

KALKINE MEDIA MAGAZINE

June 2022

 RAMIFICATIONS OF RATE HIKE
 ANTHONY ALBANESE: THE NEW PRIME MINISTER

 RISE OF ELON MUSK
 MOST PROMINENT FINANCIAL LOSSES IN HISTORY

ABOUT KALKINE GROUP

Kalkine Group is a prominent name in the subscription & media sales line of business. A renowned equity market research, investor relations and media house firm, Kalkine Group caters to the share markets of Australia, the UK, Canada, United States, and New Zealand. The Company is also eying the growing Ireland market.

Kalkine Media provides trending and live news articles about listed companies belonging to diverse sectors and market commentaries. Interestingly, Kalkine Media also operates on the model of Advertiser – a Publisher firm under its B2B umbrella, providing a dedicated platform to the subscribed clients to leverage various offerings like exclusive banners, sponsored article coverages, videos, and podcasts.

Periodic investor focused events and webinars provide a crucial platform for several listed players/private companies to present their business vision amidst broader industrial landscape and to interact with core audience including Brokers, Fund Managers/SMSF Investor Managers, Sophisticated Investors, Senior Business Executives and Retail Investors.

TEAM KALKINE

Team Kalkine comprises specialists including equity, currency, commodity, and economic analysts providing in-depth and unbiased up-to-date analysis. The team of analysts, sector-specific journalists and editors have hands on experience in developing industry breaking and trending equity and economic news. The team strives to work on the vision of establishing a strong foothold, primarily as a reliable media firm.



KUNAL SAWHNEY Founder & CEO

Kunal Sawhney is

the Founder & CEO at Kalkine Group and is a richly experienced and accomplished financial professional with a wealth of knowledge in the Australian equities market. His knowledge, skillset and vision provided all the perfect ingredients required to start one of the fastest growing equity market research firms across Australia. This was further supported by the aim of channelising energy and enthusiasm towards the stock market into a leading media research firm.

KALKINE FOOTPRINT



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Note From The **EDITOR**

The Kalkine Media Team is all excited to get you another packed issue of Kalkine Media monthly magazine. Latest crypto collapse, irresistible forces of a teetering global economy, ramifications of a rate hike, rise of Elon Musk, the life plot of the richest man on the planet, most prominent financial losses in history, Anthony Albanese takes the reins to lead the new labour government.- catch all this and much more in the June issue of Kalkine Media magazine.

The Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) recent interest rate hike has left many baffled about how households will adjust to rising borrowing costs alongside soaring inflation. The timing of the latest rate hike is not exactly ideal, but it is the central bank's only hope of easing the price pressures in the economy. Decode the ramifications of a rate hike in an in-depth piece in the June issue.

The journey of Elon Musk from being an ordinary physics student to becoming the world's richest man has been fraught with many ups and downs. According to the Bloomberg Billionaire Index and Forbes Rich List, Elon Musk is the world's richest man today. One may look wistfully at his US\$250 billion wealth, but to understand how he built his empire of wealth, it is important to look at the challenges he has faced in the past, both professionally and personally. Don't miss the tycoon's fascinating story in this issue.

Tap into greener future with world's pre-eminent vanadium player and Kalkine Media's reputed client Vanadium Resources (ASX:VR8) and know how it stands out among its peers. Also get insights on a Namibiafocused minerals exploration company that advances on "New-Era" battery metals opportunities -Arcadia Minerals Limited (ASX:AM7).

Market crashes have been a common occurrence throughout history. Whether caused by housing bubbles, changes in technology or predatory lending, there have been several worldwide mass corrections in the past 120 years. Don't miss the sneak-peep into three of the most destructive and prominent financial losses in history. The decade-long leadership has been dethroned to make way for a new ruler after a fierce face-off between the Liberals and Labor on the election battleground. Australians have voted for a change in the 2022 parliamentary election, electing the Australian Labor Party (ALP) leader Anthony Albanese as the country's 31st prime minister. Meet the new Australian Prime minister in an in-depth piece on the new leadership in this issue and know how will it redefine force in national politics?

For the first time since its inception, Facebook witnessed a decline this year, and that too is a shocking one. The social media site once a forever favourite of millions has now started losing its sheen as its user base is declining. When in February this year, its total user base declined, the gravity of its plummeting popularity was highlighted. Know how Facebook's downfall began in an insightful piece in the issue.

Global markets have emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic's diabolical spell, and the reopening has cheered it a little. However, the Russian attack on Ukraine, reemerging new COVID-19 variants in some parts of the world and central banks increasing interest rates to fight inflationary factors are putting pressure on equity markets. Get insights on the top-performing stocks on the ASX in the June issue.

