

THE COMSOC GAZETTE



NOVEMBER 2024

Issued on: 15th November 2024

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

STOCK MARKET

STARTUPS

ECONOMY

GEOPOLITICS

SCIENCE AND TECH

COMSOG GENIE



THE COMMERCE SOCIETY, SRCC



CONTENTS

TABLE OF



Financial Foresights

01

Corporate Odyssey.

02

The Economic Lens

03

Sustainable Synergies

04

The Global Chessboard

05

Scientific Spectra

06

ComSoc Genie

07

01 IPO BOOM IN 2024 REFLECTS CHANGING INVESTOR SENTIMENTS IN INDIA

This year, India's IPO market has been buzzing with activity, with new companies entering the stock market almost every month. Businesses from tech startups to consumer brands are raising funds through IPOs, and investors are eagerly participating. It's a sign of growing optimism and faith in India's economic potential, even as global markets face uncertainties.

Many investors, especially newer ones, see IPOs as a chance to support emerging companies and diversify their portfolios. But with the excitement also comes risk—some stocks experience major ups and downs right after they launch. Experts suggest keeping a close eye on each company's fundamentals rather than jumping in due to hype. This IPO boom hints at a vibrant shift in India's financial landscape, blending hope and opportunity for companies and investors alike.

02 GREEN BONDS SURGE AS ESG INVESTMENTS RESHAPE INDIA'S FINANCIAL LANDSCAPE

Green bonds are catching on fast in India, as more investors and companies start to prioritize the environment. These bonds help fund projects focused on sustainability—like solar energy, eco-friendly buildings, and clean transportation—and they're becoming a preferred way to invest for those who care about environmental impact as much as returns. This trend reflects a bigger move

toward ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) investing. As India pushes for ambitious climate goals by 2070, green bonds are giving companies a chance to attract funding while making a positive mark on the planet. They're also drawing in investors who want their money to have a purpose beyond profits. This growing market for green bonds represents an exciting shift in how India's financial sector is aligning with the planet's needs.

03 THE IMPACT OF THE RBI'S RECENT POLICY REVIEW ON HOME LOANS AND CONSUMER BORROWING IN INDIA

The Reserve Bank of India's recent policy review is set to impact home loans and consumer borrowing. With the RBI raising interest rates to control inflation, borrowers could see an increase in Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) for home loans, making them less affordable for potential buyers. This also affects the broader housing market, as higher borrowing costs could slow down demand for homes.

In addition to home loans, the policy review influences personal loans, credit cards, and other forms of consumer borrowing. By increasing interest rates, the RBI aims to stabilize inflation, but this also means that borrowing becomes more expensive. Consumers should carefully assess their financial situation and loan terms, especially if they have variable-rate loans. The RBI's policy adjustments reflect its role in balancing economic growth and inflation, directly impacting individuals and the economy at large.

CORPORATE ODYSSEY

02

01 RUSSIA FINES GOOGLE MORE THAN THE ENTIRE WORLD'S GDP

A Moscow court handed Google a record fine of two undecillion roubles (around \$20 decillion), that far surpasses the global GDP. The decision came after Google blocked 17 Russian media channels, among them the pro-Kremlin Tsargrad TV, on YouTube. The fine symbolizes Russia's dissent with what it calls Western censorship. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov emphasized the symbolic nature of the fine, saying for Russia "the restriction of such state-related content" was impermissible. Also, following the invasion of Ukraine by Russia in 2022, Google had left the Russian market, with only some commercial services still being available there, whereas YouTube still remains intact. According to experts, the fine is unpayable and more of a politically driven statement, showing the intentions of Russia to defy the Western tech policies.



02 BAIN & COMPANY SETS SIGHTS ON TRIPLING BUSINESS IN INDIA

Bain & Company to triple India business in next five years, powered by advantageous demographics,

energy, and geopolitical strengths of India. "India is an extraordinary strategic position in the post-global landscape," said the worldwide managing partner, Christophe De Vusser, as Bain charts its agenda to help India's top local and multinational corporations. The firm will be providing consultancy on global shifts, energy transitions, and AI, underpinned by in-house AI solutions created using Microsoft, AWS, and OpenAI. This technological edge aims to deliver transformative, AI-powered insights, aligning with Bain's goal to address India's growing market needs effectively.

