

Data recap: US polls, FMCG sales, CEO pay

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Every Friday, Plain Facts publishes a compilation of data-based insights, with easy-to-read charts, to help you delve deeper into the stories reported by *Mint* in the week gone by. Republican candidate Donald Trump has won the US elections, while India faces a slowdown in fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sales. Abhay Bhutada, managing director of Poonawalla Fincorp, is among the highest-earning executive heads of Nifty 500 companies.

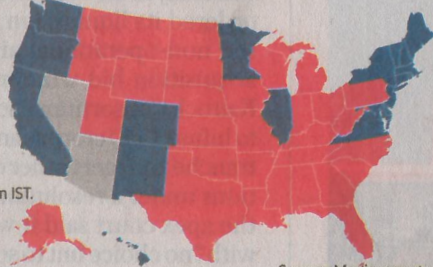
Trump Triumphs

State-wise winner of 2024 US presidential polls

■ Donald Trump
■ Kamala Harris

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Data as of 1 pm IST.
Results were pending for Nevada and Arizona.



DESPITE PRE-poll surveys giving vice-president Kamala Harris a slight edge over opponent Donald Trump, the results have scripted a historic comeback for the latter. Trump secured 295 electoral votes, sweeping key swing states and comfortably surpassing the majority threshold. Markets responded positively to the results. US stocks and Bitcoin hit record highs, while the dollar strengthened. However, concerns linger over Trump's stance on immigration and his approach to trade tariffs.

Double Whammy

India's FMCG sector struggles with slowing profit growth
Year-on-year change (%)

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Based on analysis of 21 listed companies of BSE FMCG index that have released their September quarter results.

Source: Capitaline, Mint calculations

THE FMCG sector is facing a combination of rising input costs and slowing urban demand, which is eroding sales growth and hitting profitability. A *Mint* analysis of 21 listed companies in the BSE FMCG index, which have reported their Q2 results, shows bottom-line growth at 8%, down from 11% in the previous quarter. Sequentially, aggregate net profit dropped nearly 5%, while operating profit fell 4%. Analysts attribute this primarily to softening urban demand, even as rural markets recover.

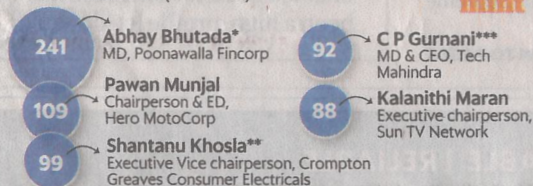
\$1 billion

Sony's Surge

THAT'S THE annual revenue Sony India is expected to achieve from its consumer electronics business in FY25, *Mint* reported. In FY23, Sony India's sales stood at \$900 million. The company may reach this milestone 30 years after it was registered in India, as efforts to diversify the revenue stream and greater demand for premium products helped. Sunil Nayyar, managing director of Sony India, said it has seen steady year-on-year revenue growth of over 20%.

Pay Trends

Highest-earning executive heads of Nifty 500 companies
FY24 remuneration (in ₹ crore)

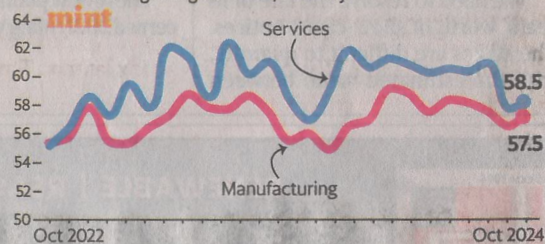


The list is based on the CMIE Prowess database; *Non-executive vice chairman since June 2024; **Non-executive vice chairman since May 2024; ***until December 2023
Source: CMIE, company annual reports, primeinfobase.com, Mint analysis

A FAT pay package for top executives has often sparked debate worldwide. In India, while the packages remained quite huge, the growth of median remuneration of top executives slowed to 8.6% in FY24 from 9.8% in FY23, a *Mint* analysis of 491 of the Nifty 500 companies showed. Abhay Bhutada of Poonawalla Fincorp topped the list with ₹241 crore remuneration in FY24, followed by Pawan Munjal of Hero MotoCorp and Shantanu Khosla of Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals.

Robust Activity

India's Purchasing Managers' Index, monthly



A reading above 50 denotes expansion, while one below 50 indicates contraction.
Source: S&P Global, HSBC

INDIA'S MANUFACTURING and services sectors saw an upswing in October, buoyed by festive season demand. The Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) climbed to 57.5, up from 56.5 in September, while the Services PMI increased to 58.5 from 57.7. Manufacturing benefited from a surge in new orders and stronger international sales, while the services sector experienced robust customer demand. Both sectors have remained resilient for nearly three years.

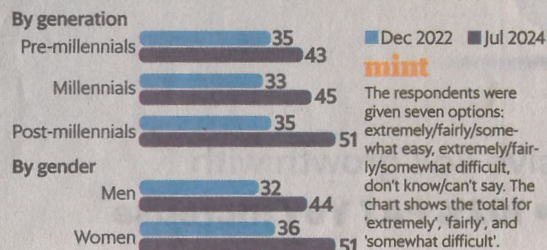
\$850 million

Power Struggle

THAT'S THE amount Bangladesh owes the Adani Group for power supply, prompting the company to put pressure for repayment. Adani had earlier planned to cut electricity supply if the dues continued, which would have affected at least 10% of Bangladesh's electricity consumers. After intense negotiations, the crisis-hit nation agreed to fresh repayment terms. Adanis' Godda Thermal Power Station in Jharkhand is the largest power supplier to Bangladesh.

Job Crisis

Share of respondents (%) who find it difficult to find a new job

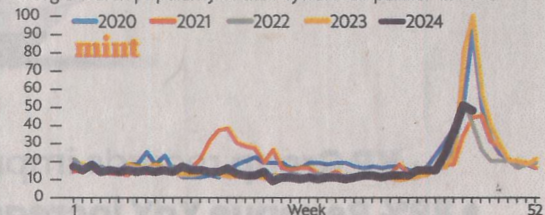


Source: YouGov-Mint-CPR Millennial Surveys

MORE URBAN Indians, across demographic groups, are facing difficulty in finding jobs compared to two years ago, reveals the latest round of YouGov-Mint-CPR Millennial Survey. Currently, 47% of urban Indians say finding a job is "difficult", up sharply from 34% in the previous survey in December 2022. The perception of difficulty has grown most among post-millennials, rising from 35% to 51%, and among women, from 36% to 51%, compared to a rise from 32% to 44% among men.

Combating Pollution

Google search popularity of the keyword 'air purifier' in India



A search interest score of 100 corresponds to the week with the highest search volumes during the five-year period (week of 06 Nov 2023). Scores for all other weeks have been scaled down relative to that.
Source: Google Trends

WITH DIWALI behind and winter setting in, pollution levels are rising, driving a surge in Google searches for air purifiers—a seasonal trend seen each year. Media reports indicate that air purifier sales have jumped by about 50%, particularly in Delhi and its neighbouring regions.

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