

Industry Matters

Weekly Updates

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Economy, Industry and Policy

India is the bright spot on the dark global horizon - IMF MD Kristalina Georgieva: India deserves to be called a bright spot on this otherwise dark horizon because it has been a fast-growing economy, even during these difficult times, but most importantly, this growth is underpinned by structural reforms. *[The Economic Times]*

We are facing '5th wave' of debt crisis globally - World Bank chief: The pandemic forced many countries to take on more borrowing, and the World Bank and International Monetary Fund have warned that many are already facing or at risk of debt distress amid soaring global inflation and rising interest rates. *[The New Indian Express]*

Direct tax collection grows 24 per cent to Rs 8.98 lakh crore till Oct 8: Direct tax collection came at Rs 8.98 lakh crore between April 1 to October 8, 2022, 23.8 per cent higher than the gross collection in the corresponding period a year ago. *[The Economic Times]*

Capital expenditure by CPSEs accelerates to 43% of FY23 target in H1: CPSEs spent Rs 2.8 trillion in capex in the first half of FY23, they had invested Rs 2.19 trillion during the year-ago period, registering 27.85 growth per cent. *[Business Standard]*

Karnataka edges Gujarat out to take second place in H1 GST collections: Karnataka has overtaken Gujarat in goods and services tax collections in the first six months of this fiscal year, taking the second place behind Maharashtra among states. *[The Economic Times]*

GeM - Public procurement crosses Rs 3 lakh crore; doubles in 12 months: Public procurement of goods and services by central government ministries and departments has crossed Rs 3 lakh crore from the business-to-government portal Government e-Marketplace (GeM) on the back of a surge in purchase activity. *[Financial Express]*

Pre-Budget meet starts today, ministries to give report on Asset Monetisation: The Finance Ministry has asked various ministries and departments to give a report on the progress of Asset Monetisation during the pre-budget consultations starting from October 10. *[The Economic Times]*

Govt planning 7-8 more PLI schemes to expand coverage: The government is planning to launch 7-8 production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes in the next round soon in a bid to further expand the coverage across critical manufacturing sectors, stimulate economic growth and spur job creation. *[Financial Express]*

Union Cabinet approves Rs 6,600 cr scheme 'PM-DevINE' for Northeastern states: Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE), a Rs 6,600 crore scheme to support infrastructure, industries and other livelihood projects in the Northeastern states, was approved on Wednesday by the Union Cabinet. *[The Economic Times]*

13 states have fiscal space for Rs 7.4 lakh cr capital spending in FY23 - Icra: The 13 states, having nearly 85 per cent share in India's GDP in 2020-21, had made a capital expenditure of Rs 4.1 lakh crore last fiscal. Their Budget estimate for capex spending this fiscal is Rs 5.8 lakh crore. *[The Economic Times]*

Index of consumer sentiments rose by a robust 7.1% to a 30-month high in September - CMIE: As per the CMIE's Consumer Pyramids Household Survey (CPHS), the unemployment rate dropped to a four-year low of 6.3% and the index of consumer sentiments rose to a 30-month high by 7.1% in September. *[The Economic Times]*



Foreign Investment

Foreign companies are looking at India for satellite manufacturing: As per the report, the satellite manufacturing business in India is expected to touch \$3.2 billion in 2025 from \$2.1 billion in 2020. *[The Statesman]*

RIL Looks to Raise up to \$1.5 b, Jio \$2.5 b Via Foreign Loans: Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) and Reliance Jio are in talks with lenders to raise up to \$1.5 billion (about ₹12,400 crore) and around \$2.5 billion (about ₹20,600 crore), respectively, in foreign loans, said people familiar with the matter. *[The Economic Times]*

FPIs invest Rs 2,400 cr in Indian equities in first week of October: After withdrawing over Rs 7,600 crore last month, foreign investors have resumed buying Indian stocks and have invested more than Rs 2,400 crore in the domestic equity markets in the first week of October. *[Business Standard]*



Trade Policy and Competitiveness

PM Modi's export policy making record growth, country's export to top last year's \$420 billion this fiscal: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's One District One Product scheme has led to several states in the country quadrupling their exports, setting India on the path to make a new record in merchandise export this fiscal. *[Financial Express]*

UAE expects trade with India to cross USD 100 bn in 2-3 years: The UAE expects trade with India to cross USD 100 billion-mark over the next 2-3 years, boosted by the comprehensive economic partnership agreement. *[The Economic Times]*

India, Iran put in place digital tool to push trade: India and Iran recently successfully concluded the first pilot of a fully digital intermodal TIR transport (international customs transit system) to push trade via International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) between India and Russia. *[The Economic Times]*

India-Tanzania explore trade in national currencies: India and its economic partner in Africa— Tanzania have explored possibilities of opening an Indian SEZ in Tanzania and bilateral trade in Indian Rupees and Tanzanian Tshilling. *[The Economic Times]*

