

FY25's first rate cut only in Q2

MAKING THE CASE. No reason for the RBI to cut rates from 6.5%, says SBI Ecwrap report

Our Bureau Mumbai

There is no reason for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to cut rates from the current 6.5 per cent, going by the artificial neural network model based on alternative scenarios, used by State Bank of India's economic research department (ERD).

The department, in its Ecwrap report, also said: "We continue to maintain that the first rate cut will happen by Q2 (July-September) FY25."

"While headline retail (consumer price index/CPI-based) inflation cooled in January 2024 (to three-month low of 5.10 per cent from 5.69 per cent in



STATUS QUO. The monetary policy committee kept repo rate unchanged in all six meetings of the current financial year.

food and services) declined 170 bps, per the report. Of this decline, the three segments (transportation and communication, clothing and footwear and household goods) contributed 77 per cent of total decline in core inflation: (a) In rural, these segments contributed 78 per cent of total decline decline in core CPI. (b) In urban, these segments contributed 85 per cent of total decline decline in core CPI.

"When we analyse the item-wise decline in weighted contribution of core CPI, the results are perplexing. Since the decline in core is visible in both rural and urban areas and in goods and services that are quintessential to day-to-day living, to infer that core decline is a proxy for decline in demand or rural slowdown is misleading," said Ghosh.

Online mode. "The only reason for this phenomena could be the changing purchasing behaviour of customers. We believe people are actively using e-commerce websites to buy these essentials (preferably at discounted price), and hence demand is migrating from offline to online mode.

"If this is durable, then core inflation decline could be enduring. Further, if this is sustained, the decline in core could become more enduring in nature opening up space for policy rate cuts," said Ghosh.

Paytm shares hit record low after Macquarie downgrade

Anshika Kayastha Mumbai

Shares of One 97 Communication, or Paytm, fell 10 per cent on February 13 to a record low, after brokerage firm Macquarie downgraded the entity highlighting concerns regarding its future viability. "PayTM faces a serious risk of customer exodus, which significantly jeopardises its monetisation and business model," said Macquarie in a note.

It has increased loss estimates by 170 per cent over FY25 and 40 per cent over FY26, factoring 60-65 per cent decline in revenues due to lower payments and distribution revenues.

The firm also downgraded the rating on the stock to 'underperform', while sharply cutting the target price to ₹275 from ₹650. The stock fell 10 per cent to hit the lower band of ₹380 on the NSE.

Paytm has around 33 crore customers, 11 crore monthly transacting users and a subscription network of about 1.1 crore merchants.

"We assume a 50 per cent cash burn rate and 20x P/E multiple to normalised earnings from the distribution business," said Macquarie, adding that transitioning to new banks



Lending partners might re-look their relationship with Paytm, said the Macquarie note, adding that this could lead to a decline in lending business revenues

will require KYC to be redone, indicating that migration within RBI's February 29 deadline will be an "arduous task".

NODAL ACCOUNTS. Paytm has been in discussions with multiple banks to transition its nodal accounts for the wallet, FastTag, NCMG and other business verticals, which are currently backed by Paytm Payments Bank.

Several banks such as HDIC and Axis have said they continue to work with Paytm in various aspects, but will await regulatory go-ahead before taking a

call on any new business lines or initiatives.

LENDING BUSINESS. "Lending partners might re-look their relationship with Paytm," said the note, adding that this could lead to a decline in lending business revenues in case partners scale down or terminate their relationship with Paytm.

Aditya Birla Capital, one of Paytm's largest lending partners, had already pared down its BNPL exposure to ₹600 crore from a peak level of ₹2,000 crore, and is expected to go down further.

A year ago, in February, Macquarie had upgraded the rating on Paytm to 'outperform' from 'underperform', raising the target price from ₹450 to ₹800.

According to Axis Burgundy-Hurun list of India's most valuable private companies, Paytm was the 80th most valuable company with a market value of ₹58,527 crore in 2023, led by 42 per cent gains in its shares over the year.

However, the recent RBI action wiped off ₹1,600 crore in value for Paytm in the first two days, when it hit the 20 per cent lower circuit on both days. On January 31, 2023, the day of regulatory action, the stock had closed at ₹761 on the NSE.