03 ADANI GROUP'S \$10 BILLION U.S. INVESTMENT PLEDGES GROWTH AND PARTNERSHIP

In a recent statement, Gautam Adani, chairman of the Adani Group, pledged to invest \$10 billion in the United States to push the energy and infrastructure projects geared toward strengthening energy security and resilience. Adani also congratulated President-elect Trump on his 2024 victory, while reiterating a commitment to strengthen India-U.S. partnerships. This massive investment would create an estimated 15,000 jobs in the U.S. It shows once again how Adani Group remains committed to furthering the economic relationship. Markets responded skittishly to the major announcement and Adani Enterprises shares fell by 1.7%, closing at ₹2,818.05 after hours.



01 GLOBAL FACTORS SHAPING INDIA'S ECONOMY: OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2024

India's economy during the month of November in 2024 was faced with both challenges and opportunities. The stock exchanges including, Nifty 50 and Sensex were very volatile due to global economic tensions and domestic issues. On the contrary, foreign institutional investments (FII) were high, especially in technology and renewable energy. The Indian rupee was hovering around ₹83-84 against the dollar, recording slight indignation due to global economic demands, increased oil prices, and strengthening of the US dollar. Foreign direct investment (FDI) continued to pour in especially in areas such as renewable energy, technology as well as pharmaceuticals. Oil prices partially at around 90 to 95 dollars per barrel increased the import bill inflating the economy. In view of all these macroeconomic factors, the initiatives being taken by the Indian government towards enhancing manufacturing capability within the country and reducing imports have raised more hopes amongst the investors. This has remained a cause of foreign interest in some sectors especially in technology and renewable energy with high growth prospects creating a positive balance for the economy of India.



02 INDIA'S ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND POLICY FOCUS

The anticipated GDP growth for India for the fiscal year FY 2024-25 has been amended downwards to 6.3%, slightly below the previous upward revisions, on account of global risks and a smaller domestic upside. Industrial output expanded modestly at a range of 3-4% mainly due to increase in manufacturing output. In terms of energy consumption, the country has made notable strides towards its green energy transition by coming in more solar and wind energy projects. The government is also encouraging the use of electric vehicles (EV) and optimistically reducing compensable emissions with policies.



Looking at the picture of inflation, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation was recorded at 5.02 percent in September 2024 which was mainly fueled by food prices especially vegetables and pulses. Furthermore, While inflation was a bit better than previous yahooms, nevertheless, it still is a cause of concern. This has been tightly gripped by RBI and the government and managed with the help of food inflation and global commodity volatility.

SUSTAINABLE SYNERGIES

04

01 INDIA POSITIONED TO LEAD SUSTAINABILITY IN ASIA-PACIFIC: INSIGHTS FROM SAP NOW INDIA 2024

At SAP NOW India 2024, Paul Marriott, President of SAP Asia-Pacific, underscored India's growing leadership in sustainability within the Asia-Pacific region. As Asia contributes over 50% of global emissions, Marriott emphasized India's pivotal role in driving change, fueled by innovation, economic growth, and a vibrant workforce. According to a recent SAP study, 86% of Indian companies recognize a direct connection between sustainability and profitability, triggering substantial investments in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) initiatives.

Over half of these businesses anticipate positive financial returns within the next five years, with 39% planning to increase their sustainability spending in the coming years. SAP leaders stressed that sustainability has evolved from being a mere ethical responsibility to a critical factor in achieving financial success. In fact, 77% of Indian companies reported revenue or profit growth directly tied to sustainable practices. With continued technological investments, India is positioned to integrate environmental and financial data, making informed, sustainable decisions that align with corporate strategies and reinforce the growing importance of ESG practices. This transformation signals India's increasing influence in shaping a sustainable future for both business and society.

02 INDIA AT COP29: SAVING THE EARTH, ONE FAIR EMISSION RULE AT A TIME

COP29, the 29th annual United Nations Climate Change Conference, will be hosted by Azerbaijan in 2024, with a focus on finance, adaptation, and innovative solutions to bridge the gap in meeting global climate goals. India's participation centers on balancing sustainable development, energy security, and climate equity. India advocates for the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR), urging developed nations to take the lead in emissions reductions and climate finance, while ensuring accessibility for the Global South.

Discussions will include the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance, adaptation strategies, and resilience for vulnerable communities. India supports carbon markets with fair rules for developing countries and has partnered with Amazonas to advance nature-based solutions like REDD.

Additionally, India has developed state-level REDD+ action plans, supported by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, focusing on equitable revenue sharing and socio-economic needs of forest communities. These initiatives aim to foster the success of India's climate goals by integrating indigenous rights and biodiversity conservation under the Forest Rights Act, ensuring a fair and inclusive approach to emissions reductions.

