

MARKET WATCH

	27-06-2017	% CHANGE
Sensex	30,958	-0.58
US Dollar	64.53	-0.02
Gold	29,160	0.21
Brent oil	47.01	3.11

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
ACC	1578.55	-58.15
Adani Ports	367.70	2.25
Ambuja Cements	240.75	-2.55
Asian Paints	1134.15	-19.50
Aurobindo Pharma	669.95	-2.30
Axis Bank	492.85	-11.80
Bajaj Auto	2779.30	-45.00
Bank of Baroda	154.85	-6.00
Bharti Airtel	371.45	5.25
Bosch	23247.50	-548.00
BPL	612.05	-18.70
Cipla	534.65	-6.50
Coal India	244.35	-0.55
Dr Reddys Lab	2653.10	9.40
Eicher Motors	26661.05	-505.65
GAIL (India)	359.70	5.55
HCL Tech	840.20	-11.65
HDFC	1651.05	-0.30
HDFC Bank	1667.65	-11.00
Hero MotoCorp	3695.20	35.10
Hindalco	187.75	-0.95
Indiabulls HFL	1092.10	-5.80
Indiabulls HFL	1080.00	-22.00
ICICI Bank	287.90	-3.95
IndusInd Bank	1490.15	-1.25
Bharti Infratel	373.30	1.15
Infosys	927.05	-16.20
Indian Oil Corp	390.40	7.00
ITC	312.35	1.35
Kotak Bank	974.75	-10.45
L&T	1701.70	-21.00
Lupin	1062.35	2.35
M&M	1370.30	-5.90
Maurit Suzuki	7183.35	-35.80
NTPC	157.90	0.05
ONGC	159.95	1.85
PowerGrid Corp	205.75	-0.25
Reliance Ind	1437.15	1.30
State Bank	279.65	-9.30
Sun Pharma	544.05	0.25
Tata Motors	442.30	-0.85
Tata Motors DVR	276.55	0.30
Tata Power	81.10	-0.40
Tata Steel	510.90	3.65
TCS	2342.85	-18.85
Tech Mahindra	380.10	-0.60
UltraTech Cement	3879.90	-121.10
Vedanta	237.15	0.30
Wipro	256.55	-0.30
YES Bank	1415.50	-19.90
Zee Entertainment	491.80	-17.95

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 27

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	64.33	64.65
Euro	72.49	72.85
British Pound	82.07	82.49
Japanese Yen (100)	57.52	57.82
Chinese Yuan	9.44	9.49
Swiss Franc	66.62	66.96
Singapore Dollar	46.40	46.64
Canadian Dollar	48.68	48.92
Malaysian Ringgit	15.00	15.08

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

June 27 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	41.40	(41.50)
22 ct gold (1g)	2,764	(2,783)

Bihar plans 3,000 MW nuclear plant

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

In its attempt to become power surplus and increase the share of renewable energy, the Bihar government has planned to set up a nuclear plant of around 3,000 MW capacity at Rajauli in Nawada district, a senior minister said.

"We have embarked on the growth path. We want to be self-reliant in the power sector. Apart from the other sources of energy, we have also planned to set up nearly 3,000 MW of nuclear capacity in Bihar," Industries Minister Jai Kumar Singh told PTI on the sidelines of the Bihar Investors' Roadshow.



Luring investors: The amendment of the law is aimed at ensuring assured returns to investors in the bidding process.

Centre may tweak airport tariff rules

Charges may be decided upfront

SOMESH JHA NEW DELHI

In a bid to make the upcoming greenfield airport projects attractive for global players, the Civil Aviation Ministry may amend its regulatory law to fix airport charges in advance, ensuring assured returns to investors at time of participating in the bidding process.

"We are examining how to amend the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) Act 2008 so that the aeronautical charges are determined upfront or disclosed in the bid document itself for upcoming greenfield airport projects," Civil Aviation Secretary R.N. Choubey told *The Hindu* in an interview.

"If aeronautical charges are captured in the bid document of the greenfield airport project itself, there would not be any need for fresh determination of such charges by the regulator (AERA)," Mr. Choubey said. He said the proposed law would not impact the regulatory regime at existing airports.

Airport tariff

In addition to land, service standards and airport design, the bidding document for greenfield airport projects will specify the airport tariff which will be indexed "appropriately" to factor in inflation, foreign exchange and interest rates.

AERA is a statutory body established in 2009 to determine tariff in respect of airport services provided at major airports across the country. The charges allow operators to get adequate rate of return on the investments incurred on developing and providing services at major airports.

The AERA revises tariff

every five years, known as a control period, considering the investment and expenditure incurred by the airport operator. "This leads to regulatory uncertainty and difficulty in inviting participation (from investors)," Mr. Choubey said.

