

Top Story 1

Gross FDI in India rises 25.7% in H1FY25; net FDI moderates to \$3.6 bn

Gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India during April–September 2024 (H1FY25) grew by 25.7 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) to \$42.1 billion, up from \$33.5 billion in the same period last year, according to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, net FDI—calculated as inflows minus outflows—moderated to \$3.6 billion during H1FY25, compared to \$3.9 billion in the same period last year. The decline was attributed to an increase in repatriation and outward FDI, as detailed in the RBI’s November 2024 bulletin. Repatriation or disinvestment by investors who had made direct investments in India rose to \$27.8 billion in the first six months of FY25, up from \$23.1 billion during April–August 2023. Outward FDI during April–September 2024 stood at \$10.7 billion, compared to \$6.5 billion in the same period of FY24.

Top Story 2

India's UPI surpasses world's leading digital payment platforms with this 'record'

Unified Payments Interface, or UPI, processed nearly Rs 81 lakh crore transactions in the April-July period this year, surpassing world's leading digital payments platforms, a report has said. This transaction number converts to a 37% increase on a year-over-year (YoY) basis. As per global payments hub Paysecure, UPI processed 3,729.1 transactions per second, which is a 58% surge over the 2,348 transactions every second registered in 2022. With this data, UPI surpassed China's Alipay, Paypal and Brazil's PIX in the number of transactions processed. Paysecure also added that UPI processed 117.6 billion transactions in 2023 – the highest in the world. In July, UPI processed Rs 20.6 lakh crore worth of transactions – marking the highest-ever monthly transaction value for UPI, surpassing the Rs 20 lakh crore mark for the third consecutive month.

Finance: -

RBI buys a net \$8.52 billion in first half of FY25, says bulletin

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was a net buyer of dollars in the first half of the current financial year (April-September) with \$8.52 billion purchased during the period. In the first half of the previous financial year, the central bank had bought a net \$17.68 billion worth of the foreign currency. In the current calendar year up to September, RBI had bought a net \$32.27 billion. The RBI bought a net \$9.6 billion worth of foreign currency. During the period, the central bank bought a net total of \$28.9 billion, while it sold \$19.2 billion of foreign currency. The central bank had recorded a net sale of \$6.49 billion in the spot market in August.

Digitalization: -

UPI rules: UPI 123Pay transaction limit to increase from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000

UPI 123Pay is a Suite of solutions developed for Non Smart phone, feature phone users to use the UPI without internet connectivity. There are no charges for transactions under UPI 123PAY. UPI 123Pay allows smart phone and feature phone users to complete a variety of transactions digitally using four methods. According to the NPCI circular dated October 25, 2024, “A reference is invited to press release issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), dated 9th October 2024 with Subject 'Statement on Development and regulatory Policies' whereby RBI has decided to increase per transaction limit from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000 for UPI 123Pay.”

Investment: -

India-Egypt Bilateral Trade and Investment

India and Egypt's bilateral economic relationship is deeply rooted in historical and strategic cooperation. Anchored by the 1978 Bilateral Trade Agreement based on the Most Favored Nation (MFN) clause, their partnership has flourished into a robust economic collaboration. Over the past decade, bilateral trade has grown fivefold, reflecting the dynamism and mutual benefits of this enduring relationship. Both nations continue to explore new avenues for cooperation in trade, investment, science, and sustainable development. India and Egypt have consistently enhanced their trade relations, reaching a bilateral trade volume of US\$6.06 billion in FY 2022-23. India exported goods worth US\$4.11 billion and imported goods valued at US\$1.95 billion, maintaining a significant trade surplus.

Economy: -

Indian Economy Capable Of Handling Global Shocks: RBI Governor

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has said that the Indian economy is strong enough to handle any adverse fallout from global events. "Today, the growth of the Indian economy presents a picture of stability and strength," Das said while addressing an event at the launch of the Kochi International Foundation here. The country's external sector is also strong and the current account deficit (CAD) has remained within manageable limits as it presently stands at 1.1 per cent of GDP. Earlier, in 2010 and 2011, it was in the range of six to seven per cent, he added. The central bank chief also pointed out that India has one of the largest foreign exchange reserves in the world at about \$675 billion. He further stated that the country's inflation was expected to be moderate despite periodic humps.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change	Index	Change	
USDINR	84.369	0.069	NIFTY 50	24,137.85	-61.5
EURINR	91	-0.167	BSE Sensex	79,399.09	-142.7
GBPINR	109.392	-0.09			
JPYINR	55.1705	0.0551			