

June 25, 2026 – Thursday

Economy

Service output index to debut next month with FY25 base

The government will launch the Index of Service Production (ISP) next month, a new high-frequency indicator aimed at tracking growth in the services sector, with 2024-25 as the base year, the statistics ministry said Wednesday. The index will cover sectors like wholesale and retail trade, transport, banking, insurance, telecommunications, hotels & restaurants, real estate, professional, scientific and technical services, and arts, entertainment & recreation.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/service-output-index-to-debut-next-month-with-fy25-base/articleshow/131969009.cms

MoSPI releases discussion paper to identify apt method to compile coal monetary asset accounts

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on Wednesday released a discussion paper to identify the most appropriate methodology for compilation of monetary asset accounts of coal in India. The paper presents a detailed conceptual framework for monetary valuation of non-renewable mineral and energy resources as prescribed in the SEEA Central Framework, according to a release by MoSPI.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/mospi-releases-discussion-paper-to-identify-apt-method-to-compile-coal-monetary-asset-accounts/articleshow/131963305.cms

Finance ministry, NFRA officials brief Par panel on corporate laws amendment bill

Finance ministry officials and the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) on Wednesday briefed a joint committee of Parliament on a bill to amend corporate laws. The Corporate Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, seeks to amend the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act, 2008, and the Companies Act to facilitate ease of doing business, decriminalise minor procedural defaults and modernise the country's corporate governance architecture.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/finance-ministry-nfra-officials-brief-par-panel-on-corporate-laws-amendment-bill/articleshow/131966979.cms

Govt holds inter-ministerial meet to operationalise G RAM G Act convergence framework ahead of July 1 rollout

The government on Wednesday held a high-level inter-ministerial consultation on the draft convergence framework under the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025, ahead of the law coming into effect from July 1.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/govt-holds-inter-ministerial-meet-to-operationalise-g-ram-g-act-convergence-framework-ahead-of-july-1-rollout/articleshow/131972591.cms

Finance

RBI finalises ₹1 lakh cr & above as asset size criteria for classifying a NBFC in Upper Layer

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has finalised ₹1 lakh crore and above as the asset size criteria for classifying a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) in the Upper Layer (UL). So, these NBFCs will be subject to enhanced regulatory

requirement. The aforementioned asset size criteria remain unchanged from the draft directions. Going by the asset size criteria, Tata Sons, which was to get listed by September 2025 per the regulatory criteria that requires NBFCs in the UL category to get listed within three years of them being identified as one, may have to get listed. It has a standalone asset size of about ₹1.75 lakh crore.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-finalises-1-lakh-cr-above-as-asset-size-criteria-for-classifying-a-nbfc-in-upper-layer/article71142979.ece

RBI proposes guidelines for banks to manage AI risks

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed rules requiring banks to strengthen oversight of risks tied to AI and machine-learning models, mandating board-approved policies, stronger controls and model inventories. RBI said banks must put in place a board-approved risk management framework covering all models, including those for AI and machine-learning.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-proposes-guidelines-for-banks-to-manage-ai-risks/article71141946.ece

RBI says no to special exposure relaxations for state NBFCs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has rejected calls by stakeholders to continue case-specific exemptions from concentration norms for government-owned NBFCs, saying that doing so goes against a principles-based framework and creates avoidable regulatory uncertainty. In amended directions published Wednesday, the central bank also rejected requests for an increase in single counterparty limits for exposures to public sector enterprises.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-says-no-to-special-exposure-relaxations-for-state-nbfcs/articleshow/131977159.cms

RBI tightens rules on recovery of excess pension payments

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday directed banks not to recover excess pension payments from government pensioners without first informing them and, where required, obtaining their consent, strengthening safeguards against abrupt debits from pension accounts.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-tightens-rules-on-recovery-of-excess-pension-payments/articleshow/131977157.cms

RBI enhances customer protection for electronic banking transactions

To enhance protection for customers, the Reserve Bank of India has asked banks to put in place a mechanism for compensation of up to ₹25,000 for small value fraudulent electronic banking transactions (EBTs), mandatorily send instant SMS alerts to its customers for all EBTs of value more than ₹500 and provide 24x7 access through various channels for reporting of fraudulent transactions.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-enhances-customer-protection-for-electronic-banking-transactions/article71142648.ece

