

December 03, 2025 – Wednesday

Economy

OECD retains India FY26 growth outlook at 6.7% amid US tariff risks

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in its latest economic outlook on Tuesday retained its growth forecast for the current financial year at 6.7 per cent, citing monetary policy easing and the overhaul of the goods and services tax regime. It further kept FY27 growth forecast unchanged at 6.2 per cent. “In India, growth is anticipated to be supported by rising real incomes, monetary policy easing and strong growth in public capital spending,” the OECD said. However, the 50 per cent tariff imposed by the US on India will weaken export growth.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/economy-oecd-retains-fy26-growth-outlook-at-6-7-per-cent-125120200008-125120201138_1.html

Flag pending deregulation issues, Cabinet Secretariat tells states

The Cabinet Secretariat has asked state governments to flag any pending issues they face with central government departments in connection with its ongoing deregulation exercise, multiple senior government officials said, ahead of a meeting of chief secretaries later this month to review the reforms. The Cabinet Secretariat last month started the second phase of the deregulation exercise to enhance ease of doing business across 23 priority areas, or PAs, related to "land use, building and construction, utilities and permissions, labour, environment, education, health and overarching priorities", a senior government official stated.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/flag-pending-deregulation-issues-cabinet-secretariat-tells-states-125120201384_1.html

Three-fourths of rural households expect rise in income next year: Nabard survey

Over 75.9% of rural households expect their income to increase in the next year, according to a bi-monthly survey conducted by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) in November 2025. This represents the highest level among all rounds of the survey which commenced in September, 2024.
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-three-fourths-of-rural-households-expect-rise-in-income-next-year-nabard-survey-4063211/

RDI fund to boost, incentivise deep-tech startup ecosystem: Jitendra Singh

The newly launched research, development, and innovation (RDI) Fund will boost and incentivise the deep-tech startup ecosystem, including companies and the private sector, said Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology. The RDI Fund is worth Rs 1 lakh crore and aims to spur private sector-driven research and innovation in the country. The minister added that the fund will add value to the existing sectors, while also exploring underexplored or unexplored sectors. "The sectors like space did exist, but we did not give any kind of attention to them. The nuclear sector was not handled with a universal perspective. In deep-tech, the rest of the world had started looking into but we were not looking at this," he said.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/rdi-fund-to-boost-incentivise-deep-tech-startup-ecosystem-jitendra-singh-125120201169_1.html

Finance

Banks resume lending rate hike after 3 months

After a gap of three months, banks have resumed raising interest rates on fresh loans. The rates increased by 14 basis points in October to 8.64% from 8.50% in September. Between July and September, banks had cut interest rates on new loans by 31 bps after hiking rates in July by 19 bps from 8.62% in June. The hike in lending rates comes against the backdrop of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cutting the repo rate by 50 basis points in June to 5.5%. System credit in October grew 11.1% y-o-y compared with 10.2% in September.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/banking-finance-rates-on-fresh-loans-rise-in-oct-4063246/

Economists see room for Rs 2 lakh crore of OMOs by March

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to conduct open market operations (OMOs) around Rs 1.5-Rs 2 lakh crore by March 2026, said economists. Market participants are looking for clarity on the banking regulator's liquidity management position in the upcoming policy, which is scheduled on December 5. "The liquidity drain from FX intervention has undone the impact of CRR (cash reserve ratio) cuts. Looking ahead, currency leakage tends to pick-up from the festival season onwards till March-end. This will result in core liquidity surplus dipping below 1% of NDTL (net demand and time liabilities) in Q4FY26," said Guara Sengupta, chief economist at IDFC FIRST Bank in a report.
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-economists-see-room-for-rs-2-lakh-crore-of-omos-by-march-4063237/

Complaints against credit bureaus rise sharply as borrower frustration spikes over credit score, data accuracy

According to industry experts, the rise in complaints should be seen as both a warning and an opportunity -- a signal that grievance mechanisms are being used more actively, but also a reminder that data integrity and timely updates are becoming non-negotiable for consumers navigating India's increasingly formalised credit landscape.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/complaints-against-credit-bureaus-rise-sharply-as-borrower-frustration-spikes-over-credit-score-data-accuracy/articleshow/125716971.cms

