



ECONOMY

Economic Growth/Reforms

1 GST to hit shadow economy: Das

Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das on Thursday said the goods and services tax (GST) would hurt the shadow economy.

1 Will economic growth estimates go wrong for fiscal year 2017?

Developing nations like India need to continuously import to keep fuelling the economy and therefore rising oil imports indicate prospects for stronger economic growth.

Public Finance Taxes And Duties

2 Tax slabs: Should GST Bills be tabled as Money Bills?

The approval of the draft Bills of the Central Goods and Service Tax (CGST), Union Territories GST (UTGST), Integrated GST (IGST), and compensation to the state laws by the Union Cabinet, has paved way for operationalising the government's reverie GST project by July 1, 2017.

3 GST Bill passed by Lok Sabha, Arun Jaitley says 'significant step forward has been taken'

On Wednesday Lok Sabha passed the historic GST Bill which the government has been pushing hard for quite some time now. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley spoke after the lower house approved all four supplementary laws.

4 GST: Modi's big-bang reform a done deal

India's biggest-ever tax reform since Independence crossed the big hurdle. All four Bills to give effect to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) were approved by the Lok Sabha on Wednesday evening.

6 India Inc at full throttle for GST

As the wait for the much-delayed goods and services tax (GST) nears its end, companies are working in mission mode to align their operations and are putting in place structures to deal with the new tax regime.

TRADE & COMMERCE

Import/Export

7 Review of India-Singapore economic cooperation pact remains inconclusive

The second review of the India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) to boost two-way trade remains inconclusive despite efforts to expedite the process.



CEMENT INDUSTRY

Growth/Marketing/Demand/Takeover

- 8 Relief for cement companies, DIPP asks environment ministry to relax emission deadline by 2 years**

The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has urged the ministry of environment, forest and climate change to relax the deadline for compliance of environment emission standards by cement units by two years.

- 8 Rising cement prices in eastern India face risk from higher supply**

Cement prices in most eastern states have improved by Rs.10-30/50kg bag in March compared to February. Companies will benefit from higher realizations but this may not last long, as capacity additions will lead to higher supply.

New Projects/Expansions/Diversification

- 9 ACC plans 600-cr capex**

ACC, a Lafarge-Holcim Group company, plans to invest `600 crore in setting up five ready-mix concrete plants and undertake various debottlenecking projects across its plants this year.

Financing/Public Issues/Shares

- 10 JK Lakshmi Cement volumes grow 23%**

JKLC FY16 Annual report highlights a weak operating performance, with EBITDA declining 23% to `2.7 billion (FY15: `3.5 billion) on the back of an 8% cut in realisations to `3.6k/tonne, but volumes growing 23% to 7.3 MMT.

- 11 Housing & Building Construction**

Credai to launch 200 housing projects

Various chapters of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (Credai) are planning to launch 200 housing projects across the country on April 8.

ENERGY/FUEL/POWER

- 12 Coal**

EPFO to part-invest subscription receipts in liquid MFs

Making a departure from its earlier practice of parking all of its daily subscription receipts, around Rs.356 crore a day, in Collateralised Borrowing & Lending Obligation (CBLO), Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will soon start part-investing them in liquid



mutual funds (LMFs) also, aimed at generating better returns for its subscribers.

13 **Power Projects/Generation/Distribution/Tariff**

Power ministry to shut down 6,000-Mw thermal capacity

14 The Union government has started discussions with states for closing down old and outdated thermal power plants with 6,000-Mw capacity to reduce carbon emissions.

Govt to extend sops for Mega Power Policy projects by five years

The government is set to extend by up to five years the benefits of the Mega Power Policy which promised customs and excise duty benefits to power projects of 1,000 megawatt (MW) or more capacity that sign long-term power purchase deals.

TRANSPORT

15 **Highways/Roads/Bridges**

A first in Maharashtra, PWD constructs Palghar road using pinewood

16 For the first time in Maharashtra, the public works department (PWD) in Palghar district constructed a road entirely out of pinewood pulp cellulose, as part of a pilot project.

10 multi-modal hubs likely under transport master plan

16 The Narendra Modi government is working on a Rs 10 lakh-crore National Transport Master Plan that will provide seamless movement of freight and passengers across multiple modes of transport.

Road construction at 6,604 km, misses target of 15,000 km for FY17

17 A total 6,604 km of highways has been constructed during the April-February period against the target of 15,000 km for the full fiscal, Parliament was informed today.

UP Chief Minister Gets Cracking, Asks NHAI Officials to Maintain Roads Under it in State

17 Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath has asked the National Highways Authority of India to ensure proper maintenance of all roads in its charge in the state.

NHAI to miss 2016-17 road projects target on land acquisition woes

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will miss its target of awarding 15,000km of road projects in the year ending 31 March by a huge margin, according to analysts and available data.



LABOUR

18 General

EPFO strengthens Aadhaar seeding services

In order to achieve the target of Aadhaar seeding, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has instructed its regional offices

19 to put in place adequate number of Aadhaar capturing desks.

New structure to come in place of EPFO, ESIC

Once the proposed omnibus Labour Code on Security and Welfare (LCSW) comes into force, several age-old schemes – including the provident fund, pension and insurance schemes run under the EPF Act, 1952, and the sickness benefit scheme under the ESIC Act, 1948 – will cease to exist in their present forms.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Steel consumption growth to be lower in FY17: ICRA

Steel consumption growth is projected to be lower in FY17 than the previous year, mainly on account of sluggishness in real estate and construction sectors, rating agency ICRA said today.

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

21 **Tenders – Housing**
(T13)

A1 **Tenders – Canal Lining**
(T14 – T16)

Articles/Interviews
(A1- A2)
