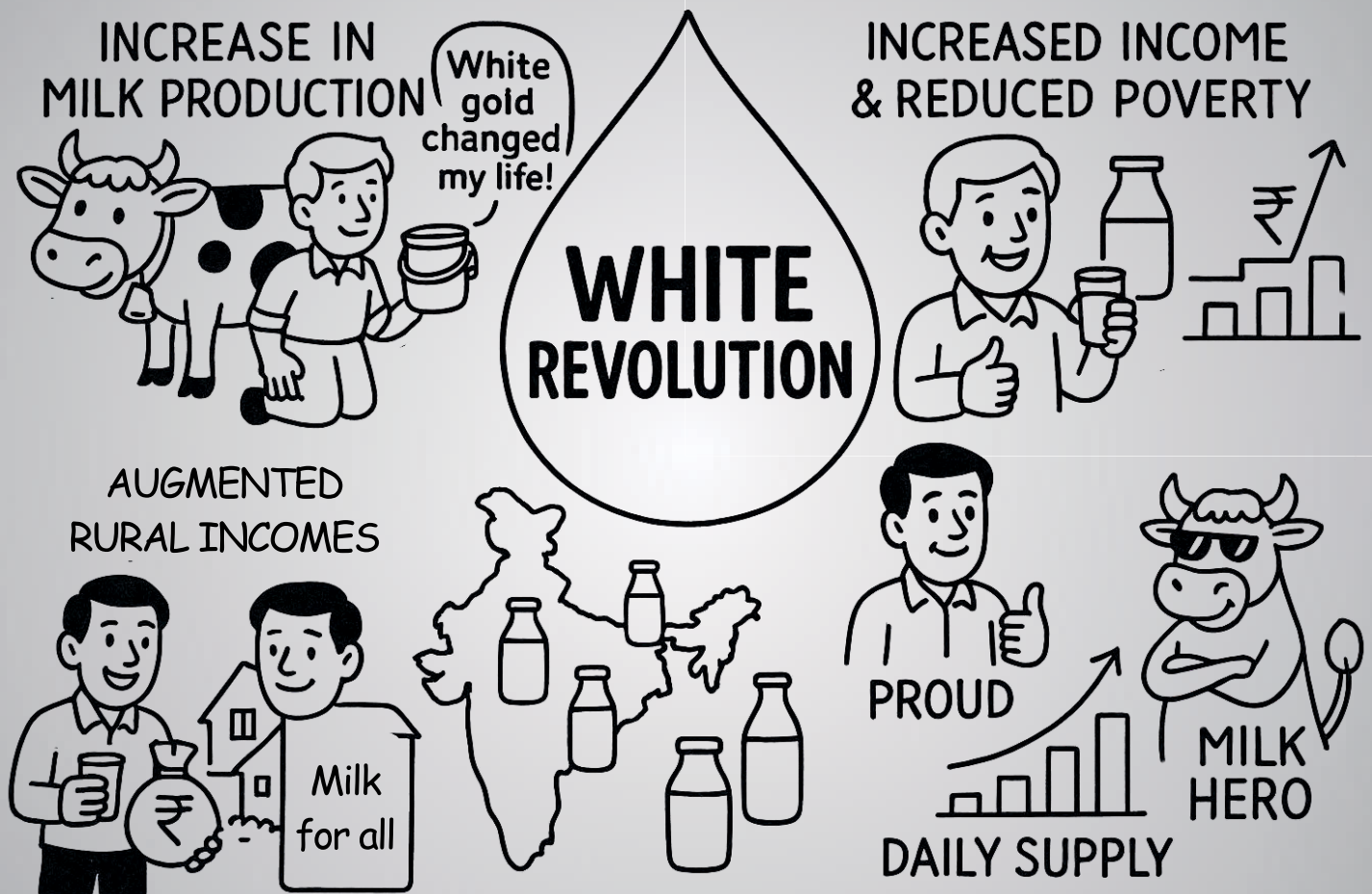


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CA. Karan Vora
karan@vorafin.com

Summary:

Global trade war intensified in April 2025 with unprecedented tariffs and retaliatory measures, deeply disrupting global trade. US and Chinese economies suffered significant setbacks as China's manufacturing slowed and US agriculture and exports faced severe blows. Finally, a 90-day tariff reprieve announced on May 12, 2025, offered a temporary de-escalation and brief market relief. In April 2025, the BSE Sensex and Nifty 50 rose by 4% and 3% respectively, driven by strong foreign fund inflows, robust corporate earnings, and optimism over a potential India-US trade deal.

