

November 18, 2026 – Wednesday

Economy

PM's principal secretary calls for mission-mode governance to achieve Viksit Bharat

India's governance journey has been marked by defining milestones that demonstrate the power of decisive leadership and the ability to translate vision into action, said PK Mishra, principal secretary to the prime minister. Addressing the first national workshop on 'Leadership as a Mission', marking the completion of 25 years of Narendra Modi as head of government, Mishra urged public servants to move beyond procedural compliance towards outcome-oriented governance to help India achieve its Viksit Bharat 2047 goals.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/modi-at-25-pms-principal-secretary-calls-for-mission-mode-governance-to-achieve-viksit-bharat/articleshow/135944976.cms

India's GDP growth pegged at 7.3% in FY26-27, may touch 7.7% next quarter: EAC-PM Chairman

November 17 (ANI): India's GDP growth is likely to reach 7.3 per cent during the current financial year, with the economy projected to grow at around 7.7 per cent in the next quarter, S Mahendra Dev, Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), said on Tuesday.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/indias-gdp-growth-pegged-at-7-3-in-fy26-27-may-touch-7-7-next-quarter-eac-pm-chairman/articleshow/135923170.cms

Finance

FICCI pitches Rs 100 lakh crore manufacturing credit push, LTCG tax relief in Budget 2027-28

Industry body FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) has proposed a dedicated development finance framework for the manufacturing sector in the Union Budget 2027-28, estimating that the sector will need more than Rs 100 lakh crore in additional credit over the next decade to raise its contribution to India's GDP to 25%.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/ficci-pitches-rs-100-lakh-crore-manufacturing-credit-push-ltcg-tax-relief-in-budget-2027-28/articleshow/135922624.cms

SEBI lowers commodity margins to encourage market participation and cut hedging costs

The minimum and maximum initial margin have been reduced to 2 per cent from 6 per cent and 8 per cent for low- and medium-volatility agri and non-agri commodities. The margin on highly volatile commodities has been reduced to 3 per cent from 10 per cent. The reduced margin will boost trading in the commodity derivatives segment and cut hedging costs on the electronic trading platform.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/commodities/sebi-lowers-commodity-margins-to-encourage-market-participation-and-cut-hedging-costs/article71713243.ece

At $10 billion, net November FPI flows highest ever for a month

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have net purchased a record $10.07 billion into Indian equities this month, till November 17. This is the highest net FPI equity inflows in a month. The inflows have surpassed the previous monthly record of $8.42 billion in December 2020, by 19.6 per cent. However, with $21.33 billion net outflows, 2026 remains the worst calendar year for net FPI equity investments since 2002, surpassing the previous record outflow of $18.91 billion in 2025.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/data-stories/data-focus/fpi-inflows-of-10-billion-in-november-the-highest-so-far-in-a-single-month/article71712315.ece

Industry

Industry wants manufacturing at 25% of GDP

Industry chambers are seeking government incentives to drive manufacturing to a quarter of gross domestic product (GDP), from around 16-17% currently, a rethink of the current long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax and sustained public capital expenditure while smaller businesses sought cheaper credit and policy support during a pre-budget meeting with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman Tuesday.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/budget-2027-wish-list-industry-wants-manufacturing-at-25-of-gdp-ltcg-tax-rethink/articleshow/135944980.cms

Government plans standards for low-speed electric two-wheelers popularised by gig workers

The government is planning standards and regulations for low-speed electric two-wheelers as rapid growth in e-commerce and the gig economy pushes delivery fleets away from petrol scooters toward electric last-mile mobility. Industry data, compiled by Elara Capital in September, also revealed that the low-speed electric two-wheeler volumes have grown drastically to 18.68 lakh units in FY26, from only 1.24 lakh units in FY23, registering a compound annual growth rate of 147 per cent. Such low-speed electric two-wheelers don't come under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and do not face regulations.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/government-plans-standards-for-low-speed-electric-two-wheelers-popularised-by-gig-workers/article71712011.ece

India's electronics market set to hit ₹10 trillion by 2030, driven by premium upgrades and smaller cities

India's consumer electronics market is projected to grow from ₹7 trillion in 2024 to ₹10 trillion by 2030, with the next ₹3 trillion in growth driven primarily by device upgrades rather than new device sales, according to a report by electronics retailer Croma and management consulting firm Kearney.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/indias-electronics-market-set-to-hit-10-trillion-by-2030-driven-by-premium-upgrades-and-smaller-cities/article71711557.ece

Agriculture

India's horticulture production up 4.4% to record 386.92 million tonnes in 2025-26

India's horticulture production, which includes spices, plantation crops, honey, as well as fruits and vegetables, has been estimated to be higher at 386.92 million tonnes (mt) during the 2025-26 crop year (July-June) from 370.74 mt in 2024-25, despite a drop in area. An increase in the yield in many crops made up for the lower area. The government in June had pegged the output at 377.78 mt for 2025-26.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/indias-horticulture-production-up-44-to-record-38692-million-tonnes-in-2025-26/article71712386.ece

