

Outlook

Weekly Dossier

22 March 2019



Domestic: India External Debt Q4 2018., India's Foreign Exchange Reserve for the week ended March 22, 2019., India Core Infrastructure Output for February 2019., India Government Budget deficit for February 2019.

Global: Japan All Industry Activity Index for January 2019., The U.S. Housing Starts for February 2019., China Industrial Profit for February 2019., The U.S. MBA Mortgage Application for the week ended March 22, 2019., The U.S. Balance of Trade for January 2019., The U.S. Current Account Balance for Q4 2018., The U.S. Pending Home Sales for February 2018., The U.S. New Home Sales for February 2019., The U.S. Personal Income and Personal Spending for February 2019., Japan Unemployment Rate for February 2019., Japan Industrial Production and Retail Sales for February 2019.

The Nifty ended the week on an indecisive note. Failing to hold 11,500 mark led to correction on the last day of the week. Also, Bank Nifty ending the week with a bearish engulfing pattern on daily chart is a major concern. Chart pattern suggests, 11,330 may now continue to act as the major pivotal support in the coming week. Further, thorough technical study of the weekly as well as the daily chart patterns suggests; the Nifty broader trading range for the coming week is expected to be 11,330-11,570.

On daily chart, it ended 0.56% down at 11,456.90. It opened positive followed by intraday retracement towards ending the day in red. Ending the last session of the week with a bearish body candle implies correction against broader uptrend might get deepen. Hence, cautious trading is advised. 11,520 may now act as the immediate critical resistance. Daily chart pattern suggests, retracement against broader uptrend may continue further towards 11,410 and 11,330 levels.

It ended 0.26% up on the weekly chart. It kicked started the week on a positive note and reacted down from the weekly high of 11,572 towards ending with a bearish Doji candle, which is pointing towards consolidation in the broader price band of 11,330-11,570 in the coming week. Higher resistances are now placed around 11,520 and 11,570 levels.

Nifty patterns on multiple time frames show; the benchmark index ended the week on an ambiguous note. Hence, we may witness a short-term correction against the broader uptrend. However, broader uptrend is still well intact and may again see aggressive buying on dips around critical supports. On an extended note, we expect Nifty to continue oscillating in the broader price band of 11,330-11,570 in coming week.

Nifty pivotal supports & resistances for the coming week-
Supports- 11410, 11330 Resistances- 11520, 11570



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Sensex Intra-week Chart



Market Turnover (In Crore) 22-03-2019

Name	Last	Previous
NSE Cash	NA	35524.98
NSE F&O	895226.20	1885084.00
BSE Cash	3,396.42	2899.79
BSE F&O	NA	1.12

NIFTY Top Gainers

Name	%1D	%5D	Day Vol	Avg 5 Day Vol
Power Grid Corp	0.56	5.81	4,940,345.00	7,095,670.00
Kotak Mah Bank	1.14	5.30	2,620,049.00	5,072,450.00
NTPC Ltd	4.18	5.16	53,779,933.00	21,674,230.00
Infosys	0.56	4.91	8,883,260.00	10,301,580.00
Hindalco Ind	0.94	4.16	11,359,037.00	6,421,545.00

NIFTY Top Losers

Name	%1D	%5D	Day Vol	Avg 5 Day Vol
HUL	0.56	3.41	1,636,228.00	1,965,756.00
Coal India	0.35	4.63	14,139,706.00	13,343,990.00
Eicher Motors	0.51	5.19	216,882.00	126,531.40
Hero Motocorp	0.22	5.39	566,228.00	820,099.60
Maruti Suzuki	1.81	7.53	1,715,983.00	961,280.60

Bulk and Block Deals

<https://www.nseindia.com/products/content/equities/equities/bulk.htm>

<http://www.bseindia.com/markets/equity/EQReports/BulknBlockDeals.aspx>

*Data not updated till 5:30pm

FII Derivatives Flow (In Crore) 20-03-2019*

Instrument	Purchase	Sale	Net
Index Future	3744.12	3693.05	51.07
Index Option	271574.09	268769.90	2804.19
Stock Future	14931.01	16079.34	-1148.32
Stock Option	8399.14	8376.47	22.67

Institutional Flow (In Crore) 22-03-2019

Institution	Purchase	Sale	Net (Last Day)	Net Wk	Net Mnth
FII	8149.94	6775.37	1374.57	7101.53	33674.76
DII	4456.26	5131.63	-675.37	-4521.12	-21140.6

Market in Retrospect

Indian equity benchmarks ended higher for the fifth straight week despite a sharp fall in today's trade. The benchmark indices clocked this year's longest stretch of weekly gains. Sensex closed nearly 0.4% higher this week at 38,164.61 and the Nifty ended the week at 11,456.90 after gaining nearly 0.3%.