Key M&A and PE deals includes of Ujala Cygnus, controlled by General Atlantic, acquiring a 60% stake in Amandeep Hospitals, expanding its network to 28 hospitals. Meanwhile, SRV Hospitals raised INR 140 crores from InvAscent to expand its critical care network and enhance healthcare delivery.

Economic Update:

The US-China trade war has entered a new and precarious phase. What began as a series of tariffs and retaliatory measures has escalated into a systemic confrontation reshaping global trade dynamics. In early April 2025, President Trump imposed sweeping tariffs of up to 145% on Chinese imports. China swiftly retaliated with tariffs of 125% and a series of non-tariff measures, including blacklisting US companies, restricting exports of rare earth minerals, and launching anti-dumping investigations.

Toll on China

Despite reporting stronger-than-expected GDP growth of 5.4% in Q1 2025, China is showing signs of economic fatigue. Manufacturing indices are slipping into contraction, and key sectors—such as electric vehicles, solar energy, and batteries—are facing declining demand due to restricted access to the US market. Chinese exporters are increasingly rerouting

goods through Southeast Asia and moving operations abroad to bypass tariffs and reduce costs.

Blowback for the US

The US is also suffering. Agricultural exports have taken a direct hit, with soybean sales down by 50% in the first week of Chinese retaliation. Energy exports worth \$15 billion in 2023 are at risk. A weakened dollar, driven by trade uncertainty, has increased import costs for American consumers, compounding inflationary pressures. Smaller farmers and manufacturers face the threat of closure as global supply chains remain disrupted.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised its 2025 global growth forecast downward to 2.8%, citing tariff-induced uncertainty. Also, the depreciation of the U.S. dollar against major currencies such as the euro and yen has further complicated matters, reducing consumer purchasing power and increasing inflationary pressures.

Systemic Global Risks

Beyond bilateral damage, the trade war undermines global institutions like the WTO and embracing unilateralism, the US has weakened multilateral norms and emboldened protectionist trends worldwide. The credibility of the US as a stable trade partner has eroded.

Tariff Wars Finally Cool Down

On May 12, 2025, both nations agreed to a 90-day tariff reprieve, marking a temporary de-escalation.

- The U.S. scaled back tariffs from 145% to 30% (including a 20% surcharge tied to opioid enforcement).
- China responded by reducing its own tariffs from 125% to 10%, and agreed to reverse some non-tariff actions, including the blacklisting of U.S. companies and rare earth export restrictions.

Capital Market

Markets reacted positively, with global indices registering gains of 2% to 3.8% following the announcement of a 90-day pause.

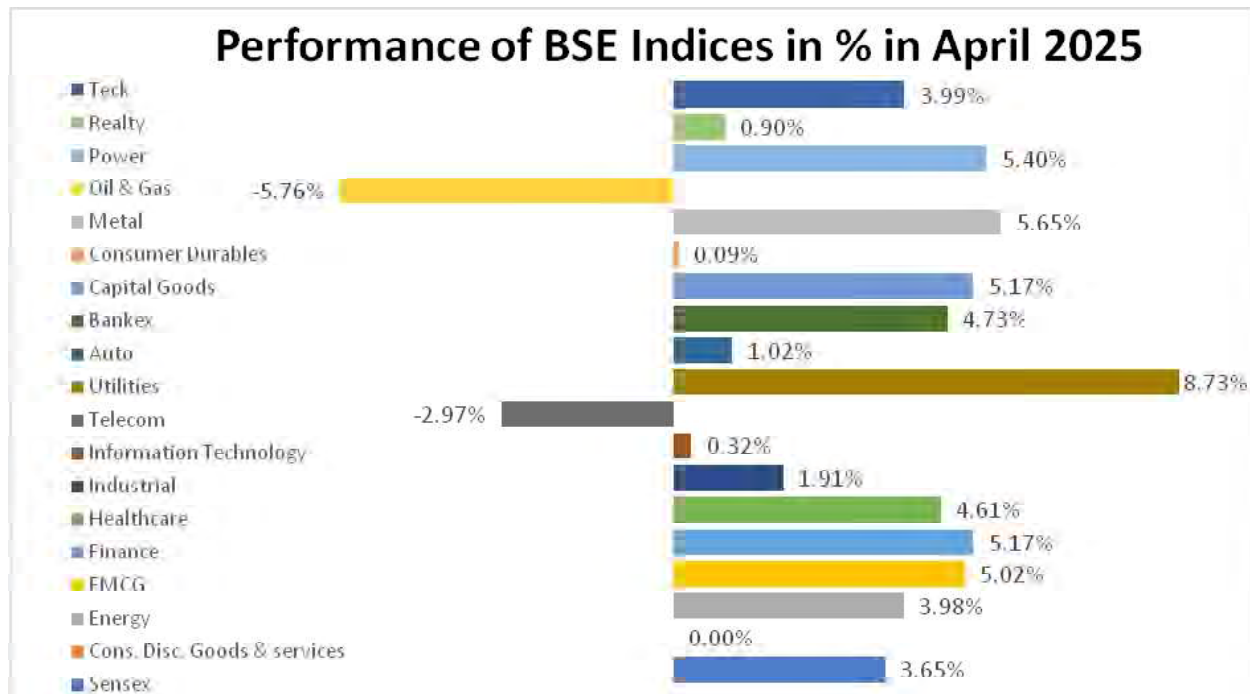
Secondary Market:

