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DAILY NEWS DIGEST BY BFSI BOARD, ICAI

July 29, 2021

• Central Bank of India reports standalone net profit of ₹206 crore: Central Bank of India (CBoI) is back in the black, reporting a standalone net profit of ₹206 crore in the first quarter (Q1 FY22) on the back of healthy growth in net interest income (NII) and a substantial decline in loan loss provisions. The public sector bank had reported a net loss of ₹1,349 crore in the fourth quarter of FY21. It posted a net profit of ₹135 crore in Q1 FY21. Net interest income/NII (difference between interest earned and interest expended) rose 41 per cent quarter-on-quarter (q-o-q) to ₹2,135 crore (₹1,516 crore in Q4 FY21). However, NII in the reporting quarter was a tad lower vis-a-vis year-ago period's (Q1 FY21) ₹2,146 crore.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/central-bank-of-india-reports-standalone-net-profit-of-206-crore/article35591706.ece

• RBI imposes Rs 5 crore penalty on Axis Bank: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 5 crore on Axis Bank for contravention of certain provisions of directions issued by the RBI, including on cybersecurity framework. The penalty has been imposed for "contravention of/non-compliance" with certain provisions of directions issued by the RBI. They include 'Strengthening the Controls of Payment Ecosystem between Sponsor Banks and SCBs/UCBs as a Corporate Customer'; 'Cyber Security Framework in Banks'; and 'Reserve Bank of India (Financial Services provided by Banks) Directions, 2016'. They also include 'Financial Inclusion-Access to Banking Services-Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account'; and 'Frauds-Classification and Reporting'. The RBI said the statutory inspections for supervisory evaluation (ISE) of the bank were conducted with reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2017, (ISE 2017), March 31, 2018, (ISE 2018), and March 31, 2019 (ISE 2019).

https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/rbi-imposes-rs-5-crore-penalty-on-axis-bank-121072900250_1.html#:~:text=The%20Reserve%20Bank%20of%20India,those%20on%20cyber%20security%20framework.

• IDBI Bank net profit soars 318% to ₹603 crore in Q1 FY22: IDBI Bank's first-quarter standalone net profit soared 318 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to ₹603 crore on the back of healthy growth in net interest income (NII) and other income. Both NII and other income were boosted as the bank realised ₹733 crore from the Kingfisher Airlines account via sale of United Breweries shares. The bank had reported a net profit of ₹144 crore in the year ago quarter. In the first quarter ended June 30, 2021, net interest income (NII) was up 41 per cent y-o-y to ₹2,506 crore (₹1,772 crore in the year ago quarter). Other income, comprising income from activities such as commission, fees, earnings from foreign exchange and derivative transactions, profit/ loss from sale of investment and recoveries from written off accounts, jumped 63 per cent y-o-y to ₹1,639 crore (₹1,005 crore).

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/idbi-net-profit-surges-318-per-cent-to-603-crore-in-q1fy22/article35578385.ece



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• Dhanlaxmi Bank posts 11% rise in net profit at ₹6.79 cr in Q1 of FY21: Dhanlaxmi Bank has registered 11.5 per cent increase in its net profit at ₹6.79 crore in Q1 of current fiscal. The operating profit for the quarter stood at ₹8.89 crore. The total business reached ₹18,575 crore as on June 30 from ₹17,847 crore as on June 30, 2020, registering growth of 4.08 per cent. A press statement here said that total deposits recorded growth of 4.94 per cent to ₹11,658 crore as on June 30, from ₹11,109 crore. CASA grew by 15.61 per cent to ₹3,859 crore from ₹3,338 crore. Gross advance improved to ₹6,917 crore from ₹6,738 crore. Retail advance grew by 14 per cent and reached ₹3,560 crore. Gold loans improved by 37 per cent and reached ₹1,822 crore. CRAR improved to 14.57 per cent as on June 30, against 13.94 per cent as on June 30, 2020.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/dhanlaxmi-bank-posts-11-rise-in-net-profit-at-679-cr-in-q1-of-fy21/article35586903.ece

