

August 01, 2025 – Friday

Economy

PM Internship scheme needs independent review, relaxed norms: Parl panel

The Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS) should be independently and periodically evaluated for transparency, and its eligibility norms should be relaxed for marginalised and economically weaker candidates, said the Standing Committee on Finance in a report submitted before Parliament on Thursday. The committee, chaired by Lok Sabha MP Bhartruhari Mahtab, said challenges relating to inclusivity, monitoring, stakeholder participation, and post-internship outcomes persist, impacting the overall budget efficiency of PMIS.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/pmis-parliament-panel-independent-evaluation-ibc-reform-recommendations-125073101249_1.html

Trump tariffs may drag India's FY26 GDP growth by 20-40 bps: Economists

India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth in 2025-26 (FY26) is likely to take a hit of 20-40 basis points (bps) as the steep 25 per cent tariff imposed by US President Donald Trump on Indian exports takes effect from August 1, economists said. However, the impact is likely to remain limited as India's economy is domestically oriented and the country has relatively lower goods exports to the US than other emerging market peers, experts said.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/trump-tariffs-may-drag-india-s-fy26-gdp-growth-by-20-40-bps-economists-125073101846_1.html

Finance

Loan growth dips in farm, services; MSMEs see sharp rise in June

The sharp moderation in loan offtake in farming plus allied activities and services sector dragged the pace of banks' non-food credit down to 10.2 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) in the fortnight ended June 27, 2025 from 13.8 per cent growth reported during the same period a year ago. The pace of credit growth on a Y-o-Y basis in retail and industrial credit also moderated in June 2025, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/loan-growth-dips-in-farm-services-msmes-see-sharp-rise-in-june-125073101611_1.html

Sebi plans revamp of large IPO norms; retail quota may drop to 25%

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Thursday proposed changes to the structure of large initial public offerings (IPOs), including incre-asing the allocation limit for institutio-nal buyers and reducing the share rese-rved for retail investors. The proposals come amid a surge in IPO activity in India. Sebi noted that while average IPO sizes have been increasing, direct retail participation has remained flat over the past three years. For large public issues, retail subscription levels have been particularly muted, the regulator said.
https://www.business-standard.com/markets/ipo/sebi-plans-revamp-of-large-ipo-norms-retail-quota-may-drop-to-25-125080100046_1.html

Govt capex hits ₹2.75 trn in Q1FY26, but lags pre-election year levels

The government's capital expenditure (capex) in the first quarter of 2025-26 (Q1FY26) reached ₹2.75 trillion or 24.5 per cent of the Budget Estimates (BE), higher than the subdued utilisation of 16.3 per cent in Q1FY25 due to the model code of conduct, showed data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on Thursday. The net tax revenue of ₹5.4 trillion stood at 19 per cent of the BE in Q1FY26 compared to 21.3 per cent in Q1FY25, registering a contraction of 2 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y).
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/govt-capex-hits-2-75-trn-in-q1fy26-but-lags-pre-election-year-levels-125073101640_1.html

Industry

For India's IT cos, growth in Europe may only be a temporary relief

With demand for information-technology (IT) services in North America still sluggish, Europe has become a source of optimism for Indian companies because it is delivering steady gains over the past two years and continuing to outperform in the latest quarter. Yet analysts caution a full-scale revival will require a rebound in the United States (US), particularly in manufacturing, retail, and BFSI (banking, financial services, and insurance), because Europe contributes only about a third of the revenues.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/europe-lifts-indian-it-for-now-but-long-term-hopes-hinge-on-us-revival-125073101798_1.html

