

August 24, 2026 – Monday

Economy

India's forex reserves soar by $9.9 billion to $716.90 billion as on August 14

India's foreign exchange reserves jumped by $9.905 billion to $716.90 billion during the week ended August 14, official data released by the Reserve Bank of India showed on Friday. The reserves had risen $14.1 billion to $707 billion a week earlier, marking the highest level in the current fiscal year. The latest increase came as inflows from the RBI's FCNR(B) deposit scheme began to reflect in the country's forex kitty.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/indias-forex-reserves-soar-by-9-9-billion-to-716-90-billion-as-on-august-14/articleshow/133403147.cms

Finance

India gets $72.8 billion in dollar inflows under RBI swap facility

India has received dollar inflows of $72.8 billon under special swap facility foreign currency non resident (bank) FCNR (B), external commercial borrowings (ECBs) and overseas foreign currency borrowings (OFCBs) until August 21, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said on Saturday. FCNR (B) deposits make up a majority of the inflows at $65.39 billion, the data showed.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/india-gets-72-8-billion-in-dollar-inflows-under-rbi-swap-facility/articleshow/133424834.cms

SEBI may assess NSE liquidity before allowing bourse to trade its own shares

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is likely to examine various issues, including liquidity, before allowing 'Permitted to Trade' (PTT) status for the National Stock Exchange (NSE). The move, once approved, could allow the NSE to trade its shares on its own platform without listing there itself. The listing needs to be done on other exchange.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/stock-markets/sebi-likely-to-examine-possibility-of-nse-shares-to-be-permitted-to-trade-on-same-exchange-platform/article71380447.ece

Wave of mass market credit cards erodes foreign majors' base

The combined credit card base of American Express, HSBC India, Standard Chartered Bank, DBS Bank India and SBM Bank India declined 7.1% on-year to 3.99 million as of the end of June. The five issuers collectively lost 304,000 cards in a period when the industry added 10.6 million cards.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/wave-of-mass-market-credit-cards-erodes-foreign-majors-base/articleshow/133445598.cms

SEBI reviewing framework on utilisation of issue proceeds

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is reviewing the framework for monitoring and disclosing utilisation of issue proceeds to improve timely disclosures and streamline the compliance process, Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said on Saturday.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-reviewing-framework-on-utilisation-of-issue-proceeds/article71380847.ece

Indian banks' asset quality outlook remains stable, West Asia impact limited: Report

Indian banks will likely maintain benign asset quality trends, with deleveraging in unsecured lending limiting incremental stress and the West Asia crisis having minimal impact on asset quality, according to a report by Goldman Sachs. According to the report, the outlook for asset quality of Indian banks has improved significantly over the past five years, with overall stress remaining contained. Moreover, the concerns have largely been limited to granular unsecured loans -- particularly in the consumer unsecured and microfinance (MFI) segments.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/indian-banks-asset-quality-outlook-remains-stable-west-asia-impact-limited-report/article71383134.ece

Agriculture

India’s sugar stockpile set to shrink as output estimate falls: Govt

India's sugar production in the current season is now estimated at around 306 lakh tonnes, about 11% below the initial estimate of 343 lakh tonnes made by sugarcane-growing states, the government said on Friday. The government also rejected claims that diversion of sugar for ethanol production had contributed to tighter domestic supplies and rising prices, pointing out that the share of sugar diverted for ethanol has actually declined in recent years.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/indias-sugar-stockpile-set-to-shrink-as-output-estimate-falls-govt/articleshow/133424100.cms

Sugar production hit by Red Rot disease, El Nino; govt taking measures: Pralhad Joshi

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi on Sunday said the Centre was taking several measures, including temporary imports of raw sugar, to address concerns over sugar availability and rising retail prices ahead of the festival season. Joshi said sugar production had declined due to red rot disease and El Nino conditions, affecting agricultural output in India and globally.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/sugar-production-hit-by-red-rot-el-nino-govt-taking-measures-pralhad-joshi/articleshow/133441973.cms

Infrastructure

9-km DND Flyway-Jaitpur stretch opens on trial, easing commute for East and South Delhi

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has opened a 9-km stretch of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway between DND Flyway and Jaitpur on a trial basis, offering relief to commuters travelling between Ashram, Kalindi Kunj and Faridabad, according to a report by Dipak K Dash in The Times of India. With this section now operational, motorists from east and south Delhi, Noida and Ghaziabad can access the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway directly and travel without interruption to Jaipur and Sawai Madhopur.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/roadways/delhi-mumbai-expressway-9-km-dnd-flyway-jaitpur-stretch-opens-on-trial-easing-commute-for-east-and-south-delhi/articleshow/133434717.cms

Energy

Centre pushes states to speed up PNG adoption, seeks district-level officers to drive LPG-to-gas transition

The Petroleum Ministry has asked states and Union Territories to provide district-level administrative support to accelerate the shift of households from LPG to piped natural gas (PNG), seeking appointment of nodal officers to coordinate with gas distributors and oil marketing companies.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/centre-pushes-states-to-speed-up-png-adoption-seeks-district-level-officers-to-drive-lpg-to-gas-transition/articleshow/133436060.cms

