

Trump cuts duty on slew of goods from India; New Delhi reciprocates

ROLLBACK. US will reduce levy to 18% in a week; zero duty on \$44 b of Indian exports: Commerce Minister Goyal

Amiti Sen

New Delhi

In a major relief for India's exporters, the US has halved tariffs on labour-intensive Indian goods — including textiles, leather, footwear and plastics — to 25 per cent through an executive order issued on Friday. Washington has also agreed to further cut the tariff to 18 per cent, expected to be notified through another executive order next week.

However, the rollback of the 25 per cent *ad valorem* tariff, effective February 7, is explicitly linked to India's "commitment" to stop purchasing Russian oil. In the order, US President Donald Trump warned that the levies could be reinstated if such imports resume.

HEDGING ON OIL

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal deflected questions on the US claim regarding India's commitment on Russian oil, while the Ministry of External Affairs reiterated its earlier position, saying energy security for 1.4 billion Indians re-

The BIG reset

India's commitments

Industrial goods (Tariff cuts on almost all lines)

- Automotive: 0% duty on high-end Harleys; ICE vehicles to be reduced to 30% over 10 years

- Healthcare: Duty elimination on life-saving drugs, medical devices

- Chemicals & Tech: Lower tariffs on chemicals and data center hardware (GPUs)

- ICT: Removal of restrictive import authorisation for tech goods

Agriculture (Market access)

- Lower duties on wine/spirits, tree nuts, apples, some other fruits, and soybean oil
- Reduced tariffs on animal feed inputs (DDGs, red sorghum)

India's "Red Lines"

- Protected: Rice, wheat, dairy, meat/poultry, ethanol, tobacco, and sensitive fruits (citrus, strawberries)

United States' commitments:

- Tariffs reduced to 18% on labour-intensive goods: textiles, leather, footwear, plastic

- Duty elimination on gems, diamonds, spices, tea, coffee, some fruits (mango, pineapple, etc)

- Preferential quotas secured for automotive components and aircraft parts previously impacted by Section 232 duties

US non-committals

- Strategic 50% tariffs remain on Indian steel and aluminum
- Generic drug outcomes depend on ongoing US national security investigations

cultural products and the entire dairy sector, Goyal told the media on Saturday.

"India's farmers and MSMEs will not be hurt by the pact... the two countries have come to a very fair, equitable, and balanced agreement," Goyal said.

Several US products are set to become cheaper in India following the duty cuts, including automobiles (excluding EVs), cosmetics, life-saving medicines, medical equipment, wine and alcohol (under quotas), select fruits and vegetables, soybean oil and certain animal feed products.

US CONCESSION

The US, too, has agreed to eliminate or reduce tariffs on multiple items under the pact. "About \$44 billion worth of Indian exports will attract zero reciprocal duty in the US," Goyal said.

These duty cuts will be implemented once the interim trade agreement is finalised, likely some time in March, Indian officials said.

[Read more p12](#)

mains the government's supreme priority, with a focus on diversifying energy sources.

In a goodwill gesture, India agreed to eliminate import duties on the iconic American motorcycle Harley-Davidson — a long-standing demand of Trump — an official said. India has also committed to

eliminate or reduce duties on almost all US industrial goods and a range of agricultural products, according to the joint statement outlining the framework of the interim trade deal released on Saturday.

India also intends to purchase \$500 billion worth of US energy products, aircraft and aircraft parts, precious metals, technology products and coking coal over the next five years, the statement said.

DAIRY, AGRI KEPT OUT

New Delhi has protected all its red lines, with no market access offered for sensitive agri-



Goyal said India has protected domestic growers and industry by not opening up sectors such as meat, poultry, GM crops, dairy, sugar, soybean, maize, rice, wheat, millets, ethanol and tobacco to US imports.

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Listing soyoil, cotton, DDGs, and apple, he said these would be allowed from the US either with a quantitative limit, or minimum export price or both at reduced duty.

CLAUSE LEAVES ROOM

Asked why the joint statement is open-ended using the term "additional products" in the list of items to be imported at concessional rates, he said: "The bilateral negotiations should continue in future, which is in the interest

of India and all should welcome if there is fair, equitable and balanced trade."

The Minister also defended the decision to allow DDGs — a key source of animal protein for poultry and cattle feed manufacturers — despite opposition from the soybean industry, which

0 DUTY ON NUTS

"We have done calibrated opening for the US agri products based on India's requirements," Goyal said. He added that several nuts such as pistachios, almonds and walnuts, which were being imported earlier, would now be allowed at zero duty.

Goyal said India has agreed to allow a fixed quantity of fresh apples from the US at minimum import price (MIP) of ₹80/kg and a duty of 25 per cent as against the current rate of ₹50/kg MIP and 50 per cent import duty on other countries. Trade sources said that soon, the MIP might be made uniform at ₹80/kg for all countries.

Reliance Consumer Products has acquired a majority stake in Australia's Goodness Group Global Pty Ltd, marking its entry Down Under, the company said on Saturday.

The acquisition strengthens RCPL's presence in the global "better-for-you" beverages segment and adds Australian brands NEXBA and PACE to its growing health-focused portfolio.

T. Krishnakumar, RCPL Director, said the partnership was a step towards establishing the company as a global FMCG player. Goodness Group Founder Troy Douglas said the deal would accelerate the company's global growth, with plans to expand in 50 Western markets in 5 years.

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SBI Q3 net up 24% on strong loan growth and stable asset quality

Piyush Shukla
Mumbai

The country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI), on Saturday reported a 24 per cent year-on-year increase in Q3FY26 net profit to ₹21,028 crore, driven by robust loan growth and stable asset quality.

The net interest income (NII) rose 9 per cent y-o-y to ₹45,190 crore, while the net interest margin (NIM) improved 2 basis points (bps) sequentially to 2.99 per cent and is expected to cross 3 per cent in the next quarter, said Chairman CS Setty.

CORE BUSINESS

The bank received a special dividend of ₹2,200 crore from its subsidiary SBI Mutual Fund, and plans to complete the IPO process of the asset management company by end-2026, Setty added.

Scorecard

Parameter	Q3 FY26	Variation (y-o-y, in %)
Loans (₹ lakh cr)	46.83	15
Deposits (₹ lakh cr)	57.01	9
NII (₹ cr)	45,190	9
Other income* (₹ cr)	18,359	-8
Net NPA (in %)	0.39	-14 bps
Net profit (₹ cr)	21,028	24

*Other income is down 8 per cent in Q3FY26 as SBI gained a one-time profit of ₹4,593 crore on account of stake sale in YES Bank in Q2FY26.

Source: BSE, bank

SBI's gross advances grew 15 per cent y-o-y to ₹46.83 lakh crore in the December quarter. The lender raised its FY26 credit growth guidance to 14-15 per cent from 12-13 per cent earlier, aided by strong traction across retail, agriculture and MSME seg-

ments. The bank also has a corporate loan pipeline of ₹7.9 lakh crore.

Deposits increased 9 per cent y-o-y to ₹57.01 lakh crore, with the share of low-cost deposits stable at 39 per cent. Setty said intense competition for deposits has limited the scope for any meaningful reduction in deposit rates.

ASSET QUALITY

Fresh slippages declined to ₹4,458 crore in Q3 from ₹4,754 crore in Q2, while recoveries improved to ₹2,371 crore. The bank expects recoveries of about ₹8,000 crore in FY26.

Credit cost eased 4 bps sequentially to 0.39 per cent in Q3. Loan loss provisions fell to ₹3,216 crore from ₹4,132 crore in the previous quarter.

Overall, SBI's gross and net non-performing asset ratios declined 50 bps and 14 bps y-o-y to 1.57 per cent and 0.39 per cent, respectively, in Q3.

Reliance Consumer buys Australia's Goodness Group

Our Bureau
Mumbai

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Market wise.

AI & the software rout: Lessons for IT investors from AI's iPhone moment

YOUR MONEY P3



IPO Watch.

Should investors opt for the public issue of Fractal Analytics? Our views

TAKING STOCK P5

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INVESTMENT FOCUS

NBCC — Accumulate on dips

Venkatasubramanian K
bl. research bureau

NBCC, leveraging the government's strong capital expenditure on asset creation, has built a solid reputation as a leading construction player executing large projects such as government offices, universities and commercial complexes. The company is predominantly engaged in project management consultancy (PMC).

At ₹98, NBCC trades at about 29 times its estimated FY27 EPS compared with its five-year median PE of 35 times and the BSE Realty index's 39-plus.

Investors with a three-year horizon may consider accumulating the stock on declines.

From FY22 to FY25, consolidated revenues grew at a CAGR of 16.1 per cent to ₹12,039 crore, while net profit rose at 32.8 per cent to ₹557 crore. In H1 FY26, revenues increased 15.5 per cent year-on-year to ₹5,301 crore, with net profit up 25.6 per cent at ₹292 crore.

India will stop buying Russia oil, says US, nixing 25% tariff

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

month, which is expected to decline further going ahead, barring Nareya Energy.

The order further stated, "I have determined to eliminate the additional ad valorem rate of duty imposed on imports of articles of India pursuant to Executive Order 14329.

In an executive order on Friday, US President Donald Trump said that India has "committed" to stop importing oil from the Russian Federation.

"I have received additional information and recommendations from senior officials regarding India's efforts to address the national emergency described in Executive Order 14066.

Specifically, India has committed to stop directly or indirectly importing Russian Federation oil," said the executive order.

India has also represented that "it will purchase energy products from the United States, and recently committed to a framework with Washington to expand defence cooperation over the next 10 years," it added.

In response, India's Ministry of External Affairs said that energy security of the nation is the top priority of the government and India's oil import policy is driven by national interest.

India, which imported roughly 1.12 million barrels per day (mb/d) crude oil from Russia last month, is likely to import lesser quantities of crude from Moscow this

year, responding to the development, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on X.

"The interim trade agreement is anchored in the shared commitment of our two great nations towards a glorious future... It will further strengthen the @makeinindia initiative and open up vast opportunities for our farmers, entrepreneurs, MSMEs, start-ups innovators, fishermen and more by generating large-scale direct and indirect employment opportunities, particularly for our youth."

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Fading tailwinds after the rise

TURNING POINT. Base metals turned red hot last year and staged a strong rally. The momentum seems to be slowing down now. Have the prices seen their top or is this a pause before the next leg of rally? Here is an analysis

Akhil Nallamuthu
Gurumurthy K
bl. research bureau

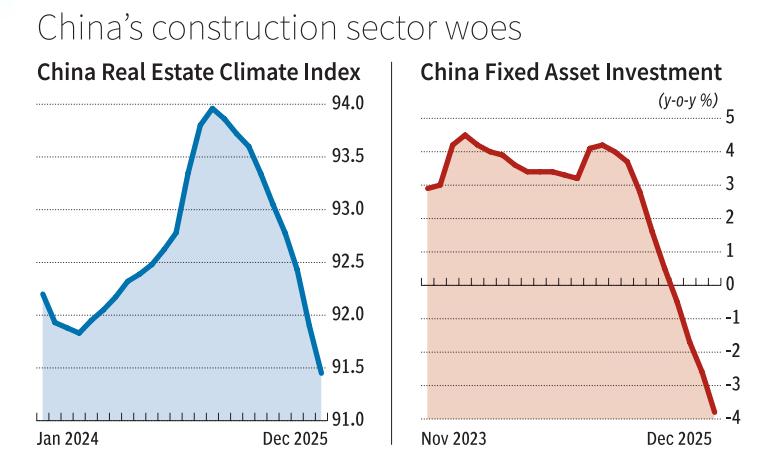
Base metals have been flying high in recent months. The London Metal Exchange Index (LMEX), a benchmark tracking the performance of six primary metals — aluminium, copper, zinc, lead, nickel and tin — touched a record high of \$5,618.40 on January 29. This has been an extended rise for the index after surging about 30 per cent last year. The year 2025 has been the best one for the LMEX since 2021, when it surged about 32 per cent.

Key base metals prices also hit important levels in late-January. Copper futures touched its lifetime high of \$14,527.50 per tonne, while both aluminium and zinc touched their four-year highs (\$3,356 and \$3,575.50 per tonne respectively) on January 29 this year. Lead futures marked a 10-month high of \$2,102 per tonne on January 15; and nickel futures rose to a two-year high of \$19,160 per tonne on January 26.

While there had been talks about supply constraints and a potential increase in demand, a major trigger for the rally last year was the dollar depreciation theme.

DOLLAR SHIFT AND EARLY TRIGGERS

Since early 2025, the dollar index had



been on a decline. By the end of June, the dollar index had lost nearly 11 per cent. From the charts, it is evident that the March-June period was when base metals started gaining traction.

Of course, there were triggers from the ground as well. The Grasberg copper mine in Indonesia, one of the largest in the world, witnessed a deadly mudslide that severely impacted operations.

It is estimated that about 600,000 tonnes of copper supply was disrupted due to this incident, which is nearly 3 per cent of the global copper mine production. Also, demand for the metal from China in 2025 grew at an estimated rate of 5.5 per cent (until November), one of the reasons for copper to outperform its peers.

Not just copper, China's consumption of lead, particularly in the production of cars and e-bikes, supported lead prices. For zinc, after declining over the past three years, demand recovery in Europe, aided by improvement in construction and industrial activity, helped push prices higher.

With respect to aluminium, on the supply side, global production growth slowed sharply to 1.1 per cent in 2025, rising at the weakest pace in five years. This reflected a combination of China nearing its long-anticipated 45-million tonne production cap (implemented to check overproduction and for environmental and climate reasons) and supply-chain disruptions in key producing regions

WISE WORDS.

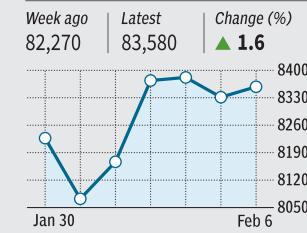
“The most important thing to do if you find yourself in a hole is to stop digging.”

WARREN BUFFETT

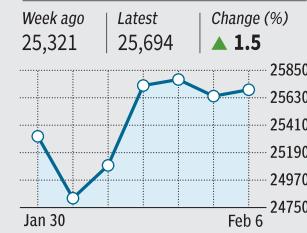


MARKET ACTION.

SENSEX



NIFTY



holding up well. As it stands, the market may be nearing the end of the rate-cut cycle, which had been a drag on the greenback.

Consequently, investors who sold the dollar fearing tariff-related risks may no longer be inclined to maintain aggressive short positions given the resilience of the US economy. The confirmation of Kevin Warsh as the next Chair of the Federal Reserve, who is perceived to be hawkish, can be positive for the dollar.

On the charts, the dollar index (97.80) has strong support in the 96-95 region. Resistance is in the 100-101 region. A decisive break above 101 can take the dollar index up to 104-106 this year.

China's demand outlook also appears soft amid a slowdown in economic activity. Fixed asset investment recorded negative growth for four consecutive months between September and December last year, while the real estate climate index declined from about 94 in March 2025 to 91.5 in December 2025.

SUPPLY OVERHANG

From a supply-demand perspective, most metals are expected to be supplied in excess of consumption, keeping market balances in surplus. Copper, the outperformer, is expected to see excess supply nearly double to 206,000 tonnes in the first 11 months of 2025. Zinc's surplus in 2026 is projected to more than triple to 271,000 tonnes compared to 85,000 tonnes in 2025.

The surplus in nickel and lead are also expected to rise by 25 per cent and 12 per cent to 261,000 tonnes and 102,000 tonnes respectively.

INVESTMENT DEMAND WANE

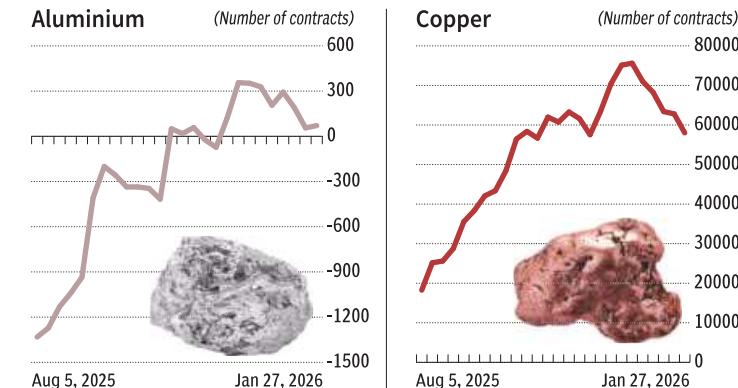
Investor positioning has also started to reflect these concerns. Net long positions in copper futures on COMEX fell to 58,018 contracts on January 27 from the December 2025 peak of 75,619 contracts. Similarly, the net long positions in aluminium futures dropped to 71 contracts on January 27 from a peak of 356 contracts on December 9, 2025.

Moreover, elevated metal prices themselves could act as a demand dampener.

Overall, the fuel that powered the recent rally in base metals appears to be waning. As the year progresses, excess supply, soft demand and the possibility of a stronger dollar could put downward pressure on prices. The market, therefore, appears to be past its peak — at least for the time being.

What contributed to the rally in metals in 2025 may not be present in 2026. The dollar index, which fell sharply till June last year, has since stabilised. Despite the impact of tariffs, the US economy appears to be

Managed money position



such as the Gulf, rather than any outright cut in output. While production continued to grow marginally, the loss of momentum reinforced expectations that future supply expansion would be limited, lending support to aluminium prices.

