



September 10, 2024 – Tuesday

## Key Developments

### MCA notifies deal value threshold for mergers under Competition Act

The much-anticipated provision of deal value threshold (DVT), which seeks to capture combinations under the Competition Amendment Act 2023 where the deal value exceeds Rs 2,000 crore or the target—the company being acquired—has substantial business operations in India, was notified by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on Monday. The notification will come into effect from September 10 onwards. The accompanying regulations for this provision of the law are expected to be notified by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) soon.

[https://www.business-standard.com/companies/news/mca-notifies-deal-value-threshold-for-mergers-under-competition-act-124090901074\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/companies/news/mca-notifies-deal-value-threshold-for-mergers-under-competition-act-124090901074_1.html)

## Economy

### Centre to announce new cooperative policy next 2-3 months, says Coop secretary

The new National Cooperative Policy is almost ready and will be announced in the next 2-3 months, a top cooperation ministry official said on Monday. "We are in the last stage of finalising the new national cooperative policy. The policy will be announced in the next 2-3 months," Cooperation Secretary Ashish Kumar Bhutani told reporters on the sidelines of an event.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/centre-to-announce-new-cooperative-policy-next-2-3-months-says-coop-secretary/articleshow/113202035.cms>

### Hiring sentiment most upbeat at Indian companies for December quarter

The hiring sentiment in India for the December quarter is the strongest among 42 countries covered in a new global survey, whose findings come close on the heels of data from the US that indicates a slowdown in jobs growth. The ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey's latest edition covered 3,150 employers in India and their hiring plans for the December quarter.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/jobs/hr-policies-trends/et-exclusive-hiring-sentiment-most-upbeat-at-indian-companies-for-december-quarter/articleshow/113203967.cms>

## Finance

### GST Council sets up GoMs on health, life insurance, compensation cess

The all-powerful GST Council, at its meeting on Monday, took a slew of decisions that include setting up a state panel to examine the future for the compensation cess, to suggest the treatment of cess collections post-repayment of loans, expanding the existing state panel on rate rationalisation to look into the issues pertaining to life and health insurance, and providing relief to foreign airlines. The Council also decided to review the Integrated GST (IGST) by a panel of secretaries headed by the additional secretary, revenue.

[https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/gst-council-sets-up-goms-on-health-life-insurance-compensation-cess-124090901300\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/gst-council-sets-up-goms-on-health-life-insurance-compensation-cess-124090901300_1.html)

### **Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment plans to onboard small companies to expand base**

The Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE), a self-regulatory organisation (SRO), will seek to include smaller companies to broaden both its representation and effectiveness, CEO Sugandh Saxena told ET. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/fintech-association-for-consumer-empowerment-plans-to-onboard-small-companies-to-expand-base/articleshow/113204590.cms>

### **SEBI aligns FVCI registration with that of FPIs**

SEBI has harmonised the KYC and registration requirements of foreign venture capital investors (FVCI) with that of foreign portfolio investors (FPIs). <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-aligns-fvci-registration-with-that-of-fpis/article68622356.ece>

### **Govt to forgo gold bond borrowing to keep fiscal deficit under control**

The Centre is unlikely to borrow a planned Rs 15,000 crore, on net basis, through sovereign gold bonds (SGBs), in the current financial year, giving a potential 0.05% downside benefit to the fiscal deficit target of 4.94% of GDP. It may also permanently cease to use SGBs for borrowing purpose. The move is prompted by relatively high cost of funds raised via this route. <https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-govt-to-forgo-gold-bond-borrowing-to-keep-fiscal-deficit-under-control-3604971/>

## **Industry**

### **EVs can maintain cost without subsidies but won't oppose incentive: Gadkari**

With falling lithium-ion battery prices, electric vehicles can now maintain cost without subsidies but it is for the finance and heavy industries ministries to decide if incentives need to be given to electric vehicles, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Monday. Speaking at the annual session of Automotive Components Manufacturers Association (ACMA), Gadkari, the Minister for Road Transport and Highways, said within two years, the cost of EVs will be the same with their petrol and diesel counterparts. [https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/evs-can-maintain-cost-without-subsidies-but-won-t-oppose-incentive-gadkari-124090900483\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/evs-can-maintain-cost-without-subsidies-but-won-t-oppose-incentive-gadkari-124090900483_1.html)

