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KEY MARKET INDICES



Sensex Gains as Infosys Leads Amid Global Trade Optimism



RBI Sells Over \$5 Billion to Support Weakening Rupee



Trump-Putin Alaska Summit Ends With No Ukraine Ceasefire Deal



Indian Oil's Q1 Profit Doubles Despite Margin Pressure











MARKETS

MARKETS MOVE. SO DO WE.



Infosys Leads Gains as Sensex, Nifty Rise

The Sensex surged over 100 points and the Nifty crossed the 24,650 mark as strong rallies in IT and pharma offset persistent geopolitical caution. Infosys gained around 1.5% following its \$153 million joint venture with Telstra, boosting the IT index by +0.6%. Broader market breadth also improved, as mid- & small-caps remained range-bound amid Russia-US summit watch. Meanwhile, the dollar index dipped 0.1%, providing some relief. Investors await trade-related developments and domestic Q2 earnings, keeping the market in cautious optimism ahead.

U.S. Markets Pull Back as Producer Inflation Hits Highs

The S&P 500 & Nasdaq slipped from record highs after July's Producer Price Index surged 3.3% YoY and 0.9% MoM, well above forecasts dampening expectations for imminent Fed rate cuts. The Dow dropped 104 points.

Bitcoin Rally Accelerates on 401(k) Investment Push

Bitcoin hit \$124,002.49 as optimism over a September Fed rate cut, institutional inflows, and 401(k) inclusion under Trump-era crypto rules boosted investor confidence in digital assets.



ECONOMY

PULSE OF THE ECONOMY



RBI Permits Rupee Trade Funds in G-Securities

The RBI now allows foreign banks with Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) to invest surplus balances in Indian central government securities without FPI registration. Introduced in 2022 for rupee-based trade settlements, SRVAs still face a 30% cap on short-term securities. The move aims to boost rupee internationalization, enhance debt market liquidity, support government financing, and expand the rupee's role in global trade. This policy change is expected to deepen financial integration with global partners while providing foreign banks additional avenues for deploying idle rupee funds.

RBI Sells Over \$5 Billion to Support Weakening Rupee

The RBI sold at least \$5 billion in onshore and offshore markets this month to defend the rupee from nearing record lows, amid U.S. tariff concerns, helping stabilize the currency and maintain market confidence.

Bessent Says BOJ Behind on Inflation, Hike Likely

U.S. Treasury's Scott Bessent said Japan's central bank is lagging on inflation control and will likely raise rates, citing persistent price pressures, yen weakness, and the need for tighter monetary policy.



BUSINESS

BUSINESS MANIA



Indian Oil's Q1 Profit Doubles Despite Margin Pressure
Indian Oil's Q1 profit surged 115% YoY to ₹5,689 crore on strong marketing
margins, despite weaker refining margins, inventory losses, and muted
market response amid investor caution.

Vodafone Idea Hit New 52-Week Low Ahead Q1 Results Vodafone Idea shares fell nearly 4% to ₹6.12, marking a new 52-week low, as investor sentiment soured ahead of its Q1 results. Persistent losses, high debt, and weak operational performance continue to pressure the telecom company's financial outlook and market confidence.

Adani Ports Shares Fall After Cargo Slowdown Concerns

Adani Ports dropped about 3.2%, making it one of the biggest Nifty 50 laggards amid concerns over slower cargo growth this quarter and weaker global demand, despite strong annual profits.

Texmaco Rail Q1 Profit Plunges 50%, Supplies Hit

Texmaco Rail's Q1 net profit dropped 50% to ₹29 crore due to supply constraints impacting railway wagon wheelset availability, prompting analysts to recommend investors exit the stock



GEOPOLITICS

DECODING DIPLOMACY



U.S. - Russia Alaska Summit: No Ukraine Ceasefire

U.S. President Donald Trump and Russia's Vladimir Putin met for nearly three hours at Joint Base Elmendorf–Richardson in Anchorage on August 15. The talks centered on a Ukraine ceasefire but ended without an agreement; Trump said, "There's no deal until there's a deal," as both leaders offered few details in a brief joint appearance without questions. Trump suggested a possible follow-up meeting that could include Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskyy, while Kyiv and European partners continue to insist Ukraine must be at the table and its territorial integrity upheld.

Chinese Fighter Intercepts Philippine Plane

Tensions rose as a Chinese fighter intercepted a Philippine surveillance plane near Second Thomas Shoal during Manila's resupply missions, which Beijing claims, intensifying South China Sea territorial disputes.

U.S. Warns India of More Tariffs if Trump-Putin Talks Falter

U.S. cautioned India of potential tariffs or sanctions if Trump-Putin Alaska talks fail, citing concerns over New Delhi's defense and energy ties with Russia.

