Business News Apdate

11.02.2025

"Never get UPSET, Always get "UP" & "SET" yourself."

Market Update

Nifty 50	23381.6
BSE Sensex	77318.8
Nifty 500	21646.15
Nifty MidCap 100	52471.05
BSE MidCap	10583.23

Amara Raja Energy and Mobility reports 10% increase in YoY revenue

Amara Raja Energy & Mobility Limited (ARE&M) has reported profit before tax of Rs 422 crore for Q3 of FY25. The Earnings Per Share (EPS) for Q3 of FY25 is at Rs 17.04. Revenue from Operations increased 10 percent on Y-o-Y basis to Rs 3,164.02 crore in Q3 FY25. Operating margins for the quarter are adversely impacted due to Fuel and Power Purchase Cost Adjustment (FPPCA) recovery approved by Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission. The FPPCA charges, which accounts for fluctuations in fuel and power procurement costs by distribution companies, have resulted in higher electricity expenses, thereby increasing operational costs for the company. The company also reported a healthy growth in its 9-month revenues recording a rise of 11.4% over the corresponding period last year. The PBT (before exceptional items) rose by 6.4% from Rs 905.69 Cr to Rs 963.72 Cr. The strong growth in revenues was aided by healthy volumes registered in automotive after-market, UPS and in exports.

Source: Financial Express, February 10, 2025

Fiscal and monetary measures to boost consumption, pyt investment, says FM Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said fiscal and monetary measures announced recently will help boost consumption and promote private investment. The Budget presented by the Finance Minister on February 1 proposed a slew of measures including significant income tax cuts for the middle class. Individuals earning up to Rs 12.75 lakh in a year will not have to pay any taxes, benefiting 1 crore taxpayers. On the monetary side, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday cut policy rate by 25 basis points, the first rate cut in five years to support growth. "After the Budget, the few inputs I've had from some business leaders is that the orders for fast-moving consumer goods for April-June are already getting booked, and the industry is clearly seeing signs of a possible recovery of consumption," she said at a media interaction after addressing the Board of the RBI in the customary post-budget meeting

Source: Indian Express, February 9, 2025

Global commitments hold back RBI from scheduling mid-month MPC meetings

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said that he considered making this shift in the monetary policy calendar after taking charge in December, but the RBI's commitments did not allow the space to make such a change. "We gave it a thought. This is the same question I asked when I joined the RBI — can we do it more in the middle of the month rather than do it little early in the month because one gets more data. There are reasons because there are other meetings, which happen during the middle of the month, because of which we can't do it in the middle of the month" Some of the commitments of the RBI include international meetings such as those with the World Bank and the IMF, he said. "Because of that we are unable to shift it in the middle (of the month). So, enough thought has gone into it and that's why they have decided that they would be doing these meetings early in the month rather than later in the month. So that's where it stands today," Malhotra said.

Source: <u>Indian Express, February 10, 2025</u>

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Focus: How Canada's Shopify is weaving AI 'magic' to pull in merchants

Feb 10 (Reuters) - Heather Perry made a bold bet before last year's holiday rush: switch all e-commerce operations of her family-owned roastery, Klatch Coffee, to Shopify. The 42-year-old small business CEO from Southern California was drawn to the Canadian company's artificial intelligence-based services that automate routine tasks such as generating discounts and product descriptions, its improved customization tools and a broader suite of apps. "Running the business from scratch during the holiday season? I can't even imagine," Perry, who migrated to Shopify (SHOP.TO), opens new tab in July, told Reuters. "Shopify allows us to make really quick changes. Honestly, I can't imagine doing it manually." She declined to name the platform she was on before making the shift.

Source: Reuters, February 10, 2025

DeepSeek's AI model is 'the best work' out of China but the hype is 'exaggerated,' Google DeepMind CEO says

PARIS — DeepSeek's AI model "is probably the best work" out of China, Demis Hassabis, the CEO of Google DeepMind said on Sunday, but added that the company didn't show any new scientific advances. Last month, China's DeepSeek released a research paper that rattled global markets after claiming its AI model was trained at a fraction of the cost of leading AI players and on less-advanced Nvidia chips. DeepSeek's announcement sparked an aggressive stock sell-off and sparked considerable debate over whether large tech firms are spending too much on AI infrastructure. Hassabis praised DeepSeek's model as "an impressive piece of work." The DeepMind CEO said the AI model shows that DeepSeek can do "extremely good engineering" and that it "changes things on a geopolitical scale." However, from a technology point of view, Hassabis said it was not a big change. "Despite the hype, there's no actual new scientific advance ... it's using known techniques [in AI]," he said, adding that the hype around DeepSeek has been "exaggerated a little bit."

Source: CNBC, February 10, 2025

Google opens its most powerful AI models to everyone, the next stage in its virtual agent push

Google on Wednesday released Gemini 2.0 — its "most capable" artificial intelligence model suite yet — to everyone. In December, the company gave access to developers and trusted testers, as well as wrapping some features into Google products, but this is a "general release," according to Google. The suite of models includes 2.0 Flash, which is billed as a "workhorse model, optimal for high-volume, high-frequency tasks at scale," as well as 2.0 Pro Experimental for coding performance, and 2.0 Flash-Lite, which the company calls its "most cost-efficient model yet." Gemini Flash costs developers 10 cents per million tokens for text, image and video inputs, while Flash-Lite, its more cost-effective version, costs 0.75 of a cent for the same. Tokens refer to each individual unit of data that the model processes. The continued releases are part of a broader strategy for Google of investing heavily into AI agents as the AI arms race heats up among tech giants and startups alike. OpenAI and Anthropic are also moving toward agentic AI, or models that can complete complex multistep tasks on a user's behalf, rather than a user having to walk them through every individual step.

Source: CNBC, February 7, 2025

Smartworld Developers awards Rs 532 cr contract to Varindera Constructions

Real estate company Smartworld Developers has awarded Rs 532 crore contract to Varindera Constructions for its upcoming project in Gurugram. In a statement on Monday, the company said it has awarded contracts worth about Rs 1,400 crore for its various projects in just six months. "For its upcoming iconic project, Smartworld Sky Arc, the company has awarded the construction mandate to Varindera Constructions Limited for Rs 532 crore. "The project spans 6.9 acres and includes over 900 units in its first phase. Smartworld's total investment in the development of Sky Arc is approximately Rs 1,700 crore," it said. Varindera Construction has a good track record in the construction sector, Vivek Singhal, CEO of Smartworld Developers, said. Incorporated in 2021, Smartworld Developers, which is part of M3m India Group, is developing many projects in Gurugram. It aims to deliver possession of about 50 lakh square feet in the next few months.

Source: Business Standard, February 10, 2025

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