Hope you enjoy reading the issue as much as we enjoyed creating it.

Happy Reading!



By Kiara Khanna

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01

DECODING THE RAMIFICATIONS OF A RATE HIKE: HOW RBA'S MOVE WILL IMPACT YOU?



By Akanksha Vashisht

The Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) recent interest rate hike has left many baffled about how households will adjust to rising borrowing costs alongside soaring inflation. The timing of the latest rate hike is not exactly ideal, but it is the central bank's only hope of easing the price pressures in the economy.

After delaying the rate hike decision for many months, the RBA took the momentous decision to raise the official cash rate by 25 basis points to 0.35%. While the rate hike news might be a warning bell for more hikes to come, it certainly could prompt higher savings by households.

Just like the RBA, many other central banks have resorted to monetary policy tightening to bring down inflation and dampen demand-side pressures. Major central banks including the US Federal Reserve, Bank of England, Central Bank of Brazil and the Reserve Bank of India have increased their lending rates in a short time frame.

THE TABLE BELOW DEPICTS THE PERCENTAGE POINTS BY WHICH THESE CENTRAL BANKS HAVE HIKED THE INTEREST RATES:

CENTRAL BANK	TYPE OF RATE	RATE HIKE	CURRENT RATE
Reserve Bank of Australia	Cash rate	25 bps	0.35%
Reserve Bank of India	Repo rate	40 bps	4.40%
US Federal Reserve	Federal Funds rate	50 bps	0.75% - 1%
Banco Central Do Brasil	Selic interest rate	100 bps	12.75%
Banco Central de Chile	Monetary policy rate	125 bps	8.25%
Bank of England	Base interest rate	25 bps	1%

Interest rate hikes by central banks in the first week of May

Image Source: © 2022 Kalkine Media®, Data: Central Banks' Monetary Policy statements

The recent uptick in interest rates could open a new can of worms for the domestic as well as the global economy. While the initial impact could be painful for most households, a gradual return to a more normal interest rate level would be in the best interest of everyone.

On a broader scale, interest rate hikes by the US Fed will continue to play a key role in shaping the global economy. Since the US Dollar is the benchmark of global economic growth, any changes to the country's interest rate reflect throughout the world. However, developing economies face the harshest outcome of rising interest rates, which give rise to a bunch of financial and economic repercussions.

PUTTING AN END TO INCESSANT BORROWING

During the ultra-low interest rate period, households indulged heavily in mortgage lending. Mortgage loans reached an all-time high when interest rates were near the zero per cent mark, at ten basis points.

Given the high level of mortgage debt among Australians, the economy has become highly sensitive to interest rate changes. An uptick in the interest rates is expected to reduce the rate at which Aussies take out loans. This could be the direct and most important outcome of the current rate hike.

A lower number of loans could dampen the level of sensitivity to interest rates. Eventually, the economy is anticipated to adjust to a higher interest rate level, much like in the pre-pandemic days. Consequently, a rise in mortgage repayments could occur, which might help safeguard the economy in the future.

INCREASING THE APPEAL TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

The RBA's interest rate hike has multifold implications, some of which can even strengthen the domestic economy. Rising interest rates are incentives for foreign investors to put their money into the domestic economy. To be able to invest in Australian assets, foreign investors start demanding the Australian dollar more than other currencies.

Thus, the Australian dollar rises relative to other global currencies while making Aussie exports more expensive for foreigners. At the same time, imports become less expensive and domestic shoppers even start preferring those over local products. Meanwhile, a strong Australian dollar could help ease the inflationary pressure in the economy.

Thus, a seemingly simple rate hike by the RBA could have many complex implications for the domestic and global economies. Moreover, an interest rate hike can affect households in more ways than one can imagine. Overall, the ongoing interest rate hike could take some time before its full effects unfold.



Source: © 2022 Kalkine Media®

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THE RISE OF ELON MUSK: A TYCOON'S FASCINATING LIFE STORY



By Toshiva jain

Elon Musk, the richest man on our planet, is often at the forefront of international news. Musk, who dreams of setting up a human society on Mars, has been the subject of appreciation as well as criticism by different groups globally. Known for his out-of-the-box ideas and actions, the maverick tycoon made a splash recently after he purchased Twitter, leaving people all over the world wondering what he might do next.

The journey of Elon Musk from being an ordinary physics student to becoming the world's richest man has been fraught with many ups and downs. According to the Bloomberg Billionaire Index and Forbes Rich List, Elon Musk is the world's richest man today. One may look wistfully at his US\$250 billion wealth, but in order to understand how he built his empire of wealth, it is important to look at the challenges he has faced in the past, both professionally and personally.