• IndusInd Bank Q1 profit doubles, sets 16% credit growth target: IndusInd Bank's net profit doubled to Rs 1016 crore in the quarter ended June 30 from Rs. 510 crore a year ago due to higher fee income, fall in provisions, and a rise in net interest income despite a rise in non-performing assets (NPAs). Other income including fees and commissions increased 18 per cent to Rs 1,788 crores in the quarter ended June 30 from Rs 1,520 crore a year ago. Net interest income (NII), or the difference the interest a bank earns on loans and that it pays for deposits, increased 8 per cent to Rs 3564 crore in the quarter ended June 2021. CEO Sumant Kathpalia has set the bank an ambitious target of 16 per cent to 18 per cent credit growth this fiscal expecting a recovery in the bank's core areas namely, vehicle finance, microfinance and diamond financing business despite a slow 6 per cent year on year growth in the first quarter.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/earnings/indusind-bank-q1-profit-doubles-sets-16-credit-growth-target/articleshow/84803775.cms

• Karnataka Bank Q1 results: Co reports net profit of Rs 106 Crore: Private sector lender Karnataka Bank on Tuesday announced a net profit of Rs 106 crore during the April-June quarter of the fiscal year 2021-22. The bank had reported Rs 31.36 crore net profit in the previous quarter. Sequentially, on a quarter-on-quarter basis, it was higher by 238.26 per cent over the quarter ended March 2021. However, on a year-on-year basis, the profit declined by 45.98 per cent, mainly on account of decreased treasury income, the bank said in a statement. The business turnover of the Bank has touched Rs 1,28,005.99 crore as on June 30, with deposits of Rs 76,214.78 crore and advances of Rs 51,791.21 crore, the statement added. Gross NPA declined to 4.82 per cent compared to 4.91 per cent in the previous quarter.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/earnings/karnataka-bank-q1-results-co-reports-net-profit-of-rs-106-crore/articleshow/84803066.cms

• Yes Bank, Indiabulls Housing Finance sign co-lending agreement: Yes Bank and Indiabulls Housing Finance have entered into a co-lending agreement for home loans. "The partnership aims at synergising capabilities to provide an efficient and seamless experience to retail home loan customers," said a joint statement on Wednesday, adding that the Reserve Bank of India's co-lending framework provides a collaboration tool to benefit from the low-cost funding model of a bank and the cost-efficient sourcing and servicing capabilities of a non-bank. Rajan Pental, Global Head, Retail



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Banking, Yes Bank said, "The partnership is in line with Yes Bank's strategy of expanding its retail franchise through a mix of organic and partnership-led origination models. The bank is looking forward to further build a profitable and quality home loan portfolio through this partnership." https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/yes-bank-indiabulls-housing-finance-sign-co-lending-agreement/article35580380.ece

- Large govt capex a possible saving grace for economy in FY22: Yes Bank chairman Sunil Mehta: The Indian economy is expected to face some pressure in the current financial year due to the second wave of the pandemic, coupled with weaker consumer sentiment, but a large capex by the government can be a saving grace for the economy, Yes Bank Chairman Sunil Mehta said. Large government spending may have a multiplier effect on the economy, encourage private investment and create jobs in the market, he said. The Indian economy showed contraction by 7.3 per cent in 2020-21 due to the coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent lockdowns. The second wave of the pandemic in the current fiscal has exerted some pressure on the economic recovery. https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/large-govt-capex-a-possible-saving-grace-for-economy-in-fy22-sunil-mehta-121072801562 1.html
- Kotak Mahindra Bank launches emergency personal loans for Covid treatment: Kotak Mahindra Bank is offering emergency personal loans for treatment of Covid-19. "The loan covers expenses incurred for medical treatment of Covid-19 for self as well as for family members," it said in a statement on Wednesday, adding that both existing and new customers of the bank are eligible to apply for a loan. Under the offer, borrowers can avail loans ranging from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh, at an interest rate starting at 10 per cent per annum. The loan tenure can be between one and four years and a processing fee of one per cent of the loan amount will be levied.

 https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/kotak-mahindra-bank-launches-emergency-personal-loans-for-covid-treatment/article35579678.ece
- Finance Ministry invites entries for new DFI's name, logo: The finance ministry on Wednesday invited entries from citizens for name, tagline and logo for the new Development Financial Institution (DFI) that is touted as a gamechanger for infrastructure financing in the country. Earlier, the ministry had carried out a similar exercise for choosing the name for the flagship financial inclusion programme of the government -- 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna' -- in 2014. "@FinMinIndia in association with @mygovindia is announcing a contest to crowdsource the name, tagline and logo of the new Development Financial Institution. Cash prizes of up to Rs 5 lakh in each category! Last date for entries is 15.08.2021," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a tweet. The setting up of a DFI was announced by the finance minister in Budget 2021-22. In March, Parliament passed the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) Bill.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/finance-ministry-invites-entries-for-new-dfis-name-logo/articleshow/84828962.cms



