

September 30, 2025 – Tuesday

Economy

Manufacturing growth can exceed GDP rate, says BCG India head

"Many sectors, including semiconductors and EV manufacturing, do require technology transfer and collaboration. This has started happening, including in battery components. The key connecting dot is skilling. Much needs to be done here. Many industry bodies, private sector organisations, and government bodies are all focused on this," BCG India MD told FE.
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-manufacturing-growth-can-exceed-gdp-rate-says-bcg-india-head-3993669/

India's industrial production grows 4% in August, shows govt data

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) growth rate in August stood at 4 per cent, against 3.5 per cent in July, driven by strong mining activity, according to data released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on Monday. While the manufacturing sector recorded growth of 3.8 per cent in August, the electricity sector grew by 4.1 per cent, and the mining sector registered 6.0 per cent growth during the same period.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-s-industrial-production-grows-4-in-august-shows-govt-data-125092900712_1.html

Moody's retains India's rating at 'Baa3', maintains a stable outlook

Moody's Ratings on Monday affirmed India's long-term local and foreign-currency issuer ratings and the local-currency senior unsecured rating at Baa3 with a 'Stable' outlook on the back of robust economic growth and sound external position. The global rating agency also affirmed India's other short-term local-currency rating at P-3. "The rating affirmation and stable outlook reflect our view that India's prevailing credit strengths, including its large, fast-growing economy, sound external position, and stable domestic financing base for ongoing fiscal deficits will be sustained," it said in a statement.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/moody-s-retains-india-s-rating-at-baa3-maintains-a-stable-outlook-125092900582_1.html

Aggregate employment in India increased by 150 million from 2017–18 to 2022–23: NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery

The aggregate employment in India increased by 150 million from 2017–18 to 2022–23 with 80 million women entering agricultural work, according to Suman K. Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. He was speaking on India's macro challenge: generating and financing a big investment push at the 6th Economics Conclave at the School of Economics, University of Hyderabad (UoH) here on Monday. During the same period, casual workers' real wages had grown at 2.8 percent per year between 2017-18 and 2022-23, Bery said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/aggregate-employment-in-india-increased-by-150-million-from-201718-to-202223-niti-aayog-vice-chairman-suman-bery/article70109896.ece

Finance

RBI unveils norms to enable faster transmission of rates

Under the revised directions on interest rate on advances, banks will now be allowed to reduce spread components on floating rate loans before the current three-year lock-in period, a move aimed at benefiting borrowers. This could result in faster transmission of rate cuts, leading to lower EMIs or interest outgo.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-unveils-norms-to-enable-faster-transmission-of-rates/articleshow/124220171.cms

SORR set to become India's key interest rate benchmark, replacing Mibor

India is revamping a key funding market, echoing the global shift away from Libor, as banks cede influence over daily borrowing costs. The nation's financial benchmark administrator and the central bank are phasing in the Secured Overnight Rupee Rate, or SORR, to eventually replace the Mumbai Interbank Outright Rate — a gauge long used by institutions to set the rates on products from bank deposits and swaps to some consumer loans.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/sorr-set-to-become-indias-key-interest-rate-benchmark-replacing-mibor/article70111497.ece

RBI tweaks rules for small business loans, loans against gold

The Reserve Bank of India has tweaked rules for small business loans, allowing banks to adjust credit risk spreads more frequently for borrower benefit and offer fixed-rate options. Additionally, the RBI expanded lending flexibility for businesses using gold as a raw material, permitting working capital loans to any such borrower, not just jewellers. These changes were announced via a circular.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-tweaks-rules-for-small-business-loans-loans-against-gold/articleshow/124223644.cms

RBI eases rules on banks' overseas perpetual debt

Reserve Bank of India has raised the limit for perpetual debt that banks can raise overseas and use as part of their core capital, according to a circular late on Monday. Perpetual debt is debt that does not have a maturity date. Perpetual debt issued in foreign currency or in Indian rupees overseas will be eligible for inclusion in banks' additional tier-1 capital of up to 1.5% of risk weighted assets, the RBI said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-eases-rules-on-banks-overseas-perpetual-debt/article70111539.ece

India's 2025 IPO mopup set to cross ₹1 trillion despite weak equities

India's primary market is on track to cross the ₹1 trillion fundraising milestone this year, once the mega share sales of non-banking financial company Tata Capital and coworking operator WeWork India Management close next week. The strong pipeline sets the stage for this year's tally to challenge the record ₹1.6 trillion raised in 2024 through initial public offerings (IPOs). This will be only the third time — the first two being 2021 and 2024 — that IPO mobilisation in a calendar year will be higher than ₹1 trillion. This year's performance is notable as the surge in offerings has come against a relatively weak secondary-market backdrop.
https://www.business-standard.com/markets/ipo/india-s-2025-ipo-mopup-set-to-cross-1-trillion-despite-weak-equities-125092900706_1.html

