# India Morning Newsletter

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India's booming options market could face a strong blow after the Securities and Exchange Board of India proposed a slew of measures to curb trading activity by retail investors. The market regulator is considering raising the minimum trading amount by over three times, reducing the number of contracts expiring each week and hiking trading margins. These steps come days after a tax hike on derivative transactions in the latest budget. The share of retail investors in derivative trading volumes has risen to 41% so far in 2024 from 2% in 2018, while the monthly notional value of derivatives traded hit a global high of 9,504 trillion rupees in May, data showed. Traders expect significant impact on trading volumes if the proposed rules come into effect. Meanwhile, investors remained cautious with the benchmark indexes near all-time highs, looking past a series of upbeat quarterly reports. Though indexes initially moved up, the market shifted to profit booking mode in the final hour of trade. Among corporate earnings, Nifty 50 constituents Coal India, Mahindra and Mahindra, Maruti Suzuki and Tata Steel are due later in the day. Separately, the Indian government aims to raise an aggregate of 200 billion rupees through the sale of 91-day, 182-day and 364-day Treasury bills. Wall Street witnessed heavy after-the-bell selling of U.S. big tech stocks, wiping out \$340 billion of market value, after Microsoft warned of slow returns on Al technology spending. Investors are also awaiting Federal Reserve's monetary policy decision for clues on interest rate cuts.

#### **FACTORS TO WATCH**

- 03:30 pm Fed Fiscal Deficit, INR June: Prior 506.15 bln
- 05:30 pm Infrastructure Output YY June: Prior 6.30%
- The National Stock Exchange has retained India Cements in its Futures & Options ban list.

## **STATE OF THE MARKETS**

**Indian shares** are set to open little changed, with analysts expecting profit booking at record high levels to continue, while focus shifts to U.S. Federal Reserve's rate decision and commentary, due later in the day.

**Indian government bond yields** are expected to be rangebound in early trading, as traders will wait for the Federal Reserve's monetary policy decision as well guidance on rate cuts for this year after the end of its meeting later in the



day. The benchmark 10-year yield is likely to move in the 6.91%-6.95% range, compared with its previous close of 6.9326%.

The **Indian rupee** is likely to open largely unchanged near record lows, and trade in a tight band ahead of the Federal Reserve's policy decision due later in the day. Non-deliverable forwards indicate the rupee will open at around 83.71-83.72 against the U.S. dollar, nearly unchanged from its close at 83.7275 in the previous session, which was a record closing low.

The **S&P 500** and **Nasdaq** closed lower on Tuesday, weighed down by weak chip and megacap shares ahead of earnings from heavyweight tech companies this week, but the Dow managed modest gains

**Asian stocks** clung to familiar ranges after contrasting results from tech bellwether Microsoft and chipmaker AMD suggested a divide in the AI landscape while the yen was firm ahead of the Bank of Japan's policy decision.

The **yen** hovered near a 2-1/2-month high ahead of a key Bank of Japan policy decision where the central bank is set to detail plans to taper its huge bond buying and a rate hike is on the cards.

**U.S. Treasury yields** drifted lower on Tuesday, as investors geared up for a Federal Reserve meeting that is expected to hold interest rates unchanged this week while flagging monetary policy easing at the September meet.

**Oil** futures clawed back some losses, recovering from 7-week lows as geopolitical tensions rose after Israel retaliated against an attack by Hezbollah, although prices remained under pressure from concerns about demand in China.

**Gold** prices edged lower but were headed for a monthly gain on rising optimism surrounding U.S. rate cuts, while focus shifted to the Federal Reserve policy verdict due later in the day.

Markets	Last	Change	YTD change
GIFT Nifty 50	24,949.00	2494900. bps	-
Nifty volatility	12.88	-6 bps	-
Nikkei	38,217.00	-0.80%	14.20%
Hang Seng	17,135.65	0.78%	0.52%
S&P 500 e-mini futures	5,489.25	0.31%	-
USD/INR	83.73	-	0.62%
Spot gold	\$2,407.00 /oz	-0.06%	16.70%
Brent crude	\$79.30 /bbl	0.85%	2.93%
Indian 10-year bond yield	6.9310%	1.20 bps	-24.50 bps
U.S. 10-year Treasury yield	4.1472%	0.62 bps	28.72 bps

FII & DII Trading Activity in Equities Jul 30	Buy	Sell	Net
Domestic Institutional Investors (DII) in INR	187.19 bln	131.54 bln	55.65 bln
Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) in INR	144.52 bln	200.51 bln	-55.99 bln

(Source: National Stock Exchange of India Ltd.)



