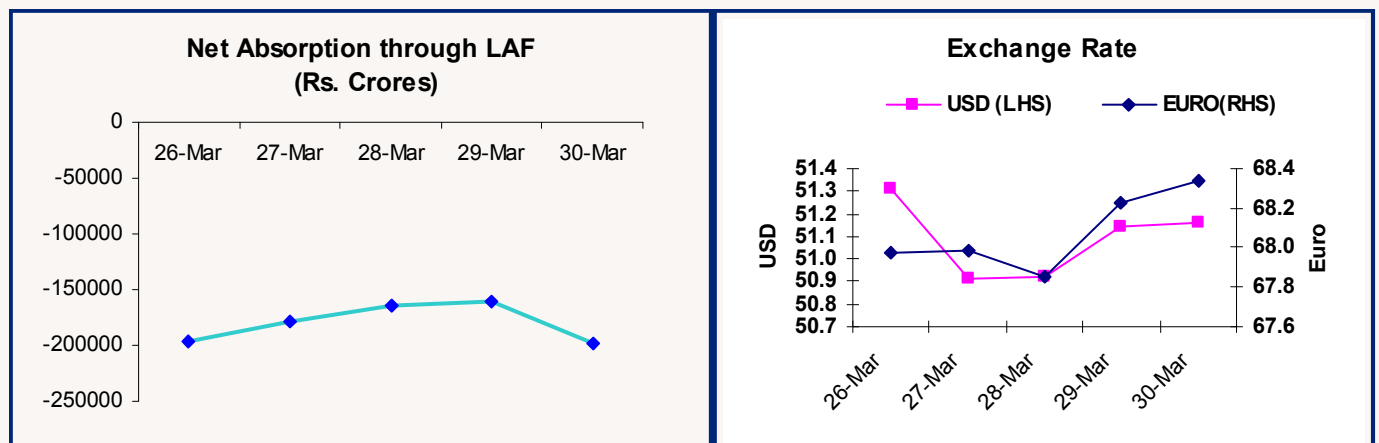


Policy Development

- » After nearly two decades, the West Bengal government has proposed reintroduction of “entry tax” on goods by passing the West Bengal Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Areas Bill 2012. According to the Bill, the tax may be imposed on movement of goods entering West Bengal from other States as well as movements of goods within the State.
- » Maharashtra has partially withdrawn the tax on LPG for domestic use. The tax has been reduced to 3% from 5% proposed in the annual budget 2012-13.
- » With surplus domestic production, the government is likely to allocate quantities of sugar to be sold in the open market and ration shops on quarterly basis from next month instead of current practice of fixing quota every month.



BANKING INDICATORS

			Rs. Billion
Indicators	Outstanding as on 9 March, 2012	% Variation over Fortnight	Year
Total Bank Credit	44,866.8	1.8	16.3
Food Credit	838.4	0.8	26.9
Non Food Credit	44,028.4	1.8	16.2
Aggregate Deposit	58,533.7	0.7	13.8
Broad Money (M3)	72,830.4	0.8	13.1
Credit Deposit Ratio	76.7		

Source: RBI

EQUITY MARKETS

- » Global bourses traded broadly lower, but US bourses were the best performers among the major stock markets. US bourses, which closed about a percent higher, saw continued flow of positive economic indicators last week.
- » Indian markets remained volatile during the week and closed marginally higher than the previous week. The undertone remained cautious as there were lingering worries over taxing of foreign institutional investors (FIIs).
- » Total turnover during the week on BSE stood at Rs. 14,769 crore and on NSE at Rs. 60,864 crore.

Global Stock Indices	Closing Value as on 30 March 2012	Weekly Change (%)
NYSE: DJIA	13,212.0	1.0
FTSE 100	5,768.5	-1.5
Nikkei 225	10,083.6	0.7
Straits Times	3,010.5	0.7
KOSPI	2,014.0	-0.6

Source: Yahoo Finance

Net Institutional Activity		
	Equity	Debt
Weekly FII (US \$ Million)	-143.2	-777.9
Year -to-date FII (US\$ million)	8,849.7	3,788.4
Weekly Mutual Funds# (Rs Crore)	-334.2	24,630.4

Source: SEBI #as on 29 March, 2012

Indian Equity Indices	Closing Value on 30 March 2012	Week's % Change
BSE SENSEX	17,404.2	0.2
BSE 500	6,759.6	0.3
S&P CNX NIFTY	5,295.6	0.3
S&P CNX 500	4,221.8	0.5

Source: NSE, BSE

COMMODITY MARKETS

- » NYMEX West Texas Intermediate Crude Oil for May delivery stood at US\$ 103.0 per barrel on 30 March 2012, down by US\$ 3.9 per barrel from the previous week.
- » New York spot price for Gold was US\$ 1,668.7 per ounce as on 30 March 2012, up by US\$ 6.2 per ounce from the previous week.

Commodity Spot Indices	Closing Value as on 30 March 2012	Week's % Change
MCX AGRI	3,618.0	-0.9
MCX METAL	4,833.0	0.1
MCX ENERGY	3,409.9	-1.8
MCX COMDEX	3,849.8	-0.7

Source: MCX, NCDEX

INDUSTRY

Banking

- » The Finance Ministry is in talks with the Home Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India on guidelines for expansion of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) abroad, in sync with India's relations with other countries.

Oil and Gas

- » State run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is planning to sell stake in four coal-bed methane (CBM) blocks. UK listed Great Eastern Energy Corporation, Brisbane-based Dart Energy and Essar Energy are among the bidders.

Health

- » The Planning Commission plans to give a big thrust on health through a wider programme than the existing National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), in the 12th five year plan. It would be a pan India programme, meant to incentives states to increase their annual spending on health.

BSE Indices	Closing Value on 30 March 2012	Week's % Change
AUTO INDEX	10,134.9	1.4
BANKEX	11,751.2	-0.9
BSE CAPITAL GOODS	10,027.9	-0.8
BSE CONSUMER DURABLE	6,402.5	-1.0
BSE FMCG	4,493.1	2.0
BSE HEALTHCARE	6,625.7	2.5
BSE INFOTECH	6,081.9	-0.2
BSE MID CAP	6,346.4	-0.1
BSE SMALL CAP	6,629.4	0.0
BSE TECK INDEX	3,562.4	-0.2
METAL INDEX	11,346.3	1.1
OIL & GAS INDEX	8,087.5	0.4

Source: BSE

CNX Segment Indices	Closing Value on 30 March 2012	Week's % Change
CNX NIFTY Junior	10,450.2	1.5
CNX MIDCAP	7,711.4	0.5
BANK NIFTY	10,212.8	-0.8
CNX IT	6,516.0	-0.2
CNX Realty	239.1	-0.7
CNX Infrastructure	2,509.2	-0.5

Source: NSE

GLOBAL NEWS

USA

» In the week ending 24 March, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 359,000, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's revised figure of 364,000.

» Real Gross Domestic Product in US increased at an annual rate of 3.0% in the fourth quarter of 2011, according to the third estimate. In the third quarter, real GDP increased 1.8%.

» Personal income and disposable income increased by 0.2% respectively in February 2012. personal consumption expenditure increased by 0.8%.

Europe

» Euro Area policy makers unveiled a package of 500 billion euros (US\$ 667 billion) in fresh bailout funds in addition to 300 billion euros already committed earlier.

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CII Economy Update is a weekly report prepared by the **CII Economic Research Group**. Reach us at: ecopolicy@cii.in



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