

Sensex, Nifty close flat as investors await October CPI data; realty, banking stocks gain

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New Delhi [India], November 12 (ANI): Indian equity markets closed flat onThursday as investors remained cautious ahead of the October inflationdata due later in the day.

Buying in financial and realty stocks helped offset profit-booking in IT,FMCG and automobile shares following the recent sharp rally.

The Nifty 50 index closed at 25,299.35, gaining 44.30 points or 0.18 per cent,while the BSE Sensex ended at 81,911.01, up 31.61 points or 0.04 per cent.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Investments, said buying in financialand realty stocks supported the market, while investors booked profits insectors that had witnessed a recent rally.

"Indian equities traded near flat as buying in financials and realty offsetprofit-taking in IT, FMCG and automobiles following the recent sharp rally.Strong foreign inflows remained the key support, reinforcing a large-capfinancial rotation rather than broad index chasing. Mid- and small-capsnevertheless outperformed, signalling firmer underlying risk appetitedespite muted benchmarks. Softer crude provided macro relief, thoughglobal technology volatility and a hotter-than-expected US inflation printkept global yields and rate expectations in focus, limiting scope for broaderrerating," he said

In the broader market, the Nifty 100 gained marginally by 0.02 per cent.The Nifty Smallcap 100 surged by more than 1 per cent, while the NiftyMidcap 100 gained 0.65 per cent, indicating stronger performance insmaller companies compared to benchmark indices.

Among sectoral indices on the NSE, the Nifty Realty index surged 4 percent, while the Nifty Media index gained 2.48 per cent. The Nifty PSU Bankindex advanced 1.39 per cent and the Nifty Private Bank index rose 0.74 percent. The Nifty Consumer Durables index also gained 0.35 per cent.

On the other hand, the Nifty Auto index declined 1.28 per cent, while theNifty FMCG index lost 0.87 per cent. The Nifty IT index fell 0.51 per cent, theNifty Metal index declined 0.15 per cent and the Nifty Pharma index lost0.42 per cent.

Nair said, "Domestically, attention now shifts to India's October CPI, wherethe trajectory of food prices will be critical following elevated Septemberinflation. Near term, the market should remain selectively constructive,with direction hinging on sustained foreign liquidity, inflation trends andwhether financial-led gains broaden without stretching valuations."

Meanwhile, Brent crude oil was trading at USD 92.65 per barrel at the timeof reporting. Gold prices declined by more than 1.5 per cent to Rs 1,37,565per 10 grams for 24 karats, while silver prices fell 1.83 per cent to Rs 1,81,142per kg.

Pranjal Ghate, Economist at Brickwork Ratings, said the rupee slipped to 93.77 against the US dollar in early trade, weighed down by a strongerdollar and rising US Treasury yields.

"While the rupee slipped to 93.77 against the US dollar in early trade today,weighed down by a stronger dollar and rising US Treasury yields, thesenear-term fluctuations should not overshadow the broader recovery in thecurrency over recent weeks, bringing it back to levels last seen in April2026. India is increasingly being viewed as a potential 'AI hedge' by globalinvestors, with any further unwinding of crowded US and global AI-relatedtrades potentially supporting foreign equity inflows into Indian markets," he said.

In other Asian markets, most indices closed lower on Thursday. Japan'sNikkei 225 declined 0.99 per cent to 60,650, Singapore's Straits Times fell0.14 per cent to 5,282, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index lost 1.46 per centto 23,967. Taiwan's weighted index declined 2.70 per cent to 43,091, whileSouth Korea's KOSPI index fell 0.60 per cent to 5,342. (ANI)