THE GLOBAL CHESSBOARD

05

01 TRUMP WINS 2024 US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

After Donald Trump's victory in the US presidential elections the world is set to see various changes in global politics. Trump's win signals towards his policy of 'America First', which could affect the geopolitical scenario of the world, and various international relations among different countries. In his previous tenure he focused upon reducing the involvement of the U.S. in global affairs, renegotiating trade deals, and pressuring allies to increase their defense spending, especially within NATO. The tensions in the Indo Pacific region are likely to revive because of his tough stance on China. This could impact global supply chain, trade dynamics, especially in sectors reliant on Chinese manufacturing. Additionally, Trump's past skepticism towards supporting Ukraine might translate into reduced U.S. aid, possibly changing the balance of power in Eastern Europe and emboldening Russia. For many countries, Trump's return brings both uncertainty and opportunity. Markets worldwide are bracing for volatility, as businesses and investors adjust their strategies in anticipation of potential shifts in trade policies and international alliances.

02 DEAL ON CLIMATE AID HANGS IN BALANCE AT UN COP29 SUMMIT

The currently ongoing Conference of Parties 29 is facing an important negotiation challenge over climate finance for the developing countries. discussions regarding the long standing pledge of

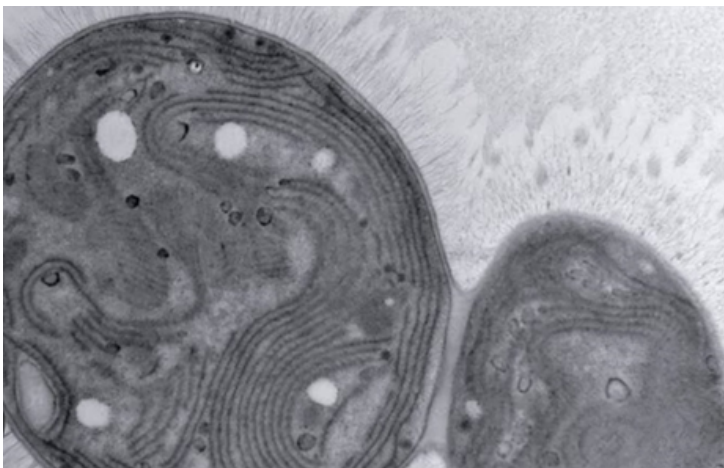
100 billion USD revolve around, as it was initially promised by wealthier nations but it remains only partially met. This fund is essential for supporting developing countries to tackle climate change impacts and transition towards sustainable energy sources. The development of "loss and damage" to reimburse the developing countries for the damages brought on by climate change is one of the main issues of the contention. Despite the advancement, disputes still exist around the accountability and funding systems. Without an agreement, international efforts to tackle climate change may be jeopardized, particularly as severe and frequent extreme weather events increase. The results of COP29 will be carefully monitored since they may influence future climate pledges and global environmental collaboration.

03 INDIA-CHINA BORDER PACT: TACTICAL CALM WITHOUT A STRATEGIC RESET

The recent India China border agreement is a strategic step to ease tension along the Line of Actual Control but it is not a deeper diplomatic reset. It comprises troop disengagement to reduce immediate confrontations, yet deeper issues like territorial disputes and mistrust remain. Although both the nations would still undertake military modernisation near the border. While the agreement may prevent immediate crises, it does little to resolve the fundamental issues driving their rivalry.

01 CHONKUS: SAVIOUR AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

New discovery by scientists suggests that a mutated version of the cyanobacteria known as “Chonkus” can save us from climate change. Chonkus, which belong to the *Synechococcus elongatus* group, are found in the volcanic waters of Italy’s island Vulcano. The native cyanobacteria have adapted by growing bigger, holding more carbon, and sinking fast into the bottom of the ocean. These traits that have evolved over the time makes Chonkus well adapted to carbon sequestration. By taking up more carbon and sinking faster, it can export carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, potentially mitigating greenhouse gasses. Carbon density and fast sinking suggest other similar organisms in carbon-rich marine ecosystems may also aid in scrubbing atmospheric CO₂. This finding hints at the prospect of engineered or naturally occurring microbes to be used in helping to slow climate change.



02 NISAR: A NEW ERA IN EARTH MONITORING FROM SPACE BY NASA AND ISRO

The Indian Space and Research Organisation (ISRO) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) are preparing to launch a satellite called NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) in 2025, which will help in tracking Earth's surface motions down to fractions of an inch. According to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NISAR will measure the motion of the entire planet's land and ice-covered surface once every 12 days, providing researchers with a better understanding of how our planet's surface changes over time.

