

October 9, 2026 – Friday

Economy

Indian firms seen posting faster profit growth despite global headwinds

Indian companies' September-quarter profit growth is expected to accelerate even as performance is likely to be uneven across sectors due to global and local headwinds, according to five brokerages. Foreign investors have pulled out of Indian stocks at a record pace, pushing the benchmark Nifty 50 towards its worst year in 15 years. While a weakest-in-a-decade monsoon has raised rural demand concerns, the Middle East conflict has fuelled inflation concerns globally, raising the risk premium on emerging market economies and equity markets.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/indian-firms-seen-posting-faster-profit-growth-despite-global-headwinds/article71558724.ece

RBI survey: Household inflation expectations hit 10% for next year

Indian households project inflation to hit 10 per cent over the next year, rising from 9.4 per cent in July. The shifting outlook underscores intensifying anxieties over escalating living costs, coinciding with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) aggressive monetary tightening measures aimed at reining in persistent inflation.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/rbi-survey-household-inflation-expectations-hit-10-for-next-year/articleshow/134789190.cms

Finance

Non-life insurance industry premium rises 8.92% in H1 FY27; agriculture insurance plunges

The non-life insurance industry recorded an 11.7 per cent year-on-year growth in gross direct premium underwritten during the first half of FY27, excluding specialised insurers. Including specialised insurers, the industry's premium grew 8.92 per cent to ₹1,79,712 crore from ₹1,64,987 crore in H1 FY26. However, agriculture insurance premium contracted, according to flash figures released by the General Insurance Council on Thursday.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/non-life-insurance-industry-premium-rises-892-in-h1-fy27-agriculture-insurance-plunges/article71558756.ece

GST 2.0 makes it less taxing as govt scrap arrest powers, raise prosecution threshold to Rs 5 crore in major overhaul

The GST Council approved a sweeping recast of the indirect tax structure that includes scrapping arrest powers, besides easing the compliance structure and claiming of input tax credit. The latest set of reforms marks the completion of the goods and services tax (GST) makeover that began with rate rationalisation a year ago.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gst-2-0-makes-it-less-taxing-as-govt-scrap-arrest-powers-raise-prosecution-threshold-to-rs-5-crore-in-major-overhaul/articleshow/134803272.cms

GST reforms: 38,700 exporters to get faster refunds, wider access to input tax credits

Almost 38,700 export taxpayers will become eligible to claim cash refunds on input taxes paid on services and plant and machinery, directly addressing the long-standing issue of working capital being locked up under the indirect tax

framework. The GST Council also changed the refund process, wherein 90% of the claim will be released automatically based on a risk check, while the remaining amount will be paid after the usual verification. Exporters stand to benefit from faster GST refunds, with the acknowledgement deadline reduced to 10 days from 15 days.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/gst-reforms-38700-exporters-to-get-faster-refunds-wider-access-to-input-tax-credits/articleshow/134799636.cms

RBI's first big liquidity mop-up after rate hike falls short as banks park less than half the target

The Reserve Bank of India's first major attempt to drain surplus liquidity and improve transmission of its rate hike met with a muted response. Banks parked just Rs 79,655 crore in the central bank's 29-day variable rate reverse repo (VRRR) auction, less than half of the Rs 2 lakh crore absorption plan.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/rbis-first-big-liquidity-mop-up-after-rate-hike-falls-short-as-banks-park-less-than-half-the-target/articleshow/134794532.cms

IRDAI may roll out insurance commission caps as early as January

India's insurance regulator may implement sweeping distribution reforms as early as January, pushing ahead with an overhaul that has battered shares of insurers and brokers. The effective dates under consideration are Jan. 1 and April 1, Girija Subramanian, an executive at the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India, said in an interview.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/irdai-may-roll-out-insurance-commission-caps-as-early-as-january/article71562468.ece

Faceless assessment of GST payers registered under multiple CGST jurisdictions to come into effect next fiscal