INVESTORS CHASE MOMENTUM

As these events unfolded, investors began chasing metals, pushing prices further higher. The major push came around August, which is evident from the Commitment of Traders (COT) data of the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

Net long positions in copper futures on COMEX rose sharply from 18,249 contracts on August 5, 2025,

to a peak of 75,619 contracts on December 23, 2025. In aluminium futures, investors were net short by 1,332 contracts on August 5, 2025, but at the peak, they turned net long with 356 contracts on December 9, 2025. This played a bigger role in sustaining the rally.

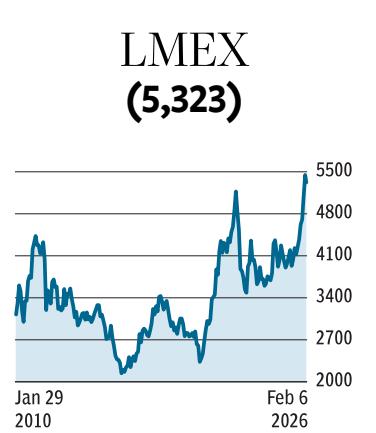
OUTLOOK TURNS LESS SUPPORTIVE

It is not all rosy for base metals going ahead, as demand for most metals is expected to soften in 2026.

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS.

Here is what the charts say. A long-term analysis of base metals traded in London Metal Exchange (LME)



The LMEX has come down after making a high of \$5,618.40 earlier last month. The trend remains up. Support is in the 5,100-4,950 region. However, there is not much room left of the upside. Strong resistances are at 5,800 and 5,900. Though these resistances can be tested in the next few months, a rise beyond 5,900 is unlikely. A reversal from this 5,800-5,900 resistance zone can drag the LMEX down to 5,200 or 5,000. A corrective bounce from around 5,000 towards 5,300 cannot be ruled out. But eventually, the LMEX can break 5,000 and extend the fall to 4,700. So, the preferred path of move will be to see a rise to 5,800-5,900 first in the next few months and then a reversal towards 5,200-5,000. Thereafter, a corrective rise to 5,300 can be seen before the index falls to 4,700 eventually.

LME Aluminum (\$3,085)

The contract has an immediate support at \$2,960. This can hold on its first test. A reversal from here can take the contract up to \$3,400 initially. A break above \$3,400 can see an extended rise to \$3,500-\$3,600, but not beyond that. Broadly, \$3,400-\$3,600 will be the wide resistance zone that can cap the upside from here. A downward reversal from this resistance zone can take the contract down to \$3,000-\$2,950 again. This time, the contract can break \$2,950. Such a break can drag the LME Aluminum contract down to \$2,700-\$2,650 by this year-end or in the first quarter next year. On the other hand, if the contract breaks \$2,960 from here, then the fall to \$2,700 can happen much faster. This bearish view will go wrong if the contract breaks above \$3,600 decisively. In that case, the price can surge to touch \$4,000.

LME Copper (\$12,994)

Immediate support is at \$12,300 which can limit the downside for now. A rise from this support can take LME Copper up to \$15,000-\$15,500. This \$15,000-\$15,500 is a strong resistance zone which can halt the current rally. The price action since 2018 is in the form of a bull channel. The region around \$15,500 is the upper end of this channel. So, a rise beyond \$15,500 is unlikely. A reversal from this resistance zone can drag the price down to \$12,500-\$12,300. A short-lived corrective bounce to \$13,500 is a possibility thereafter. Eventually, the LME Copper can break \$12,300 and fall to \$11,600 and even \$11,200 in a year or so. In case the price breaks below \$12,300 from here, then the fall to \$11,600 can happen straightforward. But for this to happen, a strong negative trigger is required. That looks less likely now.

LME Zinc (\$3,345)

A crucial channel resistance is at \$3,550, which has been tested already. The contract touched a high of \$3,575.50 in the last week of January and has come down from there. That keeps the channel intact. It also opens the door for the LME Zinc contract to fall towards the lower end of the channel in the coming months. Short-term support is at \$3,170-\$3,150. If this holds, then a rise back to \$3,400-\$3,500 is possible. In that case, a consolidation between \$3,150-\$3,550 can be seen for a few months. But eventually, the contract can break \$3,150. Such a break can drag the price down to \$2,900 initially. Thereafter, a corrective rise to \$3,100 is a possibility. A fresh leg of fall from \$3,100 will have the potential to drag the contract down to \$2,850 – the lower end of the channel by this year-end or early next year.

LME Lead (\$1,960)

The contract was stuck inside a narrow range of \$1,830 and \$2,110 all through 2025. This range continues to remain intact. That leaves the outlook unclear for LME Lead at the moment. However, if we look at a multi-year time frame, then \$1,500-\$2,900 has been the wider trading range since mid-2009. So, going by this and looking at the price action since 2022, the bias remains negative. As such, we see high chances for the contract to break below \$1,830. Such a break can drag the LME Lead contract down to \$1,750 initially and then to \$1,550 eventually in the next couple of years. This view will go wrong only if the contract breaks above \$2,100. If that happens, then a rise to \$2,300-\$2,350 is possible. That will also keep the upside open to see \$2,500 levels as well. But such a rise looks less likely.

LME Nickel (\$17,090)

The LME Nickel seems to be better placed on the charts relatively compared to other metals. The contract has found good support in the \$15,000-\$14,000 region recently and has risen back very well. In the short term, there are good chances to see a rise to \$20,000 or even \$22,000. The price action thereafter will be very crucial. Failure to rise past \$22,000 and a downward reversal from there can be negative. In that case, the LME Nickel contract can fall to \$16,500-\$15,000 again. On the other hand, a break above \$22,000 will be very bullish to see \$28,000 levels. But this rise is less likely, considering the bearish inclination on the other metals. So, we can expect the upside to be capped at \$22,000 from here. The danger is only if the contract falls below \$14,000. If that happens, \$11,000-\$10,500 can be seen on the downside.

Lessons for IT investors from AI's iPhone moment

MARKET WISE. Investing in the current context must be based on caution and factoring for multiple outcomes and not by 'buy the dip' mentality

Hari Viswanath
bl research bureau

If you have been a participant or follower of/in the stock markets for a decade or longer, you will know that the week gone by was anything but normal. No, it's not only about the crazy volatility in gold and silver or the rout in bitcoin. What made it exceptionally unusual was the rout in global enterprise software stocks, which, as it is, have been underperforming the markets significantly over the last year. The same technology stocks that many apparent 'experts' claimed 'hands down', over the last three years, 'will be beneficiaries of the AI revolution'. Get that? Dan Ives, the global head of Technology Research at Wedbush Securities, a Wall Street firm, had this to say: *In 25 years, this structural sell off in software is unlike anything I have ever seen.*

This was what defined last week! The trigger for this: A plug-in that Claude introduced in its AI platform to perform tasks across legal, sales, marketing and data analysis suddenly created concerns on how AI could disrupt the software industry. Then more information unravelled over the next couple of days, as many software coders, developers and entrepreneurs gave their views on how AI was upending the software industry. What should you make of it? Let's take some lessons from history.

THE IPHONE SAGA
It's January 9, 2007. Steve Jobs had just wowed the audience and the mobile industry when he unveiled Apple's new product — the iPhone (You can check out how he wowed the audience in the first five minutes of this video link <https://tinyurl.com/stevejobs07>). It took the entire industry by surprise. No one apparently had expected a new product with the level of differentiation and sophistication that the iPhone offered.

In the book, *Losing the Signal: The Untold Story Behind the Extraordinary Rise and Spectacular Fall of BlackBerry*, authors Jacqui McNish and Sean Silcock describe an interesting incident that happened at the Google headquarters soon after the launch. Till then, Google was working on two handset operating system projects — one, that could be developed quickly and released, this would be low on sophistication but would serve general use-case purposes and could be used for access to internet, including online search; another, a more high-end project with touch screen interface and high level of sophistication and wider applicability of tasks on a handset. The first one was junked right away after the unveiling of iPhone, and Google went all in on the second project. The outcome of this is the Android operating system, which has around 70 per cent market share today in the mobile operating system industry. Thus, the seeds for the success of Android were sown in January 2007.

But this is only one half of the story. The other half is how the seeds of destruction of a few global big-tech giants of that period like Nokia and BlackBerry, too, were sown on the same day. Between the unveiling of the iPhone and its launch on June 29, 2007, all kinds of views from industry experts and analysts made the headlines. That it would impact incumbents was one; that it is good for the incumbents, as it will broaden the ecosystem was another. As you would have it, not one of top executives of any of the leading handset/mobile operating system companies — Nokia, BlackBerry, Motorola, Windows Mobile Operating system — acknowledged how disruptive the launch of the iPhone was to their business. Every one of them downplayed the threat.

In its quarterly earnings conference call in July 2007 right after the iPhone launch, to a question from an analyst



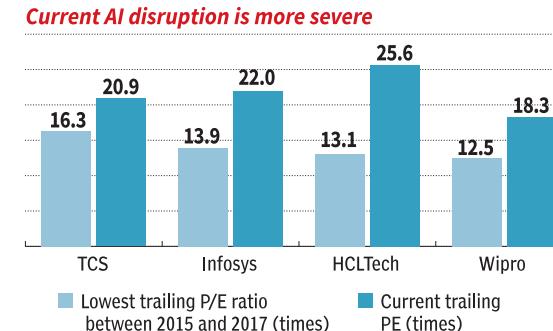
GETTY IMAGES

on threat from iPhone, the Nokia management noted how they welcome competition as it makes them better. Then CEO of Microsoft, Steve Ballmer, infamously mocked the iPhone. When questioned on what was his reaction to iPhone, he responded with a laugh: \$500...fully subsidized with a plan, that is the most expensive phone in the world...and it doesn't appeal to business customers because it doesn't have a key board. He also added: Right now, we are selling millions and millions and millions of phones a year. Apple is selling zero phones a year (You can view this response of Steve Ballmer to iPhone in this video link <https://tinyurl.com/misphonereax>).

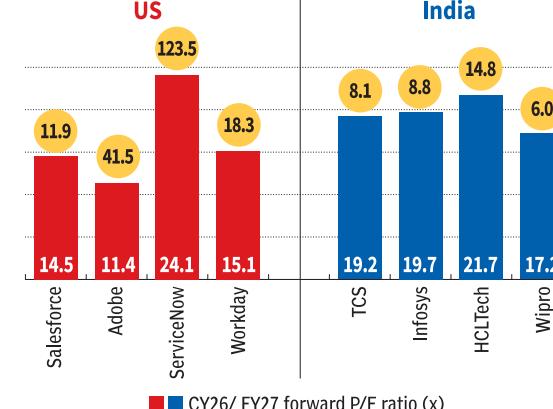
Surprisingly, in the early phase, they appeared to be right if you were to look at the performance of their business and stocks (in 2007). Nokia crossed a market cap of \$150 billion towards 2007-end. A significant majority of this value was derived from its handset/mobile business, while a smaller part from its telecom equipment business. BlackBerry (called Research in Motion then) crossed \$100 billion in market cap in 2007. These levels of market cap were amongst the highest in the world that time.

The unveiling of the iPhone was the starting point of a permanent tectonic shift in how not just the mobile industry functioned, but how the whole world functioned. Competitors had spectacularly failed to spot this.

How low Indian IT services companies traded during the previous business disruption between 2015 and 2017



Indian IT services trades at premium to SaaS players, while estimated growth is much weaker



Source: Bloomberg

By 2009-end after stocks recovered from the impact of the global financial crisis, the iPhone effect started playing out, and it showed in the weaker performance and stock prices of BlackBerry, Nokia and sales of Windows Mobile OS. By 2012, Apple was apparently raking in around 70 per cent of global

mobile handset industry profits (versus zero till mid-2007) with just around 10 per cent unit share. The impact on competitors was destructive beyond what anyone fathomed in 2007.

Nokia's handset/mobile business was acquired for a mere \$7.2 billion. This, too, was entirely written off

LOOKING BACK

During the previous phase of disruption in the IT services industry that played out between 2015 and 2017 when cloud/digital transition upended the legacy business model of the IT services companies, TCS, Infosys, Wipro and HCL Tech bottomed at a trailing PE of 16.3, 13.9, 12.5 and 13.1 times respectively. Today, where the disruption and threat are significantly more and their businesses have been more severely impacted as reflected in financials of recent years, they

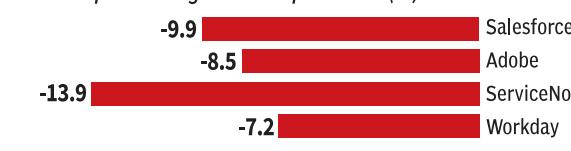
in 2016 and the acquisition was deemed a failed experiment at Microsoft. BlackBerry market cap is around \$2 billion today, down by over 98 per cent from its 2007 peak. The handset business of Motorola, too, would have met a similar fate, if not for Google buying it for \$12.5 billion in 2011. It's important to note here that Google bought the business not because it saw great value in the handset business of Motorola, but because the company, being a pioneer in handset technology, held thousands of patents.

By 2011, the incumbents of the handset industry like Nokia, BlackBerry, Sony Ericsson and Apple as well, formed a unit named The Rockstar Consortium, loaded with handset technology patents, and used it to file patent infringement cases against Google to stall the progress of Android. Hence, the acquisition of Motorola was done by

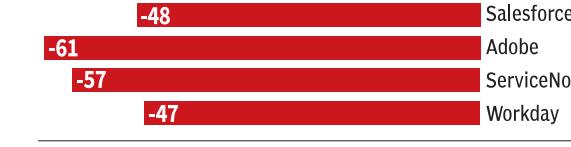
As compared to this, the SaaS companies have actually been delivering a good performance in recent years. Yet, their stocks have been routed. The charts give a per-

AI disruption fears driving the dichotomy between business and share price performance of global SaaS companies

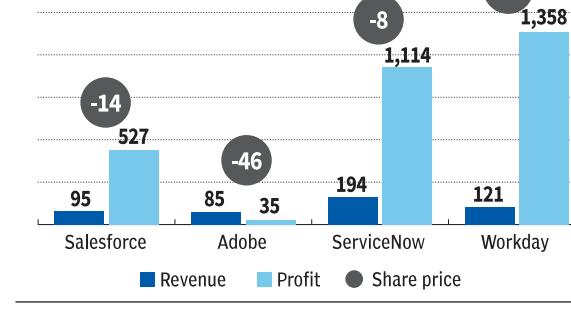
Share price change over the past week (%)



% change in share price from all-time high



Absolute change over past 5 years in %



Source: Bloomberg

tiples may pay off. But there could also be an outcome, where some of the companies get impacted like the handset companies of the earlier decade. In such a case, no level of buying will be cheap. For example, between 2007 and 2011 as the valuation of BlackBerry fell from over 30 times to low-teens PE multiple, one Wall Street firm analyst called its valuation 'theatre of the absurd.' Yes, the stock was really cheap in theory, but still not priced for the disruption and continued to move more and more lower.

A WORD OF CAUTION

So, investors looking to buy the dip, must assess whether the stocks are priced for disruption or extinction and then place their bets cautiously. Currently, there is no one who can clearly predict what the outcome will be few years down the line.

In this context, it would be worth noting that Indian IT services companies are not priced for disruption, whichever way one looks at it. With lower revenue and profit growth and lower net profit margins versus some of the SaaS companies (see chart), they continue to trade at relatively-high PE multiples.

During the previous phase of disruption in the IT services industry that played out between 2015 and 2017 when cloud/digital transition upended the legacy business model of the IT services companies, TCS, Infosys, Wipro and HCL Tech bottomed at a trailing PE of 16.3, 13.9, 12.5 and 13.1 times respectively. Today, where the disruption and threat are significantly more and their businesses have been more severely impacted as reflected in financials of recent years, they

Google to primarily build its own stockpile of patents to counter The Rockstar Consortium. And it worked!

By 2013-14, the industry had transitioned to unlike anything it was in 2007. New names led the industry, while incumbents got wiped off.

In the 21st century, there are quite a few examples of how technological innovation and disruption rewired the path of certain industries and the future. The launch of iPhone and the denials and unpreparedness of other handset industry CXOs to acknowledge and adapt serves as a very good example to learn from. However, sometimes even the best can get uprooted, despite their intense efforts to evolve and adapt. Such could be the impact of the change. Investors need to be alert to that.

NOTE FOR INVESTORS

During times like the disruption we were alerted to last week, investing must be based on caution and factoring for multiple outcomes and not by 'buy the dip' mentality. Views from incumbent CXOs must be taken with a pinch of salt, as Warren Buffett famously said:

Don't ask a barber whether you need a haircut. If you look through comments of IT services industry CEOs over the last two-three years, there has generally been a trend to re-iterate how they are well positioned to benefit from AI, although underlying performance has hardly reflected that.

As compared to this, the SaaS companies have actually been delivering a good performance in recent years. Yet, their stocks have been routed. The charts give a per-

pective on how much the valuation multiple for the global pure-play SaaS majors has contracted following concerns on AI disruption and how their stocks have significantly underperformed business growth. Recency bias of investors (on how business has grown over the last few years) is now getting replaced with fears of what AI disruption can do to future business prospects.

For example, Adobe, after delivering 11 per cent revenue growth and 15 per cent net profit growth in the last one year and with a solid 30 per cent net profit margins, is today trading at a trailing PE of 15.5 times! On a forward PE basis Adobe trades at 11.4 times (see chart).

During such times, it can be an endless debate on whether stocks are cheap or not, which is why investors need to plan for multiple outcomes. For example, one outcome could be that the companies adapt, evolve, survive and grow, but at a lower pace of growth than what was estimated a year or two ago. In such an event, buying at low-teens PE or single-digit mul-

tiples may pay off. But there could also be an outcome, where some of the companies get impacted like the handset companies of the earlier decade. In such a case, no level of buying will be cheap. For example, between 2007 and 2011 as the valuation of BlackBerry fell from over 30 times to low-teens PE multiple, one Wall Street firm analyst called its valuation 'theatre of the absurd.'

