

May 22, 2026 – Friday

Economy

India considering several measures to stop CAD from widening further, says Piyush Goyal

India is closely tracking external sector trends and evaluating a range of measures to prevent any sharp deterioration in the current account deficit (CAD), Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday, amid continued pressure on the rupee and an uncertain global trade environment. Goyal said multiple departments of the government were coordinating efforts to address emerging economic challenges arising from volatile global conditions. He indicated that policymakers were examining additional interventions to manage external sector risks and maintain macroeconomic stability.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/india-considers-several-measures-to-stop-current-account-deficit-from-widening-further/articleshow/131242662.cms

India Inc's foreign investments more than double in April

Overseas direct investments (ODI) by Indian companies more than doubled month-on-month in April to $3.37 billion, despite heightened geopolitical tensions following the West Asia conflict and a sharp depreciation in the rupee. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed overseas direct investment was driven largely by equity investments. Outward investment stood at $1.61 billion in March this year and $1.97 billion in April 2025.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/india-incs-foreign-investments-more-than-double-in-april/articleshow/131251487.cms

RBI board may approve ₹2.8-3.3 trillion surplus transfer on Friday

The Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is scheduled to meet on Friday to decide on the surplus transfer to the government for 2025-26 (FY26), with economists expecting the payout to exceed FY25's record dividend of ₹2.7 trillion. Economists expect the dividend transfer to be in the range of ₹2.8 trillion to ₹3.3 trillion, supported by higher interest income and the possibility of lower provisioning towards contingency reserves.
https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/rbi-board-may-approve-2-8-3-3-trillion-surplus-transfer-on-friday-126052101733_1.html

RBI not in favour of rate hikes to defend rupee, prioritises inflation, sources say

India's central bank does not see interest rate hikes as the best way to defend the embattled rupee, three sources said, a position at odds with markets, reinforcing that inflation - not the currency - will guide policy on borrowing costs. The Reserve Bank of India has other levers it has yet to deploy, according to the sources familiar with the RBI's thinking, which Reuters reported earlier included options such as dollar deposit schemes for non-resident Indians and tax tweaks for debt investors.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/rbi-not-in-favour-of-rate-hikes-to-defend-rupee-prioritises-inflation-sources-say/article71009152.ece

Finance

SEBI proposes new rules for IPO, re-listed stock opening price discovery

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has proposed a new framework for price discovery in IPOs and re-listed stocks, including changes to base price calculations, automatic widening of dummy price bands and stricter conditions for successful price discovery during the pre-open call auction session. SEBI has proposed using the latest closing price within the previous six months as the base price for re-listed shares if trading resumes within six months of suspension.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/stock-markets/sebi-proposes-new-rules-for-ipo-re-listed-stock-opening-price-discovery/article71006804.ece

India bonds seen choppy as market eyes debt sale amid rate hike fears; RBI dividend to support

Indian government bonds are set for a choppy trading session on Friday as a fresh debt supply and concerns of rate hikes will be in focus, but rising bets of a record surplus transfer from the central bank will limit any major selloff. The benchmark 6.48 per cent 2035 bond yield is expected to move in the 7.07 per cent - 7.14 per cent range, a private bank trader said. It had ended at 7.1134 per cent on Thursday. Bond prices move inversely to yields.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/india-bonds-seen-choppy-as-market-eyes-debt-sale-amid-rate-hike-fears-rbi-dividend-to-support/article71009043.ece

Industry

Insurance ombudsmen resolved 41,055 complaints in FY26

The Insurance Ombudsman resolved 41,055 grievances, during 2025-26, of which 79 per cent were decided in favour of the policy holders. This was disclosed by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) here on Thursday at an orientation programme for insurance ombudsmen.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/insurance-ombudsmen-resolved-41055-complaints-in-fy26/article71007340.ece

Govt relaxes insolvency rules for MSMEs

The government has notified changes to the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, easing rules for resolution in micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), while tightening conditions to prevent conflicts of interest in pre-packaged insolvency resolution. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026, mandates the appointment of only one registered valuer per asset class for MSMEs, reducing the administrative and financial burden, unless the committee formally justifies the need for two.
http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/insolvency-rules-relaxed-for-msmes/articleshow/131250977.cms

Companies brace for take-home pay concerns on Labour Code-led salary restructuring

As companies begin to align employee pay structures with the new Labour Code, the impact on take-home pay is emerging as the biggest discussion point within India Inc, more so in the appraisal season. Companies are realising that clear communication will be the biggest determinant of how employees perceive the transition.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/companies-brace-for-take-home-pay-concerns-on-labour-code-led-salary-restructuring/article71007130.ece

