

Market wrap May 06, 2020

### Indian benchmark indices defy global trend; Life Insurance and auto companies rally...

Indian benchmark indices ended in green territory after being in red in morning session amidst high volatility. Buying was witnessed in financial counters in the fag end of the session. Nifty Bank rallied 423 points or over 2 per cent to settle at 19,694.55 levels.

The S&P BSE Sensex was up by 232 points to level of 31,686 or 0.74 per cent while NSE's Nifty declined by 65 points or 0.71 per cent higher at 9,270.90 levels.

Volatility index, India VIX, declined by over 5 per cent to 41.28 levels.

Auto major Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) gained over 5 per cent to Rs. 387.40 and ended as the top gainer on the Sensex. Bajaj Finance (up 5 per cent), and HDFC Bank (up nearly 4 per cent) were next on the gainers' list. On the downside, ITC emerged as the top loser on the index - down around 6 per cent.

#### Kev development

India's services activity witnessed a worst scenario in April as the coronavirus lockdown dampened global demand. The grim result for the industry, the engine of economic growth and jobs, underlined the pandemic's sweeping impact across India as authorities extended a nationwide lockdown, in effect since March 28, until May 17.

Earlier, The IHS Markit Services Purchasing Managers' Index plunged to 5.4 in April 2020 from March's 49.3, an unprecedented contraction since the survey first began over 14 years ago.

#### Crude oil

Crude oil prices witnessed a rise above \$31 a barrel as hopes for a recovery in demand as some countries eased coronavirus lockdowns which can take care of increasing oil inventory.

# Sectors and stocks

NIIT Technologies rallied by 20 per cent to Rs. 1420.50 on the BSE after the company reported a healthy 24.4 per cent year-on-year growth in EBITDA at Rs. 198.8 crore for the quarter ended March quarter (Q4FY20). EBITDA margin improved by 91 basis points to 17.9 per cent against 17.0 per cent in year ago quarter.

Shares of listed life insurance companies rallied up to 7 per cent on the BSE, after SBI Life Insurance reported a good result in Q4FY20. Shares of listed life insurance companies were trading actively at the bourses today, ralling up to 7 per cent on the BSE, after SBI Life Insurance reported a good set of numbers for the quarter ended March 2020 (Q4FY20).

Shares of oil marketing companies (OMCs) witnessed steep correction, a day after the Centre announced one of the steepest hikes in duties on petrol and diesel in the recent past, by raising it by Rs. 10 and Rs. 13 per litre, respectively, in a notification issued late on Tuesday.

Shares of ITC were trading lower for the third straight day, falling 8 per cent to Rs. 161 on the BSE on Wednesday on heavy volumes. The stock of cigarette manufacturer has declined by 12 per cent in the past three trading days on reports that the Health Ministry has notified new health warnings for tobacco products. The Union Health Ministry on Monday notified a new set of enhanced health warning to be printed on packets of all tobacco products. Tobacco products manufactured or imported or packaged on or after September 1, 2020 will have to display the first set of images while the second set of images will have to be displayed after Sept 1 next year, the ministry said in a statement, a PTI report suggested.

Liquor stocks were under pressure for second straight day after some state governments hiked excise duty on liquor. United Breweries, Radico Khaitan, United Spirits, GM Breweries, Associated Alcohols & Breweries and Globus Spirits declined between 3 per cent and 7 per cent on the BSE.

## Global markets

Global shares declined on Wednesday as mixed earnings, doubts about the easing of coronavirus lockdowns and persistent US-China tensions took a toll on equities.

MSCI's index of global shares was trading flat. The pan-European STOXX 600 was 0.3 per cent higher, with losses in oil and gas shares weighing on the index.



Wall Street futures were positive, with E-minis for the S&P500 up 0.6 per cent.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia Pacific shares outside of Japan climbed 0.7 per cent. Japanese markets were closed for a holiday while China markets reversed early losses, sending the blue-chip index up 0.6 per cent.

## Ajcon Global's view

We believe the markets will continue to remain under pressure in view of tremendous losses by the industry and businesses and since no major fiscal stimulus is announced by Government of India.



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