Nifty Realty was the top gainer, gaining by 6.02%, followed by Nifty PSU Banks which gained by 2.71%. Nifty Auto was the top loser, losing by 4.46%.

Power Grid was the top gainer, gaining by 5.81%, followed by Kotak Mahindra Bank & NTPC, which gained by 5.3% & 5.16% respectively. Maruti Suzuki was the top loser, losing by 7.53%, followed by Hero MotoCorp & Eicher Motors, which fell by 5.39% & 5.19% respectively.

MSCI Indices	Index	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr	PE Ratio	Est. PE	PB Ratio	Est PB
World	2127.93	0.75	0.91	1.96	15.97	2.65	17.65	15.83	2.39	2.27
ACWI	513.50	0.68	0.94	1.85	15.46	0.99	16.95	15.39	2.26	2.14
Asia Pacific	160.77	0.30	1.14	0.76	10.82	8.98	13.62	13.56	1.45	1.40
EM	1069.68	0.11	1.17	1.04	11.74	10.62	13.10	12.70	1.61	1.50

The MSCI indices ended on a strong note led by Asia Pacific & EM indices rising 1.14% & 1.17% respectively.

US European In	Index	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr	PE Ratio	Est. PE	PB Ratio	Est PB
Dow Jones	25962.51	0.84	0.98	0.27	15.67	8.37	16.54	15.76	3.96	3.77
NASDAQ	7838.96	1.42	2.73	4.14	23.78	9.38	31.64	22.75	3.91	4.29
S&P500	2854.88	1.09	1.65	2.23	18.14	7.99	18.86	17.17	3.40	3.16
CBOE VIX	14.11	3.52	9.55	4.44	53.14	39.55	NA	NA	NA	NA
FTSE100	7287.28	0.92	0.82	1.51	8.42	4.81	17.17	12.99	1.72	1.69
CAC40	5333.31	0.85	1.33	2.25	13.61	3.21	17.89	13.84	1.54	1.51
DAX	11510.61	0.34	1.50	0.46	8.25	4.87	15.24	12.63	1.55	1.46

The US indices was in the green zone over the week. NASDAQ rose the most with 2.73%, followed by S&P500 with 1.65%.

CBOE VIX ended 9.55% higher at 14.11.

Following the global cues, the Asian indices also ended on a stronger note. Nikkei225 & Taiwan gained the most with 1.6% & 1.91% respectively during the week.

BRIC Indices ended the week in green. Russian & SENSEX gained 2.50% and 1.09% respectively. SHANGHAI Com was the best performer, gaining 2.73%.

NSE VIX gained 7.43% at 16.28.

Asian Indices	Index	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr	PE Ratio	Est. PE	PB Ratio	Est PB
Nikkei225	21627.34	0.09	1.60	0.76	7.25	1.15	15.96	15.76	1.67	1.62
Hang Seng	29113.36	0.14	0.35	1.03	13.05	6.30	11.30	11.26	1.37	1.24
STI	3212.10	0.05	0.37	1.77	5.45	8.00	13.24	12.74	1.13	1.08
Taiwan	10639.07	0.28	1.91	3.06	10.29	3.33	14.34	15.06	1.60	1.68
KOSPI	2186.95	0.09	0.50	1.95	6.09	12.38	11.16	11.24	0.89	0.90

BRIC Indices	Index	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr	PE Ratio	Est. PE	PB Ratio	Est PB
IBOVESPA	96729.08	1.34	1.90	1.18	12.87	14.11	18.74	12.04	2.05	1.80
Russian	1226.72	0.89	2.50	2.36	13.88	2.56	5.55	5.82	0.88	0.78
SHANGHAI Com	3104.15	0.09	2.73	10.70	23.36	4.88	14.61	11.53	1.61	1.36
SENSEX	38164.61	0.58	1.09	6.31	6.78	15.18	28.77	23.72	3.10	3.07
NIFTY	11456.90	0.56	1.00	6.18	6.54	12.82	25.75	22.09	3.03	2.92
NSE VIX	16.28	1.51	7.43	1.39	1.77	7.73	-	-	-	-