India's unincorporated businesses rise to 9.2 crores in Q4FY26

India's small businesses are expanding, with the number of unincorporated establishments rising 16.7% to 9.2 crores in the January-March quarter from 7.9 crores in the same period last year, driven by stronger activity in rural areas, according to the quarterly bulletin of the unincorporated sector enterprises (QBUSE) released Thursday. Employment in these enterprises also increased, climbing 15.5% year-on-year to 151.7 million in Q4FY26, supported by robust growth in the services sector.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/indias-unincorporated-businesses-rise-to-9-2-crores-in-q4fy26/articleshow/131248449.cms

Agriculture

IIRR's direct seeded rice initiative increases yields by 8-13%

A Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) initiative by the Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), an Indian Council of Agricultural Research agency, in partnership with the SBI Foundation, has shown that rice yields can rise 8-13 per cent over conventional transplanted cultivation across seasons. The project also demonstrated a 21-23 per cent reduction in cultivation costs per acre, leading to higher net returns for farmers.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/iirrs-direct-seeded-rice-initiative-increases-yields-by-8-13/article71006097.ece

India needs to raise food grains production to 450 million tonnes by 2047: Chaudhari

India needs to increase food grains production to 450 million Tonnes by 2047, and make information and communication technology-driven agricultural efficiency a national imperative, Fertiliser Association of India (FAI) Director General SK Chaudhari said on Wednesday. Speaking at the inauguration of FAI's four-day national training programme on information and communication technology (ICT) for smart fertiliser management in Kufri, Shimla, Chaudhari stressed that making the intelligent use of technology in agriculture and the fertiliser sector was no longer an option but a national priority.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-needs-to-raise-food-grains-production-to-450-million-tonnes-by-2047-chaudhari/articleshow/131240615.cms

Energy

US seeks to boost energy exports to India as Rubio visits Delhi

The Trump administration wants to boost energy exports to India, the US ambassador in New Delhi said on Wednesday, ahead of a multi-day visit by Secretary of State Marco Rubio to the world's most populous country. "India has been receptive to diversification, and what that means is buying more American energy," Ambassador Sergio Gor said in a phone interview. "People have been very receptive to buying from the United States, and we've been very happy with that."
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/us-seeks-to-boost-energy-exports-to-india-as-rubio-visits-delhi/articleshow/131238772.cms

Efforts being made to ensure adequate fuel supply at petrol pumps, says govt official

Demand has surged at fuel stations operated by state-run oil companies in some areas due to higher prices at private sector pumps, as well as a shift by bulk consumers to retail outlets, a petroleum ministry official said on Thursday, following multiple reports of fuel stations running dry in some states. "Efforts are being made to ensure adequate supplies at pumps," Sujata Sharma, joint secretary in the petroleum ministry, said. The country has sufficient supplies of crude, petrol, diesel and natural gas, she added.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/efforts-being-made-to-ensure-adequate-fuel-supply-at-petrol-pumps-says-govt-official/articleshow/131251482.cms

Venezuela third largest supplier of crude to India in May

Venezuela has emerged as India's third-largest crude oil supplier so far in May, overtaking heavy weights Saudi Arabia and the US, and trailing only Russia and the United Arab Emirates, as Reliance Industries and other refiners stepped up purchases of its cheaper, heavier grades. The South American country has supplied 417,000 barrels per day(bpd) to India so far this month, up from 283,000 bpd in April and zero supplies in the previous nine months, according to energy cargo tracker Kpler. Supplies from Venezuela resumed last month after the US eased curbs on its exports, weeks after capturing its president, Nicholas Maduro, in January.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/venezuela-third-largest-supplier-of-crude-to-india-in-may/articleshow/131251047.cms

India's peak power demand hits 271 GW, breaks record for fourth straight day

India's 'peak power demand met' on Thursday was within touching distance of the projected level of 271 GW for May, a jump of nearly 5 GW in a single day, as citizens run their fans and air conditioners in the day and at nights to

beat the searing heat. The peak power demand in solar hours reached 270.82 GW and was successfully met, the power ministry posted on X.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/indias-peak-power-demand-hits-271-gw-breaks-record-for-fourth-straight-day/articleshow/131251007.cms

PVUNL's capacity rises to 1,600 mw, NTPC group crosses 90 gw milestone

Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (PUVNL), a joint venture between NTPC Ltd and Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Ltd, has commenced trial operations of the second 800 mw unit at its Patratu Super Thermal Power Project, taking the project's total installed capacity to 1,600 mw. With the latest addition, the total installed capacity of the NTPC group has crossed the 90 GW mark, the company said in a statement.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/pvunls-capacity-rises-to-1600-mw-ntpc-group-crosses-90-gw-milestone/articleshow/131250599.cms