Yes, the stock was really cheap in theory, but still not priced for the disruption and continued to move more and more lower.

There is dichotomy here and hence they do not offer value, given the disruption risks, even after the under-performance in recent years. At *bl.portfolio*, we have consistently maintained a cautious stance on Indian IT stocks, and we re-iterate that view.

thehindu businessline Classifieds

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Venkatasubramanian K

bl. research bureau

Even as the equity markets heave a sigh of relief over the uncertainty ending around the US trade deal after both countries reached an agreement, closely following the India-EU pact, the bond markets haven't had it that easy over the past couple of months.

As FPI outflows continued and the domestic currency fell against the dollar, the RBI sought to shore up the rupee and maintain adequate liquidity in the banking system.

However, a high credit deposit ratio (82.2 per cent as of Jan 15, 2026), record cash in circulation (₹39.8 lakh crore), GST/advance tax outflows in December 2025 high RBI yield cut-off due to heavy short-term T-bill supply have resulted in a spike in short-term yields.

In late January, the call rate touched 5.65 per cent, higher than the repo rate of 5.5 per cent due to the relatively tight liquidity scenario.

Three-month certificates of deposits (CDs) and commercial papers (CDs) trade at yields north of 7 per cent, up 104 basis points and 72 basis points, respectively (as of Feb 4, 2026).

One-year CDs and CDs, too, have seen yields rise by up to 35 basis points in the past month and about 60 basis points in the past three months.

From an investor standpoint, this short-term spike in yield presents an opportunity to opt for money market funds that buy securities maturing in up to a year.

Even otherwise, quality money market funds can be suitable avenues for parking emergency funds.

Tata Money Market fund is among the best in its category and has a solid track record over the long term in delivering steady above-average returns.

Investors can park small lumpsums or add units in the fund periodically whenever they have a surplus for short-term goals or contingency requirements.

CONSISTENT SHOW
Tata Money Market fund (Tata



Inflation slayer

FUND CALL. For short-term goals or contingency, park or add units periodically in Tata Money Market fund, especially if you have a surplus

GETTY IMAGES

Liquidity management earlier) has done well over the years and has delivered better returns than fixed deposits of one year or less.

Over the past one, three, five and seven-year timeframes, the fund has delivered 80-160 basis points more than the CRISIL 1-year T-Bill Index. When 1-year rolling returns are considered from January 2013 to February 2026, the fund has delivered mean returns of 6.93 per cent. The CRISIL 1-year T-Bill index gave mean returns of 6.66 per cent over the same period.

Over this rolling period and 13-year timeframe, the fund has delivered more than 6 per cent 78 per cent of the time and in excess of 7 per cent for as much as 63 per cent of the time.

Moreover, the one-year rolling returns from January 2013 to February 2026 also indicate the Tata Money Market fund beat the CRISIL 1-year T-Bill Index almost 90 per cent of the time.

A 3-year SIP in the fund on a monthly basis would have delivered 7.5 per cent (XIRR) returns. SIPs in the CRISIL 1-year T-Bill Index over the same timeframe would have yielded 6.4

WHY INVEST

- Suitable for lumpsum investments
- Invests only in short-term securities with highest credit rating
- Better returns than fixed deposits of a year or less

per cent for investors. Money market funds have the same tax treatment as all fixed income instruments.

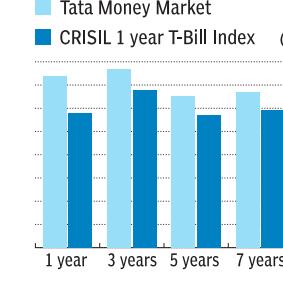
Gains (short-term or long-term) are added to your income and taxed at the applicable slab.

However, the key difference is that there is no TDS deducted and tax does not become due unless there is a sale of units. This leaves room to manage exits to optimise for taxes suitably.

SAFE HOLDINGS

Tata Money Market fund maintains a portfolio that invests only in short-term securities with the highest credit rating, usually A1+ and sovereign in-

Steady outperformance



Key holdings	(%)
GOI -5.63% (Apr 12, 2026)	6.4
Bank of Baroda - CD	4.0
Axis Bank - CD	3.9
HDFC Bank - CD	3.4
Punjab National Bank - CD	3.1
Federal Bank - CD	3.0

Source: ACE MF

struments. Typically, these are investments in CDs, CPs, short-term government securities including State development

loans and short-term treasury bills.

The Macaulay duration and modified duration, key measures of interest rate sensitivity, are generally kept in the 4-5 months range across timeframes.

The average maturity is a little over five months in its recent December 2025 portfolio.

Yield to maturity is at 7.01 per cent according to Value Research data, which is healthy for money market funds.

Tata Money Market fund holds almost 100 bond securities in its portfolio, making it quite diversified across issuers.

Top holdings of the fund include Government of India security maturing in April.

Other key investments include certificates of deposits issued by Bank of Baroda, Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, SIDBI, NABARD, HDFC Securities, ICICI Securities and IndusInd Bank.

As mentioned, the fund is suitable for lumpsum investments and targets due within the next 1-2 years where liquidity and reasonably inflation-beating returns with low risks are important criteria.

ALERTS

UTI MF launches Nifty500 Shariah Index Fund

UTI Mutual Fund has launched UTI Nifty500 Shariah Index Fund, an open-ended scheme replicating/tracking Nifty500 Shariah TRI. The NFO closes on February 18, 2026. The entry load is not applicable and the exit load is nil for the scheme. The minimum subscription amount is ₹1,000 and in multiples of ₹1 thereafter. The performance of the scheme will be benchmarked against Nifty500 TRI; its fund managers are Sharwan Kumar Goyal and Ayush Jain. The

investment objective of the scheme is to provide returns that, before expenses, correspond to the total return of the securities as represented by the underlying index, subject to tracking error.

DSP MF launches Multi Asset Omni FoF

Multi Asset Omni FoF is an open-ended fund of fund investing in active and passive schemes of equity, debt and commodity asset classes. The NFO closes on February 19.

There is no entry load. Exit load will be 1 per cent if redeemed in a month; no exit load shall be levied in case of switch of investments from direct plan to regular and vice versa. Minimum subscription amount is ₹100 and any amount thereafter. Performance will be benchmarked against Nifty 500 TRI (55 per cent) + Domestic

Price of Physical Gold (LBMA) (15 per cent) + Domestic Price of Physical Silver (LBMA) (5 per cent) + NIFTY Composite Debt Index (25 per cent); the objective is to generate capital appreciation and income through diversified exposure across asset classes.

ETF movers

Top ETFs (Exchange Traded Funds) traded on NSE based on weekly change in price

ETF	NAV (₹) as on Feb 6	Price (₹)	Weekly change in price (%)	Volume traded in the last week (in '000s)
Growth BSE Power ETF	10.2	10.2	6.4	11,449
Moti Oswal Nifty Realty ETF	82.4	82.3	5.2	4,497
Growth Nifty Realty ETF	9.2	9.2	5.1	1,603
ICICI Pru Infrastructure ETF	97.9	98.1	4.3	1,729
Nippon India Nifty Infra BEES	983.8	983.9	4.2	175
ICICI Pru Oil & Gas ETF	12.4	12.4	3.5	45,207
Mirae Ast BSE Select IPO ETF	43.6	43.7	3.1	51
GOLD ETFs				
Axis Gold ETF	126.3	126.3	-3.0	41,042
Kotak Gold ETF	126.3	125.9	-3.3	58,777
UTI Gold ETF	126.1	127.4	-4.1	16,968

Source: Bloomberg. Returns as on February 6, 2026

Best NPS plans

Top pension funds in each category based on 5-year CAGR

Name of the fund	NAV (₹) as on Feb 6	Returns (% CAGR) 3-year	Assets (₹ cr) 5-year
TIER I: EQUITY PLANS			
Kotak Pension Fund	71.0	17.1	14.8
ICICI Prudential Pension Fund	76.2	17.5	14.7
HDFC Pension Fund	56.2	16.2	13.9
TIER I: GOVERNMENT BOND PLANS			
LIC Pension Fund	30.6	7.5	6.1
Aditya Birla Sun Life Pension Scheme	19.0	7.6	6.2
SBI Pension Fund	40.9	7.5	6.1
TIER I: CORPORATE DEBT PLANS			
HDFC Pension Fund	30.0	8.4	7.2
Aditya Birla Sun Life Pension Scheme	20.0	8.1	6.9
SBI Pension Fund	45.3	8.2	6.9
*Source: Value Research. Returns as on February 6, 2026			

Top PMS schemes

Based on 5-year returns

AMC	Strategy	AUM (in ₹ cr)	Returns (% CAGR)		
			1-year	3-year	5-year
LARGE CAP					
Tulsiyan PMS	Tulsiyan PMS	317	9.0	20.4	26.5
ICICI Pru	Largecap	910	11.3	21.0	21.3
Renaissance Investment	Opportunities Portfolio	NA	1.6	17.2	19.3
Standard Chartered Securities India	SC Autograph Vibrant India Equity	NA	9.1	20.9	18.1
MULTI CAP					
Negen Capital Services	Special Situ & Tech Fund	1,304	0.1	26.8	29.8
Asit C Mehta Invest. Intermediates	ACE - Multicap	141	8.2	32.8	28.9
Renaissance Investment	Indianext Portfolio	NA	0.5	19.8	28.6
Bonanza Portfolio	Edge	NA	-8.3	20.3	28.3
Buoyant Capital	Opportunities	8,025	16.6	24.8	27.7
Stallion Asset	Core Fund	6,562	-1.7	38.4	27.2
MID-CAP					
Master Portfolio Services	Master Trust India Growth	375	3.9	19.0	23.3
Right Horizons	Super Value	NA	-9.8	18.9	22.8
NAFA Asset Managers	Emerging Bluechip	NA	-4.1	19.2	22.7
Unifi Capital	APJ 20	NA	-1.0	20.1	21.3
SMALL CAP					
Aequitas Invest. Consultancy	India Opportunities	4,265	41.8	45.4	45.2
Counter Cyclical Investments	Diversified Long Term Value	789	-12.6	25.1	43.9
Equite					

Kumar Shankar Roy
bl. research bureau

Fractal Analytics is hitting the IPO market on February 9 to raise ₹2,834 crore at the time of an ongoing tech rout. Global IT services stocks have taken a sharp hit on fears that new AI tools can finish the tech work much faster, disrupting business models. Concerns that AI could eat into the software value chain also led to selling across SaaS, consulting and data analytics stocks.

Fractal IPO comprises issue of fresh stock (₹1,023.5 crore) and offer-for-sale (up to ₹1,810.4 crore) by investors, including PE giants Apax Partners and TPG, at a price band of ₹857-900/share. Promoters are not selling any stock in the IPO (17 per cent stake post-issue.) Net IPO proceeds are earmarked for debt repayment in material subsidiary Fractal USA (₹264.9 crore) and R&D plus sales and marketing under Fractal Alpha (₹355.1 crore), which holds independent AI businesses. The rest includes money for new India office premises (₹121.1 crore) and laptops (₹57.1 crore), and for M&A and general corporate purposes. The 25-year-old company, which emerged as India's first AI unicorn in 2022, is aiming for an m-cap of ₹15,473.6 crore. It would be the largest analytics firm listed in India, almost twice the size of Latent View (m-cap ₹8,800 crore).

At the IPO price, Fractal's price-to-earnings (P/E) based on FY25 and last 12 months' profit is around 70 times. This is a demanding valuation for a company that has grown revenue from operations at only a modest pace (18 per cent CAGR between FY23 and FY25 and 20 per cent year-on-year rise in H1FY26), does not have premium EBITDA margins while bottom-line growth is marred by one-offs. The valuation leaves little room for execution slip-ups, because the company's operating overhead is heavy and PAT conversion has been relatively thin. In short, the risk-reward at the IPO price in the current context of AI disruption is unfavourable. Hence, investors can skip the IPO. Fractal may not be the primary casualty hurt by the AI-led software disruption, but it is in the blast radius. As the AI surge gains deeper ground, analytics businesses that use third-party AI (LLMs/platforms) and bill clients for project effort shall be

In the AI blast radius

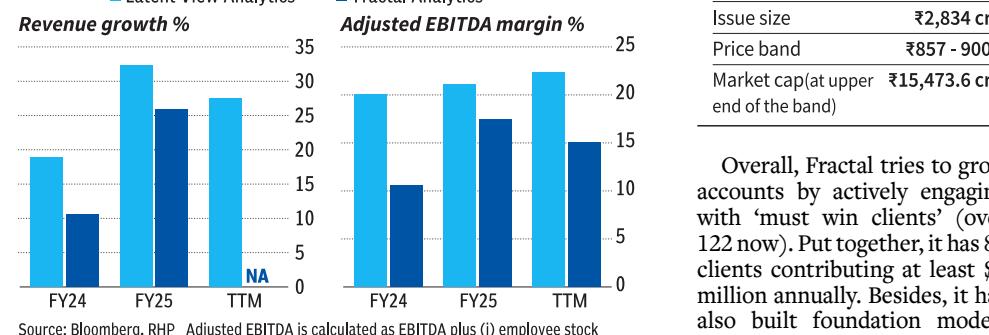
IPO WATCH. Priced like a premium AI play, Fractal Analytics is closer to a services-led model with mid margins

Financials

Parameter	FY23	FY24	FY25	H1 FY25	H1 FY26
Revenue from operations (₹ cr)	1,985.4	2,196.3	2,765.4	1,300.7	1,559.0
EBITDA (₹ cr)	436.8	97.2	398.0	131.0	185.6
EBITDA margin (in %)	22.0	4.4	14.4	10.1	11.9
Profit/loss before tax (₹ cr)	313.4	-30.5	238.0	50.1	98.8
Net profit/loss (₹ cr)	194.4	-54.7	220.6	72.9	70.9

Source: RHP

Head to head



Rankings 1 to 5, 1 denoting lowest and 5 highest

Offer period Feb 9 - 11, 2026
Issue size ₹2,834 cr
Price band ₹857 - 900
Market cap(at upper ₹15,473.6 cr end of the band)

Overall ★★★★☆

Employee costs still form the biggest expense line (over 70 per cent of revenue) but the company began showing better operating leverage. In the H1FY26, revenue continued to grow at a healthy pace (up 20 per cent) and operating performance improved. However, net profit did not rise because losses from associate (Qure.ai) doubled, and last year's comparable period had a tax credit that boosted profits.

IPO rating
Fractal Analytics
Business ★★★★☆
Financials ★★★★☆
Management ★★★★☆
Valuation ★★★★☆
Overall ★★★★☆

Overall, Fractal tries to grow accounts by actively engaging with 'must win clients' (over 122 now). Put together, it has 80 clients contributing at least \$1 million annually. Besides, it has also built foundation models Vaidya.ai and Fathom. Fractal spends about 5-6 per cent of revenue on R&D. It has filed for 66 patents (28 have been granted).

Fractal Alpha is a portfolio of "independent AI businesses". This is where Fractal is trying to create more software-like revenue over time (subscriptions/licensable offerings), rather than only project-led services. Right now, Alpha is loss-making.

FINANCIALS
FY23 and FY24 were uneven years. Even as revenue grew, the core business was not consistently profitable. FY23 reported profit was helped by a large one-off exceptional gain (over ₹500 crore), while FY24 ended in a loss as costs remained high, absence of any one-off gain and operating leverage was still weak.

FY25 is the first year that looks like a cleaner operating turnaround. Revenue rose decently (up 26 per cent) and profits were driven more by the business itself than by one-offs.

Diversified IT services leaders such as Accenture, TCS, Infosys and EXL trade at materially-lower P/E multiples while delivering superior adj. EBITDA margins (over 20 per cent). "AI platform" winners like Palantir command steep multiples because revenue growth is far higher (over 50 per cent last year); Fractal does not have that growth profile to earn a similar valuation. Net-net, Fractal sits in a tough middle. It is priced like a premium AI play, but its current financial profile looks closer to a services-led model.

more vulnerable to business getting impacted.

BUSINESS

Fractal started in 2000. Initially, it was just a data and analytics services firm doing client projects. Then, it built scale, and added specialised skills through acquisitions (Senseforth, Final Mile, Neal, Samya, Eugenie). Now, it is trying to become a company that also owns and sells its own software platforms and AI products, instead of only delivering projects for clients. It has over 5,700 employees, with about 16 per cent attrition rate.

Analytical services account for 97 per cent of topline, while subscription/product revenue is minimal today. Over 65 per cent of revenue comes from the US. Top-10 clients contribute more than half of topline.

Think of Fractal as a 'decision

improvement' vendor for large enterprises. Its focus industries are consumer packaged goods and retail; technology, media and telecom; healthcare and life sciences; and banking, financial services and insurance. Most big companies already have data. The hard part is turning that data into repeatable decisions. Fractal does this using two engines — Services (teams that build and run these solutions with the client), and Products/platforms (software tools Fractal provides that can be reused).

Fractal.ai is the company's main business and contributes to 97-98 per cent of revenue (14 per cent segment operating margin). It has two parts. First is AI services. Second is products built on Cogentiq, its flagship platform to build and deploy internal AI solutions faster.

The company's PMC clients broadly come from three categories.

Central government: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Renewable Energy, Ministry of Home Affairs etc.

Education institutes: IIMs, IITs, NITs, AIIMS, Central universities, State medical colleges, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya etc.