Industry

India's E100 ethanol push could trigger ₹50,000 crore auto industry investment

India's E100 ethanol ambitions could trigger ₹37,000-50,000 crore of industry spending even as mobility experts expect flex-fuel vehicles to account for only a low single-digit share of the market by 2030. Industry estimates suggest the bill could include ₹22,000-30,000 crore in recurring engineering and product development costs, and another ₹15,000-20,000 crore in investment in testing facilities, supplier localisation, and manufacturing upgrades, making it one of the largest automotive technology bets since BS-VI.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/commodities/indias-e100-ethanol-push-could-trigger-50000-crore-auto-industry-investment/article71137254.ece

Government panel weighs key reforms in push for SEZ 2.0

The government panel reviewing India's Special Economic Zone (SEZ) framework will meet next week to hold stakeholder consultations on a series of reforms that could form the basis of a new SEZ 2.0 policy. "The key proposals

on the agenda include discussions on allowing sales from SEZ units to the domestic tariff area (DTA) on a duty-foregone basis, permitting rupee-denominated payments for services supplied by SEZ units to domestic entities, and enabling SEZ units to undertake job work for DTA firms without linking such activity to exports," sources familiar with the discussions told *businessline*.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/government-panel-weighs-key-reforms-in-push-for-sez-20/article71141873.ece

Agriculture

India's 77 paddy & 65 maize-growing districts prone to at least 10% yield loss on El Nino impact

The Indian government's assessment of districts vulnerable to a possible El Niño impact this year is based on a historical analysis by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) of crop losses during previous El Niño years. ICAR has identified districts that had recorded at least a 10 per cent decline in production during the drought-bearing El Niño years of 2002, 2004 and 2009, creating a district-level vulnerability map for key rain-fed crops. The exercise flagged 77 districts in paddy, 65 in maize and 36 each in sorghum and millet as particularly susceptible to rainfall shocks associated with El Niño conditions.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indias-77-paddy-65-maize-growing-districts-prone-to-at-least-10-yield-loss-on-el-nino-impact/article71142283.ece#google_vignette

Exporters urge govt not to impose curbs on onions

Onion exporters have urged the Centre to hold back on plans to impose any curbs on overseas shipments after wholesale prices surged at Maharashtra's benchmark Lasalgaon market. The Horticulture Produce Exporters Association (HPEA) has written to the government, highlighting this could undermine overseas markets regained by India after previous export control measures.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/exporters-urge-govt-not-to-impose-curbs-on-onions/articleshow/131975458.cms

From export bans to price crashes: Why onion farmers need more than buffer stock purchases

For the past several years, onion farmers in Maharashtra, which accounts for a third of India's total output, have found themselves trapped in a recurring cycle: onion farming has become increasingly unviable, yet they can't shift to other crops. This year, they again are in the same situation. They say structural sector issues remain unaddressed, causing them to suffer despite repeated hikes in procurement prices and buffer stock operations.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/from-export-bans-to-price-crashes-why-onion-farmers-need-more-than-buffer-stock-purchases/articleshow/131956593.cms

Chilli acreage set to rebound during 2026-27 season on higher prices, low carry forward stocks

Chilli acreage is set to expand during the ongoing kharif season, with stakeholders expecting the area to return to 2024-25 levels on the back of higher prices and lower carry-forward stocks. Farmers in key producing States such as Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh are seen increasing the area under the spice crop.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/chilli-acreage-set-to-rebound-during-2026-27-season-on-higher-prices-low-carry-forward-stocks/article71142503.ece

Infrastructure

Rajasthan gets its first barrier-free toll plaza on the busy Delhi-Jaipur highway

Rajasthan has introduced its first Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling system at the Daulatpura Toll Plaza on the Delhi-Jaipur section of NH-48, with NHAI saying the barrier-free technology will enable faster vehicle movement through automated toll collection. The system combines FASTag and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology, while NHAI says it will help reduce waiting time, save fuel and improve traffic flow.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/videos/rajasthan-gets-its-first-barrier-free-toll-plaza-on-the-busy-delhi-jaipur-highway/videoshow/131957860.cms

Energy

India nears 50% domestic coal use in import-based power plants, sources say

India is increasing the use of domestic fuel to more than 50% at power plants designed to run on imported coal, as the world's second-largest thermal coal importer seeks to curb costly overseas purchases, government and industry officials said. The South Asian nation is already using domestic coal for operating 5.7 gigawatts capacity so far this year of the total 18.7 GW capacity at imported coal-based power plants, they said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/india-nears-50-domestic-coal-use-in-import-based-power-plants-sources-say/articleshow/131954130.cms