Exporters keeping fingers crossed as recession clouds loom over EU: Exporters are keeping their fingers crossed due to "visible" recessionary trends in the European Union (EU) as it could affect demand for domestic goods in that market in the coming months. *[The Economic Times]*

India's exports to US, China, UAE shrink in Sept; job-creating sectors like engineering, garments worst hit: India's exports to the US contracted 10.7% on-year in September while those to China shrank 45.8% as the country's overall shipments plummeted 3.5% last month with job-creating sectors such as engineering, garments and cotton yarn being the worst hit. *[The Economic Times]*

RBI burns \$110 billion to arrest rupee's slump; forex reserves dwindle to over two-year low: India's central bank has assured that the country's foreign exchange reserve "umbrella" has been strong, even as it had to burn \$110 billion in desperate attempt to arrest rupee's slump to a lifetime low, dragging the forex reserves to the lowest level in over two years. *[The Economic Times]*

From Feb 1, foreign food manufacturers need FSSAI registration for exporting milk, meat products: These categories are milk and milk products; meat and meat products, including poultry, fish and their products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals. *[The Economic Times]*

Indian car makers propose tax cut on imports in trade deal with Britain: Indian car makers have proposed cutting to 30% the tax rate on imported cars as part of a trade deal with Britain. *[The Economic Times]*

Duty refunds likely for steel, pharma and chemical exports: India could be looking at extending a key export scheme to pharmaceuticals, chemicals and steel products, eyeing measures to support exports hit hard by falling demand in advanced economies. *[The Economic Times]*

India can increase footwear exports by 10 times in near future: Goyal said that about 7,000 small industries units are connected with the footwear sector which holds great significance to the economy and foreign exchange earnings of the country. *[The Economic Times]*



Corporate Governance

Adani Group in talks to buy JP's cement units for 5,000 cr: Adani Group, which recently completed its \$6.5 billion acquisition of Ambuja Cements and ACC, is now in talks to buy the cement businesses of debt-laden Jaypee Group for about `5,000 crore. *[Financial Express]*

Singapore Airlines confirms Vistara-Air India merger discussions: SIA owns 49 per cent stake in Vistara and is among the four airlines run by Tata Group. Others include Air India, Air India Express, and AirAsia India. *[Business Standard]*



MSMEs and Start-ups

ONDC can be a game-changer for MSMEs: It's currently focused on empowering local sellers, who have a lesser say in matters of dispute on proprietary platforms, and fundamentally change the way micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) go about their business. *[Business Standard]*

India's startup sector sees 80% drop in Q3 funding, slowdown to continue: Indian startups raised \$3 billion in Q3, which was also 57 per cent lower as compared to the previous quarter (Q2) this year. *[Business Standard]*

PE investments down 77.5% to \$3.8 billion in Q3: Reflecting the overall decline in funds flows into startups especially since the Ukraine war, private equity investments plunged 77.5% to \$3.84 billion in the September quarter. *[The Economic Times]*

Govt notifies credit guarantee scheme for startups: The government has notified the credit guarantee scheme for startups to provide them collateral-free loans up to a specified limit. *[The Economic Times]*

Only 2 Indian startups turned unicorns in Q3 amid funding winter - PwC: Only two startups in India, Shiprocket and OneCard, attained the unicorn status (valuation \$1 billion and above) in the July-September period, mirroring a global trend in decline in the number of new unicorns. *[Business Standard]*



Employment and Industrial Relations

Retail jobs in India down 12% amid record festive sales: As e-commerce players earn big this festival season, India saw a de-growth of 11.8 per cent in retail sector jobs from August 2021 to August this year, a report showed on Friday. *[Business Standard]*

39% of job card-holding households didn't get any work under MGNREGA in FY21: About 39% of all job card-holding households seeking work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme did not get a single day of work in the Covid year of 2020-21 as against the average work demand for 77 days. *[The Economic Times]*



Industrial Finance

RBI to soon commence pilot launch of Digital Rupee, releases concept note on Central Bank Digital Currency: The Reserve Bank of India on Friday said it will soon commence pilot launch of e-rupee for specific use cases and also released a concept note on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). *[The Economic Times]*

Micro loans jump 89% in first quarter: The microfinance sector disbursed loans of up to `49,788 crore during the first quarter of the current financial year, a jump of 89% year-on-year. *[Financial Express]*

Delhi International Airport to raise up to Rs 1,600 cr via debentures: Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), a GMR group entity, will raise upto Rs 1,600 crore through Debentures to finance balance capital expenditure for capacity expansion by September 2023. *[Business Standard]*

SBI to begin a fire auction of NPAs of Rs 746 crore in Oct-Nov: SBI will offer NPAs for sale to banks, non-banking financial firms, asset reconstruction companies (ARCs), and financial institutions (FIs) in an auction scheduled for November 4 (NBFCs). *[The Economic Times]*

