

November 5, 2026 – Thursday

Economy

FICCI makes recommendations to FM ahead of Budget 2027-28, highlights LTCG exemption, TDS relief and faster tax appeals

Industry body FICCI has pressed the government to restore the long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax exemption on listed shares in the Union Budget 2027-28, while also seeking lighter TDS rules, faster tax appeals and clearer taxation of foreign firms. In its recommendations to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the chamber pointed out that foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have withdrawn about Rs 3.08 lakh crore during the year. It said capital gains tax, charged on top of the securities transaction tax (STT), eats into returns from equities, and needs a review to make India a more attractive place to invest.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/ficci-makes-recommendations-to-fm-ahead-of-budget-2027-28-highlights-ltcg-exemption-tds-relief-and-faster-tax-appeals/articleshow/135541010.cms

Finance

RBI sets up panel with banks, market players to review financial market issues

India's central bank has formed a technical consultative committee to engage with market participants on policy and operational issues amid rapidly evolving financial markets and infrastructure. India's central bank has formed a technical consultative committee to engage with market participants on policy and operational issues amid rapidly evolving financial markets and infrastructure.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-sets-up-panel-with-banks-market-players-to-review-financial-market-issues/articleshow/135528321.cms

Sebi eases KYC norms for NRIs, OCIs and foreign nationals, allows digital onboarding from overseas

The Securities and Exchange Board of India Wednesday relaxed Know Your Client (KYC) requirements for non-resident Indians (NRIs), Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) and foreign nationals, allowing them to complete the onboarding process digitally from overseas. The move is aimed at reducing compliance requirements for overseas investors seeking to access the securities markets.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/sebi-eases-kyc-norms-for-nris-ocis-and-foreign-nationals-allows-digital-onboarding-from-overseas/articleshow/135550076.cms

SEBI forms working group to review Innovators Growth Platform framework

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Wednesday constituted an 18-member working group to review the regulatory framework governing the Innovators Growth Platform (IGP), with the aim to facilitate access to capital markets for start-ups and innovation-led enterprises. The review will examine the existing eligibility and listing requirements and assess their suitability for research-stage, pre-revenue, intellectual property-led and technology-intensive enterprises.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebi-forms-working-group-to-review-innovators-growth-platform-framework/article71666591.ece

Industry

Cabinet approves scheme to promote processing of critical minerals

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a scheme to promote critical mineral processing to encourage domestic value additional. It also gave its nod to the continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for expeditious trial of cases of rape and under POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act for another five years.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/cabinet-approves-scheme-to-promote-processing-of-critical-minerals/article71665226.ece

Big factories dominate India's manufacturing output, Annual Survey of Industries shows

India's manufacturing output is concentrated in a small number of large factories, with plants generating production above ₹500 crore making up more than three-fifths of the value added in FY25, showed a government survey. Such factories, accounting for about 3.6% of the country's operational plant capacity, accounted for 62.07% of total manufacturing output and nearly 61% of net value added in the year to March 31, 2025, showed the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) by the statistics ministry.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/big-factories-dominate-indias-manufacturing-output/articleshow/135549706.cms

New orders & robust demand lift India's October services growth to 4-month high

Growth in India's services sector accelerated to a four-month high in October, supported by resilient domestic demand and a stronger inflow of new business orders, a private survey showed. The HSBC India Services Business Activity Index posted a reading of 55.8 compared with 55.2 in September and 58.9 a year ago, data released on Wednesday showed. A reading above 50 indicates expansion in activity.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/new-orders-robust-demand-lift-indias-october-services-growth-to-4-month-high/articleshow/135549909.cms

Energy

Cabinet approves VGF plan for grid-scale energy storage with Rs 14,500 crore support

The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved a viability gap funding (VGF) scheme for grid-scale energy storage systems with a total financial support of ₹14,500 crore for FY27 through FY31. The scheme will support 92 GWh energy storage capacity. Of the total storage target, 60 GWh is hydro pumped storage while 30 GWh is battery energy storage system and 2 GWh through alternative energy storage technologies entailing a total estimated investment of ₹97,600 crore. ET earlier reported that the power ministry was working on a new VGF scheme for energy storage projects.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/cabinet-approves-vgf-plan-for-grid-scale-energy-storage-with-rs-14500-crore-support/articleshow/135549661.cms

Draft SAF policy proposes 90 per cent local fuel uplift for international airlines

The Centre’s draft National Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) policy proposes that airlines buy at least 90 per cent of their annual fuel requirements for international flights departing India at domestic airports, to ensure demand certainty for SAF.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/draft-saf-policy-proposes-90-per-cent-local-fuel-uplift-for-international-airlines/article71665373.ece

Investors commit nearly $400 billion to India's green energy sector, says Pralhad Joshi