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday announced bringing in a faceless assessment system for around two lakh GST taxpayers registered under central GST jurisdiction but having businesses in multiple States. The scheme will be launched in FY28. "We intend to bring a centralised tax administration for these multiple CGST jurisdiction taxpayers with a unified window for all their CGST-related functions," Sitharaman said on Thursday. The decision is not part of the GST Council meeting and was taken by the Central government, she told reporters after the meeting ended.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/faceless-assessment-of-gst-payers-registered-under-multiple-cgst-jurisdictions-to-come-into-effect-next-fiscal/article71560502.ece

Industry

India's apparel market set to cross $146 billion by 2029, ranks fourth globally

India's domestic apparel market, which is now the fourth-largest globally, is projected to rise from $95.7 billion (₹8 lakh crore) in CY2025 to $146.3 billion (₹12 lakh crore) by CY2029, representing a 9 per cent CAGR, according to a report released by the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) in association with market research firm 1Lattice.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-apparel-market-set-to-cross-146-billion-by-2029-ranks-fourth-globally/article71558580.ece

Personal protective equipment market set to touch $4.84 bn in 7 years

The personal protective equipment market is set to expand to $4.84 billion by 2033, against $2.42 billion aided by the growing demand and special government focus on workers safety. The industry has invested ₹8,100 crore in technical textiles under the PLI scheme and generated 33,000 jobs. The government has also fast tracked 186 research projects to design protective workwear for the Indian climate with AI robotics wearables and connected safety solutions emerging as key industry growth drivers.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/indias-apparel-market-set-to-cross-146-billion-by-2029-ranks-fourth-globally/article71558580.ece

Agriculture & allied activities

India sugar production view slashed as El Nino hits, USDA says

Indian sugar production for the 2026/27 season that started in October was revised down to 29.5 million metric tons from 33.6 million tons. "A severe rainfall deficit in 2026 is expected to reduce sucrose content in the cane, lowering effective harvesting area and overall cane production". Total sugarcane crop projected at 434 million tons from 455 million tons the previous season, said the USDA.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-sugar-production-view-slashed-as-el-nino-hits-usda-says/articleshow/134796856.cms

Unfolding El Niño may be the strongest since 1950s, says WMO

A rapidly strengthening and drought-bearing El Niño could push central and eastern tropical Pacific temperatures to record levels by late 2026, according to the World Meteorological Organization's Global Seasonal Climate Update. It is expected to persist into February 2027 and could raise global heat and shift rainfall patterns, increasing risks of drought, flooding and broader climate impacts across the globe.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/unfolding-el-nino-may-be-the-strongest-since-1950s-says-wmo/article71558412.ece

Govt seeks fishers' views to frame National Plan of Action on small-scale fisheries

India's efforts to build the National Plan of Action for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (NPOA-SSF) have entered a crucial phase, as the Central Government is spearheading large-scale community consultations across the coastal States to seek fishers' views in framing the plan. Community-led stakeholder consultations were held at Kakdwip in West Bengal and Baleswar in Odisha, while the Centre requested coastal States and union territories to conduct their own State-level consultations and consolidate fishers' views for framing the plan.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/govt-seeks-fishers-views-to-frame-national-plan-of-action-on-small-scale-fisheries/article71559185.ece

Infrastructure

Cargo traffic handled by major ports rises 8% in Apr-Sep 2026

Union Cargo traffic handled by India's major ports rose 8.01 per cent year-on-year to 472.75 million tonnes during April-September 2026, according to data released by the Indian Ports Association. The data show that the overall growth in major port traffic was supported by higher container, POL, iron ore and coal volumes, even as two ports — Chennai and Paradip — recorded lower throughput, according to the data.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cargo-traffic-handled-by-major-ports-rises-8-in-apr-sep-2026/article71559924.ece

Nitin Gadkari announces approval of Rs 993 crore for NH-10 development in Sikkim

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced the approval of Rs 993.64 crore for the development of NH-10, considered Sikkim's lifeline, between Rangpo and Ranipool in the Himalayan state. In a social media post on Wednesday evening, Gadkari said the project will upgrade the corridor into a two-lane highway, with major engineering works planned to improve safety and resilience in the challenging Himalayan terrain.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/nitin-gadkari-announces-approval-of-rs-993-crore-for-nh-10-development-in-sikkim/articleshow/134785160.cms