Money Mkt	Price	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
ICE LIBOR USD	2.61	0.22	0.15	2.12	7.68	15.96
MIBOR	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.06
INCALL	6.25	0.81	3.31	2.34	0.00	7.76

Energy	Price	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
NYMEX Crude	59.36	1.03	1.44	3.67	30.20	7.68
Natural Gas	2.78	1.52	0.61	1.42	4.90	4.44

Agro Cmdty	Price	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
Coffee	95.20	0.42	2.66	4.80	7.48	28.12
Cotton	77.26	0.10	2.33	5.82	3.54	1.21
Sugar	12.58	0.64	0.48	5.41	1.45	12.88
Wheat	469.00	0.54	1.46	4.63	10.02	12.38
Soybean	910.00	0.05	0.08	1.49	0.05	11.50

Forex	Rate	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
USD Index	96.65	0.16	0.05	0.15	0.32	7.56
EUR	1.13	0.53	0.11	0.19	0.81	8.03
GBP	0.76	0.22	1.16	0.64	3.23	7.27
BRL	3.79	0.45	1.36	0.80	2.82	13.72
JPY	110.47	0.32	0.91	0.20	0.02	4.70
INR	68.95	0.17	0.22	3.18	1.74	5.57
CNY	6.71	0.20	0.01	0.01	2.77	5.63
KRW	1130.20	0.23	0.61	0.43	0.44	5.10

Among Forex, BRL & GBP were the outperformer gaining 1.36% & 1.16% respectively during the week. On the other hand, EUR was the underperformer declining 0.11%.

Precious Metals	Price	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
Gold(\$/Oz)	1312.73	0.26	0.79	1.17	4.51	1.23
Silver(\$/Oz)	15.49	0.12	1.28	2.73	5.87	5.49

LME	Price	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
Copper	6421.00	0.56	0.27	0.64	7.18	5.48
Aluminium	1899.50	1.94	0.18	0.29	0.50	8.72
Zinc	2835.00	0.98	0.35	5.67	13.31	12.74
Lead	2041.00	0.17	3.45	1.21	3.87	14.96
Nickel	12996.00	1.68	0.82	1.14	19.50	3.45

Polymer Mkt	Index	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
HDPE	1080.00	0.93	2.86	0.93	23.13
LDPE	1110.00	0.91	8.82	11.00	5.93
Injection Grade	1120.00	0.90	2.75	5.66	16.10
General purpose	1150.00	0.88	2.22	5.50	14.81
Polystyrene HIPS	1360.00	0.00	6.21	6.21	17.07
Polystyrene GPPS	1300.00	0.00	5.11	5.80	16.13

Shipping Ind	Index	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
Baltic Dry	695.00	1.97	4.79	9.62	45.66	37.78
BWIRON	157.77	0.27	1.02	2.90	12.52	12.03
SG Dubai HY	4.41	3.92	2.08	22.16	22.84	26.50

Bond Yld 10Y	Yield	%Ch1D	%Ch5D	%Ch1M	%Ch3M	%Ch1Yr
US	2.49	1.83	3.73	6.08	10.74	11.82
UK	1.05	1.03	13.05	9.07	20.29	26.88
Brazil	5.32	0.15	1.79	1.77	2.21	6.75
Japan	0.07	91.67	102.94	86.49	246.81	281.58
Aus	1.83	2.40	7.33	12.50	23.17	32.07
India	7.33	0.46	0.18	1.24	0.69	3.06

In precious metals, both Gold and Silver gained 0.79% and 1.28% respectively during the week. In LME, Nickel was the top gainer with 0.82%. Zinc & Copper gained 0.35% & 0.27% during the week. Among Energy, NYMEX crude gained 1.44%, whereas, Natural Gas declined 0.61% during the week.

News Impact

Domestic News

Maruti cuts vehicle production by over 8% in February

The country's largest car maker Maruti Suzuki India cut production by over 8% in February on account of subdued demand. The auto major produced a total of 1,48,959 units, including Super Carry LCV, across its factories last month, down 8.3% from 1,62,524 units produced in the year-ago period. The production of passenger vehicles, including Alto, Swift, Dzire and Vitara Brezza, declined by 8.4% to 1,47,550 units as compared with 1,61,116 units in February 2018. In February, MSI had reported a dip of 0.9% in domestic sales at 1,39,100 units as compared with 1,37,900 units in the year ago period. The company's installed manufacturing capacity from its two plants in Gurgaon and Manesar stands at 15.5 lakh units per annum. Besides, Suzuki-owned Hansalpur (Gujarat) plant also has an installed capacity of 2.5 lakh units from the first line. The second production line has been commissioned at the plant, but is yet to reach its peak capacity of 2.5 lakh units per annum. The third production line at the Gujarat plant would give an additional capacity of 2.5 lakh units per annum to the company.

