

Industry Matters

Weekly Updates

June 27, 2025



Economy, Industry and Policy

Neutral stance gives flexibility to move up or down-Nagesh Kumar: Nagesh Kumar, an external member of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), says in an interview with Manojit Saha that if inflation stays around 3 per cent, there would be additional room to manoeuvre, assuming a real interest rate of around 1.5 per cent. *[Business Standard]*

Inflation to determine further rate cut trajectory-RBI MPC member Nagesh Kumar: The trajectory of future rate cuts will depend upon the movement of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation, said Nagesh Kumar, external member of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). *[Money Control]*

TCA Anant-A household income survey will be valuable if clarity beats confusion: The National Statistics Office (NSO) has announced plans to conduct a survey to measure household income (shorturl.at/fYy5w), succinctly summarizing past efforts and announcing the creation of a Technical Expert Group to guide this new survey. *[Mint]*

Viksit Bharat by 2047 goal: Are we on track for tech advancement?: India wants to move from being a lower middle-income country to a high-income developed nation by 2047 — the target year for Viksit Bharat. *[Business Standard]*

GDP, IIP, CPI data with new base year to be released from next year: For GDP, new series is scheduled to be released on February 27, 2026, with FY 2022-23 as base year; For IIP, 2022 -23 has been tentatively identified as the revised base; IIP on revised base would be released from 2026-27; For CPI, 2024 has been identified as the revised base year. *[Business Line]*

Doubling India's labour productivity in the next decade-Why and how: Rising labour productivity is the foundation of long-term improvements in real incomes, which are crucial for improving living standards and enhanced personal empowerment. *[Business Standard]*

Private sector business activity rises to 14-month high in June-PMI data: India's private sector output grew at its fastest pace in 14 months in June, helped by faster increases in total new business intakes and international sales, showed a private survey on Monday. *[Business Standard]*

Policy easing call this cycle to be more data-dependent-MPC member Saugata: Of the six members of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), only Saugata Bhattacharya voted for a 25 basis point rate cut in the June policy, with the other members weighing in in favour of 50 basis points. *[Business Standard]*

CNG poised for significant growth as India focuses on energy transition-Crisil: India's city gas distribution (CGD) sector, especially compressed natural gas (CNG), is set for significant growth, driven by government initiatives, surging urban mobility demand, and expanding infrastructure. *[Financial Express]*

India enters SDG global top 100, driven by clean energy and health gains: India has entered the top 100 countries in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index for the first time, securing the 99th position out of 193 nations in the 2025 global rankings. *[Business Standard]*

Actual ODI outflow rose over 11% in May: Actual Overseas Direct Investment (ODI) rose over 11 per cent in May this year as compared to corresponding month of last fiscal, the Finance Ministry has reported. *[Business Line]*

Manufacturing sector needs transformative push: Indian manufacturing, despite its vast potential, still lags behind its international peers. The sector's contribution is approximately 14 per cent to the country's Gross Value Added (GVA), a modest number, considering the government's ambitious plan to develop manufacturing into a \$1 trillion economy. *[Business Line]*

Commerce Dept asks FinMin to consider allowing SEZ units to sell domestically on 'duty-foregone' basis: With the proposed amendment of the SEZ Act taking time, the government is considering an executive order to allow SEZ units to sell their goods domestically by paying just the 'duty foregone' on inputs that would make them more competitive, sources have said. *[Business Line]*

India's growth must now translate to individual prosperity-Llama Research: The report points to India's advantages, including a tech-savvy population, macroeconomic stability, long-term capital formation, and supportive policies. *[Business Line]*

Corporate profitability slows in FY25 despite better sales-CareEdge: The profitability of non-financial companies came under pressure in Financial Year 2025 (FY25) despite registering improvements in the sales growth, according to a report by market intelligence firm CareEdge. *[Business Line]*

