



ASSOCHAM Economic Weekly
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1. Macroeconomy



1.1 E-tourist visa facility

A total of 1,17,210 tourists arrived in February 2016 on e-Tourist Visa as compared to 24,985 during the month of February 2015 registering a growth of 369.1%.

Commencing from 27th November 2014, e-Tourist Visa facility was available until 25th February 2016 for citizens of 113 countries arriving at 16 Airports in India. The Government of India has extended this scheme for citizens of 37 more countries w.e.f 26th February 2016 taking the tally to 150 countries. The following are the important highlights of e-Tourist Visa during February, 2016.

The following are the important highlights of e-Tourist Visa during February, 2016:

- (i) During the month of February, 2016 a total of 1,17,210 tourist arrived on e-Tourist Visa as compared to 24,985 during the month of February, 2015 registering a growth of 369.1%.
- (ii) This high growth may be attributed to introduction of e-Tourist Visa for 150 countries as against the earlier coverage of 43 countries.
- (iii) The percentage shares of top 10 source countries availing e-Tourist Visa facilities during February, 2016 were as follows: UK (27.86%), USA (13.85%), France (8.08%), Russian Fed. (6.21%), Germany (4.92%), China (4.91%), Canada (4.21%), Australia (3.64%), Republic of Korea (2.15%) and Ukraine (2.00%).
- (iv) The percentage shares of top 10 ports in tourist arrivals on e-Tourist Visa during February, 2016 were as follows: New Delhi Airport (40.96%), Mumbai Airport (20.62%), Goa Airport (13.42%), Chennai Airport (6.19%), Bengaluru Airport (5.42%), Kochi Airport (3.44%), Kol-

kata Airport (2.50%), Trivandrum Airport (1.88%), Hyderabad Airport (1.86%) and Ahmada-
bad Airport (1.58%).

1.2 Steps to Increase Freight Activities

In the year 2014-15, the Indian ports handled 172.67 million tonnes coastal cargo while overseas cargo handled was 879.56 million tones

Ministry of Shipping has taken following steps to increase freight activities in domestic shipping in the country.

- (i) Support to Major/Non-Major ports/State Government for creation of infrastructure for movement of coastal cargo.
- (ii) Relaxation of technical and operational requirement for ships operating in Indian coast.
- (iii) Introduce Green Channel for coastal cargo, priority berthing for coastal vessels and construction of exclusive coastal berths.
- (iv) Removal of customs and central excise duty on bunker fuel used for transportation of mix of EXIM, empty and domestic containers.
- (v) Reduction of service tax incidence on coastal shipping.
- (vi) Cabotage relaxation for specialized vessels such as Ro-Ro, Hybrid Ro-Ro, Ro-Pax, Pure Car Carriers, Pure Car and Truck Carriers, LNG vessels and Over Dimensional Cargo or Project Cargo Carriers which are in short supply in India.

1.3 Status of Development of National Waterways -3

Kottapuram- Kollam stretch of West Coast canal (168 km) along with Champakara canal (14 km) and Udyogmandal canal (23 km) (totalling 205 km) were declared as National Waterway-3 (NW-3) on February 1, 1993. The present status of development of NW-3 is given below:

- (i) **Navigable Channel:** Navigable channel of minimum 38 meters bottom width in wider sections and 32 meters bottom width in narrow sections with minimum 2 meters depth has been developed and maintained in entire NW-3 except a small portion of 3.25 km where width is 12 meters.

(ii) **Aids for 24 hours Navigation:** The entire NW-3 in Kerala has been provided with navigation aids to facilitate 24 hours navigation.

(iii) **Cargo handling terminals:** Cargo terminals have been set up at eight locations with safe berthing arrangement for inland vessels, storage go-downs, cargo handling equipment. These locations are- Kottapuram, Aluva Maradu(Kochi), Vaikom, Cherthala (Thanneermukkom) Thrikkunnappuzha, Kayamkulam (Ayiramthengu) and Kollam. Construction is nearing completion at the ninth terminal at Alappuzha. In addition, for decongesting the Kochi city by providing an alternate transport route to International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT), a pair of Ro-Ro terminals at Willingdon Island and Bolghatty have been provided.



