

April 30, 2026 – Thursday

Economy

Working on Jan Vishwas bill 3 to further improve business environment: Piyush Goyal

After decriminalising a number of minor offences under various laws, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday said the government is working on a third edition of the Jan Vishwas bill that will focus on simplifying processes and reducing intimidating forms to make doing business easier and more comfortable. On April 2, Parliament passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026, to amend 784 provisions in 79 central laws for decriminalising and rationalising minor offences to further improve the business environment and check harassment of people. The bill has rationalised over 1,000 offences by amending these provisions.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/woking-on-jan-vishwas-bill-3-to-further-improve-business-environment-piyush-goyal/articleshow/130613323.cms

RBI launches 3 key surveys for monetary policy input

The Reserve Bank on Wednesday announced the commencement of three key surveys, including on inflation expectations, to collect inputs for its monetary policy. The RBI said it has launched the May 2026 round of the 'inflation expectations survey of households' to capture subjective assessments on price movements and inflation, based on their individual consumption baskets, across 19 cities. The central bank also announced the launch of the May 2026 rounds of the rural consumer confidence survey and urban consumer confidence survey.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-launches-3-key-surveys-for-monetary-policy-input/articleshow/130612410.cms

West Asia crisis creates a need to reprioritise policies and fiscal spending: CEA Nageswaran

The ongoing tensions in West Asia present significant macroeconomic risks in FY27 as the conflict emerges as a short-term challenge to India's long-term goals, Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran said on Wednesday. Framing the choice as one between *Sreya* (delayed gratification) and *Preya* (instant gratification), he emphasised that India's growth strategy must focus on medium- to long-term investments even as macroeconomic risks rise in the near term.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/west-asia-crisis-creates-a-need-to-reprioritise-policies-and-fiscal-spending-cea-nageswaran/article70921556.ece

Finance

Finance Ministry caps outlay for schemes pending 16th Finance Commission approval

The finance ministry has capped front-loading of expenditure under central sector schemes and sponsored schemes (CSS) that have the appraisal and approval pending for continuation under the 16th Finance Commission cycle. Allocation to these will be restricted to the first two quarters in this financial year, said officials. The move was initiated after many ministries were not able to complete the mandatory appraisal of schemes by the March 31 deadline.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/finance-ministry-caps-outlay-for-schemes-pending-16th-finance-commission-approval/articleshow/130616846.cms

SEBI operationalises PaRRVA to verify performance claims of market intermediaries

The market regulator has operationalised the Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA) framework to enhance transparency in performance claims made by market intermediaries. Care Ratings has been granted recognition as the PaRRVA, while National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) will function as the PaRRVA Data Centre (PDC), in line with the regulatory framework issued on April 4, 2025, SEBI said in a statement.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-operationalises-parrva-to-verify-performance-claims-of-market-intermediaries/article70921821.ece

RBI overhauls framework for Banks for handling loans affected by natural disasters

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has overhauled the framework for Banks for handling loans affected by natural disasters in a bid to streamline relief measures and ensure faster support to borrowers. The new rules titled "Resolution of Accounts Impacted by Calamities," under the "Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks – Resolution of Stressed Assets) Second Amendment Directions, 2026," outline how banks should respond when borrowers face financial distress due to events such as floods, earthquakes, or civil disturbances.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-overhauls-framework-for-banks-for-handling-loans-affected-by-natural-disasters/article70921629.ece

Indian refiners limit use of special FX credit line, sources say, spelling more rupee strain

India's state-run oil refiners are making limited use of a special FX credit line offered by the country's largest bank that aims to ease pressure on the rupee, three sources familiar with the matter said, signalling worries that the rupee will fall further. The rupee, which had recovered from near 95 per U.S. dollar to around 92.50 in recent weeks after the Reserve Bank of India tookseveral steps to support the currency, is back under pressure, drifting near to its all-time low of 95.21.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/indian-refiners-limit-use-of-special-fx-credit-line-sources-say-spelling-more-rupee-strain/article70920914.ece

