



# Business News Update

**18 February 2025**

**“Dream Big, Work Hard, And Stay Focused.”**

## **Samvardhana Motherson slips 2%; 3 reasons why brokerages have cut target price are**

Samvardhana Motherson share price is down 2% intra-day today. This decline comes after several brokerages downgraded their target price for the automotive component giant. As the stock remains below its 52-week high of Rs 3,270.95, with a market capitalisation of Rs 3.37 lakh crore, let's take a look at what is the brokerages say on Samvardhana Motherson stock: According to the brokerage firm Nuvama, Samvardhana Motherson EBITDA in Q3FY25 earnings was in line with expectations. Although the company reported a slightly lower than expected revenue of Rs 27,670 crore, the company managed to keep its earnings in line due to better margins in its wiring harness and integrated assemblies segments. As per the brokerage firm, the company's revenue grew 8% YoY, majorly driven by its inorganic initiatives, which contributed Rs 22.4 billion. Furthermore, the brokerage is also

Source: [Financial Express, February 17, 2025](#)

## **SingTel plans to sell shares worth Rs 8,500 crore in Bharti Airtel: Reports**

Singapore Telecommunications Ltd (SingTel) is planning to sell another tranche of stakes in Bharti Airtel through a block deal, stated a report by CNBC Awaaz on Monday citing sources. Per the report, SingTel is expected to sell shares worth \$1 billion of Rs 8500 crore. While there was no official statement from SingTel, sources maintained that the company board is expected to meet this week to discuss the proposed stake sale as part of its capital management strategy. SingTel holds approximately 30 per cent in Bharti Airtel after it raised its holding in the telecom major in November. The shares of Mital family, however, dipped to 23.7 per cent during the same time. Bharti Telecom (BTL), meanwhile, had increased its stake in Bharti Airtel to 40.33 per cent by acquiring an additional 1.2 per cent from another Airtel promoter group entity, Indian Continent Investment (ICIL), through an off-market transaction. The Mittals own a 50.56 per cent stake in BTL while Singtel owns 49.44 per cent

Source: [Financial Express, February 17, 2025](#)

## **Exploring the role of branding in enhancing the global appeal of Indian basmati rice**

As one of the world's largest agri-economy, reducing trade deficits with era-appropriate measures has recently been one of India's driving principles. With the objective of presenting India as one of the world's food baskets, ensuring food security and penetrating new markets to sustain the push to profitability — the country has witnessed increasing private sector participation and policy manoeuvres. With its role as the world's largest and one of the only two producers of Basmati rice, India's unique role in the Basmati rice export space has not been stagnant. With a long-term overview of enhancing the global appeal of Indian Basmati rice, industry stakeholders have adopted a proactive stance to penetrate new international markets. One major reason behind this shift has been the emergence of branding as a comprehensive marketing tool. While Basmati rice can historically find its roots in the Indian subcontinent, modern-day geographies have separated this staple food with boundaries. With

Source: [Financial Express, February 17, 2025](#)

## **Global aerospace firms turn to India amid Western supply chain crisis**

Airbus, Collins Aerospace, Pratt & Whitney, and Rolls-Royce are expanding parts sourcing from India, driving growth in the country's emerging aerospace sector and pushing local firms to elevate their games, industry insiders say. Bengaluru-based Hical Technologies and JIG Aero are among those riding the wave. Hical, a supplier to Raytheon Technology and Boeing among others, aims to double revenue to 5 billion rupees (\$57.57 million) from its aerospace division in three years, said Yashas Jaiveer Shashikiran, joint managing director. JIG Aero, also in Bengaluru's industrial hub, took 12 years to hit \$2 million in revenue but soared to \$20 million in the last six, said CEO Anuj Jhunjunwala. The growth is part of an Asia-Pacific aerospace surge, with 2024 revenue projected to

Source: [Financial Express, February 17, 2025](#)

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## Restaurants warn of weak first quarter, but say sales will pick up later this year

That's how restaurant executives envision 2025 after a rough start to the year, largely caused by freezing temperatures, wildfires and consumer caution. Many restaurant chains, like Restaurant Brands' Burger King and Popeyes, said sales improved in the fourth quarter as value offerings brought back diners who had been cooking at home instead. Even McDonald's domestic traffic grew, despite a 1.4% decline in U.S. same-store sales. But the trend reversed in January. "We've started the year facing some overall industry traffic headwinds, exacerbated by significant weather events across the country," Wendy's CFO Kenneth Cook said on the company's conference call on Thursday. Fast-food net sales rose 3.4% in January, compared with the year-ago period, but the growth was down slightly from December's spike of 4.9%, according to restaurant market research firm Revenue Management Solutions. Traffic for breakfast and lunch both declined during the month. "I think consumers are

Source: [CNBC, February 16, 2025](#)

## S Korea removes Deepseek from app stores over privacy concerns

South Korea has banned new downloads of China's DeepSeek artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot, according to the country's personal data protection watchdog. The government agency said the AI model will become available again to South Korean users when "improvements and remedies" are made to ensure it complies with the country's personal data protection laws. In the week after it made global headlines, DeepSeek became hugely popular in South Korea leaping to the top of app stores with over a million weekly users. But its rise in popularity also attracted scrutiny from countries around the world which have imposed restrictions on the app over privacy and national security concerns. South Korea's Personal Information Protection Commission said the DeepSeek app became unavailable on Apple's App Store and Google Play on Saturday evening. It came after several South Korean government agencies banned their employees from downloading the chatbot to their work devices. South Korea's

Source: [BBC, February 17, 2025](#)

## What happens in the world's deepest gypsum mine?

Gypsum may be an unfamiliar name to many but we are surrounded by it every day. It is a mineral used to make types of plaster which coat our homes, schools and offices - and in Cumbria sits the world's deepest gypsum mine. Outside the small village of Long Marton, against the backdrop of the North Pennines, stands a bungalow in the corner of a field. It is perhaps the only clue that something else is happening close by. Underground, at a depth of 1,000 ft (305m), is Birshead drift mine where a lengthy system of conveyor belts snakes its way from where the stone is mined to where it is treated. "You've got to have your wits about you all the time, but I just feel at home down here," says shift manager Peter Richardson. "I'll probably miss it when I retire." The drift mine, near Appleby-in-Westmorland, sits under rolling farmland and supplies the raw materials to make plasterboard for the building industry, something it has been doing for almost 50 years. Its 30ft (9m) high tunnels, wide enough for a Range Rover to drive through, are grey and there is a smell of dust in the air. "With ceilings as high as they are

Source: [BBC, February 16, 2025](#)

## German voters demand change as Europe's biggest economy stalls

The 58-year-old executive runs one of the last surviving manufacturers in Gelsenkirchen, a former coal town in the industrialized Ruhr Valley. But his company, like many in the Mittelstand - the tissue of small- and medium-sized manufacturers that powers Germany's economy - is reeling from high energy costs after the Ukraine war ended supplies of cheap Russian gas. Europe's largest economy contracted for a second consecutive year in 2024, its worst performance in two decades. And Gelsenkirchen has been amongst its hardest-hit cities - it has Germany's highest unemployment rate, which has fuelled a dramatic rise in the popularity of the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party. Ahead of a general election on Sunday, a national debate is raging about how to revive Germany's economic fortunes.

Source: [Economic Times, February 17, 2025](#)