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Economy

MoSPI to launch new surveys, boost high-frequency economic indicators: Saurabh Garg

Following the base year revision of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the statistics ministry is now focusing on developing an Index of Services Production (ISP), state-level revisions and data harmonisation, said Saurabh Garg, secretary, ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MoSPI). In an interview with Anoushka Sawhney, he also highlighted new surveys and products planned, including a city-level report for million-plus cities covering unincorporated non-agricultural sector enterprises.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/mospi-to-launch-new-surveys-boost-high-frequency-economic-indicators-saurabh-garg/articleshow/129109825.cms

West Asia conflict poses near-term challenges to Indian economy: RBI MPC member

Conflict in the West Asia poses some immediate-term challenges for the Indian economy but is unlikely to dent long-term economic growth momentum, an external member of the RBI's rate-setting panel has said. Going forward, there is a need for fiscal and monetary policies to work in a coordinated manner to push GDP growth to a higher trajectory, Nagesh Kumar has said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/west-asia-conflict-poses-near-term-challenges-to-indian-economy-rbi-mpc-member/article70706832.ece

Finance

CIC advises Income Tax Dept: Institutionalise taxpayer-friendly grievance redressal

The Central Information Commission (CIC) has advised the Income Tax Department to "institutionalise a taxpayer-friendly mechanism", flagging that taxpayers are often made to run from "pillar to post" while seeking resolution of their grievances. The observation came in an order passed by Information Commissioner Vinod Kumar Tiwari while disposing of a complaint related to 'discrepancies' in TDS credited to the applicant over several assessment years.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/cic-calls-for-taxpayer-friendly-grievance-mechanism-in-income-tax-department/articleshow/129091465.cms

RBI data suggest end of repo rate cut transmission into lending rates

The transmission of repo rate cuts into lending and deposit rates may be over, as interest rates on fresh loans went up even as interest rates on fresh deposits barely came down, going by RBI data for January 2026. This development comes amid deposit growth (at 12.42 per cent year-on-year) lagging credit growth (14.40 per cent) as on January 31, 2026.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-data-suggest-end-of-repo-rate-cut-transmission-into-lending-rates/article70708172.ece

RBI ramps up support to shield bonds from oil shock

The Reserve Bank of India appears to be stepping up support for the government bond market amid surging oil prices, with data showing that an investor category that includes the central bank posted its largest single-session purchase in five years. The category, which comprises insurance companies, pension funds, corporates and the RBI, bought bonds worth ₹20,285 crore ($2.21 billion) on Wednesday, the highest for this segment since February 2021.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-ramps-up-support-to-shield-bonds-from-oil-shock/article70706836.ece

Industry

Auto component industry to grow 8–10% in FY27 faster than auto sector's 5–8%: India Ratings

Domestic vehicle demand is projected to grow 5-8 per cent in FY27, moderating from the estimated 7-10 per cent growth in FY26, as the industry moves beyond the post-pandemic recovery phase and faces a higher base effect. India's auto component sector is entering a phase of structural transformation rather than cyclical expansion.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/auto-component-industry-to-grow-810-in-fy27-faster-than-auto-sectors-58-india-ratings/article70707641.ece

India's industrial and warehousing market rose 29% YoY in 2025: Knight Frank

India Industrial and Warehousing market in 2025 recorded 29 per cent year-on-year (YoY) increase in warehousing demand to 72.5 mn sq ft across the eight primary markets of India, according to Knight Frank India, an international property consultancy, report. This marks the first year of growth at this scale in the post-pandemic period. Q4 2025 emerged as the strongest quarter of the year, with 23.4 mn sq ft transacted, the report said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/indias-industrial-and-warehousing-market-rose-29-yoy-in-2025-knight-frank/article70707527.ece

India sees record surge in new company and LLP registrations amid strong investor confidence

Fresh registrations of companies and limited liability partnerships (LLPs) scaled a fresh peak this fiscal, a senior government official said, as investor optimism about India's economic growth prospects beat immediate concerns about external headwinds. The number of companies that got incorporated between April and February this fiscal jumped 41% from a year earlier to 2,25,328 while that of LLPs surged over 44% to 86,476, showed latest corporate affairs ministry data.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/india-sees-record-surge-in-new-company-and-llp-registrations-amid-strong-investor-confidence/articleshow/129112409.cms

