

The Week that was

August 14, 2026

“Indian Markets break winning streak, retreat amid geopolitical uncertainty”

Indian Developments

Broad markets snapped their two-week winning streak, ending the week on a weaker note as macro risks weighed on investor sentiment. For the week ended **August 14, 2026**, the benchmark **Nifty 50 declined by 0.83% to close at 24,366**. Similarly, the broader markets registered minor weekly corrections, with the Nifty Midcap Select dipping 0.13% and the BSE SmallCap Select index sliding 0.65%.

The **INDIA VIX** showed structural hardening as risk premiums expanded. Grounding investor sentiments was a notable surge in domestic banking system deposits—which spiked by nearly ₹11 lakh crore over the trailing six weeks to reach a historic record of ₹269.44 lakh crore. However, persistent geopolitical logjams in West Asia alongside hardened cross-border stances continued to enforce near-term caution across institutional desks.

Sectoral Developments

The Winners: Defensive asset pockets and specialized operational segments generated significant relative alpha this month. Hospitals spearheaded sectoral outperformance with a strong +1.49% weekly return, followed closely by Telecommunication (+0.86%) and Consumer Durables (+0.17%).

The Laggards: High-multiple and commodity cyclical faced distinct tactical de-allocations. Housing Finance experienced the deepest monthly consolidation, correcting -1.40%, while Nifty Metal (-0.71%) and Energy (-0.44%) bore the brunt of capital out-rotation.

Global Developments

USA: A highly supportive domestic setup emerged after softer-than-anticipated July headline CPI data eased direct concerns regarding aggressive Federal Reserve interest rate hikes. Main street optimism surrounding expanding mega-cap tech corporate earnings pushed major equity benchmarks firmly back into positive territory.

Asian Markets: In stark contrast to the previous week's severe de-rating, regional indices staged an elegant technical rebound. The Nikkei 225, Kospi, and Shanghai Composite indices clawed back near-term losses to settle higher on a weekly basis, despite ongoing headline standoffs regarding the restriction of Gulf shipping channels.

Other Markets:

- Brent Crude: **\$87.2 per barrel**
- Rupee ended the week at **₹95.435 against the US dollar**
- 10-Year Benchmark Yield: **6.76%**.

Source: www.nseindices.com; MCX Gold Prices; Economic times, Bloomberg.

Data for week ended on August 14, 2026.

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