

September 08, 2025 – Monday

Economy

Nominal GDP growth in FY26 may fall short due to benign inflation: CEA

Given the expectation of benign inflation, there may be a shortfall in nominal GDP growth compared to the Budget estimate of 10.1 per cent for the current financial year, Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran said. He expressed optimism about meeting the real GDP growth target of 6.3-6.8 per cent for the current fiscal year despite the US imposing a steep 50 per cent tariff on Indian shipments.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/nominal-gdp-growth-in-fy26-may-fall-short-due-to-benign-inflation-cea-125090700295_1.html

GST revamp to set off demand, investment, job cycle: FM Nirmala Sitharaman

After delivering on reforms in goods and services tax (GST), the Union finance ministry will shift its focus to accelerating disinvestment in public-sector enterprises, enhancing their operational efficiency, and monetising the vast, underutilised assets they hold, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has told Business Standard. “I need to press the pedal on disinvestment. And I will be working on it. There is no new agenda but the existing agenda that because of various different reasons sort of went in slow motion. I’ll have to see what the best way is to revive and bring them on track,” she said.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/gst-revamp-to-set-off-demand-investment-job-cycle-fm-nirmala-sitharaman-125090700682_1.html

Cabinet Secretariat, ministries to meet Monday on smooth GST rollout

The Cabinet Secretariat — which functions under the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) — has called a meeting on Monday with the finance ministry and other line ministries to review the implementation of the GST Council’s recent decisions and ensure that the new rates are notified before the September 22 deadline, according to a government official. This is to see that benefits of the cuts are passed on to consumers quickly, he said. Also, it would ensure that sector-specific hurdles are identified early.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/cabinet-secretariat-calls-meeting-with-ministries-to-smooth-gst-rollout-125090700420_1.html

GST done, advisers bat for land, labour reforms

Experts advocate for process reforms, deregulation, and ease of doing business to propel India towards high growth. Key reforms include land and labor reforms, trade liberalization, privatization, and judicial efficiency. The government is prioritizing next-generation reforms to achieve long-term goals, focusing on low-hanging fruits to improve living and business conditions.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gst-done-advisers-bat-for-land-labour-reforms/articleshow/123752439.cms

Finance

New co-lending norms may reduce bank and NBFC volumes in near term

Banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) expect Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) new guidelines on co-lending to reduce volumes in the near term due to operational challenges as one of the stipulated norms calls for transferring a loan within 15 days of its origination. According to market participants, the size of co-lending books is expected to shrink sharply in the short run, particularly for smaller NBFCs. They said that the new rules could increase operational costs for lenders, who will now need to maintain mandatory escrow accounts, comply with stricter know-your-customer (KYC) norms, and invest in upgraded technology integration. Smaller NBFCs have urged the RBI to extend the compliance deadline beyond January 2026.

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/new-co-lending-norms-may-impact-volumes-in-near-term-125090700583_1.html

Demand for petty business Mudra loans on the rise

The demand for petty business loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been increasing significantly with an average ticket size of ₹28,699. As per the data available with the Department of Financial Services, the loans under the Shishu category constitute 79 per cent of total loans sanctioned under the flagship small business loans scheme of the Centre. Total loans worth ₹5.52 lakh crore were disbursed in the last financial year.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/demand-for-petty-business-mudra-loans-on-the-rise/article70022271.ece

UPI autopay revocations hit 20 mn per month on low customer balance

More than 20 million AutoPay mandates on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) are revoked each month as users' accounts fall short of the required balances, according to sources. UPI AutoPay enables users to generate a recurring e-mandate using any UPI payments application. It allows users to set timely mandates to pay on a periodic basis. Mandate registration refers to the creation of a recurring mandate against a customer's bank account. Execution refers to the transaction wherein the recurring debit is done on the remitting account, as per National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/upi-autopay-revocations-hit-20-mn-monthly-over-low-customer-balances-125090700500_1.html

