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Merry Christmas

Volume 1 Issue 15



BIZ & BEYOND





Breaking News



The Campus Grapevine

Impact of the Federal Reserve's Rate Cut on India and U.S. Economic Outlook Article by kshitij Modak

Global Market Watch: A Snapshot in Time

Commodities like gold, silver, and WTI crude oil also saw negative changes, though natural gas bucked the trend with a substantial 14.72% increase. Currency markets showed mixed performance against the Indian Rupee, with the US dollar gaining slightly while the Japanese Yen, Euro, and British Pound weakened. The cryptocurrency market also experienced a downturn, with Bitcoin and Ethereum showing losses, while Tether remained stable and BNB declined.

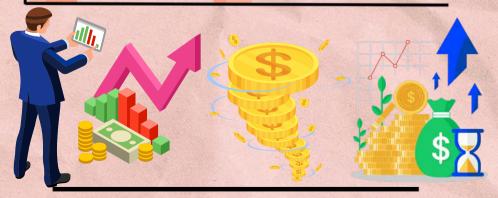
Index	Change	
Sensex	78,041.59	▼ -4.98%
Nifty50	23,587.50	▼ -4.77%
S&P 500	5,930.85	▼ -1.99%
NASDAQ	19,572.60	▼ -1.78%

Currency	Change	
JPY/INR	0.54	▼ -1,82%
EUR/INR	88.6	▼ -0.45%
USD/INR	84.95	▲ 0.15%
GBP/INR	106.77	▼ -0.21%



Commodity	Change	
Gold(US\$/OZ)	2,621.39	▼ -1.04%
Silver(US\$/OZ)	29.53	▼ -3.40%
WTI Crude Oil	69.1	▼ -1.94%
Natural Gas	3.74	▲ 14.72%

Crypto	Change	
втс	97845.92 7 -2.15%	
ETH	3475.32 🔻 -11.24%	
U\$DT	1 4 0.00%	
BNB	679 🔻 -4.04%	



 Market data reveals a predominantly downward trend across various asset classes. Stock indices, including the Sensex, Nifty50, S&P 500, and NASDAQ, all experienced declines, ranging from 1.78% to 4.98%.

This publication is a student-run project developed by Mohit Singh, Shubham Chaudhari, and Kishitij Modak, MBA Fintech students at DY Patil International University, under the guidance of Professor Suresh Kadam. Our mission is to deliver insightful and engaging content focused on the world of finance, with the aim of fostering financial literacy and awareness among our peers.



India's import of Russian oil drops in November on shrinking discounts





India's November imports of Russian crude oil plummeted to their lowest point since June 2022, despite Russia remaining India's primary supplier. This 55% drop coincided with a widening discount on Russian Urals crude. While Russia's overall fossil fuel revenues from India declined, China emerged as the largest buyer of Russian coal and crude. "India's imports of Russian crude oil dropped by a massive 55 per cent in November - the lowest figure since June 2022," the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) said its latest report.





More Specifically





Procter & Gamble to disclose more details about wood-pulp audits





Procter & Gamble has agreed to disclose more about its wood-pulp auditing practices to investors following pressure over sustainable sourcing. The consumer goods giant will share more supply chain information by mid-2025, while also investing in alternative materials research. However, disagreement remains regarding P&G's continued reliance on Canadian pulp, which some investors consider environmentally risky. The next step is for P&G and the investors to discuss specifics of what the company will now disclose, said Andrew Shalit, a shareholder advocate at Green Century. Shalit sees such disclosures as important to helping environment-minded investors evaluate their holdings in P&G and other companies that buy pulp, particularly from Canada's ecologically sensitive forests. The maker of Bounty paper towels said this month it guards details of its global supply chain for competitive reasons.



More Specifically







The \$80 million question: Can bond reward force Sri Lanka to improve governance?



The \$80 million question: Can bond reward force Sri Lanka to improve governance?

Sri Lanka's debt restructuring introduces a novel governancelinked bond, incentivizing improved financial management. This innovative instrument offers reduced interest rates if Sri Lanka meets revenue and transparency targets, potentially saving millions. Investors view this as a precedent for future debt deals, linking governance to performance, but bond success remains crucial for wider adoption.

