



March 15, 2024

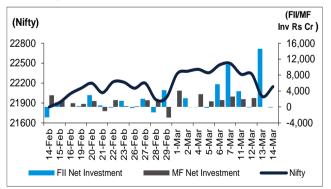


DOMESTIC EQUITY

- Indian equity indices snapped a four-week gain this week on weak global cues as uncertainty over the timing in the Federal Reserve's rate cut resurfaced following hotter-than-expected US inflation data. S&P BSE Sensex and Nifty 50 declined about 2%, each.
- All sectors ended in the red with realty, metal and power falling the most. S&P BSE Realty, S&P BSE Metal and S&P BSE Power plunged 9.3%, 7.7% and 6.7%, respectively.

Broad Indices	Week change%	3 months change%	1 year change%
S&P BSE Sensex	-1.99	1.62	26.21
Nifty 50	-2.09	2.64	29.76
S&P BSE Midcap	-4.02	5.67	59.02
S&P BSE Smallcap	-5.91	-0.17	54.63
S&P BSE Bankex	-2.87	-2.77	19.47
S&P BSE CG	-4.45	4.28	65.37
S&P BSE FMCG	-0.87	-0.97	20.92
S&P BSE IT	0.48	4.27	33.13
S&P BSE Healthcare	-2.82	11.48	57.50

Source: BSE, NSE



Source: SEBI, NSE



GLOBAL EQUITY

- US stocks ended higher this week. Initially, markets rode the previous week's optimism of a rate cut by June 2024.
- Britain's FTSE rose 1% after monthly GDP data indicated that the economy returned to growth at the start of 2024.
- Asian equities ended mostly higher. Japan's Nikkei Index declined 2.47% as investors evaluated the possibility of a policy shift at the upcoming Bank of Japan meeting next week and a sell-off in semiconductor-led shares.
- Hong Kong's Hang Seng advanced 2.25% after higher-than-expected Chinese inflation data raised hopes of improvement in spending activity in the country. However, this optimism faded away by the end of the week after the Chinese central bank left its key policy rates unchanged.
- China's Shanghai Composite rose marginally after an upswing in consumer prices raised hopes of an economic recovery.



DOMESTIC DEBT

Indicators	Mar 15, 2024	Previous Week	Trend
Call Rate	6.35%	5.75%	↑
3 M CP	8.05%	8.22%	Ψ
1 Yr CP	8.10%	8.20%	Ψ
3 M CD	7.60%	7.65%	•
1 Yr CD	7.68%	7.65%	^
5 Yr AAA	7.59%	7.61%	Ψ
1 Yr G-Sec*	7.13%	7.04%	↑
5 Yr G-Sec*	7.06%	7.03%	↑
10 Yr G-Sec*	7.06%	7.03%	↑
USD/INR*	82.88	82.78	^

Source: CRISIL Fixed Income Database, RESERVE BANK OF INDIA *Weighted Average Yield





March 15, 2024

- Government bond prices ended lower in the week ended March 15, 2024. Yield of the 10-year benchmark 7.18% 2033 paper closed at 7.06% on March 15, 2024 compared with 7.03% on March 07, 2024.
- Bond yields rose, tracking a rally in the US treasury yields after latest inflation readings triggered speculation about the timing of the Fed's rate cut decision. However, bond prices witnessed some gains earlier in the week, owing to intermittent fall in the US treasury yield as a slew of weak data coupled with the latest comments from Fed Chair Mr. Jerome Powell cemented hopes that the Apex Bank may cut interest rates by June 2024.
- A spike in global oil prices also cut short prospects of a further drop in bond prices.



Source: CRISIL Fixed Income Database

GLOBAL DEBT

- US Treasury prices declined this week after February's higher-than-expected inflation readings triggered speculation about the timing of The Fed's rate cut decision.
- US inflation unexpectedly came in higher at 3.2% in February 2024, compared with 3.1% in January, while core inflation eased to a near three-year low of 3.8%, down slightly from 3.9%.