Banks go slow on lending against shares as trade tensions make markets volatile

Banks are going slow in extending loans against shares and bonds as markets remain volatile amid heightened trade tensions between India and the US, experts say. According to data compiled by businessline, banks' loans against shares and bonds rose by 2-6 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) between May-July 2025. Between January-April, banks' loans against shares increased by 17-33 per cent y-o-y, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed. In July, banks' loan against shares were up 3 per cent to ₹9,730 crore, sharply lower than 25 per cent growth seen in same period last year.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/banks-go-slow-on-lending-against-shares-as-trade-tensions-make-markets-volatile/article70022653.ece

Banks sense an opportunity in GST gain for retail, MSME

The latest reforms in goods and services tax are expected to unlock fresh credit demand, particularly in the retail and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) segments. Bankers say demand will likely be driven by increased consumption activity, working capital needs and private capital expenditure. The revamp that India announced in the GST framework last week, including a cut in tax rates, coupled with this year's good monsoon season and improving liquidity, is viewed as a timely, positive development that could significantly lift rural sentiment and consumption, bankers said.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/banks-sense-an-opportunity-in-gst-gain-for-retail-msme/articleshow/123752058.cms

Fund transfer before personal insolvency now more difficult

The government is planning to have a more foolproof mechanism to foil the chances of company promoters diverting funds fraudulently before filing for personal insolvency. As per a new section 164A introduced in the Insolvency and

Bankruptcy Code (Amendments) Bill, 2025, the resolution professionals (RPs) can approach National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) to bring all kinds of |"avoidance transactions" back into the pool.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/industry-fund-transfer-before-personal-insolvency-now-more-difficult-3969739/

Higher interchange fee piques the interest of non-banks to set up white label ATMs

Setting up ATMs under the "white label" model seems to be turning lucrative for non-bank entities, raising the possibility of expansion of these cash vending machines at a quicker pace. Chennai-headquartered payment technology solutions provider Financial Software and Systems (FSS) is weighing the option of applying for a white label ATM operator (WLAO) licence after the Reserve Bank of India and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) upped the ATM interchange fee.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/higher-interchange-fee-piques-the-interest-of-non-banks-to-set-up-white-label-atms/article70022586.ece

SEBI may allow MIIs to cut KMP's variable pay below 25% in weak years

SEBI is considering letting stock exchanges, clearing corporations and depositories reduce variable incentives for senior management below the 25 per cent floor in poor performance years, people aware of the development said. As per current regulations, the variable pay component of KMPs at MIIs must be 25 per cent to 50 per cent of total pay. Half of which is deferred for three years and subject to malus and clawback arrangements that allow recovery of incentives in case of misconduct or material misstatement.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-may-allow-miis-to-cut-kmps-variable-pay-below-25-in-weak-years/article70022338.ece

More senior citizens opt to port health insurance policies: Experts

Portability of health insurance policies among senior citizens is on the rise, driven by new and innovative products with additional coverage options, experts said. The practice has nearly doubled over the past two years. According to data from PolicyBazaar, portability among senior citizens increased to 29 per cent of total health policies in 2024-25, up from 18 per cent in 2022-23. This sharp jump is credited to more seniors switching insurers in search of better coverage, improved claim support, and protection from steep premium hikes.
https://www.business-standard.com/finance/insurance/health-insurance-portability-rise-among-senior-citizens-125090700582_1.html

Gold on a hot run, central banks and RBI go slow on buys as geopolitics also weighs

Global central banks are showing caution in gold buying. They are navigating geopolitical issues and high prices. The long-term plan to move away from US assets continues. Reserve Bank of India is also watching geopolitical cues. High gold prices are a reason for the slowdown. RBI's gold holdings remain at a record high of 880 tonnes.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gold-on-a-hot-run-central-banks-and-rbi-go-slow-on-buys-as-geopolitics-also-weighs/articleshow/123752217.cms