More Specifically





"This crisis is first a governance crisis, and that's what becomes an economic crisis," said Nishan de Mel, executive director of Colombobased Verité Research, the think tank that first proposed the governance bond.



linked to governance that will cut Sri Lanka's debt costs if it improves transparency and financial management.







As bitcoin soars, luxury brands consider accepting crypto payments

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In recent weeks, upscale French luxury department store Printemps announced it was teaming up with the world's largest crypto exchange, Binance, and French financial tech company Lyzi to accept cryptocurrencies including bitcoin and ethereum in its stores in France - becoming the first European department store to do so. The move, coming as bitcoin rises, has been noticed by other brands and retailers who are showing interest in joining in.



KEY POINTS

"There have been quite a few calls it's generated interest," said David
Princay, president of Binance France,
who said the company is in talks with
other luxury labels.

Luxury lighter and pen maker S.T.

Dupont told Reuters it aims to accept cryptocurrency payments in two Paris stores before the holidays.

More Specifically



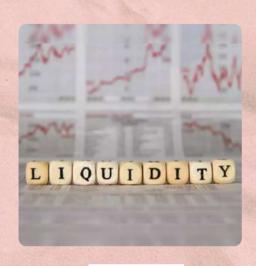


Indian banking liquidity deficit hits highest in six months



Indian banking liquidity deficit hits highest in six months

India's banking system faced its highest liquidity deficit in nearly six months due to advance tax payments and likely central bank intervention to stabilize the rupee. The deficit reached ₹1.5 trillion (\$17.7 billion) as of Monday, pushing up borrowing costs. The RBI's dollar sales and festive season cash withdrawals further strained liquidity despite recent measures to boost it.









₹12.3 lakh crore: Indian banks' loan write-off in past 10 years

Indian banks wrote off substantial loans totaling Rs 12.3 lakh crore over the past decade. Public sector banks led write-offs, particularly in recent years. However, write-offs declined to Rs 1.7 lakh crore in FY24. Banks are actively pursuing loan recovery through various measures. Despite write-offs, public sector banks reported record profits in FY24, reaching Rs 1.41 lakh crore.



More Specifically







RBI lifts business restrictions on two Edelweiss Group entities



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted business restrictions on ECL Finance Ltd and Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited. The RBI had imposed these curbs in May due to supervisory concerns, including restrictions on structured transactions and acquiring financial assets. The companies subsequently implemented remedial measures, satisfying the RBI and leading to the lifting of the restrictions.

ECL Finance Ltd was directed to cease and desist from undertaking structured transactions related to its wholesale exposures, barring regular repayment or closure of accounts.







Similarly, Edelweiss Asset
Reconstruction Company
Limited was restrained from
acquiring financial assets,
including security receipts
(SRs), or reorganizing existing
SRs into senior and subordinate
tranches.







The Campus Grapevine



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Article by Kshitij Modak MBA FinTech-DB 2023-25 Batch

The recent decision by the U.S. Federal Reserve to lower its main interest rate by 0.25% to a range of 4.25% to 4.50% has important effects on global markets, especially for emerging economies like India. This article examines how the Fed's rate cut affects the Indian financial scene, while also providing an outlook on the U.S. economy.

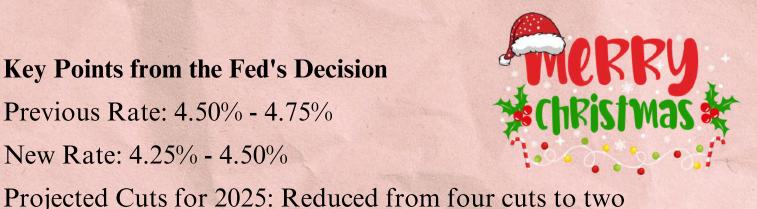
What Happened with the Fed's Rate Cut?

On December 18, 2024, the Federal Reserve announced its third rate cut of the year. While many expected this move, the Fed also indicated that it plans to be more cautious in the future, projecting only two more rate cuts in 2025 instead of four. This change has already started to impact global financial markets.

