



Economy

MGNREGA work generation grows in May

Work generation under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) increased in May over the previous month as well as the year-ago period, bucking the trend seen in the previous months. May 2021 saw the peak of the second wave of Covid-19 and hence demand as well as work generation under MGNREGA was high, but it was higher this May after witnessing a dip in April. This could be a cause of concern for the government, which expected a significant fall in demand for work under the Centre's flagship rural jobs scheme with rebound across other economic parameters. The government had pegged household work generation under MGNREGA in 2022-23 at 2.276 billion with a budgetary allocation of Rs 73,000 crore.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/jobs/mgnrega-work-generation-grows-in-may/articleshow/92166838.cms?utm_source=ETTopNews&utm_medium=HPTN&utm_campaign=AL1&utm_content=23

Banking and Finance

IRDAI's new norms to prompt insurers to launch innovative policies swiftly: Experts

IRDAI's decision to permit 'use and file' facility for most of the insurance products will encourage insurers to come out with innovative covers quickly to the benefit of customers and also deepen the insurance penetration in the country, said experts. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) last week extended the 'use and file' procedure for most of the life insurance products, thereby allowing insurers to launch new products without prior approval of the regulator. Earlier, similar relaxations were extended to all the health insurance products and almost all the general insurance products.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/insure/irdais-new-norms-to-prompt-insurers-to-launch-innovative-policies-swiftly-experts/articleshow/92160149.cms>

Revenue collections grow for all states as property registrations continue to surge

Robust property sales across the country is helping state governments fetch higher revenues through collections of stamp duty charges, although impact of recent rate increases remains a overhang on long-term momentum. Cumulative revenue collection from stamp duty and registration charges (SD&RCs) from 27 states and one union territory of Jammu & Kashmir was recorded in excess ₹1.71 lakh crore during the financial year 2021-22, up 34% from a year ago, showed data analysed by Motilal Oswal Financial Services. The average monthly revenue collection across these states and union territories during the financial year rose to ₹14,262 crore as compared with ₹10,646 crore in the previous year.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/revenue-collections-grow-for-all-states-as-property-registrations-continue-to-surge/articleshow/92166878.cms>

FPIs pull out Rs 14,000-cr from Indian equities in June on global, domestic concerns

Wary of the scenario on the global and domestic fronts, foreign investors continued to withdraw from Indian equity markets and pulled out close to Rs 14,000 crore in this month so far. With this, net outflow by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) from equities reached Rs 1.81 lakh crore so far in 2022, data with depositories showed. Going

forward, the FPIs' selling may continue in the near-term, however, a moderation in sell-off is expected during short to medium-term, Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said. "This is because a large part of the changeover like economic slowdown, hawkish monetary policy, supply constraints and high inflation is factored in, in the market prices, which was consolidating over the last 7 months. And for central banks to maintain the aggressive policy in long-term, the inflation must remain high," he added. According to the data, foreign investors withdrew a net amount of Rs 13,888 crore from equities during June 1-10. FPIs have been incessantly withdrawing money from Indian equities since October 2021. Nair attributed the latest FPI outflow to anticipation of a hawkish Federal Reserve meeting.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/market/fpis-pull-out-rs-14000-cr-from-indian-equities-in-june-on-global-domestic-concerns/2557702/>

Industry

Steel industry body seeks govt intervention to check coking coal price

Industry body ISA has sought the government's immediate intervention to check coking coal price, which has grown three-fold to around USD 450 a tonne. "Coking coal prices is something, which is impacting the industry drastically and the production cost is impacted, affecting the steel prices," Alok Sahay, Secretary-General of Indian Steel Association said during an interaction with PTI. Indian Steel Association (ISA) represents the domestic steel industry. Explaining the situation, Sahay said the price of coking coal used to be in the range of USD 120-130 per tonne around a year back. In March 2022, coking coal prices had peaked at about USD 670 per tonne, he added. At the current price range, the industry expert said, the cost of coking coal alone in steel making is around Rs 28,000 to Rs 30,000 per tonne, which works to about 40-45 per cent of the production cost. Besides, there are other input materials like iron ore, ferroalloys, logistics, fuel costs and other fixed costs.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/steel-industry-body-seeks-govt-intervention-to-check-coking-coal-price-122061200165_1.html

