

September 7, 2026 – Monday

Economy

Forex reserves hit record $740.8 billion, lift rupee

India's foreign-exchange reserves scaled a new summit of $740.8 billion at the end of August 28, climbing for the ninth straight week, as dedicated dollar-inflow programmes garnered record funds overseas. The forex stockpile surge, seen as a proxy of enduring global confidence in India's world-leading growth credentials, has also helped the local currency rebound after a rather lacklustre FY26.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/forex-reserves-hit-record-740-8-billion-lift-rupee/articleshow/133776983.cms

Govt mulls FDI liberalisation in plantation sector

The government is considering liberalising foreign direct investment (FDI) norms in the plantation sector by bringing more commercial crops under the ambit, an official said. The Commerce and Industry Ministry is holding stakeholder consultations on the issue, the official said. At present, 100 per cent FDI under automatic route is permitted in the tea sector, including tea plantations, coffee, rubber, cardamom, palm and olive oil tree plantations.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/govt-considering-fdi-liberalisation-in-plantation-sector-official-says/articleshow/133828774.cms

Finance

RBI's liquidity test may set future course

The outcome of the 30-day variable rate reverse repo (VRRR) auction to absorb ₹7 lakh crore will be a key determinant of how the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) manages the record ₹10.5 lakh crore of liquidity generated by the FCNR(B) scheme. Market participants said the central bank may have to deploy additional tools, such as a sell-buy dollar swaps and bond sales through open market operations (OMOs), along with more VRRRs to sterilise the large liquidity injection.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/rbis-liquidity-test-may-set-future-course/articleshow/133850114.cms

Finmin secures $1 billion IFC funding for MSMEs; $500 million already released to Sidbi

India has secured $1 billion in funding from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to help banks and financial institutions provide more long-term credit to small businesses, a senior finance ministry official told ET. This complements the credit support available to the sector through the government's Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/finmin-secures-1-billion-ifc-funding-for-msmes-500-million-already-released-to-sidbi/articleshow/133848674.cms

GST Council meeting likely to be postponed, say sources

The 57th meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council meeting is likely to be postponed, with a final decision expected tomorrow after consultations with the states, sources told *The Economic Times* on Sunday. The meeting was earlier scheduled for September 12, nearly a year after its last meeting, to consider reforms including making it easier to get blocked input tax credit (ITC), simplifying the GST treatment of corporate guarantees and allowing small businesses to register in multiple states.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gst-council-meeting-likely-to-be-postponed-say-sources/articleshow/133827922.cms

GST returns, overseas investments, off-market stock deal come under AIS

The Income Tax Department is broadening the scope of financial information required for taxpayers' annual information statements (AIS), bringing goods and services tax (GST) returns, foreign remittances for investment in mutual funds outside banking channels, and off-market securities transactions under the data net.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gst-returns-overseas-investments-off-market-stock-deal-come-under-ais/articleshow/133775481.cms

FCNR(B) deluge softens CD rates; large banks stay away

Certificate of deposit (CD) rates have slipped below 6 per cent from the 7-7.25 per cent levels seen about three months ago, primarily due to the flood of liquidity generated by banks swapping Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) or FCNR(B) deposits with the Reserve Bank of India under its special concessional forex swap scheme. The sharp decline in funding costs highlights the impact of the RBI's FCNR(B) window. By swapping $127.23 billion of FCNR(B) deposits with the RBI, banks drew substantial rupee liquidity, curbing their need for CD funding.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/fcnrb-deluge-softens-cd-rates-large-banks-stay-away/article71435421.ece

Industry

Auto retail sales rise 17.5% in August: FADA

The automobile sales expectations rest on the festive season proper, now beginning — Ganesh Chaturthi, the Onam sales spillover and the onset of Navratri — with dealers reporting festive booking pipelines already building, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) said on Monday. Two-wheelers should draw support from festive demand and the alternative-fuel shift, though rural cashflows remain hostage to late-season rainfall, it said, adding that passenger vehicles (PVs) enter September with fresh launches and healthy pipelines but must convert them against elevated inventory and a demanding base.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/india-auto-retail-sales-rise-175-in-august-fada/article71437372.ece