Having said that, let's get into a time machine and see how a young boy from South Africa became one of the most famous entrepreneurs the world has seen.



MUSK'S EARLY LIFE

Born in 1971 in South Africa, Musk was brought up alongside two siblings. His father was an engineer, and his mother was a model and a nutritionist. According to various reports, Musk didn't have an easy life after his parents split; instead, he faced a difficult upbringing.

Despite the challenges in his personal life, Musk excelled at school with his utmost passion for science. At the age of 10, he got into computers and later developed a video game in the style of space invaders called Blastar.

Musk moved to Canada for further studies and got Canadian citizenship through his mother. He was at Queen's University in Kingston and pursued his education in physics. Musk also met his first wife Justine Wilson, in Canada, whom he divorced in 2008 after having five sons with her.



Musk pursued two bachelor's degrees – one in Physics and one in Economics – the latter enticed Musk further, and he moved to California to pursue his PhD in Applied Physics. However, he walked away from it within two days. This was a turning point in Musk's life; Musk was dedicated to academics, but when he observed the Silicon Valley boom and the future the internet could create, he decided to embark on the journey of entrepreneurship.

THE TURNING POINT

Musk is famously passionate about three fields: internet, space, and electric vehicles. However, the internet was his first love. He initially founded a web software company called Zip2 with his brother. Later, he sold out Zip2 and invested the amount in establishing a fintech company named X.com. Musk founded the fintech company way before the term was widely known. Later, PayPal emerged from the merger of X.com and Confinity.

Coming to Elon Musk's love affair with space, the tycoon dreams of establishing human colonies on Mars. With the money raked in after selling off PayPal, he founded Space Exploration Technologies Corporation, the rocket's developer commonly known as SpaceX. Musk has revealed his plans to send an astronaut to Mars by 2025 in collaboration with NASA.

In 2003, Elon Musk's third love interest came into the picture: electric cars and

renewables. Musk got into the electric car industry and later became the CEO and product architect of Tesla in 2007. Tesla currently stands as the world's most prestigious automaker. Additionally, Tesla also acquired SolarCity and thus maintains a robust presence in the renewable energy space.

Coming to Musk's most recent affair, the billionaire made a gigantic splash when he struck a US\$44 deal in Mid-April 2022 to buy Twitter and take it private. Musk plans to refurbish the Twitter guidelines.

With all the great milestones achieved, many would imagine that Musk wouldn't have faced many hardships in his career. However, there were phases when he was broke, both economically and emotionally. Nonetheless, Musk managed to navigate all the ups and downs of his journey like a boss, to finally emerge as the star of the entrepreneurial world.

VANADIUM RESOURCES (ASX:VR8): TAPPING GREEN FUTURE WITH WORLD'S PRE-EMINENT VANADIUM PROJECT



By Nitish Kumar

Heavy investments are flowing into the green metals space for a smooth transition into a new electric era. Governments around the world are working tirelessly to secure sources of critical metals vital for future energy security. Vanadium, lithium, nickel, cobalt, copper and zinc projects are gaining importance as they are expected to play a major role in the clean energy transition. Vanadium is in the limelight these days. The Australian government has included vanadium in its critical minerals list. Vanadium is added in small quantities to increase the strength of steel substantially. It is used for making alloys, which are used in the chemical industry.

Vanadium Redox Flow Batteries (VRFBs) are considered a new engineering marvel, slated to impact the battery energy storage industry. Market experts



Steelpoortdrift Project location with respect to existing infrastructure (Image source: Company update)

estimate that 1,200GW of the battery capacity will be added by 2050. This could create an additional demand of up to 10,000Mt of vanadium for an already undersupplied market.

Vanadium Resources Limited (ASX:VR8)

is engaged in unlocking the potential of the Steelpoortdrift Vanadium Project, one of the world's largest and highest-grade known vanadium projects.

The project hosts a mineral resource of 662Mt at 0.77% V205 at a cut-off grade of 0.45% V205. The mineralisation outcrops at the surface, providing an opportunity for low-cost open-pit mining.

VR8 is currently progressing with the Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) on the project to undertake mining operations and construct a concentrator and salt The Steelpoortdrift Project sits within the world-renowned mining geography of the Bushveld Complex in South Africa with multiple major mining projects in close vicinity. The project boasts worldclass existing infrastructure connectivity, which play an important part in the low capital and operational expenditure of the project.

roast plant. The facility is expected to have an initial production of up to 12,500tpa of V205 flake at an estimated CAPEX of US\$200 million.

The DFS study will prove up findings of the Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS), which indicated excellent financials for the project.



