

Market Review

L&T Investment Management Ltd

January 2012



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Macro Economics



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ECB announces Measures to Support Money Market

- ECB to conduct two longer-term refinancing operations; to reduce reserve ratio from 2% to 1% for reserve maintenance and to increase collateral availability by reducing rating threshold
- Fitch Ratings cuts emerging Asia growth to 6.8% in 2012 against its earlier forecast of 7.4% while cut its 2012 growth forecast for China to 8.2% from 8.5% and for India to 7.5% from 8.2%
- India's central bank retains policy rates and signals reversal of monetary tightening cycle
- Moody lowers Slovenia credit rating to A1 on potential need for the government to support its banking system amid Europe's debt crisis



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Key Global Economic Data Releases

US

- ISM Manufacturing for December expands to 53.9 from 52.7 last month
- US consumer confidence jumps to 64.5 in December from 55.2 in November
- Advance retail sales grow 0.2% in November from growth of 0.5% last month

Euro-zone

- Industrial production for Euro-zone grows at 1.3% in October as against growth of 2.2% last month
- Euro-zone PMI remains stable in December at 46.9 compared with previous month
- Core consumer price index for Euro-zone remains unchanged at 1.6% in November

Asia

- Japan's GDP growth stands at 5.6% annualized in the quarter ended September, 2011
- China's Manufacturing PMI stands at 48.7 in December, up from 47.7 in November
- China's inflation declines to 14-month low of 4.2% in Nov'11 since August 2009



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Key Domestic Economic Data Releases

Industrial production

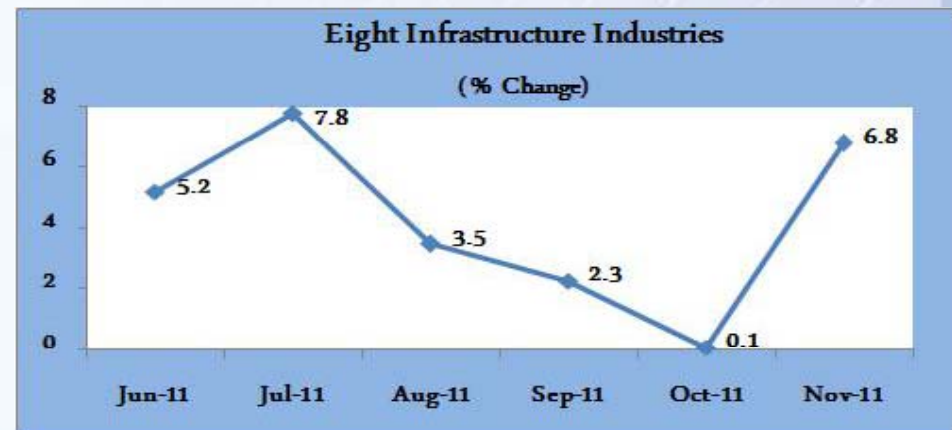
- Contracts by 5.10% in October against growth of 1.90% in September

Eight Infra Industries

- Posts growth of 6.80% in November against 0.10% growth in October

Exports & Imports

- Exports rise by 3.87% in November to USD 22.32 bn
- Imports climb by 24.55% in November to USD 35.92 bn



Source: Mospi



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Continue...

Headline WPI inflation

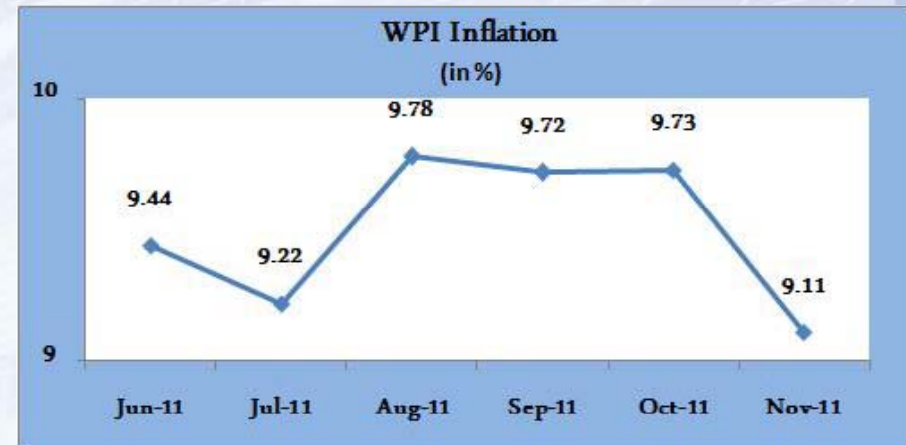
- Eases to 9.11% for November against 9.73% for October

