

Market wrap March 15, 2023

Key Benchmark indices across the globe

Index	March 15, 2023	March 14, 2023	Change	% change	Open	High	Low
Nifty	16,972.15	17,043.30	71.15	0.42	17,166.45	17,211.35	16,938.90
Sensex	57,555.90	57,900.19	344.29	0.59	58,268.54	58,473.63	57,455.67
Shanghai Composite	3,263.31	3,245.31	18.00	0.55	3,261.03	3,273.12	3,256.86
Hang Seng	19,539.87	19,247.96	291.91	1.49	19,523.49	19,745.44	19,431.09
Kospi	2,379.72	2,348.97	30.75	1.29	2,380.09	2,395.36	2,370.77
Nikkei 225	27,229.48	27,222.04	7.44	0.03	27,421.66	27,424.94	27,105.99
Dow Jones	31,461.76#	32,155.40	693.64	2.16	31,607.73	31,775.01	31,421.77
Nasdaq	11,295.20#	11,428.15	132.95	1.16	11,291.17	11,367.44	11,238.44
FTSE	7,344.45#	7,637.11	292.66	3.98	7,637.11	7,637.39	7,333.35
CAC	6,885.71#	7,141.57	255.86	3.72	7,123.20	7,123.20	6,861.63
DAX	14,735.26#	15,232.83	497.57	3.38	15,175.44	15,246.17	14,702.91

at the time of writing this report

Key macroeconomic indicators

Index	March 15, 2023	March 14, 2023
Brent Crude Oil (\$ per barrel)	73.69#	77.45
Gold (\$ per ounce)	1,925.45#	1,902.12
Indian Rupee against US\$	82.60	82.49
India 10 year bond yield (%)	7.36	7.38
US 10 year G-sec (%)	3.44#	3.64

FII & DII activity

Index		March 15, 2023	March 14, 2023
FII activity	(Rs. in Crore)	1,271.25	3,086.96
DII activity	(Rs. in Crore)	1,823.94	2,121.94

Indian benchmark indices erase early gains and end in red; weak global cues affecting investor sentiments..

- 1) On Wednesday, Indian benchmark indices erased all early gains and witnessed selling in the later part of the day led by weak global cues. Globally investor sentiments have been affected led by fall of US based Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank. Domestically, the Nifty after a positive opening touched an intraday low of 16,938.90. Finally, the Nifty ended the day down by 71.15 points or 0.42 percent to end at levels of 16,972.15. On the other hand, the Sensex ended the day, down by 344.29 points or 0.59 percent to end the day at levels of 57,555.90.
- 2) Among the Nifty 50 stocks, the major gainers were Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports, Asian Paints, Tata Steel, Titan Company up in the range of 1.88 percent to 5.74 percent. On the other hand, the major losers were Bharti Airtel, IndusInd Bank, Reliance Industries, Hindustan Unilever, State Bank of India down in the range of 1.45 percent to 1.92 percent.
- 3) However, the broader markets were positive today. The Nifty Midcap 100 index was up by 0.07 percent and the Nifty Smallcap 100 index was up by 0.41 percent.
- 4) In terms of sectoral indices performance, the major losers were Nifty Media index down by 1.22 percent, Nifty PSU Bank index down by 1.21 percent, Nifty Bank index down by 0.91 percent, Nifty Private Bank index down by 0.85 percent, Nifty Realty index down by 0.85 percent.



On Wednesday, FIIs net sold equities worth Rs. 1,271.25 Crore. On the other hand, DIIs net bought equities worth Rs. 1,823.94 Crore. Month till date, FIIs have net bought equities worth Rs. 8,456.78 Crore. On the other hand, DIIs have net bought equities worth Rs. 12,293.81 Crore. In the month of February 2023, FIIs have net sold equities worth Rs. 11,090.64 Crore and DIIs net bought equities worth Rs. 19,239.28 Crore. In the month of January 2023, FIIs had net sold equities worth Rs. 41,464.73 Crore and DIIs net bought equities worth Rs. 33,411.85 Crore.