PFS findings (Image source: Company update)

HOT VANADIUM MARKET

At present, nearly 90% of vanadium's demand comes from the steel industry. Demand from the battery storage industry stands at around 3-5% while the rest comes from the aircraft manufacturing industry.

Estimates from multiple market research agencies, including

BloombergNEF, World Energy Outlook, and TTP Squared, Inc., indicate that demand for vanadium in the battery energy storage sector will increase significantly to 15-25% by the year 2025.

It is interesting to know that most of the vanadium is currently produced as a byproduct of the steel industry, accounting for nearly 72% of the global supply. Only 18% of the total vanadium produced globally comes from primary mining activities.

China, South Africa and Russia are the major vanadium suppliers. China is currently the largest producer of steel and vanadium.

HOW VR8 STANDS OUT AMONG ITS PEERS?

The Steelpoortdrift Project is located in a Tier 1 mining jurisdiction with excellent existing infrastructure. The project has sufficient resources to supply products economically with mineralogy to reduce CAPEX and OPEX.

The project PFS has churned out impressive financial outcomes, including an NPV8 of AU\$1.597 billion and an IRR of 45%. The project has one of the world's largest deposits of vanadium with the lowest estimated OPEX of around US\$3.08/lb.

Vanadium is a globally strategic metal and can store renewable energy with VRFBs. In a nutshell, Vanadium Resources is advancing well to meet its objective of tapping exciting opportunities for vanadium, which will play its part in the new green era.



Global Primary Resources (Image source: Company update)

ARCADIA (ASX:AM7) ON A HIGH AFTER ACHIEVING BACK-TO-BACK MILESTONES AT NAMIBIAN PROJECTS



By Akshay

Namibia, a Southern African nation along the Atlantic Ocean, neighbours gold and battery minerals-rich countries of South Africa, Angola and Botswana. It is among the leading producers of diamond, gold, precious metals, uranium and base metals.

Namibia is home to over 26 producing mines and holds an impressive feat to its name with the production of over 100 minerals. Interestingly, the country holds a long heritage of mineral production. By 1924, the Namibian mining industry producing minerals and specialty diamonds, formed 44% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). The country has an exceptionally high level of resources in proportion to its population, due to vast and accessible mineral deposits. As per the latest annual mining review by the Namibia Chamber of Mines, exploration expenditures by mining companies increased ~47% annually in 2021 to N\$806.4 million.

The latest commodity price rally and the ongoing global revolution to reduce carbon emissions have reinvigorated interest in exploration activity across the country. Further, the automobile and electronics giants have shown interest in securing reliable supplies for battery metals like lithium, nickel and copper.

ARCADIA MINERALS: PURSUING BATTERY METALS OPPORTUNITIES IN NAMIBIA

Arcadia Minerals Limited (ASX:AM7) is a Namibia-focused minerals exploration company that advances on "New-Era" battery metals opportunities. Over the years, the company has gained the ownership of large tenements with the right geology and is implementing a systematic strategy to create value and minimise exploration risks.

The company was listed on the ASX in mid-2021. With 11% and 76% equity owned by the management and the top 20 shareholders, respectively, both investors and AM7's leadership team hold a significant skin in the game. The lean equity structure allows the company to secure capital for subsequent activities via equity raisings.

Soon after listing on the ASX in mid-2021, the company continued its accelerated exploration journey and undertook a feasibility study for the Swanson Tantalum/Lithium project, which is situated in the Karas Region in the southern part of Namibia. Arcadia's action-packed exploration strategy is anticipated to generate extensive potential news and unlock the full potential of mineral projects.

Value Creation through targeted Exploration



Source: Arcadia Mineral Presentation

Under Arcadia's banner, the company will own significant interests in four advanced exploration projects. Mineral projects in order of the development stage are as follows –

- The Swanson Tantalum/Lithium Project – Final feasibility level
- The Bitterwasser Lithium Project Resource expansion level
- The Kum-Kum Ni-Cu-PGM Project

 Concept level, moving towards drilling

The Karibib Copper/Gold Project

 Concept level, moving towards
 drilling

115% INCREASE IN MRE AT SWANSON, FEASIBILITY STUDY UNDER FOCUS

After announcing the maiden Mineral Resource in September 2021, Arcadia, in early May, reported a 115% increase in mineral resource estimates for its 80%-owned Swanson Tantalum exploration project to 2.59Mt with an average grade of 486 ppm Ta205, 73 ppm Nb205 and 0.15% Li20. The mineral resource grade at the project is among the highest in the world. Interestingly, only 15 of the 200 known pegmatites have been explored at tenements and may further upgrade mineral resources. Arcadia recognises Swanson as an advanced tantalum project with a potential for early development and mining.