- Yields rose after data showed that the Producer Price Index rose 0.6% on-month in February 2024 compared with 0.3% in the previous month, while the initial jobless claims for the week ending March 9, 2024, came in at 209,000, lower than the downwardly revised 210,000 claims in the previous week.
- Weak monthly retail sales print in February 2024 also kept bond prices under pressure.
- Yield on the 10-year benchmark Treasury bond ended higher at 4.29% on March 14, 2024, compared with 4.08% on March 08, 2024.



DOMESTIC NEWS

- India's Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation eased to four-month low of 5.09% in February 2024 compared to 5.1% in January 2024.
- India's Industrial production increased 3.8% on-year in January 2024 the same as the previous month.
- Wholesale inflation eased to a four-month low of 0.20% in February 2024 compared with 0.27% in January 2024, despite an increase in food prices as input cost pressures remained benign.
- The Commerce Ministry said that India's merchandise trade deficit widened to \$18.71 billion in February 2024 from \$17.49 bn in January 2024.
- Chief Economic Advisor, Mr. V Anantha Nageswaran said that India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in FY24 will be "closer" to 8% on higher activity in industry and services verticals.
- Fitch Ratings in its March Outlook report raised India's real GDP for FY25 to grow by 7%, a 0.5 percentage points upwards revision, as it expects the economy to continue its strong expansion.
- India and four-nation European bloc EFTA (The European Free Trade Association) signed a free trade agreement to help promote investments and exports of key domestic services sectors such as IT, audio-visual, and movement of skilled professionals.





March 15, 2024

- Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi virtually laid the foundation stone of three semiconductor projects worth about Rs 1.25 lakh crore, including the Rs 91,000 crore facility in Dholera, which will commence chip production by 2026.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has asked field offices to support in upskilling women logistics service providers and custom brokers as well as for custodians of freight stations to ensure safe and secure working environment.
- The Government notified a Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP).
- The Cabinet approved two new Metro rail corridors in Delhi-NCR.
- The Cabinet gave its nod to the MoU between India and Bhutan for general supply of Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants (POL) and related products from India to Bhutan.
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has raised the threshold limit for mergers and amalgamations (M&As) that need approval of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- The Finance Ministry has directed all state-owned banks to review their gold loan portfolio as instances of non-compliance with regulatory norms have been noticed by the Government.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) amended the regulations governing credit and debit cards.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) notified the regulations to govern Small and Medium Real Estate Investment Trusts (SM-REITs) of income generating and completed properties that may include commercial assets, rental housing, warehousing, and hotels among others.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairperson, Ms. Madhabi Puri Buch said that the regulator will begin the T+0 trade cycle settlement on an optional basis by March 28, 2024.
- SEBI Chairperson, Ms. Madhabi Puri Buch highlighted that certain pockets of small cap and mid

- cap space appear to be experiencing a favorable reassessment, others seem to be displaying signs of irrational exuberance.
- SEBI Chairperson, Ms. Madhabi Puri Buch said that the market regulator has noticed "signs of manipulation in the SME segment".



- US inflation unexpectedly edged up to 3.2% in February 2024, compared to 3.1% in January 2024 while core inflation eased to a near three-year low of 3.8%, down slightly from 3.9%.
- US consumer inflation expectations for the year ahead remained steady at 3% in February of 2024, the same as in the previous two months.
- US Consumer Price Index rose by 3.2% on-year to 310.326 points in February 2024, following a 3.1% increase in January 2024.
- US Producer Price Index (PPI) rose 1.6% on-year in February 2024, compared to revised 1% growth in January 2024, while core PPI remained flat at 2%.
- The Eurozone's GDP expanded by 0.1% on-year in Q4 2023 compared to an upwardly revised 0.1% reading in Q3 of 2023 while on quarterly basis economy stagnated in Q4 2023, following a 0.1% contraction in Q3 2023.
- Eurozone Industrial Production decreased 6.70% onyear in January 2024 compared to revised 0.2% growth in December 2023.
- UK GDP contracted 0.3% in January 2024, following a flat reading in December 2023.
- China consumer prices rose by 0.7% on-year in February 2024 a turnaround from the sharpest drop in over 14 years of 0.8% in January 2024.
- Japan Producer Price Inflation rose by 0.6% on-year in February 2024, faster than a 0.2% rise in the prior month.





