

Mapping the market: Smallcaps stand tall; pharma stocks under the weather

Dalal Street has ended a torrid month – when the BSE Sensex tanked nearly 5 per cent – on a positive note. During November, demonetisation, Trump's surprise win in the US presidential election and the Opec meeting played the game of cat and mouse with the market. But what really lifted the market mood on Tuesday?

Here is a wrapup of what all really mattered from various sectors and individual stocks.

CD stocks in demand: Money has again started flowing to sectors that were hit the most because of the cash ban as investors are betting on limited impact on these stocks in medium term. All the sectors on the BSE settled in the green with the consumer durables index taking the pole position with a 2.46 per cent rise. From the pack, Whirlpool of IndiaBSE 0.17 % surged 6.75 per cent to Rs 998, Blue Star rose 3.42 per cent to Rs 490 and Johnson Controls-Hitachi AC India jumped 3.12 per cent to Rs 1,411.

Smallcaps bettered Sensex gains: Second-rung stocks were the flavour of the day, as the BSE Smallcap index rose 1.28 per cent compared with a 0.98 per cent uptick in the benchmark Sensex. From the pack, Saregama IndiaBSE -2.39 % zoomed 19.99 per cent to Rs 241, Nucleus SoftwareBSE -3.36 % surged 20 per cent to Rs 268 and RS SoftwareBSE -5.56 % saw a 19.95 per cent spike to Rs 95.

Six stocks hit 52-week highs: Thanks to a 260-point uptick in the market, six stocks including Balmer Lawrie, Bharat ElectronicsBSE -0.72 %, Essel PropackBSE -1.62 % and Jubilant Life SciencesBSE -2.43 % hit their respective one-year highs from the BSE500 index. Balmer Lawrie hit its 52-week high at Rs 993 before ending the day at Rs 982. BEL hit its milestone at Rs 1,446 and ended the day at Rs 1,437 while Essel Propack hit its 52-week high of Rs 264 and ended at Rs 260.

Healthcare pack under the weather: Pharma stocks were among the smaller gainers of the day, as the Nifty Pharma index inched up by a mere 0.17 per cent. LupinBSE 0.27 % tanked 1.30 per cent to Rs 1,498, GlenmarkBSE -2.20 % slipped 1.17 per cent to Rs 876 and CiplaBSE -3.60 % dropped 0.74 per cent to Rs 564.

Idea saw call drop: Shares of Idea CellularBSE -0.92 % slipped over 2 per cent on Wednesday after media reports suggested that Axiata was looking to sell its 20 per cent stake in the telecom

firm. The Malaysian company believes the Indian telecom provider's valuation will remain subdued for at least next three years. On Tuesday, the stock had gained on plans to sell its tower business.

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