Source: Arcadia Mineral Presentation

Mapped pegmatites at the three EPLs Source: Arcadia Minerals Announcement 6 May 2022

The revised Mineral Resource Estimate will form the basis of the ongoing feasibility study, which is scheduled to be concluded in September 2022. Currently, metallurgical test work and commercialscale bulk sampling activities are ongoing.

LITHIUM-IN-BRINE AND LITHIUM-IN-CLAY OPPORTUNITY AT BITTERWASSER

Arcadia has planned a phased work program at the lithium project to focus on easily accessible and relatively inexpensive existing lithium-in-clay mineralisation. Currently, Eden Pan, one

Arcadia is yet to test targets at 12m or more beneath the surface and extensively explore the Eden Pan, a 2 by 5km area which only represents 19% of all exposed clay pan surfaces identified at the project to date. Concurrently, the exploration program would also of the fourteen known exposed clay pans at the project, holds a maiden inferred JORC Mineral Resource of 15.1 million tons@828ppm Li and 1.79% K.

explore Lithium-in-Brine mineralisation at the project. Furthermore, Arcadia has already received positive outcomes from mineralogical test works for the Bitterwasser lithium clay project in Namibia.

ACES IN THE MAKING

In a latest, Arcadia announced the completion of a Minerals Systems Approach investigation at the University of Stellenbosch for the Kum-Kum Ni-Cu-PGE Project yielding positive results. The Karibib copper-gold project shares the goldfield with 8 Moz Au Navachab Mine and 2+ Moz Au Twin Hills Project. Arcadia plans to commence a full-scale exploration program in May 2022.

04

MOST PROMINENT FINANCIAL LOSSES IN HISTORY



By Daniel Paul Johns

The fate of Wall Street currently hangs in the balance. In which direction it goes, largely depends on whether the US goes into recession. If no, the S&P 500 will fall just 1.1 per cent from this point, according to bear market averages since 1957. If yes, the S&P 500 could fall another 21 per cent its current point. Such a turn in events would have serious consequences for the global markets. Market crashes have been a common occurrence throughout history. Whether caused by housing bubbles, changes in technology or predatory lending, there have been several worldwide mass corrections in the past 120 years. Here, we go through three of the most destructive.



Source: © Gibsonff | Megapixl.com

THE GREAT DEPRESSION - 1929

The Great Depression is still the worst economic crisis in US history, whose impact was felt in all corners of the globe.

The Great Depression started in September 1929 following a decade of prosperity, known as "The Roaring Twenties". During that decade, technological mass production of things like electricity, radio, telephones and cars boomed to unprecedented levels. Mass production begat a rapidly growing supply of money, which Americans then invested in the stock market or deposited into banks.

However, the oversupply of money led to a bubble, which eventually burst, with the stock market losing ten percent by the end of September. This was followed by bigger losses in October. The market's downward spiral

eventually bottomed out on July 8, 1932. From October 1929 until July 8, 1932, the Dow Jones lost an incredible 89.2 percent.



Source: © Kenishirotie | Megapixl.com

BLACK MONDAY - 1987

'Black Monday', as it would to become known, is infamous for the biggest single day decline in the history of the stock market.

On Monday, October 19, 1987, the Dow Jones Industrial Average went into free fall, losing nearly 22 percent. By November, the vast major of the major stock market indexes had lost more than 20 percent of their value.

The 1987 crash was caused by a number of factors, including the recent introduction of computerised trading,

a widening U.S. trade deficit as well as escalating tensions in the Middle East.

The rapidly growing evolution of computers on Wall Street in the late eighties gave way to program trading, whereby automated buy and sell orders would be executed depending on the state of the market. When the market began declining on Black Monday, there was a huge influx of sell orders, which in turn, led to panicked investors selling off their positions



Source: © Scaliger | Megapixl.com

THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS - 2008

The most recent financial crisis, the GFC was the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression.

The collapse of the US housing market was the thing that triggered the GFC as thousands of homeowners were forced to default on reckless subprime loans. Since then, regulations have been introduced, restricting the types of loans banks are able to offer their customers.

THE VERDICT

If one looks throughout history, it becomes all too apparent that, unfortunately, financial crashes are not an uncommon occurrence. Between 2007 and 2009, the stock market took a devastating hit, with a massive US\$8 trillion in value wiped out.

The knock-on effects of this were also devastating, with unemployment rising to ten per cent in October 2009.

When all was said and done, the GFC resulted in a loss of over US\$2 trillion in global economic growth.