#### **INDIA TOP NEWS**

#### India markets regulator proposes slew of measures to curb options trading frenzy

India's markets regulator on Tuesday proposed a series of measures to curb a trading frenzy in options, including raising the minimum trading amount by over three times, reducing the number of contracts expiring each week and hiking trading margins.

## Abu Dhabi, Qatar wealth funds back Adani Energy's share sale of up to \$1 billion, sources say

Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and Qatar Investment Authority have invested in Adani Energy Solutions' share sale in India of up to \$1 billion, two sources said, its first such deal since a scathing report from short-seller Hindenburg Research last year.

#### Vedanta gets secured creditors' nod for demerger

Metals-to-oil conglomerate Vedanta on Tuesday said it got approval from the majority of its secured creditors for the demerger of the company into six independent companies.

## Tetley Tea maker Tata Consumer misses Q1 profit view as expenses spike

Tata Consumer Products reported a first-quarter profit on Tuesday that missed estimates, as surging costs ate into its revenue growth.

#### GAIL (India) beats Q1 profit view on gas marketing boost

Gas distributor GAIL (India) posted a bigger-than-expected profit on Tuesday, helped by strength in its natural gas marketing business.

## **GLOBAL TOP STORIES**

## Bank of Japan to debate rate hike, outline bond taper plan

The Bank of Japan is expected to detail plans to taper its huge bond buying and debate whether to raise interest rates, signalling its resolve to steadily unwind a decade of massive monetary stimulus.

#### Microsoft's slow cloud growth signals Al payoff will take longer

Microsoft said it would spend more money this fiscal year to build out Al infrastructure even as growth slowed in its cloud business, another sign the payoff from hefty investments in the technology may take longer than Wall Street had hoped.

# China's manufacturing activity extends decline in July

China's manufacturing activity in July shrank for a third month, an official factory survey showed, bolstering expectations Beijing will need to launch more stimulus as a protracted property crisis and job insecurity drag on growth.

#### **POLL**

## Reserve Bank of India to hold rates in August, first cut in Q4

The Reserve Bank of India will keep interest rates steady for a ninth straight meeting in August due to persistently high inflation, with a slim majority of economists in a Reuters poll expecting the first rate cut next quarter.



#### **COMPANIES REPORTING RESULTS**

Action Construction Equipment Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Ambuja Cements Ltd: Q1 earnings release Asahi India Glass Ltd: Q1 earnings release Aster DM Healthcare Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Bank of Baroda Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd: Q1 earnings release

**Birlasoft Ltd**: Q1 earnings release **Coal India Ltd**: Q1 earnings release

Deepak Fertilisers and Petrochemicals Corp Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Elgi Equipments Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Five-Star Business Finance Ltd: Q1 earnings release

JBM Auto Ltd: Q1 earnings release

JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd: Q1 earnings release

KPR Mill Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd: Q1 earnings release Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd: Q1 earnings release Maruti Suzuki India Ltd: Q1 earnings release Phoenix Mills Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Redington Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Relaxo Footwears Ltd: Q1 earnings release

RITES Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Sonata Software Ltd: Q1 earnings release Sundram Fasteners Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Tata Investment Corporation Ltd: Q1 earnings release

Tata Steel Ltd: Q1 earnings release

## **CORPORATE EVENTS**

ACC Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Aegis Logistics Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call
Ambuja Cements Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call
Bank of Baroda Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Birlasoft Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Carborundum Universal Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Castrol India Ltd: Q2 earnings conference call Indus Towers Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Jai Balaji Industries Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call Jindal Stainless Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call Macrotech Developers Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Sonata Software Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call



## **SHAREHOLDERS MEETINGS**

Birlasoft Ltd: Annual shareholders meeting

Elgi Equipments Ltd: Annual shareholders meeting Graphite India Ltd: Annual shareholders meeting

**Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd**: Annual shareholders meeting **Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd**: Annual shareholders meeting

United Spirits Ltd: Annual shareholders meeting

## **EX-DIVIDENDS**

Bata India Ltd: Final cash dividend of gross INR 12 paid on Aug 22 CRISIL Ltd: Interim cash dividend of gross INR 8 paid on Aug 12 DLF Ltd: Final cash dividend of gross INR 5 paid on Sep 05 EIH Ltd: Final cash dividend of gross INR 1.2 paid on Aug 31 SRF Ltd: Interim cash dividend of gross INR 3.6 paid on Aug 21



# **PICTURE OF THE DAY**



Members of rescue teams move towards a landslide site after multiple landslides in the hills in Wayanad, in the southern state of Kerala, July 30. REUTERS/Stringer

(Compiled by Ashitha Salus in Bengaluru)

For questions or comments about this report, contact: reuters.marketwatch@thomsonreuters.com

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