



## ECONOMY

### Economic Growth/Reforms

#### 1 Fiscal deficit zooms to 51.6% in April-June

With continuous policy of frontloading development expenditure, the Centre's fiscal deficit has exceeded half of the Budget target during the first three months (April-June) of the current fiscal. However, the good news is that tax collection has also seen good growth.

#### 1 CPI inflation to average 5.6% this fiscal: DBS

Retail Inflation in India is likely to average around 5.6% this year, down from 6.1% in financial year 2014-15, says a DBS report.

### Public Finance Taxes And Duties

#### 2 LBT scrapped, state may lose 4,210 cr to municipal bodies

Already in a financial mess, the state government may lose around Rs,4,210 crore in stamp duty collections devolved to municipal corporations and compensation for revenue losses.

## INDUSTRY

### Industrial Growth & Production

#### 2 Core sector growth slows to 3% in June

Even as industry called for another rate cut ahead of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy review on August 4 to revive the economy, data on core sector output released on Friday showed that the eight industries that constitute sector grew at a slower pace of 3% in June as against a six month high of 4.4% in May.

## CEMENT INDUSTRY

### Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

#### 3 Ultratech Cement to raise `9,000 cr for loan repayment via private placement

Ultratech Cement plans to raise up to Rs 9,000 crore through private placement for repayment of existing loans and capital expenditure. The Aditya Birla Group firm will seek shareholders' nod to raise the capital at its Annual General Meeting scheduled next month.

#### 3 Shree Cement: Volumes, realization boost show

Kolkata-based Shree Cement snow cased better than-expected realizations in the cement segment for the June quarter. The company's power segment, too, saw higher volumes and improved realizations. Its sales at `1,719 crore beat the Bloomberg consensus estimate of `1,635 crore.



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## **Cement body finalizes wage settlement in 20 companies**

The Cement Manufacturers Association has finalised a long-term wage settlement covering employees working in 20 companies, accounting for 65 per cent of domestic cement production.

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## **Housing & Building Construction**

### **‘Smart city’ list: Smaller cousins outdo metros**

Mumbai, Kolkata, Lucknow, Jaipur, Ranchi and Bhubaneswar are among the cities who have found place in the coveted 'smart city' list with Uttar Pradesh bagging maximum 13 nominations.

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### **‘Affordable Home Launches in Top 8 Cities Rise 320%’**

The real estate market in the country's top eight cities recorded a 320% year-on-year jump in affordable home launches in the quarter to June, according to a report by property advisory Cushman & Wakefield, indicating a shift in strategy by builders to beat the current slump. Developers launched 7,000 affordable units in the period against 1,670 in the year-ago quarter, the report said.

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### **After smart city move, state plans smart villages**

On lines of Centre's plans to develop smart cities across the country, the state government is planning to build up 'smart villages' with amenities such as roads, renewable energy, health and drainage facilities. In addition, villages will get a village development plan (VDP) to ensure their planned development.

## **ENERGY/FUEL/POWER**

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## **Coal**

### **Coal India production up 12%**

Coal India's production continues to rise on the back of better co-operation with coal-bearing states in acquiring land and faster forest and environment clearances obtained by the company in last the 12 months.

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### **Singareni Collieries lights up 2<sup>nd</sup> boiler of Telangana project**

Singareni Collieries Co Ltd (SCCL) expects to commission unit one of 600 MW of a 1,200 MW thermal power project by January 2016 and a second unit of 600 MW by March 2016 coming up at Jaipur in Adilabad district of Telangana.

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## **Power Projects/Generation/Distribution/Tariff**

### **Power firms worried over notification on emission norms for thermal coal plants**

A draft notification issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) in mid-May asking all thermal coal power plants to drastically reduce their emissions has put power companies in a spot.



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## **Power projects of 46,000 MW facing viability issues: Crisil**

Power projects with around 46,000 MW capacity are facing viability issues due to lack of long-term purchase agreements, inadequate fuel supply and aggressive bidding to win projects, says a Crisil report.

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## **India's report to UN sets solar target at 20,000 MW**

In a draft report prepared for the UN, the government has hedged its bets on achieving the 100 gigawatt (Gw) solar power target by 2022. It has not committed to achieve the new target that National Democratic Alliance (NDA) announced but is instead stuck with the previous target of achieving 20,000 Mw grid-connected solar power under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission.

## **TRANSPORT**

### **Railways**

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#### **Rlys looking at bidding option to get power**

The Indian Railways is exploring the possibility of procuring the power through the bidding process from eligible entities at tariffs to be discovered through the market process in order to save on its power expenditure.

### **Highways/Roads/Bridges**

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#### **Highway projects worth `6 lakh crore announced**

Projecting the country's highways sector as a "unique opportunity" for investments, the government has rolled out projects worth Rs 6 lakh crore (\$93 billion), including the Rs 3 lakh crore (\$45 billion) flagship road building programme, the National highways Building Project (NHDP).

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#### **Proposed Mum-Nagpur e-way to connect backward regions of state**

The state government will undertake work on a six-lane and 800-km communication super express way linking Mumbai with the state's second capital of Nagpur via the backward regions of Maharashtra.

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#### **Govt to award `20,500 cr expressway projects in FY16**

The government has decided to award three expressway projects with a total length of over 500 km entailing an estimated investment of `20,500 crore this fiscal.

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## **LABOUR**

#### **EPFO to invest in equities from today**

Retirement fund manager Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will enter the stock market through exchange-traded funds (ETFs) on Thursday, four months after it decided to invest in equities.



**Cabinet nod for direct release of wages to MGNREGA workers**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Wednesday gave its approval for direct release of wages to workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to ensure better implementation by and empowerment of States.

**15 Tenders – Cement Concrete Roads  
(CC1– CC16)**

**15 Tenders – Housing  
(T17 – T19)**

**F1 Tenders – Canal Lining  
(T20)**

**Financial Results  
(F1 – F10)**

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