2. Corporate Sector

2.1 Index of Industrial Production and Use-Based Index, January 2016

The General Index for the month of January 2016 stands at 186.3, which is 1.5 percent lower as compared to the level in the month of January 2015. The cumulative growth for the period April-January 2015-16 over the corresponding period of the previous year stands at 2.7 percent.

The Indices of Industrial Production for the Mining, Manufacturing and Electricity sectors for the month of January 2016 stand at 138.4, 195.0 and 188.3 respectively, with the corresponding growth rates of 1.2 percent, (-) 2.8 percent and 6.6 percent as compared to January 2015. The cumulative growth in three sectors during April-January 2015-16 over the corresponding period of 2014-15 has been 2.1 percent, 2.5 percent and 4.7 percent respectively.

Table 1
Index of Industrial Production – Sectoral
(Base : 2004-05=100)

Month	Mining		Manufacturing		Electricity		General	
	(141.57)		(755.27)		(103.16)		(1000.00)	
	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16
Apr	122.6	121.9	181.4	188.5	178.1	177.2	172.7	177.9
May	125.3	127.9	183.5	187.3	183.9	195.0	175.3	179.7
Jun	122.1	121.6	180.1	189.5	181.6	183.7	172.0	179.3
Jul	116.2	117.7	182.2	190.9	183.8	190.3	173.0	180.5
Aug	115.0	120.2	173.4	184.8	184.1	194.4	166.2	176.6
Sep	115.3	119.3	181.9	186.9	175.6	195.7	171.8	178.2
Oct	124.2	130.8	170.0	188.1	184.9	201.6	165.1	181.4
Nov	128.6	131.0	179.9	171.5	174.3	175.6	172.1	166.2
Dec	133.6	137.2	196.8	192.5	177.6	183.2	185.9	183.7
Jan*	136.7	138.4	200.7	195.0	176.7	188.3	189.2	186.3
Feb	129.6		192.7		166.0		181.0	
Mar	149.0		210.3		176.4		198.1	

Average								
Apr-Jan	124.0	126.6	183.0	187.5	180.1	188.5	174.3	179.0
Growth over the corresponding period of previous year								
Jan	-1.8	1.2	3.4	-2.8	3.3	6.6	2.8	-1.5
Apr-Jan	1.5	2.1	1.9	2.5	9.4	4.7	2.7	2.7

Source: MOSPI. Govt. of India

* Indices for Jan 2016 are Quick Estimates.

NOTE : Indices for the months of Oct'15 and Dec'15 incorporate updated production data.

As per Use-based classification, the growth rates in January 2016 over January 2015 are 1.8 per cent in Basic goods, (-) 20.4 percent in Capital goods and 2.7 percent in Intermediate goods. The Consumer durables and Consumer non-durables have recorded growth of 5.8 percent and (-) 3.1 percent respectively, with the overall growth in Consumer goods being 0.0 percent.

Table 2
Index of Industrial Production - Use-Based
(Base : 2004-05=100)

