

March 10, 2026 – Tuesday

Economy

Govt exceeds disinvestment target, boosts revenue with strong dividend collections

The government's combined disinvestment and asset monetisation receipts have reached ₹34,400 crore so far this fiscal year, surpassing the revised estimate of ₹33,847 crore, according to latest data from the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM). Its dividend collections from non-financial central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) and entities where it holds minority stakes totalled ₹70,577 crore so far this fiscal year, compared with the revised annual estimate of ₹71,000 crore.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/govt-exceeds-disinvestment-target-boosts-revenue-with-strong-dividend-collections/articleshow/129349921.cms

India’s inflation near ‘lower bound,’ to counter global oil price surge: Finance Minister

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Lok Sabha on Monday that since India’s inflation remains near the lower bound, the impact of current high crude prices is not expected to be substantial at this stage. While this response was issued as Brent crude prices spiked 25 per cent to $116.50, the written text was prepared prior to the surge. According to the Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC), the international price of crude oil (Indian Basket) was $99.12/bbl on March 6.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-inflation-near-lower-bound-to-counter-surge-in-global-oil-prices-finance-minister/article70722985.ece

$50 oil surge could wipe out 2% of India's GDP, warns Axis Bank's Neelkanth Mishra

In a sharp assessment of India's macroeconomic vulnerabilities, Neelkanth Mishra, Chief Economist of Axis Bank and Head of Global Research at Axis Capital, warned that a sustained spike in global energy prices could severely disrupt India's growth trajectory and balance of payments. In an interview with ANI, Mishra highlighted that India's heavy reliance on imported "dense energy" makes it a primary target for global price volatility.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/50-oil-surge-could-wipe-out-2-of-indias-gdp-warns-axis-banks-neelkanth-mishra/articleshow/129328501.cms

Finance

FinMin advises banks to speed up IBC resolutions

The finance ministry has advised banks to take a collaborative approach in the resolution of pending Insolvency and Bankruptcy Cases (IBC) for asset value maximisation, improving recoveries, and ensuring time-bound objectives. Financial services secretary M. Nagaraju on Monday took a review meeting to monitor the progress in top IBC cases pending for admission and resolution at the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). "It was informed that twenty high-value accounts have been resolved through admission, assignment or disposal at NCLT with the coordinated efforts of all stakeholders," the ministry noted in a statement, adding that a detailed review of the top twenty

accounts pending for admission and ten accounts pending for admission and ten accounts pending for resolution was undertaken for early expedition.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/finmin-advises-banks-to-speed-up-ibc-resolutions/articleshow/129350248.cms

Place audit orders in public domain to boost trust: CIC to NFRA

The Central Information Commission (CIC) has advised the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) to place orders, directions, circulars and policy decisions affecting audit practices and standards in the public domain. The observation came while disposing of a second appeal under the RTI Act seeking documents related to NFRA permitting auditors or audit firms to be represented by legal counsel during oral hearings.
http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/place-audit-orders-in-public-domain-to-boost-trust-cic-to-nfra/articleshow/129329475.cms

Autonomous bodies should leverage risk-controls maturity scorecard to access financial prudence: CAG

New Delhi, Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) K Sanjay Murthy on Monday said autonomous institutions should leverage tools like risk-control maturity scorecard (RCMS) to see whether financial prudence is being followed. Addressing a workshop, organised with central and state universities for improving control and governance, Murthy said tools like RCMS for higher education institutions are not an additional audit but a self-monitoring tool. He further said that there are around 1,400 autonomous institutions.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/autonomous-bodies-should-leverage-risk-controls-maturity-scorecard-to-access-financial-prudence-cag/articleshow/129348732.cms

Like banks, leadership rotation rule may apply to large NBFCs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is considering a leadership rotation policy for large non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) to strengthen governance. The matter was discussed at a meeting involving the RBI, government officials and representatives from the NBFC sector at the department of financial services on February 26. While Section 10 of the Banking Regulation Act mandates banks to follow the rotation policy at the top management and staff levels, there is no such guideline for NBFCs.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/like-banks-leadership-rotation-rule-may-apply-to-large-nbfcs/articleshow/129353555.cms

SEBI sets up expert group to chart tech roadmap for markets

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has set up a high-level expert working group to prepare both short- and long-term technology roadmaps for the securities market ecosystem, SEBI Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said. Speaking at an event marking 30 years of the Nifty 50 index on Monday, Pandey said the group will examine the technology architecture needed for the next phase of growth in India's capital markets.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-sets-up-expert-group-to-chart-tech-roadmap-for-markets/article70723277.ece

