MARKET DASHBOARD

SENSEX
76,765.92
-69.86 (-0.09%)

NIFTY
23,985.35
-10.61 (-0.04%)

GAINERS & LOSERS

TOP GAINERS/BSE
TCS
2,398, 102.00
Eternal
308.35, 12.50
Tech Mahindra
1,635, 60.20
Infosys
1,106, 26.50
Titan Company
4,850, 110.00

TOP LOSERS/BSE
HUL
2,023, -152.00
BEL
389.00, -18.15
NTPC
343.75, -7.06
Power Grid
285.30, -3.56
ICICI Bank
1,431, -14.91

TOP GAINERS/NSE
Coforge
1,686, 158.00
Affle (India)
1,632, 139.00
Macrotech Developers
1,301, 103.00
Kalyan Jewellers Ind
608.35, 43.80
City Union Bank
238.14, 16.70

TOP LOSERS/NSE
Suzlon Energy
48.02, -5.13
Gravita India
1,639, -150.00
Godfrey Philips
2,031, -179.00
Varun Beverages
430.00, -34.50
HUL
2,023, -152.00

COMMODITIES
GOLD (MCDX 10 GRM)
12,3751.85
(-183.42)
SILVER (MCDX 1 KG)
175,100.78
(-5000.92)
USD ($) / INR(₹)
95.786
(-0.124)

Stock Markets end largely flat amid gains in IT, auto and realty

NEW DELHI: The Indian Stock Markets on Tuesday ended largely flat amid gains in IT, auto and realty stocks that were offset by weakness in energy, FMCG, metal and banking counters.

At close, the Sensex was down 69.86 points or 0.09 percent at 76,765.92, and the Nifty was down 10.60 points or 0.04 percent at 23,985.35.

Further, the Nifty Midcap 100 index edged up 0.1%, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 index slipped 0.2%.

Among the sectors, Nifty IT extended gains for the third consecutive session of 3.32%. The sector attracted 7% growth in just three sessions.

Nifty Realty and Consumer Durables also posted strong gains of 2.17% and 1.08%, respectively.

Bank Nifty fell 0.58%, while the Financial Services index declined 0.39%.

Over 100 stocks touched 52-week high including Ramkrishna Forgings, Laurus Labs, Titan Company, Emcure Pharmaceuticals, Federal Bank, Sun Pharma, Pidilite Industries, Divis Labs, Lenskart Solutions, among others. The Indian rupee erased most of its intraday gains to end nearly flat on July 28, settling at 95.86 per US dollar.

On Nifty, the key gainers were Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Eternal, and Tech Mahindra.

While on the losing end were Hindustan Unilever (HUL), Bharat Electronics (BEL), and Coal India.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited said, "The respite in crude oil prices provided relief to markets by easing concerns over inflation and input cost pressures.

"However, investor sentiment remained cautious ahead of key central bank policy meetings this week, including those of the Fed, BoE, and BoJ. Persistent volatility in energy markets and heightened geopolitical risks could keep global bond yields elevated this year."

"Nevertheless, expectations that major central banks will hold interest rates steady in their July policy meetings have offered some support to market sentiment.

"India's relative advantage under the revised US tariff framework further supported investor confidence. On the domestic front, improving monsoon conditions and moderately better Q1FY27 earnings have strengthened the growth outlook. "Sectoral trends remained mixed, with IT stocks continuing to outperform, supported by attractive valuations," he added.

Rupee rises 11 paise to settle at 95.88 against USD

MUMBAI: The rupee stayed on upward track for the third straight session and ended 11 paise higher at 95.88 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, supported by lower crude oil prices amid signals of easing West Asia crisis.

According to forex traders, the sustained outflow of foreign capital amid selling pressure in domestic equity markets, as well as an elevated dollar index ahead of the US Federal Reserve's policy decision, capped gains for the local currency.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 95.75 and touched the intraday high of 95.63 before ending the session at 95.88 (provisional) against the greenback, up 11 paise from its previous closing level.

On Monday, the rupee appreciated sharply by 54 paise to close at 95.99 against the US dollar, after rising 20 paise in the preceding session on Friday.

Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae Asset ShareKhan, said the rupee strengthened on the halting of strikes between the US and Iran.

"Traders may take cues from CB (Conference Board) consumer confidence data from the US. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of 95.35 to 96.05," Choudhary said.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.08 per cent higher at 101.46.

