

October 27, 2025 – Monday

Economy

Private sector capex led the way in H1FY26 with manufacturing boost

Signalling a rebound in private investments, the second quarter of 2025-26 (FY26) witnessed a near doubling in the value of new investment plans from private promoters, with fresh outlays of ₹10.55 trillion in about 1,800 projects, compared to ₹5.69 trillion a year ago. The total value of new investment projects surged 62 per cent in Q2 to cross ₹15 trillion, taking overall investments in the first half (H1) of FY26 to ₹34 trillion, 22.3 per cent higher than the previous six months, according to data from investment monitoring firm Projects Today.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/private-sector-capex-led-the-way-in-h1fy26-with-manufacturing-boost-125102600796_1.html

Skill financing scheme, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Mudra Yojana, likely to be unveiled in Budget

India is set to launch the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Mudra Yojana (PMKMY) in the upcoming Budget 2026-27, a five-year scheme to fund workforce skilling. This initiative aims to provide broader access to high-end training, particularly for emerging sectors, and ensure resources reach women, rural youth, and persons with disabilities.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/new-skill-financing-scheme-pradhan-mantri-kaushal-mudra-yojana-likely-to-be-unveiled-in-budget/articleshow/124832180.cms

Domestic consumption expected to cushion India's growth slowdown in H2: SBICAPS

India's economic growth is projected to remain steady in the latter half of the fiscal year, driven by robust domestic consumption and increased government capital expenditure. Despite global trade uncertainties and US tariffs, internal demand provides stability, with festive sales expected to reach a record high. The RBI's measures to ease credit flow further support economic resilience.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/domestic-consumption-expected-to-cushion-indias-growth-slowdown-in-h2-sbicaps/articleshow/124826597.cms

Devise way to capture placement figures on NCS portal, tells House panel

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, in its latest report submitted to the Lok Sabha Speaker earlier this month, has urged the labour ministry to develop a “robust verification mechanism” to ensure that the number of placements reported on the National Career Service (NCS) portal accurately reflects actual employment outcomes in the country. “The committee desires that a robust verification mechanism be developed and implemented to ensure that the number of placements reported on the NCS portal accurately reflects actual employment outcomes,” the House panel observed.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/house-panel-labour-ministry-ncs-portal-job-verification-employment-outcomes-125102600386_1.html

Finance

Banks chase growth in vehicle finance

Banks are looking to expand their vehicle finance portfolios to capitalise on the improving demand for automobiles following the reduction in GST rates. Before GST cuts, demand for automobiles had slowed, with the rise in bank credit for vehicle loans coming down to 8.7% in August, from 8.9% in July, according to the Reserve Bank of India's sectoral deployment data.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/banking-finance/banks-chase-growth-in-vehicle-finance/4022239/

M&A financing norms empower banks, with guardrails

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) draft guidelines permitting banks to offer acquisition financing, released on October 24, could be a game-changer, believe some public sector banks, as they gear up to leverage their international presence to actively participate in large-ticket M&A deals. "This opens up a significant strategic opportunity for us to deepen our global footprint and support cross-border consolidation with greater agility and scale," said Ashwani Kumar, MD & CEO, UCO Bank.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/banking-finance/mampa-financing-norms-empower-banks-with-guardrails/4022207/

RBI likely to increase the number of NBFCs under upper layer list

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to increase the number of non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) classified under the upper layer, which are subject to enhanced regulatory requirements, sources said. This comes as some of these entities have grown in size and their interconnectedness with the broader financial sector has increased. The sources added that some of big public-sector NBFCs may be added to the upper layer list. Some of them have a loan book of over ₹5 trillion. Though much less in number, such entities had a substantial share in NBFC sector's total assets.
https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/rbi-likely-to-increase-the-number-of-nbfcs-under-upper-layer-list-125102600808_1.html