Centre urged to launch Traditional Rice Mission in FY28 Budget

The Indian government has been urged to launch a National Traditional Rice Mission in a public-private-farmer (PPF) model to unlock the Indian Council of Agricultural Research's multi-billion gene bank potential to help farmers benefit. In the pre-Budget consultation on agriculture held by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Nitin Puri, founder of startup KisaanSay, said it needs to focus on seed development, infrastructure for processing at the FPO level and creating consumer awareness. Besides traditional Indian rice varieties' value, the grains can also help farmers in fighting impact of climate change.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/centre-urged-to-launch-traditional-rice-mission-in-fy28-budget/article71712582.ece

Infrastructure

Nitin Gadkari approves road projects worth Rs 1,123 crore on Delhi-Agra corridor

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday announced approval for road infrastructure projects worth Rs 1,123.56 crore on the Delhi-Agra corridor and a separate project worth Rs 359.63 crore for West Delhi. In a post on X, Gadkari said the Delhi-Agra corridor project would involve the construction of three road over bridges (ROBs), four flyovers and four vehicle underpasses (VUPs) across Haryana's Faridabad and Palwal districts and Uttar Pradesh's Mathura and Agra districts.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/nitin-gadkari-approves-road-projects-worth-rs-1123-crore-on-delhi-agra-corridor-rs-359-crore-for-west-delhi-road/articleshow/135927712.cms

States

APEDA plans State-specific export strategies for the North-East to boost agri exports from region

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) plans to come up with state-specific export strategies for the North-Eastern states to strengthen and promote agri exports from the region. APEDA, which intends to formulate State-specific strategies in consultation with the respective state governments and other relevant stakeholders in the region, has floated a tender inviting bids to carry out the study.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/apeda-plans-state-specific-export-strategies-for-the-north-east-to-boost-agri-exports-from-region/article71711879.ece

Healthcare

Indian AYUSH services economy projected to touch $300 billion by 2047

India’s AYUSH services economy, estimated at $36.92 billion in FY2024-25, is projected to grow to between $216 billion and $318 billion by 2047, according to a study by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS). The broader Indian AYUSH market, encompassing traditional systems of medicine and related products and services, was estimated at $43.4 billion in 2023, according to the Ministry of AYUSH. India’s AYUSH industry comprised Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Homoeopathy and other traditional systems of medicine.
https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/indian-ayush-services-economy-projected-to-touch-300-billion-by-2047/article71711631.ece

External

Russia planning to offer India access to rarely shared tech: Trade Minister

Russia wants to discuss localising complex products in India and transferring technologies, including those it does not usually share, Russian trade minister Anton Alikhanov said. "We are putting this proposal together right now so that it is attractive precisely in terms of technological sovereignty and the knowledge they could acquire," Alikhanov said at an industrial meet in Moscow on Monday. The proposal aims to establish a substantive industrial partnership with India, he said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/russia-planning-to-offer-india-access-to-rarely-shared-tech-trade-minister/articleshow/135938327.cms

Govt widens compliance support for MSME exporters under Export Promotion Mission

The EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, Restriction of Hazardous Substances, and the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization of Chemicals, are among the 600 global trade regulations, the costs incurred on which would be eligible for coverage under the Export Promotion Mission, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a trade notice Tuesday.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-widens-compliance-support-for-msme-exporters-under-export-promotion-mission/articleshow/135936856.cms

New trade restrictions, facilitating measures spike globally in H1 2026, says WTO

New trade-restrictive and other non-facilitating measures introduced by World Trade Organization (WTO) members and observers in the first half of 2026 covered $2 trillion, or 8%, of world imports and $794 billion, or 3.2%, of world exports, the global trade watchdog said Tuesday. The 333 such measures introduced in six months already exceed the 300 recorded in the whole of 2025.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/new-trade-restrictions-facilitating-measures-spike-globally-in-h1-2026-says-wto/articleshow/135936556.cms

India, Philippines discuss defence, trade ties as PM Modi meets President Marcos Jr.

India and the Philippines on Tuesday discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in defence, security, trade and investment as Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Philippine President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. in Manila on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit. Modi congratulated the Philippines on successfully chairing the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) this year, according to an official statement.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-philippines-discuss-defence-trade-ties-as-pm-modi-meets-president-marcos-jr-/articleshow/135924972.cms

India's shrimp export revenues predicted to rise 10-12% this fiscal year driven by US demand recovery

India’s shrimp export revenues are expected to grow 10-12% this fiscal, driven by a revival in demand from the US, higher export volumes and a shift towards value-added products, according to Crisil Ratings. The recovery comes after a 14% revenue growth last fiscal, with exporters also expected to benefit from improved realisations and a more favourable product mix.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-shrimp-export-revenues-predicted-to-rise-10-12-this-fiscal-year-driven-by-us-demand-recovery/articleshow/135918226.cms