Month	Basic goods (456.82)		Capital goods (88.25)		Intermediate goods (156.86)		Consumer goods (298.08)		Consumer durables (84.60)		Consumer non-durables (213.47)	
	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16
Apr	163.0	167.3	235.0	248.0	149.7	153.2	181.5	186.5	255.4	258.7	152.2	157.9
May	167.1	177.4	228.0	234.9	155.5	157.4	182.7	178.7	262.7	252.4	151.0	149.5
Jun	163.5	171.9	270.7	265.4	151.2	153.1	166.9	179.0	211.9	246.1	149.0	152.4
Jul	162.8	171.6	263.2	289.9	155.4	158.5	171.3	173.2	220.9	244.2	151.7	145.1
Aug	164.0	170.0	220.6	267.5	151.9	156.2	161.1	170.8	218.8	256.0	138.3	137.0
Sep	161.3	168.0	260.9	287.2	151.3	154.0	172.4	174.5	241.5	262.0	145.0	139.8
Oct	167.9	175.0	239.2	278.6	145.5	154.7	149.0	176.3	191.8	272.2	132.0	138.3
Nov	168.2	167.0	252.1	190.3	151.4	149.4	165.1	166.8	201.6	226.8	150.6	143.0
Dec	174.6	175.5	269.7	218.2	159.0	161.0	192.4	198.1	208.0	242.1	186.2	180.7
Jan*	175.4	178.5	270.5	215.3	158.3	162.5	202.3	202.2	246.6	260.8	184.8	179.0
Feb	164.6		254.9		151.8		199.6		251.2		179.2	
Mar	180.8		331.5		164.8		202.7		261.9		179.3	
Average												
Apr-Jan	166.8	172.2	251.0	249.5	152.9	156.0	174.5	180.6	225.9	252.1	154.1	152.3
Growth over the corresponding period of previous year												
Jan	4.8	1.8	12.4	-20.4	0.1	2.7	-1.9	0.0	-5.7	5.8	0.3	-3.1
Apr-Jan	7.7	3.2	5.8	-0.6	1.6	2.0	-4.6	3.5	-14.3	11.6	2.1	-1.2

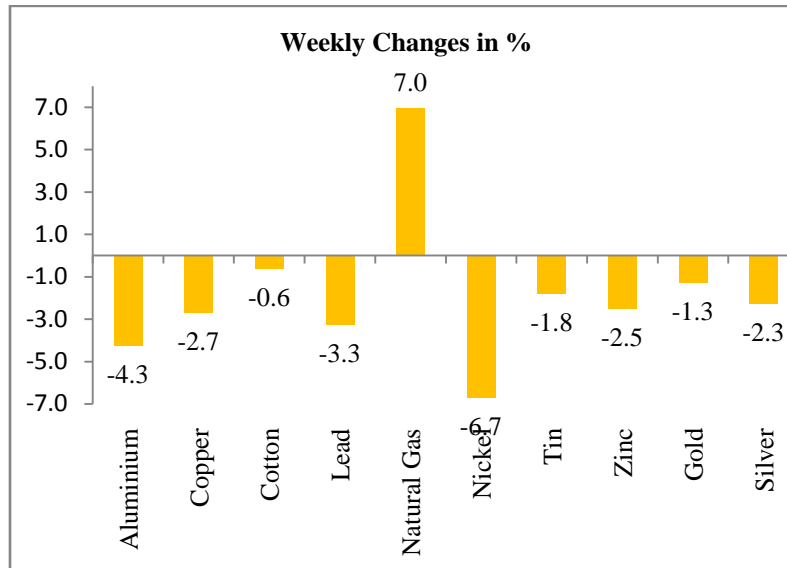
Source: MOSPI. Govt. of India

* Indices for Jan 2016 are Quick Estimates.

NOTE : Indices for the months of Oct'15 and Dec'15 incorporate updated production data.

2.2 Basic Metals and Agriculture Commodities in Spot Market

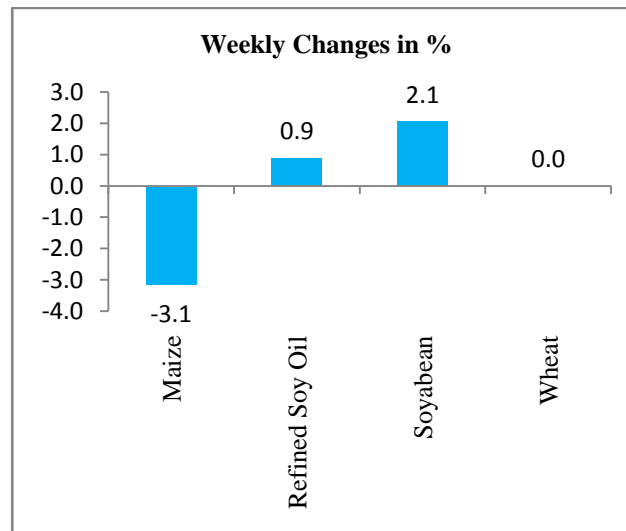
Performance of Metals Market Spot Prices