Indian hospitality sector dips on geopolitical tensions in June quarter

India's hospitality sector experienced a slowdown in the June quarter (Q2 CY2025), a period already known for seasonal weakness. This year's dip, however, was amplified by external shocks including the Pahalgam terror attack and an Air India crash in Ahmedabad, which significantly dented travel sentiment across key markets. "The dip in Q2 CY2025 (April–June) performance was largely driven by a seasonal slowdown and early monsoon impact, further compounded by external national incidents such as the Indo-Pak tensions and the Air India crash, which curtailed travel demand across key markets," noted consultancy firm HVS Anarock in its monthly hospitality monitor.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/indian-hospitality-dips-in-june-on-geopolitical-tensions-air-travel-decline-125073101681_1.html

Tourism ministry pitches for city-level bureaus to bring large events to India

The union tourism ministry is encouraging states to create city-level bureaus to attract top global events, taking a leaf from destinations such as Dubai and Singapore. The ministry believes city-level bureaus will lead to effective collaboration and increase competitiveness of India vis-a-vis its competitors. "We are encouraging state governments to take the lead in setting up the bureaus and these could comprise officials from governments, hotels and key stakeholders," said Suman Billa, Director General, Ministry of Tourism.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/tourism-ministry-pitches-for-city-level-bureaus-to-bring-large-events-to-india/article69879045.ece

India's wetland conservation resolution adopted at Ramsar CoP15 in Zimbabwe

India's resolution on promoting sustainable lifestyles for the wise use of wetlands received overwhelming support and was adopted at the 15th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands being held in Zimbabwe, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said. The resolution was backed by 172 contracting parties, six international organisation partners and other observers. It was adopted at the plenary session on Wednesday, Yadav said.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/india-s-wetland-conservation-resolution-adopted-at-ramsar-cop15-in-zimbabwe-125073100084_1.html

Agriculture

Cabinet raises PMKSY outlay to ₹6,520 cr to boost food processing

The Union Cabinet on Thursday increased the budgetary outlay for the flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) by Rs 1,920 crore to Rs 6,520 crore to boost the food processing sector. The enhanced funds, to be provided this fiscal, will be utilised for 50 multi-product food irradiation units and 100 food testing labs.

The decision in this regard was taken in the meeting of the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/cabinet-raises-pmksy-outlay-to-6-520-cr-to-boost-food-processing-125073101014_1.html

Cabinet approves ₹2,000-cr grant to NCDC for cooperative sector expansion

The Union Cabinet has approved financial support worth ₹2,000 crore for the National Cooperative Development Corporation for the period from the financial year 2025–26 (FY26) to FY29. The ₹2,000-crore grant will enable the NCDC to leverage up to ₹20,000 crore from the open market over the four years. These funds will be extended as loans to cooperative societies for establishing new projects, expanding existing facilities, and meeting working capital needs.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/india-union-cabinet-ncdc-grant-cooperative-loans-fy26-fy29-125073100916_1.html

India's sugar output to rise 18% in 2025-26; ISMA seeks 2 mt export quota

India's sugar output is projected to rise by 18 per cent to 34.90 million tonnes in the upcoming 2025–26 sugar season starting October, driven by improved sugarcane yields and expanded acreage, the Indian Sugar and Bio-energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) said on Thursday. The industry body called for an export quota of 2 million tonnes and higher ethanol diversion of 5 million tonnes, up from 1 million and 3.4 million tonnes, respectively, in the current season.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-sugar-output-to-rise-18-in-2025-26-isma-eyes-exports-ethanol-push-125073101814_1.html

Agri sector remains rooted in print ads as digital sprouts

Print media is the preferred choice of the agriculture sector, which spent 66 per cent of its total advertisement spend on print in 2024, according to a report by the ad-tech agency Excellent Publicity. It focussed on key advertising trends in agriculture and farming sector in its report. A media statement said that print media remained the sector's preferred choice, commanding a dominant 66 per cent of total ad spend in 2024, reflecting a significant increase from the previous year.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/agri-sector-remains-rooted-in-print-ads-as-digital-sprouts/article69878276.ece

