

WEEKLY WEALTH WRAP-UP

Your Guide to India's Markets and Economy

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Mr. Vindhyachal Prasad
(Research Head)

Geopolitical Risks & IT Weakness Weigh on Indices

This week, Indian equity markets remained under pressure and underperformed global peers. Sentiment stayed cautious due to rising geopolitical tensions, Brent crude prices moving above \$100, and continued weakness in the rupee. FII's turned net sellers again, which further weighed on market momentum and kept investors on the side-lines.

The Nifty 50 closed the week at 23,897.95, down 1.87%. The Bank Nifty also ended in the red, declining 0.84% to 56,089.75. Meanwhile, the BSE Sensex was the worst performer among the three, falling 2.3% to closed at 76,681.29. The broader trend indicates that markets are struggling to find strong directional support in the current environment.

A major reason behind the weakness was the IT sector. Stocks like HCL Technologies, Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services, and Tech Mahindra came under pressure after their quarterly results. More importantly, their forward guidance disappointed investors, raising concerns about near-term growth prospects in the sector. This led to a loss of confidence and consistent selling in IT stocks throughout the week. However, the downside was partially cushioned by selective buying in stocks like Coal India, Trent, Hindalco Industries, Nestlé India, Shriram Finance, and State Bank of India. These stocks provided some stability and helped limit sharper declines in the indices.

From a technical perspective, the Nifty 50 is approaching key levels. Resistance is placed between 24,200 and 24,500, while immediate support lies in the 23,800 to 23,500 range. These levels will be crucial for determining the near-term direction of the market.

Looking ahead, markets will closely track geopolitical developments, especially any progress on US-Iran tensions, as well as movements in crude oil prices, which remain a key driver. The ongoing earnings season will continue to influence stock-specific movements. Additionally, next week's US Federal Reserve policy decision, key US growth data, and India's industrial production numbers will be important triggers for market direction. This remains a specific stock approach market. We advise investors to stay selective, focus on fundamentally strong companies, and avoid aggressive positioning. With FII selling back in focus and global uncertainty still elevated, market direction will largely depend on upcoming geopolitical developments and macro triggers.



THE WEEK'S BIG STORIES

- Aurobindo Pharma Buyback
- Inox Clean IPO Plan
- Vedanta Demerger Update
- MCX Enters Coal Business
- Jio Financial-Allianz JV
- SEBI Cuts Investment Limit
- India Denies Iran Payment Rumours
- US Allows Russian Oil
- ₹1.2L Cr Semiconductor Push
- India Manufacturing Improves
- RBI Flags Inflation Risks
- India-US Trade Talks
- Big Tech Layoffs, 25,000 Jobs at Risk
- Warner Bros and Paramount Merger Approved
- Israel and Lebanon Ceasefire Extended, Global Relief Signal
- Europe Aviation Crisis, Fuel Shortage Risk

COMPANY SPECIFIC

Aurobindo Pharma announced Buyback

Aurobindo Pharma announced an ₹800 crore share buyback where it will repurchase about 54.23 lakh shares at ₹1,475 each. The record date is April 17, meaning only shareholders holding stock by then are eligible. The buyback opened on April 23 and closes on April 29. This move shows the company wants to return cash to investors and signals confidence in its financial strength.



Jio Financial and Allianz Insurance Joint Venture, Big Entry Move

Jio Financial Services and Allianz have formalised a 50:50 joint venture to enter India's insurance market. The partnership will focus on general and health insurance, combining Jio's digital reach with Allianz's global expertise. It still needs regulatory approvals before launch. They are also exploring a separate life insurance business, showing long-term expansion plans.

Godrej Industries ₹5 Lakh Crore Vision and Growth Plan

Godrej Industries plans to grow its market value to ₹5 lakh crore by 2031, more than tripling current levels. It will focus on existing businesses and list new units like capital and chemicals arms. It also plans strong growth targets and investments, while committing to sustainability and diversity goals, including net-zero operations and inclusive workforce expansion.



Inox Clean IPO Plan

Inox Clean Energy is planning to revive its IPO, aiming to raise up to \$1 billion. The company had earlier paused the plan but is now reconsidering due to improving market conditions. This IPO could become one of the biggest in India's renewable energy sector, reflecting strong investor interest in clean energy and the company's expansion ambitions.

Vedanta Demerger Updates

Vedanta has set May 1 as the record date for its demerger, where the company will split into five separate business units. Shareholders holding stock before this date will receive shares in the new entities. This restructuring aims to unlock value, improve business focus, and potentially give investors better clarity and returns from each independent business segment.



