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Business News Update

25.03.2025

“Every day is a new chance to do something good.”

Market Update

Nifty 50	**23658.10**
BSE Sensex	**77984.38**
Nifty 100	**24214.20**
Nifty MidCap 100	**48440.1**
BSE MidCap	**39306.68**

Adani Energy bags Rs 2.8K crore transmission project in Gujarat

Adani Energy Solutions (AESL), part of Adani Group, on Friday said it has won a power transmission project in Gujarat. AESL won the project under the tariff-based competitive bidding (TBCB) mechanism and PFC Consulting was the bid process coordinator. The project SPV was formally transferred to AESL on March 20, 2025. The company’s transmission Ebitda is likely to double to Rs 7,600 crore by FY27E, driven by India’s renewable energy (RE) target, Elara Capital said recently. In distribution, Mundra SEZ demand is set to surge from 50MW to 5GW, pushing regulated asset base (RAB) to Rs 1,500-2,000 crore, while Mumbai operations would get an annual capex of Rs 1,200 crore to Rs 1,500 crore, which would increase regulated equity to Rs 6,000 crore by FY27. Recently, L&T Electrolyser dispatched an indigenously manufactured High-Pressure Alkaline Electrolyser for installation at the upcoming 1 MW green hydrogen plant at Deendayal Port, Kandla.

Source: Financial Express, March 24, 2025

Goli pop soda goes international

The traditional Indian soda with a glass-ball lid, once a nostalgic staple in local stores, is now making a comeback in international markets. Backed by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Goli Pop Soda has gained traction globally, with successful trial shipments to the USA, UK, Europe, and Gulf countries. “A strategic partnership with Fair Exports India has ensured steady deliveries to Lulu Hypermarket, one of the largest retail chains in the Gulf region. Thousands of bottles have been stocked across Lulu outlets, receiving an overwhelmingly positive response,” a statement by the ministry of commerce and industry said. In the UK, Goli Pop Soda has become a cultural sensation, appealing to consumers who embrace traditional Indian flavours with a modern twist. “This development represents a significant step in showcasing India’s rich beverage heritage on the global stage,” the statement added.

Source: Financial Express, March 24, 2025

Trump tariff could aid India electronics exports, says Nomura – Here’s what can work in our favour

With the Donald Trump-led US government pushing for reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods, citing unfair trade practices, an analysis report by Nomura stated that it could aid India’s electronics exports. India has been gradually bringing down import duties across segments over the past few years. In the Union Budget 2025-26, India rationalised import duties on several critical mobile phone components and parts used in manufacturing television panels. Nomura maintained that if India, in response to Trump’s tariff threat, decides to lower import duties to even zero, there will be limited scope of smartphone assembly shifting to the US. On the other hand, India could be at a comparative advantage and there could be a sustained ramp-up of smartphone exports from India. This, it added, will be contingent on whether tariffs are maintained over a period, as supply chain shifting takes time. Per media reports, the Indian government is considering various strategies, including a bilateral trade deal with potential zero duties to address the threat from the US.

Source: Financial Express, March 24, 2025

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Donald Trump's threat of 'secondary tariffs' creates new trade weapon

President Donald Trump appeared to invent a new weapon of economic statecraft on Monday by threatening what he dubbed "secondary tariffs" on countries that buy oil from Venezuela to choke off its oil trade with other nations. The threat, delivered via Truth Social post then confirmed in an executive order, said countries could face 25 per cent tariffs on trade with the US if they purchase oil and gas from Venezuela, which is already under heavy US sanctions. The move was meant to pressure Venezuela for the "tens of thousands of high level, and other, criminals" that Trump said Venezuela has sent to the US. The novel approach adds to a growing list of weapons that Trump has been eager to deploy as part of a push to use America's economic clout as leverage in achieving its foreign and domestic policy goals. The idea seems certain to increase tensions with the Latin American nation over immigration and foreign policy.

Source: Business Standard March 25 , 2025

Donald Trump announces Hyundai's $5.8 billion US Steel investment

US President Donald Trump, alongside the Governor of Louisiana, announced on Monday that Hyundai will be investing $5.8 billion in American manufacturing, including the construction of a steel plant in Louisiana that will produce over 2.7 million metric tons of steel annually and create more than 1,400 jobs, in an official White House briefing earlier today. "Today we're delighted to report that Hyundai is announcing a major $5.8 billion investment in American manufacturing," Trump stated. "In particular, Hyundai will be building a brand-new steel plant in Louisiana which will produce more than 2.7 million metric tons of steel a year, creating more than 1,400 jobs for American steel workers, and then there'll be major expansion after that." Trump credited his administration's tariff policies for driving such investments. "This investment is a clear demonstration that tariffs very strongly work," he said. "Hyundai will be producing steel in America and making its cars in America, and as a result, they'll not have to pay any tariffs."

Source: Business Standard, March 24, 2025

Trump may grant tariff breaks to "a lot of countries"

US President Donald Trump said that he may give a "lot of countries" breaks on tariffs and that he plans to announce more tariffs on automobiles in the next few days. Speaking to reporters at the White House, Trump clarified that not all tariffs would be announced on April 2 and mentioned he might grant breaks to "a lot of countries," though he did not provide specifics. A White House official declined to confirm to Reuters when sector-specific tariffs on autos, pharmaceuticals, or semiconductor chips would take effect, stating that the timing remains "TBD (to be determined) and at the president's discretion." However, the official warned against assuming a reprieve, emphasizing that "the president is determined to implement reciprocal tariffs that are very strong. People should expect that." Meanwhile, Trump reaffirmed that tariffs on autos, pharmaceuticals, and aluminum would be imposed "in the very near future," arguing that these industries were critical for national security in case of wars or other crises.

Source: Economic Times, March 25, 2025

Solar industry body seeks zero duty structure for cells, modules under Indo-US trade pact

The India Solar Manufacturing Association (ISMA) on Monday asked the government to include solar cells and modules in the proposed free trade agreement between India and the US to eliminate duties on these products. In its recommendations to the government on the ongoing India-US trade agreement talks, ISMA in a letter to the New and Renewable Energy Ministry has requested to facilitate zero-duty trade between India and the US on solar cells and modules. The body has also requested for zero-duty trade of polysilicon, ingots, and wafers between India and the US, saying it will support India's entry into manufacturing of upstream segments. There should also be zero-duty imports of capital goods and equipment used in PV manufacturing industry from the United States and additional incentives for US fabricators to set up manufacturing bases in India. "India's solar manufacturing industry stands at the threshold of becoming a global leader. With the right trade architecture in place, supported by disciplined policy continuity and robust safeguards, the proposed bilateral trade agreement with the United States could mark a defining moment in India's Industrial and clean energy journey," ISMA said in the letter.

Source: Business Standard, March 25, 2025