Tata includes Semiconductors, Data Centres, Software in AI strategy

MUMBAI: Tata Sons has stated in its Annual Report for 2025-26 that its Artificial Intelligence strategy will focus on constructing a full AI stack including semiconductors, data centres, enterprise software as well as physical infrastructure.

According to the chairman's letter published in the Tata Sons Annual Report for 2025-26, Chairman N Chandrasekaran said the group sees AI as a long-term opportunity which goes beyond merely developing AI models, with a focus on building the infrastructure needed to support AI.

"I have said before that AI is a profound, civilisational shift and we are all working to understand how to build the infrastructure for intelligence that can be accessed by all," according to Chairman N Chandrasekaran's letter published in the Tata Sons Annual Report for 2025-26.

The report also stated that Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has reached an annualised AI revenue of $2.6 billion in the first quarter of FY27. It has also been stated that the 1 GW HyperVault AI data centre platform and partnerships with OpenAI, Microsoft, AWS and Anthropic will be implemented.

Tata Sons Annual Report for 2025-26 has also stated that Tata Electronics is in the process of building India's first high-volume semiconductor fabrication plant in Gujarat, has packaged India's first indigenous microprocessor and plans to develop advanced packaging, semiconductor materials as well as electronics solutions.

Chandrasekaran stated that the Tata group would build capabilities across multiple layers of the AI ecosystem, as part of its AI strategy, adding that enterprises need more than mere access to AI technology, and that organisations must also organise their data as well as integrate it into IT systems which have developed over decades.

"The opportunities offered by AI cannot be captured by simply giving organisations access to AI technology. Enterprises need to organise their data and integrate it into IT systems that have evolved over decades," according to Chandrasekaran.

"Enterprise IT is one layer of AI. The wider opportunity for India is to bring down the cost of intelligence itself. Across the Tata Group, we are working towards enabling the full stack that does this: the silicon that computes it, the data centres which host it, the enterprise systems which apply it and the physical platforms, in energy, mobility as well as defence, where it meets the real world," Chandrasekaran's letter stated.

The Annual Report also outlined continued investments in battery manufacturing through Agratas and defence manufacturing, including military aircraft, drones and radar systems.

Chandrasekaran acknowledged geopolitical uncertainty, cybersecurity threats and supply chain risks but said disciplined execution and long-term investments would position the Tata Group to play a leading role in India's next phase of industrial growth.

ACROSS THE GLOBE

Kuwait ratifies defence cooperation pact with Pak

ISLAMABAD: Kuwait has ratified a defence cooperation agreement with Pakistan, three years after it was signed, marking another step in Islamabad's efforts to deepen military engagement with Gulf countries, according to a media report.

The agreement, which was approved and published in the official gazette, Kuwait Al-Youm, on Sunday, will remain in force for five years and will be automatically renewed unless either side opts to withdraw.

The deal establishes a framework for cooperation between the armed forces of Pakistan and Kuwait, covering military training, education, intelligence sharing, logistics, defence technology, research and exchanges of expertise to strengthen institutional military ties, the Kuwait Times reported.

Last year, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a defence agreement under which the two countries agreed to deepen military cooperation through intelligence sharing, joint training, military exercises and defence technology collaboration.

Pakistan is reportedly pursuing broader security arrangements with countries such as Qatar and Turkiye as well.

The Pakistan-Kuwait agreement provides for cooperation in military manufacturing, electronic communications systems, scientific research, military media, and cultural and sports activities, the Kuwait Times report said.

A joint military committee will oversee implementation of the agreement, including organising military exercises, official visits and other joint programmes, it said.

It added that the ratification follows a series of recent high-level contacts between Kuwaiti and Pakistani military officials aimed at expanding defence coordination.

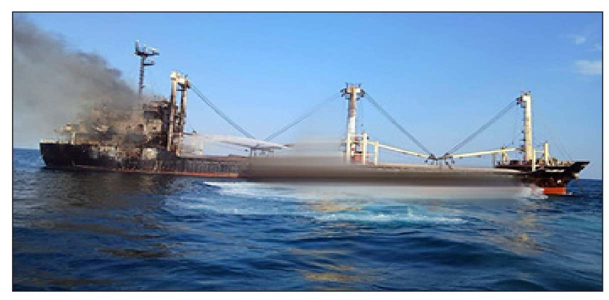
Both countries have also committed to protecting confidential military information and resolving disputes through diplomatic channels, it said.

According to government sources in Islamabad, Pakistan is also negotiating an expanded defence pact with Kuwait in exchange for energy cooperation and investments.