Radisson Expansion, Massive Job Creation Plan

Radisson Hotel Group plans to expand to 500 properties in India by 2030, which could create around 65,000 to 80,000 jobs. It is focusing on strong growth in both metro and smaller cities. This reflects rising travel demand and India's growing hospitality sector. The expansion will boost tourism, local employment, and overall economic activity in multiple regions.



MCX Enters Coal Business, Big Growth Move

Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) got SEBI approval to enter the coal business by creating a new subsidiary. It plans to invest up to ₹100 crore and initially own 100% stake. The goal is to build a transparent, digital platform for coal trading with fair price discovery. This expansion strengthens MCX's position in energy commodities and opens new growth opportunities for the company.

TVS Supply & ZTE Dispute Ends, Legal Relief

TVS Supply Chain Solutions has settled its dispute with ZTE and withdrawn its insolvency plea from NCLAT. This ends a legal conflict between the companies and removes uncertainty around the case. The settlement brings clarity and allows both businesses to move forward without ongoing litigation, reducing risk and improving stability for stakeholders involved.



Cyient announced a ₹720 crore share buyback

Cyient announced a ₹720 crore share buyback where it will repurchase around 64 lakh shares at ₹1,125 each. This decision shows the company believes its stock is undervalued and wants to reward shareholders. Buybacks also improve earnings per share. Despite mixed financial performance, the company is using strong cash flow to return value and boost investor confidence.

IndiGo Gets Warning, Regulatory Pressure

IndiGo received a warning letter from aviation regulator DGCA over compliance issues related to a December airfare cap ruling. The regulator flagged concerns about whether pricing guidelines were properly followed. This shows increasing scrutiny on airlines to ensure fair pricing and compliance with rules, especially during periods of high demand and fare volatility.



Zen Technologies Gets Defence Boost

Zen Technologies received a government licence to manufacture anti-aircraft cannons like 12.7mm, 23mm, 30mm, and 40mm systems. These are used in air defence, naval operations, and anti-drone systems. This strengthens India's defence manufacturing and boosts the company's future growth potential.

Trent Announced Bonus and Rights Issue

Trent announced a 1:2 bonus share issue, meaning investors will get one extra share for every two shares held. Along with this, the company approved a ₹2,500 crore rights issue to raise funds for future growth. It also declared a dividend. These steps aim to reward shareholders while supporting expansion and strengthening its business position.



REGULATORY & POLICY UPDATES

SEBI Cuts Investment Limit, Big Change for Investors

SEBI has reduced the minimum investment in social impact funds from ₹2 lakh to just ₹1,000. This move makes such funds accessible to small investors, encouraging wider participation in projects focused on social good. It is expected to boost funding for social enterprises while allowing retail investors to contribute to impactful initiatives with much lower entry barriers.



INDIAN ECONOMY & MARKET

India Clears Rumours on Iran Payments

India clarified that no cash or cryptocurrency was paid to Iran for safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz. This statement came after reports of ships facing firing incidents and rumours of crypto payments. The government called such claims fake and linked them to possible scams. The situation remains sensitive due to geopolitical tensions affecting global oil transport routes.



₹1.2 Lakh Crore Semiconductor Mission, India's Big Tech Push

Government is preparing Semiconductor Mission 2.0 with ₹1–1.2 lakh crore investment, much higher than the first phase. This plan expands beyond chip manufacturing to include raw materials, equipment, and full supply chain support. It also encourages foreign partnerships and aims to reduce import dependency. The long-term goal is to meet about 75% of India's chip demand domestically by 2030.

Finance Minister Warns About AI Risk

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted a major concern over advanced AI models like Anthropic's Mythos, calling it an unprecedented threat. She warned that such powerful AI systems could impact economies, security, and decision-making. The statement shows growing global concern about how fast AI is evolving and the need for strong regulation and monitoring.



Bernstein Warning to India, Jobs & Manufacturing at Risk

Global brokerage Bernstein has written an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi warning about risks from AI. It said AI could cause job losses and highlighted India's weak manufacturing sector as a concern. The report suggests India needs stronger policies to handle AI disruption and improve industrial growth to stay competitive globally.



Oil Companies Facing Loss, But No Price Hike Yet

Government said oil PSUs are losing about ₹100 per litre on diesel and ₹20 per litre on petrol. Despite these heavy losses, there are currently no plans to increase fuel prices. This shows the government is prioritising price stability for consumers, even though it is putting financial pressure on oil companies due to global crude price fluctuations.

India Manufacturing Growth Improves RBI Warns of Inflation Risks

India's manufacturing sector showed strong improvement in April, with HSBC PMI rising to 55.9 from 53.9 in March. Since PMI above 50 means growth, this indicates stronger factory activity. Demand, new orders, and hiring all increased, showing business confidence. Despite global tensions, India's economy is holding up well and continuing its growth momentum.