Sectors & Stocks

- 1) Shares of G R Infraprojects Limited ended up by 6.93 percent to Rs. 1,065 at the NSE on Wednesday. Recently, the Company has emerged as L1 bidder in Financial Bid Opening dated 9th March 2023 for the tender invited by National Highways Authority of India for "Construction of 6 Iane Greenfield Varanasi- Ranchi- Kolkata Highway from Anarbansalea village to Sagrampur village (From KM. 151+200 to KM. 184+700, Pkg-7, Total Length = 33.50 Km) under Bharatmala Pariyojana in the state of Bihar on Hybrid Annuity Mode." The Bid Project cost is Rs. 1,248.37 Crore.
 - Earlier, Mr. Ajendra Kumar Agarwal Managing Director of the Company in the analyst Q3FY23 concall had said "In order book mostly 90% shares are of Roads and Highway Development Projects. In the quarter third of FY23, the Company has achieved all the financial closures and till date the Company has 9 operational and 14 under construction projects. In FY23 till now the Company has submitted bid of almost Rs. 51,800 crores in which highway projects are worth of Rs. 42,100 crores, ropeway projects worth of Rs. 2,500 crores, railway and metro projects worth of Rs. 5,000 crores and transmission projects worth Rs. 2,200 crores."
- 2) Shares of Ramkrishna Forgings Limited ended up by 6.20 percent to Rs. 281.95 at the NSE on Wednesday. Ramkrishna Forgings was incorporated in 1981 with the objective to manufacture forged products. The Annualized installed capacity after commissioning of Hollow Spindle Line, a new 7000 Ton Press Line, a 2000 Ton warm/hot Forming Press and a fabrication facility is 187,100 MT. Headquartered at Kolkata, the company has state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities at Jamshedpur along with offices at Detroit in USA, Toluca and Monterrey in Mexico, Istanbul in Turkey having warehousing facilities at Hagerstown, Louisville, Detroit in USA, Toluca, Monterrey in Mexico and Westerloo in Belgium. Over the years, the company increased its forging and die-making capacities and added machining and heat treatment facilities, including isothermal annealing, which enabled it to undertake manufacturing of components for OEMs and Tier 1 companies.

The Company's press release said "Ramkrishna Forgings Limited , one of the leading suppliers of rolled, forged, and machined products, in consortium with Titagarh Wagons Limited has been declared the Lowest Bidder (L1) by the Ministry of Railways for manufacturing and supplying of forged wheels under the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative. As recently announced by the Hon'ble Union Minister, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw this tender is aimed at reducing the Indian Railway's import-dependence, by inviting the industry to set up a facility to produce these wheels, which will primarily be used for semi-high speed trains (Vande Bharat) and high-speed trains (bullet train). Indian Railways has been focused on pursuing growth with emphasis on the Make in India policy under Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative of the Government. The Consortium of Ramkrishna Forgings and Titagarh Wagons, being L1, as the selected bidder would be required to set up a wheel test centre at a railway site for prototype testing of newly designed wheels. The Consortium will set up a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in India for forged wheel production and will supply approximately 1.6-million-wheel discs of different rolling stocks of Indian Railways over a period of 20 years at about 80,000 wheels per annum."

Mr. Naresh Jalan, Managing Director, Ramkrishna Forgings Limited said, "We are delighted to have been declared L1 in the bid for the manufacturing and supply of forged wheels for Indian Railways. This is a testament fo our strong technical capabilities and our commitment to delivering high-quality products to our customers. Also, the partnership with Tifagarh Wagons Limited is a strategic move towards expanding our presence in the railway segment and we are confident that our joint efforts will enable us to deliver world-class products and services to the Indian Railways."

- 3) Shares of Varroc Engineering Limited closed up by 5.58 percent to Rs. 270.45 at the NSE on Wednesday. Varroc is a Leading Indian Auto Technology Group with a Global Footprint. The Company's four primary business lines are Electrical Electronics, Lighting, Polymer, Metallic (Forging and Valves). The Company has strong, long-lasting, growing customer relationships with marquee Global OEM's.
 - Mr. Tarang Jain Chairman and Managing Director in the Company's Q3FY23 concall had said "On a year-on-year basis, we saw good growth in most of the segments due to easing of the semiconductor issues and improving economic activity. But 2 wheelers saw tepid growth as the lower end of the segment is still not picking up. 2-wheelers production grew only by near 0.5%, 3-wheelers by 13.13%, passenger vehicles by 21.4% and commercial vehicles by 12% on a year on-year basis. We continue to add strong order wins for new businesses in the 9 months FY '23 across business



units, enabling our future growth in India. The order books also reflect our effort to diversify, as you see nearly 48% lifetime order wins from the 4-wheeler segment and 52% from the 2 and 3 wheeler segment. Diversification can also be seen in the order book from a customer perspective as the top customer new order book is only 19%. As stated previously also, profitable business wins, improving of the contribution margin, focusing on profit before tax instead of EBITDA margins, sweating of the assets, inventory reduction, commercialization of our R&D efforts, controls on overall costs, growing free cash flows and debt reduction and prudent capital allocation remains the focus of the company."