PLI schemes attract Rs 1.76 lakh cr investment, create 12 lakh jobs-Govt: India's PLI schemes show strong results. Investments reach Rs 1.76 lakh crore. Production exceeds Rs 16.5 lakh crore. Over 12 lakh jobs are created by March 2025. Incentives of Rs 21,534 crore are disbursed across sectors. *[The Economic Times]*



Foreign Investment

India's outward FDI declines to \$2.83 billion in May, shows RBI data: India's outward foreign direct investment (FDI) commitments declined to \$2.83 billion in May 2025, from \$3.09 billion in May 2024. Sequentially, the fall was steeper, from \$5.98 billion in April 2025, according to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). *[Business Standard]*

Bharti Space to invest \$36 million in French satellite major Eutelsat: As part of a plan to refinance debt and expand its upcoming constellation of satellites, French satellite major Eutelsat Communications will raise €1.35 billion or \$1.55 billion through a reserved capital increase, which will be subscribed by the French government, and a rights issue, the company announced on Friday. *[Business Standard]*

Adani's Mumbai Airport secures \$750 mn deal with Apollo-led investor group: Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL), a subsidiary of Adani Airports Holdings Limited (AAHL), has secured a \$750 million investment from a consortium of global investors led by Apollo Global Management Inc to refinance its existing debt, in a deal that allows operational flexibility. *[Business Standard]*

CEAT to raise ₹500 cr via NCDs, infuse ₹400 cr into Sri Lanka unit: CEAT will raise Rs 500 crore through NCDs for capex and debt repayment and invest Rs 400 crore in its Sri Lankan unit to fund the Camso brand acquisition. *[Business Standard]*

Net FDI improves to \$3.9 bn in April 2025 as repatriation slows-RBI: Net FDI rose to \$3.9 billion in April 2025 on easing capital repatriation while gross FDI inflows touched \$8.8 billion, with manufacturing and services leading. *[Business Standard]*



Trade Policy and Competitiveness

Plurilateral agreements may help keep WTO relevant into the future: A large number of developing economies have been benefitted, through their participation in FTAs, and increased their integration with GVCs and their share of global trade. *[Business Standard]*

More Indian exporters benefit from FTAs with UAE and Australia: India's free trade agreements (FTAs) with the UAE and Australia are being utilised better by Indian exporters as reflected in the rise in issuance of preferential certificates of origin (CoO) under the pact. *[Business Line]*

Jaishankar calls India's trade pacts with mature markets 'space to watch': Jaishankar says India is now focusing on FTAs with mature, rule-bound markets like the UK, EU, and US, moving away from Southeast Asia to ensure balanced, transparent trade partnerships. *[Business Standard]*

Magnet crunch-Indian firms pitch supply chain plans to curb China's rare earth dominance: Indian companies are stepping up to establish domestic rare earth magnet supply chains due to China's export restrictions. Midwest Advanced Materials, Entellus Industries, and IREL have presented plans to the government, aiming to reduce reliance on Chinese imports. *[The Economic Times]*

Tariff deadline looming large but contours of US-India interim trade deal still undecided: With just a fortnight to go for the 90-day pause period for the US reciprocal tariffs to end, India and the US are yet to firm up the contours of the proposed bilateral interim trade deal. Negotiations are still on to finalise the elements to be included, sources have said. *[Business Line]*

ASEAN stonewalling progress in review of FTA with India: During FY25, India's exports to the ASEAN bloc declined 5.7 per cent to \$38.96 billion while imports increased 5.6 per cent to \$84.16 billion. *[Business Line]*

Bilateral trade agreements with US likely to reduce India's goods trade surplus with US-CRISIL: India's trade surplus with the US may decrease due to upcoming bilateral trade agreements. CRISIL reports India's imports of energy, agriculture, and defense could rise. While the US is India's top export partner, there's room to grow exports like smartphones and textiles. *[The Economic Times]*



Corporate Governance

How India Inc must confront geopolitical risk: In early 2022, as Russian tanks crossed into Ukraine, many global companies watched in disbelief. Supply chains collapsed overnight, warehouses were stranded, employees were at risk, contracts were suspended, and insurance costs surged. *[Business Line]*

