

Nifty signals firm start; Asia markets fall**Morning Market Snapshot – 16 Mar 2026 (Monday)**

- Indian equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty are expected to open on a firm note on March 16, supported by gains in Nifty, which was trading around 23,239.50 in early trade.
- In the previous session, however, Dalal Street remained under pressure, with bears dominating the market and dragging the Nifty below the 23,150 mark intraday on March 13. The decline was largely driven by broad-based selling amid escalating geopolitical tensions, which also pushed crude oil prices higher, dampening investor sentiment.
- On Friday, the 30-share benchmark index ended at 74563.92 down by -1470.5 points or by -1.93 % and then NSE Nifty was at 23151.1 down by -488.05 points or by -2.06 %.
- On the global front, most markets in the Asia-Pacific declined in early trade on Monday as market participants remained concerned that high energy prices may impact inflation and the growth outlook. Japan's Nikkei 225 and South Korea's Kospi were trading 0.73 per cent and 0.20 per cent down, respectively. Last Friday, the US share indices ended lower as Brent crude was trading above the \$100-per-barrel mark due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a crucial chokepoint for oil supply. The S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average were trading 0.61 per cent and 0.26 per cent down, respectively. Back home, Top traded Volumes on NSE Nifty – Eternal Ltd. 65462174.00, Tata Steel Ltd. 42683952.00, HDFC Bank Ltd. 41700464.00, Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. 32179473.00, NTPC Ltd. 27107369.00,
- On NSE, total number of shares traded was 527.08 Crore and total turnover stood at Rs. 121547.53 Crore. On NSE Future and Options, total number of contracts traded in index futures was 290352 with a total turnover of Rs. 44890.01 Crore. Along with this total number of contracts traded in stock futures were 1600999 with a total turnover of Rs. 100178.15 Crore. Total numbers of contracts for index options were 95774573 with a total turnover of Rs. 14738928.53 Crore. and total numbers of contracts for stock options were 7552873 with a total turnover of Rs. 498166.24 Crore.
- The FIIs on 13/03/2026 stood as net buyer in equity and debt. Gross equity purchased stood at Rs. 16081.97 Crore and gross debt purchased stood at Rs. 956.76 Crore, while the gross equity sold stood at Rs. 23457.02 Crore and gross debt sold stood at Rs. 452.84 Crore. Therefore, the net investment of equity and debt reported were Rs. -7375.05 Crore and Rs. 503.92.

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