(₹)  
95.31  
↑ (0.9)

# Gold, silver shrug off global weakness amid US-Iran diplomacy hopes

**NEW DELHI:** Gold and silver prices edged higher in spot markets on Thursday as traders remained cautiously optimistic amid US-Iran tensions and elevated global crude oil rates stoking inflationary pressures. In Delhi's spot market, gold of 99.9 per cent purity rose for the third straight session, rising by Rs 600 to Rs 1,65,500 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes), according to local marketmen. The metal has remained volatile since the central government raised the import duty on precious metals to 15 per cent last week. Gold prices had surged by Rs 8,550 in a day to Rs 1,65,350 per 10 grams following the announcement of a hike in import duty on the



precious metals. The metal fluctuated between gains and losses in subsequent sessions, adding a total of Rs 150 since the duty hike on Wednesday last week. "Gold traded firm on Thursday following a recovery from recent lows, bolstered

by improving optimism surrounding US-Iran diplomatic efforts, which positively influenced sentiment in the bullion market," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities, said. Investor confidence increased as expectations grew that ne-

gotiations between the US and Iran could help alleviate geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, he added. Silver prices also snapped a two-day losing streak, climbing Rs 5,000 to Rs 2,71,000 per kg as investors returned to the white metal after recent sharp corrections, market players said. The white metal drew additional support from easing US Treasury bond yields. Gaurav Garg, Research Analyst at Lemonn Markets Desk, said, "Silver also benefited from a pullback in US Treasury bond yields from multi-year highs, which typically boosts demand for precious metals as alternative investments. According to Manav Modi, Commodities Analyst, Motilal Oswal Finan-

cial Services Ltd, sentiment improved after US President Donald Trump indicated that talks with Iran were progressing positively and suggested the conflict may be nearing its "final stages". However, Trump warned that military action remained possible if negotiations collapse, which kept bullion markets on edge. Precious metals traded lower in the futures market. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold for June delivery declined Rs 896 to Rs 1,59,110 per 10 grams as a recovery in the rupee weighed on local prices. Silver futures also declined, with the most-traded July contract plunging by Rs 4,965, or nearly 2 per cent, to Rs 2,69,300 per kg in futures trade.

# India-US trade deal likely within weeks or months, says Envoy Sergio

**NEW DELHI:** The interim trade agreement between India and the United States is set to be finalised, US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said, adding that he is confident the trade deal will be concluded in the coming weeks or months, bringing stability and opportunities for both sides. "Both sides are looking to finalise the details of a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) that will truly unlock the potential of our bilateral relationship by expanding market access, reducing barriers, and creating greater certainty for businesses on both sides of the table," he said. It has been a year and a half since the two sides began negotiations. To put the timeline into perspective, Gor noted that the trade deal between India and the European union took nearly 19 years to conclude. Ambassador Gor said the agreement would strengthen supply chains, catalyse new investment, and drive sus-

tained and inclusive growth, bringing tangible benefits to industries, workers, and economies in both countries. He also praised Indian firms for investing in the United States, saying he was thrilled to see Indian companies commit more than \$20 billion in investments in America during the annual SelectUSA Investment Summit. "President Trump's goal is to facilitate bilateral trade in a way that creates lucrative opportunities for American businesses and workers. Our current interim trade agreement is on the table to be finalised, unlocking prosperity for both nations," he said. Gor further noted that Indian companies continue to expand in the US, particularly in the pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, and technology sectors. He added that every week, CEOs from American companies visit the US Embassy in New Delhi expressing interest in shifting their operations from other countries to India.

# India Inc's AI push stuck in pilot phase as execution gap widens

**BENGALURU:** India's corporate artificial intelligence (AI) push is showing signs of strain as enterprises race to deploy pilot projects but struggle to convert them into scalable, production-grade outcomes, highlighting a widening execution gap in the country's digital transformation journey, industry leaders said on Thursday. Experts warned that while AI adoption is accelerating across business functions, many organisations are still operating at an experimental stage without clear evidence of productivity gains or business impact. The observations were made at a closed-door media roundtable organised by Aavaali Solutions on the theme "India's AI Moment: Enterprise Prioritisation Behind Scalable Impact". Industry leaders said the current phase of rapid experimentation