Agriculture

Punjab cabinet approves 3 foodgrain policies for Kharif 2026-27

The Punjab Cabinet on Saturday approved three key policies to ensure smooth and hassle-free procurement and movement of paddy during the ensuing Kharif Marketing Season 2026-27. The cabinet also gave its nod to amendments to the Punjab Public Service Commission (Group A) Service Regulations, 2012, revival of 33 posts at the Sub-Divisional Hospital, Chamkaur Sahib, creation of 138 new healthcare posts and filling 80 vacant posts.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/punjab-cabinet-approves-3-foodgrain-policies-for-kharif-2026-27/articleshow/133803192.cms

Nilgiris tea production hit by severe drought, El Nino conditions; green leaf supply drops sharply

For the first time in the history of the Nilgiris, severe heatwave and drought conditions attributed to El Nino have led to a sharp decline in the supply of green tea leaves to tea factories, raising concerns over a major impact on tea powder production and the livelihoods of tea farmers and workers. The Nilgiris district, popularly known as the "Queen of Hills," has tea cultivation as one of the backbones of its local economy. More than 65,000 small and marginal farmers are engaged in tea cultivation across several hectares in the district.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/nilgiris-tea-production-hit-by-severe-drought-el-nino-conditions-green-leaf-supply-drops-sharply/articleshow/133784988.cms

Infrastructure

India working to run hydrogen train at up to 110 kmph: Railway Board chief

The Indian Railways is working to operate the country's first hydrogen-powered train at speeds of up to 110 kmph after completing trials at 120 kmph, Railway Board Chairman and CEO Satish Kumar said on Sunday. "The operational speed of the hydrogen train has so far been kept at 75 kmph. However, trials have been completed for a speed of 120 kmph. After that, efforts are now underway to operate it at a maximum speed of 110 kmph," Kumar told reporters in Indore.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/railways/india-working-to-run-hydrogen-train-at-up-to-110-kmph-railway-board-chief/articleshow/133833655.cms

Energy

India emerges as key diesel supplier to Europe as Russian, US flows falter

India has emerged as a crucial source of diesel for Europe, supplying about 60 per cent of the fuel transiting the Bab-el-Mandeb to the region in August, as Russian exports remain severely constrained and US shipments begin to weaken, according to data from Vortexa - real-time data and advanced analytics for energy and freight. About 2,00,000 barrels per day of diesel (gasoil) transited the Bab-el-Mandeb in August on vessels bound for Europe, close to year-earlier levels after flows through the key shipping route nearly stalled in March and April. India supplied roughly 60 per cent of that volume, making Indian refineries an increasingly important source of Europe's eastern diesel supply, Vortexa said in a report.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-emerges-as-key-diesel-supplier-to-europe-as-russian-us-flows-falter/articleshow/133826348.cms

Coal shortage deepens power crisis in Punjab, generation drops by 1,500 MW: Minister

Punjab Power Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond on Saturday said a severe national coal shortage has deepened the power crisis in Punjab, with power generation in the state falling by 1,500 MW and major thermal plants being forced to operate at reduced capacity. He said the coal shortage has affected 63 GW of power supply across the country, while reduced coal supply from the Centre has hit the Rajpura and Talwandi Sabo thermal plants, further impacting Punjab's power system, according to a statement.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/punjab-power-crisis-national-coal-shortage-causes-1500-mw-drop-in-generation/articleshow/133813134.cms

CG Power and Industrial Solutions starts production at new Madhya Pradesh facility

CG Power and Industrial Solutions on Friday said announced the rollout of the first power transformer from its new greenfield facility at Sehore, Madhya Pradesh. Spread over 50 acres, the facility is India's largest single-location power transformer manufacturing facility, the company said in an exchange filing. It has a capacity to roll out 35 power transformers every month, ranging from 220 kV to 1,200 kV class.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/cg-power-and-industrial-solutions-starts-production-at-new-madhya-pradesh-facility/articleshow/133761098.cms