Corporate restructuring picks pace as India Inc's mantra to unlock value: India Inc has embarked on a drive to unlock value by demerging and listing key business verticals separately, with Aditya Birla Lifestyle Brands (ABLBL) being the latest company to follow this trend, making its debut on the stock exchanges on Monday. *[Business Standard]*

Vedanta's Runaya to invest ₹300-500 cr in rare earth processing & magnet-making facility: Vedanta group company Runaya - a zero waste, zero discharge aluminium processing entity - will invest nearly ₹1,000-₹1,200 crore, with 25-33 per cent of this, or ₹300-₹500 crore, being set aside for setting up rare earth element (REE) processing and magnet-making facilities. *[Business Line]*

Hindalco acquires US co AluChem for \$125 m: Hindalco Industries, an Aditya Birla Group company, has acquired US-based AluChem Companies Inc, a prominent manufacturer of Specialty Alumina, for an enterprise value of \$125 million (about ₹1,075 crore). *[Business Line]*

ONGC makes progress on well capping operations, shares dip 0.25%: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) shares traded lower on Monday, declining 0.25 per cent to ₹251.27 despite the company reporting significant progress in well control operations at its RDS#147A site. *[Business Line]*

India Cements sells its entire stake in Industrial Chemicals and Monomers Ltd for ₹98 crore: The annual report 2024 of the Tirunelveli-registered ICML indicates that the company suspended operations owing to the business becoming unviable on the grounds highlighted in our previous reports. *[Business Line]*



MSMEs and Start-ups

Attractive listing: Sebi eases IPO, delisting norms for startups, PSUs: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) board last week took several key decisions. Taken together, these offer clarity on many points. One set of changes eases concerns for startups. *[Business Standard]*

Big Tech has AI, but Indian MSMEs need something more—Desi AI: Many micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the country feel that the existing AI solutions are not tailored to their specific needs, and they require products that are simple, affordable, and customised for different segments of the MSME sector. *[The Economic Times]*

Startup Fabheads raises \$10 mn to automate composite manufacturing: Fabheads, a startup specializing in automated composite manufacturing, has raised \$10 million in a Series A funding round led by Accel, with additional participation from Trifecta Capital. *[Business Standard]*

MSMEs need to cut emissions: In response to the need for sustainable growth, the government has officially set 2070 as the target year for achieving net-zero carbon emissions, which must be balanced with the country's demographic transition while achieving self-sufficiency in domestic production. *[Business Line]*



Employment and Industrial Relations

EPFO adds 19.14 lakh new members: The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) added 19.14 lakh new members, showing a significant increase of 31.31 per cent over March 2025, provisional payroll data for April, this year, revealed. *[Business Line]*

Jobs in jeopardy-63% of Indian firms freeze hiring amid geopolitical tensions: Geopolitical tensions, including wars in West Asia, have impacted the Indian workplace with 63 per cent of respondents confirming that their companies are either freezing hiring or downsizing teams, claims a report. *[Business Line]*

WorkIndia report-Platform economy drives 92% spike in gig Jobs: The surge reflects the increasing platformisation of the workforce, driven by rapid expansion in e-commerce, ride-hailing, and food delivery sectors. *[Business Line]*

EPFO auto claim limit raised to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 1 lakh-Union minister Mansukh Mandaviya: This means over 7.4 crore subscribers of the retirement fund body can now withdraw their funds through advance claims up to Rs 5 lakh for education, illness, marriage and housing without any further intervention. *[The Indian Express]*

TCS is hiring freshers in THESE three categories-All about selection process: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is one of India's largest IT service companies. As per latest job market updates, the firm is hiring freshers under three major categories – Ninja, Digital and Prime. *[Financial Express]*



Industrial Finance

Sundaram Finance expands Sundaram Wealth as special service to serve HNIs: Sundaram Finance, a leading financial institution with over seven decades of exemplary customer obsession, on Friday announced the expansion of Sundaram Wealth as a dedicated wealth management offering. *[Business Standard]*

