

MARKET DASHBOARD

SENSEX		TOP GAINERS/BSE		TOP LOSERS/BSE		TOP GAINERS/NSE		TOP LOSERS/NSE		COMMODITIES	
83,627.69	-250.48 (-0.29%)	Eternal	294.55, 9.31	L&T	3,887, -132.00	Authum Investment	667.90, 48.20	Dixon Tech	11,238, -604.00	GOLD (MCDX 10 GRM)	13,3990.85 (+52.70)
<b>NIFTY</b>	<b>25,732.3</b>	Tech Mahindra	1,615, 28.70	RIL	1,453, -30.41	Maharashtra Scooter	13,802, 850.00	Vodafone Idea	10.80, -0.45	SILVER (MCDX 1 KG)	256,322.42 (+9510.45)
-57.96 (-0.22%)		ICICI Bank	1,437, 23.90	InterGlobe	4,760, -90.50	PVR	1,043, 60.80	Au Small Fin Bank	971.95, -35.85	USD (\$) / INR(₹)	90.203 (+0.089)
		SBI	1,028, 13.30	ITC	334.70, -3.70	Motilal Oswal	837.25, 42.80	Trent	3,922, -135.00		
		TCS	3,268, 28.40	Adani Ports SEZ	1,429, -14.91	City Union Bank	277.20, 14.20	HEG	550.70, -18.90		

Silver scales fresh peak of Rs 2.71 lakh/kg; gold hits record Rs 1.45 lakh/10g in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Silver prices surged by Rs 6,000 to hit a fresh lifetime high of Rs 2,71,000 per kg in the national capital on Tuesday, and gold climbed to yet another record of Rs 1,45,000 per 10 grams amid sustained buying by the stockists.



According to the All India Sarafa Association, the white precious metal extended its gains for the third consecutive day by jumping Rs 6,000, or 2.3 per cent, to Rs 2,71,000 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes).

On Monday, the metal had surged by Rs 15,000, or 6 per cent, to touch a lifetime high of Rs 2,65,000 per kg from its close of Rs 2,50,000 per kg on Friday.

With the latest rise, the white metal had gained Rs 21,000, or 8.4 per cent, over the last three trading sessions.

So far this year, silver has appreciated by Rs 32,000, or 13.4 per cent, from Rs 2,39,000 per kilogram recorded on December 31, 2025.

Gold of 99.9 per cent purity also rose by Rs 400 to hit a fresh record of Rs 1,45,000 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) on

Tuesday. In the previous session, the yellow precious metal had climbed Rs 2,900 to reach Rs 1,44,600 per 10 grams.

Traders attributed the surge to sustained demand for safe-haven assets amid heightened geopolitical uncertainty.

"The record-breaking rally in precious metals continues, underpinned by persistent safe-haven demand that is sustaining the broader bullish trend in bullion, driven by prolonged geopolitical tensions, most recently centred on Iran," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

In the global markets, spot gold eased by USD 10.93, or 0.24 per cent, to USD 4,586.49 per ounce, after touching a record of USD 4,630.47 per ounce on Monday.

"Spot gold is consolidating its gains after a steep rally as it reached a fresh record high of USD 4,630 per ounce on Monday amid geopolitical concerns and growing threat to the Federal Reserve's independence," Praveen Singh, Head of Commodities, Mirae Asset ShareKhan, said.

He added that a joint statement was issued by a coterie of former Federal Reserve chairs, Treasury secretaries, and econo-

mists criticising the Department of Justice's probe into Fed Chair Jerome Powell, which has helped temper fears over the central bank's autonomy, leading to profit-taking in gold.

Spot silver was traded 0.58 per cent higher at USD 85.64 per ounce in the overseas trade. The white metal had surged by USD 6.3, or 7.9 per cent, on Monday to scale a fresh peak of USD 86.26 per ounce.

Silver leads commodity gains, surging to around USD 86.60 per ounce level, amid sustained investment demand and technical strength, Gaurav Garg, Research Analyst at Lemonn markets desk, said.

The US dollar index is trading near resistance levels and has lent support to bullion prices by eliminating depreciation headwinds, he added.

Gandhi said the market focus is now on US consumer inflation and new home sales data, which are set to be released later in the day. The outcome of the data release will provide fresh cues on the Federal Reserve's monetary policy and short-term direction for bullion prices.

Blinkit drops 10-minute delivery claim after Labour Min intervenes; Swiggy, Zepto may follow suit

NEW DELHI: Eternal-owned quick-commerce firm Blinkit has dropped its '10-minute' delivery claim after intervention by the Labour Ministry amid growing concerns over the welfare and safety of delivery workers.

Other aggregators, like Zepto and Swiggy-owned Instamart, are also expected to follow suit in the coming days, sources told PTI.

Sources further revealed that Blinkit has already acted on the directive and removed the 10-minute delivery promise from its branding.