United Breweries expects disruptions in business during elections

United Breweries, the country's largest beer maker, expects demand and operations to be disrupted during the general election as sale and consumption of liquor will be banned on and around the voting days. Election is a big disruptor simply because there are a huge amount of restrictions on hours of operations, outlet closures and dry days. So it makes the business of alcohol much more complicated. While increase in 'dry days' during elections is not new, polling will overlap with the label registration cycle this time, something that can directly impact operations and supply chain. No new licences will be issued and no new product labels will be registered or granted during the period. The industry will be in cold storage for about three months. However, liquor companies will be more insulated during elections compared with beer makers. Election related disruptions can affect the crucial summer season sales in 1QFY20. While United Spirits is also likely to be affected due to elections, the impact should be significantly lower as beer consumption is more skewed towards summers.

India short on EV parts makers, to rely on Chinese imports

India, the world's third largest automobile market, will rely more on China for components as the government steps on the gas to go for electric vehicles. In the financial year 2018 alone, Chinese exports to India touched USD4.3 billion, up 27% over FY13, with the automobile industry executives saying that there's no sign of slowing down in the future. India imports ten times more auto components from China than it exports. The ever growing imports of auto components from China pose a threat to the local auto component manufacturing ecosystem and will increase India's already huge trade deficit with China in the next few years Chinese exports to India are driven mainly by the electronic components in vehicles, which will be used in the impending launch of a slew of new electric vehicles (EVs). Also, the practically non-existent hardware manufacturing base in India is forcing OEMs and Tier-1 suppliers to import more from China.

News Impact

JLR India to hike prices on select models from April

Jaguar Land Rover India indicated that it will increase prices of select products by up to 4% with effect from April 1. The company, however, did not specify which models will be affected by the price hike. This increase in price is purely inflationary and the company is certain that the two global iconic brands, Jaguar and Land Rover, will continue to attract existing and new customers. JLR India's products under the two brands Jaguar and Land Rover ranges from Jaguar XE with price starting at INR40.61 lakh to Range Rover tagged at INR1.79 crore. Last week, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) had also announced that it would increase prices of some of its products from next month in order to offset rise in input cost. TKM, however, did not disclose the quantum of hike and the models that would become costlier.

Government asked banks to save Jet Airways, avoid bankruptcy

India's government has asked state-run banks to rescue privately held Jet Airways without pushing it into bankruptcy, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeks to avert thousands of job losses weeks before a general election. New Delhi has urged state-run banks to convert debt into equity and take a stake in Jet in a rare move in India to use taxpayer money to save a struggling private-sector company from bankruptcy. However, this would be "transitory" and lenders could sell the stakes once Jet revives. The government has also nudged its 49%-owned National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) - created to invest in stalled and new infrastructure projects - to buy a stake in Jet. The official is concerned that if Jet collapses it could drive up airfare in a fast-growing market, wiping out efforts to bring low-cost air travel to India's hinterland. While on the surface Jet's future still hangs in the balance with its main shareholder Etihad at loggerheads over the final terms of any deal, behind-the-scenes support from the government means there is likely to be a bailout. But there are no easy options, the lenders do not have the expertise to run an airline so they have to decide what to do once they convert their debt into equity.

Venezuela suspends oil exports to India

Venezuela has suspended its oil exports to India and views Russia and China as its main export destinations. Earlier this year, the United States imposed heavy sanctions on Venezuela's oil industry and has pressed India to stop buying Venezuelan oil. The Indian market has been crucial for Venezuela's economy because it has historically been the second-largest cash-paying customer for the OPEC country's crude, behind the United States. OPEC and other oil ministers met in Baku in talks over the weekend that ended.