Strong FY25 performance supports standalone credit profiles of banks-Fitch: Fitch Ratings on Monday said Indian banks' strong financial performances in the financial year ended March 2025 support the standalone credit profiles of rated banks and position the sector for future growth. *[Business Standard]*

RBI eases project financing norms-What does it mean for banks and NBFCs?: The RBI has eased its project financing norms. The move is expected to boost lending appetite while offering regulatory clarity and minimal impact on bank profitability. *[Financial Express]*

RBI eases priority lending norms for SFBs, unlocks Rs 41,000 cr for low-risk sectors: The Reserve Bank of India's decision to reduce the priority sector lending (PSL) target for small finance banks (SFBs) from 75% to 60% of adjusted net bank credit (ANBC) is expected to release around ₹41,000 crore, according to CareEdge. *[The Economic Times]*



Technology and Innovation

Gujarat targets ₹35,000 cr investments through new Gujarat Electronics Component Manufacturing Policy-2025: This policy aims to establish upstream industries that could play a role in the state's nascent semiconductor ecosystem where four semiconductor projects are under various stages of construction. *[Business Line]*

Technological shift-Internet search moves from browser to bots, SEO to GEO: Internet search has changed with the advent of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI), moving from fetching links to showing content and becoming conversational. It has pivoted from browser to chatbots. *[Business Standard]*

Textile industry knits business with AI as companies adopt technology: India's skills in textiles date back to the Indus Valley civilization, which engaged in advanced textile production, notably through its early cultivation and use of cotton. *[Business Standard]*

RIL to be a deep-tech, advanced manufacturing powerhouse-Mukesh Ambani: The oil-to-telecommunications (telecom) behemoth spans sectors including digital services (Jio), energy, petrochemicals, new energy and materials, retail, and media and entertainment. *[Business Standard]*

Algo Rhythm-Partnerships that companies need for digital transformation: The report collected inputs from more than 1,000 global business leaders about artificial intelligence (AI), digital transformation and customer engagement. *[Business Standard]*

Most AI tools 'hallucinate'; not meant for Indian MSMEs-Vexoo Labs: Ajay Kumar, Senior Business Leader, AI Evangelist and a Board Advisor at Vexoo Labs said most AI tools today are built for showcase, not for reliability. *[Business Standard]*

Over 80% companies to adopt AI in customer service within a year: In one case cited in the report, a telecommunications company using AI-powered voice assistants saw a 39-point improvement in Net Promoter Scores and a 5% to 10% decrease in operational expenses. *[Financial Express]*

HCL Tech partners global semiconductor giant AMD to develop innovation labs: The innovation labs developed by HCL Technologies and AMD will serve as testing hubs for the two companies. These labs will be employed to conduct proof-of-concept tests and to increase the time to market of the innovative enterprise tools. *[Financial Express]*



Industrial Infrastructure, Clusters and SEZs

NLC India's renewable arm wins 500 MWh battery energy storage project in Tamil Nadu: NLC India Renewables Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of NLC India Limited -- a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Coal -- has been awarded a landmark 500 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project by Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL). *[Business Line]*

JSW Energy joins race for Raigarh Champa Rail Infra after NCLAT nod: JSW Energy has already acquired KSK Mahanadi Power, a 3,600 MW thermal power plant in Chhattisgarh, for Rs 16,084 crore through the insolvency process, earlier in March this year. *[Business Standard]*

ACME Solar completes 300 MW Rajasthan project, adds wind capacity: The solar project, part-commissioned at 240 MW earlier this quarter, spans approximately 1,300 acres in Bikaner, one of India's highest solar irradiation zones. *[Business Line]*

Planned East Coast Freight corridor is top priority-DFCCIL MD: The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) prioritizes the East Coast Freight Corridor, running from Kharagpur to Vijayawada, for approvals among three proposed cargo tracks. *[The Economic Times]*

