

July 7, 2026 – Tuesday

Economy

India Inc's import dependence remains stable despite global supply risks: BoB report

India Inc's import dependence has remained broadly stable despite concerns over global supply disruptions, with import intensity concentrated in only a few sectors rather than across the corporate sector, according to a report by Bank of Baroda. The report examined the import-to-net sales ratio of a sample of 1,372 companies, excluding banks and financial companies, across various sectors to assess their vulnerability to rising input costs amid the recent West Asia crisis.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/india-incs-import-dependence-remains-stable-despite-global-supply-risks-bob-report/article71189219.ece

Finance

Private insurers' commission payouts on the rise, mis-selling risk grows: RBI

The commissions being paid by the private insurers in the life and general insurance sector have shown a sharp rise and pose an increasing risk of mis-selling in insurance, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). While the public insurers had shown restraint in hiking the commissions from time to time, private insurers were 'aggressive' in offering hikes and a 'distinct divergence' in cost structure is evident between public and private insurers, the RBI said in its latest Financial Stability Report (FSR).
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/private-insurers-commission-payouts-on-the-rise-mis-selling-risk-grows-rbi/article71189371.ece

Smaller pvt banks may find mobilising FCNR (B) under RBI's limited period swap window a bit of a challenge

Small and mid-sized private sector banks, which have no overseas or GIFT City presence, may find mobilising fresh 3-5 year Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) deposits under the RBI's limited period swap window a bit of a challenge. Having no presence either overseas or in GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec) City, India's only International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), is likely to constrain their ability to provide leverage to these banks' Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/smaller-pvt-banks-may-find-mobilising-fcnr-b-under-rbis-limited-period-swap-window-a-bit-of-a-challenge/article71189300.ece

IDFC FIRST Bank launches EPFO-integrated PF payment services for businesses

IDFC FIRST Bank has launched Provident Fund (PF) payment services through its integration with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO). This integration enables establishments to initiate PF payments directly through the EPFO portal and seamlessly complete transactions, including real-time transaction confirmations and instant challan downloads, via the Bank's retail and corporate internet banking platforms, the private sector bank said in a statement.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/idfc-first-bank-launches-epfo-integrated-pf-payment-services-for-businesses/article71190796.ece

Industry

Alternative-fuel vehicles cross 40% share of India's passenger vehicle market for first time

Alternative-fuel vehicles grabbed a record 40.35 per cent share of India's passenger vehicle (PV) segment for the first time, fuelled by historic electric vehicle sales, data released by the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) on Monday showed. The combined share of compressed natural gas (CNG), hybrid, and electric vehicles crossed the 40 per cent milestone, with passenger EV retail sales hitting an all-time high of 31,823 units. The market share of petrol and ethanol-powered passenger vehicles slid to 43.63 per cent in June, down from 47.68 per cent during the same period last year.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/alternative-fuel-vehicles-cross-40-share-of-indias-passenger-vehicle-market-for-first-time/article71189685.ece#google_vignette

Govt relaxes verification norms for high-capacity weighing instruments

The government has eased the compliance requirements for standard weight verification carried out for weighing instruments having at least one tonne capacity, a move that will improve the ease of doing business for industries, warehouses, logistics operators and weighbridge owners. The Department of Consumer Affairs has issued the amended Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-relaxes-verification-norms-for-high-capacity-weighing-instruments/articleshow/132216627.cms

Zinc mine output down in 2025, but that of lead was up

Global zinc mine production dropped in 2025, but its output increased. On the other hand, mine and metal output of lead increased. The utilisation of zinc and lead increased during the year. In 2024, zinc mine production increased, but metal production and utilisation were down. In the case of lead, although utilisation increased, mine and metal production declined.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/commodities/zinc-mine-output-down-in-2025-but-that-of-lead-was-up/article71190171.ece