'Welcome move'

"This is indeed a welcome move and will bring in certainty to the contract. Significant emphasis has to be given to the Scope of the Developer to avoid any scope creep and the bidding documents has to specifically spell out the outcomes for any cost or time overruns," said Jagannarayan Padmanabhan, Director - Transport and Logistics at CRISIL Infrastructure Advisory.

The AERA, while determining tariff, keeps into account capital expenditure, service provided, cost of improving efficiency, economic and viable operations of major airports, revenue received from services such as food and beverages, duty-free shops, advertising and car parking, among others.

"Every major airport would entail investments in the range of ₹2,000-₹10,000 crore. It becomes a problem when the investor, who is pumping huge money into the project, is uncertain about the view that regulator will take over 60 years of concession period," the Aviation Secretary said.

The move comes at a time when the Centre has given its in-principle approval to build a second airport for the National Capital Region (NCR) in Greater Noida's Jewar region in Uttar Pradesh expecting an investment of ₹15,000-₹20,000 crore. It has also begun work on developing three greenfield airports.

'India Inc. borrowed \$1 bn in May'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

Indian industry borrowed \$1.05 billion from foreign markets last month, including through rupee denominated bonds (RDBs).

In contrast, the borrowings were \$1.32 billion in May last year. However, the two sets of data are not comparable as the RDB route was not there until September. As per RBI data, of the total in May this year, external commercial borrowings (ECB) and RDBs contributed almost equally at \$523.95 million and \$525.76 million respectively.

But June onwards, it may be difficult for companies to float rupee bonds overseas as they will be subject to scrutiny from Reserve Bank's Foreign Exchange Department before every such issue.

The RDB route has become a popular source of fund raising.

'GST may make several household items cheaper'

Common man uses these goods, hence lower rate: Jaitley

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Goods and Services Tax will make several household commodities like soap cheaper, as well as keep small businesses with a turnover of less than ₹75 lakh out of the purview of the full-fledged indirect tax regime, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said on Tuesday.



Tax relief: Firms with a turnover of less than ₹20 lakh need pay no tax under GST. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

'Equivalence principle'

"The equivalence principle followed in setting the rates in GST was based on what the rate on a good or service was prior to June 30 combining the centre's excise duty and the states' VAT," Mr. Jaitley said while speaking at a GST conference organised by the ABP Group. "Household items like soap, which were earlier taxed at 31% combining central and state taxes, will now be in the 18%

bracket."

"The socio-economic nature of the country is changing, and also goods such as these are used by the common man, and so it was decided to tax them at this rate," the Finance Minister added. "However, keeping revenue neutrality in mind, the Government cannot lower tax revenue by too much so that it doesn't itself

have enough income to meet its needed expenditure."

Mr. Jaitley said that companies with a turnover of less than ₹20 lakh need pay no tax under GST, while those earning less than ₹75 lakh would fall under the composition scheme that allows them to file quarterly returns at lower tax rates as opposed to the monthly filing requirement of GST.



Chairman Sandilya receives award for Eicher Motors. • SHANKER CHAKRAVARTY

'Low R&D investment unfortunate'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

President Pranab Mukherjee on Tuesday said it was "unfortunate" that India Inc., had not invested in a significant manner in research and innovation despite major economic development. "Many of them are doing it now, but better late than never," he said. He would like to see the private sector play a major role in supporting the education sector.

'Men preferred over women in hiring'

55% felt that men are favoured when two candidates equally qualified: Survey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Gender diversity may be a politically correct proposition, but when it comes to corporate hiring, the reality is men are preferred to women even if the two are equally qualified.



Gender equality: 91% of respondents believed both genders were rewarded equally at their workplace. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

Ranstad Workmonitor

This is one of the findings by a Ranstad Workmonitor survey, where 55% of overall respondents from India indicated that men are favoured over women when two candidates are equally qualified for the same set of responsibilities. Giving a

break-up, 61% males and 47% females held this view. Globally, it stood at 70%.

But there is a silver lining. Interestingly, despite numerous reports on gender pay

gap, a whopping 91% of respondents from India believed that both men and women in similar roles were rewarded equally at their workplace, much higher

than the global average of 79% who thought so.

Besides, 88% felt that both men and women were equally supported while seeking a promotion. "Gender diversity may be high on the agenda for India today, but what I believe is diversity is not just a goal or a guideline, it is a business imperative. All the corporate and government initiatives are just a start, the real change can happen only when we succeed in addressing the deep-rooted mindsets about the role of women at work," said Paul Dupuis, CEO, Randstad India.

GST software testing done, says GSTN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

GST Network, providing technology backbone for the new tax regime, said it has completed all software trials and testings necessary to successfully rollout GST from July 1. Over 66 lakh taxpayers have enrolled on the GSTN portal, chairman Navin Kumar said. "GST IT system has undergone all mandatory tests and has been opened for new registrations and enrolments on June 25. We would like to assure everyone that the system is functioning smoothly," he said.