State governments: Haryana, Rajasthan, Odisha, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, North-Eastern States etc.

Some of its overseas project executions include Institute for Security and Law Enforcement Studies (ISLES) at Addu City, Maldives; Indian Pavilion at the World Expo 2020, Dubai; Social Housing Projects in Mauritius and New Supreme Court Building at Port Louis Mauritius, among many others.

NBCC has an order-book of ₹1.28 lakh crore as of September 30, 2025, to be executed over the next several years. This order-book is over 10x the company's FY25 revenues. About ₹34,000-crore worth of the order-book already has running projects.

Another couple of projects, MAHAPREIT (₹25,000 crore) focuses on projects involving cluster developments, data centres and infrastructure in Maharashtra and another ₹15,000 crore from Srinagar Development Authority to develop a 406-acre township are also in the pipeline in the coming quarters.

A key risk to the recommendation would be any large and unforeseen cutbacks in planned grants by the Central or State governments.

CONSTRUCTION. An asset-light business, a bulky order pipeline and a strong execution track-record are positives for NBCC



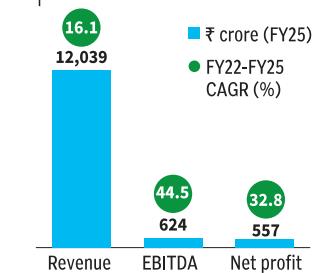
trades at 29 times its likely per share earnings for FY27. The stock's five-year median PE (Price earnings) ratio is around 35 times. The BSE Realty index trades at over 39 times. On a relative basis, the stock does appear to be reasonably valued. However, given the general volatility around mid- and small-cap stocks, this valuation multiple means accumulating on stock price declines may be a relatively safer option for investors with a three-year perspective.

A thriving asset-light business model, a bulky order-book that lends considerable revenue visibility, a sturdy client base dominated by State and Central government entities and a strong execution track-record are positives for the company.

HEALTHY FINANCIALS
Over the three-year period from FY22, NBCC's consolidated revenues grew at a CAGR of 16.1 per cent to ₹12,039 crore in FY25, while net profits rose at a rate of 32.8 per cent over the same period to ₹557 crore.

In the first half of FY26, the company's revenues grew 15.5 per cent year on year over H1FY25 to ₹5,301 crore, while net profits increased 25.6 per cent to ₹292 crore. Although

Healthy operational performance



Revenue

EBITDA

Net profit

ACCUMULATE ON DIPS
NBCC ₹98

WHY

- Ability to monetise projects early
- Large order-book lends revenue visibility
- Multi-dimensional government clientele

ceives marketing fees.

The company's PMC strategy is a self-revenue generation model catering to redevelopment projects. In such cases, the land is given by the government. The company monetises part of the land through commercial means. The three models of monetisation include: Outright sale of a part of land; long-term lease of a part of the built-up area; and free-hold sale of a part of the built-up area. This helps in funding the development of public infrastructure.

Urban redevelopment projects such as Netaji Nagar, Sarojini Nagar and Nauroji Nagar, New Moti Bagh, East Kidwai Nagar in Delhi are some of the key project executions.

A key risk to the recommendation would be any large and unforeseen cutbacks in planned grants by the Central or State governments.

businessline's editorial policy prohibits analysts from taking positions in the stocks they recommend. —Editor

GLOBAL BOARDROOM CHATTER.

What they say on their India plans

With India being the fastest growing large economy, 'what is your India plan?' is a common topic in boardrooms of most global corporations. One important source to distil their India plans is from their quarterly earnings calls. With the December quarter earnings season in progress, this column will present what CXOs of global corporations are saying about India, along with their perspectives and plans during the current earnings season. Here are some from companies that reported their earnings last week.

Amazon.com Inc. (AMZN, \$2380.1 billion)

The e-commerce giant said India is responding strongly to its rapid expansion in quick commerce.

"In India, customer response to Amazon Now exceeded our expectations, with Prime members tripling their shopping frequency after adopting quick commerce. India is the fastest market where we've rolled out this service."

Linde plc (LIN, \$214.7 billion)

The industrial gases company said India delivered strong growth, with improving conditions across most end-markets.

"India continues to grow strongly, with nearly all end-markets improving. Expected progress on free trade agreements and tariff resolution should further support manufacturing activity and industrial growth in the coming years."

ArcelorMittal S.A. (MT, \$43.9 billion)

The global steelmaker said India remains one of its most attractive growth markets, supported by strong demand and expanding capacity.

"India continues to grow at 6-8 per cent and remains a profitable market for steel. We are expanding our Hazira facility toward 15 million tonnes and are actively working on a new greenfield project on the eastern coast to support long-term growth."

Cognizant Technology Solutions Corporation (CTSH, \$36.8 billion)

The IT services firm highlighted India as central to its talent strategy and long-term growth plans.

"We added over 16,000 associates in India in 2025 and plan to hire around 20,000 more in 2026. We also continue to evaluate a potential primary offering and secondary listing in India as part of our long-term strategy."

Avitpl PLC (APTV, \$17.3 billion)

The automotive technology supplier is expanding its engineering and manufacturing footprint in India as the market drives strong new business momentum.

"We opened a new engineering technical centre in Chennai to support our growing software and services business. New business bookings in India increased significantly to over \$800 million, driven by multiple EV and vehicle platform launches."

Match Group, Inc. (MTCH, \$7.2 billion)

The online dating company said India has emerged as a fast-growing market for its Hinge app.

"Hinge has built a meaningful organic presence in India with over one million monthly active users in 2025, growing 40 per cent year-over-year without marketing spend."

Power Integrations, Inc. (POWI, \$2.6 billion)

The US power semiconductor company said India is a key driver of growth across rail, power grid and smart metering applications.

"We had double-digit growth, driven by electric rail and power grid projects in India. Our strong position in locomotives and smart meters, along with growing adoption of high-voltage GaN products, is supporting continued growth in the market."

ASGN Incorporated (ASGN, \$2.3 billion)

The US IT services and staffing firm said its Quinnox acquisition significantly strengthens its India delivery capabilities.

"Quinnox expands our global capability centres in India, enhancing our ability to scale resources and accelerate revenue synergies as clients increase demand for delivery from India."

Carlsberg A/S (CARL, €17.4 billion)

The Danish brewer reported another strong year in India and said it is evaluating strategic options for the business.

"India delivered high single-digit volume growth following a strong finish to the year. We are exploring options to increase shareholder value, which may include a potential IPO of our India business."

Melexis NV (MELE, €2.2 billion)

The Belgian semiconductor company said India is a key focus market, delivering strong double-digit growth across automotive and alternative mobility applications.

"We are increasing our efforts in India, where we enjoy strong double-digit growth. We are finalising the set-up of a Melexis entity in India to better serve customers locally and support further expansion in this fast-growing market."

Contributed by NAFA ASSET MANAGERS

WHO AM I?

Are you an avid investor? How well do you know corporate India?

Here's a challenge. Using the five clues below, identify the company that is being talked about here.

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Nifty 50 (25,694) and Nifty Bank (60,121) appreciated 1.5 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively.

Last week had six trading sessions as the market remained open for the Union Budget presented on February 1.

There was volatility before and after the Budget, but the key indices managed to close the week in the green. Here is our analysis of derivatives data of both indices:

NIFTY 50

Nifty futures (February) (25,735) rallied 1.3 per cent last week. After marking a low of 24,636 on February 1, the contract rose to hit an intra-week high of 26,320 on February 3 before closing the week at 25,735.

Despite the drop in the recent sessions, the price remains above the 21-day moving average, which is now at 25,608. There is a support ahead at 25,500. A rebound on the back of this can lift the contract to 26,500.

On the other hand, if the support at 25,500 is breached, the downswing can extend to 25,125 and 24,800, notable support levels.

While Nifty futures (February) closed the week in the green, it saw a fall in open interest – it dropped from 182 lakh contracts

BROAD TREND

- Short covering in Nifty futures
- Long build-up in Nifty Bank futures
- Price action shows positive bias

Support pivot

F&O TRACKER. Traders with high risk tolerance can buy index futures

on January 30 to 160 lakh contracts on February 6. This shows short covering.

With respect to options, the Put Call Ratio (PCR) of weekly and monthly options stood at 0.86 and 1.14 respectively. A ratio greater (less) than 1 is bullish (bearish). So, as per options positioning, the weakness can be temporary.

Overall, the price action and the futures and options data give

a slight bullish bias. But the key pivot is 25,500. As long as this level holds, the probability for a rally will be higher.

Strategy: Go long on Nifty futures (February) at 25,650. Place a stop-loss at 25,400. When the contract rises to 26,100, trail the stop-loss to 25,850. Book profits at 26,350.

Alternatively, one can buy 25,500-call of February monthly expiry, which closed at ₹373.70

on Friday. Buy at ₹300. Target and stop-loss can be at ₹700 and ₹100 respectively.

NIFTY BANK

Nifty Bank futures (February) (60,252) was up 0.6 per cent last week. The contract witnessed a considerable sell-off on the Budget day and made a low of 58,046. But then it recovered to hit an intra-week high of 62,300 on February 3 and have now moderated to 60,252.

The contract has a support at 60,000 where a trendline coincides and its 21-day moving average is at 59,850. Therefore, the price region between 59,850 and 60,000 is a support band.

Nifty Bank futures can recover on the back of the support band. In such a case, it can rally to 61,500. A breakout of this can take it higher to 62,000. However, if the base at 59,850 is breached, it might see a deeper decline to 59,500 and 58,800.

Supporting the positive view, the open interest of February futures increased over the last week from 13.3 lakh contracts to 14.3 lakh contracts. Therefore, on a weekly basis, there has been a fresh long build-up.

Although options' PCR shows a different picture as the ratio of February options stood at 0.90, showing a bearish tilt.

Nevertheless, the chart and the futures data substantiate a bullish bias and for a rally, the support band of 59,850-60,000 is the key.

Strategy: Buy Nifty Bank futures (February) at 60,100. Target and stop-loss can be 61,300 and 59,700 respectively.

Option traders can buy February 60,000-call (₹720.45). Go long at ₹580 with a stop-loss at ₹250. Exit the trade at ₹1,400.

Overall, the price action and the futures and options data give

Economics of arbitrage trades

MASTERING DERIVATIVES. Capturing price differential between underlying and its futures

Venkatesh Bangarawamy

Arbitrage trades are referred to as near-pure-alpha strategies. This is because the strategy is set up to generate gains regardless of the market direction. Previously in this column, we discussed how to fade rates using futures and how to fade prices using options. Typical argument against fading rates and prices is that the capital required to set up the trade is large and the return modest. So, why engage in such strategies? This week, we discuss how to decide if the strategy to fade rates is optimal to set up.

PRICE CONVERGENCE

To recap, fading rates involves shorting futures and buying the underlying and typically holding the position till expiry. The strategy relies on price convergence; futures price will converge to the underlying price at expiry. Note that the number of shares of the underlying must match the permitted lot size of the futures contract. That requires large trading capital with modest returns. So, is the strategy optimal to set up?

The strategy is set up to capture the price differential between the underlying and its



QUICK TIP

The strategy's return will be significantly lower than typical returns on directional bets with futures. But directional bets have downside risk whereas the strategy to fade rates does not

futures, when futures are overpriced. This means the implied rate in valuing futures is higher. The strategy's return will be significantly lower than typical returns on directional bets with futures. But directional bets have downside risk whereas the strategy to fade rates does not

you need to break a bank deposit or move money from your savings account to fund the strategy. You must determine the opportunity cost of the decision. In the case of deposits, this would be the penalty for breaking the deposit and the loss of income for the period fading-the-rate strategy is open. Incorporate this cost as interest rate into the futures valuation model to see if the actual futures price is more than the theoretical price. You should initiate the strategy only if the theoretical futures price incorporating your opportunity cost is lower than the actual price.

OPTIONAL READING

The deposit used to fund the strategy must not be earmarked for any goal. Also, it would not be optimal to transfer money from equity investments earmarked for a goal to your trading portfolio. It must be a deposit created out of surplus cash or money in your savings account. Otherwise, the opportunity-cost principle used to determine if the traded futures is overpriced may not hold.

The author offers training programmes for individuals to manage their personal investments

Breakout watch

CRUDE CHECK. Consider long positions

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research Bureau

After witnessing a rally recently, oil prices were down last week. Brent crude oil futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) (\$68.10/barrel) was down 1.8 per cent whereas crude oil futures in the domestic market (\$5,824/barrel) lost 1.8 per cent. Here is the outlook and trade recommendation:

BRENT FUTURES (\$68.10) Brent crude oil futures slipped last week on the back of a resistance band between \$69 and \$71. A trendline also coincides at this price band, making it a notable barrier. Although the price declined last week, the price action does not show any signs of a bearish bias. There could be some consolidation at the current market levels or even a minor dip, possibly to \$65.

Hence, silver futures might consolidate between these two levels going ahead. The path of the next leg of trend depends on which of ₹2,28,000 and ₹2,91,500 is breached first.

Trade strategy: We suggest traders refrain from fresh trades.



MCX-CRUISE OIL (\$5,824)

Crude oil futures (February) declined last week. It could not sustain above the ₹6,000-mark. Nevertheless, the downside was limited by the 21-day moving average at ₹5,550.

Despite the correction in price, crude oil futures retain the bullish bias. While it is likely to stay flat or see a minor dip in price, possibly to ₹5,600, the contract has the potential to recover and surpass the barrier at ₹6,000.

A breakout of ₹6,000 will open the door for a rally to ₹6,500. A breach of this can lift crude oil futures further to ₹6,900. The positive bias will be negated only if the price falls below the support at ₹5,500.

Trade strategy: Buy crude oil futures at ₹5,750. Target and stop-loss can be ₹6,500 and ₹5,450 respectively.

A pause in trend

BULLION CUES. Avoid fresh positions

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Gold (\$4,965/ounce) and silver (\$78/ounce) saw some divergence in performance last week. While the former gained 1.4 per cent, the latter slumped 8.5 per cent.

In the domestic market, gold futures (₹1,55,451/10 gm) rose 2 per cent whereas silver futures (₹2,49,892/kg) tumbled 14.4 per cent. Here is our analysis:

MCX-GOLD (₹1,55,451) Gold futures (April) fell early last week to mark a low of ₹1,37,065 on Monday. But then the contract recovered to end the week higher at ₹1,55,451.

The chart shows that gold futures, which fell considerably on January 30, might be heading towards some consolidation in the near term. From the current level, the nearest support and resistance level are ₹1,38,000 and ₹1,61,000 respectively. Only a breach of either of these can establish the next leg of trend.

Resistance above ₹1,61,000 is at ₹1,75,000 whereas the support below ₹1,38,000 is at ₹1,32,000.

Trade strategy: Stay out.

MCX-SILVER (₹2,49,892)

Silver futures (March) declined to hit a low of ₹2,25,805 last Monday.

While the contract did recover some of the losses, the rebound was weak when compared to that of gold futures.

That said, silver futures too might see a sideways movement within a broad range in the forthcoming sessions after witnessing high volatility recently.

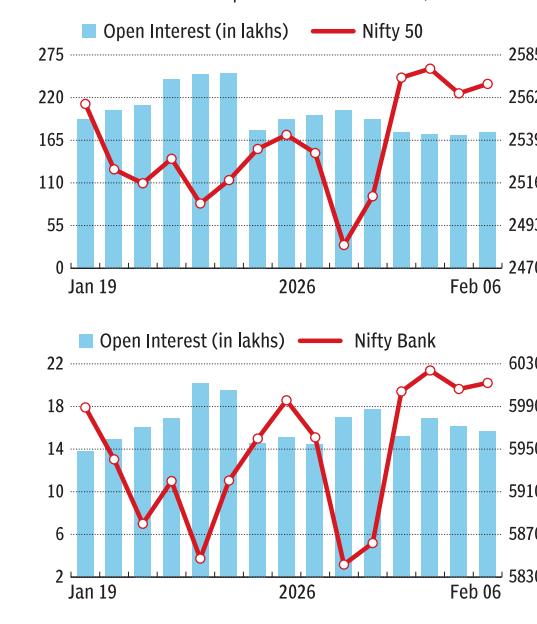
From the current level, the immediate support is at ₹2,28,000 whereas the nearest barrier is at ₹2,91,500.

Hence, silver futures might consolidate between these two levels going ahead. The path of the next leg of trend depends on which of ₹2,28,000 and ₹2,91,500 is breached first.

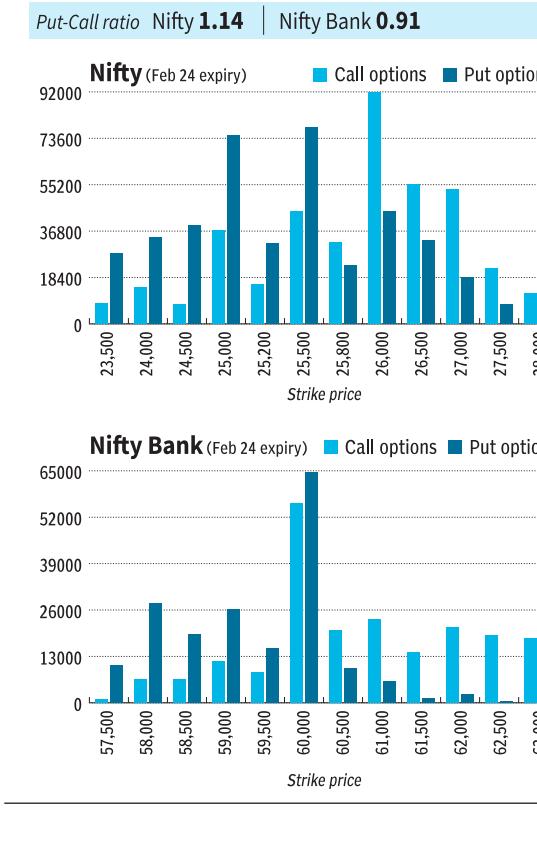
Trade strategy: We suggest traders refrain from fresh trades.

