Tata Steel, Sun Pharma lead gainers in flat trade

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Benchmark indices closed marginally lower on Thursday after a volatile session, giving up early gains as investors remained cautious ahead of the upcoming Trump-Modi meeting. The BSE Sensex declined 32.11 points or 0.04 per cent to close at 76,138.97, while the Nifty 50 slipped 13.85 points or 0.06 per cent to 23,031.40.

GAINERS & LOSERS

Metal and pharmaceutical stocks led the gains, with Tata Steel emerging as the top gainer on the NSE, rising 3.12 per cent. Sun Pharma rose 3.02 per cent while Bajaj Finserv and Bajaj Finance gained 3 per cent and 2.28 per cent respectively. Cipla edged up 1.77 per cent.

Adani Enterprises was the biggest loser, falling 4.93 per cent. Adani Ports (-1.86 per cent) and Hero MotoCorp (-1.59 per cent) were other major decliners.

The market breadth remained negative, with 2,089 stocks declining against 1,858 advances and 127 remaining unchanged.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said, "Despite initial market optimism driven by easing inflation data, the rally lost momentum amid uncertain global cues and subdued corporate earning. Market participants are now closely monitoring the outcome of the Trump-Modi discussions for any trade and tariff concessions."

The healthcare and pharma indices outperformed the market, rallying over 1 per cent, while the IT and PSU bank indices shed over 1 per cent.

The broader indices showed mixed performance with the Nifty Next 50 gaining 0.2 per cent while the Nifty Midcap Select declined 0.31 per cent.