Cashew sector see no threat from US tariff, say exporters

Indian cashew exporters not worried over the imposition of 25 per cent tariff by the Donald Trump administration, said exporters. Pankaj N Sampat of Samson Traders said the say cashew shipments to the US markets are very small and the emerging situation will not have any major direct impact on the sector. However, the US tariff on cashews from all origins —ranging from 10 to 25 per cent —will mean that the consumers in that country will have to pay more for cashews (and all other imported products). This can have short term impact on cashew consumption in the US.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/cashew-sector-see-no-threat-from-us-tariff-say-exporters/article69877843.ece

India's key reservoirs filled to two-thirds of the capacity

The 161 major Indian reservoirs were filled over two-thirds of the capacity, benefitting from a six per cent surplus rain under the influence of the South-West monsoon. Data from the Central Water Commission (CWC) showed that the level was 126.482 billion cubic metres (BCM) or 69.31 per cent of the 182.461 BCM capacity. The storage was 50 percentage points higher than last year and the usual level (last 10 years).
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indias-key-reservoirs-filled-to-two-thirds-of-the-capacity/article69879252.ece

Infrastructure

Cabinet clears ₹11,169 crore for railway multitracking across six states

The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved four major railway multitracking projects totalling ₹11,169 crore across 13 districts in six states. The approved routes are the Itarsi–Nagpur fourth line, Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar)–Parbhani doubling, Aluabari Road–New Jalpaiguri third and fourth lines, and Dangoaposi–Jaroli third and fourth lines. The projects will collectively add 574 kilometres to the national rail network and improve connectivity for approximately 2,309 villages with a combined population of about 4.4 million.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/cabinet-approves-rs-11169-cr-rail-multitracking-projects-across-six-states-125073101932_1.html

Housing sales volume down 5% in top 8 cities; up 9% in value: Credai

Housing sales fell 5 per cent to 2.53 lakh units during the first six months of this year but increased 9 per cent in value terms to Rs 3.59 lakh crore across eight major cities, according to a Credai and CRE Matrix report. On Thursday, realtors' apex body Credai and data analytics firm CRE Matrix released a report on primary housing markets of India's top eight cities -- Bengaluru, Delhi-NCR, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Pune, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/housing-sales-volume-down-5-in-top-8-cities-up-9-in-value-credai-125073100712_1.html

Road ministry to develop wayside amenities on private land

Anticipating a need for more than 4000 such facilities, in addition to the 900 WSAs being developed on the government land along national highways and expressways, the ministry of road transport and highways has put up a draft policy in place, aimed at private sector participation in providing land and developing, operating and managing these WSAs.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/roadways/road-ministry-to-develop-wayside-amenities-on-private-land/articleshow/123024067.cms

Energy

Govt makes use of major wind turbine components from RLMM mandatory

The government mandates using major wind turbine components from the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (Wind), renamed from RLMM, to ensure quality and energy security. This amendment strengthens cybersecurity by requiring data centers within India. Exemptions are provided for existing projects and new manufacturers to promote innovation and domestic manufacturing in the wind sector.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/govt-makes-use-of-major-wind-turbine-components-from-rlmm-mandatory/articleshow/123025113.cms

Telecom

Framework for spectrum allocation for satcom in place: Scindia

The government on Thursday said that Elon Musk-led Starlink has received its licence to launch satellite communication (satcom) services in India, and a framework for spectrum allocation was also in place for a smooth rollout. The announcement coincided with the 30th anniversary of the first cellular call made in the country in 1995.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/framework-for-spectrum-allocation-for-satcom-in-place-scindia/article69879112.ece

States

Rajasthan to tap adventure, tribal tourism for job, GVA growth by 2030

With an aim to boost tourism, the Rajasthan government is shifting its focus to untapped segments such as adventure, rural, and tribal tourism, a senior tourism department official said. “As per directions from the Principal Secretary Tourism, we would seek inputs from the Union government’s tourism department on adventure tourism. We are also seeking suggestions from other stakeholders on it,” the official said. The department plans to map the potential of adventure tourism activities such as water-based, air-based, and land-based across the state in consultation with relevant departments and the Union tourism ministry.

