

July 8, 2026 – Wednesday

Economy

FDI inflows to India increased by 44% to $39 billion in 2025: UN

Foreign Direct Investment inflows to India increased by 44 per cent in 2025 to USD 39 billion, according to the UN, which said the country continued to strengthen its position as a major investment destination. The 2026 World Investment Report, released Tuesday by United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), said global foreign direct investment showed resilience in 2025, but the recovery remained fragile.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/fdi-inflows-to-india-increased-by-44-to-39-billion-in-2025-un/articleshow/132242503.cms

Government Clears ₹1,238cr for 5 ITI Clusters; Rolls Out PM-SETU Scheme Nationwide

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on Tuesday approved strategic investment plans worth ₹1,237.58 crore for the upgradation of five ITI clusters-one each in Odisha and Gujarat and three in Telangana-under the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) scheme. The ministry also rolled out the scheme nationwide to cover all 200 ITIs.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/government-clears-1238cr-for-5-iti-clusters-rolls-out-pm-setu-scheme-nationwide/articleshow/132247386.cms

Report proposes 'India-Plus Contribution Scorecard' to boost FDI

The country should adopt an 'India-Plus Contribution Scorecard' to promote foreign direct investment (FDI) by rating investors on measurable economic contributions such as productivity, exports and technology transfer, while maintaining stringent national security safeguards, a report has suggested. With the Indian economy crossing USD 4 trillion, the country must develop the institutional capacity to pursue rooted, contribution-generating investment, the report prepared by VeK Research and Pahle India Foundation said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/report-proposes-india-plus-contribution-scorecard-to-boost-fdi/articleshow/132234526.cms

Finance

RBI mulls guidelines on property title searches

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may issue broad guidelines on property title searches to streamline the process and curb frauds involving title deeds accepted as mortgage security. The guidelines could prescribe a minimum search period, key documents and records to be verified, as well as precautions to be followed while preparing title search or legal background check reports, said people familiar with the development.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-mulls-guidelines-on-property-title-searches/articleshow/132245673.cms

SEBI proposal lets depositories use investor protection fund income for administrative expenses

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Tuesday allowed depositories to utilise up to 5 per cent of the annual interest or income earned from Investor Protection Fund (IPF) corpus to meet certain operational expenses. From September onwards, depositories can use the interest or income generated from the IPF towards expenses related to dedicated employees of the respective IPF trusts, as well as administrative and statutory costs such as taxes, audit fees and charity commissioner fees.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-proposal-lets-depositories-use-investor-protection-fund-income-for-administrative-expenses/article71194273.ece

RBI's first monthly NBFC credit data shows 14.2% growth in May 2026, led by retail lending

Non-banking finance companies (NBFCs), including housing finance companies (HFCs), registered higher credit growth of 14.2 per cent at ₹58.6 lakh crore in May 2026, compared to 11.4 per cent a year ago, on the back of robust growth in retail loans and agriculture and allied activities, per data on sectoral deployment of credit by NBFCs released by the RBI for the first time.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbis-first-monthly-nbfc-credit-data-shows-142-growth-in-may-2026-led-by-retail-lending/article71194211.ece

SBI eco research team says time opportune to revise priority sector lending guidelines

State Bank of India's economic research department (ERD) has suggested revision in the priority sector lending (PSL) guidelines through an increase in the limits of various categories of loans, including home loans and education loans that qualify as PSL. Further, ERD officials suggested that infrastructure funding done by banks from their own resources should either be classified as PSL or be excluded from the calculation of ANBC (adjusted net bank credit) for PSL achievement.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/sbi-eco-research-team-says-time-opportune-to-revise-priority-sector-lending-guidelines/article71193511.ece

Industry

Information & Computer services to make up 1/5th of India's proposed planned index

Information and computer-related services will account for nearly one-fifth of India's proposed monthly Index of Services Production (ISP), according to the report of the Technical Advisory Committee on ISP released on Tuesday. The report proposes 2024-25 as the base year for the new high-frequency indicator, with information and computer-related services assigned a weight of 21.9%.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/information-computer-services-to-make-up-1/5th-of-indias-proposed-planned-index/articleshow/132245509.cms

