

Market wrap August 21, 2023

#### Key Benchmark indices across the globe

Index	August 21, 2023	Prev. close	Change	% change	Open	High	Low
Nifty	19,393.60	19,310.15	83.45	0.43	19,320.65	19,425.95	19,296.30
Sensex	65,216.09	64,948.66	267.43	0.41	64,852.70	65,335.82	64,852.70
Nikkei 225	31,565.64	31,450.76	114.88	0.36	31,552.85	31,758.70	31,409.86
Straits Times	3,154.03	3,173.93	19.90	0.63	3,171.68	3,172.91	3,149.22
Kospi	2,508.80	2,504.50	4.30	0.17	2,511.70	2,524.41	2,505.59
Hang Seng	17,623.29	17,950.85	327.56	1.86	17,798.47	17,867.66	17,587.38
Shanghai Composite	3,092.98	3,131.95	38.97	1.26	3,125.99	3,134.96	3,092.98
Dow Jones	34,286.67#	34,500.66	213.00	0.62	34,522.20	34,570.96	34,278.68
Nasdaq	13,339.62#	13,290.78	48.85	0.37	13,347.26	13,448.32	13,332.90
FTSE	7,258.65#	7,262.43	3.78	0.05	7,262.43	7,315.97	7,250.88
CAC	7,195.26#	7,164.11	31.15	0.43	7,165.07	7,259.32	7,165.07
DAX	15,593.16#	15,574.26	18.90	0.12	15,573.95	15,710.21	15,571.82

#denotes levels of August 21, 2023 at the time of writing this report

# Key macroeconomic indicators

Index	August 21, 2023	August 18, 2023
Brent Crude Oil (\$ per barrel)	85.13#	84.80
Gold (\$ per ounce)	1,889.58#	1,888.19
Indian Rupee against US\$	83.10	83.11
India 10 year bond yield (%)	7.22	7.21
US 10 year G-sec (%)	4.34#	4.25

#denotes levels of August 21, 2023 at the time of writing this report

# FII & DII activity

Index		August 21, 2023	August 18, 2023	
FII activity	(INR in Crore)	1,901.10	266.98	
DII activity	(INR in Crore)	626.25	339.18	

# Indian benchmark indices end in green; midcaps and smallcaps continue to witness buoyancy..

- On Monday, the Indian benchmark indices ended in the positive terrain. The Nifty opened on a positive note and later touched an intraday high of 19,425.95. Finally, the Nifty ended the day up by 83.45 points or 0.43 percent to end at levels of 19,393.60. On the other hand, the Sensex ended the day up by 267.43 points or 0.41 percent to end the day at levels of 65,216.09.
- Among the Nifty 50 stocks, the major gainers were Bajaj Finance, Power Grid Corporation of India, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Adani Enterprises, Hindalco Industries up in the range of 2.09 percent to 2.75 percent. On the other hand, the major losers were Jio Financial Services, Reliance Industries, Mahindra & Mahindra, Britannia Industries, Bajaj Auto down in the range of 0.36 percent to 5.00 percent.
- 3) The broader markets were upbeat on Monday. The Nifty Midcap 100 index was up by 0.82 percent and the Nifty Smallcap 100 index was up by 0.63 percent.



- In terms of the sectoral indices performance, the major gainers were Nifty Metal Bank index up by 1.30 percent, Nifty IT index up by 1.09 percent, Nifty Realty index up by 0.99 percent, Nifty FMCG index up by 0.65 percent. On the other hand, the major losers were Nifty PSU Bank index down by 0.64 percent, Nifty Media index down by 0.29 percent.
- On Monday, FIIs have net sold equities worth INR 1,901.10 Crore. On the other hand, DIIs net bought equities worth INR 626.25 Crore. Month till date, FIIs have net sold equities worth Rs. 12,826.94 Crore and DIIs have net bought equities worth Rs. 9,872.11 Crore. In the month of July 2023, FIIs had net bought equities worth INR 13,922.01 Crore and DIIs had net sold equities worth INR 1,184.33 Crore.