Gaining traction: AIF commitments jump to ₹13.5 trillion in 2025

As India aims to become the world's third-largest economy by 2030, with its GDP projected to grow from $3.9 trillion to $6.6 trillion, private markets, particularly alternative investment funds (AIFs), are playing a vital role in facilitating this growth, according to the DII Report 2025 by IVCA-360 One -Crisil. As of March 2025, the total AIF commitments reached ₹13.49 trillion, growing at a compound annual growth rate of 31.5 per cent from FY21 to FY25. There are currently over 1,600 AIFs registered. The report noted that the growth of AIFs is driven by investors seeking diversification, increased domestic investor participation, and a supportive regulatory framework.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/analysis/gaining-traction-aif-commitments-jump-to-13-5-trillion-in-2025-125120200787_1.html

Short-covering drives rupee towards 90 vs dollar as pressure returns

The rupee's weakness against the dollar continued on Tuesday, with the Indian currency hurtling toward the closely watched 90 a dollar and facing renewed selling pressure on multiple fronts. Traders said a wave of short-covering (buying back) by speculators, combined with steady dollar demand from importers, kept the currency under pressure throughout the day. The rupee fell up to 89.96 during the day before regaining some strength to settle at 89.88 — a new closing low — against the previous close of 89.56.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/short-covering-drives-rupee-towards-90-vs-dollar-as-pressure-returns-125120201053_1.html

No plan to lift FDI cap in public sector banks beyond 20%: MoS Finance

The government is not considering any proposal to raise the foreign direct investment (FDI) limit in public sector banks to 49 per cent, from the current 20 per cent, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said on Tuesday. The FDI limit in PSBs and private sector banks is 20 per cent and 74 per cent, respectively. In case of private sector banks, up to 49 per cent of FDI is through the automatic route and beyond 49 per cent and up to 74 per cent, government route is applicable.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/no-plan-to-lift-fdi-cap-in-public-sector-banks-beyond-20-mos-finance-125120200903_1.html

Capex cuts to offset tax shortfalls, Govt on track for fiscal targets of FY26: Goldman Sachs

Goldman Sachs anticipates the central government will meet its FY26 fiscal deficit target of 4.4% of GDP by curtailing capital expenditure. This measure is expected to offset anticipated shortfalls in income tax and GST collections, despite a recent contraction in government capex.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/capex-cuts-to-offset-tax-shortfalls-govt-on-track-for-fiscal-targets-of-fy26-goldman-sachs/articleshow/125713426.cms

India's corporate tax collection soars over 200% in four years

India's corporate tax collection has surged from Rs 4,57,719 crore in 2020-21 to Rs 9,86,767 crore in 2024-25, the Parliament was informed on Tuesday. Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary shared the data in the Rajya Sabha in response to a written question, reported IANS.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/news-indias-corporate-tax-collection-soars-over-200-in-four-years-4063198/

FM flags global tax risks from digitisation, new financial products

Global tax systems must urgently adapt to digitalisation, new financial products, and evolving beneficial-ownership structures, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday, calling for deeper cooperation and stronger confidentiality systems among jurisdictions. She said this while explaining that although transparency and technology have strengthened India's compliance systems, new risks from digitalisation, complex financial products and beneficial-ownership structures require collective global cooperation, strong confidentiality protections, and responsible use of shared information.
https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/fm-flags-global-tax-risks-from-digitalisation-beneficial-ownership-changes-125120200947_1.html

Industry

Govt eases 'small company' rules, more firms to benefit

The government has expanded the definition of small companies. This change allows more businesses to benefit from easier compliance rules and quicker merger processes. Companies with paid-up capital up to ₹10 crore and turnover up to ₹100 crore now qualify. These new rules aim to boost ease of doing business in India.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-eases-small-company-rules-more-firms-to-benefit/articleshow/125726154.cms

