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**IN FOCUS**

	LATEST	CHANGE
Nifty 50	25953.85	+18.70
P/E Ratio (Sensex)	23.16	-0.03
US Dollar (in ₹)	90.70	+0.13
Gold Std 10 gm (in ₹)	156692.00	+1063
Silver 1 kg (in ₹)	266449.00	+7349

**DATA MANDATE.**

Incentivising setting up of cloud, data centres in India means data to be stored here, says Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman **p9**

TECHNOPHILE.

Google Pixel Watch 4 impresses with bright display, strong battery, accurate health tracking and AI **p4**

BENGALURU - CHENNAI - COIMBATORE - HUBBALLI - HYDERABAD - KOCHI - KOLKATA - MADURAI - MALAPPURAM - MANGALURU - MUMBAI - NOIDA - THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - TIRUCHIRAPPALLI - VIJAYAWADA - VISAKHAPATNAM

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QUICKLY.

CORPORATE EARNINGS

Direct tax mop up rises 9%

to ₹19.44 lakh cr in April-Feb



New Delhi: With good growth in corporate earnings, net direct tax collection rose over 9 per cent during April 1 to February 10, according to CBDT data. However, going by this trend, achieving the Revised Estimate appears to be challenging. Data showed net collection hitting ₹19.44 lakh crore against ₹17.77 lakh crore mopped up during the corresponding period of the last fiscal, a growth of 9.4 per cent. **p3**

SHIFTING GEARS

Ashok Leyland consolidated Q3 net up 5% at ₹862 crore

Chennai: Commercial vehicles major Ashok Leyland reported a 5 per cent increase in the consolidated net profit at ₹862 crore in the third quarter ended December 2025 against ₹820 crore in the same period last year. This is after considering a one-time charge of ₹308 crore towards the new labour codes. Revenue was up 22 per cent at ₹12,702 crore (₹10,375 crore). **p2**

India's first LLM takes shape as Sarvam expands AI stack

HOME MADE. Ahead of India AI Summit, developer widens translation, speech, vision capabilities

Sanjana B

Bengaluru

India's effort to build a sovereign Large Language Model has moved from promise to platform, with Bengaluru-based Sarvam AI unveiling the country's most ambitious push yet to create an indigenous AI stack even as global giants race ahead on scale.

Ahead of the India AI Impact Summit 2026 next week, the company expanded its stack across translation, speech and vision. Sarvam-Translate supports 22 Indian languages, including Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, Maithili, Santali, Kashmiri, Nepali, Sindhi, Dogri and Sanskrit. It offers paragraph-level translation across supported languages and translates diverse structured content for 15 languages. In evaluations done by language experts, the company said Sarvam-Translate performed significantly better than larger models.

NATURAL VOICE

In speech, Sarvam launched Bulbul v1, followed by Bulbul v3 this year, a code-mixed multilingual text-to-speech model designed to deliver

Outperforming global models

- Flores (English-to-Indic machine translation benchmark): Ranked ahead of Llama 3.1.8B
- XORQA (cross-lingual question answering with English context and Indic answers): Outperformed Llama 3.1.8B, Gemma 2B and Llama 3.2.3B
- TriviaQA (factual knowledge and retrieval benchmark, adapted to multiple choice): Outperformed Llama 3.1.8B
- MMLU (Massive Multitask Language Understanding): Highest among evaluated models
- BoolQ (binary/no question answering benchmark): 80.68 — top performance in multilingual evaluation
- Indic OCR Bench (across 22 Indian languages): Surpassed Gemini 3 Pro, Opus 4.5 and GPT 5.2 on word and character accuracy

Source: company blogs

more natural and production-ready voices for Indian languages. According to the company's website, its Text-to-Speech API, powered by Bulbul v3, supports 11 Indian languages, with multiple speaker options for each language.

Saras v3, its latest speech-to-text model, auto-detects spoken language and provides transcription across all 22 supported Indian languages, handling code-mixed audio and optimised for both real-time and batch processing.

Jaspreet Bindra, Co-Founder and CEO, AI&Beyond, an AI literacy firm, said, "Sarvam appears to be building with an India-first lens,

prioritising multilingual capabilities, Indic datasets, and potentially voice-led applications. Its training strategy is likely more curated toward Indian languages, governance documents, and local enterprises. Sarvam's differentiation could lie in contextual depth for India-specific use cases, where linguistic nuance and localisation matter more than pure model scale."

GOVT SUPPORT

Founded by Vivek Raghavan and Pratyush Kumar in August 2023, Sarvam introduced the first version of its platform in 2024, a 2-billion-parameter language model optimised for Indian lan-

guages. In April 2025, the government selected Sarvam AI under the IndiaAI Mission to build India's first sovereign LLM, backing the effort with dedicated compute resources to create a foundational model from scratch. Designed for reasoning, built for voice and optimised for Indian languages and scripts, it is intended for population-scale deployment.

THREE VARIANTS

Sarvam is developing three variants under the Sovereign LLM proposal. "Building an AI ecosystem for India has always been core to Sarvam's mission," said Co-Founder Pratyush Kumar. The line-up includes Sarvam-Large for advanced reasoning and generation, Sarvam-Small for real-time interactive applications, and Sarvam-Edge for compact, on-device tasks. The company may give more details of its platform at the AI Summit in New Delhi.

Last week, the company launched Sarvam-Vision, a 3B-parameter state-space vision-language model built for image captioning, scene text recognition, chart understanding and complex table parsing.

US softens stance on digital trade, drops pulses in revised India factsheet

Amiti Sen
Prabhudatta Mishra

New Delhi

Following a quiet but firm pushback from New Delhi, the White House has revised its factsheet on the India-US interim trade framework, dropping references to pulses and significantly softening the language around digital trade commitments.

The first version raised questions about potential encroachments on India's policy autonomy.

Experts, however, warn that New Delhi should negotiate with caution as the factsheet merely shows intent and is not a legal document.

The changes in the US factsheet do not materially alter the substance. Targeting of India's agriculture tariff was absent in the joint statement but appeared in the factsheet and remains in the revised version. Though specific digital provisions have been dropped, it still says that India is committed to negotiating bilateral digital trade rules addressing "discriminatory or burdensome practices".

The earlier version had also indicated that India would provide enhanced access for US pulses, a politically sensitive farm item, which had triggered con-



EXPERTS CAUTION. India must negotiate carefully as the factsheet shows only intent and is not a legal document

cerns, given the crop's importance to domestic farmers. The revised document omits the specific mention of pulses and also swaps the term "committed" to "intends" in reference to purchase of US products over \$500 billion by India as part of the deal.

The changes in the US factsheet do not materially alter the substance. Targeting of India's agriculture tariff was absent in the joint statement but appeared in the factsheet and remains in the revised version. Though specific digital provisions have been dropped, it still says that India is committed to negotiating bilateral digital trade rules addressing "discriminatory or burdensome practices".

Though the joint statement issued last week on the trade deal had made no mention of "certain pulses", Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal had mentioned "some lentils" in his February 7 press conference when he was asked on which items India had agreed to give concessions to the US.

Three-hour content takedown mandate termed regulatory over-reach, but many back the action

S Ronendra Singh

New Delhi

The Centre's decision to slash the takedown timeline for unlawful AI-generated content to three hours has sparked a debate among legal and digital policy experts, with some terming it an over-reach that risks undermining constitutional protections, while others back the action against violative material.

The amendments, notified on Tuesday under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2026, require online intermediaries to remove unlawful synthetic content within three hours of being notified, a significant tightening from the earlier 36-hour window.

The Internet Freedom

Foundation (IFF) described the notified rules as a "regression" from the earlier draft. "The notified rules represent a regression from the already problematic draft that we had called to be withdrawn and instead approach AI-based content risks beyond the existing safe harbour framework," it said. While acknowledging that AI technologies require regulation, IFF argued that the government's approach expands censorship powers in a manner inconsistent with constitutional safeguards.

POLICY DEFENCE

However, some experts defended the move. NS Napinai, Supreme Court advocate and Founder of Cyber Saathi, said the inclusion of SGI within the existing intermediary framework appears to reflect stakeholder submissions, particularly about viol-



ative content such as child sexual abuse material or sexually explicit synthetic content. "Expedited takedowns for such content are reasonable and warranted. It cannot be considered a restraint on free speech. However, utilisation of these provisions should follow the letter and spirit," she said.

Mishi Choudhary, Software Freedom Law Center India, said unlawful synthetically generated information (SGI) is a real issue, but criticised what she characterised as a "take down first, ask later" framework.

Vikram Jeet Singh, Partner at BTG Advaya, flagged practical challenges. In cases where takedown orders are vaguely or broadly worded, a three-hour deadline may be insufficient for platforms to seek clarifications. "One hopes such takedown orders clearly identify the non-compliant information and specify the link/page where take-down action is required."