Investors have committed to investing nearly $400 billion in India's green energy and related works, renewable energy minister Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday. The amount is preliminary and details of the commitment are to be worked out, he told reporters on the sidelines of the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo. "In the roundtable

that we had, it [commitment] was nearly around $400 billion," Joshi said, adding that it was a preliminary estimate, and the details would need to be worked out. The investment interest, from domestic and international companies, came during a roundtable meeting with companies, investors and fund managers, among others.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/investors-commit-nearly-400-billion-to-indias-green-energy-sector-says-pralhad-joshi/articleshow/135550266.cms

Telecom

TRAI launches 'Network Anubhav Platform' to detect internet speed, call quality

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Wednesday launched the 'Network Anubhav Platform' -- a geospatial and analytical dashboard that brings together consumer-generated speed and call test data along with the regulator's own independent drive test results. The platform also provides a Do Not Disturb (DND) web interface. User test data comprises the test results from MySpeed and MyCall apps of TRAI. The platform delivers insights on various network parameters to consumers, service providers and TRAI, the regulator said.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/trai-launches-network-anubhav-platform-to-detect-internet-speed-call-quality/article71666520.ece

States

Goa to adopt AI governance to disburse government benefits and schemes

The Goa government is planning to accelerate its 'Swayampurna Goa' vision through artificial intelligence in governance and citizen welfare. To this end, the state government has joined hands with enterprise software Modern Data Company behind DataOS.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/goa-to-adopt-ai-governance-to-disburse-government-benefits-and-schemes/article71666836.ece

Healthcare

Govt plans instant ban on manufacturing of drugs failing key quality tests

Pharma companies may soon have their licence for a drug suspended immediately if the drug fails key quality tests, as per the proposed changes to the rules, which is seeking to minimise public-health risks through instant withdrawal of the substandard medication. The health ministry's latest proposals empower regulators to act "immediately" when a drug fails important quality tests, such as those for strength (assay), drug dissolution, related substances, impurities and sterility.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/govt-plans-instant-ban-on-manufacturing-of-drugs-failing-key-quality-tests/articleshow/135550663.cms

Health Ministry proposes changes to microbial contamination limits for sterile drug manufacturing

The Union Health Ministry has proposed revising the permissible microbial contamination limits for pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities producing sterile medicines, including injectable drugs and ophthalmic preparations, as part of an amendment to the Drugs Rules, 1945.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/health-ministry-proposes-changes-to-microbial-contamination-limits-for-sterile-drug-manufacturing/article71665970.ece

External

US slaps sanctions on Indian, Turkish firms and people for aiding Iran

The US Treasury issued fresh sanctions on Wednesday against companies and individuals based in India and Turkey for their support of Iran, warning that it would continue to go after anyone who supported the Iranian government. The sanctions are part of the Trump administration's "Operation Economic Outcast," which aims to cut off Iran's ability to sell oil to fund the war with the US and Israel.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/us-slaps-sanctions-on-indian-turkish-firms-and-people-for-aiding-iran/articleshow/135548791.cms

Democrats' US midterm sweep may give India more room to negotiate a balanced trade deal with Trump

The sweeping blow to US President Donald Trump and his party in the midterm elections can significantly ease pressure on New Delhi in negotiations for a balanced trade deal with Washington, experts said. India should leverage the changed political landscape in the US to ensure all its sensitivities are addressed in the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA), they said.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/democrats-us-midterm-sweep-may-give-india-more-room-to-negotiate-a-balanced-trade-deal-with-trump/articleshow/135550807.cms

Piyush Goyal sets March 2027 deadline for digitisation of DGFT services, aims to end physical visits

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday set March 31, 2027, as the deadline for complete digitisation of services provided by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), aiming to eliminate the need for physical visits to its offices from April 1, 2027, according to a statement by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/piyush-goyal-sets-march-2027-deadline-for-digitisation-of-dgft-services-aims-to-end-physical-visits/articleshow/135542057.cms

EAM Jaishankar discusses economic partnership, CETA with UK's Burnham on CHOGM sidelines

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday (local time) met United Kingdom Prime Minister Andy Burnham on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2026 in Antigua and Barbuda, discussing ways to strengthen the economic partnership between the two countries in the context of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/eam-jaishankar-discusses-economic-partnership-ceta-with-uks-burnham-on-chogm-sidelines/articleshow/135555734.cms

India-EU FTA to simplify and reinforce corporate cooperation, says Swedish Ambassador Petra Menander

The proposed India-European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will simplify and reinforce bilateral corporate collaboration, said Sweden's Ambassador to India Petra Menander, pointing to expanded opportunities for technology transfers and joint industrial initiatives. Speaking to on the sidelines of the Bharat RE Summit and Expo 2026, Menander stated that the trade pact will provide institutional backing to ongoing commercial and scientific engagements between Indian and Swedish enterprises.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-fta-to-simplify-and-reinforce-corporate-cooperation-says-swedish-ambassador-petra-menander/articleshow/135530352.cms