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FINANCIAL MARKETS IN MOTION

4th December, 2012



Market Summary

Markets ended on a subdued note amid profit booking in HDFC Group shares after recent gains. Investors also remained cautious ahead of FDI vote in Parliament that will test the Congress-led UPA government's ability to push through key reforms. The Sensex ended weaker by 34 points at 19,305 and the Nifty slipped 9 points to close at 5,871 levels. India's manufacturing sector beat the expectations of economists to grow at its fastest pace in five months in November, boosted by strong export orders and a surge in output, a business survey showed on Monday. The HSBC manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which gauges the business activity of India's factories but not its utilities, rose to 53.7 in November from 52.9 in October. On the sectoral front, the BSE banking index- bankex was the top loser. The index slipped 0.4% or 56 points to end at 13,895. FMCG and teck indices also ended on a weak note. While, realty, metal, power, consumer durables, oil & gas, capital goods and healthcare indices were up 0.2-1.3% each.

Buzzing News for the day

- ✓ Airtel launches emergency alert service
- ✓ Bajaj motorcycle sales down 1.6% in Nov
- ✓ IVRCL bags Rs 1,605-cr Haryana road project
- ✓ Jagran Prakashan to raise Rs 150 cr via securities
- Mahindra tractor sales rise 22% in November
- Manufacturing sector growth hits 5-month high in Nov: HSBC PMI
- ✓ Morgan Stanley raises India's GDP forecast to 5.4% for FY13
- ✓ PC Jeweller fixes IPO price band at Rs 125-135
- ✓ SAIL output up 8% in November

| FII & DII (NSE & BSE AS ON 03.12.2012) (RS. Cr) | | | | POLICY RATES (%) | |
|---|----------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------|----|
| | BUY | SELL | NET | (As on 03.12.2012) | |
| FII | 1,955.34 | 1,652.67 | 302.67 | Bank Rate 9.0 |)0 |
| DII | 1,087.32 | 1,423.26 | (335.94) | Repo Rate 8.0 | 00 |
| | | | Reverse Repo Rate 7.0 | 00 | |
| | | Advances | Decline | CRR 4.2 | 25 |
| NSE | | 908 | 567 | SLR 23. | 00 |
| BSE | | 1723 | 1436 | MSF 9.0 | 00 |

Forex & Commodity Market Updates

| FOREX RATES as on 03.12.2012 | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Dollar | 54.78 | | | |
| Euro | 71.47 | | | |
| UK Pound | 88.13 | | | |
| Japanese ¥ | 0.67 | | | |
| Singapore \$ | 44.92 | | | |
| Renminbi | 8.80 | | | |
| Taiwan \$ | 1.89 | | | |

| COMMODITIES as on 03.12.2012 | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| Gold (MCX) (RS./10G) | 31,299.00 | | | |
| Silver (MCX) (RS./KG) | 61,946.00 | | | |
| Crude Oil (BARREL) | 4,878.00 | | | |
| Aluminium (RS./KG) | 114.80 | | | |
| Copper (RS./KG) | 444.20 | | | |
| Nickel (RS./KG) | 960.40 | | | |
| Zinc (RS./KG) | 111.05 | | | |

| Company | Purpose | Date |
|--|-------------------------|----------|
| Amtek Auto Limited | Results/Dividend | 4-Dec-12 |
| Amtek India Limited | Results/Dividend | 4-Dec-12 |
| Burnpur Cement Limited | Allotment of Securities | 4-Dec-12 |
| Mcnally Bharat Engineering Company Limited | Miscelleneous | 4-Dec-12 |

Corporate Action

| Company | Purpose | Ex-Date |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| C & C Constructions Limited | Annual General Meeting | 5-Dec-12 |
| Novopan Industries Limited | Annual General Meeting | 5-Dec-12 |
| Varun Shipping Company Limited | Annual Book Closure | 7-Dec-12 |

NEWS UPDATES

CORPORATE NEWS

Airtel launches emergency alert service

The Bharti Airtel has launched an 'emergency alert service' to help its subscribers while in crisis. It comes at a cost of Rs 30 a month. "During an emergency, Airtel mobile customers can now send an alert with their geographic location to their closest 10 loved ones simultaneously with just a call, facilitating an access to easy and quick help," Bharti Airtel said. Subscribers can even send a 'SAFE' SMS indication to a pre-defined group of 10 family members and friends and keep them informed of their wellbeing in case when out alone and during any natural calamity or disaster with just one click. Once subscribed, they can send this alert even if they don't have minimum balance in their account.

