



ECONOMY

Economic Growth/Reforms

1 **Demonetisation impact: Ambit cuts FY17 GDP growth estimate to 3.5 6.8%**

Ambit Capital has slashed its GDP growth estimate for the ongoing financial year to 3.8% from 6.8%. The brokerage says the cash crunch created by the demonetisation drive of the government will “paralyse economic activity in the short term.”

2 **‘Growth between 7 and 8% likely’**

NITI Aayog vice-chairman Arvind Panagariya has said that the Indian economy will grow between 7 per cent and 8 per cent for 2016-17. However, he said that he isn’t certain about hitting the 8 per cent GDP growth milestone over a full financial year by 2018-19.

2 **‘FY17 GDP growth faces cash crunch heat**

The government’s move withdrawing Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 currency notes, popularly referred to as demonetisation, has dashed expectations of a pick-up in consumption in the second half of the current financial year.

4 **Indian companies to see strongest profit growth over 18 months: Mood**

Moody’s Investors Service today said Indian businesses will see strongest profit growth over the next 12 to 18 months on the back of sustained economic expansion and project completions.

5 **Cash crunch: Analysts cut GDP growth forecast**

Securities houses and rating agencies have cut their estimates of India’s GDP growth in anticipation of temporary headwinds from the 8 November demonetisation of high-value currency notes.

CEMENT INDUSTRY

Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

5 **Lafarge-Holcim's higher payout fails to cheer investors**

Building materials group Lafarge-Holcim lowered its profit target for the medium term on Friday, overshadowing its proposal to increase its dividend by a third and buy back its own shares.

6 **Cement firms’ stocks crack on cash crunch**

Manish Singh, a cement dealer in Deoghar in Jharkhand, has seen his business crashing ever since the demonetisation drive began on November 8.



7 Cement consumption won't go away, says India Cements' Srinivasan

Cement consumption won't go away, asserted N. Srinivasan, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, The India Cements Ltd. Answering questions on the impact of withdrawal of higher denomination currency notes, Mr. Srinivasan said that cement demand would not be abandoned.

New Projects/Expansions/Diversification

8 Shree Cement in bid to buy Shiva Cement

Shree Cement Ltd has submitted a preliminary offer to buy a majority stake in Odisha-based Shiva Cement Ltd, two people aware of the development said.

9 Orient Cement: poor show in Q2: stock to remain under pressure

The second quarter of this fiscal was a disappointing one for Orient Cement Ltd. The C.K. Birla Group's flagship firm registered a net loss of Rs.29.4 crore year-on-year (y-o-y) for the September quarter, nearly seven times more than *Bloomberg* estimates of Rs.4.10 crore.

10 India Cements profit increases 62 per cent

India Cements Ltd. (ICL) has reported a 62 per cent jump in standalone net profit at Rs. 62.41 crore for the quarter ended September 30, according to a filing on the BSE. The company had reported a net profit of Rs. 38.5 crore in the same period last year.

Housing & Building Construction

10 Shapoorji Pallonji buy 100 acres land in affordable housing push

Mumbai-based developer Shapoorji Pallonji Real Estate plans to buy up to 100 acres across India for about Rs.750 crore in the next one year to expand its affordable housing business, a top company official said.

ENERGY/FUEL/POWER

Coal

12 Rise in imported coal prices puts overseas coal mines back in focus

The spurt in global coal prices in past six months is likely to put Indian companies' overseas coal assets back in focus with talks over fresh plans for these assets now underway.

13 Absence of coal linkage policy hurts power plants

Short-term measures might impact the long-term plans of power producers, including Adani Power, KSK Energy Ventures and state-owned NTPC, which are arranging coal through the e-auction route or imports in the absence of a coal linkage policy, which impact the viability of their projects.



TRANSPORT

Highways/Roads/Bridges

14 Over 30,000 km roads constructed under PMGSY till Oct: Yadav

Over 30,000 km of roads have been completed till October in left-wing extremism (LWE) affected districts under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Lok Sabha was informed on Thursday.

LABOUR

General

15 Labour numbers issued

The government has issued 18 lakh labour identification numbers that are provided to businesses enabling them to submit returns and get various registrations required under the labour laws at a single online window.

MISCELLANEOUS

16 Trade unions to meet FM tomorrow for pre-budget consultations

Central trade unions (CTUS) are scheduled to meet Finance Minister Arun Jaitley tomorrow for pre-budget consultations where they will raise issues of minimum wage and pension.

16 CA institute recommends joint audits for large companies

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India is in favour of ushering in a system of “joint audits”, but only for large companies.

17 Cos may be Forced to Pass on GST Benefits to Consumers

India Inc will have to pass on any benefits derived from the proposed Goods and Services Tax (GST) to consumers in the form of reduced prices or face penal provisions, according to the draft law, which has proposed an anti-profiteering clause.

Tenders – Cement Concrete Roads (CC1– CC12)

19 Tenders – Housing (T13 – 15)

20 Tenders – Canal Lining (T16)

A1 Articles/Interviews (A1 – A2)

F1 Financial Results (F1 – F2)