News Impact

PNB fraud case: Nirav Modi arrested in London on India's extradition request

PNB fraud accused Nirav Modi was arrested by the Scotland Yard in London on Wednesday, more than a year after he escaped from India after defrauding Punjab National Bank (PNB) of INR14,356 crore. Senior officials familiar with the development said that Modi will now be produced in a London court, before the commencement of his extradition hearing. Nirav Modi's arrest came days after a London court issued an arrest warrant against him in response to a request by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for his extradition in a money laundering case. The move comes as a big boost for India's agencies hunting Modi in connection with INR14,356 crore PNB fraud case. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had requested the UK authorities to detain Nirav Modi, with the UK confirming Modi's presence on its soil.

Vodafone Idea plans USD3.6 bn rights issue at sharp discount, shares tank

Vodafone Idea Ltd approved INR25,000 crore (USD3.63 billion) rights issue at a sharp discount, sending its share prices tumbling. The Vodafone Idea rights issue is the second major fundraising by an Indian telco this year after Bharti Airtel Ltd announced a similar plan to reduce debt and fund operations in a market blighted by steep price competition. Shareholders will be able to buy 87 shares for every 38 shares held for an issue price of INR12.50 apiece. That will be around 60% discount to the current share prices. Indian telcos are trying to cut debt and shore up balance sheets at a time when the industry grapples with a prolonged price war triggered by the 2016 entry of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd. Market conditions also prompted Bharti Airtel to sell USD525 million worth of stock to Singapore Telecommunications Ltd (Singtel) under a plan to raise USD4.6 billion.

Lenders will make every effort to keep Jet Airways flying, says SBI

State Bank of India (SBI) chairman Rajnish Kumar said the lenders of Jet Airways will make every effort to keep the embattled airline flying. Banks were trying to work out a revival plan for Jet Airways through a change in management. The dialogue with Etihad is on. It is not that they have conclusively decided that they will go out. But there are certain conditions which they want to be fulfilled and it is nothing but that the airline should be professionally managed and without any interference. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said only 41 aircraft of Jet Airways were currently available for operation and there could be further attrition of flights in the coming weeks.

News Impact

SpiceJet leasing Jet Airways' grounded planes to keep fares in check

Air travellers could be assured of fares remaining reasonable with budget carrier SpiceJet planning to lease distressed Jet Airways' grounded aircraft from their lessors in a move that will restore part of the airline industry's capacity. With Jet Airways operating only about 41 of the 119 planes it had in its fleet before the current liquidity crisis hit the airline, industry capacity has shrunk in recent weeks. In addition, the recent grounding of the controversial Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), too, has affected the aviation industry's capacity. For SpiceJet, which had to cancel several flights on account of this, leasing Jet's grounded planes will be a quick solution to replenishing capacity. SpiceJet said last week it operated with 94% capacity utilisation in February. SpiceJet taking lease of about 50 of Jet's grounded planes is set to ease this pressure on capacity, boost competition and keep fares in check. The DGCA has already cautioned airlines in recent weeks against any unreasonable spike in ticket prices.

Fitch cuts India GDP growth forecast for FY20 to 6.8%

Fitch Ratings cut India's economic growth forecast for the next financial year starting April 1, to 6.8% from its previous estimate of 7%, on weaker than expected momentum in the economy. Fitch Ratings had cut India's FY19 GDP growth forecast to 7.2% from 7.8% on December 6. The rating agency has also cut growth forecasts for FY20 and FY21 to 7% from 7.3% and 7.1% from 7.3%, respectively. According to Fitch, the RBI, has adopted a more dovish monetary policy stance and cut interest rates by 0.25% at its February 2019 meeting, a move supported by steadily decelerating headline inflation. Fitch said, it's benign oil price outlook and expectations of accelerating food prices in the coming months should support rural households' income and consumption.

GVK Group to acquire 12 crore shares in Mumbai airport for INR924 crore

GVK Power & Infrastructure Friday said its step-down subsidiary GVK Airport Holdings will acquire 12 crore shares of Mumbai International Airport (MIAL) for INR924 crore from ACSA Global. After completion of this 10% stake buy from ACSA along with the earlier purchase of 13.5% from Bidvest, GVK Group's shareholding in MIAL will increase to 74% from the existing 50.5%.

News Impact

Global News

EU Gives Theresa May Another Two Weeks to Avoid a No-Deal Brexit

European Union leaders staved off the threat of the U.K. crashing out of the bloc without a deal next Friday by giving Theresa May an extra two weeks to work out what to do. At a summit in Brussels on Thursday, the leaders told May that if U.K. lawmakers don't endorse her Brexit deal next week, she'll have until April 12 to decide whether to leave without agreement or request a much longer extension. The decision removes the immediate possibility of a no-deal Brexit in seven days' time.

