



MARKET NEWS :

The key benchmark indices spurred after Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee that the economy can grow 7.75% in the fiscal year that ends in March 2010 (FY 2010). Higher advance tax payment by India Inc and firm global stocks, also underpinned sentiment. The BSE Sensex jumped 539.11 points or 3.23%.

The BSE Sensex breached the psychological 17,000 mark and the 50-unit S&P CNX Nifty moved past the psychological 5,000 mark. The Sensex attained its highest closing level in more than two months. The Nifty struck a 2-week closing high.

Index heavyweight Reliance Industries (RIL) spurred on a new gas find in the prolific KG basin. Three other index heavyweights - ICICI Bank, Infosys and L&T, also surged. Metal, power, capital goods, realty, banking and IT stocks, jumped. All the sectoral indices on BSE were in green. All the 30 Sensex stocks rose. The market breadth was strong.

After opening with a modest upward gap, the Sensex surged in early trade. The market extended gains in mid-morning trade. The uptrend continued later. The market soared in early afternoon trade boosted by the finance minister's comments on strong growth this year. The market extended gains later.

The market remains closed for four days in a row from Friday, 25 December 2009 to Monday, 28 December 2009. The market remains closed on Friday on account of Christmas. It remains closed on Monday on account of Moharram.

The government will wait until the February 2010 budget to consider withdrawing some of the fiscal stimulus measures, Finance Minister said on Wednesday. Mukherjee said on Wednesday that inflation and fiscal consolidation are major challenges in short to medium term. Growth outlook for the second half of FY 2010 looks better, he added. The finance minister said farm output must grow 4% for the economy to expand 9-10% annually. He said industrial production has started picking .

European shares rose on Wednesday, the last full trading day before the Christmas holiday, extending a recent rally, with banks leading. The key benchmark indices in France, Germany and UK rose by between 0.46% to 0.83%.

Asian shares edged higher on Wednesday tracking overnight gains in US stocks after stronger-than-expected existing home sales data in the US. The key benchmark indices in Indonesia, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, China and Hong Kong rose by between 0.35% to 1.12%. Japan's markets were closed for the Emperor's Birthday. .



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