



ECONOMY

Economic Growth/Reforms

1 'High growth, fiscal gains can improve India's debt to GDP'

India is likely to witness sustained improvement in its debt to GDP ratio over the medium term, driven by its high economic growth rate and modest fiscal consolidation, says a Deutsche Bank report.

1 India to unveil new IIP series

India will unveil a new series of Index of Industrial Production with a base year 2011-12 on May 9 with an aim to map economic activities more accurately.

2 India to clock 7.1% GDP this year, 7.5% in 2018: UN

India is expected to clock 7.1 per cent growth this year before edging up to 7.5 per cent in 2018, according to a UN report, which warned that the country faces heightened risks related to the concentration of bad loans in the public sector banks.

3 GDP to grow 7.4% in FY18, says ADB

The Indian economy will grow 7.4 per cent this fiscal and 7.6 per cent in the next as the bankruptcy and GST laws will help create a better business friendly environment, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said today.

Public Finance Taxes And Duties

4 GST to push India into 8% growth orbit: IMF

The ambitious Goods and Services Tax, to be implemented from July 1, will help raise India's medium-term growth to above 8 per cent, the IMF has said, but expressed concern over the health of the country's banking system.

INDUSTRY

Industrial Growth & Production

5 Govt plans making Aadhaar compulsory for filings under Cos Act

The government plans to make Aadhaar compulsory for regulatory filings made by key managerial personnel and directors under the Companies Act so as to weed out bogus entities.

6 Core sector grows 5% in March, a 3-month high

Closing the fiscal year on a high, the index of eight core industries rose by 5 per cent in March, a three-month high, led by double-digit growth in steel and coal sectors.



CEMENT INDUSTRY

Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

- 6 Cement price hikes in April indicative of better volume and profitability**

Cement price hikes in April indicate impending volume growth and possibly better profitability for cement makers in the current quarter, analysts and company executives said.

- 7 Dalmia Cement, top bidder for Chhattisgarh limestone block**

The Chhattisgarh government on Tuesday auctioned the Kesla II limestone block in Raipur District. An official statement said that Dalmia (Bharat) Cement has emerged as the preferred bidder for this block.

Packaging

- 8 Jute packing rule might be relaxed this week, after industry protest**

A proposal by the Department of Food & Public Distribution (DFPD) at the Centre to further relax the mandatory packaging norms for jute bags is set to erode the market for the industry.

Housing & Building Construction

- 9 Builders' body seeks exclusive ministry for the sector**

Builders' Association of India (BAI) has impressed upon the need for setting up of an exclusive ministry for handling the affairs of the building industry and redressing its grievances.

ENERGY/FUEL/POWER

Coal

- 10 Coal India production target cut**

Coal India Ltd.'s (CIL) production target for the current fiscal FY18 has been fixed at 600 million tonnes against 660 million tonnes envisaged earlier. This would require the company to grow at about 10% over the 550 million tonnes it touched in 2016-17.

Power Projects/Generation/Distribution/Tariff

- 10 Centre, states to consider simpler power tariff system**

Union power minister Piyush Goyal and state ministers will consider the possibility of sharply reducing the number of power tariff slabs to make them uniform across the country and examine ways of re-engineering of power plants to use domestic coal in place of imported fuel at a two-day meeting in the capital starting Wednesday.



TRANSPORT

Railways

11 Emission standards soon for Railways

Indian Railways will soon come under emission standards, with the Engine Development Directorate of the Research Designs and Standards Organisation drawing up the draft norms for diesel locos.

Highways/Roads/Bridges

12 Gadkari, Chouhan hold talks on Chambal Expressway

A 300-km-long Chambal Expressway, connecting Madhya Pradesh with Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, is proposed to be constructed through the ravines of Chambal region, an official said.

13 Bidding for next round of expressways soon: Gadkari

The government plans to start bidding for the next round of expressways soon. This time around, concrete pavers – expensive equipment that help speed up highway construction – will be used by road developers.

13 Maharashtra to award 10k-km HAM projects

Maharashtra's public works department (PWD) is planning to award about 10,000 km of projects under the hybrid annuity model (HAM) in the next three-four months.

14 Nitin Gadkari says Bharatmala all ready to hit ground, sets 20,000 km road building target in 1st phase

An umbrella programme for roads – Bharatmala – will hit the ground soon ending all existing highway projects, including the flagship NHDP, in six months, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said today.

15 Logistics Summit May Attract Rs 2 lakh-cr Investments: Gadkari

The India Integrated Transport and Logistics Summit is expected to attract investments worth `2 lakh crore, road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday.

Inland Waterways & Irrigation Canals

16 Indira canal repairs to cost Rs. 3,291 crore

Rajasthan to seek loan for renovation work that will restore capacity of canal. The Rajasthan government has cleared a proposal to seek a loan from the New Development Bank (NDB) for the renovation and restoration of the Indira Gandhi Canal.



17 Major ports in India to take satellite port route for expansion

The government-run ports in Chennai, Paradip and the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) in Mumbai are developing satellite ports as part of their expansion plans, two government officials aware of the development said.

LABOUR

General

18 NITI Aayog presses for major labour reforms

The NITI Aayog has pressed for 'substantive' reforms in labour laws to take the country out of the current low-productivity and low-wage jobs situation.

19 May Day gift: EPFO to centralise online payments from this month

Retirement fund body, EPFO, will centralise its online payments system from this month and also reduce the claim settlement time to 10 days from 20 days at present, said VP Joy, Central Provident Fund Commissioner.

MISCELLANEOUS

20 'Industry will get `40,000-cr boost'

The Cabinet decision to enable a price preference for domestically produced iron and steel is going to aid the industry by nearly `40,000 crore a year, said Union Steel Minister Chaudhary Birender Singh.

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

**Tenders – Housing
(T15 – T17)**

**Tenders – Canal Lining
(T18)**

**Financial Results
(F1 – F2)**