Key developments

- 1) Renewed unease gripped world markets on Wednesday as news that Credit Suisse's largest investor said it could not provide the Swiss bank with more financial assistance sent its shares and broader European shares sliding once more. Signs of calm and stability in banking stocks, that have tanked in the past week, following the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), soon paved way for renewed selling as Credit Suisse shares fell to fresh record lows. The European Central Bank is still leaning towards a half-percentage-point rate hike on Thursday, despite turmoil in the banking sector, given high inflation, a source close to its Governing Council told Reuters. (Source: Reuters)
- 2) China's economic activity strengthened in the first two months of the year as investment picked up and consumer spending recovered following the ending of Covid restrictions. Retail sales rose 3.5% from the same period last year, figures from the National Bureau of Statistics showed Wednesday, in line with forecasts and reversing from a 1.8% drop in December. Industrial output growth accelerated to 2.4% in the two-month period, slightly below expectations. Fixed-asset investment climbed 5.5% during the two-month period, better than the 4.5% estimate and 5.1% growth for the whole of last year. The jobless rate rose to 5.6% following the Lunar New Year holidays, with the rate for young people jumping to a six-month high of 18.1%. China abruptly dropped its Covid Zero strategy in December, leading to a surge in infections through January. Cases peaked earlier than expected, though, prompting people to travel and spend again and providing a boost to the services sector. Factories also benefited as logistics bottlenecks and restrictions ended. (Source: Bloomberg)
- 3) India's exports dipped in February for the third consecutive month by 8.8 per cent to USD 33.88 billion against USD 37.15 billion in the same month last year, according to the data released by the commerce ministry on Wednesday. Imports also declined by 8.21 per cent to USD 51.31 billion as against USD 55.9 billion recorded in the corresponding month last year. The country's trade deficit in February stood at USD 17.43 billion. During April-February this fiscal, however, the country's overall merchandise exports rose by 7.5 per cent to USD 405.94 billion. Imports during the period increased by 18.82 per cent to USD 653.47 billion. (Source: Press Trust of India)

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

- 1) On Wednesday, Indian equities started on positive note but later gave up all the gains led by weak global cues. The panic has set in after the fall of US based Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank which has raised fears that there may be contagion effect and other global banks too would face the heat of hardening interest rates.
- 2) We believe that global headwinds would investor sentiments in the near term and would provide opportunities to investors at lower levels. After the recent fall, valuation of certain companies and especially PSU Banks have turned attractive.
- 3) Street participants will continue to watch global bond yields as it will dictate treasury performance of Banks, rupee movement against the US Dollar, crude oil price movement, economic activity in China, developments related to ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine and its financial implications on the western world.
- 4) 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. At the moment, companies in the sectors like Capital Goods, select companies in the Infrastructure space, Railways, Defence, Banking, NBFCs and select companies in the new age business segment can be considered.
- 5) It may be noted that majority of the Companies had delivered decent set of numbers in Q3FY23 results considering global concerns. Indian economy is performing strongly as indicated by manufacturing and services PMI data, good air passenger traffic, electricity and coal consumption data, robust GST collections, strong direct tax collections and good economic activity amidst macroeconomic challenges. We suggest investors to be stock specific and consider companies from the midcaps and smallcaps space considering the high valuation in the large cap space.



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For research related queries contact:

Mr. Akash Jain - Vice President (Research) at, research@ajcon.net, akash@ajcon.net

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Website: www.ajcononline.com

Registered and Corporate office

408 - (4th Floor), Express Zone, "A" Wing, Cello – Sonal Realty, Near Oberoi Mall and Patel's, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai – 400063. Tel: 91-22-67160400, Fax: 022-28722062