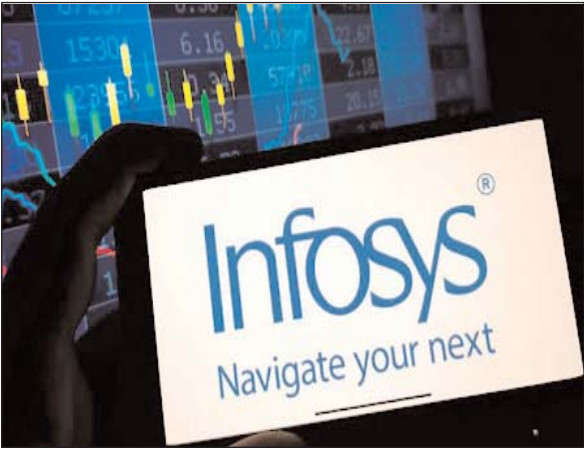


Infosys net profit rises 9 pc, FY26 outlook cautious

Bengaluru, (UNI)

Infosys Ltd, one of India's IT bellwethers, opened FY26 with a measured performance that reveals both resilience and restraint in a still-uncertain global environment. The Bengaluru-headquartered tech giant posted a 3.8% year-on-year growth and a 2.6% sequential rise in revenues (constant currency), driven largely by enterprise AI initiatives and large deal momentum.

The topline in rupee terms reached Rs42,279 crore, marking a healthy 7.5% year-on-year growth. Yet, this was juxtaposed with a slight erosion in profitability metrics — operating margin



dipped by 30 basis points year-on-year to 20.8%, and free cash flow fell 17.7% YoY to Rs7,533 crore. While the margin decline was modest, it reflects the delicate balance Infosys is navigat-

ing between cost discipline and investment in future-forward technologies. CEO Salil Parekh underscored the company's pivot to enterprise AI as a key differentiator. "Our

large deal wins of \$3.8 billion, with 55% net new, reflect our distinct competitive positioning," he said.

The results appear to validate this shift — Infosys' recent wins include cloud transformation, GenAI adoption, and modernization projects with Fortune 500 clients.

Yet the revenue guidance for FY26 — revised to a modest 1%-3% in constant currency — signals management's caution. This tempered outlook suggests Infosys sees headwinds in client spending, especially in BFSI and retail verticals, which have traditionally been core growth drivers. CFO Jayesh Sanghrajka highlighted Project Max-

imus — an internal initiative focused on efficiency and strategic reinvestment — as central to maintaining operating margins at 20.8% despite the revenue slowdown. Free cash flow conversion remained strong at 108.8% of net profit, and ROE saw an uptick of 140 basis points to 30.4%, showing underlying financial strength.

But the 17.7% YoY decline in rupee free cash flow hints at rising working capital needs or back-loaded payments on recent large deals. A sustained drop here could test Infosys' dividend and buyback policies in quarters ahead.

Its Earnings Per Share has grown 8.6% year-on-year to Rs16.70.

Kotak Life launches Kotak Signature Term Plan for Comprehensive Legacy Protection

Mumbai: Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Ltd. ("Kotak Life") today announced the launch of the Kotak Signature Term Plan, a pure protection term insurance solution crafted for emerging affluent salaried professionals and entrepreneurs. This plan offers substantial coverage at competitive premiums, ensuring robust financial protection that enables families to sustain their lifestyles and continue building their legacies.

Mahesh Balasubramanian, MD & CEO of Kotak Life, said, "At Kotak Life, our focus has always been on delivering solutions that are both relevant and forward-looking. The Kotak Signature Term Plan is a thoughtfully designed solution for India's growing base of affluent professionals and entrepreneurs. It provides curated benefits aligned with their aspirations and reflects our dedication to understanding evolving customer needs, fostering innovation and empowering individuals to secure their future with confidence."

India is witnessing a new generation of aspirational and self-driven individuals

who are not only earning but actively investing, saving and building a legacy (Viraasat) to safeguard their families' future. These individuals are shaping their financial futures through diverse instruments. However, financial progress is often not complemented by adequate protection planning.

To bridge this gap, Kotak Life offers a comprehensive suite of term insurance solutions that cater to various life stages and financial priorities. The Kotak Signature Term Plan enhances this portfolio by offering personalised benefits tailored to the ambitions and evolving needs of the emerging affluent segment, helping them secure the legacy they strive to build.

About Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Ltd, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited is a 100% owned subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited. Kotak Life provides world-class insurance products with high customer empathy. Its product suite leverages the combined prowess of protection and long term savings.

DENSO to Invest Rs 250 Crore in EV Component Plant in Noida

Lucknow, (UNI)

Strengthening Indo-Japanese industrial ties, 'DENSO Corporation' —a global leader in automotive innovation—has announced an investment of Rs 250 crore to set up a Motor Generators manufacturing plant in Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.

These components are vital for hybrid and electric vehicles, underscoring DENSO's commitment to sustainable mobility and clean technology.