RBI meeting minutes highlighted risks from the Iran conflict and possible El Niño weather conditions. These factors could increase inflation through higher fuel and food prices. The central bank is cautious about economic stability as global tensions and climate risks may affect growth. This shows RBI is closely monitoring both geopolitical and environmental challenges.

PMGSY Extended Till 2028, Rural Boost Continues

Government has extended the PMGSY rural roads scheme till 2028. This programme focuses on building roads in villages to improve connectivity. The extension will boost infrastructure development, create jobs, and support rural economic growth. Better roads also help improve access to markets, education, and healthcare, benefiting overall development in rural India.



₹12,980 Cr Maritime Fund, Big Safety Step for Ships

Government has approved a ₹12,980 crore Sovereign Maritime Fund to provide affordable insurance for Indian ships. This decision comes due to rising risks in global shipping, especially around the Strait of Hormuz amid US-Iran tensions. The fund will help protect Indian vessels, reduce dependence on foreign insurers, and ensure smooth trade even during geopolitical crises.



Gadkari Pushes for 100% Ethanol Fuel

Nitin Gadkari said India should aim for 100% ethanol blending in fuel to reduce dependence on imported oil. Currently, India uses E20 petrol, but moving to higher ethanol could cut imports and pollution. The push comes amid energy risks from global conflicts, as India imports about 87% of its oil, costing around ₹22 lakh crore annually.

UNGA President Visit, India in Global Focus

UN General Assembly President Annalena Baerbock will visit India next week at the invitation of the government. She will hold multiple meetings with Indian officials and also interact with the UN team in India. This is her first visit in this role, showing India's growing importance in global diplomacy and international cooperation efforts.



HSBC Downgrades India, Market Warning Signal

HSBC has downgraded Indian stocks to "underweight" due to concerns about slowing earnings growth. Rising inflation, global uncertainties, and demand pressure are expected to impact corporate profits. The brokerage believes current valuations may not justify future growth. This downgrade signals caution for investors, especially as external risks like oil prices and global tensions remain high.



US Impose anti-dumping duties

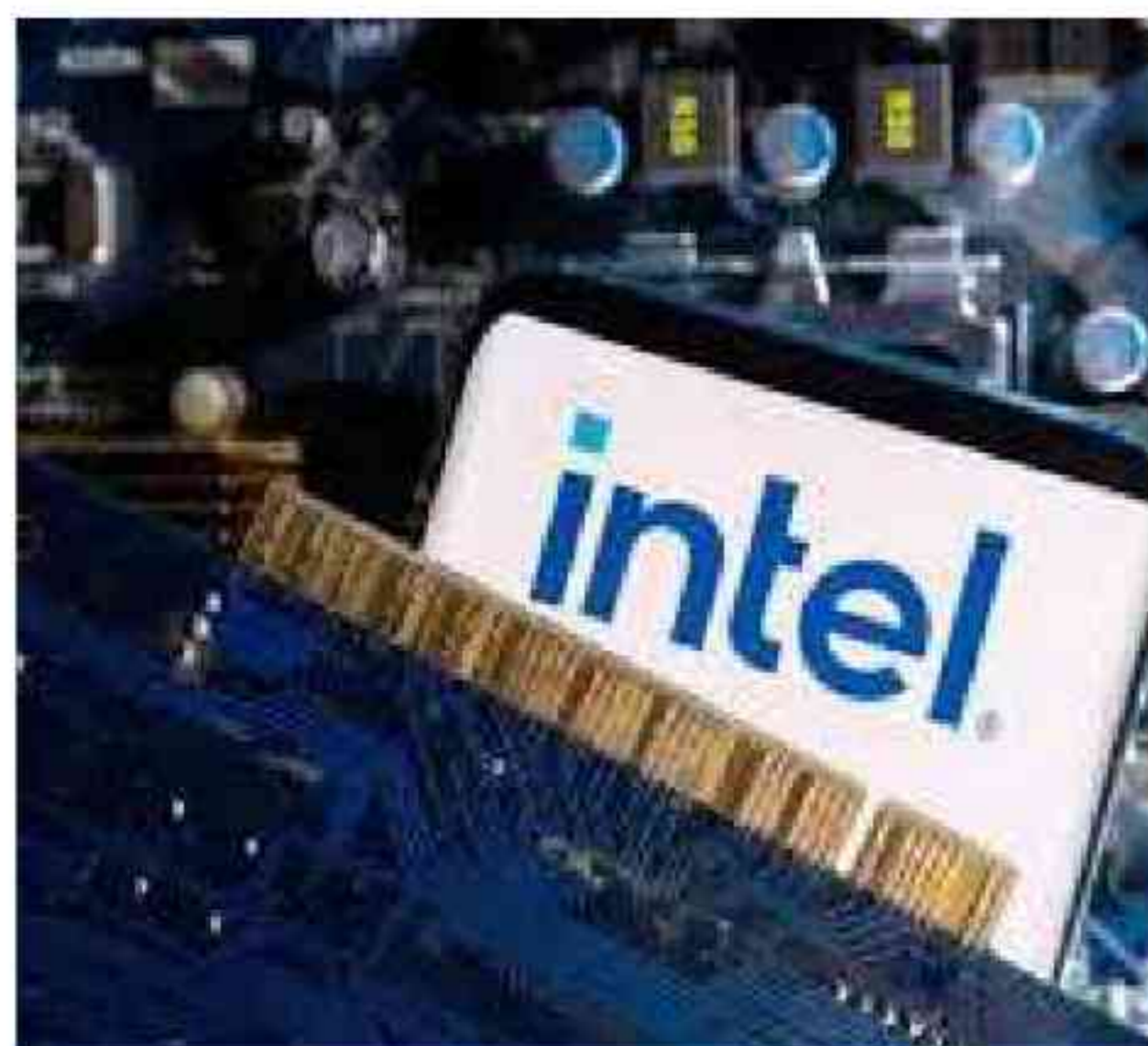
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India-US Trade Talks

