

April 27, 2026 – Monday

Economy

India's IIP growth likely slowed to 2% in March as energy sector weakens and exports slip: UBI

India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) growth is expected to have moderated sharply to 2% year-on-year in March 2026, down from 5.2% in February and 3.9% in March 2025, as broad-based weakness in manufacturing and energy sectors weighed on output amid rising input costs and supply disruptions, according to a research report by Union Bank of India. The report said that, the slowdown reflects the impact of higher input costs on production margins and demand, even as some high-frequency indicators showed mixed resilience.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-iip-growth-likely-slowed-to-2-in-march-as-energy-sector-weakens-and-exports-slip-ubi/article70908291.ece

India likely to close FY26 with gross FDI of more than $90 billion, says CEA Nageswaran

Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran estimates gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Fiscal Year 2025-26 to exceed $90 billion. "FDI in April-February period exceeded $88 billion and there is one more month in the year. Going by this trend, our expectation is FY 26 is likely to close with over $90 billion with northward bias," Nageswaran told businessline. If it happens, this will break the range of $70-80 billion or slightly more, recorded during last four years, he added. This could also mean that FDI in FY26 is expected to be 10 per cent higher than FY25
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/india-likely-to-close-fy26-with-gross-fdi-of-more-than-90-billion-says-cea-nageswaran/article70908072.ece

Forex reserves rise to $703 billion; rupee slips 14 paise

India's foreign exchange reserves rose by $2.3 billion to $703 billion in the week ended April 17, mainly due to an increase in foreign currency assets with upward revaluation of dollar assets. Separately, the Indian rupee declined 14 paise amid dollar demand from foreign investors and private oil companies. The local unit closed at 94.25/$ on Friday, against its previous close of 94.11. The RBI likely sold dollars to prevent further deprecation, traders said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/forex-reserves-rise-to-703-billion-rupee-slips-14-paise/articleshow/130503332.cms

Finance

FM Nirmala Sitharaman pushes unified KYC framework, asks Sebi to lead

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday called for a unified know-your-customer (KYC) system across the financial sector to eliminate repeated verification for users, and urged the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to lead the effort. "It is a shared responsibility of all stakeholders to ensure that no citizen has to repeat the same verification journey across multiple financial products and platforms," Sitaraman said at an event to mark the markets regulator's 38th Foundation Day here.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/fm-nirmala-sitharaman-pushes-unified-kyc-framework-asks-sebi-to-lead/articleshow/130520459.cms

FinMin asks PSBs to complete wage revision process in next 12 months

The government has asked public sector banks to initiate the process of negotiations for the 13th Bi-partite settlement in a time-bound manner and finalise it in the next 12 months. The wage revision for employees and officers of public sector banks would be due from November 1, 2027.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/finmin-asks-psbs-to-complete-wage-revision-process-in-next-12-months/article70908064.ece

India assured DTAA tax benefits will continue after Supreme Court ruling, Mauritius Cabinet Note says

Almost three months after the Supreme Court's unsettling verdict on American investment firm Tiger Global, a recently released Mauritius government cabinet note claims that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given his Mauritius counterpart assurance that India would continue with its stand of not taking any action that would undermine the benefits that Mauritius currently enjoys under the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA). The DTAA between the two countries, even after certain amendments over the past decade, gives investors from Mauritius significant tax benefits--some of which were questioned and struck down by the apex court.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/india-assures-dtaa-tax-benefits-will-continue-after-supreme-court-ruling-mauritius-cabinet-note-says/articleshow/130503419.cms

Credit flows jump 38% in FY26 as RBI easing boosts demand

Credit flows through formal loan systems surged in FY26, rising 38% after contracting 8% a year earlier, signalling a revival in borrowing demand in India as interest rates eased. Total credit expansion increased to ₹44.6 lakh crore in FY26 from ₹32.3 lakh crore in FY25, data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed. The outstanding flow of financial resources to the commercial sector crossed ₹300 lakh crore for the first time, rising 15.8% to ₹311.8 lakh crore in FY26, compared with growth of 11.7% a year earlier.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/credit-flows-jump-38-in-fy26-as-rbi-easing-boosts-demand/articleshow/130503325.cms

