



ECONOMY

Economic Growth/Reforms

1 **Fiscal deficit at 4.3% of GDP in FY16, says SBI Research**

Not many knew it, but the Centre's fiscal deficit touched 4.3 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2015-16 against the budget and revised estimates of 3.9 per cent for that year.

2 **'Govt should keep primary deficit as its fiscal target'**

CEA differs from panel's view of targeting fiscal deficit

In a dissenting view on key aspects of the FRBM Committee report submitted to the government on Monday, the panel member Arvind Subramanian, Chief Economic Adviser, is learnt to have suggested that the government should monitor primary deficit as its fiscal target, instead of the fiscal deficit.

3 **'Demonetisation to boost transparency of economy'**

President Pranab Mukherjee said demonetisation of high value currency notes will immobilise black money and aid the fight against corruption.

Public Finance Taxes And Duties

4 **GDP may slow down if GST implemented in hurry: Tax offi Finance Minister**

Claiming that demonetisation has affected country's growth, a major central revenue body has asked Finance Minister Arun Jaitley not to implement Goods and Services Tax (GST) in a hurry and threatened to take legal recourse in case their concerns are not addressed.

CEMENT INDUSTRY

Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

5 **Cement transportation via railways declines**

Cement transportation through railways has declined over last year due to increased freight rate charges, points out Kotak Institutional Equities.

New Projects/Expansions/Diversification

6 **UltraTech to set up `2,600-cr plant in Madhya Pradesh**

UltraTech Cement, an Aditya Birla Group company, plans to invest `2,600 crore in setting up a 3.5 million tonnes per annum integrated cement plant at Dhar, Madhya Pradesh.



Financing/Public Issues/Shares

6

UltraTech Cement's Q3 net profit up 5 per cent

UltraTech today reported a 4.7 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 593.9 crore for the quarter ended December 31, on lower expenses.

Housing & Building Construction

7

Infra industry tag sought for affordable housing

Credai Kerala has called upon the government to classify affordable housing as infrastructure industry. "Such a classification, besides boosting the sector, will substantially ease flow of funds and will go a long way in meeting the government's target of Housing for All," said Najeeb Zackeria, Secretary General, Credai Kerala.

ENERGY/FUEL/POWER

Coal

8

Coal cess fund yet to light up clean energy projects

The effort of the Centre to financially support clean energy initiatives by imposing a cess on coal producers seems to have failed.

Power Projects/Generation/Distribution/Tariff

9

India to outpace Japan in solar power production

India may be a bright spot for global solar markets this year as it adds capacity at a record pace, becoming one of the top regions for panel producers struggling with rock-bottom prices.

TRANSPORT

Railways

10

Railways Plans \$5-bn Development Fund

Indian Railways has circulated a draft cabinet note for setting up a dedicated \$5 billion Railways of India Development Fund (RIDF).

Highways/Roads/Bridges

11

NHAI raises Rs 10,000 cr from EPFO; LIC to invest Rs 8,500 cr

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has raised Rs 10,000 crore from retirement fund body EPFO's bonds so far this financial year, while LIC has in-principle has agreed to subscribe to its taxable bonds worth up to Rs 8,500 crore till March-end, Parliament was informed on Thursday.



LABOUR

General

12

Fate of labour codes remains unclear

Immediately after assuming office, the present dispensation took up the long-pending labour reform initiative proposing to amalgamate 44 existing labour Acts into four codes with the aim of simplifying them and ensuring a conducive and harmonious environment for doing business.

Tenders – Cement Concrete Roads (CC1– CC12)

13

Tenders – Housing (T13 – T17)

14

Tenders – Canal Lining (T18 – T19)

F1

Financial Results (F1 – F2)