India's e-commerce growth continues to outpace global market

India's e-commerce continued to outperform global markets in the September quarter, according to analysis by Elara Capital. It noted that while US online sales grew by about 5-6 per cent year-on-year while Indian online sales continued to grow double-digit. Karan Taurani, Executive Vice-President, Elara Capital noted in a sector update report, "India's digital commerce flywheel continues to outperform global markets, with e-commerce and quick commerce growing faster than in the US. While US online sales rose ~5-6 per cent YoY, India continues in double digits with robust trajectory fuelled by quick commerce channel driving user expansion and regional penetration.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-e-commerce-growth-continues-to-outpace-global-market-elara-capital/article70350427.ece

Year-end car discounts are softer this December

Carmakers have begun rolling out their customary December offers as the year draws to a close, but the market mood is markedly different from previous years. December has historically been the month of the deepest bargains, with manufacturers and dealers scrambling to clear the year's stock as customers prefer a fresh new-year badge. This time, however, the discounts are noticeably muted. The industry's long-standing clearance ritual has been disrupted by buoyant demand and thinner inventories following the September GST 2.0 price reset.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/industry-year-end-car-discounts-are-softer-this-december-4063384/

PCB manufacturing needs upto ₹15,000 crore more investment to cut import dependence below 50%

India requires additional investments of ₹10,000–15,000 crore in printed circuit board (PCB) manufacturing over the next two to three years to bring the country's import dependence below 50%, according to JS Gujral, MD, Syrma SGS. "India currently produces only about ₹5,000 crore worth of PCBs. Three years from now, we expect domestic PCB production to rise to around ₹20,000 crore, while demand will be around ₹70,000 crore," Gujral said.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/news/pcb-manufacturing-needs-upto-15000-crore-more-investment-to-cut-import-dependence-below-50-syrma-md/4063116/

Agriculture

Parl panel asks govt to conduct long-term field trials on nano-fertilisers

A parliamentary panel has asked the government to conduct long-term field trials on various agricultural crops to check the efficacy of nano-liquid fertilisers. The Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Monday presented a report on 'self-sufficiency in the production of fertilisers with a view to curbing the import of fertilisers-reviewing constraints thereof', wherein it suggested that "long-term field trials of application of nano fertilisers may be got conducted by the Department on various crops throughout the country... to thoroughly assess and validate the merits and demerits of use of nano fertilisers in terms of crop productivity, nutritional quality of crop produced, soil health, etc. so that it may be optimally adopted by the farmers as replacement to conventional fertilisers".
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/agriculture/par-panel-asks-govt-to-conduct-long-term-field-trials-on-nano-fertilisers-125120200910_1.html

FASAL programme helps generate crop output estimates for 11 crops in 557 districts

The FASAL (Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agro-meteorology and Land-based observations) programme by the Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) helps in generating satellite-based pre-harvest crop production estimates for 11 major crops in 557 districts of 20 states, according to the Centre. In a written reply in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Ramnath Thakur, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, said MNCFC's FASAL generates satellite-based pre-harvest crop production estimates for paddy, wheat, jute, cotton, sugarcane, soybean, tur, gram, mustard, lentil and rabi sorghum.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/fasal-programme-helps-generate-crop-output-estimates-for-11-crops-in-557-districts/article70349095.ece

India's sugar output jumps 43% in Oct-Nov on strong Maharashtra performance

India's sugar production rose 43 per cent to 4.11 million tonnes in the first two months of the 2025-26 marketing year, driven by strong output from Maharashtra, the Indian Sugar and Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) said on Tuesday. Production stood at 2.88 million tonnes in the same period a year earlier. The marketing year runs from October to September.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/agriculture/india-s-sugar-output-jumps-43-in-oct-nov-on-strong-maharashtra-performance-125120200341_1.html

India's inland aquaculture output jumps 167% as Asia shifts from wild-caught to farmed fish

India has recorded one of the fastest expansions in inland aquaculture, with production rising 167 per cent—from 1.5 million tonnes in 2014 to nearly 4 million tonnes in 2023. Asia continues to contribute over 70 per cent of global fish production, driven increasingly by farmed fish, says a preliminary finding of a regional study by the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO).
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indias-inland-aquaculture-output-jumps-167-as-asia-shifts-from-wild-caught-to-farmed-fish/article70348953.ece