Rupee depreciates

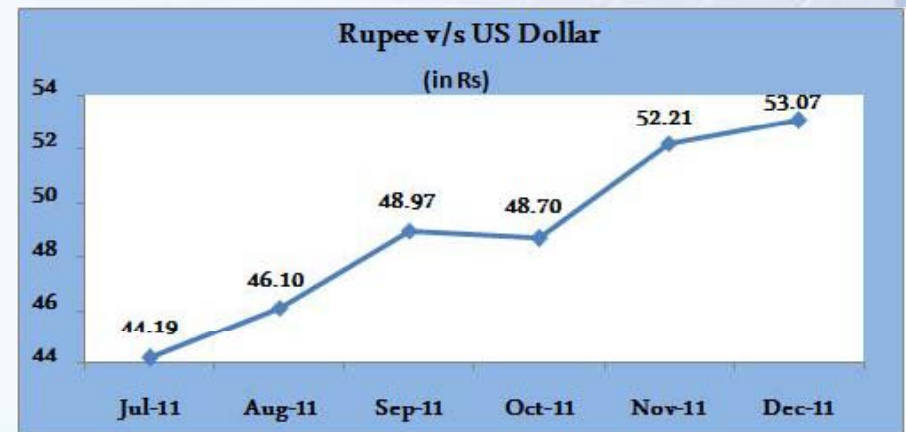
- By 1.60% over the month to Rs 53.07 against US dollar
- Forex reserves fall USD 3.50 bn to USD 300.86 bn as on December 23 from November 25

Bank credit

- Stands at Rs 42,66,983 crs as on December 16, rise 0.70% over the fortnight and moves up 17.10% over the year



