



Markets: Beating Volatility

Market Trends

STOCK INDICES	1167	0.52	Nikkei	27603	0.64
MSCI India	1167	0.52	Nikkei	27603	0.64
MSCI EM	2545	0.22	Hang Seng	21114	0.24
MSCI BRIC	590	0.20	Kospi	2466	0.53
MSCI World	12686	0.27	Straits Times	3318	0.20

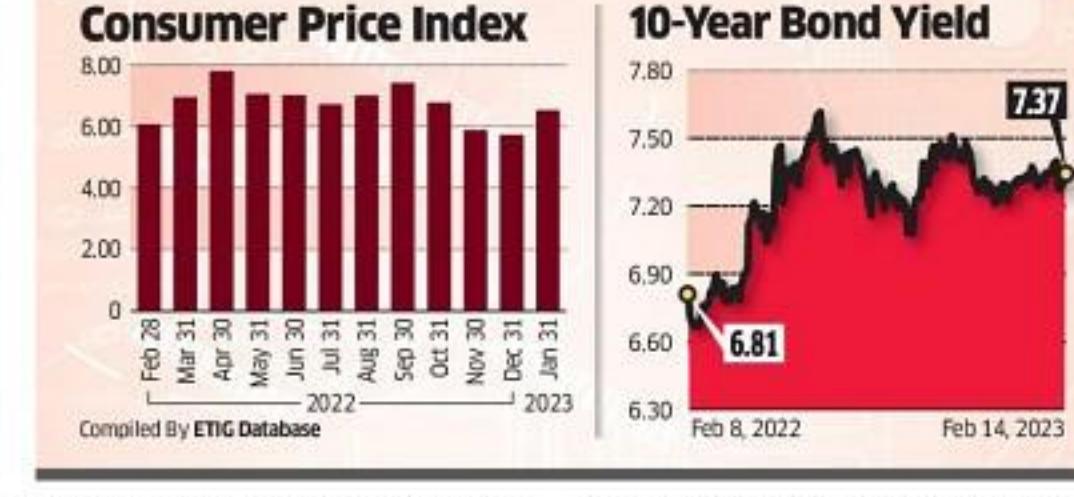
THREE-MONTH high retail inflation propels 10-year yield to 7.41% intraday

Surge in Bond Yields could Lead to More Rate Hikes

Joel.Rebello@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Government bond yields increased on Tuesday as a higher-than-expected inflation print in January put another interest rate hike back on the table. A pause in rates is a higher probability, economists said, though one more reading of inflation numbers is expected before the Reserve Bank of India's next policy review in April. The benchmark 10-year bond yield rose to 7.41% intraday from Monday's close of 7.36% but slid to close at 7.37% later in the day. The headline retail inflation rate jumped to a three-month high of 6.52% in January - outside the RBI's tolerance band of 6% - from December's one-year low of 5.72%.

The higher inflation reading makes the April meeting of the RBI "live" for another 25-basis-point repo rate hike, though the probability of such an increase is just 30% because food prices are showing signs of slowing, said economists Somal Varma and Aurodeep Nandi at Nomura. One basis point is 0.01 percentage point. The hefty 2.6% month-on-month increase in cereal and product rates indicates



that the headline inflation is overestimated by 23 basis points, they added.

"On a three-month seasonally adjusted annual rate basis, super core inflation stood at 5.8% in January vs 6.1% in December, suggesting the underlying core momentum is trending down, but at a gradual pace," they said.

Barclays' economist Rahul Bajaria said that the wholesale inflation data - which was released on Tuesday - for cereals re-

se 1.7% month on month compared with a 2.6% increase in the consumer prices of the same.

"Digging through the details, which were available later after the CPI data release, we note that the estimated cereals CPI (calculated using a weighted average of all cereal group subcomponents) was markedly different from the actual printed cereal CPI number; the first such divergence since the series started."

Flexicap Funds

A flexicap fund is an open ended, dynamic equity scheme investing across large, mid and small cap stocks, according to a November 2020 Sebi circular introducing flexicap funds as a new category under equity scheme. A flexicap fund needs to have a minimum investment of 65% of the total assets of the scheme in equity and equity-related instruments, and the fund house is free to choose a suitable benchmark.

Invesco Mutual Fund

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Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

HOW BIG IS THE FLEXICAP CATEGORY?

Flexicap is the largest category in the equity mutual fund space and the schemes manage a total of Rs 2.44 lakh crore of assets. There are 33 schemes in this category.



WHO SHOULD INVEST IN THIS CATEGORY?

Long-term investors or first-time investors who do not want to take the trouble of individual stock selection and want a long-term allocation to Indian equity markets can opt for flexicap funds. Financial planners also recommend this category to investors looking for just one fund in their portfolio, which gives them access to the best companies irrespective of market capitalisation with the aim to balance risk and volatility and help them accumulate wealth to meet their long-term goals. Investors looking to stagger their investments through systematic investment plans (SIPs) could also use this category of funds.