Bank credit growth slows to 14.88% in April fortnight, says RBI

Bank credit growth slowed to 15 per cent in the fortnight ended April 15, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said on Wednesday. According to the latest data, the pace of lending growth slowed down to 14.88 per cent year-on-year (YoY) in the fortnight ended April 15, as compared to 15.96 per cent recorded in the preceding fortnight.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/bank-credit-growth-slows-to-1488-in-april-fortnight-says-rbi/article70920851.ece

Banks asked to expand digital infra for last-mile reach

The government has asked banks to complement physical branches with digital banking infrastructure, including assisted modes and vernacular language availability, for last-mile reach. Financial services secretary M Nagaraju on Wednesday reviewed the progress of financial inclusion schemes with public sector banks (PSBs) and major private banks.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/banks-asked-to-expand-digital-infra-for-last-mile-reach/articleshow/130617051.cms

Industry

Air passenger traffic slips marginally in March

India's domestic air passenger traffic slipped marginally in March 2026, as airlines adopted calibrated capacity deployment and raised fares amid elevated Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices. According to data released by the DGCA, scheduled domestic airlines carried around 1.44 crore passengers during March 2026, compared with nearly 1.45 crore passengers in March 2025.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/air-passenger-traffic-slips-marginally-in-march/article70921532.ece

Global consumer products makers reported strong growth momentum in India in March quarter

Global packaged consumer goods makers reported strong growth for their India businesses in the March quarter. Mondelez International and Reckitt said that they witnessed double-digit growth in the country in the first quarter of 2026. While Coca-Cola noted that the global volume growth was led by markets including India, L'Oreal pointed out that the India business advanced strongly during the quarter.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/global-consumer-products-makers-reported-strong-growth-momentum-in-india-in-march-quarter/article70921540.ece

Agriculture

India invokes WTO peace clause for FY25 rice subsidies for farmers

India has invoked the peace clause for the seventh time for exceeding the 10% ceiling on subsidies offered to rice farmers under the World Trade Organisation rules. The country informed the WTO on Wednesday that it gave subsidies worth $7.6 billion to rice farmers in 2024-25, which was about 11.85% of the value of production at $64.13 billion. The peace clause protects India's food procurement programmes against action from WTO members in case the subsidy ceilings (de minimis)-10% of value of food production in the case of India and other developing countries-are breached.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-invokes-wto-peace-clause-for-fy25-rice-subsidies-for-farmers/articleshow/130616628.cms

Argentina emerges as India's main supplier of edible oils

Argentine Ambassador to India Mariano Caucino has stated that "Argentina and India enjoy a very elevated degree of complementarity" and pointed out that India has become the sixth-largest economic partner of the South American nation. Speaking at a recent diplomatic conclave organized by Worsen University in Hyderabad, Caucino emphasized that "our countries maintain a growing economic interaction stemming from the objective complementarity between our economies".
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/argentina-emerges-as-indias-main-supplier-of-edible-oils/articleshow/130605142.cms

Armed with Govt missive, India's APEDA poised to take up GMO rice issue with China

India's agri export promotion body APEDA has received communication from the Environment Ministry and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) that genetically modified (GM) rice is not allowed for cultivation, making the country free from GMO risk while exporting the cereal. APEDA has the communication from regulatory authorities with regard to GMO crops as the agency plans to challenge the Chinese decision of rejecting some Indian consignments for alleged contamination with genetically modified material.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/armed-with-govt-missive-indias-apeda-poised-to-take-up-rice-gmo-issue-with-china/article70921171.ece

Infrastructure

India plans to add 92 vessels with ₹51,383 crore investment in FY27

India is working on a roadmap to add 92 vessels in the current financial year with an investment of Rs 51,383 crore, Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said on Wednesday. Sonowal further said that India targets an addition of 2.85 million GT capacity to strengthen the Atmanirbhar Shipping Push in the current fiscal. He also directed an actionable white paper on Maritime Gaps, targets, and Roadmap with inter-ministerial coordination.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/india-plans-to-add-92-vessels-with-51383-crore-investment-in-fy27/article70921966.ece