After three days of trade talks, the US Trade Representative called India a "tough nut to crack," mainly because India strongly protects its agriculture sector. While discussions are progressing, both sides still have disagreements on key issues. India wants to safeguard domestic interests, while the US is pushing for more market access. Overall, talks are ongoing, but a final deal will take time.



World Economy



Intel gave a strong outlook driven by rising demand for AI-related chips

Intel gave a strong outlook driven by rising demand for AI-related chips. It reported better-than-expected results and expects strong future growth. Investors are optimistic as AI adoption increases demand for processors, especially in data centers. This signals a potential turnaround for Intel, which is now benefiting from the global artificial intelligence boom.

Europe Aviation Crisis, Fuel Shortage Risk

Europe is facing a possible aviation crisis as jet fuel shortages could force airlines to cut summer flights. The issue is linked to supply disruptions and rising demand during peak travel season. If the situation worsens, ticket prices may rise and travel plans could be affected. This highlights how global energy issues are now directly impacting the aviation industry.



Israel and Lebanon Ceasefire Extended, Global Relief Signal

The US announced a three-week extension of the ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon after talks at the White House. This continues a fragile pause in fighting between Israel and Hezbollah. The US is also planning further discussions with leaders from both countries to push for a long-term peace deal. However, tensions remain high despite ongoing diplomatic efforts.

Rishi Sunak Warns, AI Threat to Jobs

Rishi Sunak warned that artificial intelligence could remove entry-level jobs, especially in sectors like law and finance. He said AI may weaken the traditional career ladder where fresh graduates gain experience. This could impact future employment patterns and skill development. His warning highlights growing global concern about how fast AI is changing jobs and professional growth opportunities.





Warner Bros and Paramount Merger Approved

Investors have approved a massive \$110 billion merger between Warner Bros and Paramount. This deal aims to combine their content, streaming, and media businesses to compete globally. The merger could reshape the entertainment industry by creating a stronger player against rivals like Netflix and Disney, while also bringing cost synergies and expanding global reach.

Big Tech Layoffs, 25,000 Jobs at Risk

Major US companies like Meta, Microsoft, and Nike are planning job cuts and buyouts, with nearly 25,000 roles affected in a single day. The layoffs are linked to cost-cutting and increasing focus on AI investments. This shows a global shift where companies are restructuring operations and prioritising technology, even if it impacts employment in traditional roles.



Hormuz Crisis Escalates – “Shoot & Kill” Order Raises Tension

The US–Iran conflict has intensified in the Strait of Hormuz after President Donald Trump ordered the US Navy to “shoot and kill” any boats laying mines. Both sides have imposed blockades, and attacks on ships continue, keeping the route shut for weeks. The US has intercepted vessels, while Iran has also seized ships. Peace talks are stalled, making the situation highly tense and uncertain.

US Allows Russian Oil Again

The US has again allowed limited sales of Russian oil already loaded on ships to control rising global prices. This comes after earlier restrictions expired and amid supply disruptions due to the Iran conflict. The move is temporary but helps stabilize fuel prices worldwide. It also ensures continued oil supply to countries like India facing energy pressure in uncertain global markets.



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Elite Wealth Limited

Corp. Office- Tradex Tower, Plot No. 15 A, Second Floor, Sector - 125, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP - 201301
Email: customercare@elitewealth.in

CIN No.: U74899HR1990PLC035764

0120-4477777 / 9650901058

Web: www.elitewealth.in



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