Agriculture

Paddy sowing down 13%, total Kharif acreage falls 21% due to low rainfall

Total sowing of kharif crops, including paddy, declined to 350.85 lakh hectares, a 21 per cent decrease from 442.8 lakh hectares last year, agriculture ministry data showed on Monday, citing low rainfall amid delayed progress of the southwest monsoon. As per the data, paddy acreage is down by 13 per cent to 60.24 lakh hectares till July 6 in the ongoing kharif season compared with 69.3 lakh hectares last year. The pulses sowing has also declined to 37.15 lakh hectares from 47.49 lakh hectares last year, the data showed. The area under coverage for Shri Anna cumulative coarse cereals fell to 60.12 lakh hectares from 71.86 lakh hectares.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/agriculture/paddy-sowing-down-13-total-kharif-acreage-falls-21-due-to-low-rainfall-126070700021_1.html

India's 163.65 LT fertilizer stock, rising production to help meet Kharif demand, says govt

Against the Kharif season's fertilisers demand of 383.9 lakh tonnes (lt) during April-September period, India has 163.65 lt of stock as of July 2, which is 43 per cent of the requirement. The government is confident of meeting the demand for July-September period due to continuous higher domestic production. As on July 2, urea stocks stood at 69.08 lt, di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) at 16.64 lt, Muriate of Potash (MoP) at 8.90 lt, complex (combination of N, P, K nutrients) at 45.64 lt and single super phosphate (SSP) at 23.09 lt, taking total availability to 163.35 lt.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indias-16365-lt-fertilizer-stock-rising-production-to-help-meet-kharif-demand-says-govt/article71190358.ece

Infrastructure

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flags off new train services in UP, UK and Maha; announces major rail push

On Monday, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flagged off the Nanded-Mumbai and Tanakpur-Nanded Express trains and inaugurated the extension of the Tanakpur-Pilibhit train service up to Shahjahanpur through video conferencing from Rail Sadan in Bhubaneswar. Speaking at the event via video conference, Vaishnaw said that these new train services will provide better connectivity and will be beneficial for passengers, especially the Sikh community in the Terai region of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/railways/railway-minister-ashwini-vaishnaw-flags-off-new-train-services-in-up-uk-and-maha-announces-major-rail-push/articleshow/132212136.cms

Energy

CEA issues advisory to Discoms for avoiding load shedding during peak demand period

The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has issued an advisory to Discoms recommending a slew of measures, including setting up emergency response teams, to tackle blackouts and create a summer response plan, to prevent load shedding during peak demand periods. Despite the overall adequacy of generation resources and availability of power in the grid, several States continue to experience outages and load shedding during the summer months, rued Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson of the CEA

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/cea-issues-advisory-to-discoms-for-avoiding-load-shedding-during-peak-demand-period/article71189536.ece

El Nino effect: Low rainfall, high humidity to push up coal-fired power generation in July-September

A deficient monsoon due to the El Nino effect coupled with high humidity is expected to push up coal-fired power generation to meet the rising electricity demand for cooling during the July to September this year. Sources said that power demand is likely to hit higher till September as rising humidity levels amidst deficient rainfall is forcing consumers to crank up cooling, pushing up electricity usage.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/el-nino-effect-low-rainfall-high-humidity-to-push-up-coal-fired-power-generation-in-july-september/article71190164.ece

Crude oil retreats, but India's fuel bills stay up

China has slashed fuel prices close to pre-war levels as crude oil steadily got cheaper. Indian private retailer Nayara Energy also cut rates, though state-run firms are yet to do so after incurring nearly-Rs 75,000 crore losses in Q1 amid delayed price hikes. ET wraps up the latest on price movements.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/crude-oil-retreats-but-indias-fuel-bills-stay-up/articleshow/132225350.cms

NTPC gets into action to develop mega PWR-based nuclear projects

NTPC plans to develop nuclear power capacity based on pressurised water reactor (PWR) technology and has invited expressions of interest (EoIs) from global consultants to prepare tender documents, evaluate bids and provide contract-award support for large-capacity projects. The last date for submission of EoIs is August 5.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/ntpc-gets-into-action-to-develop-mega-pwr-based-nuclear-projects/articleshow/132225282.cms

