

November 3, 2026 – Tuesday

Economy

Centre's FY27 fiscal deficit may exceed Budget target by ₹1.2 lakh crore, reach 4.7% of GDP: SBI Research

The Centre's fiscal deficit for 2026-27 could exceed the Budget Estimate by around ₹1.2 lakh crore, with higher subsidy spending and lower tax receipts adding pressure on government finances, according to a report by SBI Research. The report estimates that the fiscal deficit could rise to 4.7 per cent of GDP, compared with the budgeted 4.3 per cent. The revised estimate uses the 2022-23 GDP base, while the Budget Estimate was calculated using the 2011-12 base.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/centres-fy27-fiscal-deficit-may-exceed-budget-target-by-12-lakh-crore-reach-47-of-gdp-sbi-research/article71659357.ece

Finance

We will consider the call for review of LTCG tax: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman

The Centre would "consider" the request from foreign investors to review the structure of taxes levied on equity capital gains, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday, highlighting the role of overseas funds in the capital markets that are seen as crucial to sustaining rapid economic growth and boosting efficiency in financing.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/we-will-consider-the-call-for-review-of-ltcg-tax-finance-minister-nirmala-sitharaman/articleshow/135473032.cms

Government has fiscal headroom to absorb ₹50,000-crore revenue loss from scrapping LTCG tax: SBI Research

The government could abolish long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax across investor categories without significantly disrupting its fiscal consolidation plans, as the revenue loss may be limited to Rs 40,000-50,000 crore in FY28, according to a report by SBI Research. In its latest Ecowrap report, SBI Research said the potential revenue shortfall from scrapping the tax would amount to around 0.1-0.2 per cent of GDP, which the government could absorb while remaining on its fiscal glide path.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/government-has-fiscal-headroom-to-absorb-50000-crore-revenue-loss-from-scrapping-ltcg-tax-sbi-research/article71659248.ece

SEBI allows REITs, InvITs to raise foreign funds through depository receipts

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Monday allowed Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) to raise funds from foreign investors through depository receipts (DRs), providing them with an additional route to access overseas capital.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/sebi-allows-reits-invits-to-raise-foreign-funds-through-depository-receipts/article71657854.ece

Capex key to India's growth strategy, fiscal prudence remains top priority: Sitharaman at HSBC event

The government will continue to rely on capital expenditure as a key driver of economic growth while maintaining a firm commitment to fiscal consolidation, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday, highlighting the Centre's strategy of using public investment to crowd in private sector spending. "CapEx is a very important component of our growth strategy," Sitharaman said during a fireside chat with HSBC India Chief Executive Hitendra Dave.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/capex-key-to-indias-growth-strategy-fiscal-prudence-remains-top-priority-sitharaman-at-hsbc-event/articleshow/135462064.cms

Irdai tightens ESOP norms, share transfer rules for insurers

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has tightened rules governing shares issued to employees of insurance companies under employee stock option plans (ESOPs), stating that senior executives and directors cannot use such schemes to acquire stakes beyond prescribed limits without prior regulatory approval. In a circular issued on Monday, Irdai asked insurers to track not only direct share allotments to employees but also shares issued through ESOP trusts to ensure regulatory ownership limits aren't breached.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/insure/irdai-tightens-esop-norms-share-transfer-rules-for-insurers/articleshow/135473319.cms

Indian bond rally seen extending on weaker oil, Treasury yields

Indian government bonds are likely to extend their recent gains in early trade on Tuesday, supported by a sharp decline in crude oil prices and softer US Treasury yields, although investors remain cautious ahead of the US midterm elections. The benchmark 6.94 per cent 2036 bond yield is seen trending in a 7.28 per cent-7.33 per cent range, a private bank trader said, after ending at 7.3154 per cent on Monday. The 10-year yield has eased about 12 basis points in the last three sessions.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/indian-bond-rally-seen-extending-on-weaker-oil-treasury-yields/article71659308.ece

Institutional investors step up bets on private credit as insurers, pension funds and DFIs back new funds

Institutional investors are increasing allocations to private credit funds, with insurance companies, pension funds and development finance institutions emerging as key contributors to new fundraising. Institutional investors accounted for 22-25% of the ₹6,200 crore corpus of Neo Alternative Asset Managers' second special credit opportunities fund, compared with 1-2% in its first fund, the firm said. Ascertis Credit's fourth fund, which crossed $700 million in commitments in October, attracted both existing and new institutional investors At Neo, domestic insurance companies form a large part of the institutional pool, said chief executive Hemant Daga. It also received commitments from overseas pension funds.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/institutional-investors-step-up-bets-on-private-credit-as-insurers-pension-funds-and-dfis-back-new-funds/articleshow/135472365.cms

Industry

Manufacturing activity eases in Oct as new order growth drops

India's manufacturing activity moderated in October as growth in new orders and output slowed, although the sector continued to expand at a pace above its long-run average, according to a private survey released Monday. Stronger demand from overseas markets, however, provided support, with export order growth reaching a six-month high. The HSBC Purchasing Managers Index (PMI), compiled by S&P Global, fell to 54.7 in October from 55.1 in September and 59.2 a year earlier. A reading above 50 indicates expansion, while one below that signals contraction.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/manufacturing-activity-eases-in-oct-as-new-order-growth-drops/articleshow/135473150.cms