- The BSE Sensex closed at 80,242 up by 4% and the Nifty 50 closed at 24,334 up by 3% in April 2025 amid sustained foreign fund inflows and robust corporate earnings.
- The market was buoyed by optimism the potential India-US trade deal and record high GST collection in April 2025.

- Foreign investors became net buyers in April, investing Rs. 4,223 Crore in Indian equities for the first time in three months, reversing the trend of earlier outflows.
- The shift was driven by positive global cues, expectations of a US-India trade deal, a weakening US dollar, and a strengthening Indian rupee, which boosted the appeal of Indian assets.
- Strong quarterly earnings from top Indian companies supported sentiment, though FPIs pulled out Rs. 13,314 Crore from the debt general limit and Rs. 5,649 Crore from the debt voluntary retention route.



Equity Markets	Mar-25	Apr-25	% Change
BSE Sensex	77,414.92	80,242.24	4%
Nifty 50	23,519.35	24,334.20	3%
BSE 500	33,579.22	34,640.35	3%
BSE Healthcare	41,421.50	42,211.32	2%
BSE IT	36,122.71	35,050.61	-3%
BSE FMCG	19,447.48	20,453.82	5%
BSE Metal	30,824.72	29,050.51	-6%



Primary Market Update:

There were no main board IPOs in March and April 2025. There were 05 SME IPOs in April 2025 as against 07 SME IPOs in March 2025.

India's IPO market began 2025 on a subdued note, with only 10 mainboard listings as companies held back amid market volatility, global uncertainties, and stricter SEBI regulations. Foreign investor sentiment

was further weakened by Donald Trump's U.S. election victory, rising bond yields, and a stronger dollar, triggering outflows from emerging markets like India.

Despite the slowdown, the pipeline remains strong. Forty-five companies with SEBI approval aim to raise over Rs. 67,000 crore, while 69 others await clearance to tap over Rs. 1.15 lakh crore. Major IPOs lined up include Reliance Jio, Tata Capital, HDB Financial Services, PhonePe, Lenskart and LG electronics India each eyeing valuations above \$1 billion. Reliance Jio's potential Rs. 40,000 crore IPO could rank among India's largest. While deal volume has dipped, a rise in profitable IPOs and larger issue sizes signal strong fundamentals and a likely rebound once market conditions improve.

Funds Mobilization by Corporates (Rs. In Crore)

Particulars	Feb-25	Mar-25
I. Equity Issues	18,345	13,690
a. IPOs (i+ii)	14,745	531
i. Main Board	13,905	0
ii. SME Platform	840	531
b. FPOs	0	0
c. Equity Rights Issues	768	1,508
d. QIPs/PPs	0	5,368
e. Preferential Allotments	2,832	6,283
II. Debt Issues	83,623	1,17,508
a. Debt Public Issues	297	237
b. Private Placement of Debt	83,623	1,17,271
III. REITs/ InvITs	0	8,740
a. REITs	0	0
b. InvITs	0	8,740
Total Funds Mobilized (I+II+III)	1,01,968	1,39,938

Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) and Private Equity (PE) key deals:

M&A: Ujala Cygnus acquires controlling stake in Punjab-based Amandeep Hospitals

Transaction:

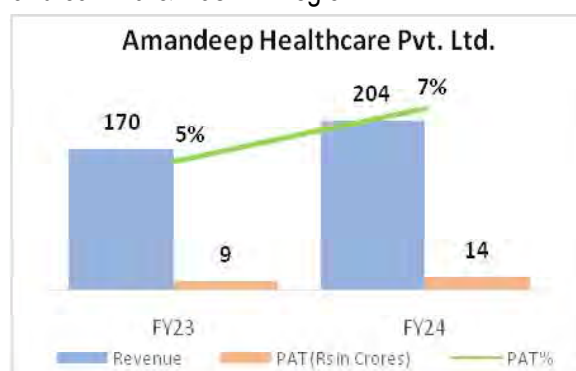
- Ujala Cygnus, backed by PE firm General Atlantic announced a strategic partnership with Amandeep Hospitals to acquire a 60% controlling stake in

Amandeep Hospitals, marking its entry into Punjab and expanding its presence in North India.

