

March 11, 2026 – Wednesday

Key Development

India eases FDI rules from bordering nations, unlocks path for Chinese investment

The Centre relaxed rules on foreign direct investment (FDI) from countries bordering India, easing restrictions and introducing a time-bound approval system for proposals in critical sectors. The long-awaited move is expected to pave the way for FDI from China and bolster India's manufacturing push. Also approved were amendments in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. Under the relaxed Press Note 3 rules cleared by the cabinet on Tuesday, investments from entities with less than 10% non-controlling beneficial ownership in border countries will be permitted through the automatic route, subject to the applicable sectoral cap.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/india-eases-fdi-rules-from-bordering-nations-unlocks-path-for-chinese-investment/articleshow/129415437.cms

Economy

Finmin seeks Parliamentary approval for ₹1 lakh cr 'Economic Stabilisation Fund' to face war-induced volatility

To prepare for unforeseen economic shocks in the context of the war in West Asia, the Finance Ministry on Wednesday sought Parliamentary approval to establish a ₹1 lakh crore 'Economic Stabilisation Fund'. "The ongoing war in West Asia and the Gulf region is causing a lot of volatility in various markets. To reduce the impact of such extreme volatility, this fund has been proposed," a senior government official told.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/finmin-seeks-parliamentary-approval-for-1-lakh-cr-economic-stabilisation-fund-to-face-war-induced-volatility/article70727580.ece

Fiscal deficit as percentage of GDP revised upwards for FY'23 to FY'25 after GDP base revision

The fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP for three financial years till 2024-25 has been revised upwards following the revision in base year for calculation of GDP, the government informed Parliament on Tuesday. As per the new GDP Series published on February 27, the fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP works out to be 4.9 per cent for 2024-25, 5.7 per cent for 2023-24, and 6.7 per cent for 2022-23, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/fiscal-deficit-as-percentage-of-gdp-revised-upwards-for-fy23-to-fy25-after-gdp-base-revision/articleshow/129400954.cms

Union Cabinet approves key changes to IBC and Companies Act 2013

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday gave its approval to amendments in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) as well as the Companies Act, 2013, according to ET sources. The amendments, cleared by the Cabinet, fall under the purview of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, which oversees the implementation of both laws. In August last year, the ministry had introduced a Bill in the Lok Sabha proposing several changes to the IBC, including measures to shorten the timeline for admission of insolvency resolution applications. The Bill was subsequently referred to a Select Committee, which submitted its report in December 2025.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/union-cabinet-approves-major-revisions-to-insolvency-and-bankruptcy-code-and-companies-act-2013/articleshow/129386957.cms

To achieve developed-nation status, overall workforce participation must rise to nearly 60%: Axis Bank report

India will need to sustain around 7 per cent economic growth for the next 25 years to achieve developed-nation status, according to an Axis Bank report. For this to happen, overall workforce participation must rise from about 47 per cent today to nearly 60 per cent. Women's participation will be decisive in reaching this target, according to the report 'The Missing Half: Women and India's Growth Challenge".
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/to-achieve-developed-nation-status-overall-workforce-participation-must-rise-to-nearly-60-axis-bank-report/article70727704.ece

Finance

Government panel may review bank consolidation and foreign investor caps

A government-appointed high-level committee on banking for Viksit Bharat could look at issues such as consolidation among lenders and foreign investor voting caps, according to Karthik Srinivasan, senior vice president and group head – financial sector ratings at ICRA.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/government-panel-may-review-bank-consolidation-and-foreign-investor-caps/article70728298.ece

RBI tightens counterparty credit risk rules for commercial banks

The Reserve Bank of India on Tuesday amended its capital adequacy framework for commercial banks, introducing clearer rules on how lenders must calculate and maintain capital against counterparty credit risk (CCR) exposures. The changes, issued under the RBI (Commercial Banks – Prudential Norms on Capital Adequacy) Third Amendment Directions, 2026, take effect immediately.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-tightens-counterparty-credit-risk-rules-for-commercial-banks/article70727425.ece

RBI revises dividend norms for commercial banks, links payouts to capital strength

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday issued revised prudential directions linking dividend payouts by commercial banks to their CET (common equity tier) 1 capital ratios, replacing guidelines issued as recently as November 2025.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-revises-dividend-norms-for-commercial-banks-links-payouts-to-capital-strength/article70727368.ece

