

# MORNING NEWS CALL

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INDIA EDITION

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

## FACTORS TO WATCH

9:30 am: CBIC Chairman **Pranab Kumar Das** at Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2019 in New Delhi.

## LIVECHAT - MIDDLE EAST OIL

Refinitiv Lead MENA Oil Analyst **Capt. Ranjith Raja** analyses the situation in the Strait of Hormuz and discusses developments in the Middle East. To join the conversation at 3:30 pm IST, [click here](#)

## INDIA TOP NEWS

### **India's current account under threat if oil surge continues: RBI**

India's current account and fiscal deficit could take a hit if oil prices continue to rise after an attack on Saudi Arabian oil facilities over the weekend, the central bank chief said on Monday.

### **India's August inflation remains unchanged at 1.08% y/y - government**

India's annual wholesale price inflation in August was 1.08%, government data showed on Monday, remaining unchanged from the previous month.

### **Restore normal life to Kashmir, Supreme Court tells government**

India's top court said on Monday the federal government should restore normal life in Kashmir as soon as possible, as a partial shutdown of the disputed region entered its 42nd day.

### **India's strategic petroleum reserve levels at 55% capacity -official**

India's strategic petroleum reserves stand at 55% of available underground storage capacity of 5.33 million tonnes, a top government official told Reuters on Monday.

## GLOBAL TOP STORIES

### **Trump says he does not want war after attack on Saudi oil facilities**

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Monday it looked like Iran was behind attacks on oil plants in Saudi Arabia but stressed he did not want to go to war, as the attacks sent oil prices soaring and raised fears of a new Middle East conflict.

### **U.S., Chinese trade deputy talks to start on Thursday-USTR**

Deputy-level U.S.-China trade talks are scheduled to start in Washington on Thursday, the U.S. Trade Representative's office said on Monday, paving the way for high-level talks in October aimed at resolving a bitter, 14-month trade war.

### **China's home price growth slows, developers seen cutting prices**

China's new home prices grew at a slower pace in August as a cooling economy and existing curbs on speculative buying put a dent on overall demand.

## Thomson Reuters/INSEAD Asian Business Sentiment Survey 2019Q3

Thomson Reuters and graduate business school INSEAD ask Asia-Pacific companies to rate their six-month business outlook, in a survey which in Q2 yielded an optimistic sentiment index of 53. The latest survey will be released at 8:30 am IST on Wednesday, September 18, 2019. Please [click here](#) for the previous quarter survey.

## STATE OF THE MARKETS

The **SGX Nifty nearest-month futures** were trading 0.1% lower at 10,992.00. - NewsRise

The **Indian rupee** is expected to open lower against the dollar, tracking losses in regional currencies ahead of the two-day Federal Reserve meeting. - NewsRise

**Indian federal government bonds** are likely to edge lower as crude oil prices stayed firm due to reduced supply. The yield on the benchmark 7.26% bond maturing in 2029 is likely to trade in a range of 6.69%-6.75% today. - NewsRise

Energy stocks spiked while most of **Wall Street** fell on Monday after weekend attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities added to investors' concerns about geopolitical risk and a stumbling global economy.

**Oil** shed some of its massive gains as the United States flagged the possible release of crude reserves, but the threat of military action over the attacks on Saudi oil facilities kept prices elevated and **stocks** under pressure.

**Oil exporter currencies** held firm while the **dollar** found broad support as recent attacks on Saudi oil facilities and the threat of military action in the region kept crude prices kept prices elevated.

**U.S. Treasury yields** fell on Monday after weekend attacks on crude facilities in Saudi Arabia shut about 5% of the world's oil supply, sending oil prices soaring and increasing demand for safe haven U.S. debt.

**Oil** fell more than 1% as the market hung on tenterhooks following attacks on Saudi Arabian crude facilities that cut the kingdom's production in half and sent prices soaring by the most in decades.

**Gold** prices held steady as traders broadly remained on the sidelines ahead of an expected rate cut from the U.S. Federal Reserve this week.

## PICTURE OF THE DAY



Laborers work at the sites of the Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, which will be open this year for Indian Sikh pilgrims, in Kartarpur, Pakistan, September 16. REUTERS/Mohsin Raza

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(Compiled by Benny Thomas in Bengaluru)

For questions or comments about this report, contact:  
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