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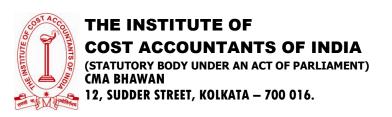
• Fast growing gold loans turn sour hit by lockdowns: High yielding advances against gold jewellery, once the hottest loan product for banks, have turned sour this year as collections are affected due to the lockdown in the first quarter. Kerala-based Federal Bank and CSB Bank, besides large private sector lenders such as ICICI Bank, have seen slippages increase from this portfolio. Although lenders say the pain is transitory, the second quarter is crucial for this portfolio to not become a big source of NPAs. Banks for which gold loans contribute substantial amount to their profits, were hit in the first quarter. Out of the Rs 640 crore slippages that Federal Bank saw during the quarter, Rs 86 crore was from gold loans or linked to the product as a result, the bank's gross NPAs rose to 3.50% of advances, up from 2.96% a year.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/cons-products/fashion-/-cosmetics-/-jewellery/fast-growing-gold-loans-turn-sour-hit-by-lockdowns/articleshow/84816753.cms

• ED attaches Rs 5-crore worth assets in Bengaluru Syndicate Bank branch fraud case: The Enforcement Directorate Wednesday said it has attached assets worth about Rs 5 crore in connection with a money laundering probe linked to an alleged fraud in a Syndicate Bank branch in Bengaluru. The central probe agency said its investigation in the case was initiated on the basis of an FIR filed by the Bengaluru Police sometime back against Vijay Akkash, Mohamed Musthafa, M D Jairam (the then Assistant Branch Manager of Syndicate Bank, Uttarahalli branch in Bengaluru) and others. The probe found, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) claimed in a statement, that Akkash is the "mastermind" of the entire conspiracy alongwith Jairam, Nagaraju, Revenna, Siddagangaiah, and others. It said Akkash "opened a fake current account in the Syndicate Bank branch in the name of Karnataka State Agricultural Marketing Board (KSAMB) which was operated by Musthafa who was impersonating as the account officer of KSAMB, based on the fake and fabricated documents such as board resolution, ID card, letter head of KSAMB etc".

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/ed-attaches-rs-5-croreworth-assets-in-bengaluru-syndicate-bank-branch-fraud-case/articleshow/84823060.cms?from=mdr

Govt striving to complete privatisation of CPSEs listed out in Budget: DIPAM Secy: The government is striving to complete privatisation of CPSEs listed out in the Budget, including Air India, BPCL, and BEML, in the current fiscal ending March 2022, DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said on Wednesday. The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), which manages sale of government equity in public sector enterprises, has already received multiple expressions of interest (EoIs) for strategic sale of these companies. "I would certainly say Air India we are very keen...despite the problems, we may have some delay because of COVID but broadly disinvestment is on track. Some of the key transactions which we ought to complete in this financial year, for the first time the finance minister has mentioned in the Budget speech naming the enterprises...we are striving to conclude the transactions," Pandey said. In the current fiscal, the government aims to mop up Rs 1.75 lakh crore from CPSE disinvestment. Of this, Rs 1 lakh crore is to come from selling government stake in public sector banks and financial institutions. Rs 75,000 crore would come as CPSE disinvestment receipts.In her Budget speech, Sitharaman had said strategic disinvestment of BPCL, Air India, Shipping Corporation of India, Container Corporation of India, IDBI Bank, BEML, Pawan Hans, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd, among others, and IPO of LIC would be completed in 2021-22. Also, the process of privatisation of IDBI Bank is slated to be completed in the current fiscal.



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https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-striving-to-complete-privatisation-of-cpses-listed-out-in-budget-dipam-

secy/articleshow/84826744.cms?from=mdr#:~:text=%22We%20are%20striving%20to%20complete,th is%20fiscal%2C%22%20he%20said.&text=The%20government%20is%20striving%20to,Kanta%20Pand ey%20said%20on%20Wednesday.

