April 10, 2024

SBICAPS Daily Digest

**Today’s Key Macro Events:**

**Domestic:**

Passenger vehicle sales moderate in Mar’24 (Source: FADA, FE): Domestic auto retail sales in Mar’24 grew by 3.1% y/y to 2.1 mn units, with the 2W and 3W segments growing by 5% and 17% respectively, while PV, tractors, and CV faced decline of 6%, 3%, and 6% respectively. For FY24, a total of 24.5 mn vehicles were sold, registering a uptick of 10.3% y/y.

MoRTH builds over 12,000 km of highways in FY24 (Source: BS): National highway construction increased 18.3% y/y to 12,349 kms in FY24, below the ‘aspirational target’ of 13,814 km and peak of 13,327 km recorded in FY22. Further, capex stood at Rs. 2.64 trn indicating a utilization of 99.93%. This is as per media sources.

Fuel consumption increases 4.6% y/y to record high in FY24 (Source: BS): This was mostly because of increasing sales of naphtha and automotive fuel. For Mar’24, fuel consumption fell by 0.6% y/y to 21.09 mn tonnes, despite a handsome rise in consumption of ATF and pet coke.

General insurance gross premiums maintain double-digit growth (Source: GIC, The Hindu Businessline): There was a growth of 13% y/y in FY24, the pace of expansion slowing from 16% in FY23 due to a 32% decline in crop insurance. Further, premia of standalone health insurers rose by 26% y/y in FY24.

Co-lending AUM nearing Rs 1 trn, RBI cuts to slow down growth in personal loans (Source: ET, CRISIL): CRISIL Ratings forecasts NBFCs’ co-lending book to hit Rs 1 trn by Jun’24, buoyed by increased partner bank interest and funding access. With AUM reaching Rs 550 bn in Mar’23, growth is expected to be driven by asset quality, but ongoing success depends on maintaining it amid regulatory shifts.

Normal monsoon predicted this year (Source: BS): Skymet predicts a normal monsoon in 2024, with expected rainfall at 102% of the long-period average (LPA) of 868.6 mm for Jun-Sep’24.

SGS auctions conducted successfully (Source: RBI): SGS worth Rs. 65 bn were auctioned by 3 states, against a notified amount of Rs. 65 bn, with cutoff yields for 10Y paper being 7.50%.

**International:**

US Fed policymakers stress on combating inflation (Source: Forexlive):

- Mr. Kashkari stresses the urgency to curb inflation from 3% to 2%. Also, views labour market to be slightly less heated compared to last year.
- Mr. Bostic sees inflation coming down at a slow pace in CY24 amid a “surprisingly” resilient US economy and volatile labour market.

Private credit faces liquidity risks if stress rises (Source: Bloomberg): The IMF emphasized the need for tighter scrutiny of the rapidly expanding private-credit market. Highlighting concerns including liquidity strain and borrower quality, sector’s USD 2.1 trn significance in debt markets is underscored.

German industrial output rises, while trade surplus declines in Feb’24 (Source: Destatis): Production increased by 2.1% m/m (Jan’24: 1.3%), surpassing analysts’ forecasts of a 0.6% rise. Merchandise trade surplus was at EUR 21.4 bn euros in Feb’24, down from EUR 27.6 bn in Jan’24, as imports increased 3.2% m/m while exports declined 2% due to a 3.9% decline in exports to EU countries.

Russia’s revenue jumps in Q1CY24 (Source: Bloomberg): Russia reported a sharp revenue increase in Q1CY24, fuelled by one-time tax payments and rising oil prices despite ongoing Ukraine-related sanctions. It highlighted sustained positive trends in federal budget inflows, with revenues rising 53.5% y/y to RUB 8.7 trn.
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