FinMin calls meet to spur gold and silver transactions through IIBX

The Ministry of Finance (FinMin) has called a high-level meeting on November 4 to explore measures for enhancing the volume of gold and silver transactions through the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) at GIFT City in Gujarat's Gandhinagar, a senior government official told Business Standard. "The upcoming deliberations will focus on the status of bullion trading on IIBX. The exchange will give a presentation on the latest position of bank onboarding, and trading volumes achieved so far. The deliberations will also take updates from banks on their progress in securing Board and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approvals, and on the commencement of actual trading operations through nominated banks and International Banking Units (IBUs)," said the official.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/govt-to-review-bullion-trading-progress-at-iibx-on-november-4-focus-125102400960_1.html

Transparency, easier norms to boost SLB volumes: Experts

Transparent profit and loss metrics from brokers, along with regulations to lower margin costs, are needed to ignite interest in the securities lending and borrowing (SLB) segment, according to industry experts. They said most of the shorting happens through the stock futures route because of higher liquidity, and regulations on collateral are opaque.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/banking-finance/transparency-easier-norms-to-boost-slb-volumes-experts/4022167/

SEBI weighs uniform SOP to withhold pay-outs after enforcement orders

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is internally examining a standard operating procedure (SOP) to govern how stock exchanges should withhold securities or funds pay-outs when they receive directions from law enforcement or judicial authorities. According to sources familiar with the matter, the proposed framework will lay down uniform steps for exchanges to follow, including blocking the pay-out of funds, stopping the settlement of transactions, and withholding securities linked to the concerned accounts.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-weighs-uniform-sop-to-withhold-pay-outs-after-enforcement-orders/article70205029.ece

A month after GST rationalisation, affordability boosts insurance sales

A month after the implementation of zero goods and services tax (GST) rates on individual life and health insurance premiums, insurers have passed on the full benefits to customers, driving a surge in sales and enquiries. However, back-end challenges remain, particularly around managing the impact of the withdrawal of input tax credit (ITC). Insurers have indicated that they will pass on some of this impact to distributors and adjust their product mix to mitigate the effect, though margins are expected to take a hit in the short term.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/nil-gst-lifts-demand-for-life-health-cover-insurers-face-margin-squeeze-125102600435_1.html

Industry

Company registrations jump 108% in September

Registration of new companies grew 108% on year to 23,113 in September, which was the second-highest ever in absolute terms, and the highest annual increase in at least 60 months, as per official data. The first half of FY26 witnessed a 38.4% jump in new company registrations, the highest in at least five years, going by the ministry of corporate affairs (MCA) figures. April 2025 had seen all-time high registration of companies (23,776) in any month.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/industry/company-registrations-jump-108-in-september/4022136/

₹13,000 crore mega plan taking shape to make India a global toy hub

The government is developing a mega scheme to support toy manufacturers with financial assistance for new employees they hire, aiming to boost job creation in the sector. Spearheaded by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), a broad ₹13,000 crore scheme aimed at transforming India into a global toy manufacturing hub, while addressing the challenges of India's high reliance on imports and cost disadvantage compared to global behemoths in China and Vietnam.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/toy-125102600393_1.html

FMCG firms see Q2 disruptions but stay upbeat on strong economic outlook

FMCG companies selling soap to soft drinks in the Indian market reported some impact on their sales in the September quarter from disruption owing to GST reforms, along with unusually heavy rains in parts of the country, but they see growth in the coming quarters, helped by favourable macro-economic conditions. Leading global markers, including Unilever, Reckitt, Heineken, PepsiCo, and Coca-Cola, in their respective earnings calls, have mentioned challenges they faced due to disruptions in trade channels in September.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/fmcg-firms-see-q2-disruptions-but-stay-upbeat-on-strong-economic-outlook-125102600308_1.html

GST cut, festival demand fuel two-wheeler sales boom in October

The two-wheeler market has roared back with the rollout of goods and services tax (GST) 2.0, with registrations in October soaring to 1.85 million units, so far — the highest monthly tally of the ongoing calendar year. The market, based on Vahan data, is on track to record one of the strongest monthly sales in recent years. This surge reflects a combined impact of GST rate rationalisation and the buoyant festival season, reinvigorating consumer sentiment across both urban and rural India.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/gst-2-0-festive-surge-two-wheeler-registrations-record-october-125102600395_1.html

India faces challenges in local rare earth production amidst China's export restrictions