The move is aimed at ensuring greater safety, security and improved working conditions for gig workers. As part of this change, Blinkit has updated its brand messaging. The company's principal tagline has been revised from "10,000+ products delivered in 10 minutes" to "30,000+ products delivered at your doorstep," they said.

The promise of 10-minute delivery led to gig workers holding a nationwide strike on New Year's Eve in 2025, drawing attention to workers' health, safety and income. AAP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha said he was grateful to the central government for its



"timely, decisive and compassionate intervention" in enforcing the removal of 10-minute delivery branding from quick commerce platforms. "This is a much-needed step because when '10 minutes' is printed on a rider's t-shirt/ jacket/ bag and a timer runs on the customer's screen, the pressure is real, constant, and dangerous. This step will help ensure the safety of the delivery riders and everyone who shares our roads," Chadha said in a post on X.

Over the past months, the MP said he has spoken to hundreds of delivery partners.

Many are overworked, underpaid and risking their life to fulfil an unrealistic promise, he noted.

"I thank every citizen who stood with us - you stood firmly on the side of human life, safety & dignity. And to every gig worker - you're not alone, we're

all with you," Chadha said. In a video message on X, he said that even though the plight of gig workers did not reach the management of quick commerce firms, it did to the central government, which has now acted on their concerns.

Chadha also said that even though he was pro-industry and pro-business, he would never support exploitation, as the lives of gig workers were at risk due to this '10-minute delivery' tag.

This decision would not only ensure the safety and security of gig workers but would also help ensure their dignity and working conditions," he noted.

Chadha had on Monday shared a video of himself dressed as a Blinkit delivery agent and delivering orders, drawing attention to the daily grind of gig workers and renewing his call for better working conditions in India's fast-growing quick commerce sector.

ACROSS THE GLOBE

China warns retaliation as Trump's Iran tariff threat puts its cheap oil imports at risk

BEIJING: China, the largest buyer of Iranian oil, on Tuesday warned counter measures against US President Donald Trump's decision to impose 25 per cent tariffs on countries trading with Iran, amid concerns that sanctions could end Beijing's reliance on cheaper oil imports.

Trump announced on Monday that any country "doing business" with Iran will have to pay a 25 per cent tariff on its trade with the US, a move that could impact Tehran's major trading partners such as China, India and the UAE.

"There are no winners in a tariff war, and China will firmly safeguard its own legitimate and lawful rights and interests," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said while reacting to Trump's threat.

Trump's Iran tariff threats, coupled with the fall of the pro-Beijing Maduro regime in Venezuela which also supplied loan-linked oil supplies to China, sent "a dire warning" to Beijing's policymakers who analysts said need to urgently find ways to protect the country's strategic interests abroad.

His announcement sent shock-



waves in Beijing, which may have to reconsider its approach, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post quoted China watchers as saying.

China is already grappling with the fall of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, one of its closest allies. His fall brought about an overnight end to Venezuela's allegiance to Beijing, which, according to reports, invested over USD 106 billion in the Latin American country.

According to data compiled by intelligence firm Kpler, China imported

around 400,000 barrels per day of Venezuelan oil last year for far cheaper prices.

As per Kepler data, China also purchased on average 1.38 million barrels per day of Iranian oil last year, which constituted about 80 per cent of Iranian oil.

With Trump's new aggressive strategy to re-establish US dominance in Latin America, which threatens Chinese investments in Panama and Venezuela, and threats to Cuba, Beijing is redrawing its energy strategy, analysts say.

China, the largest importer of Russian oil, is reportedly redrawing its energy and investment strategy to lean more to the Persian Gulf, if the Iranian unrest and overall volatility continue, James Downes, co-director of Italian think tank the Centre for Research and Social Progress, told the Post.

China also had a cumulative USD 4.5 billion in outbound direct investment in Iran in 2024, up 14.7 per cent from a year earlier, according to the government's latest statistical bulletin.

"The economic impact on China could be significant, as the new 25 per cent tariff would likely be cumulative on top of existing US tariffs on China's exports to the US," Rajiv Biswas, CEO of Singapore-based research firm Asia-Pacific Economics, told the Post. "The actual impact will depend on whether China decides to curtail trade with Iran," he added.

Liang Yan, a professor of economics at Willamette University in the US, warned that the secondary sanctions on Iran serve as a wake-up call for Beijing to determine how to protect its overseas interests.

Russia not to be affected by US tariffs on Iran's trade partners: Expert

MOSCOW: The latest tariffs announced by the US on countries dealing with Iran will not affect Russia, given Moscow's negligible trade with Washington, a top Russian economist has said.

President Donald Trump on Monday announced a 25 per cent tariff on any country "doing business" with Iran, "effective immediately".

The move could impact Tehran's major trading partners such as India, China and the UAE.

Chief Economist at the P A Stolypin Institute for Growth Economics Dr Boris Kopeikin said that the 25 per cent tariffs will not affect Russia.

"Our trade with the US is already extremely low, and new restrictions on existing supplies, such as fertilisers, are unlikely to be in the US' interests,"

he was quoted as saying by the TASS news agency.