CM YK

Cumulative Open Interest (Futures)



Open Interest chain



F&O Strategy

Buy Sun Pharma call

KS Badri Narayanan

The stock of Sun Pharmaceutical Industries (₹1,695.10) has been moving in the ₹1,850-1,550 range since early 2025. Immediate resistance levels are ₹1,717 and ₹1,829. A

Gurumurthy K
bl. research bureau

Two major events jolted the Indian stock markets last week. First was the increase in Securities Transaction Tax in Futures and Options announced in the Union Budget. This triggered a strong sell-off on February 1 when Budget was presented. Then, the US announcing the reduction of tariff on India made the market see a huge gap-up open on Tuesday. However, there was no follow-through rise and the indices fell all through the rest of the week.

On the charts the picture looks positive. There is no danger of a major fall, and supports are there to limit the downside. We expect the Indian benchmark indices to rise to new highs in the coming weeks.

FPIS BUY

Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) snapped their six-week selling spree. They turned net buyers last week. The Indian equity segment saw a net inflow of about \$897 million. If the FPIs accelerate their purchase, then, that would aid the Sensex and Nifty to go higher.

NIFTY 50 (25,693.70)

Short-term view: Immediate support is in the 25,500-25,450 region which has held well last week. A rise from here can take the Nifty up to 26,300-26,400 again in the short term. This 26,400 is a very crucial resistance. Nifty has to breach this hurdle in order to go further higher towards 26,800 or so.

In case the index breaks below 25,450 from here, then a fall to 25,100-25,000 can happen first. Thereafter the index can bounce back again and go up to 26,000 and higher.

Medium-term view: The broader bullish view remains intact. Nifty can rise to 27,500-28,000 in the medium term. A decisive break above 26,400 can clear the way for this rise. Eventually we can see the Nifty touching 30,000-31,000 in the long term.

Strong support will be in the 24,000-23,500 zone. The rise to 28,000 and higher will get negated only if Nifty breaks below 23,500. Such a break, though less likely now, can drag it down to 22,000 and lower.

NIFTY BANK (60,120.55)

Short-term view: Support is in the 59,500-59,400 region which can be tested earlier this week. A



Ready to rise & shine

INDEX OUTLOOK. Supports to limit the downside in benchmark indices

**SUPPORT ZONE**

- Nifty 50: 25,500-25,450
- Sensex: 82,800-82,500
- Nifty Bank: 59,500-59,400

main intact as long as the index remains above 79,500. We keep intact our view of the Sensex rising to 89,000-90,000 in the medium term and 98,000-99,000 in the long term.

A fall below 79,500 is needed to negate this bullish view. But that looks less likely as of now.

NIFTY MIDCAP 150 (21,926.85)

The support at 20,800 had held very well even during the strong fall witnessed on the Budget Day. That indicates the strength of the support and also the presence of fresh buyers below 21,000.

For now, 21,630 and 21,550 are key supports for the week.

Resistance is around 22,200. A break above it can take the index up to 22,800 this week. An eventual break above 22,800 will then strengthen the bullish momentum. That in turn can take the Nifty Midcap 150 index up to 22,500-23,000 in the long term.

So, this could be a good time to enter the small-cap segment. A strong fall below 15,000 is needed to negate this bullish view.

The index has to break 20,800 decisively to go down towards 20,000. Also, a fall below 20,000

is needed to increase the selling pressure. Only then the danger of seeing 18,000 on the downside will come into the picture.

NIFTY SMALLCAP 250 (15,864.50)

The index is managing to hold well above 15,000. Near-term support is at 15,650. While that holds, the resistance at 16,300 can be tested this week. A break above 16,300 can trigger an extended rise to 16,700-16,800.

A strong rise above 16,800 is needed to see some relief, and then take the index higher to 18,000 levels.

Looking at the long-term charts, the region around 15,000 is a strong support which is holding very well now. So, a rise to 18,000 from here will indicate the beginning of a fresh leg of upmove. That will have the potential to take the Nifty Smallcap 250 index up to 22,500-23,000 in the long term.

So, this could be a good time to enter the small-cap segment. A strong fall below 15,000 is needed to negate this bullish view.

bl.portfolio video

Watch bl.Guru share the Nifty and Bank Nifty technical outlook for this week



MOVERS & SHAKERS

AKHIL NALLAMUTHU bl. research bureau

Birlasoft (₹435.50)

Shift in momentum



The stock of Birlasoft saw a considerable sell-off between February 2024 and February 2025, where the price fell from ₹860 to ₹335. But over the past year, the price action has largely been sideways, indicating that the bears have lost traction. Notably, since early December, the price has remained above

both 21- and 50-week moving averages. So, slowly, there is a shift in momentum and we can soon expect the stock to breach the barrier at ₹460. Therefore, one can buy the stock now at ₹435 and accumulate at ₹380. Stop-loss can be ₹325. When the price reaches ₹550 and ₹620, revise the stop-loss to ₹500 and ₹590 respectively. Exit at ₹700.

Metropolis Healthcare (₹1,984.30)

Forms a base



The stock, by closing at ₹1,984.30 on Friday, has produced weekly gains for two consecutive weeks. This happened on the back of the support at ₹1,800. Therefore, it is an indication that the stock is laying the foundation for a fresh leg of rally. Although there is a barrier ahead at ₹2,000, we expect it to surpass this level. On

the upside, the stock has the potential to appreciate to ₹2,300 in the near term. So, one can consider buying the stock now at ₹1,984 and accumulate at ₹1,875. Place stop-loss at ₹1,715. When the price reaches ₹2,100, trail the stop-loss to ₹1,980. When the stock hits ₹2,200, tighten the stop-loss further to ₹2,125. Exit at ₹2,300.

Sagility (₹48.21)

At a range bottom



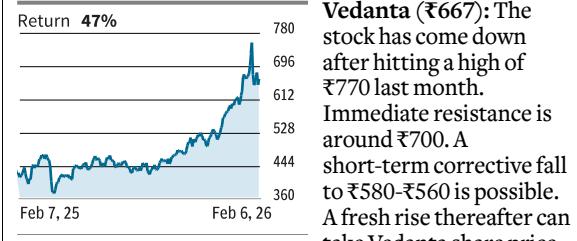
The stock of Sagility fell over the past two weeks. But it is currently hovering around a support at ₹47, where a trendline coincides. Also, the scrip has been trading within the broad range of ₹47-54 since November last year. But prior to this sideways movement, the stock witnessed a bull trend which began near the base at ₹38

in June 2025, indicating that the broader bias is bullish. Therefore, these factors hint that the possibility of a rebound from the current level is high. We expect a rebound and so, we suggest buying the stock now at ₹48.21 and place a stop-loss at ₹45. When the price rises to ₹51, trail the stop-loss to ₹48. Book profits at ₹54.

**TECH QUERY**GURUMURTHY K
bl. research bureau

Can I buy Vedanta at current levels? What is the short-term outlook?

Thiagarajan Christy Rajashegaran



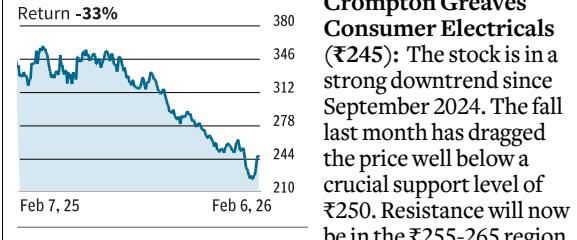
Vedanta (₹667): The stock has come down after hitting a high of ₹770 last month. Immediate resistance is around ₹700. A short-term corrective fall to ₹580-₹560 is possible.

A fresh rise thereafter can take Vedanta share price

up to ₹700 and even ₹800. For now, you can stay out of this stock. Wait for dips and buy the stock at ₹590 and ₹570. Keep the stop-loss at ₹510. Trail the stop-loss up to ₹690 as soon as the stock goes up to ₹720. Revise the stop-loss higher to ₹715 when the price touches ₹730. Exit the stock at ₹740. If the price fails to bounce from ₹560 and breaks below it, then there is a danger of seeing ₹480 on the downside. So, strictly adhere to the stop-loss if you are taking this trade.

I bought Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals shares at ₹330. What is the short-term outlook?

Rajan MS

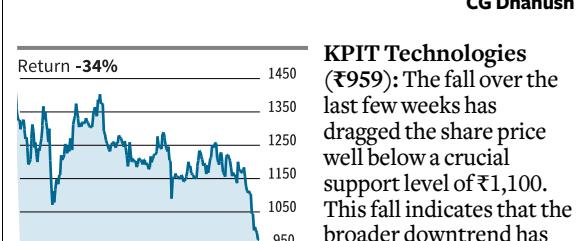


Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals (₹245): The stock is in a strong downtrend since September 2024. The fall last month has dragged the price well below a crucial support level of ₹250. Resistance will now be in the ₹255-265 region.

A strong rise above ₹265 is needed to get a relief rise to ₹310. But that would need some strong trigger. Failure to breach ₹265 and a reversal from there will increase the danger of the price tumbling towards ₹180. Ideally, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals share price has to rise past ₹310 to indicate a bullish trend reversal and become bullish. That seems to be not happening any time soon. So, it is better to exit the stock and accept the loss.

I bought KPIT Technologies at ₹1,306. Should I continue to hold or exit the stock?

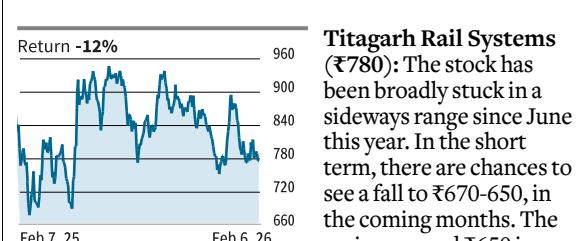
CG Dhanush



KPIT Technologies (₹959): The fall over the last few weeks has dragged the share price well below a crucial support level of ₹1,100. This fall indicates that the broader downtrend has resumed. Cluster of resistances are there in the ₹1,100-₹1,250 region which can cap the upside if there is a bounce. The outlook is bearish. KPIT Technologies share price can fall further to ₹750. Exit the stock now. We always insist in this column on the importance of having a stop-loss. This will aid in minimising the loss in case our view goes wrong. There is a danger of getting stuck in a wrong trade by not having a stop-loss. So, next time when you enter a trade, have a stop-loss at the first place.

I have bought Titagarh Rail Systems at ₹1,412. Should I continue to hold this stock or exit?

Anand G, Chennai



Titagarh Rail Systems (₹780): The stock has been broadly stuck in a sideways range since June this year. In the short term, there are chances to see a fall to ₹670-₹650 in the coming months. The region around ₹650 is an important support. We can expect the stock to rise back from around this support and go up to ₹1,000 over the medium term. A subsequent rise above ₹1,000 thereafter will be bullish to see ₹1,500-₹1,600 levels over the long term. If you are a long-term investor, buy more at ₹690. Keep the stop-loss at ₹580. Trail the stop-loss up to ₹930 as soon as the stock goes up to ₹1,100. Revise the stop-loss higher to ₹1,150 and ₹1,300 when the price touches ₹1,250 and ₹1,400 respectively. Exit the stock at ₹1,500.

Send your queries to techtrail@thehindu.co.in

BANDU'S BLOCKBUSTERS.

On April 1, four years back, piqued by the incessant jokes in the village at his expense, Bandu Barve decided he'd had enough. It was time for him to turn 'smart'. His dead granny's voice rang in his ears — "Read the papers, Bandya, they tell you all." So, off went Bandu to the stash of newspapers on his father's desk. As luck would have it, the first paper Bandu got his hands on was The Hindu businessline. The stock recos, in particular, had him in thrall. Soon Bandu metamorphosed into an ace investor and trader.

These days, Bandu picks five stocks each Sunday, which he believes will be blockbusters over the next week

Last week's prize winner
Jayati Chakraborty

Last week's winning stock
Delhivery

1 Balkrishna Industries

Closing price (Jan 30)
₹422.50

2 FSN E-Commerce Ventures

Closing price (Feb 6)
₹435.80

3 Power Grid Corp of India

Return:
3.15 per cent

4 Ather Energy

Return:
3.15 per cent

5 Power Finance Corporation

Return:
3.15 per cent

Here's your chance to match step with Bandu. Guess the stock that will give the best return by next Friday (BSE prices). By Wednesday noon, mail us your pick and its expected price rise to bandublockbuster@gmail.com with your name, mobile number and address. One lucky winner will get a prize of ₹2,000.

Scan to know the winner selection process

**US MARKET OUTLOOK.** Dow makes a bullish breakout, NASDAQ indicates weakness

GURUMURTHY K
bl. research bureau

● MORE RISE

The dollar index can rise to 98.50 and higher if it manages to sustain above 97.25

needed. Also, things have to be looked at from the sell side of the market.

S&P 500 (6,932.30) The 6,760-7,000 range continues to remain intact. The S&P 500 index oscillated well within that in the past week. As such, there is no major change in our view. We will have to wait for the range breakout to get clarity.

A fall below 6,760 will indicate a bearish trend reversal. It will then open the doors for a fresh fall to 6,600.

On the other hand, 7,100 can be seen on the upside if the index breaches 7,000. A sustained rise above 7,100 is needed to see much higher levels of 7,400. Failure to breach 7,100 and a reversal from there will also keep

Valuation Radar: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

The Benchmark indices, Sensex and Nifty 50 were up 1.6 and 1.5 per cent respectively last week. BSE Power gained the most by 6.6 per cent, followed by BSE Realty 5.4 per cent and BSE Consumer Durables 4.3 per cent. BSE IT and BSE Teck declined by 6.2 and 3.6 per cent respectively last week.

	Nifty 50	Sensex	Auto	Bankex	Capital Goods	Consumer Durables	FMCG	Healthcare	IT	Metal	Oil & Gas	Power	PSU	Realty	Teck
P/E	22.3	23.2	36.6	16.1	51.5	63.7	35.6	37.2	26.1	21.0	9.8	32.1	12.0	39.7	29.6
P/BV	3.5	4.5	6.8	2.4	13.4	15.8	7.9	6.3	7.2	3.4	1.7	4.3	2.3	5.2	8.8
Dividend Yield	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.5	2.0	0.6	2.4	1.4	2.9	1.2	2.4	0.4	1.9
Weekly Return (%)	1.5 ▲	1.6 ▲	3.2 ▲	0.7 ▲	1.6 ▲	4.3 ▲	1.4 ▲	1.4 ▲	-6.2 ▼	1.3 ▲	3.7 ▲	6.6 ▲	0.1 ▲	5.4 ▲	-3.6 ▼
Monthly Return (%)	-1.9 ▼	-1.7 ▼	-4.5 ▼	0.0 ▼	0.3 ▲	-6.2 ▼	-3.3 ▼	-5.9 ▼	-6.6 ▼	3.6 ▲	3.3 ▲	1.8 ▲	-9.3 ▼	-5.2 ▼	
Annual Return (%)	8.9 ▲	7.1 ▲	16.9 ▲	18.4 ▲	10.1 ▲	-1.1 ▼	-6.4 ▼	-2.8 ▼	-19.0 ▼	39.4 ▲	15.5 ▲	8.3 ▲	21.0 ▲	-9.8 ▼	-8.8 ▼

The sector indices are disseminated by S&P BSE.