'Centre can check States' loan waivers'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The government's mandate and responsibility to control the States' fiscal deficit means that it has the power to control their finances even at a time of large-scale loan waivers by a number of states, 14th Finance Commission Secretary A.N. Jha said on Tuesday.

Mr. Jha was speaking at the unveiling of former RBI Governor Y.V. Reddy's book, at which Mr. Reddy said that giving the States more fiscal powers actually brought a greater element of control. "By giving more powers to the States, you are actually with more powers," Mr. Reddy said.

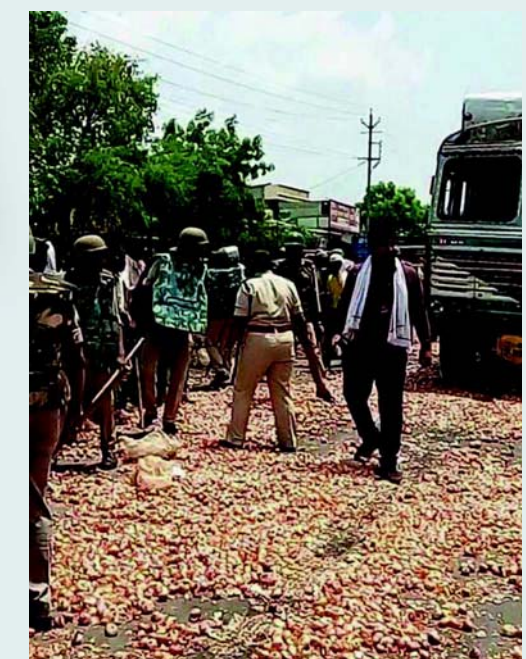
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FRONTLINE

FARMERS' REVOLT

They are hit hard by a double whammy - the Modi government's demonetisation drive, which has resulted in the collapse of farm produce prices, and its unkept promise to fix minimum support prices.

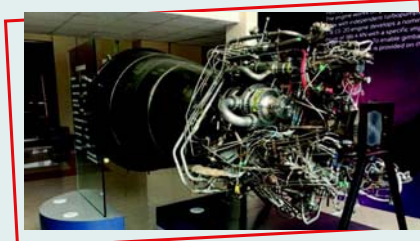
FARMS ON FIRE.



The government's grand third anniversary celebrations were rudely interrupted by farmers in BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. We analyse the situation in the current edition of Frontline.



UNITED KINGDOM: MESSAGE FROM UK ELECTION



ISRO: GSLV MARK III SUCCESS



GAGGING THE MEDIA

Google's antitrust fine in Europe: The denouement of a David versus Goliath

Founders of a barely few years old price comparison site fired first salvo in 2009

SRIRAM SRINIVASAN CHENNAI

In 2009, barely a few years after they had started a price comparison site called Foundem, Shivaun and Adam Raff moved the European Commission with a complaint against Google. Their plaint was that the Internet search giant had favoured its own shopping service in search results, burying that of its rivals.

On Tuesday, almost eight years after the Raffs' complaint, the Commission decided to slap a record fine of about \$2.7 billion, concluding, as it put in a release, that "Google has abused its market dominance as a search engine by giving an illegal advantage to another Google product, its comparison shopping service."

The case had seemed poised for an amicable settlement in early 2014, when Google agreed to display the links of rivals alongside its own. Joaquin Almunia, the then competition commissioner, noted in a release that "Google has finally accepted to guarantee that



Battle joined: Competition commissioner Margrethe Vestager changed tack and pursued the case vigorously. • AFP

whenever it promotes its own specialised search services on the page, the services of rivals will also be displayed in a comparable way." This was not before indicating that he was for settling this issue through ensuring binding commitments rather than an adversarial path.

Mr. Almunia couldn't get this deal ratified and before long, his term came to an end. Public opinion in

Europe around this time, media reports note, turned against Google, in the backdrop of, among other things, Edward Snowden's revelations that the National Security Agency in the U.S. had tapped the German chancellor's phone.

Also, by this time, the number of official complaints against Google had increased to 19, as a 2015 Reuters report noted. The list

of complainants included Microsoft, consumer review site Yelp, and travel site Expedia.

Within six months of taking over, Margrethe Vestager sent Google a Statement of Objections, a formal step in antitrust investigations. This was a reversal of the path taken by her predecessor Mr. Almunia. Tuesday's decision marks a culmination of that process.

More cases

Two more cases against Google are still being investigated. One is related to Android. A release noted that "the Commission is concerned that Google has stifled choice and innovation in a range of mobile apps and services by pursuing an overall strategy on mobile devices to protect and expand its dominant position in general internet search." The second is AdSense, "where the Commission is concerned that Google has reduced choice by preventing third-party websites from sourcing search ads from Google's competitors."

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