To attract dollars, RBI may revive the 2013 strategy to incentivise banks to mop up non-resident deposits

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may look to revive a strategy it last employed in 2013 to attract dollar inflows into the country via the Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Banks) and Non-Resident External deposit routes. This could help stabilise the rupee, which is facing headwinds due to the ongoing West Asia conflict.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/to-attract-dollars-rbi-may-revive-the-2013-strategy-to-incentivise-banks-to-mop-up-non-resident-deposits/article70727167.ece

Industry

India's textile recycling market projected to reach $3.5 bn by 2030, may add 1 lakh jobs: Report

India's textile recycling market could reach $3.5 billion by 2030, with the potential to generate around one lakh green jobs, according to a report released on Tuesday by Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh. The report titled "Mapping of Textile Waste Value Chain in India" provides a comprehensive assessment of textile waste generation, recovery pathways, recycling technologies and opportunities to strengthen circularity across India's textile value chain.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-textile-recycling-market-projected-to-reach-35-bn-by-2030-may-add-1-lakh-jobs-report/article70728288.ece

Agriculture

India's wheat output pegged at record 120.21 million tonnes in 2025-26, up 2%: Ministry

India's wheat production is estimated at a record 120.21 million tonnes in the 2025-26 crop year, up 2 per cent from 117.94 million tonnes in the previous year, government data showed on Tuesday. Wheat, a major rabi (summer) crop, is beginning to be harvested and is expected to pick up pace in key growing states in the coming weeks. Total rabi crop production is estimated to rise 3.16 per cent to 174.51 million tonnes in 2025-26 from 169.16 million tonnes a year earlier, the agriculture ministry said in its second advance estimate.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/indias-wheat-output-pegged-at-record-120-21-million-tonnes-in-2025-26-up-2-ministry/articleshow/129399112.cms

India’s kharif, rabi foodgrain output pegged 3% up at 349 million tonnes in 2025-26

India will likely harvest a record wheat, maize (corn) and mustard crops during the current season, while sugarcane harvest has also been estimated a record during the current crop year to June. Rice production is also headed for a record high after kharif output has been projected at a new high.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indias-kharif-rabi-foodgrain-output-pegged-3-up-at-349-million-tonnes-in-2025-26/article70727413.ece

Infrastructure

NHAI-backed Raajmarg Infra InvIT garners Rs 1,728 cr from anchor investors

State-owned National Highways Authority of India-sponsored Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT) on Tuesday raised Rs 1,728 crore from anchor investors, including LIC, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance and Bajaj Life Insurance. This came ahead of the InvIT's Rs 6,000-crore initial public offering, which opens for subscription on March 11. This will be the first time NHAI opens its asset monetisation programme to retail investors.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/nhai-backed-raajmarg-infra-invit-garners-rs-1728-cr-from-anchor-investors/articleshow/129410620.cms

Cabinet clears revised cost of Rs 3,630.77 crore for developing road connectivity to Jewar airport

The Cabinet on Tuesday approved the revised total capital cost of Rs 3,630.77 crore for developing road connectivity to the upcoming Jewar international airport in Uttar Pradesh. The proposed 31.42 kilometres-long project corridor will provide direct and high-speed connectivity from South Delhi, Faridabad and Gurugram to the airport, thereby promoting economic growth and logistics efficiency across the National Capital Region (NCR), an official release said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/cabinet-clears-revised-cost-of-rs-3630-77-crore-for-developing-road-connectivity-to-jewar-airport/articleshow/129396046.cms

Cabinet clears Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 & other projects worth Rs 8.8 lakh crore

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved a series of major infrastructure and public utility initiatives with a combined financial outlay of about Rs 8.7 lakh crore, including the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, aimed at strengthening rural drinking water service delivery across the country. Addressing a press briefing after the Cabinet meeting, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the next phase of the Jal Jeevan Mission will shift its focus from infrastructure creation to ensuring reliable service delivery and long-term sustainability of rural water supply systems.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/union-cabinet-unveils-rs-87-lakh-crore-jal-jeevan-mission-20-and-major-infrastructure-projects/articleshow/129390615.cms

Energy

International Energy Agency proposes largest ever oil release from strategic reserves: Report