Source: Mospi



Source: Bloomberg



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Commodity Prices Fall

Reuters Jefferies CRB Index declines

- 2.71% over the month to 305.30

MCX Comdex falls

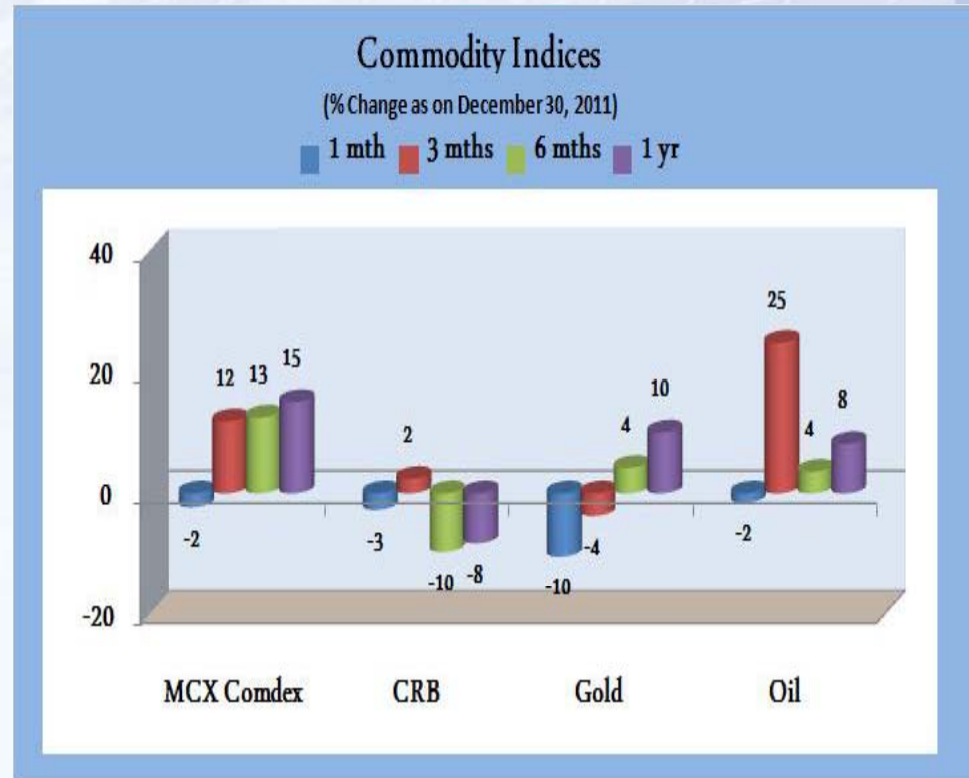
- 2.29% during the month to 3,791.40

Oil prices slip

- 1.52% over the month to USD 98.83 a barrel

Gold prices plunge

- 10.46% during the month to USD 1563.70 an ounce



Source: Bloomberg



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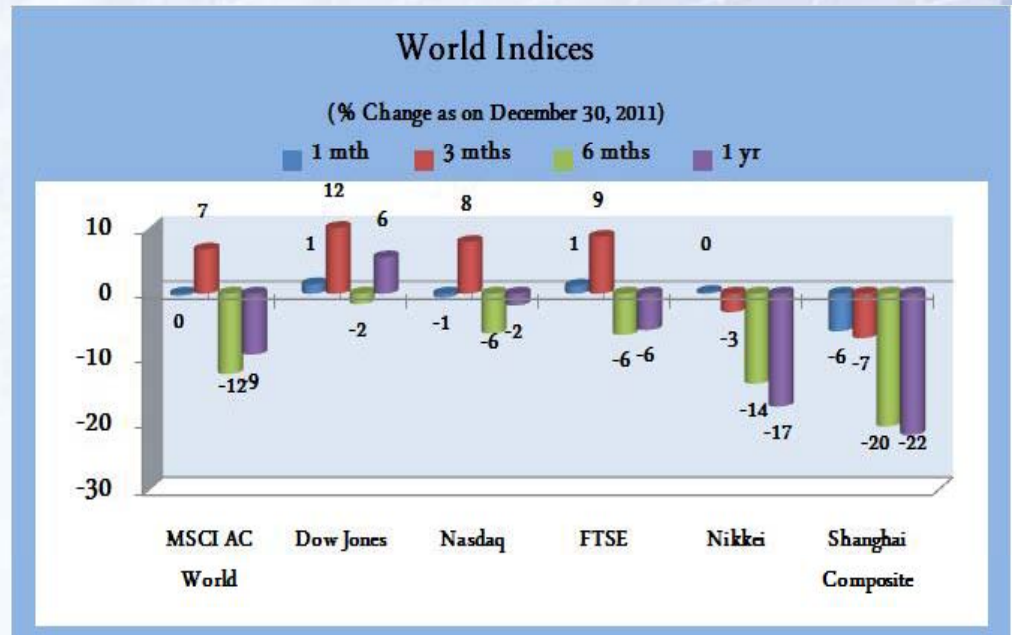
Equity Market Review



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Global Markets Show Divergent Trend

- MSCI AC World drops marginally 0.31% while MSCI Emerging Markets decline 1.29%
- Dow Jones gain 1.43%, while FTSE rises 1.21%
- Nikkei moves up 0.25% however Shanghai Composite falls 5.74%



