


**May 27, 2026 – Wednesday**

## Economy

### Fuel price hikes may push inflation towards 5%, RBI likely to stay cautious: Economists

Fuel price hikes and higher import duties on gold and silver could push retail inflation to 5 per cent by June, but the RBI will wait and watch till the impact of fuel price hike settles in before tightening interest rates in the second half of the fiscal year, economists said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/fuel-price-hikes-may-push-inflation-towards-5-rbi-likely-to-stay-cautious-economists/articleshow/131329032.cms

## Finance

### USD/INR swap auction: Participants place bids for twice the $5 b notified amt

The US dollar (USD_/Indian Rupee (INR) buy/sell swap auction for three-year tenor conducted by the Reserve Bank of India on Tuesday received a good response, with participants offering to place $9.80 billion with the central bank against the notified amount of $5 billion. The swap auction was conducted to bolster the RBI's ability to intervene in the forex market to prevent excessive volatility in the Rupee.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/usdinr-swap-auction-participants-place-bids-for-twice-the-5-b-notified-amt/article71026182.ece

### RBI, rating firms assess Iran war risks on Indian companies

The Reserve Bank of India has held discussions with local credit-rating companies to gauge potential stress among borrowers caused by the US-Iran war, according to people familiar with the matter. The consultations were aimed at evaluating conditions on the ground so authorities would not be caught off guard if the conflict deepens, the people said, asking not to be identified because the discussions are private. The central bank also sought feedback on whether temporary regulatory relief may be needed to prevent a deterioration in borrowers' creditworthiness, they said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-rating-firms-assess-iran-war-risks-on-indian-companies/articleshow/131325197.cms

### GST 2.0 guidelines fail to resolve refund delays, say experts

Many large taxpayers are facing difficulties in obtaining goods and services tax (GST) refunds under the inverted duty structure (IDS), experts said, despite the Centre's instruction to facilitate provisional refunds, including 90 per cent of eligible amounts, within seven days of acknowledgement for low-risk cases. The mechanism allows businesses to claim refunds when the tax paid on inputs is higher than the tax payable on output supplies, leading to the accumulation of input tax credit. Although the government mandated such refunds under GST 2.0 guidelines issued in October 2025, experts said taxpayers with a clean compliance history are still experiencing delays, as their applications continue to be flagged as 'risky'.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/gst-2-0-guidelines-fail-to-resolve-mounting-refund-delays-say-experts-126052501353_1.html

**India sees 15% jump in education loans, touches decade-high ₹8.58 lakh crore in FY26**

Rising tuition fees, growing overseas education aspirations, and wider lender participation pushed education loans from banks to their sharpest annual growth in a decade in FY26. Outstanding education loans from banks rose nearly 15 per cent year-on-year to ₹8.58 lakh crore in FY26 from ₹7.46 lakh crore in FY25, according to data from Reserve Bank of India's latest bulletin. The loan book had contracted in FY22 and FY23 before recovering in the last two fiscals.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/data-stories/data-focus/indias-bank-education-loans-record-decade-high-15-jump-to-858-lakh-crore-in-fy26/article71025344.ece

## Industry

**IBC 2.0 takes effect as MCA notifies major insolvency reforms**

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has notified May 26 as the appointed date for bringing into force 57 clauses, along with parts of four other clauses, of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2026, marking the formal rollout of "IBC 2.0". The operationalised provisions include creditor-led resolution mechanisms, an overhaul of the liquidation process, stricter timelines and measures aimed at reducing delays in insolvency proceedings.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/ibc-20-takes-effect-as-mca-notifies-major-insolvency-reforms/article71025099.ece

**Ship-building scheme gets 12 applications seeking incentives**

The government has received a dozen applications seeking incentives under the ₹24,736 crore Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme for local manufacturing of specialised high-value vessels. The scheme, launched last September, aims to make domestic shipyards more competitive by bridging the cost arbitrage with foreign rivals in vessel supply bids. Towards this, Indian bidders will get financial support of 15-25% per vessel.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/ship-building-scheme-gets-12-applications-seeking-incentives/articleshow/131336912.cms