March 15, 2024

DAY	EVENTS		
Monday, Mar 18, 2024	US NAHB Housing Market Index, March		
	Eurozone Inflation Rate, February		
	China Industrial Production, February		
	China Retail Sales, February		
	China Unemployment rate, February		
Tuesday, Mar 19, 2024	US Housing Starts, February		
	Eurozone ZEW Economic Sentiment Index, March		
	Japan BoJ Interest Rate Decision		
	Japan Industrial Production, January		
Wednesday, Mar 20, 2024	US Fed Interest Rate Decision		
	UK Inflation Rate, February		
	UK Retails Prices, February		
	China Loan Prime Rate 1Y/5Y, March		
Thursday, Mar 21, 2024	US S&P Global Composite/Manufacturing/Services PMI Flash, Marc		
	Eurozone HCOB Composite/Manufacturing/Services PMI Flash March		
	UK BoE Interest Rate Decision		
	UK S&P Global Composite/Manufacturing/Services PMI Flash, Marc		
	Japan Jibun Bank Manufacturing/Services/Composite PMI Flash March		
	India HSBC Composite/Manufacturing/Services PMI Flash, March		
	UK Gfk Consumer Confidence, March		
Friday, March 22, 2024	UK Retail Sales, February		
	Japan Inflation Rate, February		
	 India Foreign Exchange Reserves, March 15, 2024 		





March 15, 2024

Source: CRISIL

Disclaimer: CRISIL Research, a division of CRISIL Limited (CRISIL) has taken due care and caution in preparing this Report based on the information obtained by CRISIL from sources which it considers reliable (Data). However, CRISIL does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the Data / Report and is not responsible for any errors or omissions or for the results obtained from the use of Data / Report. This Report is not a recommendation to invest / disinvest in any entity covered in the Report and no part of this report should be construed as an investment advice. CRISIL especially states that it has no financial liability whatsoever to the subscribers/ users/ transmitters/ distributors of this Report. CRISIL Research operates independently of, and does not have access to information obtained by CRISIL's Ratings Division / CRISIL Risk and Infrastructure Solutions Limited (CRIS), which may, in their regular operations, obtain information of a confidential nature. The views expressed in this Report are that of CRISIL Research and not of CRISIL's Ratings Division / CRIS. No part of this Report may be published / reproduced in any form without CRISIL's prior written approval. CRISIL or its associates may have commercial transactions with the company/entity.

MUTUAL FUND INVESTMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO MARKET RISKS, READ ALL SCHEME RELATED DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY.

Disclaimers: This document is for information purposes only and is not an offer to sell or a solicitation to buy any mutual fund units / securities or to have business relations with Union Asset Management Company Private Limited (the AMC) / Union Trustee Company Private Limited (the Trustee Company) or any of its associates. The information in this document is as of Mar 15, 2024, unless stated otherwise, and may change without notice. The information in this document alone is not sufficient and should not be used for the development or implementation of an investment strategy. Neither the Sponsors/the AMC/ the Trustee Company/ their associates/ any person connected with it, accepts any liability arising from the use of this information.

This report and the views expressed in this report are that of CRISIL Research. The Sponsors/ the AMC/ the Trustee Company/ their associates/ any person connected with it, do not warrant the completeness or accuracy of the information and disclaim all liabilities, losses and damages arising out of the use of this information. The recipients of this material should rely on their investigations and take their own professional advice.

Statutory Details: Constitution: Union Mutual Fund has been set up as a Trust under the Indian Trusts Act,1882; Sponsors: Union Bank of India and Dai-ichi Life Holdings, Inc.; Trustee: Union Trustee Company Private Limited, [Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U65923MH2009PTC198198], a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 with a limited liability; Investment Manager: Union Asset Management Company Private Limited, [Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U65923MH2009PTC198201], a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 with a limited liability. Registered Office: Unit 503, 5th Floor, Leela Business Park, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059.Toll Free No. 18002002268/18005722268 · Non Toll Free. 022-67483333 · Fax No: 022-67483402 · Website: www.unionmf.com · Email: investorcare@unionmf.com