Industry

SEBI proposal to raise MII CEO age cap faces resistance

A proposal within the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to raise the upper age limit for managing directors (MDs) and chief executives of market infrastructure institutions (MIIs), to be more aligned with the corporate sector, has met with resistance from industry participants, according to people familiar with the discussions.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-proposal-to-raise-mii-ceo-age-cap-faces-resistance/article70908163.ece

Beverage industry flags challenges in meeting recyled PET content targets in packaging

Beverage makers and industry bodies have expressed concerns about inadequate availability of food-grade recycled PET to meet the targets set for its use in packaging for FY27. As per the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2026, effective April 1, brands using rigid plastics identified as Category 1, which includes PET bottles, have been mandated to use 40 per cent recycled PET content in packaging for the year FY27.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/beverage-industry-flags-challenges-in-meeting-meet-recyled-pet-content-targets-in-packaging/article70908499.ece

Indian AI-focused start-ups bag nearly $650 million in funding in 2025, says report

India’s AI ecosystem is continuing to witness strong capital support, with AI start-ups collectively raising $643 million in funding in 2025, a slight increase of 4.1 per cent in 2024, an analysis of the top 100 Indian AI start-ups from management consulting firm Zinnov, shows. The top 100 AI start-ups have also posted a combined annual revenue of $593 million in 2025, which implies a 90 per cent median year-on-year growth.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/indian-ai-focused-start-ups-bag-nearly-650-million-in-funding-in-2025-says-report/article70908149.ece

Agriculture

India's wheat production resilient despite setbacks: Agri ministry

The agriculture ministry on Sunday asserted that India's wheat production for 2025-26 crop year remains "stable and resilient despite localised damage" caused by unseasonal rainfall and hailstorms, even as an industry body pegged output significantly below the government's earlier forecast. The Roller Flour Millers' Federation of India (RFFI) on April 24 projected wheat output at 110.65 million tonnes for the 2025-26 crop year (July-June), marginally higher than 109.63 million tonnes produced in 2024-25, after factoring in recent weather damage.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/indias-wheat-production-resilient-despite-setbacks-agri-ministry/articleshow/130529188.cms

Infrastructure

Infra projects see cost overrun of Rs 5.61 lakh crore in March

Infrastructure projects worth above Rs 150 crore each registered a cumulative cost overrun of Rs 5.61 lakh crore, according to a monthly government report for March. The latest 'Flash Report on Central Sector Infrastructure Projects' showed that the revised cost of all 1,941 projects, each valued at Rs 150 crore or higher, monitored by the statistics ministry, stood at Rs 41,50,159 crore compared to their original cost of Rs 35,88,861 crore.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/infra-projects-see-cost-overrun-of-rs-5-61-lakh-crore-in-march/articleshow/130498484.cms

Govt misses FY26 highway construction target due to delay in land acquisition

National highway construction in the last fiscal year stood at 9,380 km, below the target of 10,000 km, a senior road transport and highways ministry official said on Friday. The official told PTI that the shortfall was mainly due to delays in land acquisition and securing other clearances. Last fiscal year saw the shortest length of highway construction since 2017-18, when 9,829 km of highways were built. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs), including National Expressways.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/govt-misses-fy26-highway-construction-target-due-to-delay-in-land-acquisition/articleshow/130494662.cms

Air cargo growth slows to 6.2% in FY26 as against 10% in FY25

Air cargo movement across Indian airports grew by 6.2 per cent in FY26 to 39.63 lakh tonnes, compared with 37.33 lakh tonnes in the previous fiscal, reflecting underlying resilience despite global disruptions. However, growth moderated from the robust 10.5 per cent expansion recorded in FY25, according to Airports Authority of India data.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/air-cargo-growth-slows-to-62-in-fy26-as-against-10-in-fy25/article70908362.ece

Energy

India's power demand hits record 256 GW on Saturday amid heatwave surge

India's peak power demand hit a record 256 GW on Saturday as several parts of the country continued to reel under severe heatwave conditions. It marked a 4 GW rise from Friday's peak demand of 252 GW. The power ministry has projected a peak power demand of 263 MW in April and 271 GW for this year. The previous record of peak demand was at 250 GW in May 2024.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/indias-power-demand-hits-record-256-gw-on-saturday-amid-heatwave-surge/articleshow/130538069.cms