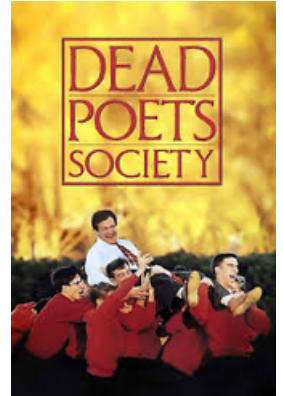
A pair of radars consisting of L band developed by NASA and S band developed by ISRO will help in achieving the accuracy that will enable satellites to collect measurements during both day and night, and can even see through clouds and penetrate dense vegetation to measure the movement of the ground.

NISAR would help in identifying earthquake-prone areas, but it cannot predict earthquakes. From ISRO's perspective, the focus will be Himalayan plate boundary because it has a history of producing large earthquakes. Since the satellite will also observe the Earth's land surface, it may be useful to monitor structures such as levees, aqueducts, and dams and understand how earthquakes affect them.

MOVIE RECOMMENDATION

DEAD POETS SOCIETY

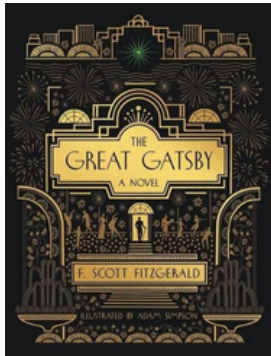
A Peter Weir classic, starring Robin Williams, Ethan Hawke and other remarkable actors, 'Dead Poets Society' is about a group of boys studying in a prestigious boarding school who are inspired by their English teacher to break free from the restrictions and expectations of their school and society and to live life on their own terms. It is a thought provoking masterpiece that explores the themes of individuality and the power of education, leaving you motivated.



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

THE GREAT GATSBY BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

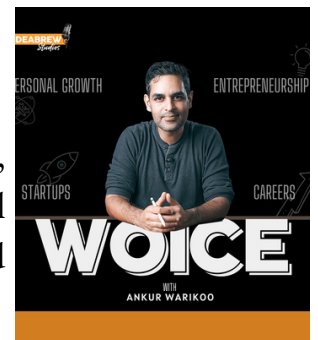
It is a classic American novel about a wealthy young man named Jay Gatsby who throws extravagant parties in hopes of reuniting with his former love, Daisy Buchanan. This obsession of his makes him face tragic consequences. It is a complex and well-written novel that sheds light on topics of wealth, class, love and the glorification of the American Dream.



PODCAST RECOMMENDATION

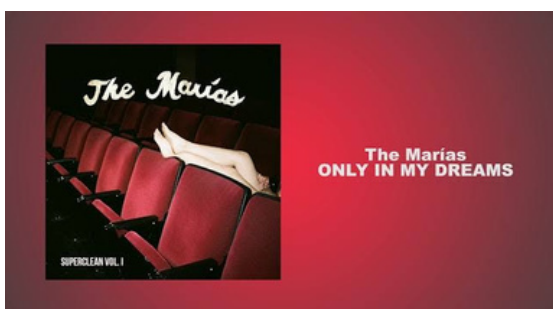
VOICE WITH WARIKOO

It is the official podcast of Ankur Warikoo, where he talks about entrepreneurship, careers, financial independence and personal growth. He shares his personal experiences and learnings as the founder of nearbuy.com, being an active learner and a risk taker which makes it an insightful listen.

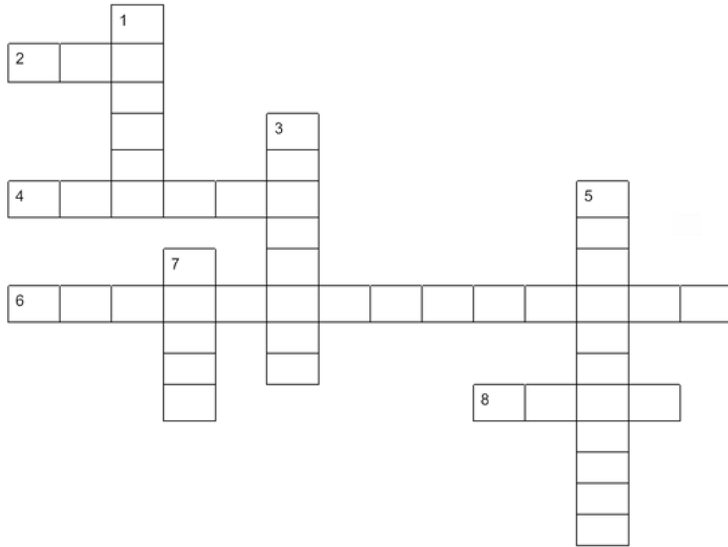


MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Only in my Dreams by The Marias
2. Dil by Dream Note
3. Hum Yahin by Ankur Tewari
4. Ode to the Mets by The Strokes
5. Slow burn by Infinity Song