India-bound oil supertanker booked in Gulf at 897% of benchmark freight rate

A supertanker has been provisionally booked to transport oil from the Persian Gulf to India at a rate equivalent to almost nine times benchmark freight costs, an eye-watering price that reflects the shortage of available, empty vessels in the area. The very-large crude carrier, capable of handling about two million barrels of oil, will be supplied by South Korea shipowner Sinokor at 897 Worldscale points, or 897% of the benchmark, according to shipbrokers. That fee ranks as the highest so far this year, they added, asking not to be named as discussions are not public.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/india-bound-oil-supertanker-booked-in-gulf-at-897-of-benchmark-freight-rate/articleshow/131957758.cms

States

Andhra Pradesh announces 629 AEE jobs to strengthen power sector infrastructure

Andhra Pradesh minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar on Wednesday said the state government has initiated the process to recruit over 600 assistant executive engineers in the Energy Department, aimed at strengthening power utilities. Addressing a press conference, the Energy Minister said the AEEs will be deployed across various power sector utilities, taking a major step towards fulfilling commitments made to the youth through the coalition government's job calendar.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh-announces-629-aee-jobs-to-strengthen-power-sector-infrastructure/article71143090.ece

Industry leaders push for transparency, faster approvals in Tamil Nadu Industrial Policy 2026

he Tamil Nadu government is set to release its Industrial Policy 2026 soon, with Industries Minister S Keerthana seeking suggestions from leading industrialists on measures that should be incorporated into the new policy. At the Industry Leaders' Connect 2026, organised by Guidance Tamil Nadu on Tuesday, industry representatives recommended a stronger focus on creating high-gross-value-added products, promoting port-led industrial development, and addressing the migration of skilled talent to other States.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/industry-leaders-push-for-transparency-faster-approvals-in-tamil-nadu-industrial-policy-2026/article71142274.ece

External

India, US inch closer to interim trade pact after fresh talks

India and the US inched closer to an interim trade deal with New Delhi announcing Wednesday that significant headway has been reached during discussions on pathways to conclude the pact. Earlier in the day, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal and US trade representative Jamieson Greer concluded two days of negotiations aimed at finalising the first phase of a bilateral trade agreement (BTA).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-us-inch-closer-to-interim-trade-pact-after-fresh-talks/articleshow/131976017.cms

Goyal heads to UK ahead of India-UK trade pact rollout

Ahead of the entry into force of the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the companion Double Contribution Convention (DCC) on July 15, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal will visit

the UK from June 25-27 where he would meet hold a high-level bilateral meeting with the Peter Kyle, UK's Secretary of State for Business and Trade.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/goyal-heads-to-uk-ahead-of-india-uk-trade-pact-rollout/articleshow/131972104.cms

India targets $100 billion textile exports by 2030, focus on sustainability, FTAs

The textiles ministry has stepped up efforts to position India as a global textile hub, drawing up a roadmap to achieve $100 billion in textile exports by 2030 with a focus on sustainability and free trade agreements (FTAs). Sustainability emerged as a key theme during the two-day summit concluded Wednesday, with stakeholders highlighting the growing importance of traceability, recycling and compliance with global environmental standards. Industry representatives recommended adopting digital product passports, developing textile recycling ecosystems, and establishing easier compliance norms for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-targets-100-billion-textile-exports-by-2030-focus-on-sustainability-ftas/articleshow/131971635.cms

Russia and India working on increasing bilateral trade volumes: Kremlin spokesman

Russia and India are working on increasing bilateral trade volumes, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Wednesday, as the two countries pursue a trade target of $100 billion by 2030 from $60 billion now. Peskov, who attended the 12th Primakov Readings international academic and expert forum, also said that Russia and India share a notably privileged partnership.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/russia-and-india-working-on-increasing-bilateral-trade-volumes-kremlin-spokesman/articleshow/131967607.cms

India–Latin America trade set to double to $100 billion by 2030, says Uruguay envoy

Trade between India and Latin America is expected to double to USD 100 billion by 2030 from the current USD 50 billion, Alberto Antonio Guani Amarilla, Ambassador of Uruguay to India and Coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), told ANI on Wednesday, highlighting the growing economic partnership between the two regions.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indialatin-america-trade-set-to-double-to-100-billion-by-2030-says-uruguay-envoy/article71141231.ece#google_vignette

India-China border trade via Lipulekh Pass to resume after 6 yrs

The first batch of 26 Indian traders is expected to enter the Chinese territory of Tibet through the Lipulekh pass on June 26, marking the resumption of border trade after a six-year hiatus, according to administrative sources in Dharchula. Ashish Joshi, Trade Officer and Dharchula Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), said that 26 trade passes have been issued, which include 17 traders and nine helpers. A customs office has also been opened at Gunji to facilitate the process.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-china-border-trade-via-lipulekh-pass-to-resume-after-6-yrs/articleshow/131970644.cms