Whether the global economy in graded for another major crash only time will tell.

05

ANTHONY ALBANESE TAKES THE REINS TO LEAD THE NEW LABOUR GOVERNMENT



By Manisha

The decade-long leadership has been dethroned to make way for a new ruler after a fierce face-off between the Liberals and Labor on the election battleground. Australians have voted for a change in the 2022 parliamentary election, electing the Australian Labor Party (ALP) leader Anthony Albanese as the country's 31st prime minister.

"For myself, I will be satisfied if I can be remembered as someone who will stand up for the interests of my electorate, for working-class people, for the labor movement, and our progressive advancement as a nation into the next century," said Anthony Albanese in his first speech ever in 1996.

That is how the newly-elected prime minister of Australia wishes to be known by the people of the country and across borders. However, there are myriad shades to a personality that are unveiled gradually with the passage of time. If not all, let's unfold some layers and know the new leader better.

MEET THE NEW PRIME MINISTER

Anthony Albanese was born to a single mother, Maryanne, in 1963 in Sydney's inner west. He graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Economics in 1984, the first in his family to finish school/university. He became a member of the Australian Labor Party in 1979, making an entry into the political sphere at a tender age of 16, and since then, there's no looking back. Albanese was first elected to the House of Representatives from Grayndler, New South Wales, in 1996. He continues to represent Grayndler in the Parliament. In addition, he has served in several ministerial positions in the Australian government.

MINISTERIAL POSITIONS HELD BY ANTHONY ALBANESE

Ministerial positions held by Anthony Albanese	From
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	3.12.2007 to 14.9.2010
Cabinet Minister	3.12.2007 to 14.9.2010
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport	14.9.2010 to 18.9.2013
Deputy Prime Minister	27.6.2013 to 18.9.2013
Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	1.7.2013 to 18.9.2013



Source: © kalkinemedia.com

In 2019, Anthony was unanimously elected as the new Leader of the Australian Labor Party. He served as the leading voice of the opposition against

the former government led by Scott Morrison and eventually became the voice of the people. He is now the leader of the nation.

THE SWAP OF POSITIONS: HOW WILL IT REDEFINE FORCE IN NATIONAL POLITICS?

The clock has ticked the time for the overturn of positions of the major national political parties - The Labor party which was in opposition for about 10 years has now been sent to the top political rank to run the country, while the Liberals' position has been reduced to the role of critics of the ruling government.

The decision of Aussies came out as a loud and clear roar for a new government that can act and deliver on high-priority subjects of climate change, gender equality as well as political integrity. Much of these issues were raised by the Labor Party during the election campaign. For all the tall promises they made before the election, now is the time for some actions.

The new Labor government under Anthony Albanese is expected to accomplish its mission of building a fairer and better future for Australians, a future in which, no one is left behind and no one is held back. The government has plans to:

- Strengthen Medicare by making it easier to see the doctor
- Create secure local jobs by investing in Fee-Free TAFE and more university places
- Make jobs more secure with better pay and conditions
- Make childcare cheaper so that it's easier for working families to get ahead
- Make more things here in Australia by working with businesses to invest in manufacturing

Considering the urgency of environmental issues, the ruling party has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. The government will be working to protect the Great Barrier Reef from threats of climate change and poor water quality. It will work with local communities to restore the creeks and rivers that run through local communities and double the number of Indigenous Rangers working to protect some of Australia's most precious places like the Daintree.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and his government must pull off and effectuate their action plan across the board to build a stronger future for Australians and continue to secure their power to lead the country.

06

HAS FACEBOOK'S DOWNFALL BEGUN?



By Shivani Joshi



Source: © Natanaelginting | Megapixl.com

The social media site once a forever favourite of millions has now started losing its sheen as its user base is declining. When in February this year, its total user base declined, the gravity of its plummeting popularity was highlighted. It wasn't a well-kept secret anyways that Facebook's user growth on the Facebook app had been declining.

For the first time since its inception, Facebook witnessed a decline this year, and that too is a shocking one. The social media site once a forever favourite of millions has now started losing its sheen as its user base is declining. When in February this year, its total user base declined, the gravity of its plummeting popularity was highlighted.

In February, the quarterly earnings report by Meta unveiled that Facebook lost about half a million global daily users in the fourth quarter of 2021 compared to previous quarter. This news also affected its share price drastically. Facebook's struggle to stay relevant to the new era of social media users was deeply highlighted.

It wasn't a well-kept secret anyways that Facebook's user growth on the Facebook app had been declining, partly because of its inability to expand into different countries or even its ageing user base.

