

Business News Update

18 March 2025

“Education Is Not The Learning Of Facts, But The Training Of The Mind To Think.”

Ola Electric share price drops 6% amid insolvency proceedings against subsidiary by Rosmerta Digital Services

Ola Electric share price slumped almost 6% during Monday's trading session after Rosmerta Digital Services Ltd, its vehicle registration service provider, announced on Saturday that it intends to initiate insolvency proceedings against Ola's wholly-owned subsidiary, Ola Electric Technologies Pvt Ltd. In a regulatory submission, the company announced that M/s. Rosmerta Digital Services Ltd, which is an operational creditor of Ola Electric Technologies Pvt Ltd, has filed a petition under Section 9 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC). The petition has been presented to the Bengaluru Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal, claiming that there has been a default in payments owed for services provided by the operational creditor and requesting the commencement of the corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) against Ola Electric Technologies Pvt Ltd.

Source: [Livemint, March 17, 2025](#)

IRFC announces second interim dividend of ₹0.80 per share for FY25; details here

IRFC (Indian Railway Finance Corporation) on Monday, March 17, announced the second interim dividend of ₹0.80 per share for the financial year 2025 (FY25). The PSU company said in an exchange filing that its board of directors considered and approved the declaration of a second interim dividend of ₹0.80 per share of ₹10 each for the financial year 2024-2025 on March 17. The record date for determining shareholders' eligibility for the payment of the second interim dividend is Friday, March 21. The company said the dividend would be paid within 30 days from the declaration of the second interim dividend.

Source: [Livemint, March 17, 2025](#)

SBI defers \$1.7 billion bond issuance amid high yields, plans to reassess in FY25; stock edges lower

Shares of State Bank of India (SBI) declined nearly one percent on Monday, March 17, following reports that the country's largest lender by assets has decided to delay its bond issuance plans for the current fiscal year. Despite a policy rate cut and ample liquidity infusion by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the bank remains cautious due to elevated bond yields, opting to revisit its fundraising strategy in the next financial year. SBI had initially planned to raise up to ₹150 billion (approximately \$1.7 billion) through bond sales before the end of March. However, due to persistently high yields, the bank has postponed the move, with plans to explore the market in the upcoming fiscal year starting April, according to a Reuters report. "The bank has been waiting for an opportune time to enter the market, but yields have stayed high for the last several weeks, and hence the bank is avoiding tapping the market in the near term," a source cited by Reuters stated.

Source: [Livemint, March 17, 2025](#)

Swiggy Instamart expands to 100 cities amid rising quick commerce demand

Swiggy Instamart, the quick commerce arm of food aggregator Swiggy, has expanded its services to 100 cities, adding 32 new locations in 2025 so far. The move comes in response to growing demand for 10-minute deliveries, particularly in Tier-II and Tier-III cities. "One in four new users in 2025 came from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, underscoring the rising demand for quick commerce," said Amitesh Jha, chief executive officer, Swiggy Instamart. Last month, Swiggy Instamart launched in Raipur, Siliguri, Jodhpur, and Thanjavur, providing access to over 30,000 products, from groceries and daily essentials to electronics and fashion. Commenting on the expansion, Jha said, "We have seen significant traction for convenience-led retail beyond metros, as both consumer behaviour and the value proposition of quick commerce evolve. Our expansion to 100 cities strengthens our reach and allows us to better serve consumers in underserved regions." With the cricket and festive seasons .

Source: [Business Standard, March 17, 2025](#)

18 March 2025

Business News Update

OECD cuts U.S. and global economic outlooks as Trump's trade tariffs weigh on growth

Both U.S. and global economic growth is set to be lower than previously projected, according to the latest estimates from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. "Global GDP growth is projected to moderate from 3.2% in 2024, to 3.1% in 2025 and 3.0% in 2026, with higher trade barriers in several G20 economies and increased geopolitical and policy uncertainty weighing on investment and household spending," the OECD said Monday in its interim Economic Outlook report. "Annual GDP growth in the United States is projected to slow from its strong recent pace, to be 2.2% in 2025 and 1.6% in 2026." In its previous projections, published in December, the OECD had estimated 3.3% global economic growth this year and next. The U.S. economy had been expected to grow 2.4% in 2025 and 2.1% in 2026. The OECD said its latest projections were "based on an assumption that bilateral tariffs between Canada and the United States and between Mexico and the United States are raised by an additional 25 percentage points on almost all merchandise imports from April."

Source: [CNBC, March 17, 2025](#)

Small electric cars were said to be the future – but SUVs now rule the road

Across the globe more and more Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) are being spotted on – and off – the roads. This is despite predictions from the United Nations of an inevitable pivot towards smaller and more environmentally friendly vehicles because of the urgency of the climate crisis and the rising cost of living. That pivot has not materialised: globally, 54% of the cars sold in 2024 were SUVs, including petrol, diesel, hybrids and electric makes. This is an increase of three percentage points from 2023 and five percentage points from the year before, according to GlobalData. Of the SUVs which are now on the road – both new and older models – 95% are burning fossil fuels, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). Manufacturers, however, say their new fleets of such cars are increasingly becoming electric, and that not all SUVs now being sold cause an increase in emissions.

Source: [BBC, March 16, 2025](#)

BMW to Integrate Huawei HiCar In Locally Produced Models From 2026

The collaboration will see BMW team up with Huawei to develop smart applications for its vehicles based on Huawei's Harmony operating system. This integration aims to improve the user experience for drivers using Huawei devices in China. HiCar is Huawei's vehicle connectivity solution, designed to link smartphones and other devices directly with car systems, offering enhanced navigation, communication and entertainment features. By adopting this platform, BMW aims to meet the growing demand for seamless digital experiences in vehicles within the Chinese market. BMW stated that the partnership aligns with its broader strategy to promote deeper cooperation with Chinese partners and integrate them into its global innovation system. The German automaker is working with suppliers to foster 'cross-cycle' collaboration, indicating a long-term commitment to advancing technology in partnership with local Chinese firms.

Source: [Business World, March 17, 2025](#)

Canada PM Carney to meet European allies as tensions with Trump admin rise

New Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney arrived in Paris Monday to meet with French President Emmanuel Macron, seeking support from one of Canada's oldest allies as tensions with the Trump administration spike. This is Carney's first official foreign trip since he was sworn in on March 14. He will next land in London where he will sit down with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and King Charles III, the head of state in Canada. Carney has deliberately chosen the two European capital cities that shaped Canada's early existence. During his swearing-in ceremony, he noted the country was built on the bedrock of three peoples, French, English and Indigenous, and said Canada is fundamentally different from America and will never, ever, in any way shape or form, be part of the United States. Since US President Donald Trump came to office, he has imposed whopping tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum and repeatedly commented on turning Canada into the 51st state.

Source: [Business Standard, March 17, 2025](#)