Source: MCX, ASSOCHAM Economic Research Bureau

Note: For details please refer appendix and weekly change calculated for four days

Performance Agri Commodities Market Spot Prices



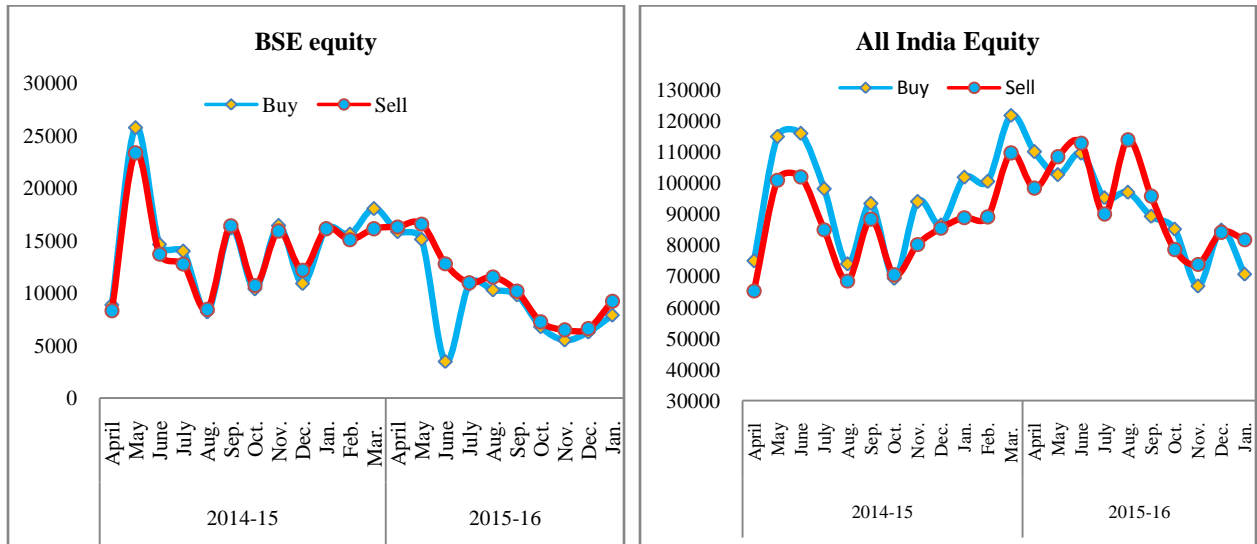
Source: MCX, ASSOCHAM Economic Research Bureau

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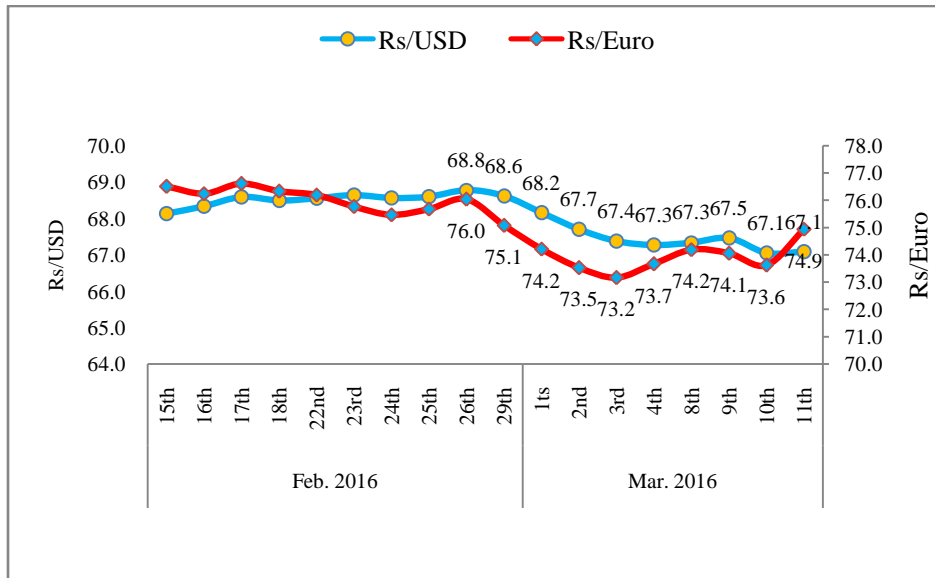
3. Market Trends