The provision allowing "one or more authorised officers" to issue directions could also lead to duplication or contradictory orders, increasing the risk of overbroad deletions as platforms err on the side of caution.

This Valentine's, Start your story



with

PARLE PLATINA HIDE & SEEK
MADE WITH THE WORLD'S FINEST CHOCOLATES
WORLD'S BEST MOULDED Choco Chip Cookies

As exports wilt, home market blooms for roses

Local demand makes up for drop in foreign shipments due to rising freight cost, taxes

Aishwarya Kumar

Bengaluru

Valentine's Day is around the corner, yet all is not rosy for India's flower growers.

While roses flood the markets ahead of February 14, farmers exporting the blooms are grappling with soaring air freight costs that have sharply eroded their competitiveness in international markets.

The global flower trade is dominated by growers from Kenya, Ethiopia and Colombia. India was once a consistent exporter as well, but its position has weakened in recent years.

"After Covid, air freight charges have gone up by around 200 per cent and an 18 per cent GST on air freight has made exports even more unviable," said Srikanth Bollapally, President, Grower Flower Council of India and Director of the



STEEP SPIKE. Rose prices during the Valentine's week have risen to ₹25–30 per stem from ₹15–20 last year

South India Floriculture Association.

India exported over 10 million flower stems in the first 10 days of the Valentine season last year. This year, exports during the same period have dropped to 3-4 million stems, he added.

Karnataka, one of India's key floriculture hubs, reflects this trend. The State accounts for nearly 30 per cent of India's rose output, producing close to 10 lakh stems a day during peak periods. However, exports

range between ₹180 and ₹200 per kg. Amid this gloom, the domestic market has emerged a bright spot. Increased marketing and changing consumption patterns have pushed domestic demand this season, "for the first time, beating exports," Bollapally said.

Rose prices during Valentine's Week, which hovered at ₹15–20 per stem last year, have risen to ₹25–30 this season.

Online delivery platforms have also fuelled the demand. Q-commerce majors Blinkit and Swiggy are sourcing roses for February 14 delivery, contributing to higher off-take, said Edwin Samuel, owner, Four Seasons depot.

Things are now rosy at home but will remain thorny globally unless freight rates and tax burdens are eased.

With inputs from intern Tejaswini S

QUICKLY.

Akasa Air Co-founder
Praveen Iyer resigns

Mumbai: Akasa Air Co-founder and Chief Commercial Officer Praveen Iyer has quit as the airline. Iyer is the second Co-founder to leave after Neelu Khatri, and his exit comes as the carrier embarks on an expansion plan in India and overseas. Co-founder and Chief Information Officer Anand Srinivasan will take over as the Chief Commercial Officer from May 1. Airline officials indicated that Iyer was leaving the organisation for personal reasons after working for five years. "Praveen has been instrumental in shaping not just Akasa's commercial vision but the airline itself and translating that ambition into sustained growth. He has built a strong and resilient commercial organisation..." Chief Executive Officer Vinay Dube said. OUR BUREAU

Mahindra & Mahindra Q3 PAT rises 33% to ₹3,931 crore on good demand

RISING BUSINESS. Standalone revenue rose 26% to ₹38,942 cr, tractor and SUV volumes up 23 per cent

Janaki Krishnan
Anupama Ghosh
Mumbai

66

GST cuts helped in boosting demand; the effect will be long-term as it would stimulate consumption

RAJESH JEJURIKAR
ED & CEO,
Auto and Farm sectors



Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd reported a 33 per cent increase in standalone profit at ₹3,931 crore in the third quarter with good demand coming in for its SUVs and tractors.

In order to cater to demand, the company is boosting capacity over the next three years.

The country's No 1 SUV maker reported a 26 per cent rise in quarterly revenue at ₹38,942 crore, with both tractor and SUV volumes up 23 per cent. It sold over 3 lakh vehicles and 1.5 lakh tractors during the quarter.

"Strong execution is driving our margins, and new product launches have done extremely well and positions us well for the future," said

Anish Shah, Mahindra group's CEO and Managing Director, in a media briefing. Margins in the automotive segment expanded 90 bps, and in the farm segment, was up 240 bps.

In the 10 months of the current fiscal year, the company sold over 41,000 electric vehicles, and the new XEV 9S launched in November would give it an additional

boost. "The 9S has also got a very good response... deliveries just starting about a week back," said Rajesh Jejurikar, Executive Director and CEO, Auto and Farm sectors.

CAPACITY EXPANSION In 2026, the company will increase capacities for both internal combustion engines and EVs, with an additional

Q3 results*

	Q3 FY25	Q3 FY26
Net profit (₹ cr)	2,964	3,931
Revenue (₹ cr)	30,964	38,942

*standalone

3,000 vehicles per month being produced at least by the last quarter of the year. Expansion will be achieved through debottlenecking at Chakan and Nashik.

In 2027, the products from the NU IQ platform will start rolling out from Chakan and that would also lead to increased capacity, Jejurikar said.

In 2028, its recently announced facility at Nagpur will commence production, and capacity will be added gradually over a period.

The cuts in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) last year had helped in boosting de-

mand, Jejurikar said, adding that the effect of that will be long-term as it would stimulate consumption.

AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION

The automotive division posted strong performance, with revenue up 30 per cent at ₹30,370 crore and PBIT of ₹2,607 crore.

In CY 2026, the company plans to launch two ICE SUVs and two light commercial vehicles.

In the current fiscal year, it has launched two new nameplates and several refreshes.

A rise in raw material inputs has led to the company hiking prices of its passenger vehicles by around 1 per cent, said Jejurikar.

On a consolidated basis, the company reported a PAT of ₹4,675 crore, up 54 per cent, excluding the impact of the labour codes, on a revenue of ₹52,100 crore.



also sought an interim direction to the TNPCB to permit the petitioner to have limited and conditional access to the Sterlite Copper facility in Thoothukudi so that it could carry out preparatory and operational activities for the scientific assessment.

Opposing the writ petition filed by Vedanta, the AAG said: "They are trying to pour old wine into a new bottle and call it green copper." He said, the company ought to have gone on statutory appeal against the board's order instead of filing a writ petition. He also stated that protection of environment was more important than the economic aspects, which the company was stressing upon. Vedanta

Vedanta moves HC as TN rejects 'green copper' unit proposal at Thoothukudi

Mohamed Imranullah S
Chennai

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) has refused to issue a 'consent to operate' (CTO) to multinational business conglomerate Vedanta Ltd for establishing a 'green copper' plant on the Thoothukudi Sterlite plant premises, which has remained non-functional since 2018. The company approached the Madras High Court with a plea to quash the rejection order.

Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava and Justice G Arul Murugan on Wednesday directed Additional Advocate General (AAG) J Ravindran to give instructions by February 26 regarding the constitution of an expert committee to study the possibility of permitting the 'green copper' facility.

Vedanta submitted an application to the TNPCB on January 9, seeking the CTO, but the board rejected it on January 27. Assailing the rejection order, senior counsel Satish Parasaran contended the application had been rejected in an arbitrary manner without providing advance notice or an opportunity for hearing to his client.

To ensure a fair and impartial adjudication of Vedanta's applications/proposal for establishing the 'green copper' facility, the court ordered the Bench to order the constitution of a court-monitored multidisciplinary expert committee, comprising representatives of the State government as well as the Centre, along with independent experts in relevant fields, to examine the proposal independently, comprehensively, and scientifically. Until the disposal of its main writ petition, Vedanta

GREEN COPPER Explaining the benefits of 'green copper' the company told the court that the term refers to copper produced with a significantly lower carbon footprint in comparison with conventional smelting processes. The reduction would be achieved by maximising the use of recycled copper as input. "Using recycled copper minimises the need for copper concentrate processing, which was the primary source of slag generation in smelting operation," it said.

LG Electronics India net declines 61% on external factors

Meenakshi Verma Ambwani
New Delhi

LG Electronics India posted a net profit of ₹89.6 crore in the December quarter down 61.5 per cent over ₹233.4 crore in the corresponding quarter in the previous fiscal.

Revenue from operations stood at ₹4114.3 crore down 6.4 per cent due to the lower-than-expected post-festival demand.

The company aims to double exports from India in the next financial year on the back of India-EU FTA deal and cut in US tariffs.