Ministries asked to fill top vacancies at CPSEs in 3 months

The government has asked administrative ministries to fill top management vacancies at central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) within the next three months amid concerns that leadership vacuum is delaying strategic decisions in some of India's biggest state-run companies, people aware of the development said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/ministries-asked-to-fill-top-vacancies-at-cpses-in-3-months/articleshow/132245748.cms

Air-cooled condenser makers urge review of Chinese firms' entry into thermal power contracts

Leading manufacturers of air-cooled condenser (ACC) systems in India have approached the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and key ministries, seeking a review and withdrawal of an exemption that allows companies from countries sharing a land border with India, including China, to bid for government thermal power plant contracts, people aware of the matter said. ACC systems are used in dry-cooling systems at thermal power plants and are typically sub-contracted as part of larger engineering, procurement and construction contracts.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/air-cooled-condenser-makers-urge-review-of-chinese-firms-entry-into-thermal-power-contracts/articleshow/132245468.cms

60% of organizations will adopt smaller software engineering teams by 2029: Gartner

By 2029, 60 per cent of organizations will adopt smaller software engineering teams at scale, up from 15 per cent in 2026, according to Gartner. “AI is reshaping software engineering. It is redefining roles, reinventing teams, and fueling the demand for more software engineers, not fewer,” said Aliyah Camacho, Principal Analyst at Gartner. “The resources required to meet the growing demand for software and complex AI-enabled applications will outpace the efficiency gains from AI.”
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/60-of-organizations-will-adopt-smaller-software-engineering-teams-by-2029-gartner/article71194259.ece

Agriculture

Rainfall deficit narrows to 12% as July records above-normal rainfall: Govt

The Centre on Tuesday said that the rainfall deficit has come down to 12 per cent, with the first week of July recording above-normal monsoon activity, and asserted that an El Nino year may not necessarily lead to below-normal rainfall. The Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) said in the context of the progress of the kharif season and possible impact due to El Nino on other sectors of the economy, a high-level review meeting was held under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary to Prime Minister PK Mishra to review and take stock of the preparedness measures undertaken in this regard.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/rainfall-deficit-narrows-to-12-as-july-records-above-normal-rainfall-govt/article71195444.ece

Sugar prices up 6-7% in June amid below-normal rainfall

Sugar prices have risen 6-7% over June as below-normal rainfall last month raised concerns over crop output. Demand, meanwhile, climbed with the end of the Hindu month of Adhik Maas, when festive consumption is typically subdued, industry experts said. Ex-mill sugar prices in Maharashtra, India's largest producer of the natural sweetener, have increased to about ₹41.5 per kg from ₹38.5 per kg a month ago, data from mills in the region showed.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/sugar-prices-up-6-7-over-june-amid-below-normal-rainfall/articleshow/132248109.cms

Energy

Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister calls for rapid scale-up of grid-scale battery storage

A working paper by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) has called for a rapid scaling up of grid-scale battery storage, underlining that India's biggest electricity challenge has shifted from generating enough power to managing its time of availability and flexibility.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/economic-advisory-council-to-the-prime-minister-calls-for-rapid-scale-up-of-grid-scale-battery-storage/articleshow/132246002.cms

Telecom

6G likely to become a reality in 2029, but telcos worldwide show little enthusiasm: Jefferies

Governments across the globe are excited about the possibility of 6G by early 2029, but telecom companies remain lukewarm. Little to no commercial use-case viability, insufficient returns on earlier technology investments like 5G, and the dilemma of integrating 6G with AI without hiking capex garner a muted response from telcos toward the 6G launch, as per a Jefferies report.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/6g-to-become-a-reality-in-2029-but-no-enthusiasm-from-telcos-worldwide-jefferies/article71193744.ece