• Mastercard to file an independent audit report: In a bid to get the ban on issuing new cards revoked, payments major Mastercard is planning to submit an additional audit report by an independent agency to the Reserve Bank of India to show its compliance with the data localisation norms. According to sources close to the development, Mastercard has already submitted to the RBI its annual System Audit Report showing compliance with the data norms, but there were delays in sending a supplemental audit report due to which the central bank barred the company from issuing cards. The company hopes the additional report will address the RBI's concerns and enable Mastercard to go back to business as usual, said a source.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/mastercard-to-file-an-independent-audit-report/article35569716.ece

- Dvara KGFS acquires digital financial services platform TransactNow: Dvara KGFS, a non-deposit taking NBFC, announced that it has acquired 'TransactNow', a digital platform from early phase tech start-up Transact Nexus Tech Private Limited, for an undisclosed sum. TransactNow offers digital financial services to the unbanked and underserved population. The current transaction will help the rural-focussed Dvara KGFS to strengthen its digital platform and take its financial services offerings closer to the rural customers. "With this, Dvara KGFS is starting a new Channel KGFS Digital which will foray into the agent driven business model providing an array of financial services to rural customers through Agent Touch Points located in close proximity to the villages in line with the Omni-Channel Strategy envisaged by Dvara KGFS," the company said in a press release. https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/dvara-kgfs-acquihires-digital-financial-services-
- JM Financial Q1 consolidated profit jumps 117% to ₹203 crore: JM Financial consolidated net profit surged by 117.01 per cent to ₹203.14 crore for the first quarter ended June 30, 2021 led by a sharp rise in its total income. Its consolidated net profit was ₹93.61 crore in the corresponding period a year ago. "This is the highest-ever quarterly operating net profit reported," JM Financial said in a statement on Wednesday. Its total income rose by 43.62 per cent to ₹992.55 crore from ₹ 691.11 crore a year ago. The consolidated loan book grew by 1.7 per cent to ₹11,014 crore as on June 30, 2021 compared to ₹10,833 crore as of June 30, 2020.

platform-transactnow/article35582434.ece

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/jm-financial-q1-consolidated-profit-jumps-117-to-203-crore/article35585591.ece

Cabinet clears amendment to DICGC Act; bank depositors to get coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh: In a bid
to ensure timely support to depositors of stressed banks, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved
amendment to the DICGC Act to provide account holders access to up to Rs 5 lakh funds within 90
days of a bank coming under moratorium. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech



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had announced that changes will be made to the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) Act, 1961. Last year, the government raised insurance cover on deposit five-fold to Rs 5 lakh to provide support to depositors of ailing lenders like Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative (PMC) Bank. Following the collapse of PMC Bank, Yes Bank and Lakshmi Vilas Bank too came under stress, leading to restructuring by the RBI and government. "The Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Bill 2021 has been cleared by the Cabinet today," Sitharaman said while sharing details about the Cabinet meeting. The Bill is expected to be introduced in the monsoon session, she said. https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/cabinet-clears-amendment-to-dicgc-act-bank-depositors-to-get-coverage-of-up-to-rs-5-lakh/2299597/

• Over 50% of slippages from MSME sector: LV Prabhakar, Canara Bank: Out of the Rs 4,250 crore slippages, about 55% to 58% is from MSME and 18% to 20% is it from retail. The rest is from other sectors, said LV Prabhakar, MD & CEO, Canara Bank. As far as slippages are concerned, we have given the guidance earlier of the quarter that our slippages will be around Rs 4,000 crore. So, we worked on those lines and all my staff members who are connected with the recovery, who are actively engaged with the borrowers, and because of that the result is the slippages are only Rs 4,200 crore, which is well within our estimations. As far as retail is concerned, our NPA is only 1.5%. Here two things have helped us. One thing is timely assistance to these people, retail as well as MSME, and the second one is restructuring also helped a lot in assessing these people, at the same time controlling the NPAs. Out of this Rs 4,250 crore, about 55% to 58% is from MSME and 18% to 20% is it from retail. The rest is from other sectors.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/over-50-of-slippages-from-msme-sector-lv-prabhakar-canara-bank/articleshow/84818827.cms?from=mdr

PSBs vacating branches open doors for other lenders: The move by five public sector banks to reduce
their branch numbers is proving godsend for lenders looking to expand their network. The branches
being vacated by Bank of Baroda (BoB), Punjab National Bank (PNB), Canara Bank, Union Bank of India
(UBI) and Indian Bank have opened the doors to ready-made premises for other lenders. For the latter
set, network expansion happens faster, at reasonable costs (as owners of these premises are
desperate to rent them out) and without the hassle of re-doing interiors. To cut down on operating
expenses, the five PSBs have been merging or rationalising branches after the amalgamation of banks
with them.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/merger-of-psu-banks-a-boon-for-banks-planning-expansion/article35538282.ece