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

2. The minimum percentage of deposits that a commercial bank has to maintain as cash, gold etc.
4. Exchange of goods for things other than money.
6. Concentration of authority at the top level.
8. Money owed to another person or body.

DOWN

1. A person who arranges transactions between buyers and sellers of securities.
3. A loan used to purchase or maintain a plot of land or other real estate.
5. A state where demand is equal to supply.
7. A static concept measured at a particular point of time.

ANSWERS IN THE NEXT EDITION

Answers of the previous edition

Across

3. Accrued expenses
5. Cost allocation
9. Liabilities
10. Internal audit
11. Cash basis
13. Interest
14. Trial balance
15. Working capital

Down

1. Capital gains
2. Break even point
4. Contingent Liability
6. Goodwill
7. Journal entry
8. Variable cost
11. Cash basis
12. Disinvestment

VOCABULARY

1. **Slake** - Satisfy, as thirst.
2. **Apposite** - Being of striking appropriateness and pertinence.
3. **Precinct** - An administrative district of a city or town.
4. **Tourniquet** - A bandage that stops the flow of blood by applying pressure.
5. **Convivial** - Occupied with or fond of the pleasures of good company.
6. **Truculent** - Defiantly aggressive.
7. **Mendicant** - A pauper who lives by begging.
8. **Slick** - Made smooth, as by ice, grease, or water.
9. **Factitious** - Not produced by natural forces; artificial or fake.
10. **Fictitious** - Formed or conceived by the imagination.

JARGONS DECODED

Freemium Model

The word 'Freemium' is an amalgamation of the words 'Free' and 'Premium.' It is a business model where a basic version of a product or service is provided for free and then a premium is charged for any advanced features, removing the limitations. This attracts a large user base at a lower cost and converts a portion of them to loyal consumers.

A/B Testing

It is a method of comparing two versions of a webpage or app to see which one is more appealing to the audience. Accordingly, it helps you make decisions about your website or app by putting more variations of elements like headlines, images etc to the test.

Blue-Chip Stock

Blue-chip stocks are shares of well-established, financially stable companies with a strong track record of reliability and consistent performance. These companies typically dominate their industries, have solid revenue streams, and are known for paying regular dividends. Investors favor blue-chip stocks for their lower risk and potential for steady, long-term growth, making them a cornerstone of conservative investment strategies.

MYTH BUSTERS

You can't make money online

The digital age has opened countless doors of earning money online. You can become a freelancer, start a blog, sell digital products or content, start an online business, earn through ads and sponsorships, the opportunities are endless. With the right skills and consistency, one can turn their small ideas into profitable ventures.

You can't be successful if you don't have a lot of work experience

While having work experience is definitely beneficial but it's not a necessity for success. There are many ways through which skills can be gained like an online course, volunteering etc. Success cannot solely be defined through a degree or internship but by your willingness to learn, adaptability and hard work.

Investing is only for the wealthy.

Investing no longer requires large capital. Platforms like ETFs, mutual funds, and fractional shares let individuals start with minimal amounts. Tools like robo-advisors simplify portfolio management, making wealth-building accessible to everyone, regardless of income level, through gradual and inclusive investment opportunities driven by financial innovations and technology.

FORTUNE'S FABLES

FINSHOTS

Finshots — a financial news platform that began its journey in 2019, was founded by four friends, Pawan Kumar Rai, Bhanu Harish Gurram, Shrehith Karkera from IIM Ahmedabad and Lokesh, an IIT Delhi graduate who wanted to make finance more accessible to everyone. Instead of going down the traditional path of finding jobs, these entrepreneurs decided to start their own business despite being burdened with a 55 lakh loan and a few thousands in their respective bank accounts. They started with merely 200-300 readers but didn't let their persistent spirit fade and eventually grew to 500,000 subscribers turning them into inspirations.

What you do speaks so loudly that I
cannot hear what you say.
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thank you for reading!

Hope you enjoyed the content.
Stay tuned for the next edition!