Company	CMP	EPS	PE	PB	Year End	Sales Qty	Profit Qty	Sales TTM	Profit TTM	Wkly Rtn	ROCE	DER	Yr/High	Yr/Low
360 ONE [1]	1115.7	29.0	38.4	4.8	202512	51.5	18.4	22.1	10.0	-1.6	14.3	2.0	1273.0	76.61
3M India	35091.0	542.7	64.7	18.4	202406	-0.3	21.6	3.0	23.3	1.7	39.8	0.0	37384.9	25171.44
A [2]	5811.8	83.4	69.7	47.3	202509	13.7	-7.2	49.0	120.6	4.2	9.8	0.1	6299.8	4590.1
A B Real Estate [3]	1352.4	-19.0	4.0	202512	-59.8	-37.3	-71.9	7.1	-0.2	1.0	2535.0	1185.1		
Adhaar Hsg. Fin. [4]	474.5	24.0	19.7	3.0	202512	18.2	22.7	18.7	20.0	-3.3	11.4	2.8	547.8	340.5
AVAS Financials [5]	1350.4	62.0	21.0	2.7	202503	21.4	12.3	25.4	14.2	-0.6	9.9	0.0	22321.0	1276.0
Abbott India [6]	20737.4	1.0	38.5	1.5	202512	7.6	1.0	10.7	17.7	-1.1	40.9	0.0	30321.6	6200.1
ACC [7]	1666.8	24.7	12.4	1.6	202512	8.6	-65.4	16.4	4.7	-1.8	17.9	0.0	2123.3	1594.5
ACME Solar Hold. [2]	221.7	8.3	26.8	2.8	202512	42.3	-3.7	61.7	31.9	2.8	32.4	3.3	171.9	
Action Const. Eq. [1]	919.0	35.5	25.9	6.1	202512	-2.3	4.2	0.3	8.6	8.2	40.2	0.0	1036.7	775.0
Adani Energy Sol [8]	1017.2	18.7	54.4	5.2	202512	15.4	-1.7	20.0	4.8	13.6	10.1	2.2	1067.3	639.4
Adani Enterp. [1]	2226.6	28.7	77.5	4.8	202512	8.6	1823.5	-5.1	-15.4	10.3	9.0	1.8	2612.8	1850.0
Adani Green [9]	971.6	10.4	93.4	8.2	202512	29.2	2.4	28.0	18.8	1.0	25.9	0.0	1826.9	1549.0
Adani Power [2]	1550.4	1.0	38.0	1.5	202512	24.2	1.0	12.2	1.9	0.7	18.2	93.2		
Adani Total Gas [1]	154.7	5.9	25.7	5.0	202512	-8.9	-18.9	1.9	-12.2	1.1	0.7	-18.2	93.2	
Adani Total Gas [5]	143.4	5.8	93.1	13.3	202512	16.4	11.7	31.3	3.1	1.4	7.4	0.0	3794.9	507.0
Aditya Adm. [6]	813.3	35.3	23.1	6.6	202512	7.4	21.0	12.0	11.8	7.5	35.5	0.0	9116.5	562.5
Aditya Birla Fin. [7]	68.8	-6.2	1.3	202512	7.9	-15.9	9.7	4.5	3.7	0.0	1.3	107.5	59.8	
Aditya Birla Cap. [8]	347.6	13.6	25.6	2.8	202512	27.4	40.5	13.0	-3.2	2.5	18.0	0.0	363.9	148.8
Aegis Logistics [9]	690.2	21.9	31.6	4.8	202512	1.1	4.3	7.9	33.1	-5.6	14.5	0.0	9465.3	639.5
Afcons Infrastr. [10]	331.6	10.6	59.4	5.2	202512	44.2	52.2	92.0	0.0	3.7	1085.5	0.0	1085.5	350.0
Afcons Infrastr. [11]	331.6	8.7	24.3	2.3	202512	1.0	-2.0	4.0	-4.3	0.0	2.6	0.0	23.5	13.9
Afcons Infrastr. [12]	164.7	31.2	29.1	1.1	202512	19.1	19.2	19.5	6.6	1.5	6.6	0.0	2186.8	1231.1
AIA Engineering [13]	3884.3	124.8	31.1	4.9	202512	-0.1	14.6	-2.6	10.3	19.1	0.0	4200.0	1568.1	
Ajanta Pharma [14]	2852.4	81.2	8.3	202512	20.0	17.6	14.8	13.0	2.5	32.0	0.0	3020.5	2022.1	
Akzo Nobel [15]	2912.5	83.0	35.5	5.2	202512	-13.6	-12.5	-10.7	-12.1	3.1	39.1	0.0	3093.4	2469.1
Alembro Pharma [16]	779.1	33.8	23.7	3.0	202512	10.8	1.1	11.6	11.6	2.1	0.0	1107.4	725.6	
Alcon Lab. [17]	5664.7	19.6	28.8	1.5	202512	17.2	1.1	9.1	8.1	0.2	50.6	0.0	5593.8	148.0
Alka Myntra [18]	1532.3	35.6	43.4	5.4	202512	1.1	2.2	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.0	2448.8	1666.4	
Allied Blenders [2]	516.4	-0.1	0.6	3.0	202512	19.5	14.0	13.6	13.6	0.0	2.0	0.0	270.0	278.9
Alok Industries [1]	160.4	-1.5	-0.4	0.2	202512	-0.7	-17.7	-2.8	21.6	6.2	0.0	0.0	23.5	13.9
Amara Rajah Ente. [1]	865.7	40.1	21.6	2.1	202509	6.7	-2.0	5.9	-25.2	3.3	15.6	0.0	1108.7	805.1
Amber Enterp. [2]	6641.1	63.4	104.4	6.4	202512	-2.2	-27.1	34.0	2.0	20.0	16.1	1.5	105.8	18.0
Ambuja Cement [2]	529.5	15.7	33.4	2.3	202512	9.2	-89.9	16.4	-8.7	3.8	12.7	0.0	6255.0	455.0
Anant Ratn [1]	2402.7	40.2	11.8	1.5	202512	3.9	5.7	-1.1	4.4	-1.1	24.4	0.0	2985.5	101.5
Angel Tech [1]	2639.8	24.7	32.2	1.0	202512	-0.7	-1.8	-2.9	-2.5	0.0	578.0	0.0	2610.0	1940.0
Apar Inds. [2]	9476.9	249.4	38.4	7.8	202512	16.3	20.8	28.8	22.8	18.5	3.6	0.0	9900.0	2710.0
API Apollo Tubes [2]	2198.1	41.1	53.4	3.3	202512	7.2	42.9	9.2	80.0	7.5	22.0	0.0	2206.0	1273.3
Apollo Tyres [1]	504.4	23.0	21.0	2.5	202512	11.8	4.3	6.2	8.3	1.0	54.0	0.0	368.0	368.0
Applus Value Hous. [2]	259.1	17.4	28.6	2.0	202512	23.0	24.1	28.0	28.1	25.5	-6.0	0.0	1828.0	182.0
Aravinda Labs [1]	1													

Now, a health wallet from NPS

PRODUCT REVIEW. We explain how it works, the pros and cons & who should try it

Kumar Shankar Roy
bl. research bureau

Medical bills arrive early, long before most people feel retirement-ready, and that creates a gap between health spending needs and long-term saving products. In that backdrop, PFRDA's newly unveiled NPS Swasthya Pension Scheme is best seen as a medical expenses wallet built inside the National Pension System, not as a substitute for health insurance. The regulator is allowing it only as a trial, so that pension funds can gauge whether the idea works in practice, from technology and operations to customer protection. This trial is being run under what PFRDA calls a Regulatory Sandbox.

WHAT IS IT? In simple terms, the scheme creates a separate NPS account meant only for medical expenses, including outpatient (often called OPD) and inpatient costs. You can contribute any amount, and the money is invested by the pension fund under the NPS Multiple Scheme Framework, which is the set of schemes and investment options that govern how such NPS variants are offered. To join, you must also have the normal NPS common scheme account, the regular account where your standard NPS contributions are. If you do not already have it, it must be opened alongside the Swasthya account.

The feature which appears to be a major draw is the transfer

rule for people above 40, in the non-government segment. Such subscribers are allowed to move up to 30 per cent of their self or employee contributions from the common scheme account into this Swasthya account. Conceptually, this is a clear acknowledgement of a real life pattern. After 40, medical spending tends to become more regular, and a large part of it pertains to outpatient consultations, doctor visits, tests, medicines, minor procedures and follow-ups. Many families find that their cash flow takes repeated hits from these smaller bills even when they hold a decent health policy. The withdrawal design is aimed at this everyday reality.

Subscribers can make partial withdrawals from the Swasthya account to meet outpatient or inpatient medical expenses as and when they arise. At any one instance, the withdrawal is capped at 25 per cent of the subscriber's own contributions made to the scheme, not 25 per cent of the total account value. The circular says there is no restriction on the number of partial withdrawals and no minimum waiting period, but it adds an important norm: the first partial withdrawal is allowed only after a minimum corpus of ₹50,000 has accumulated in the Swasthya account. There is also a provision for critical inpatient treatment. If, in a single instance, medical expenses exceed 70 per cent of the total corpus in the Swasthya account, the subscriber can take a premature exit with 100 per cent lumpsum,

QUICK POINTS

- Separate NPS account meant only for medical expenses
- Partial withdrawals for outpatient or inpatient costs
- Transfer rule for people above 40, major draw

irrespective of corpus size, solely to meet that expense.

A key operational detail is how payouts happen. Withdrawals or exits are to be remitted directly to a health benefit administrator (HBA) or a third party administrator (TPA), based on valid claims and supporting invoices. A TPA is a claims processing intermediary that many readers will recognise from health insurance, it validates documents and helps process payments. Any surplus amount left after settling medical expenses is transferred back to the subscriber's common scheme account. This reduces casual misuse of funds, but it also means the subscriber experience will depend on the quality and speed of claims handling and hospital coordination. It also does not eliminate the need for a cash buffer, hospitals often ask for deposits and immediate payments, while reimbursement and settlement can take time.

AGAINST ALTERNATIVES

The more direct comparison for many readers, however, is a self

built medical kitty. Most households already do this in some form: for instance, cash at home, a separate bank FD, or a liquid mutual fund that can be redeemed quickly. Against these, the Swasthya account trades flexibility for structure. A self-managed kitty can be used instantly for any medical related cost, including items that do not come with neat invoices, travel for treatment, attendant expenses, or medicines bought in fragments. You can use it even with a small balance, and there is no dependency on a claims administrator. Swasthya, by design, adds friction: the ₹50,000 minimum corpus before first withdrawal, and bill based remittance via an administrator. The benefit of that friction is behavioural. It helps keep the medical bucket separate from other goals, and lets those above 40 redirect up to 30 per cent of certain NPS contributions into a dedicated health pocket without creating a new saving habit. The trade off is that the corpus is invested, so returns are not assured, and they may or may not keep pace with medical inflation.

Compared with regular NPS Tier 1, Swasthya makes medical withdrawals easier. Tier 1 is built to protect retirement savings, so withdrawals and exits are restricted and purpose bound. The Swasthya design tries to carve out a medical use bucket within the same ecosystem, while still keeping the money invested under the NPS framework. For some subscribers, this is a meaningful

middle path; retirement savings remain largely intact, yet a portion can be earmarked for health spending without stepping out of NPS.

NPS Swasthya has three shortcomings that need to be highlighted. First, you cannot withdraw until the Swasthya account reaches ₹50,000. That is a big hurdle if you want help with routine OPD bills, because many people will take time to build that balance. Second, costs are not yet clear. Pension funds will disclose fees, including what the claims administrator charges, so users will need to watch the fine print and service quality. Finally, because the money is invested, the value can go up or down, unlike an FD.

Clarity is required on how withdrawals for medical bills under NPS Swasthya will be treated (tax-free or treated as regular income).

TAKEAWAY

In the current form, treat NPS Swasthya as an option for a narrow need, not as a core health solution. A retail investor should opt for this offering only if three things apply. One, you already have a good health insurance for big hospital bills. Two, you contribute to NPS, and can reach ₹50,000 in this account without stress. And three, you are comfortable trying a product that is still in its early days. If you want instant access for small medical bills, or you want certainty, keep a separate medical kitty in an FD or a liquid fund. Pair it with proper health insurance.

SIMPLYPUT.

Biopharma Shakti

Sai Prabhakar Yadavalli
bl. Research Bureau

Bhuvan and Sam are sharing views on the Budget announcements and Sam wants to know more about the Biopharma Shakti plan.

As Bhuvan tracks pharma, Sam fires away at the topic.

Sam: Biopharma Shakti, a plan to develop India as a biopharmaceutical hub has been announced. So, two questions on that: how will I benefit in the short term and how will I benefit in the long term?

Bhuvan: Cutting to the chase, I see. But, let me lay it out in detail before I start giving stock recommendations, or as you call it – ‘how will I benefit’? As I guess you are wondering whether your pharma stocks can do better. The minister made an important observation – “India’s disease burden is observed to be shifting towards non-communicable diseases, like diabetes, cancer and autoimmune disorders”. A decade ago these diseases would have accounted for a third of the deaths but now account for two-thirds. Along with mortality, the minister is also pre-empting a decline in quality of life caused by the ailments which is an equally critical concern.

Sam: But why the insistence on biopharmaceuticals compared to normal medicines?

Bhuvan: The normal medicines you refer to are small molecules which are made from chemicals. Biopharmaceuticals or biologics are made from living organisms like proteins and peptides. In terms of action, a small molecule is more akin to carpet bombing cells, healthy or diseased alike, causing side effects. A biologic can reach the specific site, attach to the disease cell, and treat the disease with higher success rate (lower recurrence) and lower side effects.

This way biologics are better compared to small molecules for cancer where healthy cells turn cancerous, and auto immune diseases where body’s own cells start attacking the body, or even diabetes. And beware, these diseases are rising in India. India already has the highest diabetic population and oncology has risen so much that you won’t find a hospital without a dedicated oncology wing. Then, we have auto immune diseases which

are barely addressed. Take rheumatoid arthritis (RA), for instance, which disproportionately affects women and causes joint pains. But, this remains a vastly under-treated disease in India.

Sam: Agreed, but these would be costlier than small molecules?

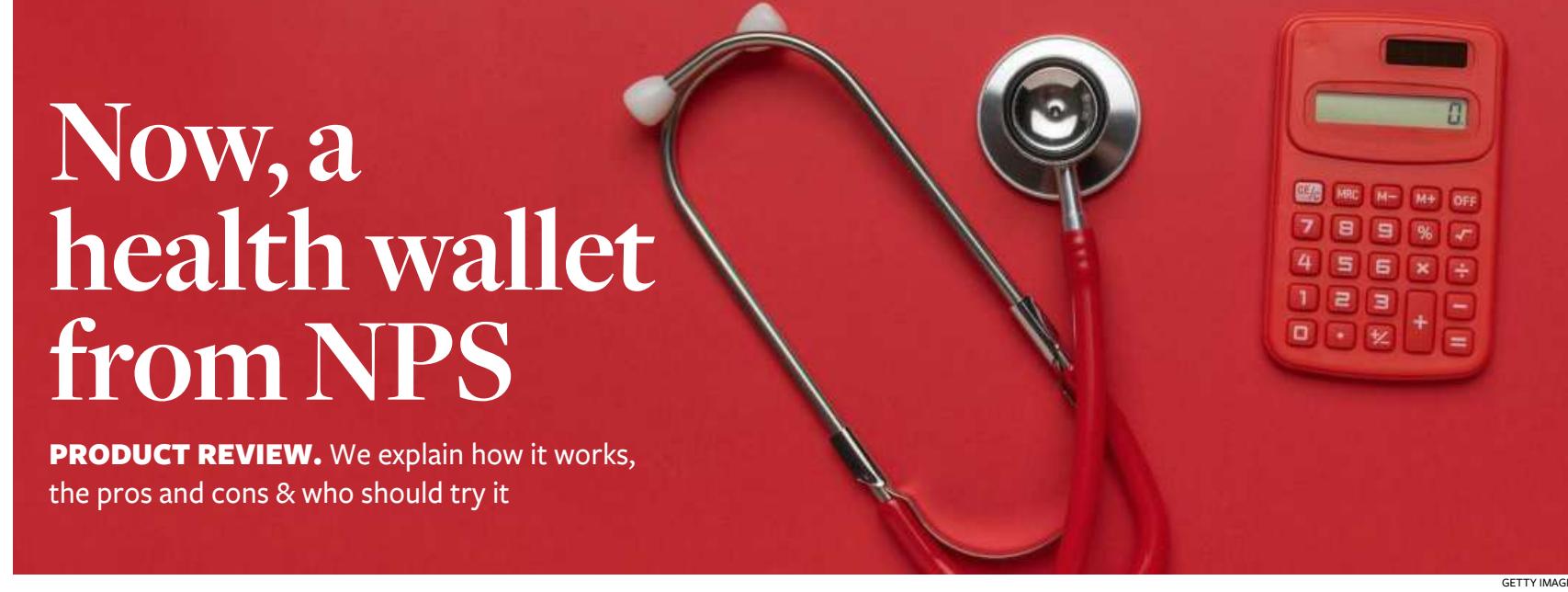
Bhuvan: Yes. But the next decade will witness far more biologics losing patent protection, allowing for cheaper biosimilars (generic equivalent to biologics). Indian pharma which specialised in generics already has a head start in biosimilars and can build on the momentum. There in lies your short-term view. Companies like Biocon started with biosimilars more than a decade ago and others including Dr. Reddy’s, Zydus, Lupin, Aurobindo and even Sun Pharma are looking into biosimilars or have a commercialised portfolio already. Zydus Lifesciences and Sun Pharma have their own innovator biologics as well.

The Shakti plan that reinforces biopharma ecosystem with education, regulation and clinical testing sites should encourage the companies to further expand their current biopharma portfolios. You would be surprised to know that the US, which holds half of the world’s biopharma market, has firmly established biosimilar evaluation guidelines only in the last 10 years.

Sam: Okay. Which companies stand out today, and which off-patent biologic is the big opportunity next?

Bhuvan: Overall, the pharma manufacturers should start evaluating their portfolios of medicines to increase the share of “affordable” biosimilars to tackle the evolving disease burden in India and other emerging countries. Biocon generates around 60 per cent from biosimilars and other companies would be lower. Dr. Reddy’s has a strong biosimilar portfolio and can grow stronger with the launch of biosimilar Semaglutide – a leading biologic for diabetes treatment that will lose patent protection in several markets this year. With the shifting disease burden, a genuine need for biologics/biosimilars and evolving support system from government, this could be a strong driver for the companies.

Sam: Thanks Bhuvan, that was a healthy discussion, both for the health and the wallet.



GETTY IMAGES

Kumar Shankar Roy
bl. research bureau

Medical bills arrive early, long before most people feel retirement-ready, and that creates a gap between health spending needs and long-term saving products. In that backdrop, PFRDA's newly unveiled NPS Swasthya Pension Scheme is best seen as a medical expenses wallet built inside the National Pension System, not as a substitute for health insurance. The regulator is allowing it only as a trial, so that pension funds can gauge whether the idea works in practice, from technology and operations to customer protection. This trial is being run under what PFRDA calls a Regulatory Sandbox.