Gasoline Surges as Ethanol Delays Add to Refinery Supply Woes

Gasoline surged across the U.S. as delays in ethanol shipments due to Midwest floods added to supply woes brought on by refinery breakdowns. Flint Hills Resources LLC said Thursday it's adjusting gasoline production in Texas after several railroads that ship ethanol to the Gulf Coast were shut. Futures on the New York Mercantile Exchange rose Thursday to the highest level since October, and are on track for the best first quarter since 2005. Prices at the pump, which have climbed 34 cents a gallon so far this year, are likely to increase further as higher wholesale costs filter through. The loss of ethanol -- blended with refinery-made fuel to meet environmental requirements in some parts of the country and to boost octane -- will further tighten supply that was already reduced by upsets at refineries from New Jersey to Texas to California. The latest events come as fuel production is at a seasonal low as many refineries make repairs and upgrades before more Americans hit the road for vacations in summer.

Iron Ore Shortage Looms as Industry Gathers in Top Exporter

The iron ore market is facing a deficit in the wake of Vale SA's deadly dam burst in Brazil earlier this year - and investors are divided over its size and affect on prices. Vale suspended output at a 12.8 million-ton per year mine in Minas Gerais on safety concerns, adding to previous warnings that as 70 million tons of production could be affected by the Jan. 25 disaster. A deficit now looms as rival producers say they're unable to ramp up their operations to fill the gap. Whether China can make up the difference, as well as the demand outlook, will be among the topics discussed as analysts and company executives gather in Perth for a two-day conference.

U.S. Said to See China Trade Pushback as Trump Touts Talks

Some U.S. negotiators are concerned that China is pushing back against American demands in trade talks, according to people familiar with the negotiations, even as President Donald Trump sounded optimistic about reaching a deal that could boost his reelection chances. Chinese officials have shifted their stance because after agreeing to changes to their intellectual-property policies, they haven't received assurances from the Trump administration that tariffs imposed on their exports would be lifted, two of the people said on condition of anonymity.

News Impact

Global Anger Against India's Sugar Subsidies Builds Up at WTO

A chorus of angry voices against India's sugar subsidies is intensifying as global producers take their complaint to the World Trade Organization. Guatemala has joined Australia and Brazil in a formal dispute at the WTO, with Thailand and Canada expressing their umbrage and suggesting they may join the action too. The countries want India to revise its sugar policies to bring them in line with WTO commitments, the Global Sugar Alliance said on Monday.

China May Depend on Rare Earths Imports After Mine Quotas Cut

China may have to depend on imports to make up a potential shortfall in mined rare earths after the government cut its quota for domestic production, according to the country's industry group. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology announced a first round of quotas for mined output of 60,000 tons on March 15. That's down from 73,500 tons a year earlier and compares with 2018's full-year limit of 120,000 tons. The quota is relatively low given China's full-year demand is expected to be 180,000 tons and companies will have to source rare earths from overseas.

China Could Triple Buying of U.S. Farm Products, Perdue Says

China could as much as triple its purchases of American farm goods as part of a trade deal between the nations, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said. When compared with the nation's buying in 2017, it could be easily seen, if we are able to come to a trade resolution, a doubling or tripling of that kind of number over a period of two to five years.

LNG Slump Seen Close to End as Price Collapse Stimulates Demand

Liquefied natural gas prices may be about to hit the bottom after losing more than a third of their value this year. Sellers of the world's fastest-growing fossil fuel may first have to swallow a cut of another 10 percent over the next two months before prices rebound from the lowest since July 2017. It might be good news for the climate, as price-sensitive users in India and Bangladesh switch to cleaner natural gas from oil and coal.

INDIA INSIGHT: Balance of Payments Swing to Surplus Lifts Rupee

India's balance of payments is swinging into surplus, ending a three-quarter string of deficits -- and helping to strengthen the rupee. The result is along expected lines -- a larger surplus stokes upward pressure on the rupee. We estimate the balance of payments -- the sum of the current and capital account balances -- to post a surplus of \$5.5 billion in 4Q fiscal 2019, shifting from deficits estimated at \$6.1 billion in 3Q fiscal 2019 and \$13.2 billion in 1H fiscal 2019. For fiscal 2020, we forecast a balance of payments surplus of \$10.7 billion as our base case, which assumes Brent crude price at an average \$70 per barrel.