Govt to allow farmers, cottage units to use LLP model

The government may allow farmers and people engaged in handloom, handicraft or other cottage industries to form limited liability partnerships (LLPs) to let them take advantage of the light-touch regulations under the LLP Act, 2008. In the ongoing winter session of Parliament, the government is expected to table the Corporate Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2025 that will seek to amend the LLP Act so that primary producers don't have to go through the conventional way of creating producer companies and be subjected to a host of compliance.

https://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/govt-to-allow-farmers-cottage-units-to-use-llp-model/4063349/

Energy

ADB approves $650 mn loan to boost India's rooftop solar rollout by 2027

Multilateral development bank ADB has approved a $ 650 million (about Rs 5,780 crore) policy-based loan to help the Government of India accelerate rooftop solar adoption and expand access to clean, affordable energy for 10 million households by 2027. The financing under Subprogram 1 of the Accelerating Affordable and Inclusive Rooftop Solar Systems Development Program will support the government's flagship initiative Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY) which aims to make rooftop solar systems widely accessible nationwide, ADB said in a statement on Tuesday.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/adb-approves-650-mn-loan-to-boost-india-s-rooftop-solar-rollout-by-2027-125120200983_1.html

India's crude security holds as refiners pivot from sanctioned suppliers

With the November 21 deadline for countries to stop importing oil from US-sanctioned entities Rosneft and Lukoil now past, the story of India's Russian oil imports is playing out less dramatically than expected. A variety of factors have come into play to ensure that while it is not business as usual on Russian oil imports, predictions of a major hit to supplies or price shocks have not borne out yet either. Factors in favour of India's energy security include the option and freedom to source oil from non-sanctioned Russian entities, continuing handsome discounts on Russian crude, the possibility of securing not-so-costly oil from other geographies like the Middle East and Africa, and, finally, subdued global oil prices.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/despite-us-sanctions-on-russian-oil-indias-crude-situation-on-firm-ground-125120201118_1.html

India to become fastest-growing renewable energy market by 2030: WEF

India is set to record the fastest expansion in renewable electricity capacity and generation globally, according to a new World Economic Forum (WEF) report that values the global green economy at more than $5 trillion and forecasts it will cross $7 trillion by 2030. The report, 'Already a Multi-Trillion-Dollar Market: A CEO Guide to Growth in the Green Economy', produced by the WEF in partnership with Boston Consulting Group (BCG), said the green economy sector has grown at a pace second only to technology over the past decade. It also stated that investment in clean technologies continues to break records despite global economic uncertainty.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/india-fastest-growing-renewable-energy-market-by-2030-wef-125120201293_1.html

Datanomics: India's nuclear energy ambitions need a capacity push

The World Nuclear Energy Day on December 2 is a reminder of India's steady but slow progress in the nuclear sector. Installed capacity rose from 5.7 Gw in FY15 to 8.2 Gw in FY24 with a compound annual growth rate of 4 per cent. However, India's long-term ambition is 100 Gw by 2047 and requires a 12 per cent CAGR. Policy momentum is building, with the Atomic Energy Bill 2025 tabled in Parliament to enable private investment.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/datanomics-india-s-nuclear-energy-ambitions-need-a-capacity-push-125120200799_1.html

Govt needs long-term framework to attract global capital in green hydrogen: L&T

To rapidly scale-up production of green hydrogen and ammonia in the country, and attract global capital in the segment, the Centre needs a systematic long-term framework, said to a top official in Larsen & Toubro. The company's subsidiary is setting up a green hydrogen plant at Indian Oil Corporation's Panipat refinery, and is exploring other opportunities in the hydrogen segment.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/govt-needs-long-term-framework-to-attract-global-capital-in-green-hydrogen-lt/article70349858.ece