States

Assam, Odisha, UP and Bihar lead solar wave as rooftop boom outpaces India's grid readiness

India's rooftop solar market is beginning to move beyond the "1-in-4 wall" it hit in FY25, with PM Surya Ghar installations crossing 31 lakh households in FY26 and conversion rates improving from roughly one in four applicants to nearly one in two. But the country's electricity infrastructure is now emerging as the next major bottleneck in India's clean-energy transition and the next phase of rooftop solar growth, with rising summer power demand and the latest West Asia crisis sharpening concerns around energy security even as transformer saturation, DISCOM delays, reverse power-flow constraints and shortages of domestically compliant solar components slow installations across several states.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/assam-odisha-up-and-bihar-lead-solar-wave-as-rooftop-boom-outpaces-indias-grid-readiness/article71007848.ece

Odisha risks losing low-cost power after thermal policy amendment

The Odisha government's decision to reduce the state's entitlement to low-cost electricity from upcoming Independent Power Producer (IPP) thermal projects has sparked a debate in the energy sector, with experts alleging that the decision favours private players at the cost of the state's long-term energy security and public interest. The State Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Wednesday evening approved amendments to the Odisha Thermal Power Policy, 2008, in a move aimed at attracting fresh investments into the power sector. Once the policy is amended, the state's right to procure electricity from upcoming private thermal power plants at variable cost will be reduced from the existing 12-14 per cent to only 5 per cent.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/odisha-risks-losing-low-cost-power-after-thermal-policy-amendment-126052101815_1.html

UP govt plans nearly ₹600 crore investment to strengthen AI ecosystem

To position Uttar Pradesh (UP) as a leading artificial intelligence (AI) hub in South Asia, the state government has committed to invest almost ₹600 crore. The proposed investments entail allocations worth about ₹230 crore towards the UP AI Mission and the development of India's first 'AI City' with an investment of about ₹370 crore on the outskirts of Lucknow. To achieve its objectives, the state is scaling up infrastructure for technologies such as AI, Quantum Computing, and deep-tech innovations.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/up-govt-plans-nearly-600-crore-investment-to-strengthen-ai-ecosystem-126052101090_1.html

External

"Confident" US-India trade deal will be finalised in "coming weeks": Ambassador Gor

Highlighting the strong economic ties and momentum between the two democracies, US Ambassador Sergio Gor on Thursday expressed immense confidence regarding the finalisation of a landmark bilateral trade deal between Washington and New Delhi in the "coming weeks and months." Speaking at the Annual Leadership Summit of the American Chamber of Commerce in Delhi, Ambassador Gor underscored the core economic vision driving the

negotiations, stating, "President Trump's goal is to facilitate bilateral trade in a way that creates lucrative opportunities for American businesses and workers. Our current interim trade agreement is on the table to be finalised, unlocking prosperity for both nations."
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/confident-us-india-trade-deal-will-be-finalised-in-coming-weeks-ambassador-gor/articleshow/131246999.cms

India, six others flags UK steel curbs at WTO

India, along with six other countries, has reached out to the World Trade Organization (WTO), raising concern over the UK's latest steel safeguard measures that seek to limit tariff-free steel imports. At the WTO's Council for Trade In Goods meeting Wednesday, New Delhi asked the UK to find solutions that are least trade-restrictive in nature.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/steel/india-six-others-flags-uk-steel-curbs-at-wto/articleshow/131250552.cms

Indian Consulate to host webinar to help exporters sell their goods in US

The Consulate General of India in New York is organising a webinar aimed at providing comprehensive information for Indian exporters to bring their products into the US. The webinar titled "Discover Pathways for Export to USA for Indian Exporters and MSMEs" - being organised in collaboration with Walmart - will be held on May 29.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indian-consulate-to-host-webinar-to-help-exporters-sell-their-goods-in-us/articleshow/131241635.cms

US firms commit over USD 60 bn investment in last 6 months: Piyush Goyal

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday said investment commitments from American companies in the last six months are estimated to exceed USD 60 billion, including major data centre investments by firms such as Amazon and Google. He said India provides a trusted framework for global companies and combines scale, talent and market opportunity in a manner unmatched globally. Commitments from American industry in the last six months are estimated to be upwards of USD 60 billion, including major data centre investments by companies such as Amazon and Google, he said here at the Annual Leadership Summit of the American Chamber of Commerce.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/us-firms-commit-over-usd-60-bn-investment-in-last-6-months-piyush-goyal/articleshow/131246441.cms