Meta said it was investing more in shortform video features like Reels, its TikTok clone. Mark Zuckerberg feeling threat by platforms like Tik Tok has been quite evident. Since they can cater to the younger audience so brilliantly, they've left Facebook's charm subdued. It looks more like a token from the past than a shining version of tomorrow.

If we look at the other aspect, it is the loss of trust among the masses.

Accusations on Facebook of stealing data for years resulted in the downfall of this

social media network. How far would've Zuckerberg gone after all the shots fired at him by senators? Facebook is one of those companies that possess a high level of detailed customer information, and it has been often highlighted that they use it. The data controversy stirred in 2021 didn't help Facebook's case either.

The 2021 data scandal that surrounded Facebook's new scandal involved the theft of data from half a billion of its user base. From birthdates to emails, from contact numbers to other personal information, there was almost nothing that had been left untouched.

As if the Facebook-Cambridge Analytica data privacy scandal in 2018 which disclosed that the digital consultants to former US president Donald Trump's campaign misused the data of millions of Facebook users, wasn't enough to jolt its users. It didn't take Facebook too much time to fall into the pit of another controversy. That too just in a span of merely 3 years.

Now, it's not just the data privacy scandal that Facebook was grappling with, there were also claims of misinformation on the platform. These claims over the time drew a lot of criticism for the platform. There was massive outrage from some of the most prominent personalities such as Steve Wozniak, a tech giant and the co-founder of Apple. He urged people to quit such a platform where privacy was highly compromised. The data scandal in 2018 could be considered the first step towards Facebook's declining credibility as a social media platform.

But despite everything, it's important to look at the fact that the social media giant is still making plenty of money. It earned \$33.67 billion in revenue last quarter, which was a 20% rise from the year before that. And when takes Facebook's entire family of apps - like WhatsApp and Instagram into the picture, the future doesn't look too bleak.



07

TOP-PERFORMING STOCKS ON THE ASX



By Sukriti Nair

Global markets have emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic's diabolical spell, and the reopening has cheered it a little. However, the Russian attack on Ukraine, re-emerging new COVID-19 variants in some parts of the world and central banks increasing interest rates to fight inflationary factors are putting pressure on equity markets.

In the year till now, the US benchmark index S&P500 has lost almost 16-17%. Tech-heavy NASDAQ composite index has fallen around 26-27%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average Index is down 11-12%. French benchmark index CAC40 and German DAX have lost 11-12% each. Only the UK benchmark index, FTSE, is in the green on a YTD (year-to-date) basis. Moving to Asian stocks, Hong Kong's Hang Seng has shed about 13%, and China CSI300 is down 18%. Japanese Nikkei is down almost 9% YTD, while India's Nifty50 and Sensex are down 8% each. On the domestic front, the ASX200 has lost 5-6% on a year-to-date basis. In comparison to other global markets, Australian stocks have been resilient. Firm commodity prices have helped the commodity-heavy economy to do well. The recent Parliamentary election has also brought cheers to various industrial sectors. In this backdrop, we have looked at each of the 11 sectors on the ASX and the top-performing companies from them. Based on the year-to-date performance as of 26 May 2022, we have compiled a list of the top 3 performers from each sector.

Note-The data has been classified based on GICS sectors. The top 3 stocks from each industry are based on their YTD performance (as of 25 May 2022 market close).



Communication Services

- Kneomedia Ltd (ASX:KNM)-70.6%
- Brisbane Broncos Ltd (ASX:BBL)-33.2%
- Crowd Media Holdings Ltd (ASX:CM8)-12.1%



Energy

- Pancontinental Energy NL (ASX:PCL)-700.0%
- Terracom Ltd (ASX:TER)-338.9%
- Melbana Energy Ltd (ASX:MAY)-327.3%



Consumer Discretionary

- Atlas Pearls Ltd (ASX:ATP)-51.7%
- Mayfield Childcare Ltd (ASX:MFD)-28.6%
- Mydeal.Com Au Ltd (ASX:MYD)-27.0%



Financials

- Orion Equities Ltd (ASX:OEQ)-100.0%
- N1 Holdings Ltd (ASX:N1H)-58.1%
- Genworth Mortgage Insurance Australia Ltd (ASX:GMA)-40.5%



Consumer Staples

- Australian Agricultural Company Ltd (ASX:AAC)-40.5%
 Graincorp Ltd (ASX:GNC)-21.8%
- Duxton Farms Ltd (ASX:DBF)-20.8%



Healthcare

- Resapp Health Ltd (ASX:RAP)-69.2%
- Cryosite Ltd (ASX:CTE)-58.1%
- Botanix Pharmaceuticals Ltd (ASX:BOT)-42.9%

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01

The communication services Sector- It has seen a shift from wired services to internet retail services. While revenue in last few years has been under pressure thanks to COVID-19-induced restrictions, it is predicted to recover and grow in next few years. Energy Sector- There is a shift towards renewable green energy and the government's latest budget backs affordable energy, as well as eyeing net-zero emission by 2050. The federal government has even infused funds for low-emission LNG and Hydrogen projects.