• RBI allows wallets, white label card networks access to its payment systems: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday allowed payment system providers, prepaid card issuers, card networks and white label ATM operators access to its Centralised Payment Systems (CPS), such as real time gross settlement (RTGS) and National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) systems in the first phase of its plan bring non-banks in the same platform. "Direct access for non-banks to CPS lowers the overall risk in the payments ecosystem. It also brings advantages to non-banks like reduction in cost of payments, minimising dependence on banks, reducing the time taken for completing payments, eliminating the



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uncertainty in finality of the payments as the settlement is carried out in central bank money, etc.," the RBI said.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/finance/rbi-allows-wallets-white-label-card-networks-access-to-its-payment-systems-121072801709_1.html

• MSME credit demand in June back to level before pandemic, says CIBIL: Credit demand by MSMEs has increased to near pre-pandemic level in June 2021, recovering after a drop in loan enquiries in April and May due to second wave of Covid-19 infections, according to CIBIL-SIDBI data. The reading on index of credit enquiries fell from 139 in March 2021 to 67 in April 2021 before inching up to 75 in May 2021. It moved up to 95 in June 2021.Lockdowns in cites to slow down Covid-19 in June led to a bounce back in credit demand (measured as credit enquiries) by MSMEs.Also helped by government guarantee cover, lenders disbursed Rs 9.5 trillion as credit to MSMEs in the financial year ended March 2021 (Fy21), up from Rs 6.8 trillion in previous financial year (Fy20). MSME lending in 2021 was helped by the government's Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), which provided 100 per cent credit guarantee to lenders.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/finance/msme-credit-demand-in-june-back-to-level-before-pandemic-says-cibil-121072800707 1.html

• RTGS, NEFT payment systems opened up for non-banks in phases: RBI: The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday said that it has allowed non-banks to participate in its Centralised Payment Systems (CPS) through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) and National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) systems, in a phased manner. To be sure, RBI in April had already said that non-banks would be allowed access to CPS viz. RTGS, NEFT in a phased manner. Till now, only banks were allowed to use RTGS and NEFT payments facilities. In its latest circular, RBI said that Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) issuers, card networks, white label ATM operators are eligible to participate in the CPS in the first phase. "On a review of extant arrangements and after detailed discussions with Payment System Providers (PSPs), it is advised that, in the first phase, authorised non-bank PSPs, viz. PPI Issuers, Card Networks and White Label ATM Operators shall be eligible to participate in CPS as direct members," RBI said in a statement.

 $\frac{https://www.livemint.com/industry/banking/rtgs-neft-payment-systems-opened-up-for-non-banks-in-phases-rbi-11627483508363.html$

• Small business loan disbursals rise 40% in FY21: Sidbi-TransUnion Cibil report: Lenders have disbursed loans worth ₹9.5 trillion to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in FY21, 40% higher than ₹6.8 trillion in the previous year, showed findings from the latest edition of the Sidbi - TransUnion Cibil MSME Pulse Report. The report said that government interventions like Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) was a major factor in driving this significant surge in credit disbursement to MSMEs. The total on-balance sheet commercial lending exposure in India stood at ₹74.36 trillion in March, with a year-on-year growth rate of 0.6%. Credit exposure to MSMEs stood at ₹20.21 trillion as of March, a y-o-y growth of 6.6%, the report said.

https://www.livemint.com/industry/banking/small-business-loan-disbursals-rise-40-in-fy21-sidbitransunion-cibil-report-11627453476358.html



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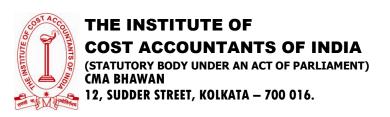
• Digital payments up 30.2 pc in FY21: RBI data: Digital payments have recorded a growth of 30.19 per cent during the year ended March 2021, reflecting adoption and deepening of cashless transactions in the country, RBI data showed. As per the newly constituted Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI), the index rose to 270.59 at the end of March 2021, up from 207.84 a year ago. "The RBI-DPI index has demonstrated significant growth in the index representing the rapid adoption and deepening of digital payments across the country in recent years," the RBI said. The Reserve Bank had earlier announced construction of a composite Reserve Bank of India – Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) with March 2018 as base to capture the extent of digitisation of payments across the country. The RBI-DPI comprises five broad parameters that enable measurement of deepening and penetration of digital payments in the country over different time periods.