### **Cement sector to face further consolidation in near-to-medium term: Report**

The Indian cement industry, which is witnessing aggressive acquisitions by two of its leading players - Adani group's Ambuja Cement and Aditya Birla's UltraTech, will have further consolidation in the near-to-medium term, according to a report. In the report, rating agency Ind-Ra said that the aggressive medium-term capacity targets of leading players are unlikely to be fully achieved organically and the industry is likely to witness an increase in the competitive intensity. [https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/cement-sector-to-face-further-consolidation-in-near-to-medium-term-report-124090900934\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/cement-sector-to-face-further-consolidation-in-near-to-medium-term-report-124090900934_1.html)

### **India's GCC boom: Fortune 500, mid-sized firms expand with new operations**

India's increasing appeal as a destination for global capability centres (GCCs) is drawing interest from both Fortune 500 giants and numerous smaller and mid-sized companies. These organisations are eager to establish operations in India to capitalise on the country's cost advantages, skilled workforce, and stable business climate, according to a report by The Economic Times. In the last eight months, several mid-sized GCCs with 1,000-2,000 employees have started operations in India. [https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/india-s-gcc-boom-fortune-500-mid-sized-firms-expand-with-new-operations-124090900324\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/india-s-gcc-boom-fortune-500-mid-sized-firms-expand-with-new-operations-124090900324_1.html)

## **Agriculture**

### **Government to begin farmer registration for Aadhaar-style IDs from October; targets 5 crore by March**

In a major push towards digitising the agriculture sector, the government will soon begin registration of farmers across the country to provide them with a unique ID similar to Aadhaar, Agriculture Secretary Devesh Chaturvedi said on Monday. Chaturvedi, speaking to PTI on the sidelines of an Outlook Agri-Tech Summit and Swaraj Awards, said the guidelines for the registration process will be issued soon, with the implementation set to begin in the first week of October.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/government-to-begin-farmer-registration-for-aadhaar-style-ids-from-october-targets-5-crore-by-march/articleshow/113200782.cms>

#### **Govt agencies to buy soybean from farmers in Maharashtra, Karnataka & Telangana as prices rule below MSP**

With the mandi prices of soybean—a key kharif crop—falling below the minimum support price (MSP), government agencies such as the farmers' cooperative Nafed and the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) will soon begin procuring oilseeds from farmers at MSP within the next couple of weeks. Sources told FE that the agriculture ministry has approved the procurement of 1.56 million tonne (MT) of soybean under the price support scheme (PSS) from farmers in Maharashtra (1.3 MT), Karnataka (0.1 MT), and Telangana (0.05 MT). The government is also expected to announce MSP purchases of oilseeds in Madhya Pradesh later this week.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-govt-agencies-to-buy-soybean-from-farmers-in-maharashtra-karnataka-telangana-as-prices-rule-below-msp-3605327/>

### **Infrastructure**

#### **Aviation minister pitches for sustainable practices, regional connectivity**

Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu on Monday pitched for sustainable practices in the aviation industry, including the use of sustainable aviation fuel. As part of boosting regional air connectivity, the civil aviation ministry has also identified around 106 airports and airstrips that can be developed for regional flight operations. Naidu said sustainable aviation practices should be promoted that will help in reducing overall carbon emissions and mentioned that some airports are already carbon neutral.

[https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/aviation-minister-pitches-for-sustainable-practices-regional-connectivity-124090900540\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/aviation-minister-pitches-for-sustainable-practices-regional-connectivity-124090900540_1.html)

### **External**

#### **India expected to see strong FDI inflows in coming quarters: Experts**

With foreign direct investments (FDI) growing 47.8 per cent to \$16.17 billion during April-June 2024, India is expected to see further acceleration in the inflow on account of a potential Fed rate cut, modest growth outlook in the US, and the country's favourable economic outlook, experts say. They also said that investment destinations have changed over the decade and have got more diversified, with capital flowing into new emerging sectors.

