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DAILY REPORTER

By
India IPO

Recent IPO Updates:

- As markets rebound, the IPO pipeline is active again, though deal sizes are shrinking. Companies are prioritizing smaller, more frequent tranches to manage valuation expectations.
- Skyways Air Services, the air freight leader, filed draft papers for an IPO of 4.63 crore equity shares. The issue includes fresh capital to repay debt and to meet the growing working capital requirements.

P.E. & Funding Updates:

- FMCG giant Marico is set to acquire a 60% stake in plant-based nutrition brand Cosmix at an equity valuation of ₹375 Cr, strengthening its digital-first wellness portfolio.
- Unicorn India Ventures, the deep-tech focused VC, closed its third fund at ₹1,200 Cr, exceeding its target. It will invest in semiconductors, spacetechnology and AI infrastructure domains.
- The clean-label food startup, The Whole Truth, raised ₹461 Cr (\$51 Mn) in Series D funding. The capital will be used to scale manufacturing and prepare for a public listing.
- Climate-tech startup Varaha secured ₹181 Cr (\$20 Mn) in Series B funding led by WestBridge Capital. The funds will enhance its carbon removal and MRV scientific capabilities.
- Enterprise AI platform Loop AI raised ₹126 Cr (\$14 Mn) led by Nyca Partners. The funds will expand its back-office automation tools for restaurants and retail.
- A martech startup, Fibr AI, raised ₹51.5 Cr (\$5.7 Mn) in a seed round led by Accel. It aims to develop agentic AI to transform static websites into adaptive ones.
- Dhruva Space, the spacetechnology startup, is raising ₹38 Cr (\$4.2 Mn) in an ongoing pre-Series B round. The capital supports its mission to build large-scale satellite assembly and testing infrastructure.
- State reports show a 30% jump in funding and growth for women-led startups, highlighting a significant shift in the entrepreneurial landscape and investor confidence in diverse leadership.

FII/DII Activity (in ₹crores)

FII (Cash)	29.79
DII (Cash)	249.54
FII (Index Futures)	1,772.25
FII (Index Options)	-4,895.92
FII (Stock Futures)	625.68
FII (Stock Options)	240.8

Global Market Snapshot

Dow Jones	49,501.30	(▲ 0.53)
S&P 500	6,917.81	(▼ -0.84)
Nasdaq	23,255.19	(▼ -1.43)
Gift Nifty	25,837.50	(▼ -0.11)
Nikkei 225	54,293.36	(▼ -0.78)
Hang Seng	26,847.32	(▲ 0.05)

Macro Data

Brent Crude	69.46	(▲ 3.16)
Gold	151,190.00	(▼ -5.30)
Silver	246,360.00	(▼ -12.89)
Dollar Index	97.64	(▲ 0.27)
INR/USD	90.43	(▲ 0.18)
India 10Y Bond Yield	6.73	(▼ -0.59)
US 10Y Bond Yield	4.28	(▲ 0.23)

Indian Market

BSE Sensex	83,817.69	(▲ 0.09)
NIFTY 50	25,776.00	(▲ 0.19)
BSE SENSEX 50	26,921.72	(▲ 0.14)
NIFTY NEXT 50	69,298.55	(▲ 0.65)
BSE SENSEX Next 50	86,065.66	(▲ 0.65)
NIFTY BANK	60,238.15	(▲ 0.33)
BSE BANKEX	67,699.56	(▲ 0.41)
NIFTY FINANCIAL SERVICES	27,802.55	(▲ 0.46)
BSE Financial Services	13,156.69	(▲ 0.62)
NIFTY MIDCAP SELECT	13,721.85	(▲ 0.48)
BSE MidCap Select	17,257.05	(▲ 0.56)
India VIX	12.25	(▼ -5.04)

Business & Economic Updates:

- IT firms are divided over using AI for coding tests in recruitment. This debate comes as several tech firms prepare for public listings amidst shifting hiring norms.
- Apollo Tyres will invest ₹5,810 Cr to expand its Andhra Pradesh unit. The plan targets a 52% rise in passenger car radial capacity by 2029 to meet demand.
- Precious metals saw a massive surge; Gold reached a record high of ₹1.65 Lakh per 10g, while silver prices also soared amid global economic uncertainty and demand.
- Strong domestic demand and export orders lifted the Services PMI in January, indicating robust growth in the sector and a positive outlook for the current fiscal quarter.
- SEBI member Ananth Narayan Pandey clarified that the regulator is not currently considering new restrictive measures on the Futures and Options (F&O) segment for retail investors.
- SEBI plans to revamp its 'fit and proper' framework for market intermediaries to ensure better compliance and transparency across the evolving financial services ecosystem in India.
- Finance Minister Sitharaman assured that MSMEs "won't be left behind," promising continued policy support and fiscal measures to integrate small businesses into the global supply chain.
- The government is launching an AI platform to provide instant support and crop advice to farmers, aiming to boost agricultural productivity through real-time data and technology.
- The government has deferred restrictions on common directorships across banks and insurers, providing temporary relief to board members holding multiple positions across the two financial sectors.
- UIDAI has deactivated over 2.5 Cr Aadhaar numbers to prevent misuse and fraud, as part of a larger cleanup to strengthen the integrity of the national ID system.
- The government is eyeing the procurement of 25,000 more GPUs as the 4th tender of the India AI Mission closes, aiming to bolster domestic sovereign AI computing power.
- Industry experts suggest the biggest challenge in India remains convincing family-run businesses to professionalize and let go of operational control to allow for broader institutional growth.
- Warburg Pincus Hub, the Global Chairman Chip Kaye named India as the firm's 2nd largest private equity hub after the US, having deployed over ₹83,000 Cr since 1996.

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- Minister Piyush Goyal assured Parliament that India's core sensitivities in food and agriculture are fully safeguarded. The deal is expected to unlock massive opportunities for MSMEs.
- The US-India deal works by reducing tariffs on Indian exports to 18%. This "breaking of the glass wall" enhances the competitiveness of Indian textiles, leather and marine products.

Geopolitical Updates:

- US VP JD Vance proposed a 55-nation trading bloc for critical minerals. EAM Jaishankar backed the "FORGE" initiative to de-risk supply chains and counter China's dominance.
- Impact of the India-US Trade Deal, as 40% of India's exports to the US already enjoy zero duty. Both nations are working toward a formal trade deal to spur investment and reset strategic ties.
- India and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will ink Terms of Reference (ToR) today to officially restart Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, targeting energy and services.
- PM Modi will visit Malaysia on Feb 7-8 to discuss defense ties and trade, focusing on palm oil exports and semiconductor manufacturing cooperation in the ASEAN region.
- Minister Piyush Goyal emphasized that diversifying energy sources is at the core of India's strategy to ensure long-term energy security amidst volatile global geopolitical dynamics.
- Russia stated that India's consistent oil purchases maintain global market stability. Despite a 12% import dip amid US-India trade talks, the Kremlin views India's diversification as a standard sovereign economic move.

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