FII Equity Flows Equity (Rs. Crore)

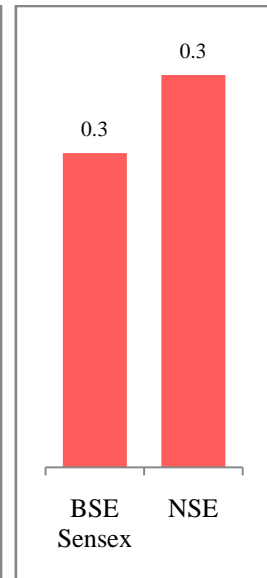


Source: BSE and ASSOCHAM Economic Research Bureau

Exchange Rate



Market Variation



Source: RBI, BSE, NSE and ASSOCHAM Economic Research Bureau



4. Global Developments

4.1 UK International Trade, January 2016

The UK's deficit on trade in goods and services was estimated to have been £3.5 billion in January 2016, a narrowing of £0.2 billion from December 2015. The narrowing is attributed to trade in goods where the deficit has narrowed from £10.5 billion in December 2015, to £10.3 billion in January 2016.

The narrowing of the trade in goods deficit between December 2015 and January 2016 reflected a decrease in imports of £0.2 billion to £33.2 billion attributed to falls in unspecified goods and fuels. However, excluding oil and erratics the trade in goods deficit widened by £0.5 billion between December 2015 and January 2016.

In the 3 months to January 2016, the UK's deficit on trade in goods and services was estimated to have been £11.8 billion; a widening of £3.5 billion from the 3 months to October 2015.

Between the 3 months to October 2015 and the 3 months to January 2016, the trade in goods deficit widened by £1.5 billion to £32.3 billion. This widening reflects a £2.3 billion fall in exports of goods (of which, chemicals fell by £1.2 billion) partially offset by a £0.8 billion fall in imports of goods.

Between the 3 months to October 2015 and the 3 months to January 2016, the trade in services surplus narrowed by £2.0 billion to £20.5 billion. Downwards revisions to exports of services since the December 2015 UK trade publication have resulted in a larger annual total trade deficit of £36.6 billion in 2015.

Table 3
Balance of UK trade in goods and services (£ billion)

		Balance of trade in goods			Balance of trade in services	Total trade balance
		EU	Non-EU	Total		
2015	Jan	-7.2	-3.9	-11.1	7.9	-3.2
	Nov	-8	-3.5	-11.6	6.9	-4.7
	Dec	-7.4	-3	-10.5	6.8	-3.7
2016	Jan	-8.1	-2.2	-10.3	6.8	-3.5

Source: UK Office for National Statistics

4.2 Euro Area and EU28 GDP, Q4 2015

According to the statistical office of the European Union, seasonally adjusted GDP rose by 0.3% in the euro area (EA19) and by 0.4% in the EU28 during the fourth quarter of 2015, compared with the previous quarter. In the third quarter of 2015, GDP also grew by 0.3% and 0.4% respectively.

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, seasonally adjusted GDP rose by 1.6% in the euro area and by 1.8% in the EU28 in the fourth quarter of 2015, after +1.6% and +1.9% respectively in the previous quarter.

During the fourth quarter of 2015, GDP in the United States increased by 0.3% compared with the previous quarter (after +0.5% in the third quarter of 2015). Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, GDP grew by 1.9% (after +2.1% in the previous quarter).

Over the whole year 2015, GDP rose by 1.6% in the euro area and by 1.9% in the EU28, compared with 0.9% and 1.4% respectively in 2014.