India's ambitious Rs 7,300 crore plan to boost local rare earth magnet production faces a significant challenge. China, the global leader, has imposed new export controls on essential processing equipment. This move could impact India's self-sufficiency goals. While Germany and Japan offer alternatives, their equipment is considerably more expensive, potentially affecting project viability. The scheme is awaiting cabinet approval.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/metals-mining/india-faces-challenges-in-local-rare-earth-production-amidst-chinas-export-restrictions/articleshow/124834455.cms

Ecomm, Qcomm firms flouting rules: Traders

The Confederation of All India Traders has raised a red flag with the Commerce Minister regarding troubling misconduct from e-commerce and quick commerce companies. These entities are allegedly flouting legal guidelines by masquerading as marketplaces while operating inventory models.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/retail/ecomm-qcomm-firms-flouting-rules-traders/articleshow/124834025.cms

Agriculture

Mandi prices of pulses, oilseeds trade below MSP

Mandi prices for pulses and oilseeds continue to trade below the minimum support price (MSP) as kharif crop arrivals pick up across key markets, traders said. Prices of major pulses varieties—including tur, urad, chana, and masoor—are currently 8–18% below MSP, while oilseeds such as soybean and groundnut are 21–30% below the benchmark prices. Prices remain well below the benchmark despite official assurances of procurement from farmers.
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy/mandi-prices-of-pulses-oilseeds-trade-below-msp/4022157/

Russia's idea of BRICS grain exchange to counter CME gains momentum

India is set to benefit from a proposed grain exchange among BRICS, which is seen as an alternative to CME, the US based futures trading platform. Simultaneously Brazil has been pushing its proposal for creation of a multilateral stockpile of grains within BRICS to reduce external market reliance. The US decision to hike import tariff to use it as a weapon so that other countries accept its terms for any bilateral trade agreement, has revived activities within BRICS to meet the deadline of the roll out of the Russian and Brazillian proposals, at least on pilot basis, sources said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/russias-idea-of-brics-grain-exchange-to-counter-cme-gains-momentum/article70204873.ece

Infrastructure

FPCE urges RERA law changes, seeks rules to verify promoters' record

Homebuyers' body FPCE has demanded that real estate law 'RERA' should be amended to incorporate a mechanism for verifying the track record of builders before granting permission to launch projects for sale. It also sought a new provision in the legislation to ensure compensation to homebuyers if builders fail to meet their promise of providing certain facilities and amenities. The association has also demanded a uniform rule for refund of money in case of cancellation of units by property buyers.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/fpce-urges-rera-law-changes-seeks-rules-to-verify-promoters-record-125102600559_1.html

Property prices see steep fall in leading micromarkets

The prices of residential properties in some of the leading micromarkets of the country is down up to nearly 50% even as the cities they are a part of are seeing a healthy appreciation. According to the latest data by PropEquity, three out of five prime micro markets in top cities have seen a fall in their residential prices during the April-August period this year.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/infrastructure/property-prices-see-steep-fall-in-leading-micromarketsnbsp/4022220/

Infrastructure status for aircraft manufacturing on the cards

The government is considering granting "infrastructure status" for aircraft manufacturing, in a bid to create a domestic production base for the sector, which is heavily import-dependent. The move is expected to encourage joint ventures with foreign partners to facilitate domestic manufacturing of regional passenger and cargo aircraft, catering to the country's burgeoning middle class, sources told FE. In recent years, regional air connectivity has increased significantly, with the opening of many new airports, and policy support via Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) scheme.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/airlines-aviation/infrastructure-status-for-aircraft-manufacturing-on-the-cards/4022114/

Maritime sector drives India's economic surge as 95% of trade moves through sea routes

India's maritime sector is the backbone of its economy. Nearly 95 percent of trade by volume moves through sea routes. The Maritime India Vision 2030 is driving modernization and expansion. Port capacity has doubled, and operational efficiency has sharply improved. Coastal shipping and inland waterways are also seeing significant growth. Long-term plans aim for further development and cost reduction.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/maritime-sector-drives-indias-economic-surge-as-95-of-trade-moves-through-sea-routes/articleshow/124825829.cms