Bajaj motorcycle sales down 1.6% in Nov

Bajaj Auto has reported a 1.57 per cent decline in motorcycle sales to 3,26,727 units in November. The company had sold 3,31,967 units in the corresponding month last year, Bajaj Auto Ltd (BAL) said. Exports decreased 4 per cent to 1,24,115 units (1,29,256 units). In the three-wheeler category, the sales stood at 45,566 units against 42,510 units, an increase of 7 per cent. Total sales stood at 3,72,293 units last month compared with 3,74,477 units in the same period a year ago, a decline of 1 per cent.

IVRCL bags Rs 1,605-cr Haryana road project

IVRCL Ltd has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Haryana Government for the development of Rai Malikapur-Kharak road corridor. The Rs 1,605-crore project corridor will cover a stretch of 151 km of Rai Malikapur close to the Rajasthan border up to Kharak corridor and boost the north-south connectivity. The project will achieve financial closure within six months and take about 30 months to execute, according to IVRCL Executive Director of Finance, R. Balarami Reddy.

Mahindra tractor sales rise 22% in November

Mahindra & Mahindra's domestic tractor sales in November rose 22 per cent to 19,757 units, compared with 16,175 units sold during the same month a year ago. The company's total tractor sales (domestic and exports) grew 17 per cent during the month under review to 20,476 units (17,527 units in November 2011). Mahindra & Mahindra, which manufactures and sells tractors through its farm equipment sector unit, exported 719 units during the month under review.

Network18 sells stake in NewsWire18 to Samara Capital for Rs 90 cr

Network18 said that it has sold its entire stake in Newswire18 to Samara Capital. The private equity firm is picking up a majority stake in the financial news and market data provider for Rs 90 crore. Raghav Bahl, Managing Director, Network18, said: "The divestiture of Newswire18, India's leading financial data and news terminal business, is a reflection of our commitment to profitably monetise non-core assets for the benefit of our shareholders and to also facilitate the growth of these businesses to the next level." "The transaction is expected to add approximately Rs 70 crores to Network18's consolidated pre-tax profit for the current quarter. NewsWire18 will also be rechristened over the next 90 days as a result of the transaction," the company said.

Nextra Tele selects IBM tech

Nextra Teleservices, an Internet Service Provider has selected IBM's PureSystem technology to provide the IT backbone for its broadband infrastructure. IBM's system will also support Nextra's business growth, allowing it to introduce value-added services securely, quickly and in-line with increases in available bandwidth. The new IBM PureFlex System will help Nextra remove system bottlenecks, streamline internal processes and ensure uninterrupted high-speed broadband service for individual clients as well as for small and medium companies in Delhi NCR region. With this IBM technology, Nextra has seen its storage utilisation increase by up to 30 per cent, according to company officials.

SAIL output up 8% in November

Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) has registered a growth of 8 per cent during November 2012 compared to the same month last year. The public sector company produced 9.72 lakh tonnes of saleable steel during November. During April-November 2012, SAIL produced 8.2 million tonnes of saleable steel, a growth of 2.3 per cent over the previous year. SAIL said that technoeconomic parameters during April-November 2012 fared better, with 2 per cent improvement in coke rate and energy consumption and 3 per cent improvement in BF productivity compared to the same period previous year.

ECONOMY

Manufacturing sector growth hits 5-month high in Nov: HSBC PMI

India's manufacturing sector growth improved in November, registering the fastest pace in five months. The growth has been driven by a strong pick-up in new orders and improved purchasing activity, an HSBC survey said. The HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) — a measure of factory production — stood at 53.7 in November, up from 52.9 in October. The index has remained above the 50-mark, below which it indicates contraction, for more than three years now. The November reading of HSBC PMI points to the fact that the sector has gained momentum in the last few months, after it registered the weakest pace of growth rate in nine months in August.