## **Sectors & Stocks**

1) Shares of Data Patterns (India) Limited ended up by 9.90 percent to INR 2,372.20 at the NSE after hitting an intraday high of Rs. 2,415 on Monday. Data Patterns (India) Limited is a vertically integrated Defence and Aerospace electronics solutions provider catering to the indigenously developed defence products industry. Data Patterns' core competencies include design and development across electronic hardware, software, firmware, mechanical, product prototype besides its testing, validation and verification. Its involvement has been across Radars, Electronic Warfare Suites, Communications, Avionics, Small Satellites, Automated Test Equipment, COTS and programmes catering to Tejas Light Combat Aircraft, Light Utility Helicopter, BrahMos and other Communication & Electronic Intelligence Systems. The company works closely with the defence PSUs such as Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd and Bharat Electronics Ltd as well as government organisations involved in defence and space research like DRDO and ISRO.

Commenting on the company's performance, Mr. Srinivasagopalan Rangarajan, Chairman & Managing Director, Data Patterns (India) Limited said, "We are pleased to announce another strong quarter with impressive results. I'm also happy to share that, out of Rs.500cr raised in QIP, we have started our product development endeavours in line with the Offer document, for Radars, Communication Systems, Electronic Warfare and Satellite. The focus on product development will allow Data Patterns to address the growing 'Made in India' Defence opportunities."

2) Shares of BLS International Services Limited ended up by 9.06 percent to INR 282.35 at the NSE on Monday. BLS International Services Ltd. is a trusted global tech-enabled services partner for governments and citizens, having an impeccable reputation for setting benchmarks in the domain of visa, passport, consular, citizen, e-governance, attestation, biometric, e-visa and retail services since 2005. The company is recognized as "India's Most Valuable Companies" by Business Today Magazine, "Best under a Billion' company" by Forbes Asia, and ranked among "Fortune India's Next 500 companies". The company works with over 46 client governments including Diplomatic Missions, Embassies & Consulates, and leverages technology and processes that ensure data security. The Company now has an extensive network of more than 50,000 centers globally with a robust strength of over 60,000 employees and associates that provides consular, biometrics, and citizen services. BLS has processed over 220 Million applications to date globally.

BLS International FZE ("BLS FZE"), subsidiary of the Company is in process to subscribe 100% share capital of BLS International Travel & Tourism, a company incorporated under the law of Saudi Arabia, consequent to the subscription of 100% share capital of BLS International Travel & Tourism ("Saudi Arabia") will become Step Down Subsidiary and Wholly Owned Subsidiary of the Company ("SDS-WOS").

Mr. Shikhar Aggarwal – Joint Managing Director of the Company in Q1FY24 analyst concall had said "The company's performance in the first quarter of FY24 was in line with the expectations, maintaining the upward trend of growth seen in previous quarters. The on-going revival of the travel and tourism industry worldwide is driving an increase in the number of visa applications. This, along with higher realization, is leading to continuous month-by month growth in our visa business. I am thrilled to announce that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain, has once again chosen BLS International as the global visa contractor for the visa application outsourcing. This marks the second time in a row that we have been trusted with this significant responsibility. The contract covers a wide range of regions, including Europe, America, Latin America, CIS, Africa, Middle East, and APEC, among others. BLS International has been serving the Spanish government since 2016 and operates 122 visa application centers. We process almost 2 million applications from the Spanish government every year. And this number is expected to increase further."

He further added "What's more exciting is that we have also been outsourced a national visa for the first time, which will lead to further growth in volume and opening up offices in newer geographies. As normally is the case under the contract, BLS will also be providing different kinds of additional value-added services, including SMSs, couriers, mobile, biometrics, etc."



Shares of KEC International Limited ended up by 5.12 percent to INR 656.40 at the NSE on Monday. KEC International is a global infrastructure Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) major. It has presence in the verticals of Power Transmission and Distribution, Railways, Civil, Urban Infrastructure, Solar, Oil & Gas Pipelines, and Cables. The Company is currently executing infrastructure projects in 30+ countries and has a footprint in 110+ countries (includes EPC, Supply of Towers and Cables). It is the flagship Company of the RPG Group.

KEC International Limited, a global infrastructure EPC major, an RPG Group Company, has secured new orders of INR 1,007 crores across its various businesses: Civil: The business has secured a prestigious order for Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of a Multispeciality Hospital in India. Transmission & Distribution (T&D): The business has secured a substantial order for a 380 kV Overhead Transmission line project in the Middle East. Cables: The business has secured orders for supply of various types of cables in India and overseas. Mr. Vimal Kejriwal, MD & CEO, KEC International Ltd. commented, "We are pleased with the continuous inflow of orders, especially in our T&D and Civil businesses. In line with our strategy, the civil business has expanded its presence by securing a breakthrough order for building a Multispeciality Hospital in Eastern India. The T&D order in the Middle East region has significantly enhanced our order book in the international T&D market. With the above orders, our YTD order intake stands at a record level of over Rs. 5,500 crores, a strong growth of ~15% vis-à-vis last year."