"The rationalisation of US



'Softness seen in Q3 is largely cyclical and not structural. Despite these headwinds, we gained market share across categories'

factors. With Diwali coming earlier than last year, there was a short festival window this fiscal. Also, due to the cooler summer season, there was higher channel invent-

ory for AC products. So in this context, we avoided overbilling and our partners did a short-term inventory adjustment to prepare for the upcoming summer sea-

son. So, the softness seen in Q3 is largely cyclical and not structural. Despite these headwinds, we gained market share across categories'

SUBDUE SALES On EBITDA margin decline, Atul Khanna, Chief Accounting Officer, LGE India, said it was attributed to combined effect of subdued sales impacting operating leverage, increased input costs in copper and aluminium and currency-related headwinds.

Talking about the Q4 outlook, Chitkara said: "As per early indicators, we are see-

ing that demand visibility has improved and the trade inventory levels are healthy. GST rate cuts have improved affordability. We are seeing double-digit growth in sell-out in January. We believe whatever shortfall we have seen in this fiscal year will be recovered in Q4. In the upcoming summer season, we are focusing on strengthening our LG Essential line-up as well as the premium segment."

Currently, about 7 per cent revenue share for the company comes from exports to markets such as the Middle East, Southeast Asia and Africa.

'Demand momentum to continue through FY26, with volumes likely to grow 10-12%'

T E Raja Simhan
Chennai

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Switch Mobility has achieved profitability at the PAT level within a short span. The subsidiary has an order book of over 2,000 electric buses...

DHEERAJ HINDUJA
Chairman, Ashok Leyland



market rumours. "Ashok Leyland's Board in the last meeting approved an investment of ₹600 crore in OHM, of which ₹300 crore has already been invested. The remaining ₹300 crore will be infused as and when funds are required. No additional funds have been deployed as of now."

Hinduja noted that growth is visible across all major CV segments.

In trucks, demand has picked up at the entry-level intermediate commercial vehicle (ICV) segment, while growth is more pronounced in tippers and higher-tonnage multi-axle vehicles, driven by infrastructure and construction activity.

On the light commercial vehicle (LCV) side, demand remains broad-based, with Ashok Leyland reporting 33 per cent growth in domestic LCV volumes in January alone.

+ Ashok Leyland consolidated Q3 net up 5%

Our Bureau
Chennai

Commercial vehicles major Ashok Leyland reported a 5 per cent increase in consolidated net profit at ₹862 crore in the quarter ended December 2025 (Q3 FY26) as against ₹820 crore over the same period last year.

This is after considering a one-time charge of ₹308 crore towards the new labour codes.

Revenue was up 22 per cent at ₹12,702 crore (₹10,375 crore).

On a standalone basis, the company reported a 4 per cent increase in net profit at ₹796 crore (₹763 crore) on 22 per cent increase in revenue at ₹11,477 crore (₹9,436 crore).

BONUS SHARES The company's board has recommended issue of bonus shares in the ratio 1:1; one equity share of ₹1 each.

Dheeraj Hindujia, Executive Chairman, Ashok Ley-

land, said market conditions continue to be favourable, and the company is optimistic that this strength will sustain in the medium term across all businesses, including MHCV, LCV, and defence.

"We are executing a structured pipeline of product introductions across conventional and alternative propulsion platforms to further strengthen our leadership in the domestic market and accelerate our expansion in international markets," he said.

SWITCH ORDER BOOK The company's electric vehicle arm, Switch, has a healthy order book and a well-defined product roadmap.

It has started delivering

buses in international markets and has achieved a positive EBITDA and PAT over the first nine months, Hindujia added.

Medium and Heavy Commercial Vehicle (MHCV) volume was at 32,929 units in Q3 FY26 versus 26,692 units in Q3 FY25, a growth of 23 per cent.

This is higher than Q3 industry growth resulting in market share gain.

The company's domestic MHCV market share continues to be above 30 per cent.

The company also has maintained market leadership in the bus segment with a 40 per cent market share in Q3, said a statement from Ashok Leyland.

Shenu Agarwal, Managing Director & CEO, Ashok Leyland, said that GST rational-

isation has not just lowered prices, but also brought a fillip to the overall freight demand, triggering fresh replacement cycle in the industry.

ALL-TIME HIGH

"We delivered all-time high Q3 numbers with highest revenue, EBITDA, EBITDA margin, PBT and PAT. This is our 12th consecutive quarter of double-digit EBITDA margin, reaffirming our strategy of growing profitably," Hindujia told mediapersons while discussing the quarterly results.

Over the next four to five years, the government wants to induct more than 50,000 electric buses in the fleets of the various State Transport Undertakings.

The company has also

gained market share and ex-

pects this trend to continue

over the next few months,

Chairman Dheeraj Hindujia told businessline.

"In electric mobility,

Switch Mobility has achieved

profitability at the PAT level

within a short span. The sub-

sidiary has an order book of over 2,000 electric buses and around 1,200 electric LCVs yet to be delivered," Hindujia said. The company has also begun exporting electric vehicles, he added.

Ashok Leyland is currently the only manufacturer of electric double-decker buses, a segment gaining traction among State Transport Undertakings, he noted.

MARKET RUMOURS On reports of plans to raise ₹200 million for Ashok Leyland's OHM Mobility Unit, CFO KM Balaji said the company does not comment on

man said that the company remains focused on bidding only for contracts sustainable over the long term, for around 10-12 year periods. "Some of the new age companies are bidding at aggressive pricing," he noted.

POINT OF CALL as compared to a loss of ₹138.6 million in 2024. Revenue went up to ₹838.8 million compared to a total revenue of ₹720.4 million in 2024, a 16 per cent constant currency growth.

Despite this, the company has guided at a more conservative 13.5-14.5 per cent for the 2026 calendar expecting revenues in the range of ₹952-₹960 million.

Tyler Sloat, CFO & COO, Freshworks, explained that the first guide of the year is the hardest due to lower visibility, and growth in 2026 will be driven by its employee experience vertical. "We are confident about our EX opportunity. It is a strategy that we have been very clear about for 1.5 years and we are now the leader in that segment. We will continue to go attack that and make that our priority."

"We tend to be the first

Bayer Crop Science Q3 PAT up 180% at ₹96 crore on higher revenue

Our Bureau
Bangalore

Bayer Crop Science Ltd (BCSL) reported a profit of ₹95.7 crore for the third quarter ended December 2025, an increase of 180 per cent over corresponding quarter last year's ₹34.2 crore on higher revenue.

Revenue from operations for the quarter were up 5 per cent at ₹1,106.2 crore as

compared to ₹1,057.4 crore a year ago. Profit before tax stood at ₹113 crore, compared to ₹33.6 crore in the corresponding period of FY25. For the nine months ended December 31, 2025, BCSL reported revenue from operations of ₹4,574.2 crore, compared to ₹4,427 crore for the corresponding period in FY25. Profit before tax for the nine months ended December 31, 2025, stood at ₹648.5 crore, compared to ₹539.5 crore for the corresponding period in FY25.

CORN SEEDS BIZ Simon Wiebusch, Vice-Chairman & Managing Director and CEO, BCSL, said: "In Q3, revenue from operations grew 5 per cent, led by the continued strength of our corn seeds business. Weather volatility, particu-

larly excess rains extending into the quarter led to limited spray windows and constrained crop protection liquidation, while a muted chili and grape

QUICKLY.

Commerce Secretary to meet WTO chief in Geneva



New Delhi: Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal will meet the chief of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala in Geneva this week ahead of the ministerial meeting of the multi-lateral body next month in Cameroon, an official said. He will also meet ambassadors of other countries. "The secretary will be in Geneva on February 12 and 13," the official said. PTI

CAG raps NLC for mining without valid clearance

New Delhi: Government auditor CAG has pulled up NLC India for operating one of its mines without a valid environmental clearance. In its report, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India said that NLC operated its Mine-II without a valid environmental clearance due to the company's delay in seeking EC revalidation. PTI

As new CPI series debuts today, Jan retail inflation seen at 2-3%

WIDER REACH. Under the new series, the prices are being collected from 1,465 rural and 1,395 urban markets

Shishir Sinha
New Delhi

The government is set to release the retail inflation data for January with the new base year of 2024 on Thursday. The headline inflation is expected to exceed 2 per cent but stay below 3 percent.

The December headline number, the last one in the 2012 base year series, was 1.33 per cent. This is expected to be revised upward in the back series data.

FOOD & BEVERAGES

Earlier, an expert group report released by Statistics Ministry paved the way for lowering the weight of highly volatile food and beverages. Accordingly, the weight of food and beverages will be lowered to 36.8 from 45.9 while making adjustments in all other groups.

According to SBI Research, by considering the

new weights on unchanged index, new CPI with old indices was calculated, and it was found that overall CPI will increase marginally by 20-30 bps.

In the months when food inflation is higher, the new CPI will be low by 20-30 bps, it said. Change in weight means the headline inflation numbers could show less volatility under the new series.