Industry

Only 10% consumers see full GST benefit, 3 in 10 see cuts on food: Report

A week into India's revised Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, fewer than three in ten consumers report seeing the benefits of lower rates on essential items such as packaged foods and medicines, according to a nationwide survey conducted by LocalCircles. The survey, which received over 78,000 responses from more than 27,000 consumers across 332 districts, highlights a mixed picture of the first week of GST 2.0. Vehicles and larger appliances appear to be the exception: seven in ten consumers purchasing a vehicle confirmed receiving the full benefit of the reduced tax.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/gst-2-0-survey-consumers-miss-out-food-medicine-price-cuts-125092900118_1.html

Consumer durables see festive surge on pent-up demand, GST cut

Consumer durables and electronics companies are witnessing a sharp spike in sales this Navratri, driven by pent-up demand and recent GST rate cuts. Several players report that online sales are outpacing offline growth. “In the first eight days of Navratri, we have garnered 60 per cent year-on-year growth. This is due to huge pent-up demand since September 22,” said NS Satish, President, Haier Appliances India. “Premiumisation trends have strengthened across categories — whether refrigerators, LED TVs or washing machines. Overall, this festival season till Diwali, we are aiming for 30 per cent growth over last year.” He added that the GST cut is pushing consumers towards higher-spec products such as large-screen TVs and higher star-rated air-conditioners.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/consumer-durables-see-festive-surge-on-pent-up-demand-gst-cut/article70109512.ece

With GST 2.0, passenger vehicle inventory levels hit minimum levels in September: Analysts

The inventory levels of passenger vehicles (PVs) are believed to have come down substantially for the first time in many years since September 22 when GST cuts were rolled out. The inventory levels in September are expected to be at 30-40 days, compared to 50-55 days normally in any month. This is a severe drop from September 2024, when inventory levels reached 80-85 days, equivalent to 7.9 lakh vehicles worth ₹79,000 crore, due to aggressive OEM dispatches, according to Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) numbers.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/with-gst-20-passenger-vehicle-inventory-levels-hit-minimum-levels-in-september-analysts/article70109354.ece

Government proposes sound alert system for all electric vehicles from October 2027

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has proposed making acoustic vehicle alerting system (AVAS) mandatory for all electric cars, buses and trucks with effect October 1, 2027, keeping road safety in mind. The ministry in a draft notification said that all new models of electric passenger and goods vehicles manufactured after October 2026 must be equipped with AVAS, a safety feature in EVs to emit an artificial sound to alert pedestrians and other road users about their presence.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/govt-proposes-sound-alert-system-for-all-electric-vehicles-from-october-2027/article70108544.ece

Agriculture

India brews sustainability standards for coffee sector

India will soon have its own sustainability standards certification scheme for the coffee sector. The draft Indian Coffee Board Sustainability Certification Scheme (INDICOFS) is designed to address the evolving landscape of coffee production, trade and environmental sustainability issues, besides helping to preserve the traditional farming practices.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/india-brews-sustainability-standards-for-coffee-sector/article70109134.ece

India to launch e-observer system for remote monitoring of fishing: Govt

Union Fisheries Secretary Abhilaksh Likhi on Monday said the central government will soon come up with an onboard electronic observer system for remote monitoring and recording of marine fish catch. This is aimed at providing accurate scientific data for stock assessment and management by monitoring fishing operations across various vessel types, he said. Likhi highlighted India's efforts to strengthen its fisheries data management system while inaugurating a five-day global workshop on species identification organized by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and Fishery Survey of India (FSI) here.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/india-to-launch-e-observer-system-for-remote-monitoring-of-fishing-govt-125092900714_1.html

Energy

GST on capital goods for petroleum to impact E&P contracts between govt and operators: FICCI

Urging Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri's intervention, FICCI fears that the additional GST imposed on capital goods used for petroleum and CBM operations will "disrupt" various upstream exploration and production (E&P) projects signed between government and operators. The industry body in a letter to the Oil Minister pointed out that the government had assured these operators of zero custom duties on imports and zero taxes/ duties on local purchases under deemed exports. FICCI noted that the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Act, 2025, also provides for fiscal stability to upstream E&P operators.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/gst-on-capital-goods-for-petroleum-to-impact-ep-contracts-between-govt-and-operators-ficci/article70108223.ece

Govt plans 24-hour guaranteed LPG delivery via cross-company service

Long waiting queues and frustrating delays in cooking gas cylinder delivery could soon end, with the government proposing guaranteed 24-hour delivery of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) refills for consumers. Under the new framework, mooted by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), if a consumer's primary distributor fails to deliver an LPG cylinder within 24 hours of booking, the nearest distributor—regardless of company—would complete the delivery under a "cross-PSU service mechanism".
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/lpg-delivery-24-hours-govt-proposal-pngrb-125092900995_1.html