"The imposition of 25 tariffs on countries doing business with Iran will not affect Russia," he said, adding that it will impact China, signalling a new round of trade tensions between Washington and Beijing.

The tariffs will become another element of pressure from the US in negotiating bilateral trade terms with Iran's other major partners, including India, the UAE, Turkey and Iraq, Kopeikin said.

Countries from which Iran continues to import will reduce direct supplies, but given the smaller volumes, these will be rerouted through other countries, he said.

"Much will still depend on the details, but what is happening looks

like the beginning of a new round of trade tensions with China, which accounts for a significant portion of Iranian exports and imports," he said.

"Effective immediately, any country doing business with the Islamic Republic of Iran will pay a Tariff of 25 per cent on any and all business being done with the United States of America.

This order is final and conclusive," Trump said in a post on Truth Social Monday.

Within months of his second term in the White House, Trump had last year announced a slew of tariffs on imports from countries around the world, saying the US had been unfairly treated and other nations were charging far higher tariffs on American products.

UK claims historic levels of illegally working migrant raids, arrests

LONDON: The UK government on Tuesday claimed its enforcement action against illegally working migrants is at the "highest level in British history", with a record number of raids and arrests since the Labour Party came to power in July 2024.

Official figures released by the Home Office claim the number of raids on illegal workers soared by 77 per cent, leading to an 83 per cent rise in arrests from that period until December last year.

Over 17,400 raids were carried out on what were dubbed as "dodgy businesses", such as nail bars, car washes, barbers and takeaway shops.

"There is no place for illegals working in our communities," said Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood.

"That is why we have surged enforcement activity to the highest level in British history so illegal migrants in the black economy have nowhere to hide. I will stop at nothing to restore order and control to our borders," the South Asian heritage minister said.

The large number of raids are said to have led to more than 12,300 arrests, made possible by a 5 million pounds funding boost last year for Immigration Enforcement.

In Wales alone, 1,320 raids were carried out in 2025, leading to 649 arrests - a 103 per cent and 85 per cent rise respectively compared to 2024.

"Illegal working fuels the black economy and hurts law-abiding Welsh businesses. This government was clear that we will crack down on people and firms who are flouting the rules and we have delivered this with a record year of enforcement activity across Wales," said Jo Stevens, Secretary of State for Wales.

The Home Office said its crackdown on illegal working builds on this government's work to restore order to the immigration system and end the lure of such illegal jobs that gangs use to sell spaces on small boats.

The new figures come as Immigration Enforcement officers across the UK have been additionally equipped

with body-worn video technology to help bolster arrests and prosecutions even further.

Under the new Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Act, the UK government said it is expanding right to work checks, so they cover the uncontracted, casual, subcontracted and temporary worker economy, "ensuring there is no hiding place for illegal workers to flout the rules".

The Home Office highlighted the work of the Organised Immigration Crime Domestic Taskforce to bring together law enforcement and government partners, including the National Crime Agency, National Police Chiefs Council, Border Security Command and Immigration Enforcement, to use "every available tool to identify, disrupt and dismantle criminal smuggling gangs operating in the UK".

The proposed introduction of compulsory digital IDs in Parliament in the coming months to prove someone's right to work is expected to intensify this crackdown on illegal workers.

Indian-origin man sentenced to 12 years for posing as 'sugar daddy', duping three women in Singapore

SINGAPORE: A Singapore court on Tuesday sentenced an Indian-origin Malaysian man to 12 years in jail and 15 strokes of the cane for posing as a "sugar daddy" and duping three women into engaging in sexual acts with him, a media report said.

Rajwant Singh Gill Narayan Singh, 38, has pending charges involving 13 other alleged victims, which will be dealt with later, reported the Straits Times newspaper.

Singh was married with children but went on to coerce the women - identified in court documents as PW1, PW2 and V3 - into engaging in sexual acts with him.

He often took on different personas online, often



posing as wealthy Caucasian men.

Singh was charged in 2020 and sentenced on Tuesday to 12 years' jail and 15 strokes of the cane.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Bin termed Singh's crimes as depraved, sadistic and malicious, and said that

a joint covert operation between the Singapore Police Force and Royal Malaysian Police Force was needed to apprehend him.

In 2025, Singh was sentenced to four and a half years in jail and ordered to pay compensation of SGD 7,000 (approximately

USD 5,437) after he pleaded guilty to two cheating charges involving V3, a 52-year-old woman.

He matched with V3 on a dating platform in early May 2019.

Singh posed as "Michael Nolan", a rich American trader living on a yacht in Malaysia, and promised to pay her USD 20,000 (SGD26,000) per month to be his "girlfriend".

He had V3 engage in sexual acts with him and send explicit videos, but never paid her, the report said.

He committed offences against 31-year-old PW1 and 32-year-old PW2, similarly, posing as a Caucasian man, and he promised to pay the victims for sexual favours.