Markets plummet due to virus impact & declining oil prices

Benchmark indices were trading nearly 4% lower on Monday as investor sentiment remained subdued amid the rapid spread of novel coronavirus across the world and declining crude oil prices.

At 10:45 AM, the S&P BSE Sensex was trading at 35,947, down 1,628 points or 4.3%. Market breadth are negative and out of a total of 2,156 shares traded on the Bombay Stock Exchange, 229 advanced while 1,818 declined and 109 remained unchanged. The Nifty50 was down 445 points or 4.1% at 10,544.

10-year Indian G-Sec yields were trading at 6.070 in morning against the previous close of 6.185.

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Local indices ended with significant losses, posting their third straight weekly decline. Sentiment was further hurt after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) placed YES Bank under a moratorium.

Global stocks were also under pressure due to the fast-spreading coronavirus, which has killed several thousands and disrupted supply chains across the world. In the week ended on Friday, 6 March 2020, the Sensex fell 720.67 points or 1.88% to settle at 37,576.62, its lowest closing level since 7 October 2019.

The Nifty 50 index slipped 212.30 points or 1.90% to settle at 10,989.45, its lowest closing level since 19 September 2019. The BSE Mid-Cap index dropped 372.53 or 2.55% to settle at 14,227.49. The BSE Small-Cap index declined 379.23 points or 2.77% to settle at 13,329.78.
GLOBAL MARKETS

Asian stock markets plunged today after global oil prices nosedived on worries a global economy weakened by a virus outbreak might be awash in too much crude.

Tokyo’s benchmark tumbled more than 6%, while Sydney, Seoul and Hong Kong posted steep losses as well. Shares also sank in Middle East trading on Sunday.

Markets already were troubled by the potential impact of the virus outbreak that began in China and has disrupted travel and trade.

Tokyo’s Nikkei 225 NIK, -5.77% fell 6.2% and Hong Kong’s Hang Seng HSI, -3.50% sank 3.9%, while the Shanghai Composite Index SHCOMP, -2.41% was off 2.2%.

INDIAN RUPEE

The rupee opened 25 paise lower against dollar on Monday. The currency started at 74 per dollar versus previous close of 73.79. On Friday, the rupee plummeted against the US dollar as coronavirus-panicked investors assessed deteriorating financial markets.

CRUDE OIL
Oil fell by the most since 1991 on Monday after Saudi Arabia started a price war with Russia by slashing its selling prices and pledging to unleash its pent-up supply onto a market reeling from falling demand because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Brent crude futures fell by as much as $14.25, or 31.5%, to $31.02 a barrel. That was the biggest percentage drop since Jan. 17, 1991, at the start of the first Gulf War and the lowest since February 12, 2016.

WEEK AHEAD

Global cues, macroeconomic data, movement of rupee against the dollar, Brent crude oil price movement and investments by foreign portfolio investors (FPI) and domestic institutional investors (DII) will be watched in the truncated week ahead.

Domestic stock markets will remain closed on Tuesday, 10 March 2020 on account of Holi. On macroeconomic front, India’s industrial production and manufacturing production data for January will be declared on Thursday, 12 March 2020. Inflation rate for February will be unveiled on the same day.

WPI inflation for February will be declared on Friday, 13 March 2020. Overseas, concerns over Coronavirus outbreak continue to haunt investors. Although coronavirus started in central China, it is spreading faster in the rest of the world.

China will announce inflation rate for February on Tuesday, 10 March 2020. In US, inflation rate for February will be announced on Wednesday, 11 March 2020. In Europe, the European Central Bank will announce its interest rate decision on Thursday, 12 March 2020.

Source: Reuters, Capital Market, Internal

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

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