Bullet train milestone: 480m Sabarmati river bridge completed in Ahmedabad

A major milestone for India's Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train project as the 480-metre-long bridge over the Sabarmati River in Ahmedabad has been completed. Standing 36 metres high, the bridge features eight circular piers and was built using the Balanced Cantilever Method. With this bridge complete, 18 of the 21 river bridges in Gujarat on the high-speed rail corridor have now been completed. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw also shared a video highlighting the construction milestone.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/bullet-train-milestone-480m-sabarmati-river-bridge-completed-in-ahmedabad/videoshow/134784305.cms

Energy

Power ministry issues compensation guidelines for transmission line right of way

The power ministry has issued new guidelines for compensation to landowners for right of way (RoW) for interstate transmission lines. The guidelines lay down mechanisms to determine the market value of land for states that are yet to specify the manner of determining land value.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/power-ministry-issues-compensation-guidelines-for-transmission-line-right-of-way/articleshow/134772077.cms

India could achieve 300 GW of wind capacity by 2030, say industry stakeholders

With India on track to achieve a second consecutive year of annual wind energy installations in excess of 6 GW, industry stakeholders believe that an upward revision of the country's long term wind capacity targets is now on the cards. As of September 2026, installed wind capacity stood at 59 GW. Girish Tanti, Co-Founder and Vice Chairman of Suzlon Group said that given the scale-up over the past few years and the under construction and soon to be commissioned capacity, the prior target of 100 GW by 2030 is a 'done deal'.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/india-could-achieve-300-gw-of-wind-capacity-by-2030-say-industry-stakeholders/article71559525.ece

PM-KUSUM 2.0 aims at a more sustainable blend of food & energy security: MNRE Secretary

With Emphasising that PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan) helped the farm sector in reducing irrigation costs and generating additional income, Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Secretary of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, said that PM-KUSUM 2.0 will integrate learnings from the first scheme, moving towards a more sustainable blend of food and energy security.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/pm-kusum-20-aims-at-a-more-sustainable-blend-of-food-energy-security-mnre-secretary/article71560210.ece

Telecom

IMC 2026: India targets one-billion 5G users by 2030: Scindia

India aims to double its 5G user base to one-billion by 2030, from 550 million at the moment, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Minister of Communications said on here Thursday. Speaking at the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026, he also said that 5G in India has become the fastest-adopted 5G technology in the world.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/imc-2026-india-targets-one-billion-5g-users-by-2030-scindia/article71559576.ece

States

Andhra Pradesh tops India in egg production with 2,739 crore eggs in FY25

Andhra Pradesh Animal Husbandry Minister K Atchannaidu on Thursday said the state topped egg production in the country in FY25 with over 2,739 crore eggs. The Animal Husbandry Minister said the southern state accounted for over 18 percent of India's egg production of 14,911 crore that year.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/andhra-pradesh-tops-india-in-egg-production-with-2739-crore-eggs-in-fy25/article71561361.ece

Telangana advises farmers to opt for crops requiring less water in rabi

The Telangana government has asked farmers to choose short-duration pulses and oilseeds that require less water and investment during the upcoming rabi (yasangi) season, citing likely water shortages due to the continued impact of El Niño. "Farmers should choose crops based on the availability of irrigation water and market demand," Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/telangana-advises-farmers-to-opt-for-crops-requiring-less-water-in-rabi/article71559563.ece

Healthcare

Cancer drugs may get up to 70% cheaper as govt fixes trade margins on non-scheduled medicines at 30%

The government has decided to cap trade margins on non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs at 30%, a move that could reduce the prices of several cancer medicines by up to 70% and save patients an estimated ₹2,500 crore annually, officials told ET. Following this, the department of pharmaceuticals asked the health ministry to constitute an expert committee to recommend the list of the medicines to be covered under the trade margin rationalisation (TMR) exercise.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/govt-prepares-to-cap-anti-cancer-drugs-trade-margins-at-30-of-mrp/articleshow/134795010.cms