Govt keeping 'good watch' on rupee as several currencies fall, says FM

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said that the government is keeping a 'good watch' on exchange rates, stressing that besides rupee several other currencies have depreciated against the US dollar. "The rupee slide is largely against the dollar, not against any other currencies. That's also because of the way globally, the dollar has strengthened," she said when asked if the slide of rupee against greenback is a concern. "This is not the case only with rupee versus dollar, it's the case with many other currencies versus the dollar. So we are keeping a good watch on this," she told PTI in an interview.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/govt-keeping-good-watch-on-rupee-as-several-currencies-fall-says-fm-125090700434_1.html

CBIC to address industry complaints of non-reduction in prices: Chairman

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) will take up industry bodies' complaints relating to non-reduction in prices of goods after the reduced GST rates are implemented from September 22, its chief Sanjay Kumar

Agarwal has said. The GST Council, comprising the Centre and states, last week decided to cut tax rates on 375 items and reduce the number of slabs to just 2 from 4 currently.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/cbic-to-address-industry-complaints-of-non-reduction-in-prices-chairman-125090700203_1.html

Industry

Urban households choosing ecommerce for festive buying may increase 115%

A growing share of urban Indian families is expected to turn to ecommerce and digital platforms as their main avenue for festive purchases this year, according to a LocalCircles report, which also suggests that recent GST rate adjustments are likely to lift consumer sentiment. The study projects a 115 per cent increase in the number of households primarily shopping online. However, the report notes that offline retail will continue to hold strong appeal for many consumers. It highlights that 37 per cent of urban households intend to spend ₹20,000 or more during the festive period, up significantly from 26 per cent in 2024.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/urban-households-choosing-ecommerce-for-festive-buying-may-increase-115-125090700560_1.html

Steel industry eyes AI to enhance value chain, green transition finance

Steel industry stakeholders will gather on Monday to discuss ways to ensure the sector's growth using artificial intelligence (AI) in value chain, financing for green transition and increasing raw material availability. The discussions will be part of the two-day Steel Conclave 2025 to be held on September 8-9 in the national capital in presence of Union Steel Minister H D Kumaraswamy and Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, Minister of State (MoS) for Heavy Industries and Steel.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/steel-sector-to-look-for-ai-adoption-green-financing-for-growth-boost-125090700398_1.html

Centre lays out 5-7 year road map for 7 nanometres chip manufacturing

The government has laid out a road map that will include, among other things, securing technology which will enable India to manufacture advanced chips of 7 nanometres (nm) and above in the next five to seven years. This marks a significant step forward. At present, the Tata group — which is setting up the country's first wafer fabrication plant with an investment of about ₹91,000 crore — will begin by producing chips of 28 nm and above.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/centre-lays-out-5-7-year-road-map-for-7-nanometres-chip-manufacturing-125090700840_1.html

New advanced chemical testing lab to enhance quality checks for food, water

Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi will inaugurate a new chemical laboratory at the National Test House in Ghaziabad on September 10, as the country seeks to strengthen quality testing capabilities across various industries. The state-of-the-art facility will test packaged drinking water, natural mineral water, food packaging materials, and construction materials, including cement and metals, according to an official statement.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/new-advanced-chemical-testing-lab-to-enhance-quality-checks-for-food-water-125090700278_1.html

Four-wheeler EV registrations grow 11% in August as the festive season kicks off

As the festive season kicked off in August with Ganesh Chaturthi, four wheeler electric vehicles registrations (pure electric vehicle and battery operated vehicle) grew by 11 per cent to 17,029 units in August as against 15,389 in July, as per Vahan data compiled on September 5. Tata Motors topped the list in August while JSW MG and Mahindra Electric Automobile were in number two and three positions respectively. Hyundai and BYD India were fourth and fifth. While Tata Motors and Mahindra reported a positive growth, the registrations of others declined, according to Vahan data.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/four-wheeler-ev-registrations-grow-11-in-august-as-the-festive-season-kicks-off/article70021767.ece

India's digital economy growing 3-4 times faster: Head of Asia Pacific at GSMA

India has significantly expanded its addressable market for digital services, and it is estimated that the digital economy will contribute around 20 per cent of the nation's overall economy, said Julian Gorman, Head Asia Pacific, GSMA. Speaking at the COAI Dialogues 2025 in New Delhi recently, Gorman said, "India's digital progress is really attracting more and more of the world's attention. India has already demonstrated its capacity for world-changing innovation at a population scale. Now, as it solidifies its position as a telecom superpower, it can become an inclusive superpower."
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/indias-digital-economy-growing-3-4-times-faster-head-of-asia-pacific-at-gsma/article70022075.ece