India clears ₹7,000 crore LPG pipeline expansion across 6 states

Oil sector regulator has authorised the development of nearly 1,800 km of new LPG pipelines at an estimated investment of Rs 7,000 crore, expanding the country's common-carrier LPG pipeline network by almost a quarter as it seeks to make fuel supplies more resilient and reduce dependence on road transport.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/india-clears-7000-crore-lpg-pipeline-expansion-across-6-states/articleshow/133420439.cms

Need to scale storage capabilities amid growing RE capacity: Industry experts

The growing renewable capacity has created an immediate need to scale up storage systems, industry stakeholders said, highlighting the huge gap between the demand and current capability to manufacture essential battery cell components. Sharing their views with PTI, industry members have also cautioned against treating import dependence as a reason for slow deployment.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/need-to-scale-storage-capabilities-amid-growing-re-capacity-industry-experts/articleshow/133437333.cms

Telecom

Government comes down heavy on Starlink for signing MoUs with States without a licence to operate

The Centre has admonished senior officials of Elon Musk-owned Starlink in India, making it clear that the company cannot sign memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with States without first obtaining a licence from the government. States, which have signed such MoUs, have also been warned by the Centre not to initiate any projects with Starlink until the satellite company gets the required licence to operate in India, sources in the know told *businessline*.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/government-comes-down-heavy-on-starlink-for-signing-mous-with-states-without-a-licence-to-operate/article71380417.ece

States

Gujarat CM meets global business leaders in New York to drive investments in AI, fintech, and nuclear energy

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel held one-to-one meetings with leaders from various sectors in New York on the fifth day of his US visit ahead of Vibrant Summit 2027. As part of these meetings, he held discussions with Xerxes Cooper, Global Head of Delivery, Kyndryl, one of the world's largest IT infrastructure service providers.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/ahead-of-vibrant-summit-2027-gujarat-cm-meets-global-business-leaders-in-new-york-to-drive-investments-in-ai-fintech-and-nuclear-energy/articleshow/133421925.cms

Assam nears launch of 'AssamSAT' as private space partner selection advances

The Assam government is in an advanced stage of evaluation to select a partner from the private sector to launch its own satellite, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said. Claiming that Assam will be the first state in India to have its own earth observation system, he said the satellite will come up under the 'DBLOTT model' - Design, Build, Launch, Operate, Train and Transfer.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/assam-nears-launch-of-assamsat-as-private-space-partner-selection-advances/article71383144.ece

Chhattisgarh steps up geospatial, logistics planning with two PM GatiShakti pacts

The Chhattisgarh government has signed two memoranda of understanding with BISAG-N and National Logistics Data Services Ltd (NLDSL) to boost the use of geospatial technology and integrated logistics data under the PM GatiShakti framework, officials said on Saturday. The pacts with Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics and NLDSL, signed on August 20, aim to create better conditions for sustainable economic growth and investments.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/chhattisgarh-steps-up-geospatial-logistics-planning-with-two-pm-gatishakti-pacts/articleshow/133416516.cms

External

DGFT relaxes One Star Export House norms, exporters can qualify on performance in any two of three preceding years

The government on Friday relaxed the eligibility criteria for One Star Export House status, allowing exporters to qualify based on their export performance in any two of the three preceding financial years. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) amended the Foreign Trade Policy to revise the requirement, under which exporters earlier had to meet the prescribed export performance criteria in all three preceding financial years.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/dgft-relaxes-one-star-export-house-norms-exporters-can-qualify-on-performance-in-any-two-of-three-preceding-years/articleshow/133405708.cms

India-Japan business mission to focus on semiconductors, electronics; MoUs expected during visit: FICCI

India and Japan are set to step up cooperation in semiconductors and electronics, with MoU signings expected during the ongoing business mission, as the two countries seek to deepen bilateral business ties, FICCI Director General Jyoti Vij said on Sunday. "High-technology areas such as semiconductors and electronics are key domains where both nations can build greater strength and expand mutual cooperation," Vij told ANI, adding that collaboration would also extend to traditional sectors.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-japan-business-mission-to-focus-on-semiconductors-electronics-mous-expected-during-visit-ficci/articleshow/133438150.cms

India eyes critical minerals, bigger markets in South America trade push

India is enhancing its focus on South America as part of its trade diversification strategy, particularly Chile, Argentina, and Brazil, which present significant export opportunities and are expected to strengthen trade ties during Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal's visit from August 24 to 28, an official said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eyes-critical-minerals-bigger-markets-in-south-america-trade-push/articleshow/133435118.cms

US-India trade deal nearly final, Rubio to visit India in October: Sergio Gor

Almost everything" about the US-India trade deal is done "in principle," said Sergio Gor. The US ambassador to India also sought to draw a distinction between Congress pushing for a 100% tariff on countries buying Russian oil and the position of the US administration, especially that of President Donald Trump.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/us-india-trade-deal-nearly-final-rubio-to-visit-india-in-october-sergio-gor/articleshow/133429941.cms