The announcement followed a strategic meeting between DENSO leadership and the Uttar Pradesh delegation led by Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary (Infrastructure & Industrial Development), and senior members of Invest UP, at DENSO's global headquarters in Kariya, Aichi, Japan, officials here on Wednesday revealed.

As it explores opportunities at World Expo 2025 in Osaka, the Uttar Pradesh delegation—led by UP Finance Minister Shri Suresh Khan-



na—held wide-ranging discussions with Japanese companies and officials, including an engaging meeting with Osaka Prefectural Assembly leaders KIDA Kaoru (Vice-Chairperson) and KINJO Katsunori (Chairperson).

Joined by Invest UP and Consulate officials including Chandru Apar, the dialogue centred on industrial collaboration, technology exchange, and youth upskilling, highlighting Uttar Pradesh's growing reputation for its skilled workforce and demographic strength.

Meanwhile, Invest UP's Pavilion at the Expo continues to draw global attention, spotlighting Uttar Pradesh's world-class infrastructure, pro-business policies, and rapidly evolving EV ecosystem.

This milestone marks a new chapter in Uttar Pradesh's emergence as India's hub for future-ready, green investments and deepens Indo-Japanese economic cooperation.

Maharashtra fuel cost shows stark city divide as new rates take effect

Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, (UNI)

The latest petrol and diesel rates across Maharashtra's major urban centres, effective from 6 AM today, reveal significant variations, prompting authorities to issue advisories for consumers to verify local cost before refuelling.

Detailed data released this morning shows a wide spectrum of pricing. Ahmednagar recorded petrol at 104.25 rupees per litre and diesel at 90.77. Akola posted rates of 104.64 for petrol and 91.18 for diesel, while Amravati was higher at 104.94 and 91.48, respectively.

Significantly, Mumbai City continued as the state's most affordable market, with petrol costing 103.50 and diesel 90.03. Nagpur's rates were 104.16 and 90.72,



Nashik's 104.74 and 91.25, and Pune's 103.82 and 90.35. Raigad stood at 103.96 and 90.46, while Ratnagiri reached 105.35 and 91.81.

These daily adjustments stem from volatile international crude oil markets, compounded by local factors such as Value Added Tax (VAT), state levies, and transportation costs.

Today's figures reflect minor fluctuations regionally, with some centres experiencing slight decreases and others marginal increases, highlighting the necessity for regular price monitoring by vehicle owners. The dynamic pricing mechanism ensures rate transparency, with updates applied each morning based on global benchmarks and domestic market variables.



IDBI Bank Limited - Financial Results for Q-1 of FY 2026

IDBI Bank reports 17% rise in PAT on YoY basis, IDBI Bank today announced its results for Q1 FY26. The Net Profit stood at Rs2,007 crore for Q1 FY26, registering a strong growth of 17% YoY. The operating profit stood at Rs2,354 crore. NIM was recorded at 3.68%, and Net Interest Income stood at Rs3,166 crore. Cost of Deposit stood at 4.84% for Q1-2026 as compared to 4.58% for Q1-2025. CRAR stood at 25.39% with YoY growth of 297 bps. Return on Assets (ROA) was improved by 18 bps to 2.01% for Q1-2026 as compared to 1.83% for Q1-2025 and Return on Equity (ROE) stood at 17.91%. Net NPA at 0.21%, from 0.23% as on June 30, 2024. Gross NPA at 2.93%, from 3.87% as on June 30, 2024. PCR stood at 99.31% as against 99.34% on June 30, 2024.

Syngentashowcases latest technologies for rice farmers and flags off unique stewardship campaign 'WeCare' in MP

Bhopal: In a holistic approach towards making farming profitable and safe, Syngenta showcased its technological strength in rice to the farmers of Madhya Pradesh. Syngenta also flagged off its unique stewardship campaign 'WeCare' which emphasizes on safe and responsible use of crop protection products among school children, channel partners and the local government.

Syngenta global leaders along with Syngenta India team visited the Rice Hub, a local demonstration site used for trial of Syngenta's latest crop protection products and technologies. A drone-based application demo was conducted, highlighting the benefits of precision farming techniques that reduce input costs and manual effort while ensuring environmental safety.

Our next generation blockbuster technologies including Vibrance Integral, Altessia, Reflect Top and Seguris Evo were showcased for the farmers at the Rice Hub in Bhopal.

"Our Rice Hub concept enables on-field comparisons of



traditional practice and Syngenta's technology based practices," said Susheel. "It helps farmers make informed choices. Based on its success, we are expanding this model to 22 key rice-growing regions across India this year."

Syngenta's Rice Hub is a unique platform designed to accelerate technology transfer to farmers. By setting up multiple hubs across key rice-growing regions, it enables hands-on

demonstrations, training, and adoption of advanced solutions. This helps bridge the gap between innovation and practice, empowering farmers to boost productivity and sustainability, explained Susheel.

By combining productivity-focused innovations with safety-led community outreach, Syngenta is demonstrating that true agricultural transformation is not just about better yields, it is also about better lives.