The major recommendations of the expert group include adoption of latest Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP) 2018 framework up to the subclass level for classification of items, updation of CPI item basket and their corresponding weights using Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2023-24, use of latest technology for price data collection and compilation, inclusion of administrative and online/e-commerce data, methodological



NEW CALCULATION. The weight of food and beverages will be lowered to 36.8 from 45.9 while making adjustments in all other groups REUTERS

improvements in index compilation including house rent index and more granular data dissemination.

MARKET SURVEY

Under the new series, the prices are being collected from 1,465 rural markets and 1,395 urban markets across 434 towns.

To verify rural and urban samples, identification of markets, shops and mapping of item identification, a *de novo* market survey will be conducted. The practice of mapping reserve shops in

CPI may be discontinued. To capture price movements on the e-commerce platforms, 12 online markets/towns (having more than 25 lakh population) will be added in CPI 2024 series. The prices of items will be collected through online/e-commerce platforms on a weekly basis, the report stated.

In case of gold and silver jewellery, the group recommended to adopt the approach of defining standard jewellery items that are likely to be available consistently in the market, rather than at-

tempting to price customised pieces. Accordingly, prices of basic and simple gold and silver jewellery such as bangles, necklaces and rings will be collected.

At the all-India level, the number of weighted items has increased from 299 in CPI 2012 to 358 in CPI 2024. Within this, the number of goods items has increased from 259 to 308, while the number of services items has risen from 40 to 50, indicating enhanced coverage of service-related consumption.

The expanded item basket includes several new items reflecting structural changes in the economy and evolving consumer behaviour.

Key additions are rural house rent, online media and streaming services (OTT platforms), international air fare as part of the airfare index and modern energy sources such as compressed natural gas and piped natural gas.

crore. Now, the department needs to collect around ₹4.77 lakh crore during the remaining period of the current fiscal to achieve the RE.

Data also showed that while corporate tax grew by over 14.5 per cent, non-corporate tax increased by around 6 per cent. Refunds again showed a de-growth. Collection from securities transaction was nearly flat at around ₹50,000 crore.

Commenting on the number, Rohinton Sidhwani, Partner at Deloitte India, said both corporate and non-corporate taxes are showing flat growth over the previous year. While the REs for the year show that the estimate for corporate tax was increased (marginally), the estimate for non-corporate taxes fell by 8 per cent.

Direct tax kitty rises 9% to ₹19.44 lakh cr in April-Feb

Tax tally

(Amount in ₹ lakh crore / change in %, compared to corresponding period of last fiscal)

Period 2025-26	Gross collection		Refunds		Net collection	
	Amount	% change	Amount	% change	Amount	% change
April 1 - Feb 10	22.78	4.09	3.34	-18.8	19.44	9.4
April 1 - Jan 11	21.5	4.14	3.12	-16.9	18.38	8.8
April 1 - Dec 17	20.01	4.2	2.97	-13.5	17.04	8
April 1 - Nov 10	15.35	2.1	2.43	-17.7	12.92	7
April 1 - Oct 12	13.92	2.4	2.03	-15.9	11.89	6.6
April 1 - Sept 17	12.43	3.4	1.61	-23.9	10.82	9.2
April 1 - Aug 11	7.99	-1.9	1.35	9.8	6.64	-4
April 1 - July 10	6.65	3.2	1.02	38	5.63	-1.3
April 1 - June 19	5.45	4.9	0.86	58	4.58	-1.4

Source: CBST

Our Bureau
New Delhi

With good growth in corporate earnings, net direct tax collection rose over 9 per cent during April 1 to February 10 period, data from the Central Board of Direct Taxes released on Wednesday showed. However, going by this trend, achieving Revised Estimates (RE), appears to be very challenging.

Data showed net collection reached ₹19.44 lakh crore as against ₹17.77 lakh crore mopped up during corresponding period of last fiscal, a growth of 9.4 per cent. It may be noted that revised estimate has already been lowered from the Budget Estimate by around ₹1 lakh crore to ₹24.21 lakh

crore. Now, the department needs to collect around ₹4.77 lakh crore during the remaining period of the current fiscal to achieve the RE. Data also showed that while corporate tax grew by over 14.5 per cent, non-corporate tax increased by around 6 per cent. Refunds again showed a de-growth. Collection from securities transaction was nearly flat at around ₹50,000 crore.

We will buy energy products wherever needed to meet demand: Oil Minister

DEFENDING US DEAL. Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri addressing a press conference in New Delhi SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Emphasising that the joint statement on India-US trade deal is "framework of an interim deal", Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Wednesday that India is committed to its consumers and will procure energy products from "wherever" it has to in order to satisfy consumer demand.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters to counter comments made by Rahul Gandhi in the Lok

Sabha, Puri said, "Insofar as the trade deal is concerned, there is a lot of clarification going on there. You see, it is not 'the commitment or something, it's that intent.'

ON US PRODUCTS

Asked about India purchasing \$500 billion worth of US products including energy products, the Minister said, "Please have a look at the Foreign Secretary's detailed presentation to the Standing Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs. I think Vikram Misri (Foreign Sec-

retary) has done a fantastic job."

He further said, "The trade deal is a top-class deal.

ments. Here, one party has unilaterally come and changed the ground rules, within that you've been able to bring them (tariffs) down from 50 per cent to 18 per cent, and this is the framework of an interim deal."

Foreign Secretary Misri had said "very categorically" that India is committed to its consumers. During the last 10 years, in the midst of global turmoil, there has never been a shortage of energy. Availability has been there all the time.

India has had some of the

lowest energy prices, he emphasised.

"We will buy from wherever we have to in order to ensure that the demands of the consumer are satisfied, and we have diversified our supplies from 27 to 41 countries," the Minister said.

On Washington monitoring Russian crude oil imports to India, Puri said, "This is the start of the process. Rejoice on the fact that from imposition of punitive tariffs, and this that, you are now back to doing business. Give it a little time."

Second round of exploration licence auction today

Press Trust of India
New Delhi

The government will launch the second round of exploration licence auction on Thursday, marking a key milestone in the country's mineral exploration reforms to bolster long-term security

Bangladesh-US zero-duty fears overstated; Indian cotton farmers safe: AEPC

T E Raja Simhan
Chennai

The perceived threat of Bangladesh gaining disproportionate advantage through zero-duty access to the US market is largely overstated. India's expanding export commitments, rising domestic consumption and strategic trade negotiations ensure that Indian cotton farmers remain protected.

The cotton sector stands to benefit from higher demand and expanded cultivation opportunities, says a detailed Impact Assessment Report prepared by Apparel Export Promotion Council Chairman A Sakthivel.

This is a phase of opportunity — not risk — for Indian cotton and the broader textile ecosystem, says the report.

CURRENT SCENARIO
Bangladesh imports approximately 85 lakh bales of cotton annually to service nearly 500 spinning mills. Its cotton sourcing is predominantly from Brazil, India and African origins, with no significant imports from the US in recent years. India, on average, exports around 12 lakh bales of cotton annually to Bangladesh.

Domestic cotton yarn production in Bangladesh is insufficient to meet the requirements of its garment manufacturing industry. Consequently, Bangladesh also imports substantial volumes of yarn and fabrics, alongside maintaining a strong and growing presence in MMF (Man-Made Fibre) production.

India produces approximately 370 lakh bales of cotton per annum. However, India does not have a cotton surplus due to strong domestic consumption, obligations to export cotton, yarn, and fabrics, and structural demand from the textile value chain. India imports nearly 50 lakh bales annually.

ARE INDIAN FARMERS AT RISK?
Concerns have been raised regarding whether Bangladesh's evolving trade engagement with the US could adversely impact Indian cotton farmers.

Based on current and projected fundamentals, India is not at a losing edge. On the contrary, with FTAs signed with the UK, advanced negotiations with the EU, and a forthcoming US trade agreement, India is poised for a significant surge in textile and apparel exports. As these FTAs take effect, capacity expansion across spinning, weaving, processing and garmenting will accelerate, leading to higher domestic consumption and tighter supply, the report said.

FINANCIAL RESULTS
Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter and Nine Months Ended December 31, 2025

ELGI
Always Better.

The Board of Directors of the Company, at their meeting held on February 11, 2026, approved the Unaudited Financial Results (Standalone and Consolidated) of the Company for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2025.