https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/rajasthan-to-tap-adventure-tribal-tourism-for-job-gva-growth-by-2030-125073101395_1.html

Healthcare

Pvt hospitals line up Rs 32k crore capex to add 14.5k beds by FY27: Report

Indian hospital sector is expanding. Eleven listed and two unlisted hospital chains will add beds. Around 14,500 new beds are expected by fiscal year 2027. This expansion requires a capital expenditure of approximately Rs 32,000 crore. ICRA predicts strong occupancy and revenue growth. Tier-II cities like Nagpur, Lucknow and Coimbatore will see significant additions.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/pvt-hospitals-line-up-rs-32k-crore-capex-to-add-14-5k-beds-by-fy27-report/articleshow/123020982.cms

External

Trump issues order imposing tariffs on 69 nations, India gets 25% hit

US President Donald Trump on Thursday (local time) signed an executive order imposing steep reciprocal tariffs on imports from 69 countries, in a sweeping move aimed at correcting what he described as long-standing imbalances in trade practices. Under the new measures, countries will face duties ranging between 10 to 41 per cent, with India subject to a 25 per cent tariff. The order, which builds on Trump's earlier proclamation of a national emergency under Executive Order 14257, cited persistent US trade deficits as "an unusual and extraordinary threat" to national security. The new tariff regime is set to come into effect seven days from the signing date, or August 7.
https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/donald-trump-reciprocal-tariffs-trade-deal-india-imports-canada-125080100105_1.html

India readies for US tariff impact, rules out retaliation over Russia ties

A day after US President Donald Trump announced a 25 per cent tariff, plus a penalty for oil and defence buys from Russia, on Indian exports from August 1, top government functionaries brainstormed on the way ahead. The broad consensus was to weather the storm while persisting with New Delhi's multi-track engagement with the White House. Top government sources conceded they were surprised at Trump's Wednesday evening (India time) announcement, especially since negotiations for a bilateral trade pact were still underway and a US team is scheduled to land in New Delhi on August 25 for the sixth round of talks.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-readies-for-us-tariff-impact-rules-out-retaliation-over-russia-ties-125080100036_1.html

India's garment and jewellery sectors fear for US orders after tariff shock

India's apparel and jewellery exporters are bracing for a drop in orders from their biggest market and could cut jobs after US President Donald Trump announced a 25 per cent tariff on Indian imports starting on Friday, industry executives said. Several garment exporters, who had hoped for a bilateral trade deal and were preparing for a rise in orders from US retailers such as Walmart and Costco, have now halted expansion plans as they await the outcome of negotiations, they said.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/india-s-garment-and-jewellery-sectors-fear-for-us-orders-after-tariff-shock-125073101311_1.html

Section 232 returns: Trump's tariff hits $360-mn Indian copper exports

US President Donald Trump has signed a proclamation imposing 50 per cent tariffs on copper imports starting August 1, citing national security concerns under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. The decision is aimed at reducing dependence on foreign copper, which Washington claims poses a risk to critical domestic sectors such as defence, clean energy, and infrastructure. India exported $360 million worth of copper products to the US in the financial year 2024-2025 (FY25), including plates, tubes, and other semi-finished forms. These shipments will now be more expensive.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/trump-copper-tariff-section-232-india-impact-125073101863_1.html

Indian importers ramping up oil purchases ahead of festival season: IVPA

Indian vegetable oil importers are ramping up palm oil purchases ahead of the festival season as declining global prices make it cost-effective to meet expected demand surge during the festive period, according to the Indian Vegetable Oil Producers' Association (IVPA). The recent reduction in import duty on crude edible oils to 10 per cent, from 20 per cent, provides "a little bit of relief" for consumers, though prices would have been higher otherwise, IVPA President Sudhakar Desai told PTI in an interview.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/indian-importers-ramping-up-oil-purchases-ahead-of-festival-season-ivpa-125073100563_1.html