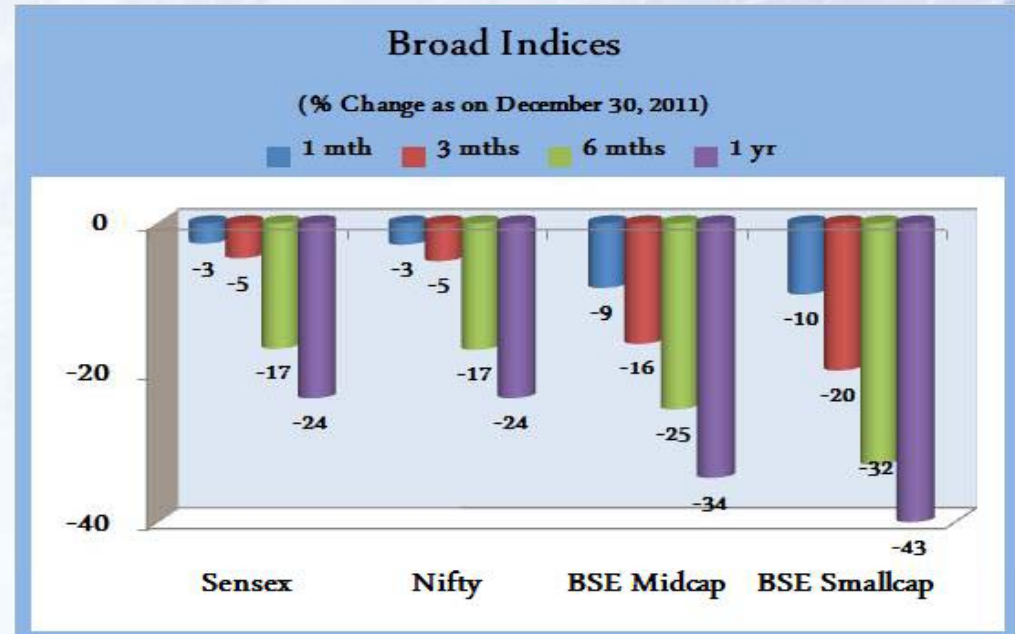
Source: Bloomberg



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Indian Equities Drop

- Sensex, Nifty fall
 - By 2.72% and 2.87% respectively
- Top 3 Losers – L&T, JP Associates & BHEL
 - Plummet 21.57%, 15.62% and 15.31% respectively
- BSE Mid & Small-cap underperform larger counterparts
 - Mid-caps index drops 8.64% while Small-caps index slips 9.52%