News Impact

Brazil Court Orders Vale to Stop Operations at Another Mine

A Brazilian court ordered Vale SA to halt production at another of its iron ore mines, further reducing the company's output capacity after a deadly dam burst increased government scrutiny over its operations. The Timbopeba mine in Minas Gerais state produces 12.8 million tons of iron ore per year.

Saudis Urge OPEC+ to Stick With Oil Cuts as Job Not Yet Done

OPEC and its allies have much work ahead to balance global oil markets and are prepared to do what's necessary in the second half, Saudi Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih said. The 24-nation coalition known as OPEC+ needs to "stay the course" until June as its job is "nowhere near complete" in terms of restoring oil-market fundamentals, Al-Falih said late Sunday at a news conference in Baku, Azerbaijan. U.S. inventories remain significantly above normal levels, and there is a risk of oversupply in the short term, he said.

BlackRock Sees Emerging Stocks Almost Recouping Last Year's Loss

Gordon Fraser of BlackRock Inc., who made the call to load up on Brazilian companies just before an election-spurred rally late last year, predicts emerging-market equities will recover most of their 2018 losses this year. In the face of slowing global growth, the Federal Reserve is unlikely to raise rates this year, causing the dollar to weaken and improving the flows into emerging markets, said Fraser, a developing-market equities fund manager.

Japan's Exports Fall Again, Underscoring Weakening Global Demand

Japan's exports fell for a third straight month in February, as a global economic slowdown and waning technology cycle take a toll. Shipments abroad fell 1.2 percent by value from a year earlier, according to the finance ministry. Economists had forecast a 0.6 percent drop, following an 8.4 percent slide in January, the biggest slump since 2016. Autos were the biggest drag, while semi-conductor related goods also weighed heavily.

IEA Says OPEC Able to Offset Supply Shock From Venezuela

OPEC nations have enough spare crude oil to make up for any supply shock from the escalating crisis in Venezuela, the International Energy Agency said. Oil production in the Latin American nation, already depleted by a chronic economic slump, has suffered further in recent weeks with the onset of U.S. sanctions and widespread electricity blackouts.

Events

CORPORATE ACTION BONUS / RIGHTS / STOCK SPLIT / DIVIDEND / FCCB / M&A / WARRANTS ETC.

Company	Record Date	Ex-Date	Details
United Nilgiri Tea Estates Co Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR1 effective 25/3/2019
Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR1.68 effective 25/3/2019
Bank of India			Corporate Meeting effective 25/3/2019
Tech Mahindra Ltd			981.427M Stock buyback effective 25/03/2019
NLC India Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR4.53 effective 26/3/2019
FIEM Industries Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR8 effective 26/3/2019
Prabhat Dairy Ltd			Corporate Meeting effective 26/3/2019
Indian Oil Corp Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR1.5 effective 27/3/2019
CRISIL Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR11 effective 28/3/2019
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd			Cash Dividend of INR19.8 effective 28/3/2019
ISGEC Heavy Engineering Ltd			10 for 1 stock split effective 28/03/2019
Ambuja Cements Ltd			Corporate Meeting effective 29/3/2019
Forbes & Co Ltd			Corporate Meeting effective 29/3/2019

Domestic Events

- **March 28, 2019:** India External Debt Q4 2018.
- **March 29, 2019:** India's Foreign Exchange Reserve for the week ended March 22, 2019., India Core Infrastructure Output for February 2019., India Government Budget deficit for February 2019.

Global Events

- **March 25, 2019:** Japan All Industry Activity Index for January 2019.
- **March 26, 2019:** The U.S. Housing Starts for February 2019.
- **March 27, 2019:** China Industrial Profit for February 2019., The U.S. MBA Mortgage Application for the week ended March 22, 2019., The U.S. Balance of Trade for January 2019., The U.S. Current Account Balance for Q4 2018.
- **March 28, 2019:** The U.S. Initial Jobless Claims for March 23, 2019., The U.S. GDP for Q4 2018., The U.S. Pending Home Sales for February 2018.
- **March 29, 2019:** The U.S. New Home Sales for February 2019., The U.S. Personal Income and Personal Spending for February 2019., Japan Unemployment Rate for February 2019., Japan Industrial Production and Retail Sales for February 2019.

Source of News : The content may have been taken from The Economic Times, Business Standard, Business Line, Mint and other leading financial newspapers and financial portals BSE,NSE, Bloomberg, Moneycontrol & others.

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