

August 25, 2026 – Tuesday

Economy

Economic growth likely slows to 7.1% in April-June quarter

Indian economic growth slowed slightly to 7.1% in the April-June quarter, according to a Reuters poll of economists, on more subdued private investment, though supported by consumer spending and government expenditure. Last year's Goods and Services Tax rate cut and income tax reductions likely continued to support household disposable income and demand, helping cushion the impact of rising inflation. But economists expect the recent pickup in private investment to be temporary.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/economic-growth-likely-slows-to-71-in-april-june-quarter/article71387139.ece

Housing price index rises 1.1% in Q1 sequentially: RBI data

The All India House Price Index (HPI) increased by 1.1 per cent during April-June FY27 as compared to the previous quarter, primarily driven by an increase in the index for cities such as Chandigarh, Lucknow, and Thiruvananthapuram, according to RBI data released on Monday. The HPI registered an annual growth of 3.6 per cent in Q1:2026-27, same as in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, mainly contributed by cities such as Chandigarh, Jaipur, Kanpur, Lucknow and Thiruvananthapuram, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/property-/-cstruction/housing-price-index-rises-1-1-in-q1-sequentially-rbi-data/articleshow/133473106.cms

Finance

India raises $73 bn in forex inflows at record pace

India has mobilised total foreign exchange inflows of $73 billion in less than 11 weeks, in the largest and fastest-ever foreign-currency mobilisation exercises undertaken globally. The finance ministry said, in a statement, that by securing large-scale, long-term non-resident deposits and commercial institutional funding entirely on tap, the government has fortified its external buffers with maximum cost-efficiency.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/india-raises-73-bn-in-forex-inflows-at-record-pace/articleshow/133477779.cms

Full flow FCNR deposits could hit $100 billion, beat estimates

Strong momentum in foreign currency non-resident (bank), or FCNR (B), deposit inflows over the past week has prompted some analysts to raise their estimates for dollar inflows through the scheme. Analysts said strong fundraising by banks and demand for the scheme among overseas investors mean inflows could exceed earlier estimates. Jefferies India said in a note on Monday that it now expects FCNR inflows to reach $90 billion to $100 billion by the time the scheme closes on August 31, compared with its earlier estimate of $70 billion to $80 billion. The new estimate is also higher than the $80 billion that RBI governor Sanjay Malhotra estimated in an interview with a newspaper last week.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/full-flow-fcnr-deposits-could-hit-100-billion-beat-estimates/articleshow/133477572.cms

RBI's concessional swap scheme mobilises $73 bn in less than 11 weeks

The Reserve Bank of India's special USD-INR forex swap facility for FCNR(B) deposits, Overseas Foreign Currency Borrowings (OFCB) and External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) has mobilised foreign exchange inflows of USD 73 billion as of August 21, 2026, reflecting strong backing from Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/nri/invest/rbis-concessional-swap-scheme-mobilises-73-bn-in-less-than-11-weeks/articleshow/133472001.cms

ITR filing deadline: Income Tax Department asks business, professional taxpayers to file returns by August 31

The Income Tax Department has urged taxpayers with business or professional income who are not required to undergo a tax audit to file their Income Tax Returns (ITRs) for Assessment Year 2026-27 by August 31. More than 2 crore ITR-3 and ITR-4 forms had been filed on the e-filing portal as of August 20, taking the total number of ITRs filed for AY 2026-27 to over 6.5 crore.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/itr-filing-deadline-income-tax-department-asks-business-professional-taxpayers-to-file-returns-by-august-31/articleshow/133462269.cms

UPI completes 10 years, clocks nearly 13,000-fold rise in transaction volume

The Unified Payments Interface (UPI), which was launched on August 25, 2016, has completed a decade of transforming India's digital payments landscape, emerging as the backbone of the country's digital payments ecosystem and a global benchmark for real-time payments. Annual UPI transaction volume rose from 1.78 crore in 2016-17 to more than 24,162 crore in 2025-26, an almost 13,000-fold increase, the finance ministry said in a statement.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/upi-completes-10-years-clocks-nearly-13000-fold-rise-in-transaction-volume/articleshow/133460561.cms