"Pakistan is now seeking a defence pact with Kuwait similar to that of Saudi Arabia, including thousands of Pakistani troops on the ground, fighter jets, drones, an air defence system, and other defence-related facilities," one of the sources said.

Pakistan's defence pact with Saudi Arabia contains an important collective security clause under which an attack on either country would be treated as an attack on both, although officials have not publicly elaborated on its operational scope.

Security threats amid Iran-Ukraine wars lead to skyrocketing tanker rates reports Lloyd's List



LONDON: Rising security threats across three of the world's most important maritime corridors in West Asia and Europe are leading to skyrocketing freight rates and surging insurance costs, due to the ongoing wars in Iran and Ukraine, which continue to disrupt global energy shipping, according to a new analysis by maritime intelligence group Lloyd's List.

The report said tanker operators are facing mounting costs as attacks and military activity affect shipping through the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Strait of Hormuz, creating what it described as a "perfect storm" for global energy markets.

According to Lloyd's List, tanker rates in the Black Sea have climbed to their highest levels as Ukraine continues to target vessels linked to Russia.

Meanwhile, freight costs for tankers loading at Saudi Arabia's Red Sea port of Yanbu have also surged following attacks by Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels on Saudi energy infrastructure.

Shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, however, remains subdued, with traffic still well below normal levels after the outbreak of the US-Iran war.

"All of this is happening at once, and the various tanker markets are interacting with each other," Lloyd's List analyst Greg Miller wrote.

"Everything is connected in ocean shipping."

The report said higher spot freight rates—the price charged for individual shipments at current market rates—along with rising war-risk insurance premiums have significantly increased the cost of transporting crude oil aboard very large crude carriers (VLCCs) and Suezmax tankers, the largest vessels capable of transiting the Suez Canal.

Shipping volumes through the Red Sea, the Strait of Hormuz and the Black Sea have all declined because of growing security risks.

According to the analysis, the reduction in traffic has been driven by attacks from Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis in the Red Sea, Ukrainian strikes on Russian-linked shipping in the Black Sea, and Iranian attacks on commercial vessels operating around the Strait of Hormuz.

Nepal calls for deepening cooperation among BIMSTEC countries

KATHMANDU: Nepal Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal on Tuesday held talks on regional cooperation with BIMSTEC general secretary Indra Mani Pandey in Kathmandu, officials said.

Pandey is currently on a two-day visit to Nepal.

BIMSTEC stands for the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation. It is a group of seven countries - Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand - that work together on trade, technology, and economic growth.

Khanal has stressed on the need for further deepening cooperation and collaboration among the BIMSTEC member countries for achieving speedy progress in economic transformation of the sub-region by facing common regional challenges in an effective manner, according to a statement issued by his office.

He also underscored the need to develop BIMSTEC as an effective, result oriented and people oriented organization in order to ensure concrete achievement for all the citizens of the member countries.

The statement further said, during the meeting, Pandey appreciated Nepal for its constructive contribution and active participation in BIMSTEC activities and expressed the hope that Nepal will continue its cooperation and support in the days to come.

Netanyahu to discuss dismantling Iranian nuclear prog winning Iran war with Trump during US visit

JERUSALEM: As Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu departed for the US to meet President Donald Trump, the two, according to an official from the Israeli PMO, are going to hold bilateral discussions on how to "win the war and forge lasting peace" in West Asia, reports The Times of Israel.

"As the prime minister enters the White House at the invitation of President Trump, few allies have met so often and few alliances have achieved more in such short a time," said the PMO official.

"President Trump and the prime minister will discuss the defining issues of our time and how to leverage our great alliance to win the war and forge lasting peace," the official concluded. "Peace through strength."

Another major topic that Netanyahu is set to bring up is Iran's Pickaxe Mountain during their meeting today, with Trump claiming that it's because the Israeli premier wants the US president to "stay involved."

Speaking to Fox News, Trump insisted "I don't need Bibi to tell me" stuff regarding intelligence on the Iranian nuclear site, stating that Washington was well briefed and up to date on the matter.

The US president also expressed some frustration that Netanyahu made news of Iranian construction at the site public, stating "Why can't you just tell me? Why'd you have to tell the world?"

Nonetheless, dismissing the whole thing he continued "It's not a big problem," adding "We took out their nuclear sites, and we'll have to take out Pickaxe if they don't make a deal."

Trump further claimed that US forces "could take out most of their (Iran's) bridges in less than an hour" and all their power plants within a day and remarked that he saved Israel from an existential threat by supposedly stopping Iran's nuclear programme, declaring "If I weren't president today, Israel would not exist."