Demand for natural gas falls as plants opt for cheaper fuels

India's industrial gas demand is falling. Factories now prefer cheaper LPG and wood briquettes. Crude oil prices make natural gas expensive. LPG prices are lower than natural gas. Biofuels also reduce gas sales. Overall gas consumption dropped this fiscal. Power and refinery sectors cut gas use. City gas and petrochemicals show growth.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/demand-for-natural-gas-falls-as-plants-opt-for-cheaper-fuels/articleshow/124219832.cms

Bhutan-based Kholongchhu Hydro Power signs term loan agreement worth Rs 4,829 cr with Power Finance Corporation

Bhutan-based Kholongchhu Hydro Power Ltd (KHPL) secured a Rs 4,829 crore term loan from India's Power Finance Corporation (PFC) for the 600 MW Khorlochhu Hydropower Project. This significant agreement marks PFC's first cross-border financing in Bhutan. The project, a joint venture between DGPC and Tata Power, is expected to be commissioned by 2029-2030, with construction already underway.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/bhutan-based-kholongchhu-hydro-power-signs-term-loan-agreement-worth-rs-4829-cr-with-power-finance-corporation/articleshow/124207234.cms

Telecom

Tariff hikes, lower costs to cut discom losses to ₹8,000-10,000 crore

The operating losses of state-owned power distribution companies, or discoms, are set to decline by a third in the current financial year to between Rs 8,000 crore and Rs 10,000 crore. The reduction is attributed to tariff hikes in some states, lower power purchase costs and improved operational efficiency. The combined losses of discoms stood between Rs 12,000 crore and Rs 15,000 crore last fiscal. "Narrowing operating losses have slowed the pace of debt addition for discoms, leading to improvement in credit metrics," CRISIL Ratings said in a report that analysed 30 discoms across 11 states, together meeting 70 per cent of India's power demand.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/power-discom-losses-drop-rs-8000-10000-cr-fy26-125092900769_1.html

States

Govt to install solar pumps in Jaipur district farms to boost power supply

The Centre and state government have decided to install solar pumps in 5,500 farms in Jaipur district under the Pradhan Mantri Kusum Yojana to alleviate farmers' electricity shortages, a state horticulture department official said. The Kusum scheme is a government initiative to promote renewable energy and energy security for farmers in India. Deputy Director of Horticulture Harlal Singh Bijarnia said that the government will cover 60 per cent of the

cost, with farmers contributing only 40 per cent. An additional rebate of ₹45,000 is available for farmers belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/govt-to-install-solar-pumps-in-jaipur-district-farms-to-boost-power-supply-125092900747_1.html

Uttar Pradesh gets military-ware, aerospace investment of ₹34K cr

The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) attracted almost ₹34,000 crore worth of investment in a bid to boost indigenous aerospace and military-ware production under the Make in India scheme. The nodal agency UP Expressway Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) has allocated 1,000 hectares to 62 companies under UPDIC. "UPEIDA has so far procured more than 2,000 hectares for the flagship UPDIC project across six nodes," a senior official said.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/uttar-pradesh-gets-military-ware-aerospace-investment-of-34k-cr-125092900718_1.html

Health card for bridges in Bihar based on AI & ML soon, says Road Construction Minister Nabin

Bihar government is all set to provide health card along with QR (Quick Response code) to all its - minor and major – bridges with the help of AI and ML. The State government has also approved two more road projects in Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) apart from one related with extension of very popular Jaiprakash Bridge with a total cost of around ₹17000 crore. Giving details, Minister in-charge of Road Development Department, Nitin Nabin said project for health card along with QR code is expected to be completed in a year.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/health-card-for-bridges-in-bihar-based-on-aiml-soon-says-road-construction-minister-nabin/article70108655.ece

External

FTA talks underway with several countries including US, New Zealand, Oman, Peru and Chile: Piyush Goyal

India is negotiating free trade agreements with several nations. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal stated talks are underway with the US, EU, New Zealand, Oman, Peru, and Chile. The EFTA trade agreement will commence on October 1. This pact includes a 100 billion dollar investment commitment. India seeks to expand trade and manufacturing through these international collaborations.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/fta-talks-underway-with-several-countries-including-us-new-zealand-oman-peru-and-chile-piyush-goyal/articleshow/124211905.cms

Latest round of India-EU talks on FTA was 'missed opportunity' to make some breakthrough: EU envoy

