



ECONOMY

Economic Growth/Reforms

1 WPI inflation eases to 0.9% in June as food prices decline

Wholesale price-based inflation eased to 0.9 per cent in June -- the lowest in at least eight months -- as prices of food and manufactured items declined, prompting the industry to demand for a rate cut by the RBI.

Inflation/Recession

2 ADB cuts India inflation outlook to 4% in 2017-18

India's inflation is likely to average 4% in 2017-18, sharply lower than the estimate made at the beginning of the financial year of 5.2%, aided by a surprisingly soft trend in commodity prices, Asian Development Bank (ADB) said in its outlook supplement released on Thursday.

Public Finance Taxes And Duties

3 GST has spiked price burden on small biz, informal workers: CITU

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) has adversely impacted the common people, particularly unorganised sector workers and those engaged in small and decentralised manufacturing such as tailoring, garments, textile, beedi, small drug manufacturing, construction, matches & fireworks and passenger & goods transport, the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) has said.

3 GST will expand tax net, says Jaitley

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Wednesday briefed BJP MPs on the benefits of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, stating that it would expand the tax net, bring down "Inspector Raj" and cut prices of goods.

TRADE & COMMERCE

Export/Import

4 Trade deficit widens to \$13 bn

With goods imports outpacing exports in June, trade deficit for the month widened to \$12.95 billion, according to data released by the commerce ministry on Friday. In June 2016, the goods trade deficit was only \$8.1 billion.

4 June exports rise for tenth straight month

Export growth slowed in June to 4.39 per cent against 8 per cent in the previous month, even as the country managed to see 10 straight months of rise in outbound trade.



INDUSTRY

Infrastructure Projects Financing

5 Govt planning slew of changes to overhaul environmental laws

The government is planning a slew of changes to overhaul India's environmental laws after failing to do so in the first three years of its tenure.

CEMENT INDUSTRY

Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

6 'Cement prices may rebound with supply-demand boost'

Rating agency ICRA on Thursday said that it expected cement demand growth to recover to about 5% during 2017-18 as against a decline of 1.2% in 2016-17, driven by a pick-up in the infrastructure segment, mostly road and irrigation projects and the housing segment.

Financing/Public Issues/Shares

7 Cement majors put up a strong show in June quarter

The stock prices of the top two cement players — ACC and UltraTech Cement — were down marginally post announcement of their results. However, both companies managed to improve their bottomlines during the June quarter of 2017.

8 UltraTech expects slow demand recovery

Institutional investors are unlikely to change their view on UltraTech Cement BSE -1.09 %, India's largest cement company by capacity, in the near term.

ENERGY/FUEL/POWER

Coal

9 Govt puts off 5th round of coal mine auction

The government has deferred e-auction of the fifth tranche of coal mines for the steel sector and any further development will be intimated in due course.

TRANSPORT

Railways

10 Railways to fast track infrastructure, Suresh Prabhu says will double, even triple, 16,500 km rail tracks

To fast-track creation of a robust infrastructure, the government has sanctioned plans for doubling and tripling of 16,500 km of railway tracks in few years as against only 22,000 km in last 70 years, Union Minister Suresh Prabhu said today.



Highways/Roads/Bridges

10 Pune – Building for a better future

The stasis that Pune has witnessed on the infrastructure front since the Mumbai - Pune Expressway was made operational in 2002 may be coming to an end, what with investments of `65,000 crore lined up over the next five to six years on the construction of a new airport, a new Metro link, and a Ring Road, among other projects.

11

UP allocates `4,000 cr for pothole-free roads, `400 cr for air strips

The Uttar Pradesh government has made a budgetary provision of `3,972 crore for maintenance of state roads and making them pot-hole free. It has granted `288 crore for Metro rail projects and `598.65 crore for widening and strengthening of roads. A provision of `451.58 crore has been made for connecting villages with link roads and construction of small bridges.

12

Government approves plan to build 34 mega multi-modal logistics parks at an investment of Rs 2 lakh cr

The government has approved a plan to build 34 mega multi-modal logistics parks at an investment of Rs 2 lakh crore. The projects, for which land is already available with state governments, will be taken up through public-private-partnerships.

13

Inland Waterways & Irrigation Canals

Govt seeks to allot `2,000 cr from Road Fund for inland waterways

The government will move a Bill in Parliament during the upcoming Monsoon Session to enable allocation of about `2,000 crore from Central Road Fund for developing inland waterways, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has said.

14

Phase 1 of Ken-Betwa river link project gets all clearances

“A draft Cabinet note on the Ken-Betwa river link project (KBLP) has already been circulated and all clearances for phase one are over,” Minister of State for Water Resources Sanjiv Balyan informed the Lok Sabha during Question Hour on Thursday.

14

MISCELLANEOUS

Global pension funds buy into PM Modi's \$100 bn solar push, scout for deals

Some of the world's biggest pension funds, seeking long-term returns

NEWS IN BRIEF



on green investments, are scouting for deals in the country's solar power sector, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi is targeting \$100 billion in investment in the next five years.

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**Tenders – Cement Concrete Roads
(CC1– CC12)**

17

**Tenders – Housing
(T13 – T14)**

F1

**Tenders – Canal Lining
(T15)**

**Financial Results
(F1 – F2)**
