



Market Wrap

March 24, 2017

PSU Banks rally on hopes of NPA resolution; weekly fall in benchmark indices witnessed...

The benchmark indices on Friday settled higher thanks to gains in banking stocks following news reports that the Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has promised to offer a solution to the growing nonperforming assets (NPA) crisis in next few days.

The S&P BSE Sensex ended at 29,421, up 89 points, while the broader Nifty50 settled at 9,108, up 22 points. Both the indices logged their first weekly loss in March, retreating from a record high hit last week.

In the broader market, the S&P BSE Midcap ended 0.1% down, while the S&P BSE Smallcap index gained 0.3%.

The market breadth, indicating the overall health of the market, turned negative. On the BSE, 1,471 shares declined and 1,346 shares advanced. A total of 218 shares were unchanged.

Sectors and Stocks

Nifty PSU Bank index (up 1.5%) was the leading sectoral gainer, led by gains in Oriental Bank of Commerce (up 7%), Bank of India (up 5%), Syndicate Bank (up 4%) and Punjab National Bank (up 4%).

Nifty Bank and Nifty Private Bank indices settled nearly 1% higher.

Among individual stocks, Bank of Baroda, ICICI Bank and SBI were the top movers on Nifty.

YES Bank closed 1% higher at Rs 1,532 after the private sector lender announced that its qualified institutional placement (QIP) offer has opened on Thursday.

NHPC rose 2% after the company said it signed power purchase agreements with Tata Power-Delhi Distribution on 22 March 2017 for seven power stations, namely Bairasiul, Salal, Tanakpur, Chamera-I, Uri-I, Sewa-II and Chamera-III for a period of 35 years from the date of commercial operations (COD) of the respective power stations.

Skipper rallied 8% after the company said that it has secured contracts worth around Rs 405 crore for supply of transmission towers to the projects of Power Grid Corporation of India, Transmissions Corporation of Telangana and Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand. The announcement was made during market hours today, 24 March 2017.

Global markets

Global markets traded mixed today. While, European markets opened lower amid uncertainty over a delayed vote on US President Donald Trump's health-care bill, Asian markets closed higher. The pan-European STOXX 600 was 0.2% lower. France's CAC 40 shed 0.3%, while FTSE 100 was little changed.

In Asia, Australia bounced back from a tough few days to be up 0.8%, while MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan was all but flat. Japan's Nikkei added 0.8% encouraged by a slight softening in the yen. China's Shanghai Composite gained 0.6%, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.1%.



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For research related queries contact:

Mr. Akash Jain – Vice President (Research) at, 022-67160431 (D)

CIN: L74140MH1986PLC041941

SEBI registration Number: INH000001170 as per SEBI (Research Analysts) Regulations, 2014.

Website: www.ajcononline.com

Corporate and Broking Division

408 - (4th Floor), Express Zone, "A" Wing, Cello – Sonal Realty, Near Oberoi Mall and Patel's, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai – 400063. Tel: 91-22-67160400, Fax: 022-28722062

Registered Office:

101, Samarth, Off. Hinduja Hospital, 151 Lt. P.N. Kotnis Road, Mahim (West), Mumbai – 400016. Tel: 022-24460335/36/40