Galaxy Z Fold7, Z Flip7 Pre-orders Match S25 Series, Setting New Benchmark for Flagships in India

GURUGRAM: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, announced that it's recently launched - Galaxy Z Fold7, Galaxy ZFlip7 and Galaxy Z Flip7 FE smartphones - have received record pre-orders, signaling huge consumer demand and excitement for the brand's seventh generation of foldable smartphones. Galaxy Z Fold7, Galaxy ZFlip7 and Galaxy Z Flip7 FE secured 210,000 pre-orders in the first 48 hours, breaking previous records, and nearly equaling the pre-orders received for Galaxy S25 series earlier this year. "The record pre-orders for our 'made in India' foldable smartphones reinforce our belief that young Indian consumers are quick to adopt latest technology. Galaxy Z Fold7 delivers our most advanced smartphone experience yet - powerful, immersive, intelligent, and portable all in one. Galaxy Z Flip7 adapts, anticipates and empowers users, unlocking a smarter, more intuitive way to engage with the world. Powered by the new One UI 8 and Android 16 right out of the box, the new devices deliver true multimodal AI experiences. The success of the new devices are a stepping stone for our larger goal - the mainstream-



ing of foldable smartphones in India," said JB Park, President and CEO, Samsung Southwestern Asia.

Galaxy Z Fold7 seamlessly blends precision engineering and powerful intelligence to elevate everyday interactions - all in its thinnest and lightest design to date. At just 215 grams, Galaxy Z Fold7 is even lighter than Galaxy S25 Ultra. It is just 8.9 mm thick when folded and 4.2 mm thick when unfolded. It delivers the premium performance and experience of an ultra smartphone, while unlocking new levels of efficiency and productivity with a larger, more immersive display when unfolded. Galaxy Z Flip7, a compact AI phone with multi-

modal capabilities, is powered by a new FlexWindow. Small enough to slip into a pocket, yet powerful enough to deliver the handiest assistance, it melds Galaxy AI with a new edge-to-edge FlexWindow, a flagship level camera and an ultra-compact and iconic design. From intuitive voice AI to the best selfie capabilities, Galaxy Z Flip7 is an intelligent pocket-sized companion built for seamless interaction and everyday reliability. Weighing just 188 grams and measuring only 13.7mm when folded, Galaxy Z Flip7 is the slimmest Galaxy Z Flip yet.

While Galaxy Z Fold7 is available in stunning colours such as Blue Shadow, Silver Shadow and Jet Black; the Galaxy Z Flip7 comes in Blue Shadow, Jet Black and Coral Red. Galaxy Z Flip7 FE comes in Black and White colours. Apart from this, consumers buying the Galaxy Z Fold7 and Galaxy Z Flip7 through Samsung.com will have an additional colour to choose from - Mint.

Both devices bring multimodal AI capabilities, delivering experiences that maximize the benefits of the expansive foldable display of the Galaxy Z Fold7 to boost productivity.

Cambridge reaches 1,000 schools in South Asia, driving innovation and excellence in education

The International Education group at Cambridge University Press & Assessment (Cambridge) today announced the milestone of surpassing 1,000 Cambridge International Schools across South Asia, with over 800 schools offering Cambridge programmes in India alone. The total number of Cambridge schools in the region has grown by 16% in the past year, from 894 in 2023-24 to 1,034 in 2024-25, with India contributing over 81% of the new additions. Over 75% of all Cambridge International Schools in South Asia are located in India, followed by 12% in Bangladesh.

Vinay Sharma, Senior Vice President for International Education in South Asia, said, "Crossing the 1,000 schools mark in South Asia is a testament to our unwavering commitment to delivering world-class education that empowers learners and educators alike. With over 800 Cambridge International Schools in India, we're proud to be at the forefront of driving innovation, inclusion, and excellence across the region. Our programmes go



beyond academic achievement - they equip learners with the skills, mindset, and confidence to navigate global challenges, from climate change to the rise of AI. Together with our schools, we are shaping the future of education."

The Bramhapriya World School in Pune became the 1000th Cambridge school. While 53% of Cambridge International Schools are in Tier 1 cities, reflecting a strong urban concentration, the Southern region of India has the greatest uptake of Cambridge schools in smaller cities. Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities together make up 47%, showcasing a spread of international education into non-metro cities and towns.

The growth of Cambridge across South Asia reflects a global shift towards international education, with a record number of students taking Cambridge ex-

ams in 2024 than in any previous year. Responding to requests from its community of schools in the region, Cambridge will introduce a third Cambridge Checkpoint test series in March 2026, providing schools with greater flexibility to schedule assessments in line with their academic calendars.

With Cambridge, students can choose from more than 50 different subjects for AS & A Level and more than 70 subjects for Cambridge IGCSE. This provides huge flexibility and choice for students to choose what suits them best. From ages 3 to 19, the Cambridge Pathway is designed to hone analytical thinking and independent research skills, to develop communication and leadership skills. Cambridge also launched Cambridge Climate Quest in India last year, a first-of-its-kind climate literacy programme to help students become engaged in climate and sustainability issues. Together with deep subject knowledge, it's these skills that help students thrive in the real world.