India’s manufacturing output dominated by large factories, while smaller units lag behind

India’s manufacturing sector remains highly fragmented, with a small share of large factories accounting for most of the output, while a majority of smaller units grapple with debt and low productivity. Large factories drive nearly 72% of manufacturing GVA. Factories employing more than 200 workers make up just 10.4% of all operational units but

contribute nearly 72% of the country's manufacturing gross value added (GVA), amounting to Rs 15.9 lakh crore. They also account for 63% of industrial employment.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/indias-manufacturing-output-is-driven-by-a-handful-of-large-firms/articleshow/135453690.cms

Agriculture

Govt consults seed, fertiliser firms on easing regulatory hurdles

The government has begun consultations with agricultural companies, including seed manufacturers, fertiliser producers and exporters, to identify regulatory hurdles and improve ease of doing business in the sector. Officials from Niti Aayog recently met representatives of the seed industry as the centre is looking to modernise decades-old regulatory frameworks governing seeds and fertilisers, while exploring new international markets through trade agreements and other initiatives to diversify and expand India's agricultural exports.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/govt-consults-seed-fertiliser-firms-on-easing-regulatory-hurdles/articleshow/135473241.cms

Govt set to tweak MSP norms for periodic price hikes of minor forest products

The Centre is set to restructure the minimum support price (MSP) mechanism for minor forest produce (MFP) to ensure periodic hikes benefiting tribal communities. The tribal affairs ministry has asked The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) to study MFPs covered under the MSP framework and examine whether the list needs to be rationalised. TERI will conduct ground surveys to assess how the existing system can be tweaked to ensure better prices for tribals depending on forest produce for livelihood. According to sources, TERI will also work out a mechanism to ensure a periodic increase in MSP.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/govt-set-to-tweak-msp-norms-for-periodic-price-hikes-of-minor-forest-products/articleshow/135471469.cms

Infrastructure

Railways adds 9,638 wagons to contracts worth Rs 3,925 crore

Indian Railways has expanded existing wagon procurement contracts by 24.57%, placing additional orders for 9,638 wagons across five suppliers in a boost to freight-equipment manufacturers. The Railway Board has issued incremental orders worth about ₹3,925.41 crore, officials said. "The increase comes through a 30% option clause in the existing contracts. The top-up takes the contracted quantity across seven contracts to 48,864 wagons," a senior official told ET.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/railways/railways-adds-9638-wagons-to-contracts-worth-rs-3925-crore/articleshow/135472570.cms

Telecom

Telcos to face up to Rs 20 lakh fine per quarter per circle for complaint redressal lapses

Telecom operators and internet service providers may face a penalty of up to Rs 20 lakh per quarter per circle if they fail to dispose of consumer complaints, as per new rules published by the sector regulator Trai on Monday. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has tightened the consumer grievances redressal mechanism for telecom and internet operators.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/telecom/telecom-news/telcos-to-face-up-to-rs-20-lakh-fine-per-quarter-per-circle-for-complaint-redressal-lapses/articleshow/135465637.cms

States

Maharashtra to launch new maritime development policy

Maharashtra government is working on a new maritime development policy to boost port infrastructure and coastal shipping, State's Minister for Fisheries and Port Development, Nitesh Rane said at the FICCI Maritime India conference in Mumbai on Monday

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/maharashtra-to-launch-new-maritime-development-policy/article71656655.ece

Healthcare

India's first public sector proton beam therapy unit to come up in Assam; state signs MoU with Belgian firm

The Assam government on Saturday signed an agreement with Ion Beam Applications (IBA) Particles of Belgium for setting up the country's first public proton beam therapy centre in the northeastern state, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said. He said this advanced technology will make a significant difference for patients, particularly children, receiving cancer care.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/indias-first-public-sector-proton-beam-therapy-unit-to-come-up-in-assam-state-signs-mou-with-belgian-firm/articleshow/135401041.cms

External

China’s 5,000-ton digging machines are a trade war risk to India

China has gotten a lot of bargaining power out of its near-monopoly over rare earths. Now it’s looking to repeat the trick in a more mundane industry – and perhaps squeeze a key Asian rival. Beijing’s newest export controls target construction equipment — including tunnel-boring machines, some of the world’s largest and most complex industrial devices. They’re used to build subways or drill roads and railways through mountains. China dominates the global market and India is among its main customers.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/chinas-5000-ton-digging-machines-are-a-trade-war-risk-to-india/articleshow/135443848.cms

India, EU discuss FTA implementation, customs cooperation and market access in Brussels

India and the European Union (EU) have discussed preparations for implementing their Free Trade Agreement (FTA), along with measures to improve market access, simplify customs procedures and strengthen supply chain cooperation during high-level meetings in Brussels. Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal held meetings with senior European Commission officials, including Ditte Juul Jorgensen, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Trade and Economic Security (DG TRADE); Koen Doens, Director-General of the Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA); and Gerassimos Thomas, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-discuss-fta-implementation-customs-cooperation-and-market-access-in-brussels/articleshow/135448876.cms