Bharat Petroleum to expand retail offerings, EV charging network

State-run Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) is revamping its marketing strategy to sell more than just fuel as it looks to expand its market share. The country's second-largest fuel retailer, with a market capitalisation of ₹1.33 lakh crore, plans to invest ₹10,000-12,000 crore this fiscal to expand its retail offerings and services aimed at making travel easier and more convenient.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/bharat-petroleum-to-expand-retail-offerings-ev-charging-network/articleshow/132225248.cms

Govt plans LNG buffer mandate for terminals

India is weighing a plan to fund emergency liquefied natural gas (LNG) stockpiles at import terminals by raising regasification tolls, according to people familiar with the matter. The Iran war and the resulting disruption to LNG supplies through the Strait of Hormuz exposed India's vulnerability to supply shocks, prompting policymakers to revive plans for strategic gas storage. The idea has been considered before, but was shelved largely because of its high cost.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/govt-plans-lng-buffer-mandate-for-terminals/articleshow/132224888.cms

India's power demand likely to grow 6% annually as renewable capacity additions stay strong

India's power demand is expected to grow at around 6 per cent annually over the next four to five years, supported by continued renewable energy capacity additions of 45-50 GW every year, according to a Centrum Institutional Research Q1FY27 power sector results preview report.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/indias-power-demand-likely-to-grow-6-annually-as-renewable-capacity-additions-stay-strong/articleshow/132211325.cms

States

Karnataka seeks to deepen investment ties with Hong Kong

Karnataka's Large and Medium Industries Minister MB Patil met with Rajesh Narayan, Consul General of India to Hong Kong and Macau, on Monday to discuss expanding economic partnerships. Highlighting the strength of the relationship, Minister Patil noted that bilateral trade between India and Hong Kong stood at $25.81 billion in 2024-25.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/karnataka-seeks-to-deepen-investment-ties-with-hong-kong/article71189535.ece

Healthcare

Regulator seeks views to curb similar sounding drug brands

In a move that could make it safer for patients to know exactly what medicine they are taking, India's apex drug regulatory body has sought comments aimed at curbing a confusing pharmaceutical marketing practice of selling different drugs under near-identical brand names.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/regulator-seeks-views-to-curb-similar-sounding-drug-brands/articleshow/132225237.cms

National-level co-operative life insurance company soon, says Amit Shah

Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Monday announced that a pan-India co-operative life insurance company will soon be established. This will mark the fifth national-level co-operative body launched by the NDA government, following the recent setup of dedicated entities for exports, seeds, organic products and taxi services.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/national-level-co-operative-life-insurance-company-soon-says-amit-shah/article71189698.ece

External

ASEAN seeks deeper tariff cuts as India pushes FTA review to narrow trade deficit

The ASEAN bloc is pressing for greater tariff concessions from India as negotiations to review the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) gather momentum, with New Delhi weighing calibrated tariff reductions in return for improved market access to address its widening trade deficit with the region, sources said. "While the ASEAN acknowledges the need to bridge India's trade deficit by offering greater market access to Indian goods, it too wants lower tariffs in India for some of its products. The Department of Commerce is taking inputs from the industry on products where tariffs can be further reduced or eliminated without adversely affecting domestic manufacturers," a person tracking the matter told *businessline*.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/asean-seeks-deeper-tariff-cuts-as-india-pushes-fta-review-to-narrow-trade-deficit/article71190141.ece

India, EU aim to complete FTA legal scrubbing in 15-20 days, says Piyush Goyal

India and the European Union are aiming to complete the legal scrubbing of their free trade agreement (FTA) within the next 15-20 days, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday, as both sides step up efforts to bring the pact into force by the first quarter of 2027. Goyal will visit Spain, Belgium and Finland on July 14-15 with a delegation of business leaders as part of preparations for implementing the trade pact. He is also scheduled to meet EU Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic in Brussels.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-aim-to-complete-fta-legal-scrubbing-in-15-20-days-says-piyush-goyal/articleshow/132224978.cms