Consumer Discretionary- Personalisation dominates the sector now with sustainable products becoming a preference. This year, this sector is hit by inflationary pressures on the cost side for the businesses induced by high fuel prices and supply chain disruptions.



Financials- The Aussie financial system has been resilient this year. Good asset growth and quality at key banking institutions contributed to the performance. The liquidity position is also strong for both banking and non-banking financial institutions. However, interest rate hike expectations make investors worried.



05

Consumer Staples- Digital engagement is the trend in this sector as of now. Demand for staples is rising across the globe due to emerging geopolitical issues in the West and supply chain constraints. While demand is increasing for goods, input costs continue to pinch businesses.

Healthcare- This sector has seen a shift towards remote healthcare services. During and after the severe bout of the COVID-19 pandemic got over, technological innovations and investments have risen. There is more availability of digital and new-age solutions for the elderly.



Industrials

- Olympio Metals Ltd (ASX:OLY)-545.2%
- AJ Lucas Group Ltd (ASX:AJL)-88.2% • Fluence Corporation Ltd (ASX:FLC)-

70.0%



Real Estate

- Vicinity Centres (ASX:VCX)-12.5%
- Sietel Ltd (ASX:SSL)-11.7%
- Irongate Group (ASX:IAP)-11.0%



Information Technology

- Netlinkz Ltd (ASX:NET)-237.5%
- I Synergy Group Ltd (ASX:IS3)-73.3% • Brainchip Holdings Ltd (ASX:BRN)-
- 69.1%



Utilities

- AGL Energy Ltd (ASX:AGL)-41.8%
- Origin Energy Ltd
- (ASX:ORG)-31.7%
- APA Group (ASX:APA)-15.2%



Materials

- Golden Cross Resources Ltd (ASX:GCR)-405.3%
- Galileo Mining Ltd (ASX:GAL)-320.0%
- Latin Resources Ltd (ASX:LRS)-313.8%

Image Source: © 2022 Kalkine Media ® Data Source: Refinity

GICS Sectors	IndexCode	31-Dec	25-May	%Change
ASX	X JO	7,444	7,155	-3.88%
Energy	XEJ	7,900	9,966	26.15%
Utilites	XUJ	6,692	8,267	23.54%
Materials	XMJ	16,740	17,504	4.56%
Financials	XFJ	6,536	6,594	0.89%
Industrials	XNJ	6,645	6,524	-1.82%
Consumer Satples	XSJ	13,543	13,020	-3.86%
Healthacre	XHJ	45,183	40,720	-9.88%
Telecom	ΧTJ	1,630	1,416	-13.13%
Real Estate	XRJ	3,946	3,299	-16.40%
Consumer Disc	XEJ	3,529	2,857	-19.04%
IT	XIJ	2,137	1,434	-32.90%
Consumer Satples Healthacre Telecom Real Estate Consumer Disc	XSJ XHJ XTJ XRJ XEJ	13,543 45,183 1,630 3,946 3,529	13,020 40,720 1,416 3,299 2,857	-3.86% -9.88% -13.13% -16.40% -19.04%

07

Industrials- Capital goods and heavy engineering and machinery businesses come under this sector. The sector seems to be getting a growth push from the Australian government's funding and favourable policies toward infrastructural development. Real Estate- This sector has seen rent escalation. Market analysts expect residential and commercial construction costs to decline. The migration trend that has come about in the past few years, post severe bout of COVID-19, is expected to continue.

10

09

Information Technology- This sector is benefitting from the government's push towards a digital future post the worst phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. Digital transformation across businesses is providing good traction for the sector. However, the IT sector is reeling under spillover effects of heavy selling pressure witnessed by US technology companies on account of valuation compression, that's too fed rate hikes.

11

Materials- Metal and mining sector companies come under this sector. Stocks here are highly influenced by commodity prices. The global shift towards EVs has kept the market buoyant even though the commodity supply side is affected by the Russia-Ukraine war. A slowing Chinese economy is a worrying factor for players in this sector. Utilities- Supply chain, power, electricity distribution and transmission companies fall under this sector. With the opening of the world post deadly waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sector is anticipated to see a demand growth. The focus now is on green energy and digital evolution.



Previous Versions



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