Pursuant to Regulation 33 and Regulation 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the said financial results along with Limited Review Report are available on the website of the Company at <https://www.elgi.com/in/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Financial-Results-31.12.2025.pdf> and the Stock Exchanges i.e., <https://www.nseindia.com> and <https://www.bseindia.com>. Further, the said financial results can be accessed by scanning the following QR code:

For and on behalf of Board of Directors
Jairam Varadaraj
Managing Director

Place: Bengaluru
Date : February 11, 2026

Qburst
OBURST SOFTWARE SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
Regd Office: 4th Floor, Artech Magnet, Vazhuthacaud, Trivandrum 695014, Kerala
CIN: U62099KL2024PTC090365 | www.qburstsoftware.com
Tel: +91 471 406 9407 | Email: corporate@qburst.com

Un-Audited Standalone Financial Result for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2025 in compliance with Regulation 52 (4) of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

STATEMENT OF UN-AUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Company, at their meeting held on Tuesday, 10th February, 2026, approved un-audited standalone financial results of the Company for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2025. The un-audited result along with the Limited Review Report, have been posted on the website of the Company <https://storage.googleapis.com/qb-software-service-assets/financial-report-Q3-2026.pdf> and the stock exchange i.e. BSE Limited <https://www.bseindia.com/xml-data/corpfilng/AttachLive/fe770e7-4cb4-891c-0da205f9336.pdf>.

Website of the Company

For OBURST SOFTWARE SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
Sd/-
Ramchandran Arun Kumar
Whole-time Director
DIN: 11212819

Place: Trivandrum
Date: February 10, 2026

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E-mail id: investorservices@amararaja.com | Website: www.amararajaandm.com

EXTRACT FROM STATEMENT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE-MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

Particulars	Standalone Results						Consolidated Results					
Quarter ended		Nine-months ended		Year ended		Quarter ended		Nine-months ended		Year ended		
31.12.2025	30.09.2025	31.12.2024	31.12.2025	31.12.2024	31.03.2025	31.12.2025	30.09.2025	31.12.2024	31.12.2025	31.12.2024	31.03.2025	

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WHAT'S HOT: GADGETS.

Budget warrior

The **OPPO K14x** features a 6.75-inch display with a 120 Hz refresh rate. It sports a dual-rear camera system with a 50 MP main lens and a 2 MP monochrome sensor, along with a 5 MP front camera for selfies.



AI features include AI Eraser, AI Reflection Remover, AI Best Shot, AI Unblur, AI Portrait Retouching and Dual-View Video which enables simultaneous recording from both the front and rear cameras and combining them into a single frame — ideal for vlogs, interviews or reaction-based videos.

The device is priced ₹14,999 for the 4 GB + 128 GB variant and ₹16,999 for the 6 GB + 128 GB version.

Pocket wonder

The **Samsung Galaxy F70e** sports a 6.7-inch HD+ display with a 120 Hz refresh rate. It is powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 6300 processor and features a high resolution 50 MP main camera capturing landscapes, sunsets, street scenes and candid moments with rich detail and vivid



colours. The f/1.8 aperture on the main camera, combined with the secondary depth camera, creates natural bokeh effects. There's also a 2 MP depth and 8 MP selfie camera. The device runs on the latest One UI 8 with the brand promising six generations of OS and six years of security updates. The smartphone is available in two variants — 4 GB + 128 GB at ₹12,499 and 6 GB + 128 GB at ₹13,999.

Flagship killer

The **REDMI Note 15 Pro** features a 6.83 inch near-borderless display with up to 3,200 nits peak brightness. It is powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 7400 Ultra processor, designed to deliver smooth and efficient performance for everyday tasks, such as browsing, streaming, navigation and social



media. The device supports Google Gemini and Circle to Search for more intuitive interactions. In terms of durability, it is IP certified and can withstand water immersion up to 2 m for 24 hours. The smartphone packs a 6,580 mAh battery with support for 45 W fast charging. Available in Silver Ash, Mirage Blue and Carbon Black, the smartphone is priced ₹29,999 onwards.

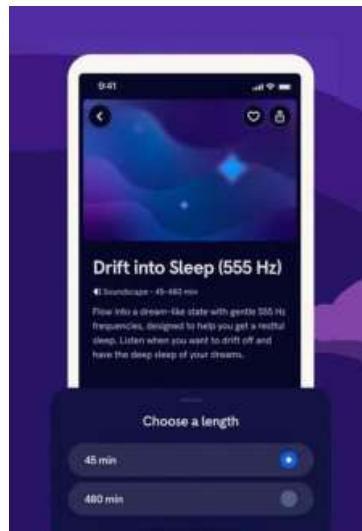
HOT & 'APPENING!

The best apps hand-picked for your pleasure this week!

Team Technophile

We talk endlessly about productivity, discipline and early mornings but rarely about the one thing that makes all of it possible: Sleep. Somewhere between late-night scrolling and "just one more episode", our sleep schedules quietly unravel. These apps might just help you return to the basics of good sleep hygiene. None are miracle cures. But each offers a different way to nudge your nights back into rhythm.

Headspace



Headspace surprised me. I expected meditation — what I ended up using most were the Sleepcasts. They're basically narrated, low-stakes stories where nothing dramatic happens. A train ride. A slow walk through a rain-soaked town. The voice is deliberately even, almost uneventful. I didn't realise how much my brain needs boredom at night until I tried it. The wind-down exercises are practical too — short breathing and body scans that don't feel

preachy. What doesn't work for me? The good sleep content sits behind a subscription, and the app nudges you toward daily streaks even when you just want to knock out and sleep. Still, on restless nights, it does take the edge off.

Sleep Cycle: Sleep Tracker



Sleep Cycle feels more clinical. You place your phone near your pillow, and it tracks sleep using sound or motion (depending on your device). The smart alarm — waking you during a lighter sleep phase within a set window — is the real hook. Over time, waking up doesn't feel as brutal. You also get sleep graphs and trend data, which is fascinating for about five days before it becomes mildly obsessive. My hesitation? You have to keep your phone near your bed all night, which isn't ideal if you're trying to reduce screen dependence. The free version is functional, but deeper insights require premium access.

Google gets its wrist game right

GOOGLE PIXEL WATCH 4. With 2 day battery life and embedded Gemini AI, it emerges as Google's most cohesive smartwatch yet

Mahananda Bohidar

The battle between Apple, Samsung and Google to adorn your wrist with the most appealing smartwatch that money can buy has only gotten more heated as the years have gone by. Which is great news for the consumers because each brand has been innovating fairly aggressively, making significant progress in health and fitness tracking, elegant refinements to user interfaces and improving battery life with each passing year. Of these three, the one that took me by surprise recently was the Google Pixel Watch 4. Available in 41mm and 45mm case sizes, the watch runs Wear OS 6 with Google's Material 3 Expressive interface layered on top.

Fitbit continues to anchor its health ecosystem, while Google positions Gemini as the intelligence layer tying everything together. What I expected would be a lukewarm, pleasing experience turned into something more fun and meaningful during the course of the review. And here I share with you what I truly loved about the smartwatch and what could do with a bit more refinement.

FEATURES I LOVED!

The Google Pixel Watch 4 sports a new Actua 360-degree AMOLED display, which remains the visual centrepiece. The 41 mm model, which I reviewed, features a 1.33-inch display, while the 45 mm variant gets a 1.4-inch display. Both push brightness up to 3,000 nits, which makes a visible difference under harsh sunlight. Text remains legible outdoors, and notifications are easier to glance at without shading the screen.

Secondly, the comfort that the watch — and especially the straps — offer is clearly a league above its competitors. I had it on continuously for anywhere between one and two days at a time. The recycled aluminium casing kept the weight to just over 30 g in the smaller model, and the fluoroelastomer straps are soft enough for all-day as well as overnight wear. Despite being someone who is very sensitive to clammy, sticky smartwatch straps, this seldom made me uncomfortable the entire time. This is not easy to achieve.



PROMPT PRO. The watch does a bunch of tasks efficiently, such as summarising emails, setting calendar events or triggering contextual reminders

The third feature I really enjoyed is the deeply-embedded Gemini experience, and how accurate the device is with voice commands and dictations. Voice dictation was always accurate, be it me replying to messages or shooting off quick email responses. The watch does a bunch of tasks efficiently, such as summarising emails, setting calendar events or triggering contextual reminders. The redesigned speaker delivers clear audio, and the strengthened haptics make alerts crisp without being jarring.

Fourth, on the health front, the watch tracked my heart rate, SpO₂, and, among many other things, my most favourite parameter — sleep. It gave me a nightly Sleep Score — mine hovered in the 70s, sometimes 80s (out of 100), along with time spent being awake, and in REM, light and deep sleep stages.

The watch also has automatic workout detection, which can be helpful if you sometimes tend to forget to start recording at the beginning of a workout.

Finally, one of the best parts of using the Pixel Watch 4 was not having to worry about charging it every single day, despite round-the-

clock use. The 41 mm version carries a 325 mAh battery, while the 45 mm houses a larger 455 mAh unit.