Key Points from the Fed's Decision

Previous Rate: 4.50% - 4.75%

New Rate: 4.25% - 4.50%





Effects on Indian Stock Markets

After the Fed's announcement, Indian stock indices like the Sensex and Nifty fell by about 1.5% on December 19. This decline mirrored losses in U.S. markets, where the Dow Jones dropped over 2.5% and the Nasdaq fell more than 3.5%. The drop in Indian markets can be linked to several reasons:

- Foreign Investor Outflows: Investors pulled out money due to rising U.S. bond yields and a stronger dollar.
- Rupee Weakness: The Indian rupee hit a record low of 85 against the dollar, adding pressure on the markets.

Stock Market Performance After the Fed's Announcement

Index	Change (%)	Date
Sensex	-1.5%	Dec 19, 2024
Nifty	-1.5%	Dec 19, 2024
Dow Jones	-2.5%	Dec 18, 2024
Nasdaq	-3.5%	Dec 18, 2024

Merry Christmes



Currency Changes

The Fed's actions have also affected currency markets:

- Rupee Performance: The Indian rupee has weakened against the dollar due to investor concerns and capital outflows.
- Possible RBI Response: Analysts believe that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may postpone any rate cuts until April 2025 because of these pressures.

Currency Exchange Rates			
Currency Pair	Exchange Rate	Date	
INR/USD	85.06	Dec 19, 2024	
Previous Low	84.93	Dec 18, 2024	





U.S. Economic Outlook

The U.S. economy is showing strong signs of growth but faces uncertainties ahead:

- Strong Growth: The U.S. economy grew at an annual rate of 2.8% in Q3 2024, supported by strong consumer spending and government investment.
- Low Unemployment: The unemployment rate remains low at 4.2%, although some signs indicate a cooling labor market.
- Inflation Trends: Inflation has been gradually decreasing but ticked up slightly in October, with core inflation at 2.8% year-over-year.

Key Economic Projections for the U.S.

Metric	Value	Date
GDP Growth (Q3)	2.8%	Dec 2024
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	Nov 2024
Core Inflation	2.8%	Oct 2024













Conclusion

The recent rate cut by the Federal Reserve is expected to boost global economic activity; however, its implications for India are complex and multifaceted. While there may be opportunities for increased investment and lower borrowing costs in the future, immediate challenges like currency depreciation and stock market volatility must be addressed.

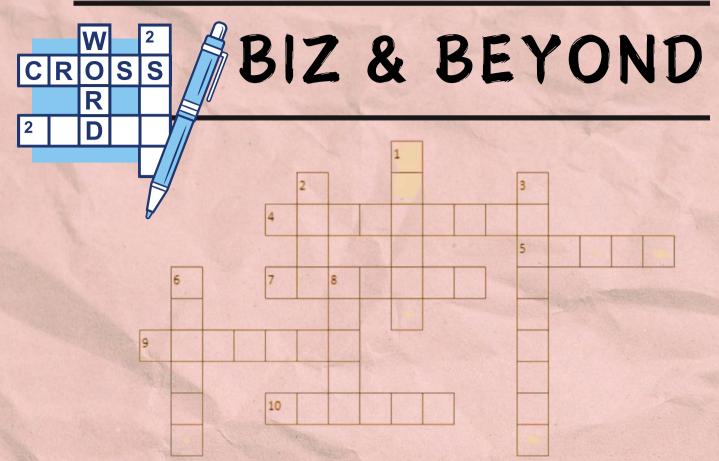
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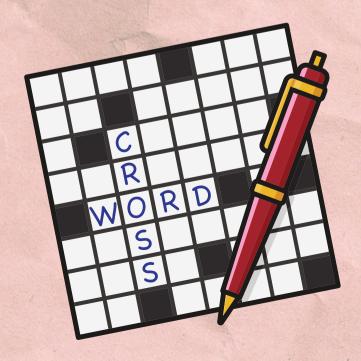


Across

- 4. Software giant known for Windows
- 5. Smartphone manufacturer based in Cupertino 2. Sportswear giant with a swoosh logo
- 7. Entertainment streaming service with a red
- 9. German engineering and technology company 8. Electric car manufacturer led by Elon Musk specializing in industrial automation
- 10. Giant online retailer founded by Jeff Bezos

Down

- 1. Search engine giant, also a verb
- 3. Coffeehouse chain with a green mermaid logo
- 6. Pharmaceutical giant that developed Lipitor



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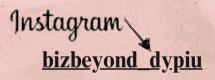
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Announcement Group



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