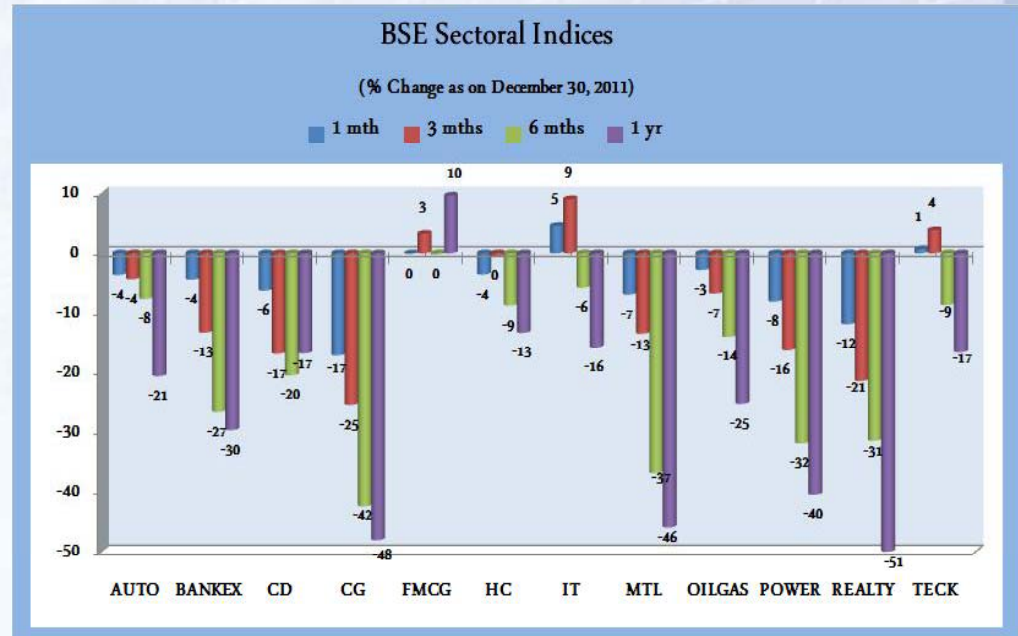
Source: BSE/ NSE



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Sectors in Limelight

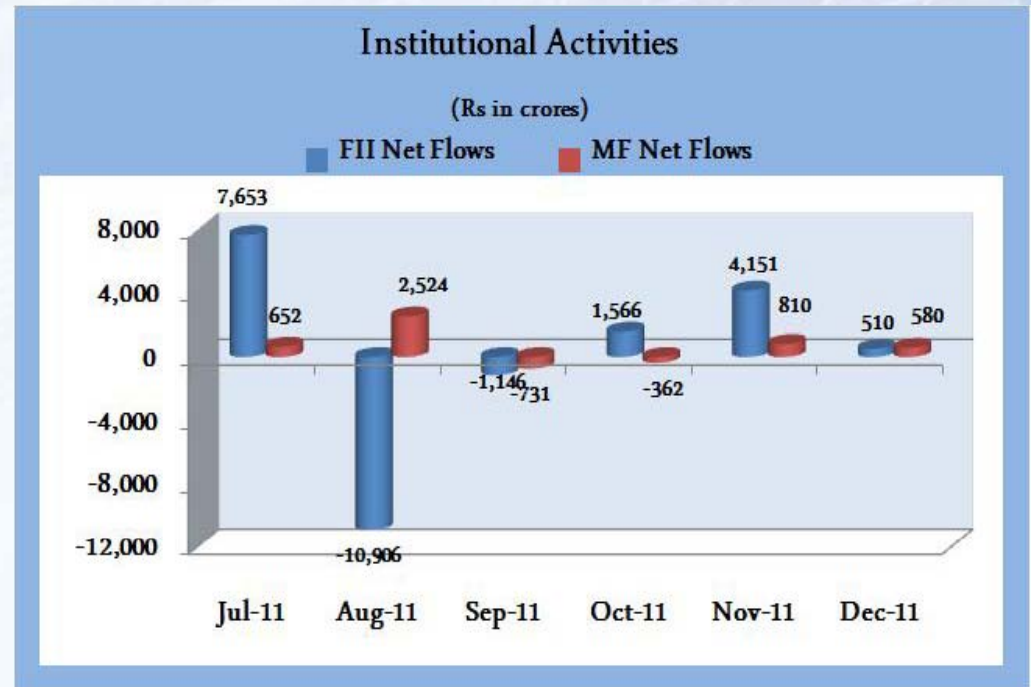
- Capital Goods, Realty, Power and Metal drop the most
 - With fall of 17.1%, 11.8%, 8%, and 6.9% respectively
- IT index gain the most
 - With rise of 4.6%



Source: BSE

FII Flow Turns Positive

- FIIs
 - Turn net buyers in equities worth Rs 510 crs (USD 96 mn) in December
- MFs
 - Remains net buyers in equities worth Rs 580 crs (USD 109 mn) in December



Source: Sebi

Sensex Drivers

- Major negative contributor
 - RIL, L&T and Bharti
- Leading positive contributors
 - Infosys, TCS and Wipro

Scrip Name	Chg in Index Points
RIL	(189)
L&T	(184)
Bharti	(69)
SBI	(50)
BHEL	(45)
Infosys	94
TCS	35
Wipro	15
HUL	15
HDFC	14

Source: Bloomberg



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Outlook

- 2012 starts on a more constructive note with inflation expected to fall over coming months and RBI comments that interest rate reversal can be expected over coming quarters.
- Markets in the immediate future will be watchful of December quarter corporate results for further earnings cut although there will be pockets of strength in Software, FMCG sectors etc.
- Impending elections in five states may keep Govt policy announcements under check.
- On the global front, incremental positive data is reported for the US economy, while European situation seems to be stabilizing for immediate term.
- Although markets may continue to remain volatile, we advise investors to use systematic investment plans to increase exposure in equities.



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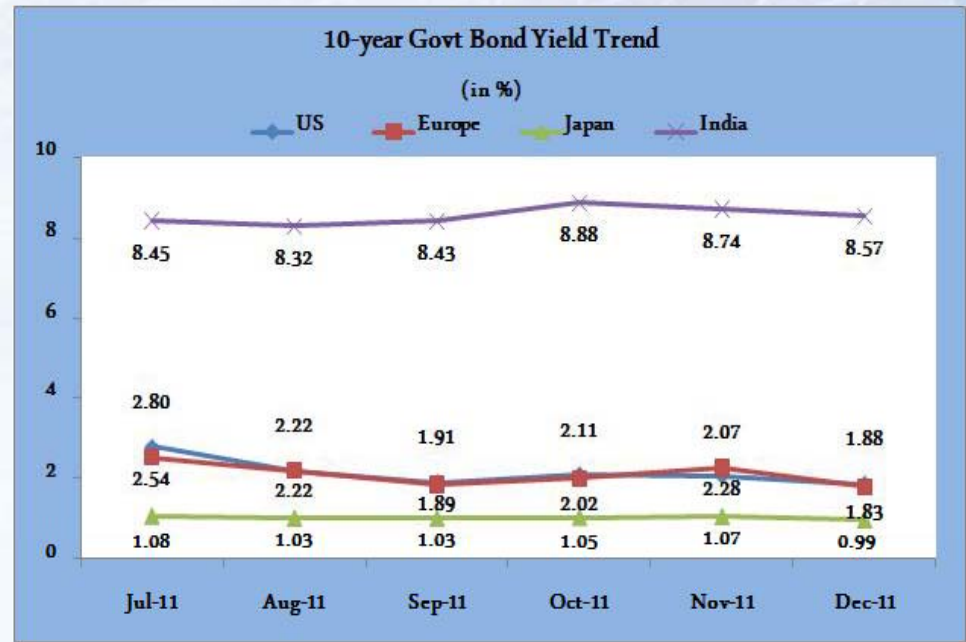
Debt Market Review