Industry

Life insurers' new biz rose 18% in Feb

The life insurance industry reported an 18% rise in new business premium in February, driven largely by strong growth at state-owned Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), which posted a 24% increase during the month, partly aided by the GST-related tailwinds. The industry collected '35,417 crore in new business premium across individual and group policies in February, compared with '29,985 crore in the same month last year, according to data from the Life Insurance Council.
http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/insure/life-insurers-new-biz-rose-18-in-feb/articleshow/129352983.cms

Agriculture

Enough fertiliser stock for kharif, gas supply disruption a concern: FAI

India's fertiliser stockpiles are adequate to meet the demands of the upcoming kharif season, but a 40 per cent curtailment in gas supply and ongoing geopolitical tensions in West Asia have raised concerns over domestic urea production and the cost of imports, the Fertiliser Association of India (FAI) said Monday. As per official data, total fertiliser reserves stood at 177.31 lakh tonnes as of March 6, up 36.5 per cent from 129.85 lakh tonnes a year earlier.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/chem-/-fertilisers/enough-fertiliser-stock-for-kharif-gas-supply-disruption-a-concern-fai/articleshow/129348021.cms

Infrastructure

Conflict could worsen aviation sector losses: ICRA

Industry-wide losses of Indian carriers could worsen in FY26 due to disruption in international traffic, weak rupee and rising crude oil price. Rating agency ICRA believes Indian airlines could report a higher-than-previously estimated net loss of ₹17,000-18,000 crore in FY26.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/conflict-could-worsen-aviation-sector-losses-icra/article70722803.ece

IRFC board clears ₹70,000-cr market borrowing programme for FY27

State-run rail financier Indian Railway Finance Corporation's (IRFC) board on March 9 (Monday) 2026 approved a market borrowing programme of up to ₹70,000 crore for the financial year 2026–27. The IRFC is the dedicated financing arm of Indian Railways. It operates as a government-owned non-banking financial company that mobilises funds from domestic as well as international markets to support railway infrastructure and rolling stock procurement.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/irfc-board-clears-70000-cr-market-borrowing-programme-for-fy27/article70722774.ece

Energy

Oil above $100 but petrol, diesel prices unlikely to rise immediately

Retail fuel prices are unlikely to rise immediately despite crude oil soaring above $100 per barrel on Monday as the Centre expects state-run refiners to absorb the shock for now, said people familiar with the matter. They underlined that these companies had earlier benefited from keeping pump prices unchanged despite benign crude prices, bolstering their financial strength. International benchmark Brent surged more than 25% to above $115 per barrel in early trade amid signals of a prolonged and intense Gulf conflict. It eased to around $100 later in the day after a media report suggested that the G7 group of nations planned to discuss a joint release of oil from their strategic petroleum reserves (SPR).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/oil-above-100-but-petrol-diesel-prices-unlikely-to-rise-immediately/articleshow/129353197.cms

India says no to IEA's call to release strategic oil reserves

India will not join the International Energy Agency (IEA) initiative to release strategic oil reserves as part of an effort to cool oil prices, top government sources said. India, the world's third-largest oil-importing and consuming nation, has 5.33 million tonnes of underground strategic reserves. But they are only 80 per cent filled currently.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/india-says-no-to-ieas-call-to-release-strategic-oil-reserves/articleshow/129343096.cms

States

Iran war hits tea export; Assam releases ₹94.7 crore support

While Iran- Israel and US war has hard hit the tea export, Assam government released Rs 94.70 crores under Assam Tea Industries Special Incentive Scheme (ATISIS). The ceremonial distribution of benefits to the Tea Gardens under Assam Tea Industries Special Incentive Scheme (ATISIS) is held on Monday. Under ATISIS a total of 486 gardens have been provided benefits by the Government during this financial year, amounting to a total of Rs. 94.70 crores. The

scheme has four components which include interest subvention of 3% per annum on Working Capital Loan, Rs. 10/- per kg subsidy on Orthodox or Specialty Tea Production besides subsidy of 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery for Orthodox and Specialty Tea Unit and agricultural Income Tax Holiday up to FY 2026-27.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/iran-war-hits-tea-export-assam-releases-94-7crore-support/articleshow/129337896.cms