Banks for including electric vehicles, green hydrogen in priority lending: Banks have pitched for including loans towards electric vehicles and green hydrogen to be classified under the priority sector lending. *[The Economic Times]*



Technology and Innovation

India's direct benefit transfer scheme is a logistical marvel - IMF Paola Mauro: A senior official of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has applauded India for its seamless direct benefit transfer programme. *[The Economic Times]*

HFCL, Qualcomm tie up to develop 5G Outdoor Small Cell products: Indian telecom equipment maker HFCL Limited on Thursday announced a partnership with US-based Qualcomm Technologies for design and development of 5G Outdoor Small Cell products. *[The New Indian Express]*

Online Gaming - Talks Begin for Central Regulatory Framework: The government is exploring the need for a central regulatory framework for the online gaming industry to bring about uniformity in the way it is regulated in the country. *[The Economic Times]*

Smartphone companies to discontinue 4G phones above Rs 10,000 soon, move to 5G completely: The 5G wave has begun in India and in a bid to boost its roll out, the government has asked all smartphone companies to tune in their 5G services with 5G smartphone at the earliest. *[Financial Express]*

Govt likely to clear semiconductor unit proposals in next 30-60 days - Rajeev Chandrasekhar: The government has received proposals from five companies for setting up electronic chip and display manufacturing plants with investment of Rs 1.53 lakh crore. *[The Economic Times]*



Industrial Infrastructure, Clusters and SEZs

On 2nd day of Gujarat visit, PM Modi to launch various projects in Bharuch & Jamnagar, address rally in Anand: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Monday dedicate to the nation various projects worth more than Rs 8,000 crore at Amod in Bharuch district of Gujarat and inaugurate an educational complex for the needy students in Ahmedabad. *[Financial Express]*

15 states among achievers in logistics performance index 2022 - DPIIT: Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Gujarat are among the 15 states and UTs categorised as achievers in the logistics index chart 2022, according to a report released by the commerce and Industry Ministry on Thursday. *[The Economic Times]*

September sees revival in national highway construction - Govt data: The national highway construction bucked the trend in this fiscal year with 37 per cent year-on-year growth in September, according to official data. *[Business Standard]*

Road transport and highways sector has maximum number of delayed projects at 248: The road transport and highways sector has the maximum number of delayed projects at 248, followed by railways at 116 and petroleum sector at 88, showed a government report. *[The Economic Times]*

Railways plans to set up EV charging points at major stations in 3 years: Over the next three years, the Indian Railways will install electric vehicle (EV) charging points at all major stations across the country under a new policy of promoting e-mobility. *[Business Standard]*



Sustainable Industrialisation

PM Modi declares Modhera as India's first 24x7 solar powered village; all you need to know: In a significant step towards promoting clean energy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday declared Modhera, a village in the Mehsana district of Gujarat as India's first solar-powered village. *[The Economic Times]*

Coal India to set up 1,190 MW solar power plant in Rajasthan, signs MoU: The state government has allotted 4,846 hectare land to develop the park in which the RVUNL will set up its own solar project of 810 MW, and a power project of 1,190 will be set up by the CIL. *[Business Standard]*

Tata Power to develop 10K Mw RE plant in next five years in Rajasthan: Tata Power on Friday announced its plans to develop around 10,000 MW of renewable energy capacity, mainly solar energy, in the next five years in Rajasthan. *[Business Standard]*

Mumbai airport switches to green energy sources: Adani group-AAI operated Mumbai airport on Monday said it has switched to green energy sources, fulfilling 95 per cent of its requirement from hydro and wind and the rest 5 per cent from solar power. *[The Economic Times]*

Over 3,000 more e-buses to ply on Indian roads in 2 yrs under FAME-II scheme - Heavy Industries Minister: Over 3,000 more electric buses will ply in different cities of the country in the next two years under the FAME-II scheme. *[The Economic Times]*



Sectoral News

Electronics companies may invest Rs 50,000 cr in capex in FY23 - Icra: These investments will help to give a big push to incremental capex in manufacturing across sectors in the country. *[Business Standard]*

India steel output up 2.5 pc at 30 MT in Jul-Sep: India's crude steel output rose by 2.56 per cent to 30.06 million tonne (MT) during the July-September period of the ongoing financial year. *[The Economic Times]*

India's September fuel demand rises 8.1% YoY, gasoline sale 8.8% higher: Consumption of fuel, a proxy for oil demand, totalled 17.18 million tonnes, data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) of the Oil Ministry showed on Friday. *[Business Standard]*

VVDN signs deal to make Intel products for telecom, networking in India: Intel signed on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with original design manufacturer VVDN Technologies, which will design, develop, and manufacture Intel-based products for telecom, networking, cloud and 5G in India. *[Business Standard]*

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