PRASHANT MAHESH

MARKETS ARE SUFFERING FROM A 'CHRONIC' LACK OF INVESTMENT

Oil Supply a Much Bigger Issue Than Demand For 2024: UAE

Bloomberg



I'm not worried about demand - what worries us is whether we are going to have enough supplies in the future. What worries me is the decline that I see in many countries' production

SUHAJ MOHAMED AL MAZROUEI,
UAE Minister of Energy

lack of investment.

For this year, the UAE's top energy official said that recent growth in oil inventories shows "there's enough volumes in the market, and the price" also is a testimony of the balance."

"You need always to be mindful of the slowdown in the economy," he said, adding that OPEC+ remains prepared to act if needed. Mazrouei said he's "not expecting a shock" as a result of US plans announced on Monday to release more crude from its strategic reserves.

Delegates from the OPEC+ alliance have said the group intends to adhere to current output targets for the rest of the year, even after fellow member Russia announced a hefty 500,000 barrel-a-

day output cutback last week in retaliation for European Union sanctions. Oil has had a mixed start to 2023 as traders attempt to price the demand impact of China's re-opening, supply curbs announced by Moscow amid the war in Ukraine, and persistent concerns that tighter US monetary policy may trigger a recession.

The UAE isn't concerned about its current production quota agreed with OPEC+, though it will seek whether to seek a higher level when the group comes to discuss output for 2024, Mazrouei said.

RBC Capital Markets LLC said last month that Abu Dhabi might seek a higher target this year in order to utilize new capacity it has developed over the past few years.

UK Sees Anaemic Growth in 2022

Bloomberg

UK productivity barely budged last year, underlining the struggle to boost the potential of the British economy more than a decade after the financial crisis. An hour of work produced just 0.4% more output than in 2021, Office for

National Statistics figures published Tuesday show. In the fourth quarter alone, productivity fell 0.1% from the previous year.

The weakness of productivity growth along with a shrinking workforce prompted the Bank of England this month to downgrade its estimate of how fast the economy can expand

without adding to inflation to just 0.7% a year. That bodes ill for living standards and the public finances in the only Group of Seven country that has yet to recover the output lost during the pandemic.

Since 2009, productivity growth has averaged 0.7% a year, a third of the pace in the period before financial crisis.

PhonePe Picks up Another \$100 m at \$12 billion Valuation

DISRUPTION: STARTUPS & TECH ▶ 13



OIL (\$/BBL)	GOLD RATE	FOREX RATE (₹/\$ Exchange Rate)
DUBAI CRUDE 83.88 1.12 Absolute Change	US (\$/Oz) 56611.00 India (₹/10Gm) 56701.00 Prev (% chg) 0.22 0.36	OPEN 82.59 LAST* 82.77 *All 6 pm IST Source: Bloomberg, MCX, ETIG Market on Twitter@ETMarkets

RIL, ITC, BANKING AND IT STOCKS LEAD CHARGE

Sensex Surges 600 Pts to Scale 6k-mark

Fall in oil prices, buying by foreign investors also lift investor sentiment

PTI

Mumbai: The BSE benchmark Sensex surged 600 points on Tuesday propelled by market heavyweight RIL, ITC, banking and IT shares amid positive global cues.

Sliding crude oil prices in the international markets and buying by foreign investors also bolstered sentiment,



traders said. The 30-share BSE Sensex ended 600.42 points or 0.99 per cent higher at 61,032.26. During the session, the index witnessed a high of 61,102.74 and a low of 60,550.25.

The broader NSE Nifty surged 158.95 points or 0.89 per cent to finish at 17,929.85.

ITC topped the Sensex gainers' chart with a jump of 3.31 per cent, followed by Reliance

Industries, Bajaj Finance, ICICI Bank, Infosys, Axis Bank and Wipro. On the other hand, NTPC, UltraTech Cement, L&T, Sun Pharma, Asian Paints and Maruti were among the major laggards, shedding as much as 1.10 per cent. Retail inflation again breached the Reserve Bank's upper tolerance limit and touched a three-month high of 6.52 per cent in January.

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EXTRACT OF THE UNAUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2022

(₹ in lakhs except EPS)

Sl. No	Particulars	Standalone						Consolidated					
		Quarter ended 31.12.2022 Unaudited	Quarter ended 30.09.2022 Unaudited	Quarter ended 31.12.2021 Unaudited	Nine Months ended 31.12.2022 Unaudited	Nine Months ended 31.12.2021 Unaudited	Year ended 31.03.2022 Audited	Quarter ended 31.12.2022 Unaudited	Quarter ended 30.09.2022 Unaudited	Quarter ended 31.12.2021 Unaudited	Nine Months ended 31.12.2022 Unaudited	Nine Months ended 31.12.2021 Unaudited	Year ended 31.03.2022 Audited
1.	Total Income from Operations	175068.07	172534.91	140627.27	522699.87	351087.56	509515.70	186719.85	180109.76	145066.85	545176.55	375118.37	533670.88
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	8189.84	8087.62	12530.90	30000.29	26579.15	41860.27	9528.32	7185.03	12989.64	29432.43	30170.34	44428.76
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	8189.84	8087.62	12530.90	30000.29	26579.15	41860.27	9528.32	7185.03	12989.64	29432.43	30170.34	44428.76
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	653											