Energy

Oil firms selling petrol at Rs 14 a litre loss, diesel at Rs 18

Oil marketing companies are selling petrol and diesel at a loss of Rs 14 per litre and Rs 18 per litre, respectively, as elevated crude prices outpace capped retail fuel rates, squeezing marketing margins. Besides losses on petrol and diesel, the elevated energy prices post West Asia crisis are likely to leave companies with an under recovery of Rs 80,000 crore on cooking gas LPG in the current fiscal, while fertiliser subsidy is projected to rise to Rs 2.05 to 2.25 lakh crore.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/west-asia-crisis-oil-firms-selling-petrol-at-rs-14-a-litre-loss-diesel-at-rs-18/articleshow/130603382.cms

LPG under recoveries likely at ₹80,000 crore in FY27: ICRA

The West Asia conflict severely impacted India's supply of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) forcing the world's top energy consumer to procure costly cargoes to meet domestic demand, which is expected to push up under recoveries of the PSU oil marketing companies (OMCs). Ratings agency ICRA estimates domestic LPG under recoveries at ₹80,000 crore for FY27, if the current under recoveries continue for the entire fiscal year.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/lpg-under-recoveries-likely-at-80000-crore-in-fy27-icra/article70920690.ece

Telecom

Govt tests mobile disaster alert system; asks public to ignore trial messages

The government is conducting trials of mobile-based disaster alert systems across the country and has asked citizens to ignore messages that they will receive during tests, an official statement said on Wednesday. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), is actively enhancing mobile-based disaster communication systems across the country to ensure the timely dissemination of critical information to its citizens.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/govt-tests-mobile-disaster-alert-system-asks-public-to-ignore-trial-messages/article70921828.ece

States

Andhra Pradesh natural farming initiative among 4 finalists for Food Planet Prize

The Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) has been named one of four global finalists for the 2026 Food Planet Prize. APCNF, a state-government-led initiative implemented through women's self-help groups and a farmer-to-farmer extension, covers over 1.8 million farmers with an aggregate area of about 9 lakh hectares in 8,168 villages. The 10-year-old initiative promotes natural farming practices in the mandate areas.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/andhra-pradesh-natural-farming-initiative-among-4-finalists-for-food-planet-prize/article70921205.ece

Maharashtra announces AI Policy 2026 with ₹10,000 crore investment

Maharashtra government unveiled a 'State AI Policy-2026' during a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday, that calls for a State AI Mission to boost the adoption of artificial intelligence across State industries, administration, and public services. The policy sets goals of attracting investments exceeding ₹10,000 crore and generating over 1.5 lakh job opportunities by 2031 as part of State government's plan to make Maharashtra the 'National Hub for Ethical and Inclusive AI Development.'

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/maharashtra-announces-ai-policy-2026-with-10000-crore-investment/article70920765.ece

External

India, Kenya discuss possibility of trade settlement in local currencies

India and Kenya have discussed the possibility of settling trade transactions in local currencies to further promote two-way commerce, an official statement said on Wednesday. Discussions on digital public infrastructure covered collaboration on UPI-like payment systems, Bharat Connect and digital platforms to enhance financial inclusion,

which also helps officials of the two nations. These issues were discussed in the India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee meeting on April 27-28.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-kenya-discuss-possibility-of-trade-settlement-in-local-currencies/articleshow/130606614.cms

Govt develops export monitoring framework to meet FY31 $2 trillion export target

The Department of Commerce has developed a structured Export Monitoring Framework which breaks down the national target into sector-wise actions across engineering goods, textiles, electronics, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and services for India to reach its target of $2 trillion of goods and services exports by 2030-31, the government said Wednesday. The achievement of the target will be based on key pillars- clearly defined and actionable points, classified as supply-side or demand-side linked to key performance indicators and aligned with short, medium and long-term timelines, the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/govt-develops-export-monitoring-framework-to-meet-fy31-2-trillion-export-target/articleshow/130613713.cms

Export outlook for April positive; FTAs to drive growth: Goyal

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said India's goods exports in the first three weeks of April have increased despite the West Asia crisis noting that the recent free trade agreements (FTAs) signed by India and an additional dozen being negotiated would give a big boost to the domestic industry. The Minister also chaired a high-level review meeting on Wednesday to deliberate on the plan of action for achieving India's $2 trillion export target by 2030–31 and to review the implementation of the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), per an official statement.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/export-outlook-for-april-positive-ftas-to-drive-growth-goyal/article70921486.ece