Government's Rs 37,500-cr coal gasification scheme fails to attract bids

The government's ambitious Rs 37,500-crore financial incentive scheme for the promotion of coal gasification has found no taker so far, according to sources. Despite the September 7 deadline, the scheme has received no application from any private or public player to set up projects under the programme, raising concerns over the viability of the coal ministry's push to gasify 75 million tonnes of coal and lignite, sources said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/governments-rs-37500-cr-coal-gasification-scheme-fails-to-attract-bids/articleshow/133760873.cms

New renewable energy units may need to store 10% power for 2 hours

The Central Electricity Authority (CEA), under the power ministry, has proposed mandatorily storing energy for at least two hours and equivalent to at least 10% of the installed capacity for new solar and wind projects. The move brings the needs of utilities and industries to the front by adding storage to renewable energy projects for ensuring firm and continuous power.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/new-renewable-energy-units-may-need-to-store-10-power-for-2-hours/articleshow/133775262.cms

Healthcare

Govt mandates manual verification of imported drugs and medical devices due to SWIFT 2.0 system gap

The Centre has asked customs officers to manually verify licences, permissions and registration certificates before clearing imported drugs, medical devices, cosmetics and a wide range of other healthcare products and manufacturing inputs. The check will apply even to facilitated Bills of Entry, or imports that have otherwise been cleared through the customs risk-management system, according to a September 3 communication sent by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) to importers and field formations.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/govt-mandates-manual-verification-of-imported-drugs-and-medical-devices-due-to-swift-2-0-system-gap/articleshow/133848888.cms

External

Customs portal aims to curb divergent assessment practices

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has launched a common digital repository of customs assessment decisions, rulings and advisories, giving importers and customs brokers access to a searchable database, a move aimed at reducing divergent practices across customs formations. The National Assessment Centre (NAC) Portal is expected to provide greater certainty to industry on how similar products and transactions are being assessed across the country. The move is significant for businesses importing goods that have historically faced differing classifications or valuation approaches at different ports.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/customs-portal-aims-to-curb-divergent-assessment-practices/articleshow/133775393.cms

Engineering goods exporters seek mandate on carbon emission certificate under EU norms

Engineering goods exporters have sought a mandate from the government on carbon emission certificates as without it, small companies would be unable to export to the EU due to the requirements of the bloc's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The concern, as per engineering exports body EEPC, is that raw material importers need to be able to provide accredited carbon emission data but they're unable to provide that due to which exporters can't have test certificates.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/engineering-goods-exporters-seek-mandate-on-carbon-emission-certificate-under-eu-norms/articleshow/133830040.cms

New FTAs open big export gains across key sectors

Eight new free trade agreements (FTAs) signed in the last five years have opened up duty-free market access of $982 billion in electronics, $631 billion in agriculture, and $442 billion in gems and jewellery for Indian exporters, according to an analysis by the commerce and industry ministry. Engineering goods, chemicals and pharmaceuticals are the other manufacturing sectors where the market opportunity is high. Two of the trade deals, with New Zealand and the EU, are yet to be operational.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/new-ftas-open-big-export-gains-across-key-sectors/articleshow/133775043.cms

Maharashtra pitches for Belgium investments

Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis hss made a strong pitch for Belgian investments into Maharashtra as it seeks to take advantage of the free trade agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union (EU). Speaking to a room full of businessmen from Belgium and India Fadnavis said that Belgian companies looking to invest into India can look at Maharashtra as the base.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/maharashtra-pitches-for-belgium-investments/articleshow/133767345.cms

Europe is moving gold out of US vaults as central banks rethink where to keep reserves

Gold is changing addresses. The Netherlands has moved about 86 tonnes of its reserves from the United States and Canada to London, France has shifted 129 tonnes from New York to Europe, and India's latest data shows that about 77% of its gold is now held within the country.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gold-reserves-are-on-the-move-but-central-banks-are-choosing-different-vaults/articleshow/133788083.cms