The International Energy Agency has proposed the largest release of oil reserves in its history to bring down crude prices that have soared due to the U.S.-Israel war with Iran, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday, citing

officials familiar with the matter. The release would exceed the 182 million barrels of oil that IEA member countries put onto the market in two releases in 2022 when Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine, WSJ added.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/international-energy-agency-proposes-largest-ever-oil-release-from-strategic-reserves-report/articleshow/129428426.cms

India ensures household gas supply amid global energy crisis

India will continue uninterrupted gas supplies to households, CNG vehicles and LPG production units. However, petrochemical units and power plants may see allocations cut off completely after the government on Tuesday directed diversion of both imported and domestic gas from non-priority sectors to priority users to manage the supply crunch due to the Iran war. The widening conflict in the Gulf has involved attacks on energy facilities and, coupled with the near closure of the critical Strait of Hormuz, has affected production, transportation, and prices of oil and gas.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/india-ensures-household-gas-supply-amid-global-energy-crisis/articleshow/129415357.cms

Centre secures 1 mt LPG from US to bridge West Asian supply gap

The government has arranged around one million tonnes (mt) of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cargoes, mostly from the US, to meet demand for the key cooking fuel used by more than 330 million consumers. The proactive measures have accompanied top-level parleys on the emerging situation between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and senior Cabinet Ministers, including Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Foreign Minister S Jaishankar.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/centre-secures-1-mt-lpg-from-us-to-bridge-west-asian-supply-gap/article70727712.ece

Healthcare

India's exports of active pharma ingredients at Rs 41,500 cr surpassed imports in FY25

Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister J P Nadda on Tuesday said India's exports of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) stood at around Rs 41,500 crore in the last fiscal, higher than total imports of Rs 39,215 crore. Replying to a supplementary query during the Question Hour in Rajya Sabha, the minister asserted that the central government has taken several steps in the last 11 years to boost domestic production and reduce imports.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-exports-of-active-pharma-ingredients-at-rs-41500-cr-surpassed-imports-in-fy25/articleshow/129393890.cms

Raw nerve: Drugs may get costlier as prices of ingredients surge 30%

Medicine prices in India may rise sharply amid a 30% surge in the cost of key raw materials or active pharma ingredients in the last fortnight primarily due to a scarcity of container ships since the Iran war broke out. Top industry officials told ET that vessel shortages have restricted raw material movement from China-the biggest supplier to Indian drugmakers. This may hit local manufacturing besides pushing up drug prices as producers may be forced to pass on the higher costs to consumers.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/raw-nerve-drugs-may-get-costlier-as-prices-of-ingredients-surge-30/articleshow/129413289.cms

External

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

Centre mulls insurance support for exporters dealing with ongoing West Asia crisis: Piyush Goyal

The government is considering developing an insurance scheme to support exporters dealing with the ongoing West Asia crisis, said Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday. He noted that an inter-ministerial group is monitoring developments daily and is in constant touch with exporters. India's Directorate General of Shipping (DG Shipping) has issued an advisory to shipping lines, carriers and agents, asking them to avoid predatory, non-transparent and opportunistic pricing amid the maritime disruptions triggered by the US-Israel-Iran conflict.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/centre-mulls-insurance-support-for-exporters-dealing-with-ongoing-west-asia-crisis-piyush-goyal/articleshow/129414733.cms

India's farm exports seen to touch $55 billion in 2025, Piyush Goyal says

India's agricultural exports are seen to touch $55 billion in 2025, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday. New Delhi will not allow any tariff concessions on sugar imports under any trade deal, Goyal added.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/indias-farm-exports-seen-to-touch-55-billion-in-2025-piyush-goyal-says/articleshow/129379820.cms

India-EFTA trade pact marks two years

The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) completed two years on Tuesday, marking progress in cooperation across trade, investment, services and technology, the commerce and industry ministry said. The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) completed two years on Tuesday, marking progress in cooperation across trade, investment, services and technology, the commerce and industry ministry said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-efta-trade-pact-marks-two-years/articleshow/129415317.cms

Indian software exports reach USD 222 billion in 2024-25

The export of computer software and services, including ITeS and BPO, increased by 11 per cent on a year-over-year basis to USD 222 billion in 2024-25, the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council said on Tuesday. The exports were at USD 200 billion in 2023-24, according to the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC).
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/indian-software-exports-reach-usd-222-billion-in-2024-25/article70728285.ece