Oyster Renewable Energy targets 2 GW green capacity by 2030: Oyster Renewable Energy targets 2 GW green energy capacity by 2030 with Rs 14,000 crore investment. 800 MW to be commissioned by June 2026. Focused on hybrid and RTC solutions, the IPP is building projects across Gujarat, MP, and Andhra Pradesh, and pushing for ISTS waiver extension to 2030. *[Financial Express]*



Sustainable Industrialisation

Adani commissions India's 1st off-grid green hydrogen pilot plant in Kutch: Adani Group has commissioned India's first off-grid 5 megawatt green hydrogen pilot plant in Kutch, Gujarat, the conglomerate said in a statement on Monday. An off-grid green hydrogen plant is a facility that produces hydrogen using electrolysis powered by renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind, and is not connected to the main electrical grid. *[Business Standard]*

Tata Motors to accelerate EV push; JLR tariff impact mitigated: Tata Motors is aggressively pursuing its EV strategy, aiming for 30% EV penetration before 2030, despite increased competition and supply chain concerns. The company is managing rare earth magnet sourcing and mitigating potential tariff impacts on Jaguar Land Rover. *[The Economic Times]*

SECI set to finalise tender for 7,24,000 tonne green ammonia production annually: State-owned Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) is set to finalise a tender for production and supply of 7,24,000 tonne of green ammonia annually across 13 fertilizer plants under Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition scheme. *[The Economic Times]*

Smaller solar module manufacturers in Gujarat eye indigenous BESS manufacturing: Eyeing the huge potential for manufacturing Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in India, Gujarat-based solar module manufacturer, Kosol Energie Pvt Ltd, is planning to invest more than ₹2,000 crore in setting up a unit for manufacturing battery-cells-cum-packs. *[Business Line]*

Adani Group to invest \$100 bn over five years in clean energy sector: The Adani Group aims for 100 GW energy generation by 2030, investing heavily in transmission and smart metering projects. The conglomerate reported revenue growth and substantial EBITDA, planning significant annual capital expenditure. *[The Economic Times]*

Odisha to launch EV Policy 2.0 to target 50% BEV registrations by 2036: The Odisha government has decided to launch EV Policy 2.0 aiming to have at least 50 per cent battery-operated electric vehicles (BEVs) in all new vehicle registrations by 2036. *[Business Standard]*



Sectoral News

Hindustan Copper Ltd to bid for critical mineral, REE blocks with IOCL, GAIL, RITES: Hindustan Copper Ltd, a Miniratna CPSE under the Ministry of Mines, plans to bid for critical minerals and rare earth element blocks along with other PSU's like Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), GAIL (India) and RITES as part of its diversification strategy, a top official said. *[Business Line]*

A holistic approach at transforming India's mining sector: Last month, India auctioned its first-ever Potash block, with an aim to cut import dependence on agriculture fertilizers and thereby ensure our nation's food security. Such is the potential of our vast mineral wealth; it touches each and every nerve of a progressing nation. *[Business Line]*

Health insurance must be inclusive: Bulk of the premium comes from a few States, there are gaps in claims settlement, and pricing needs to be reviewed, especially for group health. *[Business Line]*

Recycling industry to be bigger than mining sector by 2050-Tata Steel MD T V Narendran: Tata Steel MD and CEO T V Narendran predicts that the recycling industry will surpass mining by 2050, creating significant opportunities. Tata Steel is venturing into recycling, recognizing its growing importance. *[The Economic Times]*

Steel companies seek easing of clean energy rule: Large steelmakers are seeking revisions to the Renewable Consumption Obligation (RCO) regime, proposing a reduction in the mandatory renewable energy share and exclusion of waste heat gas-generated electricity. *[The Economic Times]*

Rare earths production-Govt to decide on subsidy scheme in 15-20 days: Govt to decide on rare earth magnet production subsidy in 15–20 days amid push to reduce China reliance. IREL leads domestic efforts, while private players seek incentives. Portal launched for global OEMs to apply under electric car manufacturing scheme, open till Oct 21. *[Financial Express]*

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