External

WTO raises 2026 goods trade forecast to 3.9% on AI boom, supply chain resilience

The WTO has sharply upgraded its outlook for global merchandise trade despite the ongoing West Asia crisis, with goods trade volume now expected to grow 3.9 per cent in 2026, more than double its earlier forecast of 1.9 per cent in March. In a potential boost for Indian exporters, Asia is projected to lead merchandise export growth in 2026 at 9.9 per cent, followed by North America at 5.7 per cent and Africa at 5.6 per cent, according to the WTO's latest *Global Trade Outlook and Statistics*, released on Thursday.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/wto-raises-2026-goods-trade-forecast-to-39-on-ai-boom-supply-chain-resilience/article71560066.ece

Strait of Hormuz traffic falls to lowest in over two months after attacks, data shows

The number of vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz fell to the lowest in more than two months after attacks on tankers in the key waterway reached their highest last week since the start of the US-Israeli war with Iran, shipping data showed. Seven commodity vessels passed through the strait on Tuesday, for the lowest figure since July 23, data from analytics firm Kpler showed.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/commodities/strait-of-hormuz-traffic-falls-to-lowest-in-over-two-months-after-attacks-data-shows/article71558286.ece

Exports to hit $1 trillion this fiscal: Piyush Goyal

Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday expressed confidence that India would achieve $1 trillion in exports of goods and services in the current fiscal. The minister had late last month said the merchandise exports increased 15% year-on-year this fiscal until September 21. In 2025-26, the country's goods and services exports had touched an all-time high of $863 billion. "The world is building walls and India is building bridges," Goyal said, adding that the nine free trade agreements finalised by India in recent years provide huge business opportunities for exporters.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/exports-to-hit-1-trillion-this-fiscal-piyush-goyal/articleshow/134798400.cms

India cuts back on costly Russian crude as West Asia flows recover

Indian refiners have cut back Russian crude purchases for November delivery, as rising competition from China pushes up prices at a time when buyers can tap alternative shipments from West Asia. Surging prices for Russia's flagship Urals crude loaded in the Baltic, a mainstay for Indian refiners, are driving the pullback, according to people familiar with the matter. Economics have outweighed Washington's pressure on New Delhi to reduce purchases from Russia, its biggest crude supplier.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/commodities/india-shuns-costly-russian-crude-as-west-asia-flows-recover/article71558804.ece

Black Sea attacks hit yellow peas, sunflower oil supplies to India

Russia's exports of yellow peas to India have come to a halt in the past two months following attacks on its ports in the Black Sea amid the protracted war with Ukraine, lifting prices of the pulses by more than 10%. Sunflower oil shipments have also been affected, which is expected to make it pricier than other cooking oils, said importers.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/black-sea-attacks-hit-yellow-peas-sunflower-oil-supplies-to-india/articleshow/134798978.cms

India, Cote d'Ivoire discuss defence, anti-terrorism, trade and development cooperation

Abidjan (Cote d'Ivoire), India and Cote d'Ivoire discussed ways to strengthen cooperation in defence and anti-terrorism, including through training and capacity building, as External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held a series of engagements during his visit to the West African country. Jaishankar arrived in Cote d'Ivoire on Wednesday from Ghana on the second leg of his three-nation tour of African countries, which also includes Ethiopia.
http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-cote-divoire-discuss-defence-anti-terrorism-trade-and-development-cooperation/articleshow/134785179.cms

India, Singapore eye 2,000 MW power corridor

India and Singapore are exploring options for a proposed 2,000 MW cross-border power interconnection, Minister of State for power and renewable energy Shripad Yesso Naik said on Thursday. One of the options under consideration is a land-based transmission corridor of around 3,000 km connecting Imphal in India to Singapore through Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia, Naik said while addressing the East Asia Summit energy ministers' meeting in Manila.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/india-singapore-eye-2000-mw-power-corridor/articleshow/134798556.cms