GDP growth by Member State

Among Member States for which data are available for the fourth quarter of 2015, Sweden (+1.3%), Estonia (+1.2%), Poland and Romania (both +1.1%), Hungary and Slovakia (both +1.0%) recorded the highest growth compared with the previous quarter. Decreases were registered in Croatia (-0.5%) and Latvia (-0.3%) while GDP in the Czech Republic remained stable.

Table 4
Growth rates of GDP in volume
(based on seasonally adjusted* data)

	Percentage change compared with the previous quarter				Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year			
	2015				2015			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EA19	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.6
EU28	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.8
Member States								
Belgium	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.4
Bulgaria	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.7	2.6	2.6	2.9	3
Czech Republic	2.4	1	0.7	0	4	4.5	4.7	4
Denmark	0.7	0.2	-0.5	0.2	1.6	1.8	0.6	0.6
Germany	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.1	1.6	1.7	1.3
Estonia	-0.8	0.6	-0.4	1.2	1.4	1.8	0.7	0.9
Ireland	2.2	1.9	1.4	:	6.8	7.5	6.8	:
Greece	0	0.3	-1.2	0.1	0.3	0.9	-1.7	-0.8
Spain	0.9	1	0.8	0.8	2.7	3.2	3.4	3.5
France	0.7	0	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.4
Croatia	0.3	0.9	1.4	-0.5	0.2	1.5	2.7	2
Italy	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.8	1
Cyprus	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.1	2.3	2.7
Latvia	0.5	1.2	0.9	-0.3	1.9	2.8	3.3	2.3
Lithuania	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.9
Luxembourg	-0.2	1.4	0.9	:	5.5	6.2	5.4	:
Hungary	0.8	0.5	0.6	1	3.3	2.7	2.6	3
Malta	0.7	1.4	1.1	:	5	5.5	5.6	:
Netherlands**	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.2
Austria	0.7	0.3	0	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.9	1.2
Poland	1	0.6	0.9	1.1	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.7
Portugal	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
Romania	1.3	-0.2	1.5	1.1	4	3.7	3.6	3.8
Slovenia	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.6	3	2.6	2.2	2.6
Slovakia	0.9	1	1	1	3.1	3.5	3.8	4
Finland	0.3	0.5	-0.2	0.1	0	0.7	0.3	0.7
Sweden	0.9	1.2	1	1.3	3	3.6	4.2	4.5
United Kingdom	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	2.6	2.4	2.1	1.9
Other countries								
Iceland	0.1	3.7	0.7	:	3.1	6.7	1.9	:
Norway	-0.1	0	1.6	-1.2	2.4	1.3	2.6	0.3

Switzerland	-0.3	0.3	-0.1	0.4	1.2	1.4	0.6	0.3
United States	0.2	1	0.5	0.3	2.9	2.7	2.1	1.9

Source: The statistical office of the European Union

: Data not available.

* The seasonal adjustment does not include a calendar adjustment for Ireland, Slovakia and Iceland.

** Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year calculated from calendar adjusted data.

5. Data Appendix

Table 5
Latest Available Financial Information

Item	Feb. 26, 2016	Mar. 04, 2016	Percentage Change
Deposits of Scheduled Commercial Banks with RBI (Rs. Billion)	3,862.50	3,905.34	1.11
Foreign Currency Assets of RBI (Rs. Billion)	22,508.77	22,215.98	-1.30
Advances of RBI to the Central Government (Rs. Billion)	–	–	
Advances of RBI to the Scheduled Commercial Banks (Rs. Billion)	1,774.63	1,299.54	-26.77
Foreign Exchange Reserves (US\$ Billion)	346.8	350.9	1.18

Source: RBI, Govt. of India

Table 6
BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty Index

Index	Mar. 08, 2016	Mar. 11, 2016	Percentage Change
BSE SENSEX	24,655.2	24,718.0	0.3
S & P CNX NIFTY	7,486.4	7,510.2	0.3

Source: BSE India and NSE India

Table 7
Metals Market Spot Prices Index (Rs.)

