

Top 1

India's employment provisionally grew at 6% in FY24

India's central bank said on Monday the country added 46.7 million jobs in the fiscal year ended March, far exceeding numbers in private surveys that point to high unemployment rates in the South Asian nation. The employment growth rate was 6 per cent in 2023/24 versus 3.2 per cent in 2022/23, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) data on measuring industry level productivity and employment showed. Jobs have been a sensitive topic for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government. Analysts linked the lack of jobs and high inflation with Modi's failure in polls last month to win a majority in the directly elected house of the parliament, meaning he had to rely on allies to return to power for a third term.

TOP 2

India's Is Likely To Be Second-Largest Economy By 2047

"India's is likely to be the second-largest economy by 2047 as per the PPP method behind China and ahead of the US. Such a position of strength has significant implications for the world" expressed by Martin Wolf, Chief Economics Commentator at The Financial Times while speaking at the 13th CUTS International 40th-anniversary lecture titled "What would it take India to become a developed country by 2047?". Despite the global economic slowdown and uncertainties, Wolf mentioned that India has significant opportunities. India should focus on maintaining openness, investing in physical and human capital, and leveraging its comparative advantage in services. Effective domestic policies and strategic international relations are crucial for India's progress. The event, hosted by CUTS International, also featured distinguished panellists Suman Bery, Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog; Neelkanth Mishra, Chairperson, UIDAI; Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission; Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General of CUTS International; and Sanjeev Sanyal, Member of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India.

MARKET

Rupee rises 5 paise to 83.44 against US dollar in early trade

The rupee appreciated 5 paise to 83.44 against the US dollar in early trade on Monday, as the American currency and crude oil prices retreated from their elevated levels. Forex traders said foreign fund inflows also aided investors' sentiments and supported the rupee. At the interbank, the local unit opened at 83.45 and gained further to 83.44 against the greenback, registering a rise of 5 paise from its previous close. According to CR Forex Advisors MD Amit Pabari the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) seems determined to prevent the rupee from depreciating below 83.70. Even with pressure from oil companies due to elevated oil prices. "Overall, positive economic indicators such as a good growth rate, stable inflation, a reduced fiscal deficit, record-high RBI forex reserves, and a pipeline of inflows are all supportive factors that should ideally bolster the rupee," Pabari said, adding that given these factors, the rupee is expected to trade within a broad range of 83.20 to 83.70 levels.

Taxation

India's Tax Reforms Drive Digital Economy and Compliance.

India's tax reforms are paving the way for a digital-first economy and enhanced compliance, marking a significant leap towards economic modernization. Recent initiatives focus on leveraging technology to streamline tax administration and boost transparency. The rollout of the new tax portal with improved functionalities aims to simplify filing processes for taxpayers, promoting greater ease and efficiency in compliance. The government's emphasis on digital transactions and cashless payments is reshaping consumer behavior and business practices, accelerating India's shift towards a digital economy. Initiatives such as incentivizing digital payments through reduced transaction fees and promoting digital invoices are fostering a culture of transparency and accountability in financial transactions. Targeted efforts to rationalize tax structures and reduce compliance burdens are benefiting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and startups, enabling them to thrive in a more supportive business environment.

DIGITALIZATION

UPI Revolutionizes Digital Payments, Sets New Records for India.

India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) continues to redefine the landscape of digital payments, marking unprecedented growth and adoption nationwide. Recently, UPI transactions surged to new heights, surpassing significant milestones in terms of transaction volume and value. This robust growth underscores UPI's pivotal role in facilitating seamless and secure peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant transactions, transforming how Indians conduct financial transactions. The popularity of UPI has been driven by its simplicity, speed, and widespread acceptance across various platforms and banking channels. Innovations such as QR code payments, recurring payments, and integration with other financial services have further enhanced user convenience and expanded its utility beyond traditional payment methods. The government and financial institutions are continuously enhancing UPI's capabilities through technological advancements and regulatory support.

INVESTMENT

Modi's Investment in Pezeshkian's Iran: The Strategic Importance of Chabahar Port

Iran's Chabahar Port is an important infrastructure project developed by India to connect landlocked Afghanistan with the Indian subcontinent and other Central Asian countries. Iran's Ambassador to India, Iraj Elahi, has disclosed that India has committed \$120 million to the Chabahar Port project, specifically for the Shahid Beheshti Terminal. It serves as a crucial transit point for trade with Afghanistan and Central Asia, allowing goods to bypass Pakistan. Additionally, he highlighted that India has set up a \$250 million credit line to support infrastructure development in southeastern Iran. India has decided to provide a \$250 million credit line for infrastructure projects in southeastern Iran. Additionally, under the Chabahar port agreement, India will invest \$120 million. Iran's Ambassador to India, Iraj Elahi, mentioned that interest from Indian investors in Iran is growing, according to an Indian news agency.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change	Index	Change	
USDINR	83.469	-0.009	NIFTY 50	24,320.55	-3.30
EURINR	90.475	0.066	BSE Sensex	79,960.38	-36.22
GBPINR	107.185	0.216			
JPYINR	51.94	-0.0087			