CNG vehicle sales may hit a new high

Sales of CNG vehicles in India are set to scale a new peak driven by robust double-digit expansion in FY23 demand, with lower total ownership costs decidedly tilting the scales in favour of gas-powered cars instead of those running on liquid automotive fuels. Running costs of CNG vehicles at Rs 2.1-2.2 per km are less than half of Rs 5.30-5.45 per km for petrol and diesel driven vehicles. "Even though CNG prices have increased the past few months, the differential (with petrol and diesel) is still substantial. Fuel efficiency of CNG vehicles additionally is higher resulting in lower running costs for buyers," Shashank Srivastava, senior executive director (marketing and sales), Maruti Suzuki, told ET.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/auto/auto-news/cng-vehicle-sales-may-hit-a-new-high/articleshow/92166834.cms>

Smart TVs record highest ever 89% share in India's overall TV market in Q1 2022: Report

The share of smart TVs in India's overall TV market increased 33 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to reach its highest ever at 89 per cent in Q1 2022, according to research from Counterpoint's IoT Service. The growth was driven by an increased preference for smart TVs along with sales growth in online channels. Further, new launches by leading brands at affordable prices, along with discounts and promotions, also helped boost shipments, as per the report. India's smart TV market remained primarily offline-driven, the channel accounting for 69 per cent of the shipments. However, online channels are increasing and offering various discounts.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/smart-tvs-record-highest-ever-89-share-in-indias-overall-tv-market-in-q1-2022-report/article65520057.ece>

Agriculture

Monsoon likely to become active next week, spur kharif sowing: IMD

After a slow start, the southwest monsoon that reached Mumbai over the weekend is expected to gather steam next week, leading to a quick decline of the seasonal deficit and spurring planting of kharif crops, the weatherman said.

“Every monsoon is different from the previous, and the next week onwards, that is, around June 14-15, we should see a significant uptick in rains with the monsoon expected to cover most of East India and the beginning of good pre-monsoon activity over Vidarbha, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat. This should lead to gradual easing of the heat wave over North India in next 48 hours,” R K Jenamani, senior scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD) told Business Standard. He said with the pick-up in the rains, the seasonal cumulative deficit will also go down in the next few weeks. The deficit as on June 11, stood at 43 per cent less than normal as monsoon in all parts of the country was below average.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/monsoon-likely-to-become-active-next-week-spur-kharif-sowing-imd-122061200686_1.html

Energy

India's power demand jumps by 45,000 MW in a year; ensuring 23-23.5 hr supplies: Minister

India's power demand this year has jumped by a record 40,000-45,000 MW per day as an intense heat wave sweeps through northern parts of the country, the economy expands, and electricity reaches millions of unelectrified homes, Power Minister RK Singh has said. A massive addition in the generation capacity, integrating the country into one transmission grid and strengthening of the distribution system during eight years of the Modi government is ensuring the 23 to 23.5 hours of electricity supply, he said in an interview with PTI. India's electricity demand on June 9 was recorded at an all-time high of 2,10,792 megawatts, and 4,712 million units of electricity were consumed. Power plants are operating at full throttle to meet this demand, and the government has ordered coal import to meet the shortfall in domestic supplies.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/indias-power-demand-jumps-by-45000-mw-in-a-year-ensuring-23-23-5-hr-supplies-minister/2557727/>

States

Gujarat's diamond industry hit hard by Russia-Ukraine war

The Russia-Ukraine war has adversely affected the livelihood of lakhs of workers of the diamond industry in Gujarat, especially in rural parts of Saurashtra region where many units import small-size diamonds from Russia for processing and polishing, according to industry representatives. The state's diamond industry employs nearly 15 lakh workers, the Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council's regional chairman, Dinesh Navadiya, told PTI. Due to the shortage of supply of small-size rough diamonds from Russia, businessmen in Gujarat are forced to buy the raw material from African countries and other places, affecting their profits. Hence, the diamond units in the state have curtailed the working hours of their workers and polishers, thus impacting their livelihood, he said. The processing of big-size diamonds is mainly carried out at units in the state's Surat city. The US, where 70 per cent of the cut and polished diamonds are exported from India, has imposed a ban on Russian companies. Navadiya said a few large companies in the US have already sent them emails, saying they will not purchase goods of Russian-origin. Hence, this has adversely affected the diamond industry workers in Gujarat, mainly in Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Amreli and Junagadh districts of Saurashtra as well as in some northern parts of the state, the industry stakeholders said.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/gujarats-diamond-industry-hit-hard-by-russia-ukraine-war/2557587/>

Housing, commercial property projects worth Rs 4,344 cr proposed in UP

As many as 19 big-ticket housing and commercial property projects worth Rs 4,344 crore have been proposed in Uttar Pradesh following the third ground breaking ceremony (GBC-3) held in Lucknow on June 3 to attract the industrial investments, an official statement said. This does not include construction of structures for other sectors such as warehousing, logistics, IT, data centres, supporting infrastructure for industries such as power substations etc, hotels and hospitals, it said. According to the statement, the sector-wise distribution of all the 1,406 proposals presented in GBC-3, presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the presence of top industrialists, shows that investors not only from India but from many parts of the world are keen to invest in UP.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/property/-/cstruction/housing-commercial-property-projects-worth-rs-4344-cr-proposed-in-up/articleshow/92161821.cms>