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The feature which appears to be a major draw is the transfer

THE RAMARAJU SURGICAL COTTON MILLS LIMITED
Regd. Off.: 119, P.A.C. Ramasamy Raja Salai, Rajapalayam - 626117.
Ph.: 0453-235904 | E-Mail: rscm@ramcotex.com
CIN : L17111NT1939PLC002302 | Website : www.ramarajusurgical.com

SPECIAL WINDOW FOR RE-LODGEMENT OF TRANSFER REQUESTS OF PHYSICAL SHARES
Pursuant to SEBI Circular No. HO/38/13(11/2)/2026-MIRSD-POD/I/3750/2026 dated 30th January, 2026, shareholders are informed that a special window has been re-opened for a period of one (1) year from 5th February, 2026 to 4th February, 2027 for re-lodgement of transfer deeds pertaining to physical shares, which were lodged prior to 1st April, 2019 and were rejected / returned / not attended to due to deficiency in documents, process, or otherwise.

Shareholders are requested to re-lodge such cases with the Company’s Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, latest by 4th February, 2027 at the following address:

Cameo Corporate Services Limited, “Subramanian Building”, #1, Club House Road, Chennai - 600 002, Phone No.: +91-44-4002 0741, Email: investor@cameoindia.com.

PLACE: Rajapalayam
For The Ramaraju Surgical Cotton Mills Limited,
Muthukumar P, Company Secretary
DATE : February 07, 2026

Malabar Regional Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.
Palakkad Dairy, Kallapur, (PO), Palakkad - 678005
Phone: 0491-533682, 2571182, Fax: 0491-5251838
E-mail: pkddairy@malabarmlma.coop

E-TENDER NOTICE

28/01/2026

MRCMPU Ltd. Palakkad Dairy invites e-tenders for the following Equipments:
1. SITC of 2 KL volumetric capacity butter churn (E-tender ID: 2025_KCMMF_797234_2). Estimated amount: Rs. 15.00 Lakhs
2. SITC of Roof Top 50 kWP on-grid Solar Power plant at Palakkad Dairy. (E-tender ID: 2026_KCMMF_831252_1). Estimated amount: Rs. 30.00 Lakhs
3. Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Screw Type Air Compressor. (E-tender ID: 2026_KCMMF_834547). Estimated amount: Rs.10.00 lakhs.
For further details, contact: 6238878713, 9495115666 Senior Manager

GIL
Enabling e-Governance

Gujarat Informatics Limited

Block No. : 2, 2nd Floor, Karmayogi Bhavan, Sector 10, Gandhinagar-382010 (Gujarat).

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

GIL invites Bid for purchase of 3198 Tablets as an e-Learning Support Tool for Hearing Impaired Children on behalf of Gujarat Council of School Education (GCSE), Gandhinagar floated on GeM portal. (Bid no. GEM/2026/B/7085113). Interested parties may visit <http://www.gil.gujarat.gov.in> or <https://gem.gov.in/> for eligibility criteria & more details about the bids.

- Managing Director

PPGCL
PRAYAGRAJ POWER GENERATION COMPANY LTD.

Regd Office: Shahabdi Bhawan, B12 & 13, Sector 4, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301

Plant Address: PO-Lohgarh, Tehsil-Bara, Prayagraj(Alahabad), Uttar Pradesh-212107

Phone : +91-120-6102000/6102009 CIN: U40101UP2007PLC032835

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited invites expression of interest (EOI) from eligible vendors for Services for Horticulture & Green Belt Management Thermal Power Plant at Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited, Bara, Dist. Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India. Details of pre-qualification requirements, bid security, purchasing of tender document etc. may be downloaded using the URL-<https://www.ppgcl.co.in/tenders.php> Eligible vendors willing to participate may submit their expression of interest along with the tender fee for issue of bid document latest by 14th February 2026.

BOSCH LIMITED

Registered office : Hosur Road, Adugodi, Bengaluru- 560 030.

Website: www.bosch.in, e-mail ID: secretarial.corp@in.bosch.com, Tel: +91 80 67523878

CIN: L85110KA1951PLC000761

Statement of results for the quarter and Nine months ended December 31, 2025

[Rs. in Millions (Mio INR)]

Particulars	Standalone						Consolidated					
	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended		Year Ended	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended		Year Ended
	31.12.2025 Unaudited	30.09.2025 Unaudited	31.12.2024 Unaudited	31.12.2025 Unaudited	31.12.2024 Unaudited	31.03.2025 Audited	31.12.2025 Unaudited	30.09.2025 Unaudited	31.12.2024 Unaudited	31.12.2025 Unaudited	31.12.2024 Unaudited	31.03.2025 Audited
1. Total Income from operations	50,855											



bl rating	Scheme Name	Latest NAV (₹)	Latest Corpus (₹Cr)	Expense Ratio (%)	Regular	Direct	1 Year CAGR	3 Year CAGR	5 Year CAGR	10 Year CAGR	Sortino Ratio (%)
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EQUITY - LARGE CAP FUNDS

★★★★★ Canara Robeco Large Cap	63.7	17493	1.6	0.5	7.2	15.2	12.2	14.9	0.45	
★★★★★ ICICI Pru Large Cap	113.9	78502	1.4	0.9	10.8	18.2	16.0	15.5	0.63	
★★★★★ Nippon Ind Large Cap	92.7	50107	1.5	0.7	10.2	19.1	17.7	15.6	0.67	
★★★★★ HDFC Large Cap	117.0	40604	1.6	1.0	8.1	15.9	14.7	14.9	0.57	
★★★★★ JM Large Cap	155.9	444	2.4	0.9	6.0	15.0	13.1	12.1	0.43	
★★★★★ Kotak Large Cap	588.0	11087	1.7	0.6	10.0	15.5	13.5	14.0	0.47	
★★★★★ SBI Large Cap	95.1	55879	1.5	0.8	9.4	14.5	12.6	13.3	0.49	
★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Large Cap	537.0	31386	1.6	1.0	9.3	15.7	13.5	13.6	0.49	
★★★★★ Bandhan Large Cap	78.9	2051	2.0	0.9	9.8	17.5	13.1	13.9	0.44	
★★★★★ Baroda BNP Paribas Large Cap	224.4	2702	2.0	0.8	7.9	16.1	13.2	13.8	0.46	
★★★★★ Edelweiss Large Cap	86.0	1456	2.1	0.6	8.1	15.3	12.9	13.9	0.46	
★★★★★ Franklin Ind Large Cap	1048.0	7972	1.9	1.1	9.2	15.1	11.6	12.3	0.44	
★★★★★ Invesco India Largecap	69.9	1718	2.0	0.7	8.4	17.7	14.4	13.5	0.47	
★★★★★ Mirae Asset Large Cap	115.3	41802	1.5	0.5	9.4	13.5	11.7	14.5	0.42	
★★★★★ Tata Large Cap	519.2	2840	2.0	1.0	9.0	15.5	13.4	13.1	0.50	
★★★★★ UTI Large Cap	277.4	12839	1.8	0.9	5.9	13.1	11.3	13.0	0.38	
★★★★★ DSP Large Cap	477.8	7285	1.8	0.8	7.0	17.6	13.3	12.9	0.49	
★★★★★ HSBC Large Cap	491.8	1912	2.1	1.3	8.6	15.9	11.9	13.6	0.38	
★★★★★ LIC MF Large Cap	56.1	1434	2.1	1.0	6.2	12.2	10.1	11.8	0.31	
★★★★★ Union Largecap	23.8	471	2.5	1.7	7.3	13.0	11.3	-	0.37	
★★★★★ Axis Large Cap	61.1	33556	1.6	0.7	6.1	12.9	9.0	13.1	0.26	
★★★★★ Groww Largecap	43.8	132	2.5	1.2	10.6	14.5	11.5	12.4	0.36	
★★★★★ PGM India Large Cap	340.8	598	2.4	0.8	6.1	11.5	9.7	11.2	0.30	
★★★★★ Mahi Manu Large Cap	23.6	756	2.3	0.6	8.8	15.0	12.5	-	0.44	
★★★★★ Taurus Large Cap	160.0	52	2.6	2.4	8.0	17.2	12.3	11.0	0.36	

EQUITY - LARGE & MID CAP FUNDS

★★★★★ Bandhan Large & Mid Cap	136.5	13636	1.7	0.6	10.3	23.0	19.4	16.7	0.66
★★★★★ HDFC Large & Mid Cap	343.5	28980	1.6	0.8	8.9	20.2	19.1	16.1	0.67
★★★★★ ICICI Pru Large & Mid Cap	1037.1	27745	1.6	0.8	10.5	21.3	21.0	16.7	0.82
★★★★★ Axis Large & Mid Cap	32.9	15616	1.7	0.6	7.1	19.7	16.5	-	0.49
★★★★★ Quant Large & Mid Cap	108.8	3039	2.0	0.8	-2.1	15.1	16.7	16.1	0.46
★★★★★ SBI Large & Midcap	652.8	37443	1.6	0.7	13.3	18.8	17.8	16.0	0.67
★★★★★ UTI Large & Mid Cap	186.1	5615	1.9	0.9	10.6	22.2	19.2	15.5	0.69
★★★★★ BOI Large & Mid Cap Equity	90.1	456	2.3	0.8	9.0	17.2	15.7	13.6	0.47
★★★★★ Canara Robeco Large and Mid Cap	248.1	25626	1.6	0.6	3.2	16.1	14.2	16.0	0.45
★★★★★ DSP Large & Mid Cap	635.6	17576	1.7	0.6	10.2	20.6	16.9	16.6	0.60
★★★★★ Edelweiss Large & Mid Cap	88.5	4517	1.8	0.4	8.4	18.8	16.1	15.5	0.53
★★★★★ Invesco India Large & Mid Cap	98.5	9344	1.8	0.6	10.7	23.9	17.5	16.5	0.51
★★★★★ Kotak Large & Midcap	354.0	30039	1.6	0.6	13.1	20.0	17.6	16.8	0.58
★★★★★ Mirae Asset Large & Midcap	154.4	43766	1.5	0.6	12.0	17.6	14.9	18.1	0.50
★★★★★ Nippon Ind Vision Large & Mid Cap	1481.6	6751	1.9	1.2	9.0	21.2	17.4	14.3	0.59
★★★★★ Franklin Ind Large & Mid Cap	188.6	3674	2.0	1.3	6.9	16.6	14.0	12.6	0.47
★★★★★ LIC MF Large & Midcap	38.5	2993	1.9	0.6	5.6	18.1	15.3	15.6	0.47
★★★★★ Sundaram Large and Mid Cap	87.1	6987	1.8	0.7	8.8	17.2	15.2	15.1	0.48
★★★★★ Tata Large & Mid Cap	501.9	8683	1.8	0.7	1.3	12.6	13.0	13.6	0.48
★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Large & Mid Cap	912.0	5784	1.9	1.1	9.7	16.1	11.3	12.7	0.30
★★★★★ Navi Large & Midcap	35.0	315	2.3	0.5	3.6	13.0	14.0	13.4	0.44
★★★★★ HSBC Large & Mid Cap	27.3	4658	1.9	0.8	10.0	20.8	16.2	-	0.41

EQUITY - FLEXI CAP FUNDS

★★★★★ HDFC Flexi Cap	2067.0	96295	1.3	0.7	12.7	22.0	20.6	18.1	0.86
★★★★★ JM Flexicap	94.4	5152	1.8	0.6	-3.5	20.2	17.4	17.1	0.56
★★★★★ Parag Parikh Flexi Cap	85.8	133309	1.3	0.6	6.2	19.9	17.8	18.2	0.74
★★★★★ Edelweiss Flexi Cap	39.3	3127	1.9	0.4	10.1	19.2	16.0	15.8	0.53
★★★★★ Franklin Ind Flexi Cap	1637.4	19972	1.7	0.9	6.2	18.4	16.2	14.7	0.57
★★★★★ PGIM India Flexi Cap	36.1	6268	1.8	0.5	5.8	13.4	12.3	14.5	0.38
★★★★★ Union Flexi Cap	51.1	2402	2.0	0.9	7.4	15.5	13.9	14.0	0.46
★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Flexi Cap	1865.8	25098	1.7	0.9	13.0	18.4	14.8	15.3	0.48
★★★★★ Bandhan Flexi Cap	212.0	7708	1.9	1.1	8.9	16.3	13.7	12.1	0.45
★★★★★ Canara Robeco Flexi Cap	343.2	13760	1.7	0.6	8.8	15.6	13.2	15.1	0.46
★★★★★ DSP Flexi Cap	103.4	12328	1.7	0.7	6.5	17.4	13.8	15.3	0.43
★★★★★ HSBC Flexi Cap	218.0	5227	1.9	1.2	6.9	19.1	15.0	14.1	0.44
★★★★★ Kotak Flexicap	87.8	56460	1.4	0.6	14.2	17.6	14.3	15.2	0.48
★★★★★ SBI Flexicap	110.5	23685	1.7	0.8	4.9	13.5	11.9	13.4	0.43
★★★★★ Tata Flexi Cap	24.5	3699	1.9	0.6	7.9	17.2	12.8	-	0.44
★★★★★ Axis Flexi Cap	26.3	13026	1.7						

bl.rating	Scheme Name	Latest NAV (₹)	Latest Corpus (₹ Cr)	Expense Ratio (%)	Regular	Direct	1 Month *Ann	3 Month *Ann	6 Month *Ann	1 Year CAGR	AA & Below
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CASH FUNDS

LIQUID FUNDS

- 360 ONE Liquid	2078.9	1258	0.3	0.2	5.6	5.7	5.6	6.1	-	
- Aditya Birla SL Liquid	435.5	5461.5	0.4	0.2	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- Axis Liquid	3010.1	39028	0.2	0.1	5.9	5.9	5.8	6.4	-	
- Bandhan Liquid	3263.3	15367	0.2	0.1	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.3	-	
- Baroda BNP Paribas Liquid	3106.9	12278	0.3	0.1	5.9	5.8	5.8	6.3	-	
- BOI Liquid	3114.1	1843	0.1	0.1	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.4	-	
- Canara Robeco Liquid	3252.9	5794	0.2	0.1	5.7	5.7	5.8	6.4	-	
- DSP Liquidity	3859.3	16616	0.2	0.1	5.8	5.9	5.8	6.4	-	
- Edelweiss Liquid	3457.2	10125	0.2	0.1	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- Groww Liquid	2613.8	169	0.2	0.1	5.6	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- HDFC Liquid	5302.8	59966	0.3	0.2	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- HSBC Liquid	2694.5	15975	0.2	0.1	5.7	5.8	5.7	6.4	-	
- ICICI Pru Liquid	400.1	52165	0.3	0.2	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.3	-	
- Invesco India Liquid	3715.2	15884	0.2	0.2	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- ITI Liquid	1407.0	57	0.3	0.1	5.4	5.6	5.6	6.2	-	
- JM Liquid	73.7	2703	0.3	0.2	5.8	5.7	5.7	6.3	0.20	
- Kotak Liquid	5461.7	34938	0.3	0.2	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.3	-	
- LIC MF Liquid	4884.7	12352	0.2	0.1	5.9	5.8	5.7	6.3	-	
- Mahi Manu Liquid	1758.9	1159	0.3	0.2	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.3	-	
- Mirae Asset Liquid	2833.7	12122	0.2	0.1	5.5	5.8	5.8	6.3	-	
- Motilal Oswal Liquid	14.3	1105	0.4	0.2	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.9	-	
- Motilal Oswal Liquid	13.8	1105	-	0.2	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.1	-	
- Navi Liquid	29.3	68	0.2	0.2	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.9	6.60	
- Nippon Ind Liquid	6595.3	25994	0.3	0.2	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- Parag Parikh Liquid	1498.5	4068	0.2	0.1	5.9	5.7	5.7	6.1	-	
- PGM India Liquid	351.9	546	0.2	0.1	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- Quant Liquid	42.7	1261	0.5	0.2	5.6	5.6	5.5	6.1	-	
- Quantum Liquid	36.1	583	0.3	0.2	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.9	-	
- SBI Liquid	4223.2	5982	0.3	0.2	5.7	5.8	5.7	6.3	-	
- Sundaram Liquid	2382.3	6215	0.4	0.1	5.5	5.7	5.7	6.3	-	
- Tata Liquid	4256.9	21438	0.3	0.2	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- Union Liquid	2601.3	7389	0.2	0.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	6.4	-	
- UTI Liquid	4434.5	24939	0.3	0.2	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.4	-	
- WhiteOak Capital Liquid	1452.7	606	0.3	0.2	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.2	-	