		March 2016					Weekly Changes in %
		7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	
Aluminium	1 KGS	NA	553.5	538.3	536.8	529.8	-4.3
Copper	1 KGS	NA	338.7	329.9	332.1	328.2	-2.7
Cotton	1 BALES	NA	15970.0	15920.0	15870.0	15870.0	-0.6
Lead	1 KGS	127.6	126.4	125.3	124.2	123.4	-3.3
Natural Gas	1 mmBtu	112.1	113.7	115.3	118.2	119.9	7.0
Nickel	1 KGS	630.5	608.6	592.5	585.5	588.2	-6.7
Tin	1 KGS	1166.3	1150.3	1136.5	1137.3	1145.3	-1.8
Zinc	1 KGS	123.3	121.6	121.3	120.6	120.2	-2.5
Gold	10 GRMS	NA	29455.0	29080.0	29080.0	29080.0	-1.3
Silver	1 KGS	NA	37510.0	36651.0	36651.0	36651.0	-2.3

Source: MCX
NA: Not available

Table 8
Agri. Commodities Market Spot Prices (Rs.)

		March 2016					Weekly Changes in %
		7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	
Maize	100 KGS	NA	1435.0	1435.0	1435.0	1390.0	-3.1
Refined Soy Oil	10 KGS	NA	636.0	636.0	636.0	641.6	0.9
Soyabean	100 KGS	NA	3650.0	3665.0	3675.0	3725.0	2.1
Wheat	100 KGS	NA	1700.0	1705.0	1700.0	1700.0	0.0

Source: MCX
NA: Not available

ASSOCHAM Economic Research Bureau

ASSOCHAM Economic Research Bureau (AERB) is the research division of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India. The Research Bureau undertakes studies on various economic issues, policy matters, financial markets, international trade, social development, sector wise performance and monitoring global economy dynamics.

The main banners of the Bureau are:

ASSOCHAM Eco Pulse (AEP) studies are based on the data provided by various institutions like Reserve Bank of India, World Bank, IMF, WTO, CSO, Finance Ministry, Commerce Ministry, CMIE etc.

ASSOCHAM Business Barometer (ABB) are based on the surveys conducted by the Research Team to take note of the opinion of leading CEOs, MDs, CFOs, economists and experts in various fields.

ASSOCHAM Investment Meter (AIM) keeps the track of the investment announcements by the private sector in different sectors and across the various states and cities.

ASSOCHAM Placement Pattern (APP) is based on the sample data that is tracked on a daily basis for the vacancies posted by companies via job portals and advertisements in the national and regional dailies, journals and newspaper. Data is tracked for 60 cities and 30 sectors that are offering job opportunities in India.

ASSOCHAM Financial Pulse (AFP) as an analytical tool tracks quarterly financial performance of India Inc; forming strong inter-linkages with the real economy and presents sectoral insights and outlook based on financial indicators, demand signals and corporate dividend activity.

Email: research@assocham.com

THE KNOWLEDGE CHAMBER

Evolution of Value Creator ASSOCHAM initiated its endeavor of value creation for Indian industry in 1920. It has witnessed upswings as well as upheaval of Indian Economy and contributed significantly by playing a catalytic role in shaping up the Trade, Commerce and Industrial environment of the country.

ASSOCHAM derives its strength from the following Promoter Chambers: Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mumbai; Cochin Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Cochin; Indian Merchant's Chamber, Mumbai; The Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chennai; PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi.

VISION

Empower Indian enterprise by inculcating knowledge that will be the catalyst of growth in the barrier less technology driven global market and help them upscale, align and emerge as formidable player in respective business segment

MISSION

As representative organ of Corporate India, ASSOCHAM articulates the genuine, legitimate needs and interests of its members. Its mission is to impact the policy and legislative environment so as to foster balanced economic industrial and social development. We believe education, health, agriculture and environment to be the critical success factors.

GOALS

To ensure that the voice and concerns of ASSOCHAM are taken note of by policy makers and legislators. To be proactive on policy initiatives those are in consonance with our mission. To strengthen the network of relationships of national and international levels/forums. To develop learning organization, sensitive to the development needs and concerns of its members. To broad-base membership. Knowledge sets the pace for growth by exceeding the expectation, and blends the wisdom of the old with the needs of the present.