Max Life eyeing No 1 position in digital sales, customer acquisition

KR Srivats New Delhi

Max Life Insurance Company Ltd (Max Life), which will double down on growing its online channel, aspires to become the market leader in digital sales and customer acquisition, said its MD & CEO Prashant Tripathy.

"We are making investments in digital sales (online channel). Our vision communicated to the Board is that we want to be the No 1 digital player in terms of both sales and customer acquisitions," Tripathy told businessline.

To accelerate one's digital journey, there are several things a company must accomplish, otherwise the enterprise has no right to survive in the digital space, he added.

"People must know your brand. People must know your track record on claim settlement is good. People must experience everything digitally and service standards must be in order.

"Website experience has to be superior. You need to have products that are attractively priced. You should attract digitally enabled young people to your websites," said Tripathy.

"We are making investments on our platforms, products. There is a well-

thought-through plan on technology, brand, ecosystem and customer service. Our digital sales is company within a company. It is a business of speed. If they have to win, they have to operate like an e-commerce company. We are also focussed on finding ecosystem partners in the digital space," he said. Currently, one

out of every four new customers of MaxLife comes through online channel, which is growing at 50 per cent year-on-year. "Of the 25 per cent, only 9-10 per cent come directly on our website. Others go directly to our ecosystem partners and buy from there," said Tripathy.

Releasing the findings of the sixth edition of its flagship survey, the India Protection Quotient Survey, Tripathy said insurance awareness and adoption have surged among urban Indians. Reflecting a remarkable shift in the financial consciousness of urban India, three out of four urban Indians now own life insurance products.

Engineering India's SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Table with financial results for BHEL for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December 2023. Columns include SL No., PARTICULARS, and various financial metrics.

Advertisement for BHEL (Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited) featuring images of power plants, transmission towers, and various industrial equipment. Text includes 'POWER', 'TRANSMISSION', 'INDUSTRY', 'TRANSPORTATION', 'RENEWABLES', 'OIL & GAS', 'DEFENCE & AEROSPACE', 'ENERGY STORAGE'.

Advertisement for thehindi.businessline Classifieds, featuring 'SITUATION VACANT' and 'OVERSEAS' sections.

Advertisement for Bosch Limited, including contact information and a notice regarding the interim dividend and record date.

Advertisement for National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd., including contact information and details about their services.

Advertisement for NAFED through its International Trade Division, highlighting its role in promoting export of various agricultural commodities.

Small advertisement for VAMSHI RUBBER LIMITED, including contact details and ISO certification.

Table showing financial results for VAMSHI RUBBER LIMITED for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December 2023.

Notes for VAMSHI RUBBER LIMITED financial results, including details about the Board of Directors and financial reporting standards.

Notice regarding the interim dividend and record date for Bosch Limited, including details about the dividend payment and record date.

Advertisement for Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, including contact information and details about their products and services.

Advertisement for VAIBHAV JEWELLERS, including contact information and details about their jewelry services.

Advertisement for MANOJ VAIBHAV GEMS 'N' JEWELLERS LIMITED, including contact information and details about their gemstone services.

Table showing financial results for MANOJ VAIBHAV GEMS 'N' JEWELLERS LIMITED for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December 2023.

Notes for MANOJ VAIBHAV GEMS 'N' JEWELLERS LIMITED financial results, including details about the Board of Directors and financial reporting standards.

Advertisement for POLYSPIN EXPORTS LIMITED, including contact information and details about their export services.

Table showing financial results for POLYSPIN EXPORTS LIMITED for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December 2023.

Notes for POLYSPIN EXPORTS LIMITED financial results, including details about the Board of Directors and financial reporting standards.

గ్రూప్-2 ప్రతిపనిధి పరీక్షలు

వాయిదా వేయాలి
• పీవీసీ ఎమ్మెల్యేలు
ప్రజాశక్తి - అమరావతి బ్యారో
మీడిఎస్ సీనియర్ గ్రూప్-2 పీవీసీ పరీక్షలు...

15న కర్నూలు, గుంటూరు

జిల్లాల్లో సింం పర్యటన
ప్రజాశక్తి - అమరావతి బ్యారో
ముఖ్యమంత్రి ప్రైవేట్ అగ్నిపాఠశాల పర్యటన...

