

Key International events:

According to data from the US Labor Department, **initial jobless claims in the US fell to 227,000 in the week ended October 19, 2024, a decrease of 15,000 from the revised level of 242,000 in the week ended October 12, 2024.** Economists had expected jobless claims to inch up to 242,000 from the 241,000 originally reported for the week ended October 12, 2024.

According to US Fed's latest Monetary Policy meeting minutes, **officials believe it will be appropriate to "gradually" lower interest rates to a more neutral stance** if economic data comes in "about as expected, with inflation continuing to move down sustainably to 2% and the economy remaining near maximum employment."

According to the US Conference Board, **US Consumer Confidence index rose to 111.7 in November 2024 after surging to an upwardly revised 109.6 in October 2024.** Economists had expected the consumer confidence index to climb to 112.3 in November 2024 from the 108.7 originally reported for October 2024.

As per the US Commerce Department, US GDP surged by 2.8% YoY in Q3 CY24, unchanged versus the "advance" estimate issued in October 2024. The unrevised reading matched expectations.

The US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has approved the establishment of a 24-hour stock exchange, marking a significant milestone in global financial markets. The approval, granted on, November 28, 2024 paves the way for round-the-clock trading.

As per the European Commission, **the economic confidence index of Eurozone rose slightly to 95.8 in November 2024 from revised 95.7 in the previous month.** The score was expected to fall to 95.1 from October's initially estimated value of 95.6.

According to S&P Global, **Eurozone private sector activity shrank moderately in October as the HCOB flash composite output index rose slightly to 49.7 in October 2024 from 49.6 in September 2024.** The flash Services Purchasing Managers' Index unexpectedly fell to 51.2 while the Manufacturing PMI improved to a five-month high of 45.9 in October 2024 from 51.4 and 45.0 in September 2024, respectively.

According to the Bank of Japan, **Producer prices in Japan were up 2.9% YoY in October 2024, up from the upwardly revised 2.8% YoY increase in September 2024, exceeding expectations for a gain of 2.5% YoY.** Producer prices jumped 0.8% MoM in October 2024 after dipping 0.1% MoM in September 2024.

As per the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), **the industrial production in Japan increased by 3.4% YoY in October 2024 versus 3.1% YoY in the previous month.**

As per China's National Bureau of Statistics, **Industrial profits of China declined by 10% YoY in October 2024.** This follows a sharp 27.1% YoY decrease in September 2024. The improvement in October 2024 was partly due to the low base of comparison.

Key Domestic events:

According to data from S&P Global, **HSBC's flash India Composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 58.6 in October 2024 from September 2024's final reading of 58.3.** On an average, the index was 60.5 during Jan-Oct CY24, compared to 59.9 during Jan-Oct CY23, and has remained above the 50-mark for 39 consecutive months.

According to CRISIL, **the revenue growth of Indian companies for the Q2 FY25 is estimated to be 5-7% YoY, marking the slowest growth in 16 quarters.** The slowdown is attributed to the stagnant performance in the construction sector, which accounts for 20% of the total India Inc's revenue.

According to ICRA, **NBFCs will see asset growth in microfinance lending moderate to 10-12% YoY in FY25 from 30% YoY growth in FY24, and growth in other unsecured loans will slow significantly to 19-21% YoY in FY25 from 38% YoY growth in FY25** due to higher interest rates impacting borrowers' repayment capacities.

According to S&P Global Ratings, **the growth forecast for the Indian economy remains unchanged at 6.8% YoY for FY25.** However, it lowered the projection for the next two years cutting the GDP forecast for FY26 to 6.7% YoY from 6.9% YoY, and for FY27 to 6.8% YoY from 7% YoY.

According to RBI data, **credit card spending in October 2024 reached Rs 2.02 trillion, up 13% YoY. The total number of outstanding credit cards in the system increased 12.85% YoY to 106.88 mn and 0.74% MoM.** In October 2024, net credit card additions totalled 786,337, compared to 620,000 in September 2024.

According to TeamLease Services, **59% of employers are planning to increase headcount in H2 FY25 and 7.1% workforce growth is expected during the period, driven by logistics, e-commerce, and manufacturing sectors.** An additional 22% will maintain their current staffing levels.

As per RBI data, **after running surplus liquidity of about Rs 1.4 trillion for over two months, the banking system liquidity saw a decline, prompting the RBI to inject Rs 69.56 bn on November 25, 2024.** The liquidity deficit was because of the RBI selling dollars in the market to support the rupee.

According to Government data, **India's annual growth rate in milk production has slowed down further to 3.78% YoY in FY24 as compared to 3.83% YoY in FY23,** though the country continues to remain the world's largest producer at 239.3 mn tonnes.

As per data from International Data Corporation, **India shipped a record 4.49 mn units of PCs in Q3 CY24, up 0.1% YoY. Q2 CY24 had seen 7.1% YoY growth in shipment at 3.39 mn units.** In Q3 CY24 the notebook and workstation categories saw growth of 2.8% YoY and 2.4% YoY, respectively, while the desktop category declined by 8.1 YoY.

