

Top Story 1

S&P Global cuts India's GDP growth forecast to 6.7% for FY26, 6.8% for FY27

S&P Global Ratings on Monday revised down its estimate for India's economic growth in the next two financial years as high interest rate and lower fiscal impulse temper urban demand. In an update to its economic forecast for Asia-Pacific economies after US election results, the rating agency projected a 6.7 per cent GDP growth rate in 2025-26 financial year (April 2025 to March 2026) and 6.8 per cent in the following fiscal year, down from 6.9 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively in previous projections. For FY25, S&P Global pegged GDP growth rate at 6.8 per cent. "In India we see GDP growth easing to 6.8 per cent this fiscal year as high interest rates and a lower fiscal impulse temper urban demand. While purchasing manager indices (PMIs) remain convincingly in the expansion zone, other high-frequency indicators indicate some transitory softening of growth momentum due to the hit to the construction sector in the September quarter," it said.

Top Story 2

UPI Gaining Global Access Rapidly: RBI

The internationalisation of the unified payments interface (UPI) is progressing rapidly, as India emerges as a world leader in leveraging digital technologies for transformative change, according to a Reserve Bank of India (RBI) report. The UPI hit a milestone of 16.6 billion transactions in a month in October, with improvements in its capabilities like successful instant debit reversals at 86 per cent (77% in the same month last year). “India’s UPI, an open-ended system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application of any participating bank, is propelling inter-bank peer-to-peer and person-to-merchant transactions seamlessly,” said RBI Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra in the report.

Finance: -

India's economic growth expected to accelerate in October-December quarter: Report

India's economy was projected to grow at a faster pace in the third quarter of the current financial year (October-December 2024) compared to the first half (April-September 2024) as positive indicators are emerging of economic activity picking up pace, according to a report by ICRA. The report states that the preliminary data for November indicates a positive trend. The growth in electricity demand has picked up, while festive season demand continues to drive an increase in vehicle registrations. "These trends reinforce ICRA's expectations of a pick-up in the GDP growth in Q3 FY2025 compared to H1 FY2025." Economic indicators related to mobility and transportation have shown significant improvement.

Digitalization: -

MSMEs can boost finances with formal registration, digital payments: RBI DG

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) can strengthen their financial health and credibility by embracing formal registration, maintaining accurate financial records, and adopting digital payment systems to create a transparent financial footprint, said Swaminathan J, deputy governor at the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), on November. The speech was uploaded on the RBI website . While speaking at the CEO Forum of the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry held in Hyderabad, he said, “MSMEs should strive for greater credit discipline, which starts with careful selection of the appropriate credit product suited to their requirements and cash flows. MSMEs should familiarise themselves with different credit products such as term loans, working capital loans, overdrafts, and invoice discounting to match them with their borrowing needs. It is vital to tailor borrowing to business cycles and avoid over-leveraging.”

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.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change	Index	Change	
USDINR	84.079	0.026	NIFTY 50	24,358.95	-107.9
EURINR	91	0.244	BSE Sensex	79,989.88	-379.15
GBPINR	109.387	-0.003			
JPYINR	54.927	0.1249			

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			