With the always-on display enabled, the watch (41 mm) comfortably runs through two full days for me. This is with sleep tracking on as well. Charging speeds are quick, too, and it takes no longer than an hour to charge fully from zero. So, a quick plug-in while you shower and grab breakfast is enough to keep the watch powered for two whole days. For those who need a quick top-up, a 15-minute charge restores close to 50 per cent battery.

WHAT COULD BE BETTER
Despite a whole lot of refinements, a few niggles remain — some cosmetic, others more practical.

One of the niggles I ran into very early on was struggling with the strap mechanism during the physical setup, out of the box. It's nowhere near as easy as Apple's slide and lock mechanism. I wish it were. The proprietary locking system requires precise alignment, and while it ensures a secure fit, it makes quick strap swaps less convenient.

While I'm keen on watching

Google's new UI language Material 3 Expressive evolve over time, I have to say I don't particularly enjoy being locked into the option of having only a dark background option across watchfaces. While this choice may conserve power, it limits the aesthetic variety, which makes the whole smartwatch experience a lot more fun and personal!

The charging solution, though faster, introduces its own learning curve. The side-attach Quick Charge Dock rotates the display to show time and charging status, which is thoughtful. However, it does not support reverse wireless charging from Pixel smartphones — a feature some users may expect at this point price.

VERDICT
The Pixel Watch 4 is priced ₹39,900 in India, placing it squarely in the premium category. For that investment, users get a distinctive 3,000-nit AMOLED display, improved battery life, a great UI and AI integration, faster charging and some of the most reliable voice integration currently available on Wear OS.

For Android users — particularly those using Pixel smartphones —

the watch offers tight ecosystem integration and genuinely useful AI features.

The brighter display works well in Indian conditions, and the improved endurance reduces daily charging anxiety.

After extended use across workdays, workouts and sleep cycles, the Pixel Watch 4 feels like Google's most cohesive smartwatch so far. But is that enough to convince people who might otherwise go for cult favourites such as the Apple Watch series or the more affordable Apple Watch SE? That remains to be seen!

SNAPSHOT

Price: ₹39,900 onwards
Pros: Bright 3,000-nit AMOLED display, excellent battery life and fast charging, efficient Gemini voice integration, comfortable for all-day wear, comprehensive Fitbit health tracking
Cons: Proprietary strap mechanism, charging dock not universally intuitive



TECH DIGEST.

Team Technophile

YouTube unveils auto dubbing in 27 languages, new lip-sync testing

YouTube has expanded its auto dubbing feature to support 27 languages and is rolling out a series of updates aimed at improving realism and viewer

control. The company says the tool is now available to all creators, with new speech enhancements designed to better reflect tone and emotion.

According to YouTube, more than six million daily viewers watched at least 10 minutes of auto-dubbed content in December. The company is now introducing "Expressive Speech" in eight languages — English, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish — to make translated audio sound closer to a creator's original delivery.

A new "Preferred Language" setting is also being introduced, allowing viewers to manually select how they want to hear dubbed content. While YouTube already uses watch history to determine default

language playback, the update gives users more explicit control, including the option to watch videos in their original language.

In addition, YouTube is testing a lip-sync pilot that adjusts a speaker's mouth movements to better align with translated audio. The feature is currently in limited testing and is intended to make dubbed videos appear more natural.

For creators, YouTube says it has introduced automatic filtering to identify videos that may not be suitable for dubbing, such as music-heavy content or silent vlogs. The company also states that enabling auto dubbing does not negatively affect a video's discovery ranking and may help surface content to audiences in other languages. Creators retain the option to upload their own dubbed versions or disable auto dubbing entirely.

The updates are part of YouTube's broader push to make content more accessible across language barriers as AI-powered translation tools become increasingly integrated into mainstream platforms.

Facebook adds AI-powered photo animation and post effects

Meta has rolled out a set of new features on Facebook powered by Meta AI, aimed at giving users more ways to modify and enhance photos and text posts.

One of the updates allows users to animate their profile pictures. Instead of a static image, users can apply preset animation effects such as "natural," "party hat," "confetti," "wave," and "heart." The animated image can then be shared to the Feed and displayed on the user's profile. Meta said that more animation options will be added over time, including seasonal themes.

The company recommends using a clear, front-facing photo featuring a single person for best

results. Users can select images from their camera roll or previously uploaded photos on Facebook.

Facebook is also introducing "Restyle," a tool that lets users modify images in Stories and Memories using AI. Users can either enter a text prompt or select from preset options grouped under categories such as Styles (for example, anime or illustrated), Moods (such as glowy), Lighting (ethereal), Colours (cool or pink) and Backdrops (beach or cityscape). Restyle suggestions may also appear when resurfaced Memories are prompted for sharing.

In addition, Meta is gradually rolling out animated backdrops for text-only Feed posts. Users can select from still or animated backgrounds, including themes like falling leaves or ocean waves, via a rainbow "A" icon in the post composer. Seasonal backgrounds are expected to be added later.

Apple opens entries for 2026 Swift Student Challenge

Apple has opened submissions for the 2026 Swift Student Challenge, inviting students worldwide to showcase their coding skills through an app playground built using Xcode 26 or Swift Playground 4.6 (or later).

Entries are open until February 28, 2026, and must be submitted as a .swiftplayground file packaged in a ZIP file under 25 MB, designed to run offline and be experienced within three minutes. Participants must not be employed full-time as professional developers and must meet

minimum age requirements based on their country, be registered as an Apple developer (free or paid) and meet specified academic eligibility criteria, such as being currently enrolled in or recently graduated from an accredited institution or STEM curriculum.

Submissions must be created individually, though third-party open-source or public domain resources may be used with proper credit.

Apple has designed resources such as the Educator Guide to guide students through the latest Develop in Swift Tutorials. Winners can receive the Swift Student Challenge award up to three times, but can be named a Distinguished Winner only once.

RBI tells banks to refund, compensate customers in instances of mis-selling

MORE TIGHTENING. Banks must ensure that employees/DSAs do not push the sale of products and services

Our Bureau
Mumbai

The RBI on Wednesday issued comprehensive draft instructions on advertising, marketing and sales of financial products and services for banks to prevent mis-selling and compulsory bundling of financial products.

Further, to ensure that customers understand the financial product they buy, banks will have to seek customer feedback within 30 days of sale, per the Draft Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks - Responsible Business Conduct) Amendment Directions, 2026, which will come into effect on July 1.

If mis-selling is established, banks have to refund the entire amount paid by the customer for purchase of the product/service. They also have to compensate customers for any loss that arises due to mis-selling. Be-



TROUBLESHOOTING. Banks should compensate customers for any loss that arises due to mis-selling

fore a financial product/service is marketed/sold to a particular customer, its suitability and appropriateness for the customer should be determined by the bank.

This will be based on an analysis of the features, risk-return attributes, time horizon, complexity, fee structure vis-à-vis the customer's age, income, level of financial

literacy and risk tolerance. Banks must ensure that their policies and practices neither create incentives for mis-selling nor encourage employees/direct selling agents (DSA) to push the sale of products/services.

DARK PATTERNS

Also, banks can neither resort to dark patterns such as

fake countdown timers to force quick decisions nor include additional items such as products/services and payments to charity or donation at the time of checkout from a platform without the user's consent.

Banks have been made accountable for third parties they engage with. For the benefit of customers, any agent of the bank, or representative of a third party, who is present within the bank's premises for the sale of the bank's or third-party product/service, should be distinguishable from the employees of the bank, including clear on person identification.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A bank, based on the instructions mentioned in these directions, shall put in place a code of conduct for marketing and sales of financial products/services, which shall be applicable to the bank's own employees as

well as DSAs/DMAs (direct marketing agents).

Meanwhile, the central bank said a bank may engage only in regulated financial products and services for which they have permission. A bank may, at its option, act as an insurance broker departmentally, subject to the conditions, per Draft Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks - Undertaking of Financial Services) Amendment Directions, 2026, which will come into effect from April 1.

Banks may undertake agency business on a fee basis without any risk participation. This shall be explicitly disclosed upfront to customers. They have to ensure that the third-party product and service providers (TPPSP), whose products are being sold, have robust customer grievance redressal arrangements in place. The bank may facilitate the redressal of grievances.

ordinate without ego. Team-work is, therefore, a control mechanism. It reduces blind spots and improves response time," he said.

PROTECTS CUSTOMERS

The Deputy Governor observed that ethics in banking is sometimes treated as a soft theme. But it is not. It is the discipline that protects customers, employees and the institution itself.

"Every large organisation faces moments of temptation – the temptation to cut corners, to postpone a difficult disclosure, to take a convenient interpretation, or to treat a complaint as inconvenience."

"Ethics is what stops small compromises from becoming large problems. It is not about being perfect. It is about how you handle grey areas, and how fairly and quickly you correct a mistake," he said.