States

Tamil Nadu launches paperless Anywhere Registration for property deals from August 17

The Tamil Nadu government has approved the first phase of its ‘Anywhere Registration’ initiative under the upgraded STAR 3.0 platform, making two categories of property transactions mandatory through a fully paperless,

presenceless registration process from August 17, 2026. Under a Government Order issued on Tuesday, the Commercial Taxes, Registration and Religious Endowments Department accorded administrative sanction for the implementation of Phase I of the initiative.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/real-estate/tamil-nadu-launches-paperless-anywhere-registration-for-property-deals-from-august-17/article71194370.ece

UP Data Center Policy 2026 sends strong signal to market: Experts

The Uttar Pradesh (UP) Data Center Policy-2026's focus on artificial intelligence (AI)-ready capacity, Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) infrastructure, sustainability and regional development sends a strong signal to the market and will help unlock the next wave of investments, analysts said on Tuesday. The UP Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday, approved the Data Center policy. The earlier policy had expired on January 27 this year, following which the government decided to introduce the new one with an aim to develop the State as a green and AI-ready data center hub with an additional capacity of 2 Gigawatts
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/up-data-center-policy-2026-sends-strong-signal-to-market-experts/article71194394.ece

External

India, France discuss ways to boost cooperation in critical minerals sector

India and France, as part of a key meeting, have discussed bolstering cooperation in the exploration and processing of critical minerals and rare earth elements to build resilient and sustainable supply chains. Benjamin Gallezot, France's Interministerial Delegate for Strategic Minerals and Metals Supplies, visited New Delhi on Monday-Tuesday with Olivier Frezot, Regional Director for Asia, Bureau of Geological and Mining Research (BRGM), the French Geological Survey, according to an official statement issued on Tuesday.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/india-france-discuss-ways-to-boost-cooperation-in-critical-minerals-sector/article71196418.ece

India asks US to reconsider proposed 12.5% additional tariff

India has asked the US to reconsider a proposal to slap an additional 12.5% tariff on New Delhi for alleged failure to bar imports made with forced labour, expressing willingness to engage the US Trade Representative (USTR) to address any specific concern through dialogue. The extra tariff proposal under the Section 301 investigation lacks legal basis, evidence and policy consistency, New Delhi argued in a formal submission with the USTR on its findings.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-asks-us-to-reconsider-proposed-12-5-additional-tariff/articleshow/132246288.cms

India's auto parts exports to US remain strong despite tariff tensions

The United States continued to remain the single largest export market for auto parts makers in India in the financial year ended March 31, 2026 despite the heightening tension over tariffs between the two countries. The United States accounted for 26% of all auto components exported from India last fiscal, followed by Germany (9%) and Thailand (4%), respectively as per data available with Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA). Auto component exports from India rose by 5% to $ 24 billion in FY26.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-auto-parts-exports-to-us-remain-strong-despite-tariff-tensions/articleshow/132242676.cms

Gush of Gulf sovereign wealth enters India in 2026

Gulf sovereign funds invested $1.7 billion in India in the first half of 2026, defying heightened geopolitical tensions due to the Iran war and fears the conflict would curb their appetite for overseas deals. It was the most for half a year after 2024. The region's share in overall investment in the country by sovereign wealth funds (SWFs) and public pension funds (PPFs) during the period nearly doubled since then, underscoring their growing role as a long-term capital.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/gush-of-gulf-sovereign-wealth-enters-india-in-2026/articleshow/132232749.cms

US Forced Labour Hearings: Trump's next tariff threat looms over 60 countries, including India

Another potential round of tariffs under US President Donald Trump could affect exports from 60 countries, including India, as the United States begins three days of hearings on a proposal to impose fresh import duties over concerns that these countries are not doing enough to stop goods made with forced labour from entering global supply chains. India has disputed the USTR's findings and sought termination of the investigation.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/us-trade-hearing-forced-labour-section-301-trump-tariff-threat-looms-for-60-countries-india-after-ustr-investigation/articleshow/132233998.cms