Healthcare

Pharma exporters seek freight sops and logistical support as costs rise

The Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) has urged the government to consider providing freight subsidies and logistical support to manage rising costs due to the conflict in West Asia, one of the major destinations for Indian generics. The industry body is also exploring alternative logistics options and diversifying shipping routes to minimise business disruptions. The council has been in discussion with the commerce ministry and has sought support to offset increased costs, including doubling of freight charges which is $4,000-8,000 per shipment, heavy insurance premiums due to higher risks, besides surge in fuel prices, inflating operational costs, said people in the know.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/pharma-exporters-seek-freight-sops-and-logistical-support-as-costs-rise/articleshow/129351126.cms

External

Iran–Israel War: Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority forms task force to ease stranded cargo movement

The operator of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port at Navi Mumbai has formed a multi-departmental task force to ease impacted vessel schedules and export cargo movement to the Middle East following widespread trade disruptions due to the Iran war. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) said Monday the number of stranded containers at the port has reduced to nearly 3,200 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) on March 8 from around 5,000 on March 1.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping-/-transport/iranisrael-war-jawaharlal-nehru-port-authority-forms-task-force-to-ease-stranded-cargo-movement/articleshow/129352942.cms

India may face $7–8 billion higher monthly import bill as crude surges

India could face an additional foreign currency outflow of USD 7-8 billion per month due to the surge in international energy prices, following the conflict in West Asia, raising concerns over inflation and the current account deficit, analysts said. While crude oil prices have risen from USD 66 per barrel, before the US and Israel attacked Iran and Tehran retaliated, to around USD 120, liquefied natural gas (LNG) rates have more than doubled to USD 24-25 per million British thermal unit.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-may-face-78-billion-higher-monthly-import-bill-as-crude-surges/articleshow/129342655.cms

FTAs to provide huge export opportunities for pharma, healthcare sectors: Piyush Goyal

The nine free trade agreements (FTAs) finalised by India in the last four years will provide huge business opportunities for the domestic pharma and healthcare sectors, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday. India has finalised FTAs with the UK, Mauritius, Australia, the US, European Union, four-nation bloc EFTA, Oman, the UAE and New Zealand. While the pacts with Mauritius, Australia, the UAE and EFTA are implemented, the remaining are likely to come into force soon.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/ftas-to-provide-huge-export-opportunities-for-pharma-healthcare-sectors-piyush-goyal/articleshow/129338456.cms

India's shrimp exports surge past Rs 50k crore amidst US tariff challenges

An analysis of 63 shrimp exporters rated by Crisil Ratings, accounting for 55% of the industry's revenue, shows that India's shrimp exports are set to exceed Rs 50,000 crore this fiscal—up 13-15% on-year after three years of stagnation— shaking off steep United States (US) tariffs by deftly engaging with, and shipping to, other markets. Shipments to new markets will also aid growth. Operating margin is expected to remain steady at 7.0-7.5% this fiscal and the next, as the benefits from tariff reduction are passed on to customers.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-shrimp-exports-surge-past-rs-50k-crore-amidst-us-tariff-challenges/articleshow/129323502.cms

Global fertiliser prices may strain India's subsidy maths for next year

India's fertiliser subsidy calculations for the coming financial year (FY27) could come under pressure if global prices continue their upward march, as seen over the past few days. However, the country currently has adequate stocks to meet immediate demand, traders and market participants said. In the FY27 Union Budget, the government pegged the fertiliser subsidy at about ₹1.7 trillion, 8.4 per cent lower than the revised estimate (RE) of ₹1.86 trillion for FY26. The FY26 RE itself was more than 11 per cent higher than the Budget estimate (BE), as India used record quantities of urea and diammonium phosphate (DAP) at high prices.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/agriculture/global-fertiliser-prices-may-strain-india-s-subsidy-maths-for-next-year-126030901101_1.html

D-G Shipping issues advisory on transparent pricing, addresses exporters' concerns

Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) has asked shipping lines to refrain from non-transparent and opportunistic pricing. This follows complaints from exporters regarding levy of multiple ancillary charges that are deemed non-transparent.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/d-g-shipping-issues-advisory-on-transparent-pricing-addresses-exporters-concerns/article70723900.ece

India's finished steel exports jump 36.6% in April-February

India's finished steel exports climbed 36.6% year-on-year to 6.02 million metric tons in the first 11 months of the financial year, according to provisional government data reviewed by Reuters on Monday. India, the world's second-biggest crude steel producer, imported 5.6 million metric tons of finished steel during April-February, down 37.4% year-on-year, the data showed. India's crude steel production increased 11.2% year-on-year to 153.61 million metric tons over the same period.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/steel/indias-finished-steel-exports-jump-36-6-in-april-february/articleshow/129319249.cms