CIDCO hands over entire 2,866-acre land for Navi Mumbai International Airport development

The Maharashtra government's town planning authority, the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO), has handed over the entire 2,866 acres of land to Adani Enterprises, the concessionaire for the development of greenfield Navi Mumbai International Airport. CIDCO has managed to evict all 3,070 structures in the project area of the proposed international airport, which will be the second airport for the country's financial capital. The town planning body is also close to completion of the rehabilitation of more than 5,000 families from the villages that fall under the area. With this, CIDCO has achieved an important milestone in the development of the airport project, which is being developed by Navi Mumbai International Airport Pvt Ltd (NMIAL), a subsidiary of Adani Enterprises. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/property/-/cstruction/cidco-hands-over-entire-2866-acre-land-for-navi-mumbai-international-airport-development/articleshow/92157880.cms?utm_source=ETTopNews&utm_medium=HPTN&utm_campaign=AL1&utm_content=23

Healthcare

India's cumulative coverage crosses 195-cr mark

India's cumulative vaccination tally has surpassed the 195 crore doses mark, according to the official data from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. As per the data, as of 7 am on June 12, India had administered 1,95,07,08,541 total doses of the Covid-19 vaccine overall. It includes 91.69 crore total first doses and 83.37 crore total second doses administered to the beneficiaries aged 18+ years, 5.98 crore total first doses and 4.69 crore total second doses administered to beneficiaries aged 15-18 years, 3.51 crore first doses and 1.94 crore second doses administered to the beneficiaries aged 12-14 years, 33 lakh precautionary doses administered to beneficiaries aged 18-59 years and about 3.54 crore precautionary doses administered to beneficiaries aged above 60 years, healthcare workers (HCW) and frontline workers (FLW) so far. <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/covid-19-vaccination-indias-cumulative-coverage-crosses-195-cr-mark/article65519995.ece>

External

FinMin issues draft SoP for e-commerce jewellery exports through courier route

The finance ministry has come out with draft SoP for facilitating e-commerce jewellery exports through courier route, as it looks to provide a simplified regulatory framework for manufacturers and traders who want to export jewellery. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has invited feedback and suggestions from stakeholders by June 14 on the Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for implementation of a simplified regulatory framework to facilitate export of jewellery made of precious metals and imitation jewellery through e-commerce in courier mode. The CBIC also proposes to amend the Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010, and related forms and come out with a notification prescribing conditions for reimport of returned jewellery and has invited views from stakeholders on the same. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had in the 2022-23 Budget announced implementation of a simplified regulatory framework to facilitate export of jewellery through e-commerce. <https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/finmin-issues-draft-sop-for-e-commerce-jewellery-exports-through-courier-route/2557788/>

WTO Ministerial: India bats for resolution on public stockholding

India has said there is no logic behind announcing a fresh work programme at the ongoing WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) on the long-pending issue of a permanent solution for public stockholding programmes of developing nations, as it was now time for a decision. Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, who is representing India at the meet, also made a case for protecting the livelihood of artisanal fishers and the need for keeping non-trade-related subjects like climate change and gender out of WTO negotiations. <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/wto-mc12-india-bats-for-resolution-on-public-stockholding/article65521154.ece>

Iran starts transfer of Russian goods to India by using new trade corridor

Iran's state-run shipping company said it started its first transfer of Russian goods to India, using a new trade corridor that transits the Islamic Republic, an Iranian port official said. The Russian cargo consists of two 40-foot (12.192 meters) containers of wood laminate sheets, weighing 41 tons, that departed St. Petersburg for the Caspian Sea port city of Astrakhan, the state-run Islamic Republic News Agency said on Saturday, citing Dariush Jamali, director of a joint-owned Iranian-Russian terminal in Astrakhan. The report didn't say when the cargo, which it described as an initial "pilot" transfer to test the corridor, left or give any more details about the goods in the shipment. From Astrakhan, the cargo will cross the length of the Caspian to the northern Iranian port of Anzali and will be transferred by road to the southern port of Bandar Abbas on the Persian Gulf. From there it will be loaded onto a ship and sent to the Indian port of Nhava Sheva, IRNA said.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/iran-starts-transfer-of-russian-goods-to-india-by-using-new-trade-corridor-122061200652_1.html