- 4) Shares of PNB Housing Finance Limited ended up by 3.41 percent to INR 657 at the NSE after hitting an intraday high of Rs. 688 on Monday. The Company through its focussed and multi-pronged resolution strategy has successfully resolved and fully recovered its large corporate Non-Performing account of INR 784 crore (~1.3% of Loan Asset as on 30th June 2023). The account has been resolved on 19 th August 2023 through an ARC sale under Swiss Challenge method as per the Reserve Bank of India (Transfer of Loan Exposures) Directions, 2021. As on 30th June 2023, the Gross NPA of the Company stood at INR 2,270 crore (3.76% of Loan Asset) and Loan Asset was INR 60,395 crore.
- 5) Shares of ABB India Limited ended up by 0.93 percent to INR 4,319.30 at the NSE on Monday. ABB India has secured an order from Reliance Life Sciences to deploy automation and control solutions for their new biosimilars and plasma proteins manufacturing facilities in Nashik, Maharashtra. The scope encompasses complete automation of the manufacturing process using ABB's flagship Distributed Control System (DCS), Remote I/O systems, Batch Recipe Management, and MES Integration. Reliance Life Sciences will harness ABB technology to attain operational excellence, reduce time to market, and ensure strict quality control of their manufacturing processes. By deploying ABB's DCS operating on the latest Windows version, Reliance Life Sciences can reduce the total cost of ownership. ABB's DCS solution provides an integration platform that helps in monitoring different plant sections and streamlining maintenance.

"We are proud to partner with Reliance Life Sciences on this critical project. This collaboration will reinforce our position in the pharma and life sciences market, where, as a technology provider, we see tremendous potential for growth and innovation," said G. Balaji, SVP, Head of Energy Industries, ABB India. "With India rapidly progressing as a prominent biopharmaceutical manufacturing hub, we find ourselves well-poised to ride the wave of the industrial revolution driven by the adoption of automation in these segments, which is pivotal for large-scale production with quality assurance."

## **Key developments**

1) The US bond-market selloff resumed Monday, driving 10-year yields to a 16-year high, as the persistently resilient economy has investors positioning for interest rates to remain elevated even after the Federal Reserve winds up its hikes. The moves pushed up yields on typical Treasuries as well as those that provide extra payouts to cover inflation, signaling that investors are bracing for the risk that monetary policy will remain elevated.

The yield on 10-year inflation-protected Treasuries on Monday pushed over 2% for the first time since 2009, extending its ascent from year-to-date lows near 1%. Not long after, the yield on 10-year Treasuries without that protection surpassed October's peak, climbing as much as 9 basis points to 4.35%, a level last seen in late 2007.

The jump extends the major shift that has raced through the bond market over the past two weeks as the odds of a recession recede and large federal budget deficits increase the supply of Treasury debt. That's driven investors to sharply push up rates on longer-term debt, which had tumbled deeply below short-term ones on fears that the economy was poised for a contraction. (Source: Bloomberg)



# Ajcon Global's view on Indian equities in the near term

- 1) On Monday, Indian benchmark indices ended in green. Buoyancy was witnessed in the midcaps and smallcaps space. The rise in the US treasury bond yields led by expectations of rate hike by US Fed will act as a headwind for global markets. Domestically, we expect stock specific action likely to continue in the broader markets. After the recent rally, profit booking is also not ruled out. Domestically, we suggest investors to remain stock specific and be wary of valuations of companies getting out of comfort zone especially in smallcaps. At the moment, companies in the sectors like Banking, NBFCs, Capital Goods, Defence, Engineering, Real Estate, select companies in the Infrastructure space, Railways can be considered.
- 2) We have faith in the India story and believe that the domestic economy is strongly placed as compared to the global peers which will attract investors. Domestically, the economy is doing well which is evident from the recent GST collection data, increase in investment led spending and other indicators like passenger air traffic, hotel occupancy, power consumption, auto sales, coal production data etc. Encouraging Q1FY24 results suggest that economy is doing well. Results announced by PSU Banks, NBFCs announced indicated good times for Banking and Financial Services sector. Private Banks too had reported good Q1FY24 performance.



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