- According to certain media outlets, the deal value is estimated between Rs. 400–500 crore.
- The acquired hospitals will operate on an asset-light model, except for one or two units where Amandeep Hospitals already owns the building infrastructure.

About Amandeep Hospitals:

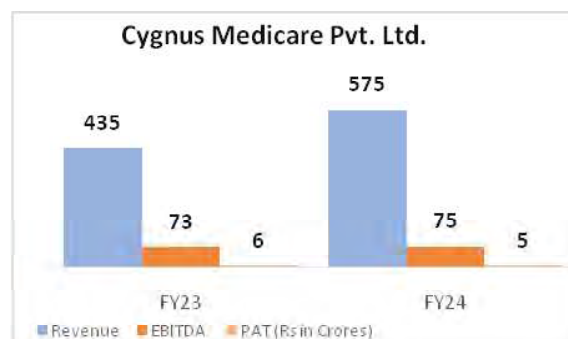
- Founded in 1990 by Dr. Amandeep Kaur and Dr. Avtar Singh, the chain operates 5 super-specialty hospitals with 800+ operational beds in the Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir region.



- Key specialties include orthopaedics, cosmetic surgery, anaesthesia, oncology, neuro and spine surgery, joint replacement and general medicines.

About Ujala Cygnus:

- Established in 2011, Ujala Cygnus runs hospitals across Tier-II and Tier-III cities in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, J&K, and Delhi.



- Offers services across 30+ specialties with a team of over 300 doctors, focusing on quality care in underserved regions.

Rationale:

- The acquisition will expand Ujala Cygnus' hospital network from 22 to 28 hospitals, increasing its total bed capacity from approximately 2,000 to nearly 2,800 beds.
- The deal consolidates Ujala Cygnus' position as the largest private hospital network in the Jammu & Kashmir region.
- It marks Ujala Cygnus' first foray into the Punjab healthcare market, adding five hospitals located in Amritsar, Pathankot, Firozpur, and Srinagar.
- The combined entity plans to deepen its presence in Punjab by exploring new facilities in Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Patiala, and the Tricity region.
- The group also aims to enhance its services by strengthening its focus on tertiary and quaternary care.
- In April 2024, General Atlantic PE firm acquired 70% stake in Ujala Cygnus valuing the hospital chain at an EV of Rs. 1600 Crores and providing a full exit to early investors including Eight Roads Ventures, Somerset Indus Capital, and Evolvence Capital.

PE: SRV Hospitals Secures Rs. 140 Crore Investment from InvAscent to fuel expansion and enhance Critical care network.

Transaction:

- SRV Hospitals, a Mumbai-based multi-specialty hospital chain, has raised INR 140 crores in funding from InvAscent, a leading private equity fund focused on the life sciences sector.
- The funding will support SRV's growth strategy, centered on its multispecialty, critical care-driven healthcare delivery model.

About SRV Hospitals:

- Founded in 2015, SRV Hospitals operates a network of five tertiary care hospitals across Mumbai, Nashik, and Bengaluru, with a combined bed capacity of 500+ beds.
- The group is known for its consultant-led care, robust critical care protocols, high clinical

outcomes, and a strong focus on delivering exceptional patient experiences.

About InvAscent:

- InvAscent is a Hyderabad based healthcare-focused private equity firm with over \$800 million in assets under management (AUM), actively investing in India's healthcare ecosystem.
- The firm primarily invests in pharmaceuticals, healthcare services, MedTech, animal health, and has backed over 35 healthcare companies to date, including HCG Hospitals and Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital.

Rationale:

- The fresh capital will be used to expand SRV's multispecialty, critical care-focused hospital network across existing and new geographies.
- SRV's investment in advanced medical technologies and infrastructure aims to enhance clinical outcomes, operational efficiency, and support its mission to redefine access to quality tertiary care at the neighborhood level.
- The funding will bolster SRV's consultant-led care model, improve clinician support systems, and provide both financial and sectoral expertise to advance its operational and strategic goals.
- Funds will be allocated towards both organic and inorganic expansion, helping SRV scale up rapidly.
- This marks InvAscent's fifth investment from its fourth fund, following its most recent deal in January when it acquired a minority stake in geriatric care service provider, Geri care for Rs. 110 Crore
- InvAscent's decision to back SRV also follows the PE fund's successful investments in healthcare brands like HCG Hospitals and Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital.

Acknowledgements: RBI Bulletin (www.bulletin.rbi.org.in), SEBI (www.sebi.gov.in), NSE (www.nseindia.com), BSE (www.bseindia.com)