risks creating an imbalance between ambition and execution while isolated enterprises shift focus from untested pilots to structured, governance-led deployment. Aavaali Solutions Founder CEO Srividya Kannan said India's AI opportunity is substantial, but its realisation depends on enterprise discipline and leadership alignment. "AI is expected to add like 1.7 trillion dollars to the Indian economy by 2035. These are both sides of the same coin. It depends on how institutions, academia, corporations and individuals take ownership and upskill themselves," she said replying to UNI questions. She cautioned that failure to build readiness at scale could lead to adverse outcomes. "If we are not able to do that at the pace it truly deserves, the second outcome will come true. That is not good for any-

one." Kannan said AI must move beyond isolated experimentation to ecosystem-wide execution. "All hands on deck is needed. We must break barriers and move towards ecosystem participation rather than competition-driven silos." Nielsen Global Head (data and analytics governance) Ohmna Sinha said despite widespread enthusiasm, many organisations are still unclear about the right use cases for AI deployment. "POCs are increasing across business functions because there are targets to introduce AI everywhere," she said, adding that the key question remains whether enterprises have done adequate due diligence before implementation. She noted that organisational readiness and pace of institutional change continue to lag behind technological advancement.

# LIC profits rise 19.25 percent Y-o-Y to reach Rs 57,419 crore in FY26

**NEW DELHI:** Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), India's public sector life insurance company, on Thursday posted Profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 57,419 crore for FY26, which is an increase of 19.25 percent Year-over-Year (Y-o-Y). The insurer announced a final dividend of Rs 10 per equity share of Rs 10 each for FY26. LIC continues to be the leader by market share in the Indian life insurance business with an overall market share of 56.66percent for FY26 as compared to 57.05percent for FY25. "The Total Premium Income for the year ended March 31st 2026, was Rs. 5,35,984 crore as compared to Rs. 4,88,148 crore for the year ended

March 31st, 2025, registering a growth of 9.80 percent," the LIC statement said. The Individual New Business Premium for the year ended increased to Rs. 67,676 crore from Rs. 62,495 crore for the comparable period of the previous year, registering an increase of 8.29 percent. The Individual Renewal Premium income for the year ended March 31st, 2026, was Rs. 2,71,699 crore as compared to Rs. 2,56,541 crore for the year ended March 31st, 2025, registering an increase of 5.91percent. A total of 1,84,41,175 policies were sold in the individual segment during the year ended as compared to 1,77,82,975 policies sold during the year, registering an increase of 3.70percent. Commenting on the results, R Doraiswamy, CEO & M.D, LIC said, "Financial Year 2025-26 has been a satisfying year for us, with strong overall growth across every business vertical



leading to record performance metrics. We have achieved a Non Par share on APE basis in our individual business of more than 35 percent, and our VNB margin is more than 21percent for the year."

# ACROSS THE GLOBE

## Indian students, workers lead exit trend as UK net migration falls

**LONDON:** Indian students and workers top the charts of foreigners leaving the UK as net migration data released in London on Thursday reflected a significant fall, nearly halved when compared to the previous year. According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) analysis for 2025, around 51,000 Indians who came for study reasons, 21,000 for work reasons and 3,000 for other unspecified reasons led the exit trend followed by Chinese students and workers (46,000). Ukrainians (18,000), Pakistanis and Nigerians (both



19,000 each) completed the top five emigrating nationalities, resulting in an overall net migration fall to 1,71,000 last year.

"Net migration is now at 1,71,000, down from a high of 9,44,000 under the Conservatives. This government is restoring order and control to

our borders," said UK Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood. "We will always welcome those who contribute to this country and wish to build a better life here. But we must restore order and control to our borders. As these statistics show, real progress has been made, but there is still work to do. "That is why I am introducing a skills-based migration system that rewards contribution and ends Britain's reliance on cheap overseas workers," she said. Meanwhile, the highest numbers of Health and Care Worker visa extensions in the year-ending March this

year were issued to Indians (107,306), followed by Nigerians (89,575) and Zimbabwean (31,117) nationals. Similarly, Indians led the highest number of Skilled Worker extensions at 89,851, followed by Pakistani (16,607) and Nigerian (13,409) nationals. Among students, the highest number of Graduate Route visa extensions were issued to Indians (70,371) and they also held on to the position as the most common nationality being granted Sponsored Study visas to the UK at 90,425 - marking 23 per cent of the total visa grants in the category.