SEBI introduces IT Resilience Index for market infrastructure institutions

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced an IT Resilience Index (ITRI) to assess the functioning and resilience of information technology systems of market infrastructure institutions (MIIs), including stock exchanges, depositories and clearing corporations.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-introduces-it-resilience-index-for-market-infrastructure-institutions/article71384992.ece

Industry

India to amend rules within two months to ease semiconductor, auto component manufacturing: Piyush Goyal

India will amend regulations and introduce new rules within two months to address concerns raised by semiconductor and automotive component manufacturers, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said Monday. In a fireside chat with Nikkei Asia in Tokyo, the minister said he met two companies seeking to bring semiconductor and automotive-component manufacturing to India and that their concerns were resolved during the discussions. He also rejected the idea of India being viewed merely as a “plus one” destination.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/india-to-amend-rules-within-two-months-to-ease-semiconductor-auto-component-manufacturing-piyush-goyal/articleshow/133471418.cms

India’s chemicals sector targets $1 trillion by 2040

Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister J P Nadda on Monday emphasised the need to increase the size of the chemicals sector to USD 1 trillion by 2040 and said the government is focused on creating an ecosystem to boost investments for increasing domestic manufacturing capabilities. On Monday, Nadda chaired a CEO roundtable to deliberate on India’s ambition of building a USD 1 trillion Chemicals sector by 2040, an official statement said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-chemicals-sector-targets-1-trillion-by-2040/article71386326.ece

Agriculture

Onion prices up 59%, govt ramps up 'Kanda Express' supplies to cool market

The Centre has started moving bulk onion stocks through dedicated railway rakes - the 'Kanda Express' - from Nashik in Maharashtra to major consuming centres, as part of efforts to augment supplies and check the seasonal rise in prices, a Consumer Affairs Secretary Nidhi Khare said on Monday. Stocks currently being loaded onto these rakes are expected to reach the identified centres by Wednesday, she said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/onion-prices-up-59-govt-ramps-up-kanda-express-supplies-to-cool-market/articleshow/133470425.cms

India's sugar industry body shares a positive price outlook

Indian Sugar & Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) says it expects retail prices of sugar to come down in the coming days as speculative stocking eases. The industry body said the recent price rise was driven mainly by speculative stocking and lower production due to weather-related issues. ISMA President Niraj Shirgaokar said the recent rally in sugar prices was not supported by fundamentals, with speculation and hoarding contributing to the increase. ISMA said it sees no sugar shortage in the country.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/indias-sugar-industry-body-shares-a-positive-price-outlook/articleshow/133461505.cms

Infrastructure

11 airports to see Rs 8,622 crore private investment under 50-year concessions

India expects private operators to invest about ₹8,622 crore in 11 airports that the government plans to award under 50-year concessions. The Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC)gave in-principle approval to the proposal at its August 4 meeting, showed minutes reviewed by ET. The 11 airports will be offered in five bundles, with each awarded to a single concessionaire.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/airlines-/-aviation/11-airports-to-see-rs-8622-crore-private-investment-under-50-year-concessions/articleshow/133477036.cms

Energy

India’s non-fossil fuel power capacity crosses 300 GW, reaches 54% of total capacity

India's installed non-fossil fuel power capacity has crossed the 300-GW mark, accounting for more than 54 per cent of the country's total installed electricity generation capacity, a senior Union government official said on Monday. The milestone was highlighted at the first regional roadshow for the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit and Expo (BRE Summit) 2026 held here as part of a nationwide outreach campaign ahead of the event scheduled in New Delhi from November 2 to 5.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-non-fossil-fuel-power-capacity-crosses-300-gw-reaches-54-of-total-capacity/article71386333.ece

Government tightens ethanol blend rules for OMCs

Government is considering making it binding on oil marketing companies and others in the automotive fuel supply ecosystem to meet the existing limit of less than 3 parts per million (ppm) of chloride contamination in E20 petrol, amid automakers' concern over fuel quality and its impact on vehicle components. The threshold is currently part of the voluntary quality specifications for ethanol-blended petrol. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), which lays down fuel-quality standards, is working on making the contamination-related requirement compulsory.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/government-tightens-ethanol-blend-rules-for-omcs/articleshow/133477712.cms

