



ECONOMY

Economic Growth/Reforms

1 'India will be among top 3 economies by 2025-30'

Home Minister Rajnath Singh has said India will feature among the top three economies in the world by 2025-30. Singh and Road and Shipping Minister Nitin Gadkari laid foundation stones for many development projects during their two-day visit to Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which began on Thursday.

1 How will commodity prices affect India's GDP growth in 2017, 2018?

The International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) latest World Economic Outlook has revised down its forecast of average crude oil prices this year, compared to its July estimates.

2 World Bank lowers India's growth forecast

India's GDP may slow from 8.6 per cent in 2015 to 7.0 per cent in 2017 because of disruptions by demonetisation and the GST, the World Bank has forecast and warned that subdued private investment due to internal bottlenecks could put downside pressures on the country's potential growth.

3 PM's economic panel bats for fiscal consolidation

The newly constituted Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) on Wednesday batted for sticking to fiscal consolidation at a time when there was demand for fiscal stimulus to boost sagging economic growth.

4 India can become third-largest economy by 2047, says NITI Aayog vice-chairman

By making development a mass movement by 2022, India has the potential to become the world's third largest economy by 2047, NITI Aayog vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar told a conference of governors here.

Public Finance Taxes And Duties

5 GST at 28% too high: CBEC chief

The highest slab of 28% under the goods and services tax (GST) could be restricted to luxury and sin goods, a top tax official said on Saturday, a day after the GST Council reduced the rates on 27 items amid concerns over the new tax proving to be inflationary at the start.



6 GST rates relaxed for petroleum sector

Two days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting with heads in the petroleum industry, the government said it would soon issue notifications lowering the goods and services tax (GST) rates.

7 ‘Talks soon to bring realty under GST’

The issue of bringing real estate under the Goods and Services Tax’s ambit will be discussed next month, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said, as he acknowledged that it was the one sector where maximum amount of tax evasion and cash generation takes place.

INDUSTRY

Industrial Growth/Production

8 India Inc may remain in slow lane in Q2

India’s top 50 listed firms, which comprise the benchmark NSE Nifty50 index, are expected to report a mild recovery in earnings during the July-September 2017 quarter, driven by a relatively good show by banks and commodity producers.

9 August Figure-Industrial production hits five-month high of 4.3%

Industrial production grew 4.3% in August, the fastest in five months, as inventory replenishment after the clearance of pre-GST stocks to cater for an early Diwali demand boosted manufacturing.

CEMENT INDUSTRY

Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

11 Lafarge-Holcim names new CFO

Cement maker Lafarge-Holcim on Monday said Geraldine Picaud from French optics maker Essilor International ‘will replace Chief Financial Officer Ron Wirahadiraksa next year.

11 Firm outlook for cement despite lean Q2

Cement demand and pricing trends in the monsoon-impacted September quarter (Q2 of FY18) have been a mixed bag. But, a closer look suggests the recent past as well as future prospects of many cement companies are in good shape, and investors can use any correction in the share price as a buying opportunity.

12 Cement prices in east, south drop sharply in Oct

Cement prices have corrected sharply in East and South India in October. Dealer channel checks by Kotak Institutional Equities showed month-on-month (m-o-m) cement prices fell by Rs.18/bag in east and by Rs.16/bag in south.



Housing & Building Construction

13 27% jump in launch of affordable houses this year

There has been a 27 per cent jump in the launch of new affordable housing units in the first nine months of the year compared to the corresponding period last year, says a new study. The study was done in the top eight cities of the country.

14 'Housing demand unlikely to revive in next 12-18 months'

The demand for residential property is unlikely to revive in the next 12-18 months as the fundamental problem of lack of end-user buyers is unlikely to change any sooner, according to a Crisil report.

ENERGY/FUEL/POWER

Coal

15 Coal stocks at power plants down to six days

Coal stocks at power plants across the country have declined to a point where they can meet the requirement for an average of only six days. Close to 70 plants have enough stocks to see them out for just three days.

Power Projects/Generation/Distribution/Tariff

16 Power sector's first InvIT buys 3 more projects

IndiGrid, first infrastructure investment trust (InvIT) in the power sector, has acquired three more projects of its sponsor, Sterlite Power Grid Ventures, for Rs 1,490 crore.

TRANSPORT

Railways

17 Station Revamp More for investors in new PPP model

A revamped public-private partnership (PPP) model to redevelop railway stations will see more attractive terms for private investors while Indian Railways' (IR) agency — Indian Railway Station Redevelopment Corporation (IRSDC) — will play a critical role, official sources told FE.

Highways/Roads/Bridges

18 NHAI moves on TOT to end road project drought

Finally, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has come out with a tender to monetise road assets through toll-operate-transfer (TOT) model.



19 Plan for 44 economic corridors likely to get cabinet nod soon

The road transport and highways ministry's ambitious programme to construct 44 economic corridors at a cost of Rs 5 lakh crore is likely to get the Cabinet's approval soon.

20 Govt spending in road sector benefits mid-size infra firms

The Centre's investments in the road sector have benefited small and mid-size construction and infrastructure companies. Analysis of data from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) shows that top-10 receivers of contracts during 2016-17 fiscal bagged around 30 out of the 76 projects.

21 NHAI launches app to track projects

When you drive along a national highway, you would soon be able to check the real-time status of the highway across the country.

Inland Waterways & Irrigation Canals

22 Plan to launch 285 irrigation projects by next year: Gadkari

The Centre plans to launch 285 irrigation projects covering a total of 1.88 crore hectares of farmland by next year, said the Union Minister for Water Resources Nitin Gadkari here on Tuesday.

**Tenders – Cement Concrete Roads
(CC1– CC14)**

**23 Tenders – Housing
(T15 – T17)**

**23 Tenders – Canal Lining
(T18)**