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Global Bond Yields Fall

- US 10-year treasury yield falls 19 bps to 1.88%
- Yield on 10-year European govt bond plunges 45 bps to 1.83%
- In Japan, 10-year govt bond yield falls 8 bps to 0.99%



Source: Bloomberg



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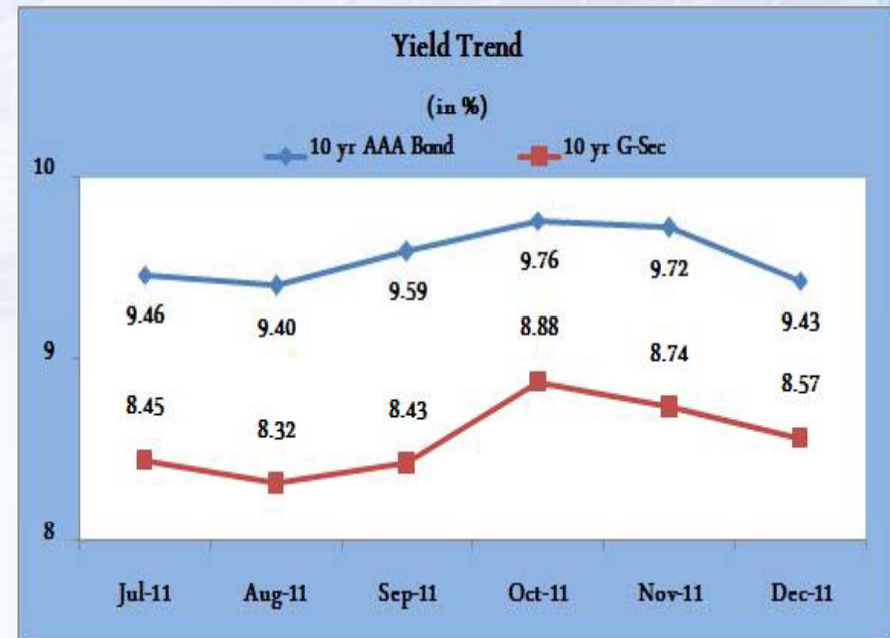
Indian Bond Yields Drop

Highlights

- G-sec & corporate bond yields drop
- Short-term rates also witness a fall

Spread

- On 10-year G-sec and 10-year AAA bond narrows by 11 bps to 68 bps



Source: Bloomberg



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Short-term Rates Follow Suit

Call Rates

- Rises 35 bps to 8.90%

Treasury-Bills (T-Bills)

- Yield on 91-day T-Bill drops 34 bps to 8.48%
- 364-day T-Bill yield moves down 9 bps to 8.35%

Certificate of Deposits (CDs)

- Yield on 3-month CD declines 5 bps to 9.43%
- 1-year CD yield moves down 2 bps to 9.75%

Commercial Papers (CPs)

- Yield on 3-month CP falls 3 bps to 9.82%
- 1-year CP yield slips 12 bps to 10.10%