[https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-expected-to-see-strong-fdi-inflows-in-coming-quarters-experts-124090900512\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-expected-to-see-strong-fdi-inflows-in-coming-quarters-experts-124090900512_1.html)

#### **India needs more trade, and being inside RCEP is better than staying out**

Indian policymakers have traditionally scorned advice from overseas, especially from multilateral agencies such as the World Bank. Suggestions from the latter's most recent India Development Update are therefore likely to be ignored. That would be a mistake. The report's primary recommendation, that India reconsider its pessimism about plurilateral trade deals, deserves a sympathetic hearing.

[https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-needs-more-trade-and-being-inside-rcep-is-better-than-staying-out-124090900067\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-needs-more-trade-and-being-inside-rcep-is-better-than-staying-out-124090900067_1.html)

#### **Agrochemicals export likely to touch Rs 80,000 cr in 4 yrs: ACFI-EY report**

India's agrochemical exports could increase to over Rs 80,000 crore in the next four years provided the industry is facilitated with conducive environment, according to a report by ACFI and EY. A report by Industry body Agro Chem Federation of India (ACFI) and EY titled 'Indian Agrochemical Industry: The Story, the challenges and the aspirations' noted that the exports of agrochemicals stood at Rs 43,223 crore in the 2022-23 fiscal.

[https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/agrochemicals-export-likely-to-touch-rs-80-000-cr-in-4-yrs-afci-ey-report-124090900615\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/agrochemicals-export-likely-to-touch-rs-80-000-cr-in-4-yrs-afci-ey-report-124090900615_1.html)

#### **India-UAE sign pacts on LNG supply, crude production and nuclear energy**

India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Monday signed five agreements to enhance cooperation in the energy sector and other areas, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan during the latter's ongoing three-day visit to India. Crown Prince Al Nahyan also called on President Droupadi Murmu, and visited Rajghat to pay his respects to Mahatma Gandhi. He will be visiting Mumbai on Tuesday.

[https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-uae-sign-pacts-on-lng-supply-crude-production-and-nuclear-energy-124090901260\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-uae-sign-pacts-on-lng-supply-crude-production-and-nuclear-energy-124090901260_1.html)

#### **Goyal urges auto component makers to cut imports, target \$100 bn exports**

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday asked Indian auto component makers to explore ways to cut reliance on imports and boost local manufacturing to make the country a net exporter of these products.

The minister also urged these companies to target \$100 billion in exports by 2030. Addressing the auto component industry here, he expressed his concern over the continued reliance on foreign suppliers and encouraged domestic manufacturers to enhance local production capabilities.

[https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/goyal-urges-auto-component-makers-to-cut-imports-target-100-bn-exports-124090900772\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/goyal-urges-auto-component-makers-to-cut-imports-target-100-bn-exports-124090900772_1.html)

#### **New safety regulations for machinery, equipment to affect MSMEs: GTRI**

The new safety regulations for machinery and electrical equipment issued by the government will affect domestic production by the MSME segment and delay the import of essential equipment, think tank GTRI said on Monday.

It suggested extending the compliance timeline, implementation in a phased manner, and extending government support to help the industry deal with the regulations.

[https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/new-safety-regulations-for-machinery-equipment-to-affect-msmes-gtri-124090900687\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/new-safety-regulations-for-machinery-equipment-to-affect-msmes-gtri-124090900687_1.html)

#### **Unilateral digital, carbon plans are big risks, says WTO**

Uncoordinated unilateral approaches to address the digital economy and low-carbon transition can create potential distortions and trade tensions, the World Trade Organization (WTO) said on Monday.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/unilateral-digital-carbon-plans-are-big-risks-says-wto/articleshow/113203791.cms>