Cos reset sustainability goals amid extreme weather surge

Indian conglomerates like L&T, RPG Group, and Vedanta are intensifying sustainability efforts due to increased extreme weather events. These initiatives include reducing carbon emissions, promoting renewable energy, and implementing ESG metrics into business goals. Companies are also focusing on waste reduction, biodiversity restoration, and employee training in climate mitigation.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/cos-reset-sustainability-goals-amid-extreme-weather-surge/articleshow/123751557.cms

No GST cut for detergents, cosmetics surprises FMCG firms: Analysts

Keeping detergents and cosmetics under 18 per cent tax rate with zero savings on these daily-use items for households under the government's sweeping GST restructuring move is surprising, say industry players and analysts. The all-powerful GST Council last week decided to reduce taxes on most of the common-use goods as part of the government's measure to boost consumer spending.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/no-gst-cut-for-detergents-cosmetics-surprises-fmcg-firms-analysts-125090700516_1.html

Agriculture

SOPA seeks 10% duty on edible oil import, urges Agri Min to implement Bhavantar scheme for procurement

As soybean prices continue to remain bearish, trade body Soybean Processors Association of India (SOPA) has urged the government to impose 10 per cent duty on edible oil imports and also implement the Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana (Price Deficiency Payment Scheme) in place of the large scale procurement under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for the kharif marketing season 2025-26.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/sopa-seeks-10-hike-in-edible-oil-import-duty-to-support-farmers/article70021822.ece

Infrastructure

India plans to put large infra projects in fast lane

India is accelerating its infrastructure development with a focus on mega-projects like bullet trains, shipbuilding yards, and access-controlled highways, aligning with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. The government aims to boost economic growth through infrastructure creation, encouraging public-private partnerships to moderate spending. Ministries are directed to expedite project approvals, with a high-level committee reevaluating goals for faster clearances.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/india-plans-to-put-large-infra-projects-in-fast-lane/articleshow/123751884.cms

Energy

Centre steps up efforts for rollout of ambitious National Deepwater Mission

The Centre is ramping up action on the ambitious plan for rolling out the National Deepwater Mission. It would quickly start production from mega oil and gas reserves locked in deepwater and ultra deepwater areas of the country’s offshore basins, and boost self-reliance in the hydrocarbon sector. As part of the preparatory activity under the mission, announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his August 15 speech, the petroleum ministry and top

oil and gas public sector undertakings (PSUs) are discussing action on multiple fronts. These include identification and allocation of reserves, drilling of stratigraphic wells, seismic surveys under the National Seismic Programme (NSP), and creating a dedicated corpus of funds for works under the mission.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/govt-fast-tracks-national-deepwater-mission-to-tap-offshore-oil-reserves-125090700419_1.html

GST cut on biogas devices to drive private investment, project growth

The reduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on biogas plants and devices will boost private investment in the sector, the Indian Biogas Association said on Sunday. The GST on biogas plants and devices has been cut to 5 per cent from 12 per cent, effective September 22. The GST Council, comprising the Centre and states, last week decided to cut tax rates on 375 items and reduce the number of slabs to just 2 from 4 currently.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/gst-cut-on-biogas-devices-to-drive-private-investment-projects-growth-125090700401_1.html

Coal import declines in July over sluggish demand, availability of high stock

India's coal import dropped 16.4 per cent to 21.08 million tonnes (MT) in July due to sluggish demand during monsoon and availability of high stock. The country's coal import was 25.23 million tonnes (MT) in the year-ago period. India's import during the April-July period of the current fiscal year also declined to 97.49 million tonnes over 100.48 million tonnes in the year-ago period, according to mjunction services, a B2B e-commerce platform and a joint venture between Tata Steel and SAIL.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/coal-import-declines-in-july-over-sluggish-demand-availability-of-high-stock/article70021758.ece