ARBITRAGE FUNDS

- Aditya Birla SL Arbitrage	27.5	25396	1.0	0.3	6.8	6.5	5.8	6.4	-	
- Axis Arbitrage	19.4	8400	1.0	0.3	7.0	6.5	5.8	6.3	-	
- Bandhan Arbitrage	33.6	8968	1.1	0.4	6.3	6.1	5.5	6.1	-	
- Baroda BNP Paribas Arbitrage	16.6	1322	1.1	0.3	6.1	5.9	5.5	6.1	0.00	
- BOI Arbitrage	14.3	43	0.9	0.4	6.4	6.1	5.5	5.9	-	
- DSP Arbitrage	15.5	7002	1.0	0.4	6.7	6.3	5.7	6.1	-	
- Edelweiss Arbitrage	20.1	16270	1.1	0.4	6.7	6.3	5.8	6.2	-	
- HDFC Arbitrage	31.8	24031	0.9	0.4	7.1	6.7	6.0	6.3	-	
- HSBC Arbitrage	19.6	2350	0.9	0.3	6.2	6.3	5.8	6.1	-	
- ICICI Pru Equity-Arbitrage	35.5	32297	0.9	0.4	6.6	6.4	5.8	6.4	-	
- Invesco India Arbitrage	33.1	27400	1.1	0.4	7.0	6.7	6.0	6.4	0.40	
- ITI Arbitrage	13.4	51	0.9	0.2	6.5	6.3	5.9	6.3	-	
- JM Arbitrage	33.7	376	1.1	0.4	6.3	6.3	5.7	5.8	-	
- Kotak Arbitrage	38.8	72153	1.1	0.4	7.2	6.5	5.9	6.4	-	
- LIC MF Arbitrage	14.3	281	1.0	0.3	7.0	6.4	5.7	6.1	-	
- Mahi Manu Arbitrage	12.7	100	1.1	0.4	6.4	6.2	5.5	5.5	-	
- Mirae Asset Arbitrage	13.5	4154	0.9	0.2	7.4	6.5	5.9	6.1	-	
- Nippon Ind Arbitrage	27.5	16390	1.1	0.4	6.6	6.4	5.8	6.2	1.70	
- PGIM India Arbitrage	19.0	90	1.0	0.4	6.9	6.1	5.4	6.0	-	
- SBI Arbitrage Opport	35.0	41714	0.9	0.4	7.1	6.6	5.9	6.5	-	
- Sundaram Arbitrage	15.0	321	1.0	0.3	7.5	6.5	5.8	6.1	-	
- Tata Arbitrage	14.9	20013	1.1	0.3	6.5	6.6	5.8	6.4	-	
- Union Arbitrage	14.5	274	1.1	0.5	6.4	6.1	5.5	5.9	-	
- UTI Arbitrage	36.3	10957	0.8	0.3	6.8	6.6	6.0	6.5	-	

DEBT FUNDS

DEBT - ULTRA SHORT DURATION FUNDS

★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Savings	568.8	22857	0.6	0.3	7.1	7.4	7.4	6.3	11.23	
★★★★★ Baroda BNP Pari Ultra Short Dur	1596.5	797	0.5	0.3	6.7	7.1	7.1	6.1	1.89	
★★★★★ Nippon Ind Ultra Short Duration	4169.3	10488	1.1	0.4	6.6	6.9	6.9	6.7	29.38	
★★★★★ Bandhan Ultra Short Duration	15.8	3566	0.5	0.3	6.7	7.0	7.1	5.9	-	
★★★★★ ICICI Pari Ultra Short Term	28.7	1708	0.8	0.4	6.8	7.1	7.1	6.0	11.19	
★★★★★ Mirae Asset Ultra Short Duration	1355.7	1852	0.4	0.2	6.9	7.2	7.2	6.1	1.63	
★★★★★ UTI Ultra Short Duration	4381.9	3879	1.0	0.3	6.4	6.8	6.8	6.2	11.07	
★★★★★ Axis Ultra Short Duration	15.2	5894	1.2	0.4	6.3	6.7	6.7	5.5	11.02	
★★★★★ DSP Ultra Short	3151.5	3547	1.0	0.3	6.4	6.7	6.7	5.5	10.89	
★★★★★ HDFC Ultra Short Term	15.7	17353	0.7	0.4	6.6	7.0				

No big impact from US deal: Auto industry

CONCESSIONS. Nil duty on Harley Davidson bikes in 800-1600 cc range; levy on ICE vehicles above 3,000 cc to be cut to 30% in 10 yrs

S Ronendra Singh
New Delhi

India's auto industry will not be impacted much by the US-India trade deal, industry sources said on Saturday adding that Delhi has made commitments keeping in mind the interest of the growing sector.

According to government sources, under the deal, Harley Davidson motorcycles in the 800-1600 cc range will be allowed at zero duty from Day 1 of implementation of the Interim Trade Agreement, while on internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles with capacities exceeding 3,000 cc the duty will be reduced to 30 per cent, over a 10-year

period. Import duties are likely to be reduced to 50 per cent from the first year itself.

Other high-end motorbikes, too, will enjoy duty reductions, though not the elimination granted to the American motorcycle brand, the sources said.

"Zero duty for two-wheelers 800-1,600 cc and also the duty on diesel cars above 2,500 cc and petrol cars above 3,000 cc to be cut to 50 per cent and then to 30 per cent in 10 years, are both decisions which have been taken keeping in mind interest of India's automobile manufacturers," an industry veteran told businessline.

The Automotive Component Manufacturers As-



UPFRONT EASING. Import duties are likely to be reduced to 50 per cent from the first year itself SIVA SARAVANAN S

sociation of India (ACMA) also said that the Interim Trade Agreement framework reflects a shared commitment towards strengthening bilateral trade, manufacturing cooperation, and resilient supply chains between the two

economies. "For the Indian auto component industry, the commitment to preferential tariff rate quotas for automotive parts, removal of Section 232 tariffs on select inputs, and a pathway for further tariff rationalisa-

tion under the proposed bi-lateral trade agreement are indeed positive steps," said Vikrampati Singhania, President, ACMA.

AUTOMOTIVE PARTS

ACMA looks forward to constructive engagement with both governments to ensure that automotive components are fully integrated into the final agreement, with balanced market access and long-term policy certainty, he added.

"The India-US Interim Trade agreement is a calibrated shift from India's recent FTAs with the EU and the UK. Unlike those agreements aiming at broad tariff elimination, this framework blends selective duty removal on certain products

along with reducing the reciprocal tariffs to 18 per cent. This will enhance market access of Indian exporters while reinforcing rules of origin discipline," said Saurabh Agarwal, Tax Partner at EY.

For the auto sector, the preferential tariff rate quota provides much-needed certainty for auto parts exporters to unlock the market access to the US market, he added.

However, some of the analysts also said that the motorcycle deal won't impact much even for Harley Davidson motorcycles because India has been importing them from the company's factory in Thailand.

(With inputs from Amiti Sen)

India's data centre market to grow 7x with US trade deal

Vallari Sanzgiri
Mumbai

The India-US Interim Trade Agreement will facilitate a 7-fold increase in the data centre market, said industry stakeholders.

The two countries announced a framework under which India will purchase up to \$500 billion of US products over five years, that is expected to increase trade in technology products and GPUs used in data centres.

India has imported about 20,000-25,000 high-end GPUs worth around \$2 billion in the last two years. Already, the market is slated for a significant increase in these numbers, driven by market demand, AI use case maturity, tax holidays and various other tailwinds, said Sunil Gupta, Founder, Yotta Data Services.

Gupta added that the agreement coupled with the Budget's direction signal a move from transactional technology imports to deeper, deployment-level collaborations.

An allocation of just 8-10 per cent of the purchase amount to technology products can translate to \$40-50 billion over five years, much higher than India's data centre market valuation of \$8.94 billion in 2025, said Piyush Prakashchandra Somani, Managing Director and Chairman of ESDS Software.

Further, reduced import barriers could spur earlier projections of India's data centre GPU market reaching \$11 billion by 2033. India's share in the global market is currently around 5.5 per cent but could move to 10 per cent with the right policy support, translating to over \$12 billion by 2032.

Big thrust for American aerospace majors, India-based suppliers

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai

The India-US interim trade framework agreement will give US aerospace original equipment manufacturers and their supply chain partners in India a boost.

As per the interim trade framework announced on Saturday, India has declared its intent to purchase \$500 billion worth of US energy products, aircraft and aircraft parts, precious metals, technology products and coking coal over the next five years.

Over the past few years, Indian carriers Air India and Akasa Air have ordered over 400 Boeing aircraft. Last week, Air India topped up its order with an additional 30 Boeing 737 Max aircraft. The airline also entered into a multi-year agreement with Boeing for maintenance support of its Boeing 787 planes.

As a part of the trade deal, the US will also remove tariffs on certain aircraft and aircraft parts of India that were im-

posed to protect its aluminium and steel industry.

"In aerospace and defence, Boeing has long advocated a zero-for-zero tariff approach and this deal creates momentum to extend this principle. A tariff free framework would accelerate industrial growth, strengthen national security and deliver win-win opportunities for both countries," said Sailesh Gupte, Boeing's President for South India.

Over the past few years, Indian companies have become key suppliers for global OEMs providing not just precision parts and components but also complex items like aircraft doors.

"The interim trade framework announcement is a positive development for the aerospace manufacturing industry in India, potentially leading to improved cash flows and enhanced cost competitiveness for the supply chain," said Aravind Melliheri, Executive Chairman and CEO of Aeius Ltd.

I-T Dept looks to reduce the number of rules and forms

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The Income Tax Department on Saturday proposed reducing the number of rules by more than a third and eliminating more than half the forms under new Income Tax Act. The Act will be effective from April 1.

"The Income-tax Rules, 1962, contain 511 rules and 399 forms. As a result of the changes proposed...

draft Income-Tax Rules, 2026 contains 333 rules and 190 forms," a note on Draft Income-tax Rules and Forms, 2026, issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said.

Stakeholders can give their views in the next 15 days, after which subordinate laws will be framed.

BETTER SERVICES

The Board said that standardisation of common information has been done

Sparkle back for gems & diamond industry as US nixes reciprocal duty

Suresh P Iyengar
Mumbai

The US has offered to remove the reciprocal tariff on gems and diamonds upon the conclusion of the interim trade agreement with India, according to the joint statement. The decision, if implemented, will bring major relief to India's gems and jewellery sector as the US accounts for about 30 per cent of the industry's sales.

"Subject to the successful conclusion of the Interim Agreement, the US will remove the reciprocal tariff on a wide range of goods identified in the Potential Tariff Adjustments for Aligned Partners Annex to Executive Order 14346 of September 5, 2025 (Modifying the Scope of Reciprocal Tariffs and Establishing Procedures for Implementing Trade and



Security Agreements), as amended, including generic pharmaceuticals, gems and diamonds, and aircraft parts," said the statement.

India's gem and jewellery exports to the US contracted sharply in April-December 2025, declining 44 per cent year-on-year to \$3.86 billion against \$6.95 billion in the same period last year. Last December, exports to the US halved year-on-year due to stiff tariff.

According to government data, India's diamond exports to the US stood at \$5.93 billion in

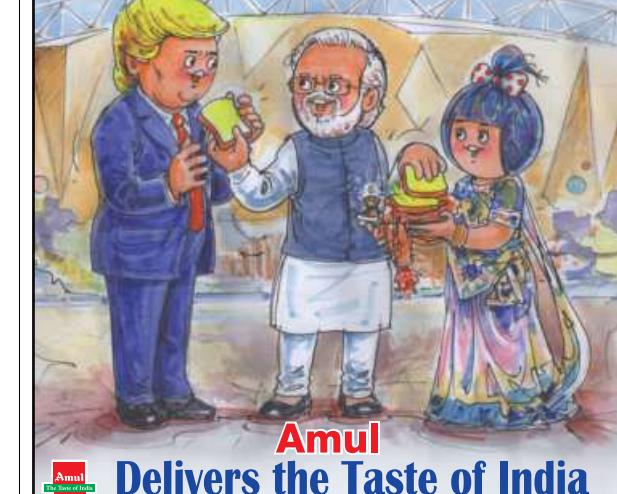
2023 and declined to \$4.88 billion in 2024. The slide accelerated in 2025, with exports falling to just \$2.42 billion as of last September.

Kirit Bhansali, Chairman, GJEPC, said the gem and jewellery industry is elated by the announcement of zero-duty access for diamonds and coloured gemstones to the US under the Interim Agreement framework.

Recognising this risk early, he said GJEPC began focussed engagement not only with the government but also with the stakeholders in the US and across the world.

Rajesh Rode, Chairman, All India Gem and Jewellery domestic Council (GJC), said with tariffs on gems and diamonds now reduced to zero, jewellery export business will increase by 25 per cent to 50 per cent.

Pact with a punch!



daanu/AB/1082

It will be India's decade in textile trade post tariff reset

TE Raja Simhan
Chennai

The US interim framework is a great moment for the textile industry, said A Sakthivel, Chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC). "This decade will undoubtedly usher in a golden era for the Indian textile and apparel sector," he added.

A similar sentiment was expressed by other industry officials. With an 18 per cent tariff, India will have a competitive edge over major exporting nations such as China (35 per cent), Vietnam (20 per cent), Bangladesh (20 per cent) and Indonesia (19 per cent).

The coming decade is poised to be India's in textile trade, as the country emerges as one of the most preferred sourcing destinations for global buyers, said Sakthivel.

The agreement creates immense opportunities across the entire textiles value chain and is expected to generate substantial employment, particularly for the women and MSMEs. Farmers will also benefit significantly, reinforcing inclusive and sustainable growth.

This highly positive development is a huge boost for India's aim of textiles and apparel exports worth \$100 billion by 2030," he added.

The CII Chairman said the industry body is awaiting more clarity on cotton. There is great complementarity between the US and India on cotton. India's exports of textiles and apparel are primarily driven by cotton, he added.

The removal of import duty on cotton of all varieties will reduce the divergence between domestic and global prices and help restore the competitiveness of India's spinning and textile industries. Such a step would also ensure that the minimum support price (MSP) and other farmer-support mechanisms can function as intended without creating significant downstream price distortions. During the current cotton season, the MSP of 'Kapasi' has increased by nearly 8 per cent, he said.

The main beneficiaries will be exporters of textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, plastic and rubber products, organic chemicals, home decor and artisanal products, and certain categories of machinery, said Global Trade Research Initiative.

EDGE ON COMPETITION
"The earlier 50 per cent US tariff on Indian goods was the biggest pain point for the Indian textile and apparel sector, which counts the United States as its single-biggest overseas market. With that gone, India's tex-

Qualcomm showcases 2nm chip, 'a milestone of India tech centres'

Our Bureau
Bengaluru

The Securities and Exchange Board of India on Friday said data governance, cybersecurity and standardised reporting will be central to maintaining stability as India's capital markets expand in size and complexity.

Speaking at the CDSL Re-imagine Symposium, SEBI Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said data infrastructure has become a critical component of market stability, alongside traditional market institutions.

Pandey added that over the past decade, India's capital markets have seen a sharp rise in participation and data generation, making the quality, security and governance of data increasingly important.

The regulator's efforts have been focussed on standardisation, de-duplication and wider access to market data.

These measures are aimed at improving interoperability, easing compliance and strengthening regulatory oversight, Pandey said.

Qualcomm's long-term in-

come Tax Act, which now stands revised to individual professionals with not less than 10 years experience and annual receipt in the year preceding certification to be more than ₹50 lakh and in case of Partners in any entity engaged in rendering accountancy or valuation services, the annual receipt of the entity in the year preceding certification, exceeds ₹3 crore," he said.

Qualcomm has announced the tape-out of its 2nm semiconductor design. "This milestone reflects over two decades of Qualcomm's commitment to India, investing in talent, building advanced engineering capabilities, and operating at a scale that enables us to support our stakeholders in their digital transformation journeys," said Savi Soin, President, Qualcomm India.

This achievement reflects the strength of Qualcomm's global engineering capabilities with engineering development centres in Bengaluru, Chennai, and Hyderabad, and Birla Institute of Technology (BIT), Greater Noida, Delhi. Nexus Gifting Solutions is the gift partner for the quiz and the quiz partner for the event is Nexus.

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Qualcomm's presence in India spans more than

20 years of investment, during which the company has built one of its largest engineering development capabilities outside the US.

Qualcomm's engineering teams in India contribute across design, implementation, validation, AI optimisation, system integration, support optimising architecture and platforms defined by Qualcomm's global teams, that power platforms and products used by billions of people worldwide.

Qualcomm's Bengaluru campus serves as a key engineering centre for development across next-generation wireless, AI, compute, and system-level technologies.

businessline.
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Zaman Khan of Q Company wins Kochi round of businessline Cerebration Corporate Quiz

Our Bureau
Kochi

Zaman S Khan, a professional with Aluva-based knowledge firm Q Company, emerged the winner of the Kochi regional round of the 22nd edition of The Hindu businessline Cerebration Corporate Quiz.

With this victory, Khan will represent Kochi at the Grand Finale scheduled to be held at the BSE, Mumbai, on February 21. Sr Tessa CSST, Director of St Teresa's College, Ernakulam, is also seen.

Khan scored an impressive 133 points, the highest score recorded so far among participants in the preliminary rounds conducted in other cities. Around 100 participants took part in the written preliminary test, which comprised 20 questions. The top six scorers qualified for the on-stage finale to compete for the regional title.

Quizmaster Venkatesh Srinivasan posed several en-



Sr Tessa CSST, Director of St Teresa's College, Ernakulam, awarding the prize to Zaman Khan, the winner of the Kochi round of Hindu businessline Cerebration Corporate Quiz. Venkatesh Srinivasan, Quizmaster, is also seen.

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The Cerebration Corporate Quiz 2026 is presented by Title Partner JK Tyre, powered by IndianOil Corporation LTD, in association with BSE. The associate partner for the event is Central Bank of India. The Regional Venue Partners include MOP Vaishnav College for Women, Chennai; Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad; St Teresa's College, Ernakulam; Kristu Jayanti Deemed to be University, Bengaluru; and Birla Institute of Management Technology (BIMTECH), Greater Noida, Delhi. Nexus Gifting Solutions is the gift partner and the quiz partner for the event is Nexus.

Mumbai's famed dabbawalas.

Some of the audience prizes were won by students of St Teresa's College, the oldest women's college in Kerala.

The prize money for the competition is substantial, with ₹75,000 for the first prize, ₹50,000 for the second, and ₹25,000 for the third.

The answer was

SEBI pushes for data governance, cyber resilience

Our Bureau
Bengaluru

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