The latest round of negotiations between India and the European Union on a proposed free trade agreement was a bit of a "missed opportunity" to make some breakthrough, EU envoy Herve Delphin said on Monday. In an address at an event, Delphin, without divulging specific details, said the 27-nation bloc "was and is" still ready to conclude on a "meaningful" trade package as he highlighted increasing convergence of geopolitical, economic and security interests between India and the EU.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/latest-round-of-india-eu-talks-on-fta-was-missed-opportunity-to-make-some-breakthrough-eu-envoy/articleshow/124217273.cms

India, Russia to sort out plant protection issues to boost agri trade

India and Russia are looking to expand their cooperation in trade and education in the agriculture sector by removing some bottlenecks, but given the resistance to move forward with suitable reforms, it may take time to reach some agreements. As Russia has been insisting on earmarking a pest-free zone for enabling more exports, India has been arguing it should be based on testing of products for pests. Several agri products like potato, pomegranate, fisheries and dairy items have been identified by India where there is scope for expansion. The Russian side wants exports of products only from pest-free zones, so that those are better monitored, the sources said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/india-russia-to-sort-out-plant-protection-issues-to-boost-agri-trade/article70109310.ece

India bets on EFTA, UK FTAs to offset US tariff hit on marine exports

Top government officials on Monday told a parliamentary panel that India's marine exports are losing ground in the US market because of the 50 per cent tariffs imposed by Washington. However, they expressed confidence that free trade agreements (FTAs) with other countries and regions would offset some of these losses. Officials highlighted the trade agreement between India and the four-member European Free Trade Association (EFTA), to be launched on October 1, and the India–United Kingdom FTA, expected to be operationalised next year, as two deals that will cut tariffs and help diversify markets for India's marine exports.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-efta-uk-ftas-offset-us-marine-export-losses-125092901275_1.html

Europe, Asia roll out the welcome mat for Indian talent amid US curbs

Amid the Donald Trump administration's efforts to make it more difficult for Indian skilled workers to migrate to the US, and with the number of Indian students enrolling in American universities having dipped, countries in Europe and Asia have been keen to attract skilled workers and students from India. The number of Indian students enrolling in German universities, for example, increased from 20,684 in 2022 to 34,702 in 2024.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/europe-japan-singapore-seek-indian-students-skilled-workers-125092901098_1.html

India, Bhutan to establish first rail link with ₹4,033 cr outlay over 3 yrs

India on Monday announced first-ever rail connections with Bhutan which will be built at a cost of ₹4,033 crore over the course of next three years. In a joint briefing, Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri announced two rail links -- Kokrajhar-Gelephu and Banarhat-Samtse. While Kokrajhar is in Assam, Banarhat is a small town in West Bengal. "This project will connect two very important cities of Bhutan including Gelephu which is being developed as a mindfulness city, and Samtse, which is an industrial city.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-bhutan-rail-links-rs-4033-cr-three-years-125092901175_1.html

Trump slaps 100% tariff on foreign-made movies

US President Donald Trump said on Monday that he will introduce a 100% tariff on all films made outside the country, a move that could not only disrupt Hollywood's overseas business but also have implications for Indian cinema. The US a crucial market for Indian movies, accounting for 30-40% of overseas collections for big-budget films. Typically, Indian blockbusters are widely released across markets, tapping into the Indian diaspora who are big fans of Indian stars and eagerly await their releases.
https://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/us-news/trump-slaps-100-tariff-on-foreign-made-movies/3993810/

Trump imposes 10% timber, lumber tariffs and 25% duties on kitchen cabinets, furniture

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Monday he was slapping 10% tariffs on imported timber and lumber and 25% duties on imported kitchen cabinets, bathroom vanities and upholstered furniture, with the rate on the latter categories to jump next year. Trump signed a presidential proclamation laying out his argument that timber, lumber and furniture imports are eroding U.S. national security to justify the new duties under Section 232 of the Trade Act of 1974.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/trump-imposes-10-timber-lumber-tariffs-and-25-duties-on-kitchen-cabinets-furniture/article70111489.ece

India begins anti-dumping probe against China, South Korea, Vietnam and Thailand

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has launched anti-dumping investigations on solar encapsulants (excluding EVA) from China, South Korea, Vietnam, and Thailand, following a petition by RenewSys India. Additional probes target mobile covers from China and a rubber chemical intermediate, 4-ADPA, from China and the EU. The investigations cite prima facie evidence of injury to domestic industries.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-begins-anti-dumping-probe-against-china-south-korea-vietnam-and-thailand/articleshow/124219754.cms

India planning to track solar energy equipment imports with new monitoring system

India plans to set up an import monitoring system for solar equipment to track origin, content, and compliance with harmonised codes, MNRE Secretary Santosh Kumar Sarangi said. The system aims to boost domestic manufacturing, complementing policies like the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/india-planning-to-track-solar-imports-with-new-monitoring-system/articleshow/124219687.cms