## Agriculture

**Indian cotton body projects 7% increase in crop area this year**

Trade body Cotton Association of India (CAI) expects the area under fibre crop in the upcoming 2026 sowing season to rise by 7 per cent, based on the reports received from various states. Farmers, encouraged by the remunerative prices and better income realised during the current season, are expected to bring a larger area under cotton cultivation during the next (crop) year (July-June), said Vinay N Kotak, President, CAI and Atul S Ganatra, Chairman, CAI Crop Committee, in a statement.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indian-cotton-body-projects-7-increase-in-crop-area-this-year/article71025750.ece

**India cancels soymeal export deals, turns to Africa for soybean imports**

Indian traders have cancelled 25,000 metric tons of soymeal export contracts for the first time since 2021 and booked 80,000 tons of imports from African countries after soaring domestic prices reversed trade flows, trade sources said. The cancellations are likely to help soymeal suppliers in North and South America boost shipments to Asian buyers that traditionally source from India. India's soybean purchases are also allowing African exporters to sell the oilseed at a hefty premium to global benchmark prices.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-cancels-soymeal-export-deals-turns-to-african-soybean-imports/articleshow/131325796.cms

### Organised plywood industry flags diversion of agriculture-grade urea

Amid a spiralling West Asia crisis, India's roughly Rs 248-billion plywood industry is asking the Union government to crack down on large-scale diversion of subsidised agriculture-grade urea into the unorganised part of the industry, which is estimated to be causing a financial loss of up to Rs 10,000 crore to the national exchequer. Industry sources said senior executives from the organised plywood sector have approached the Parliament Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilisers and, through it, the central government, highlighting the growing menace of diversion of agriculture-grade urea into technical usage.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/agriculture/organised-plywood-industry-flags-diversion-of-agriculture-grade-urea-126052601832_1.html

## Infrastructure

### IRFC refinances Hyderabad metro's ₹13,527 crore debt

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has signed a term loan agreement to refinance ₹13,527 crore debt obligations of Hyderabad Metro Rail project Monday. This marks the public sector undertaking's entry into metro rail financing. Officials expect this agreement with L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Ltd to help the project report a profit next year.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/railways/irfc-refinances-hyderabad-metros-13527-crore-debt/articleshow/131315980.cms

### Highways ministry approves Rs 1,428 crore for four-lane Thiruvarur bypass

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has approved Rs 1,427.61 crore for the construction of a 4-lane Thiruvarur bypass on the Nagapattinam-Thanjavur section of NH-83 in Tamil Nadu. According to an official statement on Tuesday, the project spans 14.9 km and also includes the construction of two additional Road Over Bridges (ROBs) on NH-129A and NH-134A.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/highways-ministry-approves-rs-1428-crore-for-four-lane-thiruvarur-bypass/articleshow/131332164.cms

## Energy

### India raises CNG prices by Rs 2/kg across key regions for fourth time in two weeks

Compressed Natural Gas prices have seen another hike in New Delhi. This is the fourth increase in just two weeks. Consumers in the National Capital Region and other cities are now paying more for CNG. Petrol and diesel prices have also risen multiple times recently. These increases are linked to global energy market volatility and rising crude oil prices.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/india-raises-cng-prices-by-rs-2/kg-across-key-regions-for-fourth-time-in-two-weeks/videoshow/131320816.cms

### CIL allays coal crisis fears, says 168 mt buffer available to meet demand

State-run Coal India Limited (CIL) on Tuesday said adequate coal stocks are available in the system to meet rising summer power demand, seeking to allay concerns over possible shortages at thermal power plants. The company said a total coal buffer of 168 million tonnes (MT) is currently available, including inventories at power plants, CIL mine heads, transit points, and coal being transported through rail networks.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/coal-india-says-168-mt-coal-buffer-adequate-for-summer-power-demand-126052601618_1.html

## States

### Gujarat govt's 'revolutionary' decision to provide Rs 1,500 cr financial relief to sugar cooperatives

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has taken a landmark decision in the interest of sugarcane farmers and the cooperative sector by officially approving the sugarcane prices paid by cooperative societies. Providing details of this decision, Agriculture and Cooperation Minister Jitubhai Vaghstated that the State Government has granted official

approval to the sugarcane prices paid by sugar cooperative societies to sugarcane farmers during the period from 2007-08 to 2014-15, according to the release.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/gujarat-govts-revolutionary-decision-to-provide-rs-1500-cr-financial-relief-to-sugar-cooperatives/articleshow/131327779.cms