RBI Deputy Governor
Swaminathan J

ternally open as well. In the healthiest of organisations, people are comfortable raising concerns, flagging errors, because the organisation values such early warning signals," said the Deputy Governor.

He said transparency is not only about outward communication; it is also about inward honesty. Swaminathan underscored that modern banking risks do not sit neatly within one department – they cut across departmental boundaries.

"Institutions respond best when information moves across early and teams co-

operate transparently. It is also about how you handle grey areas, and how fairly and quickly you correct a mistake," he said.

The same mindset supports regulatory discipline as well. Regulatory discipline should never be seen as a box-ticking exercise. It is part of institutional reliability and long-term credibility, he added.

Legacy created over last six years will be carried forward by successor: Yes Bank CEO

bl.interview



Piyush Shukla
Mumbai

The six years of legacy created after the reconstruction of Yes Bank in 2020 will be carried forward by Vinay Tontse, who is set to take over as the private lender's MD and CEO in April. The bank's current chief Prashant Kumar shares how the bank was brought back from the brink in 2020, his guidance for the successor and the retail segment's profitability.

Edited excerpts:

What are your plans after the tenure ends as Yes Bank's chief in April?



No one should give strategic business guidance to anyone. Every leader needs to have the freedom to chart down the bank's future trajectory

PRASHANT KUMAR
MD and CEO, Yes Bank

Change is the only constant. I never plan for the future. If anything comes at a later point, we will see it then. I have completed 42 years as a banker with SBI and Yes Bank. It is a very long time. I would live a happy retired life.

What would be your guidance to your successor?

I feel very happy that I am passing on the baton to a very competent person who has vast experience at SBI. And it gives me a lot of com-

fort that the legacy, created over last six years, will be carried forward.

No one should give strategic business guidance to anyone. Every leader needs to have the freedom to chart down the bank's future trajectory. From a risk-taking perspective, the banking sector has shown that organisations that have patience and don't take aggressive bets move in the positive direction.

Our performance has shown consistent improvement each quarter. And people who take certain aggressive calls, I am not naming any bank, but there are lenders who in the past posted double our profits, but today, they post only 40-50 per cent of our profits. You are dealing with public money and must not take un-

due, aggressive risks. Also, while managing multiple stakeholders, being honest, transparent and clear is the right way, and with Vinay's term at SBI, this would never be an issue.

You led Yes Bank after the RBI notified the bank's reconstruction scheme in 2020. How have things changed since then when depositors were panicking and withdrawing funds en masse?

When I joined six years ago, we declared the results for the December 2019 quarter. We reported a loss of over ₹18,000 crore, which I think was the highest for any bank. That only shows the size of problem. In the December 2025 quarter, exactly six

years since then, the bank showed a profit of almost ₹1,000 crore, which is very near to 1 per cent RoA.

At that point of time, deposits stood at around ₹1 lakh crore, now the base stands at ₹3 lakh crore, almost three times growth. Gross NPA ratio at that point was 18 per cent, now it is at 1.5 per cent.

Capital adequacy ratio was then less than 1 per cent, now it is around 13 per cent. It was very difficult back then to assess how to resolve such a large problem as there was no particular format. This was the first-of-its-kind experiment, and we have been able to revive the bank as an independent entity without merging it with another lender.

SBI and other banks that supported us got good in-

vestment returns, and as we brought in world's 10th largest lender SMBC as a major investor, it showed the confidence in franchise that has been created in the last six years.

Retail segment profitability has been a pain point though...

When we started a new journey after reconstruction, the retail segment was contributing very little to the bank's overall business and profitability.

So, we had to first make substantial investments to build retail book before returns could follow.

As a strategy, we had no choice but grow the retail book as all banks do. We invested in new branches, hired people and built tech. We were moving in the right

decision, but in FY24, the entire industry suffered an adverse credit cycle, with higher slippages in unsecured loan segments.

If anyone compares us with a matured bank with more income streams, established large retail businesses, one may not see a decline in profitability. But we were in the phase of building the retail book and this credit cycle came quite early in that investment phase. That is the only reason why retail wasn't showing profits.

If you exclude credit cost, retail was always profitable for the bank from the operating part.

Today, retail book has broken even. People can appreciate or criticise things, but if you do it without perspective, then you may arrive at a wrong inference.

'PE investments in consumer sector hit 4-year high in 2025'

Meenakshi Verma Ambwani
New Delhi

Reflecting India's robust consumption growth story, private equity (PE) investments in the overall consumer sector have hit a 4-year high in terms of both deal value as well as the number of deals, according to an analysis by Equiris Capital. Cumulative PE and venture capital investments in the consumer sector rose to ₹35,800 crore in CY2025, compared with ₹23,000 crore in CY2024 and ₹32,200 crore in CY2022, the data shows.

The total number of such investment deals stood at 309 in CY2025, up from 232 in CY2024 and 251 in CY2022.

Bhavesh Shah, Managing Director, Head-Investment Banking, Equiris Capital, said: "We have seen the highest activity in terms of PE and VC investments in the consumer sector in CY2025, compared to the last four years, both in terms

of deal value and the number of deals. This indicates there is a good amount of interest among PE investors for the consumer sector, which generally comprises capital-efficient businesses. A lot of brands have seen good growth over the years and have matured. It reflects the potential of the consumption story that India offers. We expect this level of investment activity to continue going forward."

He added that nearly 121 M&A deals were closed in the consumer sector in CY2025, compared to 74 deals in the previous year.

"There has been a good amount of investor interest in the overall food sector, including the health food segment. We have also seen deal activity in the home and personal care segment. The beauty and personal care, especially D2C brands, have seen good traction," Shah stated.

PRIVATE EQUITY
He added that with growing private equity interest, the

said the borrowing cost is more competitive than prevailing domestic borrowing rates.

TWO EQUAL TRANCHES

The ECB is structured in two equal tranches, with tenors of three years and three-and-a-half years, and is fully hedged. As part of its diversification of liabilities strategy, Piramal Finance has tapped international markets across multiple channels, including US dollar bond capital markets, syndicated loan financing and long-term multilateral financing.

Piramal Finance raises \$400 m

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Non-banking major Piramal Finance has raised \$400 million, approximately ₹3,611 crore, through an external commercial borrowing (ECB) facility, according to a statement.

The facility saw participation from a consortium of five lenders, including Axis Bank, DBS Bank Ltd, Deutsche Bank AG, Far Eastern International Bank and SMBC. The NBFC did not disclose the interest rate at which it raised the funds, but

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12/02/2026

TENDER NOTICE

Online item rate E-Tenders are invited from reputed agencies for the Rate Contract for Miscellaneous Works, Technology & Innovation Deptt. at Cochin International Airport Limited,

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimate Amount	EMD	Completion Period
1	Rate Contract for Miscellaneous Works, Technology & Innovation Deptt. at CIAL.	Rs 2.40 Crore + GST	Rs 2 Lakh	02 Year

Interested firms may register themselves on the online E-Tendering portal <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in> and then download the Tender documents.

For eligibility criteria and other details, visit our website www.cial.aero

Sd/-, Managing Director

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Email: cpkd@milma.mil.coop

No.1/ CPD/PUR/GHEE/2025-26 12/02/2026

TENDER NOTICE

Bids are invited through e-tendering (www.etenders.kerala.gov.in) from bonafide manufacturers for the supply of IML PP Polymer 5 Ltr Jar for Ghee for a period of one year. The bid document containing detailed technical specifications, terms, and conditions will be available from 12/02/2026

at www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. E-Tender ID: 2026_KCMFF_833730. For more details, contact: Ph: 9496714922. Ancillary Unit / v

Sd/-, Managing Director

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Invitation for Re-expression of interest

KBPS invites Re-expression of interest from experienced and qualified consulting firms to conduct a comprehensive land use

for approximately 10 acres of land owned by KBPS in Kakkannad, Kochi.

Offers are acceptable up to 11.00 a.m

on 20.02.2026. For more details, please

contact over phone 9288001410 or visit our website www.kbps.kerala.gov.in.

or our website www.kbps.kerala.gov.in Phone no. - 0484-2422343, 9995412786.

Sd/- Managing Director

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

(₹ Crores)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
Quarter Ended		Nine Months Ended		Year Ended		Year Ended			
31.12.2025	31.12.2024	31.12.2025	31.12.2024	31.03.2025	31.12.2025	<th			

Freedom from toxicity

Digital censorship has to walk the fine line

The Centre's newly notified rules, which compress social media takedown timelines, underscore the delicate tension between two objectives — the imperative to quash harmful online content swiftly and the risk that expanded enforcement powers could be misused to constrain freedom of speech. Government takedown orders must now be complied with within three hours, a sharp reduction from the previous 36-hour window.