OPEC+ set to raise oil output further from October, sources say

OPEC+ is poised to agree on a further increase in oil output, but is likely to slow the pace of increases from October due to weakening global demand. The group will discuss boosting output at an online meeting, potentially unwinding a second tranche of cuts ahead of schedule.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/opec-set-to-raise-oil-output-further-from-october-sources-say/articleshow/123746648.cms

States

Kolkata leather units hit by US tariffs, eye UK and EU markets for relief

Across three floors of a Kolkata leather factory, about 380 workers cut, stitch and assemble handbags and wallets at a steady tempo. The pieces, many bearing the unmistakable 'Boss' logo, are neatly stacked in rows—masking the disruption caused by the United States' decision to raise tariffs to 50 per cent. For Crescent Exports Syndicate, whose largest market is the US, the additional 25 per cent duty has slowed orders. But for now, the bustle of the manufacturing unit, spread across 85,000 square feet, masks the uncertainty of shrinking margins and potential impact on employment.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/kolkata-leather-exports-us-tariffs-uk-eu-deals-reliance-strategy-125090700323_1.html

UP to launch world's first ceramic waste park in Khurja this month

Uttar Pradesh is set to unveil 'Anokhi Duniya', the world's first-ever park crafted entirely from ceramic waste, according to officials. Built in Khurja, the state's renowned "ceramic capital," the park is slated to open to the public by the end of September. As per a press statement, the project is a significant part of the Yogi government's efforts to globally promote traditional industries and products, following the success of the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/up-to-launch-world-s-first-ceramic-waste-park-in-khurja-this-month-125090700462_1.html

External

13th round of FTA talks from Monday: India, EU hope to fast-track deal

With the year-end deadline looming, all eyes will be on the 13th round of free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations between India and the European Union (EU) set to begin on Monday. The outcome of this round of negotiations will be crucial in determining the next steps, as both sides weigh the possibility of breaking the deadlock on unresolved issues. Following the negotiating round, Maroš Šefčovič, Commissioner of the European Commission for Trade and Economic Security, will also be in India on September 12 to hold talks with Goyal. They would take certain political calls regarding the unresolved issues.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/13th-round-of-fta-talks-from-monday-india-eu-hope-to-fast-track-deal-125090700444_1.html

India, Israel likely to sign bilateral investment agreement next week

India is expected to sign a bilateral investment treaty with Israel during Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich's upcoming three-day visit to India, according to a PTI report. Smotrich will be in India from September 8 to 10 and is scheduled to meet Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, and Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. During his visit, Smotrich is also expected to visit Mumbai and Gujarat's GIFT City.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-israel-likely-to-sign-bilateral-investment-agreement-next-week-125090700498_1.html

US, UAE boost oil flows to India amid Trump's tariff pressure on Russia

India's strong relations with West Asian nations and the compulsion by President Donald Trump to ramp up crude oil purchases led to Indian refiners clocking multi-year high imports from the US as well as the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in August, according to industry sources and market data. The surge in purchase of costly, higher quality US oil comes even as Industry Minister Piyush Goyal expressed optimism of concluding a bilateral trade agreement with the US by November. After this pact, purchase of oil and US LNG would play a key role.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/us-uae-boost-oil-flows-to-india-amid-us-tariff-pressure-over-russian-oil-125090501272_1.html

India cautions against misuse of export measures at SCO ministers meet

India has cautioned against weaponising export-related measures or misusing them to create artificial scarcity, distort markets, or disrupt supply chains at an SCO meeting, an official statement said on Sunday. At the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) Trade Ministers' Meeting in Vladivostok on September 6, India said that calibrated and transparent use of these steps is essential to maintain trust in international commerce. India has also called for addressing persistent trade deficits by ensuring greater market access and simplifying processes for trade facilitation.

https://www.business-standard.com/external-affairs-defence-security/news/india-cautions-against-misuse-of-export-measures-at-sco-ministers-meet-125090700315_1.html