States

Uttar Pradesh leads SASCI scheme with 482 projects as of late November

Just over a third of the special assistance to states for capital investment (SASCI) fund for 2025-26 (FY26) — ₹56,826 crore — has been released across 4,106 approved projects as of November 27, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary informed Parliament on Monday. Uttar Pradesh tops the scheme with 482 approved projects, mobilising about ₹8,465 crore. Maharashtra follows with 331 projects, while Odisha ranks third with 288. The top 10 states together account for 2,677 projects, roughly 65 per cent of the 4,106 sanctioned nationwide. Nagaland remains the lone non-participant, with no approved projects and no funds drawn despite being eligible.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/uttar-pradesh-leads-sasci-scheme-with-482-projects-as-of-late-november-125120200965_1.html

Maharashtra to list energy utilities starting with transco in 2026, says CM

Maharashtra is looking to undertake a phased equity listing of state-owned energy utilities starting with the transmission company in 2026, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said on Tuesday. He said it is essential to undertake the process to make the entities more efficient and agile. "It is the right time to start the listing process for government entities and corporations. We have decided that we will certainly list the electricity transmission company at first," Fadnavis said at an event here.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/maharashtra-to-list-energy-utilities-starting-with-transco-in-2026-says-cm-125120200457_1.html

MFI body seeks greater penetration of credit flow for growth

Microfinance institutions in West Bengal need more credit to reach the bottom of the pyramid. Currently, only one-third of the target segment accesses formal credit. This gap hinders economic activity and sector growth. India's MFI sector has Rs 3.4 lakh crore outstanding with 75 million beneficiaries. West Bengal's portfolio stands at Rs 35,000 crore with one crore beneficiaries.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/mfi-body-seeks-greater-penetration-of-credit-flow-for-growth/articleshow/125718724.cms

External

To bridge trade gap, India and Russia may cut duties, ease barriers

Bridging the vast trade imbalance between the two countries will sit at the heart of Russian President Vladimir Putin's two-day state visit to New Delhi from Thursday, with both sides set to explore lowering duties and easing non-tariff barriers. Agreements are also expected across sectors ranging from the mobility of Indian skilled and semi-skilled workers to Russia, to cooperation in health care. Officials at the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Tuesday described the India-Russia mobility agreement, finalised and due to be signed during Putin's visit, as the "single most important development" since the previous India–Russia Annual Summit in 2024, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi travelled to Russia.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/to-bridge-trade-gap-india-and-russia-may-cut-duties-ease-barriers-125120201288_1.html

China's pricing power is undercutting India's export dreams

India's October 2025 export data reveals a paradox: electronics surged 19%, driven by smartphones, while most other major categories shrank. Aggressive Chinese competition and tariff pressures are squeezing India's export potential, with traditional markets increasingly dominated by Chinese goods, necessitating targeted interventions to revive key sectors.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-export-dreams-china-blitz-pricing-power-modi-xi-jinping-apple-iphone-production-us-tariffs-smartphone/articleshow/125709993.cms

India's palm oil imports edge up in Nov as buyers shift from costlier oils

India's palm oil imports rose slightly in November as lower prices prompted refiners to increase purchases of the tropical oil while cutting back on more expensive soyoil and sunflower oil purchases, according to five dealers. Higher palm oil imports by India, the world's largest buyer of vegetable oils, could help top producers Indonesia and

Malaysia reduce their stocks and support benchmark Malaysian palm oil futures, while putting pressure on U.S. soyoil futures.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-s-palm-oil-imports-edge-up-in-nov-as-buyers-shift-from-costlier-oils-125120200820_1.html

Belgian govt eases immigration policy to attract diamond cut and polish talent

The Belgian government's recent decision to permit foreign diamond sorters and polishers may not have a major impact on the cut and polish trade in India, due to cost advantage and a well-established supply chain. Diamond companies in Belgium can now recruit skilled professionals from outside the EU far more easily.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/belgian-govt-eases-immigration-policy-to-attract-diamond-cut-and-polish-talent/article70349818.ece

India's seafood exports rise, led by EU, China, Vietnam

Indian seafood exports saw a strong rise in the first seven months of FY26. Shipments to the European Union, China, Vietnam, Russia, and the United Kingdom surged. This growth helped compensate for reduced exports to the United States. The European Union saw a substantial increase in seafood value. Russia also increased its imports from India.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-seafood-exports-rise-led-by-eu-china-vietnam/articleshow/125726354.cms