Energy

India needs to make a big oil and gas discovery soon: Oil Secy Pankaj Jain

India would lose credibility if it is unable to make a big oil and gas discovery soon, said Pankaj Jain, secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, on Sunday. Jain was addressing the 15th Biennial International Conference and Exposition of the Society of Petroleum Geophysicists (SPG-India) 2025 in Jaipur. He added that the Centre recently introduced several legislative changes in the exploration space to support the industry.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-oil-gas-discovery-needed-pankaj-jain-oil-secretary-mopng-125102600656_1.html

States

Odisha clears ₹1.46 trillion investment proposals, including Adani project

The Odisha government on Saturday approved 33 investment proposals worth Rs 1.46 lakh crore, including Adani Enterprises Limited's coal-to-chemical project. The projects were cleared in the High Level Clearance Authority (HLCA) meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and the Single Window Clearance Committee (SLWCA) headed by Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja. While HLCA approved 12 investment proposals worth Rs 1,41,993.54 crore, which will create 49,745 employment opportunities, the SLWCA approved Rs 4,019.53 crore worth of investments, generating 16,590 employment opportunities.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/odisha-clears-1-46-trillion-investment-proposals-including-adani-project-125102500786_1.html

Uttarakhand to impose green tax on 'out-of-state' vehicles from Dec

Green tax will be collected from vehicles coming to Uttarakhand from outside states from December, officials said. According to officials, the decision aims at controlling pollution, protecting the environment, and promoting cleanliness in the state. The collection of this tax will begin in December. State Additional Transport Commissioner Sanat Kumar Singh said Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras installed along the state's borders will capture the registration numbers of incoming vehicles.
https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/uttarakhand-to-impose-green-tax-on-out-of-state-vehicles-from-dec-125102600008_1.html

External

Piyush Goyal's Brussels visit to help conclude FTA talks

To provide political impetus and strategic direction to the negotiations on India-European Union for the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal would be in Brussels from Monday for a series of meetings with the leadership of the 27-member trade bloc. "The visit comes at a crucial stage in the ongoing India–EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, as both sides intensify efforts to conclude a comprehensive, balanced, and mutually beneficial trade agreement at the earliest," a statement by the ministry of commerce and industry said.
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy/piyush-goyals-brussels-visit-to-help-conclude-fta-talks/4022147/

German foreign minister to meet Piyush Goyal, NATO's Rutte after postponing China trip

German Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul is traveling to Brussels for crucial meetings. He will engage with NATO's Secretary General Mark Rutte and European Union leaders. Discussions will focus on Ukraine's support and European security. Indian Trade Minister Piyush Goyal will also be present for trade talks. This visit follows a postponed trip to China, highlighting global trade and security concerns.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/german-foreign-minister-to-meet-piyush-goyal-natos-rutte-after-postponing-china-trip/articleshow/124830209.cms

India committed to working with ASEAN on digital inclusion, food security, supply chain resilience: Modi

India is committed to working with the ASEAN bloc towards prioritising digital inclusion and securing food security and supply chain resilience amidst global uncertainties, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said. “Even in these times of uncertainty, the India-ASEAN Comprehensive Strategic Partnership has made steady progress. Our strong partnership is emerging as a powerful foundation for global stability and growth,” Modi said in a virtual address at the ASEAN-India Summit on Sunday.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/india-committed-to-working-with-asean-on-digital-inclusion-food-security-supply-chain-resilience-modi/article70205189.ece

Steel industry flags price pressure from cheap imports ahead of key meet

Ahead of the key meeting called by the steel ministry with the industry captains on Monday to discuss the impact of rising steel imports, companies have raised the issue of cheaper “substandard” inflows from China, Vietnam, and South Korea, saying they are setting the benchmark for domestic prices and squeezing the profitability of Indian producers. Abhyuday Jindal, managing director of Jindal Stainless, said that growing imports of “subsidised and substandard” steel are creating unfair competition for Indian manufacturers.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/steelmakers-warn-cheaper-imports-are-squeezing-margins-ahead-of-review-meet-125102600426_1.html