**Andhra Pradesh, Sidbi to set up 'angel fund' for startups**

In a big move to encourage deep-tech startups, the Andhra Pradesh government is set to create an "angel fund" to help startups in AI, deep tech, electronics, quantum technologies and advanced manufacturing.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/andhra-pradesh-sidbi-to-set-up-angel-fund-for-startups/articleshow/131337189.cms

## Healthcare

**IRDAI asks insurers to link pay packages of top executives to customer-centric metrics, financial health**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has directed insurers to link remuneration packages of MDs, CEOs and other senior management to customer-centric outcomes and overall financial health of the company. In a circular on remuneration to key management persons (KMPs), the regulator has outlined the 'parameters forming the basis of remuneration package (including incentives) of key managerial personnel which include to customer-centric outcomes such as claim responsiveness and grievance redressal.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/irdai-asks-insurers-to-link-pay-packages-of-top-executivesto-customer-centric-metrics-financial-health/article71025418.ece

**Climate change fuelling growth of antibiotic-resistant Salmonella: Study**

Climate change is linked to a 10 per cent global increase in antibiotic-resistance genes in Salmonella, according to new research that suggests warming temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns could accelerate the spread of hard-to-treat infections. The study — conducted by researchers from multiple institutes including the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the University of Cambridge — analysed more than 4,80,000 Salmonella genomes collected from 139 countries between 1940 and 2023
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/climate-change-fuelling-growth-of-antibiotic-resistant-salmonella-study/article71027614.ece

## External

**Quad vows to invest $20 billion towards critical minerals supply chains**

The four Quad partners, India, Australia, Japan and the United States, are set to mobilise up to $20 billion investment to strengthen critical minerals supply chains, as a key step to reduce import dependence and support local industries. In the Quad Critical Minerals Initiative Framework released Tuesday, the nations announced the intent to mobilize up to $20 billion in government and private sector support through new and existing efforts to strengthen critical minerals supply chains, including in mining, processing, and recycling through various actions.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/quad-vows-to-invest-20-billion-towards-critical-minerals-supply-chains/articleshow/131323929.cms

**India, US seal critical minerals and rare earths pact amid global supply chain race**

India and the United States on Tuesday signed a strategic agreement on critical minerals and rare earths, deepening cooperation in securing supply chains for key resources essential to semiconductors, electric vehicles, clean energy and defence technologies, amid growing global concerns over dependence on China-dominated supplies. The pact was signed during the Quad Foreign Ministers' meet, in External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio's presence.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-us-seal-critical-minerals-and-rare-earths-pact-amid-global-supply-chain-race/articleshow/131322410.cms

**India and Japan discuss long-term cooperation to boost workforce mobility**

India and Japan on Monday got into discussions in Tokyo for a long-term cooperation in skilled workforce mobility and human resource development, with mobility of highly skilled professionals from Delhi steadily increasing yearly in the recent past. Both sides are exploring ways to strengthen institutional partnerships and workforce exchange programmes.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/india-and-japan-discuss-long-term-cooperation-to-boost-workforce-mobility/article71025576.ece

**Jingle bell blues: Christmas orders from US, Europe drop 10-15% as West Asia crisis bites**

Christmas goods orders from the key markets of the US and Europe have declined 10-15% this year amid global economic uncertainties exacerbated by rising raw material prices, higher freight charges, and supply-chain disruptions due to the West Asia crisis. However, with a steady stream of inquiries, exporters are hopeful of finalising more orders in June. Exporters tend to get holiday-season related orders for the year during this period.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/jingle-bell-blues-christmas-orders-from-us-europe-drop-10-15-as-west-asia-crisis-bites/articleshow/131336477.cms

**Anti-dumping duties can save India $3 billion per year in forex: Report**

India can save $3 billion in foreign exchange annually if the Ministry of Finance imposes all the currently pending anti-dumping duty recommendations by the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), according to a report by the Centre for Domestic Economy Policy Research (C-DEP) and the Centre for WTO Studies (CWS).
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/levying-pending-anti-dumping-duties-can-save-india-3-billion-report-126052601436_1.html