Morgan Stanley raises India's GDP forecast to 5.4% for FY13

Morgan Stanley raised India's growth forecast for the current financial year to 5.4 per cent from 5.1 per cent projected earlier citing better-than-expected GDP growth in the September quarter and stabilisation in non-agriculture growth indicators. However, the pace of recovery will be slow in view of macro stability challenges such as high inflation, the current account deficit and loan-deposit ratio, Morgan Stanley said, adding it has kept its GDP projections for FY14 unchanged at 6.2 per cent in line with this view.

PC Jeweller fixes IPO price band at Rs 125-135

PC Jeweller will hit the capital market on December 10 with initial public offer (IPO) to raise up to Rs 609 crore for funding its expansion plans. The company has fixed the price band of IPO, comprising of over 4.51 crore equity shares, at Rs 125-135 per share having a face value of Rs 10 each. The public issue will close on December 12. At the upper band, PC Jeweller would raise a little over Rs 609 crore through IPO, while at lower band, the company would mop up Rs 564 crore. The IPO would constitute 25.2% of the post-issue paid-up equity share capital of the company. The company is offering a discount of Rs 5 to retail individuals. In September last year, PC Jeweller had filed the draft document with market regulator SEBI for its IPO to raise funds for expansion and working capital requirement. At present, the company has 30 showrooms across the country and it has plans to open 20 new retail showrooms by utilising funds raised through IPO.

KNOWLEDGE CORNER

CHECK YOUR CHEQUE

Over the past month, you must have got a letter, an email or an SMS from your bank asking you to surrender your old cheque book and collect the new cheque book before December 31, 2012. Or, you must have seen advertisements in newspapers or the notices put up on the bank's website or at the branch.

Beginning January 1, 2013, you will no longer be able to use bank cheques that do not conform to the cheque truncation system (CTS) 2010 standards. The new cheques have additional security features, making it difficult to counterfeit.

Old cheques may not be dishonoured immediately but it is better to get the new format cheques.

But before you rush to your branch, check if your cheques are indeed of the old format as several banks had started issuing new cheque books since 2011.

NEW FORMAT CHEQUES TO HELP FASTER CLEARANCE

The biggest advantage of the new-format cheques is faster clearance. The standard and uniform features in the cheques will make it easier for scanning the cheques and transferring the prints, without the need for physical clearance.

This is called the CTS. RBI had started the process first in the National Capital Region about three years ago, and in Chennai last year.

The next stage is to extend this to all bank branches in India, for which moving to the new-format cheques is the first step. It is expected that by the end of 2013, physical clearance of cheques will stop completely.

Over the past year or so, banks have been setting up scanners at branches. The scanned cheques are sent for clearance. By doing away with physical clearance, local cheques will now be cleared on the same day, as against two to three days earlier, says Ram Sangapure, a general manager at Central Bank of India.

Even for outstation cheques, which now take about five days or more to be cleared, the clearing period will reduce considerably. Transactions such as buying and selling of stocks or securities, where settlement happens after funds are realised will also become faster once CTC is fully operationalised.

The new cheques will have additional security features and standardised features.

(1) The new cheques will have a void pantograph, which is a wave like design embossed on the left hand of the cheque leaf. This is visible when a photocopy of the cheque is taken. In case of the old cheques, a good quality colour photocopy could pass off as a genuine cheque and forgery was easy. Now the pantograph will show up during the photocopy and will act as a deterrent against colour photocopy or scanned colour images of a cheque.

(2) The line to fill in the payee's name and the amount will have the bank's name written in micro letters, which will be visible to the naked eye only under a magnifying glass.

(3) All new cheques will carry a standardised oval-shaped watermark, with the words "CTS-INDIA", which can be seen when held against any light source. This will make it difficult for any fraudster to photocopy or print an instrument since this watermark will be introduced while manufacturing the paper.

(4) The bank's logo shall be printed in ultra-violet (UV) ink and will be visible only under UV light. This, too, will establish the genuineness of a cheque.

In addition to these security features, some other features, too, have been standardised. For instance, the new rupee symbol, the "dd/mm/yyyy" format for date, and a clear demarcation between the magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) and non-MICR portions of the cheques.

Source: Business Standard

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