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10-yr G-Sec Yields Decline

10-year G-sec yield

- Drops 17 bps to 8.57%

Yield on 5-year G-sec

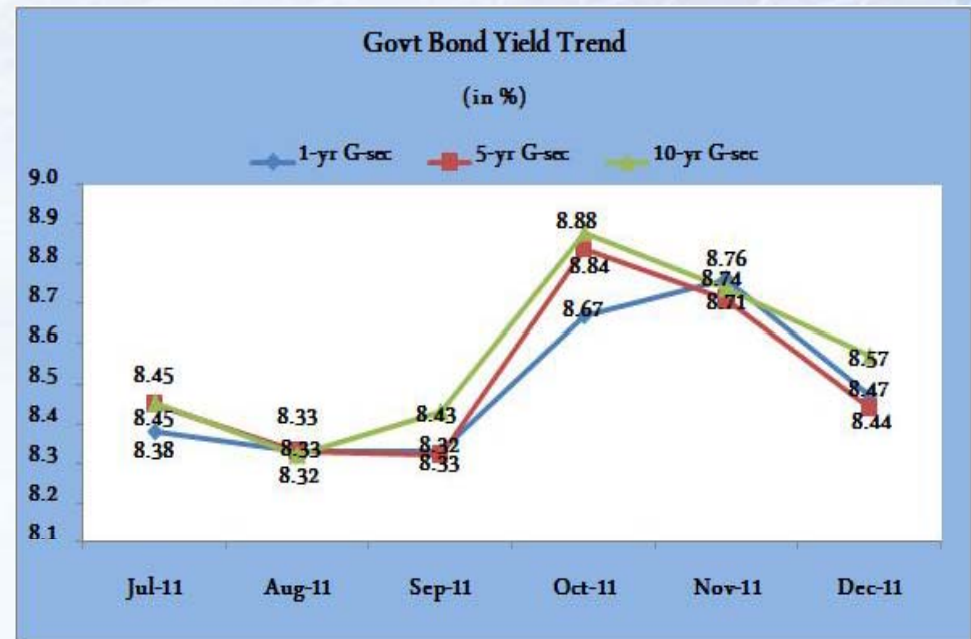
- Moves down 27 bps to 8.44%

Short term 1-year G-sec yield

- Slips 29 bps to 8.47%

Spread

- On 1 & 10-year G-sec widens by 12 bps to 10 bps



Source: Bloomberg



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Corporate Bond Yields Move Down

10-year AAA yield

- Slips 29 bps to 9.43%

5-year AAA yield

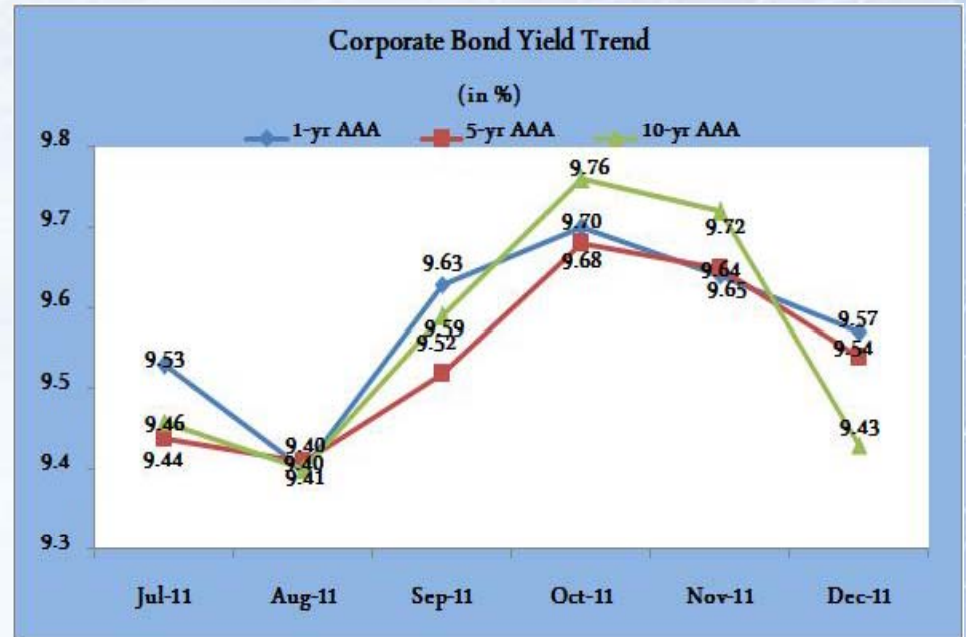
- Falls 11 bps to 9.54%

Short term 1-year AAA yield

- Drops 7 bps to 9.57%

Spread

- On 1 and 10-year AAA bond narrows by 22 bps to negative 13 bps



Source: Bloomberg



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Outlook

- Interest rate environment has moved from being inflation led to growth led as RBI has pointed out sensitiveness towards this aspect in policy as well as on other platforms.
- Short term rates might ease as liquidity situation eases in January. G-sec yields are also likely to ease on continued OMO's and expectation of a CRR rate cut.
- Yield on 10-year G-sec might range from 8.60% to 8.20%.
- Corporate bonds yields might be neutral with easing bias as demand from pension funds, insurance companies and FII's will provide demand led support.



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