https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/digital-payments-up-30-2-pc-in-fy21-rbi-data/2299658/

Paytm Payments Bank crosses 1-cr FASTags mark: Paytm Payments Bank on Wednesday said it has become the first bank in the country to achieve the milestone of issuing 1 crore FASTags. According to NPCI, over 3.47 crore FASTags were issued by all banks together till the end of June 2021. Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL) now has close to 28 per cent share as FASTag issuer bank, it said. "In the last 6 months alone, PPBL has equipped over 40 lakh commercial & private vehicles with FASTags. "Besides this, Paytm Payments Bank is also India's largest acquirer of toll plazas for the National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC) program offering an interoperable nationwide toll payment solution," it said in a statement

https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/paytm-payments-bank-crosses-1-cr-fastags-mark/2299623/

- Equitas board approves merger of holding company with bank: The board of directors of Equitas Small Finance Bank (ESFBL) has approved a scheme of amalgamation of Equitas Holdings (EHL) with ESFBL. The scheme is awaiting approvals from the Reserve Bank of India and Sebi. EHL is the holding company of the ESFBL. Upon the scheme's coming into effect, each of the equity shareholders of EHL would be allotted 226 equity shares of Rs 10 each, credited as fully paid up of ESFBL, in respect of every 100 equity shares. ESFBL had, in July 10, clarified that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had permitted the Chennai-headquartered bank to apply to the banking regulator for the approval of its amalgamation scheme, which would facilitate the merger of promoter entity EHL with the bank. https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/equitas-board-approves-merger-of-holding-company-with-bank/2299039/
- After sharp recovery, Sensex slips 135 points, Nifty regains 15,700: The BSE Sensex, which had recorded an intraday low of 51,802.73, closed at 52,443.71, down 135.05 points or 0.26 per cent. It hit an intraday high of 52,673.69. The Nifty 50 also closed above the 15,700 mark after slipping to 15,513.45 during the morning session. It closed at 15,709.40, down 37.05 points or 0.24 per cent. The market breadth remained in favour of the decliners with 1,791 stocks declining versus 1,414 gaining. A total of 128 stocks remained unchanged on the BSE. While 433 stocks hit the upper circuit, 244 were locked in the lower circuit. As many as 425 stocks touched a 52-week high and 15 touched a 52-week low. It hit an intraday high of 15,767.50. Bharti Airtel, Tata Steel, SBI Life, Divi's Lab and IndusInd Bank



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were the top gainers on the Nifty 50, while Kotak Bank, Dr Reddy's, Tata Motors, M&M and Cipla were the top laggards.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/stock-markets/after-sharp-recovery-sensex-slips-135-points-nifty-regains-15700/article35589013.ece

• Rupee recovers 9 paise to close at 74.38, snaps 2-day losing run: The rupee recovered by 9 paise to close at 74.38 (provisional) against the US currency on Wednesday, snapping it two-day losing run ahead of the US Fed policy decision. Forex traders said the rupee is trading in a narrow range ahead of the monthly expiry and the US Fed's policy decision. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 74.44 against the dollar and witnessed an intra-day high of 74.31 and a low of 74.49 during the session. The local unit finally ended at 74.38, higher by 9 paise over its last close. On Tuesday, the rupee had settled at 74.47 against the US dollar.

https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/markets/rupee-recovers-9-paise-to-close-at-74-38-snaps-2-day-losing-run-7239931.html

• Gold prices flat at Rs 47,761/10 gm ahead of Fed decision; silver corrects Rs 602 a kg: Gold prices were steady at Rs 47,761 per 10 gram in the Mumbai retail market on lacklustre global trend, firm rupee ahead of Fed policy decision later today. The yellow metal traded in a narrow range owing to a recovery in the dollar from the lower levels. The price of 10 gram, 22-carat gold in Mumbai was Rs 43,749 plus 3 percent GST, while 24-carat 10 gram stood at Rs 47,761 plus GST. The 18-carat gold is quoted at Rs 35,821 plus GST in the retail market. Silver prices fell by Rs 602 to Rs 66,386 per kg against its closing price on July 27.

https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/commodities/gold-prices-flat-at-rs-4776110-gm-ahead-of-fed-decision-silver-corrects-rs-602-a-kg-7239981.html

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