## Security forces kill 4 TTP terrorists in NW Pakistan

**PESHAWAR:** Four terrorists were killed by the security forces in northwest Pakistan on Thursday, police said. The operation was carried out based on intel inputs regarding the hide-out of terrorists belonging to the banned terror outfit Tehreek-e-Taliban (TTP) in Spinwam town of North Waziristan district in the restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, police said. According to the police, one of them was a

wanted TTP terrorist mastermind of several attacks on security forces and civilians. The gunned down terrorists had also laid down a network of underground bunkers, tunnels and explosive traps in the area around Bubali Mosque in Spinwam. In a separate development, two children - aged 10 and 12 - were killed in a suspected drone strike in the Shahai Tangai area of the Bajaur district on Thursday, police said. According

to preliminary reports cited by the police, the strike was allegedly carried out by the militants. The incident caused widespread fear in the area, while police and security agencies launched efforts to gather information and investigate the circumstances surrounding the strike. Officials said further details would be shared after completion of the initial inquiry. Earlier this week, security forces killed 22 terrorists in the North Waziristan district.

## Israel releases hundreds of detained flotilla activists

**JERUSALEM:** Israel has released hundreds of activists who attempted to breach its naval blockade of Gaza, with Israeli authorities currently working on their deportation, according to a legal organisation working with the flotilla. The Israel-based legal advocacy group, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, or Adalah, said Thursday that most of the international activists were in transit to a civilian airport near the southern Israeli city of Eilat for deportation, reports Times Of Israel. Releasing a statement Wednesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that he has instructed officials that the activists be deported "as

soon as possible," after briefly criticising the country's national security minister Ben Gvir for releasing a provocative video post the flotilla's capture, where Gvir taunted the detained flotilla activists who were handcuffed and kneeling, calling it inappropriate behaviour. Netanyahu said that while Jerusalem reserves the full right to stop "provocative flotillas of Hamas terrorist supporters," the conduct of National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, and the way he dealt with the activists was "not in line with Israel's values and norms." The national security minister had released videos Wednesday which showed him walk-

ing among some of the approximately 430 detainees. In one, activists with their hands tied behind their backs are kneeling, their heads touching the floor inside what appears to be a makeshift detention area on the deck of a ship. The flotilla, which is comprised of more than 50 boats, departed for the war-torn enclave last week from Türkiye, near Cyprus. Organisers said their mission's aim was to draw renewed attention to the poor living conditions of the nearly two million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, who are now living in exile from their homes post the enclave's heavy bombing and the Hamas threat lingering there.

## Nepal PM's continued absence from Parliament draws strong protests from Opposition Parties

**KATHMANDU:** Lawmakers from multiple opposition parties on Thursday raised slogans to protest the continued absence of Nepal Prime Minister Balendra Shah 'Balen' in Parliament to respond to their questions, leading to an adjournment as proceedings were disrupted. This is the third time since the session started last week that the opposition parties have obstructed the proceedings in the House of Representatives and boycotted the Parliament meetings to oppose Shah's absence. "Down with the autocratic ruler," "Prime Minister

is responsible to (answer) Parliament," "Address the demands of the Opposition," "Make the Prime Minister accountable to Parliament," and "Implement Parliament's regulation" were the various slogans shouted in the House by members of almost all the opposition parties, including Nepali Congress, CPN-UML -- the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist), Shram Sanskriti Party and Rastriya Prajatantra Party. "Is the prime minister an emperor of a separate state?" asked Arjun Narasingha KC, a senior leader and Parliament member from the Nepali

Congress during the Special Hour in the House. KC expressed dissatisfaction over the prime minister's absence from the House at a time when the government should be taking serious issues such as disaster management. KC also pointed out that Shah is currently handling the responsibilities of the Home Ministry. "Is the prime minister part of this Parliament or not? I do not know," KC said. "He seems more like the emperor of some separate island rather than an integral part of this Parliament."

Speaker D P Aryal adjourned the House for half an hour as the opposition lawmakers disrupted the proceedings. He also promised the House that he would talk to the prime minister and ask him to appear to respond to the questions raised by the lawmakers. "The Speaker reportedly held talks with the prime minister visiting the PM's Office at Singhdurbar during the adjournment. But as he failed to bring Shah before the Parliament, the opposition resumed obstructing the House," said Reena Uprety, a lawmaker from the Nepali Congress. Meanwhile, the Shram Sanskriti Party, led by Harka Raj Rai, boycotted the meeting.

This is not the first time that the opposition lawmakers lodged a protest demanding PM Shah to appear in person to respond to the questions. On May 14 and 19 too they had obstructed the Parliament proceedings and boycotted the Parliament meetings to oppose the PM's absence in the House. Despite the boycott by the Shram Sanskriti and sloganeering by the Opposition, the Speaker announced that a finance related bill tabled by Finance Minister Swornim Wagley on Wednesday has been endorsed. The House was then adjourned till Tuesday.