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# Business News Update

13.03.2025

# "In The Middle Of Difficulty Lies Opportunity."

**Market Update** 

Nifty 50	22,470.5
BSE Sensex	74,029.76
Nifty 500	20,264.35
Nifty MidCap 50	13,743.65
BSE MidCap	39,364.59

### India's economic growth to exceed 6.5% in FY26, says Moody's Ratings

Moody's Ratings on Wednesday said India's economic growth will exceed 6.5 per cent in the next fiscal, up from 6.3 per cent this year, on higher government capex and consumption boost from tax cuts and interest rate reduction. Projecting a stable outlook for the banking sector, Moody's said although the operating environment of Indian banks will remain favourable in the next fiscal, their asset quality will deteriorate moderately after substantial improvements in recent years, with some stress in unsecured retail loans, microfinance loans and small business loans. Banks' profitability will remain adequate as declines in net interest margins (NIMs) are likely to be marginal amid modest rate cuts, it said. Moody's said that following a temporary slowdown in mid-2024, India's economic growth is expected to reaccelerate and record one of the fastest rates among large economies globally. "Government capital expenditure, tax cuts for middle-class income groups to boost consumption and monetary easing will help India's real GDP growth exceed 6.5 per cent for fiscal 2025-26 from 6.3 per cent in fiscal 2024-

Source: Business Standard, March 12, 2025

#### After Airtel, Jio inks pact with SpaceX for Starlink internet in India

Mukesh Ambani-led Jio Platforms Limited said on Wednesday it signed a deal with SpaceX to bring Starlink's internet services to India, a day after rival Bharti Airtel inked a similar pact. "This agreement, which is subject to SpaceX receiving its own authorisations to sell Starlink in India, enables Jio and SpaceX to explore how Starlink can extend Jio's offerings and how Jio can complement SpaceX's direct offerings to consumers and businesses," the company said in a statement. Jio Platforms Limited plans to offer Starlink solutions through its retail stores and online platforms. Under this partnership, Jio's extensive presence as the world's largest mobile operator by data traffic and Starlink's leadership in low Earth orbit satellite technology will be utilized to provide reliable broadband connectivity across India, including its most remote and rural areas. "Jio will not only offer Starlink equipment in its retail outlets but will establish a mechanism to support customer service installation and

Source: Business Standard, March 12, 2025

## Emaar India CHRO Madhuri Mehta on building a rewarding workplace culture

The real estate sector comes with its own set of unique challenges for employees—ranging from high-pressure sales targets and tight project deadlines to frequent travel that disrupts work-life balance. Market fluctuations and limited career growth opportunities add to the stress, fueling concerns about job security and driving high turnover rates. Moreover, a growing skill gap demands both technical upskilling and stronger soft skills. Compliance with evolving regulations further burdens employees, while compensation structures heavily reliant on variable pay create income instability. On-site safety concerns and rigid hierarchical structures also take a toll on employee satisfaction, making effective HR practices and a focus on well-being not just beneficial but essential. While these challenges are well-known, there are also internal obstacles that only industry insiders truly understand. Addressing these requires a 360-degree approach—identifying the root causes and developing practical strategies to minimise or eliminate these pain points. In an exclusive conversation with People Matters, Madhuri Mehta,

Source: People Matters, March 11, 2025

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13.03.2025

### Rebel Foods to boost Wendy's India presence with ₹150 crore investment

Rebel Foods will invest ₹100-150 crore to help Wendy's, the American burger chain, expand its footprint in India to 500 locations by 2028. The Wendy's Company plans to add 300 new delivery-only kitchens and standalone outlets in India through its local partner, Rebel Foods. The move follows the burger chain's recently announced plans to add 1,000 new restaurants globally by 2028. Currently, Wendy's operates in 200 locations in India; of these, 185 are cloud kitchens, while another 15 are offline stores. Going forward, the expansion will be skewed towards delivery-only kitchens. Rebel Foods, primarily a cloud kitchen operator, currently runs over 450 cloud kitchens in 75 cities across India, the Middle East, North Africa, Indonesia, and the UK. Their portfolio includes popular food brands like Behrouz Biryani, Ovenstory Pizza, Mandarin Oak, The Good Bowl, and Slay Coffee. "In 2.5-3 years, Rebel will grow to around 700 cloud kitchen locations; at least 70% of them will have a Wendy's kitchen," Ankush Grover, co-founder and CEO, India, Rebel Foods told Mint. "By 2028 we are targeting at least

Source: Livemint, March 12, 2025

# Global markets today: What's behind the US stock market's 2-day slide? EXPLAINED with 5 key factors

The US stock market suffered losses for the second consecutive session on Tuesday, even though the magnitude of losses was less severe compared to what Wall Street witnessed on Monday. Concerns over the impact of the tariff war and fears of a looming recession kept investors on edge. The S&P 500 dropped 0.76 percent, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq slipped 0.18 percent. The market is trying to factor in the impact of US President Donald Trump's aggressive tariff policies against the country's trade partners. However, uncertainty remains high, with investors fearing a deeper economic fallout from a global trade war. "It is a drop, which is driven by multiple factors, including trade policy uncertainties and fears of a potential recession. However, the primary concern has been the ongoing back-and-forth tariff announcements, which have unsettled investors and further dampened market sentiment," said Trivesh D., COO of Tradejini.

Source: Livemint, March 12, 2025

# Ailing Swedish EV battery firm Northvolt files for bankruptcy

Struggling electric vehicle battery manufacturer Northvolt on Wednesday said it has filed for bankruptcy in Sweden. The firm said it that it submitted the insolvency filing after an "exhaustive effort to explore all available means to secure a viable financial and operational future for the company." "Like many companies in the battery sector, Northvolt has experienced a series of compounding challenges in recent months that eroded its financial position, including rising capital costs, geopolitical instability, subsequent supply chain disruptions, and shifts in market demand," Northvolt noted. "Further to this backdrop, the company has faced significant internal challenges in its ramp-up of production, both in ways that were expected by engagement in what is a highly complex industry, and others which were unforeseen." Northvolt's collapse into insolvency deals a major blow to Europe's ambition to become self-sufficient and build out its own EV battery supply chain to catch up to China, which leads as the world's largest market for electric vehicles by a wide margin. The Swedish battery firm had been seeking financial

Source: CNBC, March 12, 2025

#### UK seeks trade deal as Trump metal tariffs take effect

The UK is pushing for a trade deal with the US as tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump on imports of steel and aluminium take effect. The import tax introduction sparked an immediate response from the European Union on Wednesday which said it will impose counter tariffs on billions of euros of US goods. The UK did not announce any tariffs in response as it works towards "a wider economic agreement", but the Conservatives said Labour has "no plan". Trump hopes the tariffs will boost US steel and aluminium production, but critics say it will raise prices for US consumers and dent economic growth, and US markets sunk on Monday and Tuesday in response to recession fears. The tariffs mean US businesses wanting to bring steel and aluminium into the country will have to pay a 25% tax on them. These costs will probably be passed on to US consumers. The EU announced retaliatory tariffs on Wednesday in response on goods worth €26bn (£22bn). They will be partially introduced on

Source: BBC, March 12, 2025

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