ప్రజాశక్తి స్టాంప్ షాప్: 9490999006

ప్రజాశక్తి స్టాంప్ షాప్
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ప్రజాశక్తి స్టాంప్ షాప్
ప్రజాశక్తి స్టాంప్ షాప్

16న జరిగే గ్రామీణ బండీకు

మద్దతు
• సీపీఐ రాష్ట్ర కార్యదర్శి
గ్రామీణ బండీకు
గ్రామీణ బండీకు

రాజధాని ఫైల్డ్ సైన్య వాయిదా

ప్రజాశక్తి-అమరావతి బ్యారో
రాజధాని ఫైల్డ్ సైన్య
ప్రజాశక్తి-అమరావతి బ్యారో
రాజధాని ఫైల్డ్ సైన్య

అనుచిత వ్యాఖ్యలు కేసులో

ప్రతివాదులుగా పలు మీడియా సంస్థలు
ప్రజాశక్తి-అమరావతి బ్యారో
అనుచిత వ్యాఖ్యలు కేసులో
ప్రతివాదులుగా పలు మీడియా సంస్థలు

కమ్యూనిటీ హెల్త్ వర్క్లను ఆశాలుగా మార్చాలి

19న ఐటిడిఎల ముట్టడి : యూనియన్ పిలుపు
ప్రజాశక్తి - అమరావతి బ్యారో
కమ్యూనిటీ హెల్త్ వర్క్లను ఆశాలుగా మార్చాలి
19న ఐటిడిఎల ముట్టడి : యూనియన్ పిలుపు

ఆరీటిసి ఉద్యోగం

30 శాతం అలకల్ ఇన్వాయిట్
• అన్ని డిపార్ట్ మెంట్లు 14, 15న నిరసనలు
ఆరీటిసి ఉద్యోగం
30 శాతం అలకల్ ఇన్వాయిట్

16న నమ్మేను జయప్రదం చేయండి

• సీపీఐయం రాష్ట్ర ప్రధాన కార్యదర్శి సిపాన్ సర్పంచుగా
ప్రజాశక్తి-అమరావతి బ్యారో
16న నమ్మేను జయప్రదం చేయండి
• సీపీఐయం రాష్ట్ర ప్రధాన కార్యదర్శి సిపాన్ సర్పంచుగా

మధ్యాహ్న భోజన కార్మికులకు

వేతనాలు చెల్లించాలి
• యూనియన్ డిమాండ్
మధ్యాహ్న భోజన కార్మికులకు
వేతనాలు చెల్లించాలి

యుఎన్ఎను అదానీ బంధువులకు కట్టబెట్టాడు

• ఉద్యోగుల తొలింపును నిలిపేసి..
వేతన ఇత్యాదు చెల్లించాలి
యుఎన్ఎను అదానీ బంధువులకు కట్టబెట్టాడు

మంత్రాల సేవతో తల్లిగోపాళకు దారుణ హత్య

ప్రజాశక్తి - హైదరాబాద్ బ్యారో : మహారాష్ట్రలో జిల్లా గురూరు మండలంలో మంగళవారం మధ్యాహ్నం భోజనం...

ICICI Bank advertisement with table showing interest rates for various deposits. Includes bank logo and contact information.

నాఫోజ్ ద్వైకర్తూరు

చలనచిత్ర రాజుపేంద్రరావు ఎన్నిక
ప్రజాశక్తి-అమరావతి బ్యారో
నాఫోజ్ ద్వైకర్తూరు
చలనచిత్ర రాజుపేంద్రరావు ఎన్నిక

మెరినో తెలుగు తేజాలు

• మెరినో తెలుగు తేజాలు
మెరినో తెలుగు తేజాలు
మెరినో తెలుగు తేజాలు

బజెసికి మద్దతునిచ్చే పార్టీలను ఓడించండి

• బజెసికి మద్దతునిచ్చే పార్టీలను ఓడించండి
బజెసికి మద్దతునిచ్చే పార్టీలను ఓడించండి

ఫిల్మ్ చరిత్ర ఉద్ధరణ

• ఫిల్మ్ చరిత్ర ఉద్ధరణ
ఫిల్మ్ చరిత్ర ఉద్ధరణ
ఫిల్మ్ చరిత్ర ఉద్ధరణ

MANOJ VAIBHAV GEMS 'N' JEWELLERS LIMITED advertisement. Includes company logo, address, and a table of jewelry items with prices.