

Business News Update

21.02.2025

“Challenges are What Make Life Interesting, and Overcoming Them is What Makes Life Meaningful.”

Market Update

Nifty 50	22913.15
BSE Sensex	75735.96
Nifty 500	20831.1
Nifty MidCap 50	14323.03
BSE MidCap	40854.88

Nomura forecasts a modest 4% upmove in Nifty 50 by year-end

After a 16 percent correction from its September 2024 peak in dollar terms, global brokerage Nomura projects the Nifty 50 to reach 23,784 by the end of 2025. As for the trend through the year, Nomura anticipates the Nifty to trade in a range of 21,800-25,700, implying the possibility of another 5 percent downside on the lower end and a 12 percent upmove on the upper end of the spectrum. These projections are based on valuing the Nifty 50 at 17 to 20 times its estimated forward earnings for December 2026. Meanwhile, Nomura attributed the market correction over the past six months—particularly the 23 percent drop in small caps and 21 percent decline in midcaps—to market fatigue following a strong rally that had set high expectations. To that effect, Nomura cautioned investors to avoid richly-valued stocks and rather be highly selective with their stock selection.

Source: [Money Control, February 20, 2025](#)

Stock market today: Nifty 50, Sensex fall for 3rd straight day weighed down by losses in banks, IT stocks

Indian markets closed in the red once again, as selling pressure in financial and IT stocks dragged the frontline indices lower, offsetting gains in metal and real estate stocks. It was the third straight decline for the market, but the losses were limited. The Nifty 50 ended the session with a minor cut of 0.08%, closing at 22,913, while the Sensex finished at 75,736, down 0.26% compared to Wednesday's closing price. The broader market continued to maintain strength over the last few sessions after stocks had been battered for an extended period. The Nifty Midcap 100 index wrapped up the session with a gain of 1.30%, closing at 51,163 points, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 index recorded an even higher gain of 1.43%, settling at 15,747 points. 27 constituents of the Nifty 50 index ended in the green, with Shriram Finance leading the gains, rallying 4.1%, followed by NTPC, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharat Electronics and Trent, posting gains between 2.2% and 3.3%. On the flip side, HDFC Bank,

Source: [Livemint, February 20, 2025](#)

PSU stock bags ₹1,220 crore order from Ministry of Defence, gains 3%

Public sector undertaking (PSU) defence company Bharat Electronics (BEL) bagged a ₹1,220 crore order from the Ministry of Defence on Thursday, February 20, following which the stock edged higher. The Ministry of Defence inked a contract worth ₹1220.12 crore with Bharat Electronics for the procurement of 149 Software Defined Radios for the Indian Coast Guard. As per the press release, the Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with M/s Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru on February 20, 2025, for the procurement of 149 Software Defined Radios for the Indian Coast Guard at a total cost of ₹1220.12 crore under Buy (Indian-IDDMM) category. These state-of-the-art radios will provide secure and dependable information exchange, collaboration, and situational awareness through high-speed data and secure voice transmission.

Source: [Livemint, February 20, 2025](#)

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Oracle's Yvette Cameron on AI's evolution in HR Tech

For Yvette Cameron, Senior Vice President, Global HCM Product Strategy, Oracle Corporation, it's been a fascinating evolution over the last two and a half years, particularly since ChatGPT entered the market in November 2022. "Suddenly, everyone became a prompt engineer, using AI for everything from writing vacation plans to brainstorming content." "Enterprises were quick to realise the potential of Gen AI in driving efficiency and transforming the way they work," Yvette says. She adds that Oracle moved swiftly because we not only develop applications but also the technology that powers them. "Less than a year after ChatGPT launched, we introduced generative AI capabilities, including an AI assistant for Human Capital Management (HCM)." The first iteration of these AI capabilities focused on language-based enhancements, such as content generation and summarisation. Oracle introduced nine use cases in HCM, including job description creation and goal setting. 'The

Source: [Peoples Matters, February 20, 2025](#)

How DEI became a liability - A timeline of highs, lows, and its turbulent journey

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives have not emerged overnight. They have been shaped through decades of gradual evolution, transforming from niche workplace policies to core business imperatives. While DEI has received significant attention in the last decade, the profession dates back to the mid-1960s, when equal employment laws and affirmative action were introduced. These legal frameworks compelled companies to address workplace discrimination, leading to the early iterations of diversity training programs. For years, these programs struggled to create meaningful improvements. Many companies implemented DEI through checklist-style training sessions, often resulting in superficial compliance rather than genuine cultural change. However, as executive attitudes evolved, DEI was increasingly seen as a strategic business function rather than a mere HR formality. The emergence of Chief Diversity Officers, investments in diversity consulting services, and data-driven DEI initiatives signaled a more robust commitment to workplace inclusivity.

Source: [People Matters, February 20, 2025](#)

Nissan weighing production shift to mitigate tariffs

Building more vehicles in Japan and fewer in Mexico is just one strategy being considered by Nissan Motor Corp. to mitigate higher duties on products entering the U.S., president and CEO Makoto Uchida said on an earnings call with analysts on Feb. 13. However, Uchida's comments preceded remarks made by President Donald Trump on Feb. 14 who indicated a new tariff on automotive imports was coming in early April. Trump said during a press conference on Tuesday that tariffs on automotive imports as well as on semiconductors and pharmaceuticals would be around 25%. Prior to Trump's latest threat on automotive imports, global automakers including Nissan have been considering strategies to mitigate the previously announced tariffs. This includes a 25% duty on products entering the U.S. from Mexico and Canada, which has been delayed until March. Uchida said Nissan could move some vehicle production out of Mexico and back to Japan to lessen the impact of the blanket 25% tariff on imports from Mexico, but even that would provide little relief and would represent a "huge impact to profit." Now that a merger with Honda Motor Co. will not happen, Nissan has refocused on cost reduction strategies to improve

Source: [SupplychainDive, February 19, 2025](#)

Unilever's ice cream supply chain looks to solve last mile hurdles

Unilever wants to leave no stone unturned when it comes to implementing artificial intelligence throughout its ice cream supply chain, executive Sandeep Desai said during a panel at Manifest 2025 last week. The CPG giant currently uses AI to analyze weather data to develop more accurate volume forecasts and limit waste, as ice cream demand is influenced by temperature, according to a January news release. It also leverages AI in its freezer cabinets for real-time inventory updates and in its factories for more efficient production. "We're trying to integrate it end to end, so all the way from suppliers to the consumer," said Desai, EVP and chief product supply chain officer for the company's ice cream business. But emerging technologies haven't solved every supply chain challenge for the ice cream supply chain. One area the company is still trying to improve its visibility is in the final mile of delivery, typically from a customer's distribution center to a freezer, according to Desai. He said the

Source: [SupplychainDive, February 19, 2025](#)