Top Story 1

India willing to spend $15 billion on US oil amid trade talks

India has expressed readiness to increase its oil imports from a major trade partner by up to $15 billion, signaling an effort to accelerate ongoing trade negotiations and move toward a potential agreement. Officials noted that energy imports from this partner have steadily risen in recent years, with current levels around $12–13 billion and capacity for an additional $14–15 billion based on existing refinery configurations. The move aims to narrow the trade surplus and help ease trade tensions following recent tariff measures. Despite the impact of higher duties, domestic industries have shown resilience by managing costs and maintaining stable supply chains. Officials involved in the talks are optimistic about reaching a mutually beneficial understanding soon. The initiative underscores India’s strategy to strengthen its energy security, diversify import sources, and reinforce its position as a reliable trade partner while mitigating external challenges in the global trade environment.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-willing-to-spend-15-billion-on-us-oil-amid-trade-talks/articleshow/124583126.cms?from=mdr

Top Story 2

India's GDP growth: IMF revises 2025 forecast upwards to 6.6%;

The International Monetary Fund has revised its growth outlook for India, projecting an expansion of 6.6% in 2025, up from the previous estimate of 6.4%, while lowering the 2026 forecast to 6.2%. The upward revision reflects the strong momentum carried over from the first quarter, which more than offsets the impact of higher tariff rates on imports. Despite external challenges, India’s economy continues to demonstrate resilience, supported by robust domestic demand and policy stability. However, the slight downgrade for the following year indicates expectations of moderating growth as global trade conditions remain uncertain. Overall, the cumulative impact of recent tariff measures is expected to trim growth by only 0.2 percentage points compared to pre-tariff projections. The outlook underscores India’s position as one of the world’s fastest-growing major economies, with continued strength in domestic consumption and investment likely to sustain momentum despite evolving global headwinds.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/indias-gdp-growth-imf-revises-forecast-upwards-to-6-6-2026-outlook-revised-downwards-on-trump-tariff-impact/articleshow/124553623.cms

Economy

India fastest growing economy but has to fire on all cylinders to scale up

Asia's path to deeper economic integration depends on a balanced approach between self-reliance and openness to multilateral trade. For India, sustaining long-term growth will require a strategic blend of both—continuing its self-reliance initiatives while actively engaging in global trade partnerships. Experts have highlighted that to maintain strong growth momentum through the coming decades, India must "fire on all cylinders" by accelerating structural reforms, further liberalising trade policies, and creating a more conducive business environment. Strengthening competitiveness, improving infrastructure, and enhancing ease of doing business are seen as critical to ensure India's continued success in an increasingly interconnected global economy. This dual-track approach can help India build resilience, attract investment, and integrate more deeply into regional and global supply chains, positioning the nation as a leading economic force while safeguarding its domestic priorities and long-term sustainability.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/india-fastest-growing-economy-but-has-to-fire-on-all-cylinders-to-scale-up-imfs-krishna-srinivasan/videoshow/124608163.cms

Market

RBI Governor showcases India's Digital Public Platforms at IMF-World Bank meetings in Washington

A senior official highlighted India's Digital Public Platform (DPP) ecosystem during an international meeting, showcasing its role in driving digitalisation and financial inclusion. The discussion focused on how India's DPPs have evolved into powerful tools for inclusive growth and innovation, particularly in improving the efficiency of government transfer payments and ensuring direct benefit delivery to citizens. Foundational platforms such as those enabling digital identity and real-time payments have shown how resilient, scalable, and cost-efficient systems can support millions effectively. These initiatives have become central to India's digital transformation, promoting transparency, speed, and security in financial transactions while enhancing access to essential services. The event drew participation from several global financial leaders, underscoring growing international interest in India's digital journey. The speaker reaffirmed India's commitment to global collaboration and knowledge-sharing, guided by the principle that the world is one family, to advance inclusive digital development worldwide.

https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/business/rbi-governor-showcases-indias-digital-public-platforms-at-imf-world-bank-meetings-in-washington/#:~:text=New%20Delhi%20%5BIndia%5D%2C%20October,(IMF)%20in%20Washington%2C%20D.C.

Finance

Indian Bank Q2 Results: Net Profit Jumps 11.5% YoY To Rs 3,018 Crore, Gross NPA Improves To 2.6%

A leading bank in India reported an increase of over 11% in its standalone net profit, reaching ₹3,018 crore for the second quarter, supported by higher interest income and lower provisioning against bad loans. Interest income rose compared to the same period last year, while provisions declined sharply from the previous fiscal, reflecting stronger asset quality and efficient risk management. The bank's gross non-performing assets improved to 2.6% of total advances, down from 3.48% a year earlier, indicating healthier credit performance. Shares of the bank traded slightly higher following the results, reflecting investor confidence. Meanwhile, another major private lender posted a decline in quarterly net profit despite an increase in net interest income, underscoring the mixed performance within the banking sector. Overall, the results highlight improved profitability and asset quality among public sector lenders, signalling resilience and stability in India's financial system.

https://www.news18.com/business/banking-finance/indian-bank-q2-results-net-profit-jumps-11-5-yoy-to-rs-3018-crore-gross-npa-improves-to-2-6-9640072.html

Digitalization

India's Power Grid: Digitalization at the Heart of the Energy Transition

India's energy landscape is undergoing a major transformation, driven by rapid expansion in clean energy and evolving consumer expectations. The country's total installed power capacity has seen a strong rise, with a significant share now coming from non-fossil fuel and renewable sources. This shift marks the transition toward a more complex and dynamic power ecosystem that requires smarter management, advanced technology, and adaptive policy frameworks. Utilities are now balancing multiple priorities—integrating renewable energy, managing electric vehicle charging, supporting industrial microgrids, and meeting growing reliability and affordability demands. Artificial intelligence and predictive analytics are emerging as key enablers in this transformation, helping to improve grid resilience through outage prevention and self-healing mechanisms. As the sector continues to evolve, innovation and intelligent infrastructure will play a crucial role in ensuring a stable, sustainable, and inclusive energy future for India.

https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/indias-power-grid-digitalisation-at-the-heart-of-the-energy-transition/124605017

Metric	15-Oct-2025 Rate	16-Oct-2025 Rate	Change
USDINR	₹87.8120	₹87.9950	+0.1830 ₹
EURINR	₹102.2707	₹102.1810	-0.0897 ₹
GBPINR	Data NA	Data NA	—
JPYINR	Data NA	Data NA	—
NIFTY 50	25,323.55	25,585.30	+261.75 pts
BSE Sensex	82,605.43	83,467.66	+862.23 pts