Agriculture

Storage in India's key reservoirs drops further as level in South slips below 50%

Storage in India's 166 major reservoirs declined further this week with the level in the southern region dipping below 50 per cent of capacity. At least 70 per cent of the country has received deficient or no rainfall since the beginning of the year.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/storage-in-indias-key-reservoirs-drops-further-as-level-in-south-slips-below-50/article70707882.ece

Infrastructure

Noida International Airport secures security clearance

After missing several completion deadlines, the Noida International Airport (NIA) has now secured security clearance from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), sources told businessline. Notably, the airport had missed multiple completion deadlines, including those scheduled for late 2024 and April 2025.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/noida-international-airport-secures-security-clearance/article70708800.ece

Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust of NHAI to raise ₹6,000 cr via InvIT IPO

Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust, an InvIT sponsored by NHAI (National Highways Authority of India) plans to raise ₹6,000 crore through initial public offering of units. It will open for subscription on Wednesday. The price band has been fixed between ₹99 and ₹100 per unit.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/raajmarg-infra-investment-trust-of-nhai-to-raise-6000-cr-via-invit-ipo/article70707778.ece

Energy

US issues 30-day waiver allowing Indian refiners to purchase Russian oil amid West Asia conflict

The US issued a general license to allow for some Russian oil sales to India, giving the nation more options to purchase fuel as an escalating conflict in the Persian Gulf cuts off a major producing region. The license covers transactions related to the sale of Russian crude oil and petroleum products loaded onto vessels before March 5, so long as it's delivered to India and purchased by an Indian firm. The measure expires April 4 at 12:01 a.m. Washington time.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/us-grants-temporary-waiver-to-india-for-russian-oil-purchases-amid-west-asia-conflict/article70709959.ece

Adani Total Gas asks industrial users to limit consumption to 40%; Warns of higher spot prices

City gas distributor Adani Total Gas (ATGL) has asked its commercial and industrial users to restrict natural gas consumption to 40% of their contracted volumes, warning that any usage beyond this limit will be charged at significantly higher spot market rates, industry sources said. The move comes as gas companies seek to manage tight supplies following the impact of the war in the West Asia. Adani Total Gas did not respond to an emailed query sent until press time.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/adani-total-gas-asks-industrial-users-to-limit-consumption-to-40-warns-of-higher-spot-prices/articleshow/129112139.cms

Indian gas firms may cut industrial supply if Qatar halt persists

India's gas firms may consider reviewing allocations to industrial users if the production halt by QatarEnergy is prolonged amid the deepening crisis in West Asia, according to people familiar with the development. However, gas allocation for priority sectors, such as domestic piped natural gas (PNG) and compressed natural gas (CNG), would not be curtailed, they added. "India consumes 195 million standard cubic metres per day (mmscmd) of natural gas. Of this, 60 mmscmd is not available due to the QatarEnergy production halt. If this continues, we may re-prioritise sectors within the country; industrial usage may be impacted," said a top government official.
https://www.business-standard.com/amp/industry/news/indian-gas-firms-may-cut-industrial-allocation-if-qatar-halt-persists-126030501150_1.html

Telecom

Get it Strait, Hormuz to create ripples for undersea cables too

The Strait of Hormuz is not just a chokepoint for global tanker traffic, but also major undersea cables facing increased risk from the simmering West Asia conflict. The passage controls about a third of India's westward internet traffic, which can't be rerouted due to supply constraints on alternate routes, experts said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/telecom/telecom-news/get-it-strait-hormuz-to-create-ripples-for-undersea-cables-too/articleshow/129119284.cms

States

Rajasthan govt to set up ₹2,000 crore fund for school infrastructure

The Rajasthan government is going to establish a school infrastructure fund with an allocation of ₹2,000 crore for the repair, reconstruction, and strengthening of dilapidated school buildings, state Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Justice Minister, Jogaram Patel, said. More than 1,500 classrooms, labs, and computer labs will be constructed in schools for ₹200 crore, he said. The government also plans to establish the Major Shaitan Singh Skill Development

and Training Centre in Jodhpur, to facilitate training for competitive examinations for military families, the minister said. Approximately ₹323 crore will be spent in schools and Anganwadi centres across the state, to provide sports equipment for children's overall development and play-based education, Patel said.
https://www.business-standard.com/amp/india-news/rajasthan-govt-to-set-up-2-000-crore-fund-for-school-infrastructure-126030500640_1.html