States

Haryana pitches strategic partnership as MoUs worth ₹66,000 crore signed

Haryana offers investors much more than land, incentives, and approvals; it offers a strategic partnership built around scale, speed, policy certainty and shared prosperity, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said on Monday. Memorandum of understandings (MoUs) worth Rs 66,000 crore have been signed with various companies on the second day of the 'Happening Haryana 2.0' international outreach campaign organised by the Haryana government in Mumbai, according to a state government release.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/haryana-pitches-strategic-partnership-as-mous-worth-66000-crore-signed/article71386335.ece

Healthcare

Govt eases loan licence requirement for 'outsourced' sterilisation of medical gear

Makers of medical devices will no longer require a separate loan licence for outsourced sterilisation as long as the sterilisation facility holds a valid licence under the Medical Devices Rules, 2017, according to a new government provision. The new provision has, however, triggered a pushback from the industry, because it requires the licence number of the sterilisation facility to be printed on the label of the medical device. The Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMed) warned that the requirement would hurt exports.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/govt-eases-loan-licence-requirement-for-outsourced-sterilisation-of-medical-gear/articleshow/133476869.cms

External

Commerce minister Piyush Goyal asks Japanese companies to deepen localisation in India

Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal Monday urged Japanese auto companies and capital goods firms to deepen their localization in India, establish more research and development and Global Capability Centers (GCC) and, new capacities to come up in India, to leverage the country's free trade agreements (FTA).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/commerce-minister-piyush-goyal-asks-japanese-companies-to-deepen-localisation-in-india/articleshow/133471946.cms

Before Xi Jinping's likely India visit, Chinese money is pouring in

As National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval lands in Beijing on Monday for border talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and preparations for President Xi Jinping's expected visit to India for the BRICS summit in September gather pace, another story is unfolding quietly in the background. Chinese-linked capital is finding its way back into India after years of regulatory roadblocks. Just three months after India relaxed parts of its post-Galwan investment regime, more than $500 million of foreign investment linked to the revised rules has already entered the country. The diplomatic thaw between Asia's two largest economies is increasingly being accompanied by a cautious reopening of economic channels that were largely frozen after the 2020 border clash.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/before-xi-jinpings-likely-india-visit-chinese-money-is-pouring-in-india-china-investments-fdi-press-note-3/articleshow/133459811.cms

India's exports to Iran set to fall further due to Dubai halt, US sanctions

Planned new U.S. sanctions on Iran and the UAE's halt on Tehran trade could severely disrupt Indian exports of rice, tea and pharmaceuticals to Iran, which have been largely routed through Dubai's port in recent years, Indian exporters said on Monday. India has been among Iran's five largest trading partners, though bilateral trade has fallen by more than 90% from its 2018/19 highs of $17 billion, with exports now limited mostly to goods exempted on humanitarian grounds.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-exports-to-iran-set-to-fall-further-due-to-dubai-halt-us-sanctions/articleshow/133467129.cms

India lifts export ban on wheat flour, related products with immediate effect

The Central Government on Monday lifted the export ban on wheat flour and related products, including maida, semolina, wholewheat atta and resultant atta, with immediate effect. The Central Government on Monday lifted

the export ban on wheat flour and related products, including maida, semolina, wholewheat atta and resultant atta, with immediate effect.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/centre-announces-amendment-to-wheat-flour-and-related-products-export-policy/articleshow/133458255.cms

India, Gulf bloc discuss next steps on free trade agreement

India has reviewed the negotiations on a free trade agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), as the country's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Vipul, held wide-ranging talks with the secretary general of the six-nation bloc, Jasem Mohamed Albudaiwi, in Riyadh. The meeting took place on Sunday, where both sides discussed ways to strengthen India-GCC relations, exchanged views on regional and international developments, and reviewed preparations for a ministerial meeting scheduled next month, the GCC Secretariat said in a statement.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-gulf-bloc-discuss-next-steps-on-free-trade-agreement/articleshow/133457984.cms

India negotiating FTAs with 8-9 more blocs, aims to cover 75% of global trade: Piyush Goyal

India is in negotiations with at least 8-9 more groups of countries and individual nations that together account for another USD 15 trillion of GDP, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday. He added that the country's free trade agreements would eventually cover about 75 per cent of global trade and help position India as a trusted partner in global value chains.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-negotiating-ftas-with-8-9-more-blocs-aims-to-cover-75-of-global-trade-piyush-goyal/articleshow/133451223.cms