India denies RTI on Russia oil import data, cites strategic and commercial confidentiality

Data on oil imports from Russia to India cannot be provided as it is exempted under the RTI Act due to its "commercial and confidential" nature, according to the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) under the Oil Ministry, with the Central Information Commission too backing it, citing strategic and economic interests of the country.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/india-denies-rti-on-russia-oil-import-data-cites-strategic-and-commercial-confidentiality/articleshow/130530032.cms

Electricity trading. Power regulator's nudge towards 'market coupling'

Recently, the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) came out with a draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market; Second Amendment) Regulations, 2026, introducing reforms aimed at advancing market coupling. This follows an earlier order dated July 2025. CERC has called for public comments on the draft regulations.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/specials/clean-tech/power-regulators-nudge-towards-market-coupling/article70909204.ece

Healthcare

SC asks states, UTs to prepare action plan to implement guidelines for intensive care services

The Supreme Court has asked all the states and Union Territories to prepare a "realistic and practical" action plan to implement the guidelines necessary as a minimum standard for intensive care units. The apex court was informed that "Guidelines for Organisation and Delivery of Intensive Care Services", on which there is consensus and which is practical, implementable and necessary as a minimum standard for an ICU, has been prepared.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/sc-asks-states-uts-to-prepare-action-plan-to-implement-guidelines-for-intensive-care-services/articleshow/130511750.cms

External

Exporters upbeat as India, New Zealand set to sign FTA on Monday

The India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA), set for official signing this Monday, has sparked enthusiasm among Indian exporters, especially those in labour-intensive sectors such as engineering goods, gems and jewellery, textiles and leather, who seek to benefit most from tariff elimination immediately upon implementation.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/exporters-upbeat-as-india-new-zealand-set-to-sign-fta-on-monday/article70908995.ece

70% of Indian goods to enter New Zealand duty-free under FTA; big boost for MSMEs, says Piyush Goyal

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Sunday said India and New Zealand will sign a long-pending bilateral trade agreement on April 27 (Monday), marking a key step to boost trade ties between the two countries. Speaking during his visit to Agra with New Zealand's Minister for Trade and Investment, Todd McClay, Goyal said the agreement was finalised after years of discussions at the highest level.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/70-of-indian-goods-to-enter-new-zealand-duty-free-under-fta-big-boost-for-msmes-says-piyush-goyal/article70907841.ece

India plans global diplomatic push across Europe, Africa, BRICS and Quad in May

India will champion multipolarity through a series of high-impact diplomatic engagements with the global south, Europe, BRICS and Quad next month, said people privy to the details. While Prime Minister Narendra Modi will tour Europe for the India-Nordic summit and visits to Italy and Netherlands in mid-May, India is expected to host the fourth edition of the Africa Summit on May 31. Several African leaders could attend the summit. The top leaders of Vietnam and Cyprus are also expected to visit India in May.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-plans-global-diplomatic-push-across-europe-africa-brics-and-quad-in-may/articleshow/130525514.cms

India approves Rs 30 billion for Maldives under SAARC currency swap

India has approved withdrawal of Rs 30 billion for the Maldives under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework, the Indian High Commission in Male said on Thursday, reaffirming New Delhi's role as a key financial partner for its island neighbour. The drawdown comes on the same day that Maldives settled a $400 million swap facility availed in October 2024 under the US Dollar/Euro Swap Window of the bilateral agreement between the Reserve Bank of India

and the Maldives Monetary Authority. The settlement reflects the Maldives government's commitment to meeting its financial obligations, the Maldives Foreign Ministry said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/india-approves-rs-30-billion-for-maldives-under-saarc-currency-swap/articleshow/130482966.cms

US slaps 123% anti-dumping duty on Indian solar imports

The US has announced a preliminary anti-dumping duty of 123.04% on solar cells and modules from India, a move expected to further restrict shipments to the key market, though most manufacturers are said to have already diversified exports. India's solar industry said the decision to impose steep preliminary anti-dumping duties on cells and modules from India will have limited immediate impact on domestic exporters, but remains a matter of concern.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/us-slaps-123-anti-dumping-duty-on-indian-solar-imports/articleshow/130502464.cms