Maharashtra's economy projected to grow 7.9% in 2025-26: Economic Survey

Maharashtra's economy is expected to grow at 7.9 per cent in 2025-26, slightly higher than the projected 7.4 per cent growth of the national economy, according to the government's pre-budget Economic Survey tabled in the state assembly on Thursday. The survey said the state's nominal Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is estimated at Rs 51 trillion, while real GSDP at constant prices is projected at Rs 28.82 trillion in 2025-26. The services sector remains the biggest driver of the state economy, accounting for nearly 60 per cent of the total Gross State Value Added (GSVA). The sector is expected to grow around 9 per cent in 2025-26, led by financial, real estate and professional services, it said.
https://www.business-standard.com/amp/india-news/maharashtra-s-economy-projected-to-grow-7-9-in-2025-26-economic-survey-126030500537_1.html

Healthcare

Pharma exports may take up to $500 million hit as freight costs rise

The Iran war is threatening India's pharmaceutical exports, with industry estimates suggesting a potential impact of $300-500 million (₹2,500 to over ₹4,500 crore), largely due to higher freight costs, if the disruptions continue through March. Freight costs for bulk drugs from China have doubled, from $1,200 to $2,400 per container, while shipping lines are increasingly refusing cargo to Gulf hubs, or imposing surcharges of $3,500-5,000, complicating logistics, according to industry executives.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/pharma-exports-may-take-up-to-500-million-hit-as-freight-costs-rise/articleshow/129119738.cms

External

India seeks US marine cover for Middle East energy cargoes, source says

India is in talks with the United States to secure marine cover for vessels shipping oil from the Middle East, as New Delhi seeks to shield buyers from potential supply disruptions caused by the crisis in the Gulf, a government official said on Thursday. U.S. President Donald Trump has ordered the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation to provide political risk insurance and financial guarantees for maritime trade in the Gulf.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-seeks-us-marine-cover-for-middle-east-energy-cargoes-source-says/articleshow/129093065.cms

India's $98 billion imports in hot water as West Asia tensions heat up

India imported $98.7 billion worth of goods from West Asia in 2025, with petroleum and liquefied natural gas (LNG) forming the largest share. Nearly $70 billion of India's petroleum imports come from the region, including $50.8 billion of crude oil, which accounts for 48.7% of India's crude imports. As per the report, with domestic crude stocks covering less than 30 days, prolonged disruptions could push up fuel prices, affecting transport, logistics, and agriculture, including diesel-powered irrigation pumps and tractors.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-west-asia-imports-iran-israel-war-united-states-gulf-conflict-oil-lng-fertiliser-diamonds/articleshow/129089516.cms

From fertilisers to rice, pulses, tea and apples: Middle East conflict threatens India-Iran agri trade

The Middle East, involving Iran, Israel and the US, could put India in a difficult position, as it threatens shipments of agricultural commodities like rice, tea, pulses, and others. Analysts and trade experts caution that prolonged conflict, disrupted shipping routes, and sanctions-linked banking constraints could hit not just Iran-bound exports but also trade across Central Asia, requiring close monitoring and strategic recalibration. Overall, 13-15% of seaborne grains and oilseeds and about 20% of fertiliser trade pass through the Suez Canal. The Strait of Hormuz also plays a crucial

role in the movement of crop nutrients. Extended disruptions in the region, commodity experts say, could choke grain and feed flows, restrict Gulf fertiliser supplies, and raise costs.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/from-fertilisers-to-rice-pulses-tea-and-apples-middle-east-conflict-threatens-india-iran-agri-trade/articleshow/129125325.cms

West Asia conflict disrupts India's gems and jewellery trade; diamond shipments halted

The West Asia conflict has disrupted India's gems and jewellery exports, as well as imports of rough diamonds from the United Arab Emirates, because of widespread flight cancellations and airspace closures. Dubai, a major global hub for polished and rough diamonds and bullion, has suspended numerous cargo and passenger flights, affecting trade flows and shipments of both exports and essential raw materials, industry officials said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/west-asia-conflict-disrupts-indias-gems-and-jewellery-trade-diamond-shipments-halted/articleshow/129110929.cms