As per India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra), **India's fiscal deficit is expected to be 19 bps lower at 4.75% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) than budgeted in 2024-25,** due to fiscal discipline and slower economic activity in the first half of the year.

Rating agency Icria has revised down its volume growth forecast for the cement industry to 4-5% YoY at 445-450 mn tonne for FY25 on account of sluggish construction activity.

As per Business Standard Analysis, **in Q2 FY25, the combined salary and wage expenses of 3,515 listed companies in the Business Standard sample grew 7.7% YoY, down from 14.2% YoY in Q2 FY24.** While this represents a slight improvement from the 7.2% YoY growth seen in Q1 FY25, it marks the third consecutive quarter of single-digit uptick.

As per media report, **the EPFO is looking to diversify its investment in the equity market beyond the ETFs.** The current pattern of investment notified by the labour ministry in April 2015, retirement fund body can invest anywhere between 5 – 15% of all its fresh accretions in equity markets.

According to the RBI, **credit growth in the fortnight ending November 15, 2024 slowed to 11.15% YoY while deposit growth slightly outpaced credit growth, reaching 11.21% YoY.** Data showed that outstanding deposits in the fortnight ending November 15, 2024 stood at Rs 218.54 trillion, while outstanding credit stood at Rs 173.62 trillion.

As per Crisil Ratings, **the drop in the prices of steel will impact the operating profitability of primary steel producers in the domestic market. Lower realisations and flat operating margin can drag absolute Ebitda for primary steelmakers 5-7% YoY lower in FY25, at a time of substantial growth capex.**

According to a white paper by the Forum for Progressive Gig Workers, **the gig economy market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 17% YoY to reach a gross volume of USD 455 bn by 2024.** Its contribution to India's GDP is substantial, with estimates suggesting its potential to create 90 mn jobs and add 1.25% to the country's GDP over time. The gig economy supports sectors such as e-commerce, transportation, and delivery services, among others.

Equity Round up: S&P BSE Sensex opened at 80193 It made a weekly high of 80511 and a low of 78919 before closing 686 points higher at 79803.

Events to watch out for the next week:

International Events

1. S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI for Nov'24 on 02 Dec'24
2. S&P Global US Composite PMI for Nov'24 on 04 Dec'24
3. US Trade Balance data for Oct'24 on 05 Dec'24
4. HCOB Eurozone Composite PMI for Nov'24 on 04 Dec'24
5. Eurozone GDP data for Q3CY24 on 06 Dec'24
6. Caixin China Composite PMI for Nov'24 on 04 Dec'24

Domestic Events

1. Forex Reserves for week ended 29 November 2024 on 6 December 2024
2. HSBC India Manufacturing PMI for Nov'24 on 02 Dec'24
3. HSBC India Services PMI for Nov'24 on 04 Dec'24
4. HSBC India Composite PMI for Nov'24 on 04 Dec'24
5. RBI MPC Meeting outcome on 06 Dec'24

Key Equity Market Indices	Closing	% Change WoW
BSE Sensex	79,803	0.87
Nifty 50	24,131	0.94
BSE 100	25,547	1.34
BSE 200	11,123	1.70
BSE Midcap	46,071	2.31
BSE Smallcap	55,200	4.92
BSE FMCG	21,213	2.09
BSE HC	43,666	1.62
BSE IT	42,783	-0.15
BSE Auto	52,898	-0.50
BSE BANKEX	59,298	1.70
BSE CG	70,700	4.87
BSE CD	62,469	0.71
BSE Oil & Gas	26,813	4.24

Other Key Indices#	Closing	Change WoW
10 Year G-Sec (7.10% 2034)	6.83%	(-) 3 bps
Interbank Call	6.71%	8 bps
INR/USD	84.49	0.05%
Gold (Rs/10gm)	76,740	-1.35%

Taken during market hours , 10 Year G-Sec (7.10% 2034) and Interbank Call as on 28 Nov 24

World Indices	Closing	% Change WoW
Dow Jones*	44,722	1.94
Nasdaq*	19,060	0.46
FTSE	8,276	0.84
DAX	19,429	1.58
Hang Seng	19,424	1.01
Nikkei	38,208	-0.20
Bovespa*	1,24,610	-1.82
Indonesia Jakarta	7,114	-1.13

* Dow Jones and Nasdaq as on Wednesday and Bovespa as on Thursday

Rs. Bn	Gross Buying	Gross Selling	Net (WoW)
FPIs	1278.9	1144.4	134.5
DIIIs	404.9	402.4	2.5

Data for FPI from 22 Nov 2024 to 28 Nov 2024. Data for DII from 22 Nov 2024 to 28 Nov 2024.

Arbitrage Spreads	Spot	Future*	Prem/(Dis)
Nifty 50	24,131	24,318	187

*December 2024 Expiry

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