This urgency is not without cause. The recent misuse of Grok, the generative AI tool integrated into X, to create sexualised images of women without their consent exposed a deeply troubling faultline in the social media ecosystem. What made that episode especially disturbing was not merely the abuse itself, but the velocity with which it travelled from fringe experimentation to disturbingly normalised content on one of the world's largest platforms. So, it is difficult to argue against stronger safeguards. Tech platforms cannot assume that safe harbour protections are automatic or permanent. If they benefit from scale, they must shoulder proportionate responsibility.

Yet, the drastic compression of removal timelines raises profound concerns about due process and free expression. While the takedown obligations are meant to apply to content that violates existing laws, incites public disorder and sexual offences, the scope for interpretation remains wide. In practice, there is a legitimate concern that content exposing governance failures could be swept in if authorities characterise it as threatening public order or spreading misinformation. When compliance windows shrink to mere hours, platforms are likely to err on the side of over-removal. The risk of arbitrary enforcement, and the resulting chilling effect, is real. This tension sits uneasily with the Supreme Court's landmark ruling in *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* (2015), which struck down Section 66A of the IT Act for being sweeping in scope. The Court affirmed that restrictions on online speech must be narrowly and clearly defined. Regulatory mechanisms that prioritise speed without adequate safeguards may inadvertently revive the very concerns the Court sought to remedy. At the same time, leaving content moderation entirely to private platforms has proven inadequate. Companies such as Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) have repeatedly failed to act swiftly against toxic material.

India's regulatory challenge is therefore not whether to act, but how. The country undeniably needs stronger tools to combat AI-driven abuse and digital harm. But these tools must be anchored in clear statutory standards, transparent processes, and independent review. As India enters an increasingly complex digital era, the guiding principle should remain firm: strengthen protections against online abuse without weakening the constitutional right to speak, dissent, and participate freely in public life. Regulators must build a framework that commands trust from users, platforms, and the courts alike.

POCKET

RAVIKANTH



CRR can be used to provide liquidity

WORTH A TRY. The existing liquidity tools at the RBI's disposal have their limits. Cash reserve ratio funds can be used as well. CRR's relevance has declined



MADAN SABNAVIS

One of the expectations from the credit policy was an announcement of a calendar for open market operations. This was against the backdrop of fluctuating liquidity over the last two months or so. True, there is a surplus right now but this can change again in March when the advance tax payments have to be made. The policy has assured supply of liquidity as and when needed, which also includes situations when the government's cash balances with the central bank increase. Such a situation may not arise as the government tends to expedite spending towards March to meet targets. The question to be addressed is: what are the options when it comes to supplying liquidity?

The RBI has several instruments that can be used. All of them have different objectives. The system surplus or deficit is denoted by the balances after RBI interventions through repo rate, VRR (Variable Repo Rate), SDF (Standing Deposit Facility), etc. The net outstanding amount reflects the net state of liquidity. These are the daily operations of the RBI under the liquidity framework. But there are also open market operations where government securities are bought and sold. Further, there are forex swaps which deliver similar results. The merits of each can be examined.

The first tool to be used is the overnight repo or VRR which can go up to 14 days. Their tenures provide clues on how the RBI views the liquidity position. These can be viewed as tools for temporary deficits.

Second, longer term VRR auctions of 90 days have been used which involve providing support for three months. This is more of a medium-term measure. This is something that has been done by the RBI recently, which is quite novel. Besides providing liquidity, it is an assurance that the RBI is not averse to going in for these longer-term measures.

The issue with any kind of repo operation is that banks need to have excess SLR holdings that can be offered as collateral. In the absence of these securities, banks would be out of the running and have to access the call or the TREP market.

OPEN MARKET OPERATIONS

The third measure used is open market operations. In 2025 the RBI made regular purchases either on need basis or through a calendar, especially during critical times such as quarter-ends. OMO purchases involve buying certain securities from banks and providing cash in return. The RBI could choose those securities which are less liquid or those which need to be drawn out of the system to balance the maturity tenures. This again works for banks which have surplus SLR securities to sell.

But the quirk here is not just the SLR ratio. The new regulations ask banks to prepare for the maintenance of LCR (liquidity coverage ratio) which when provided for would require banks to have SLR at least in the region of 24-26 per cent. The present SLR ratio for the

With an effective level of, say, 24 per cent SLR to be maintained, banks may not be able to sell securities to the RBI. Therefore, there can be limits to the use of OMOs.



GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

system is around 26 per cent, and has, interestingly, come down from 28-29 per cent at the beginning of FY26. This is because there have been some aggressive purchases by the RBI.

The challenge really can be that with an effective level of, say, 24 per cent to be maintained, banks may reach the limit and will not be able to sell securities to the RBI. Therefore, there can be limits to the use of OMOs, especially for prolonged periods of time.

Fourth, forex swaps are now quite common where the RBI buys dollars from banks, say \$5 billion, which effectively supplies around ₹45,000 crore. These swaps involve banks buying them back after a period which can be one or three years, or any duration the RBI chooses. This has been effective for sure. There are, however, two considerations here. The first is that when dollars are sold, it can be disruptive, if there is currency volatility, too. The second is that when dollars have to be bought at maturity, liquidity conditions can be tight. In such a case the RBI may have to again provide liquidity through other measures. Therefore, a lot of calibration is needed while mixing these measures.

NOT USED THUS FAR

A measure which has not been used so far is the CRR. In 2006 the regulation which limited the CRR levels was done

away with, and the discretion lies with the RBI. Meanwhile, the relevance of CRR has come down over time. The fact is that no bank is ever allowed to fail in India and the credit goes to the RBI. Therefore, the case of using these CRR balances as a contingency for rescuing the bank is *pas*.

In fact the US, the UK, Hong Kong, Canada, New Zealand, Australia do not have this reserve. The justification is that there are several regulations in place like capital adequacy, LCR, SLR, NSFR (net stable funding ratio) which control banking operations. If this is in place, having the CRR can be debated, because this ratio came in when systems were rudimentary and the only reserve requirements were the CRR and SLR.

The CRR does not earn any interest from the RBI. For the ₹250 lakh crore of deposits outstanding the average cost is, say, around 5 per cent. The amount kept aside for CRR is 3 per cent of NDTL and that is about ₹7.5 lakh crore. The interest cost incurred is around ₹37,500 cr which is quite high. Lowering this reserve will also help banks to lower their lending rates without a prod from monetary policy. It will be worthwhile to consider the lowering the CRR to provide liquidity, along with other instruments.

The writer is Chief Economist, Bank of Baroda. Views are personal

What the PFC-REC merger means for investors

The merger could spawn a power financing behemoth with a loan book of ₹11.5 lakh crore

bl.explainer

Nishanth Gopalakrishnan

Recent news about the merger of PFC and REC has given rise to many questions in the minds of investors. Here's an attempt to address a few of them.

What is the recent announcement regarding the merger of PFC and REC?

On February 6, the boards of power finance PSUs — PFC and REC — accorded in-principle approval for the merger of REC with PFC, eventually liquidating REC post the merger. This follows a proposal by the Finance Minister in her Budget speech that the two NBFCs be restructured for scale and efficiency improvements.

Why is the Centre doing the merger? What are the expected synergies?

Both PFC and REC are identical in many respects. Both are Maharatna PSUs managing a loan book of about ₹6 lakh crore each. Loans to the distribution segment remain the mainstay of their loan books at about 40 per cent each. Both have 12-15 per cent exposure to the fast-growing renewable energy generation segment, and both have forayed into non-power finance such as financing infrastructure projects (ports, roads, etc.).

They are largely identical in the way they operate as well. They raise funds from the market (via bonds and term loans) and lend them to the power

ecosystem — generation, transmission and distribution. Their borrowing profile is also similar — about 55 per cent from domestic bonds, 15-20 per cent from bank loans, and 20-25 per cent from external commercial borrowings. Given the similarities, the combined entity could command a higher bargaining power.

How will the merger impact the business?

The merger could spawn a power financing behemoth with a loan book of ₹11.5 lakh crore. When broken down, the book would have 40 per cent exposure to distribution, 29 per cent to conventional generation, 14 per cent to renewables, 8 per cent to transmission, 6 per cent to infrastructure and logistics and 3 per cent to miscellaneous loans. Categorising the book based on the borrower, loans to state-owned entities and the private sector would make up 80 per cent and 20 per cent of the portfolio, respectively. The GNPA ratio of the combined entity would be 1.3 per cent. These numbers are based on Q3 FY26 financials. Return on assets on a trailing 12-month basis could work out to about 3 per cent.

What does it mean for the existing shareholders of PFC and REC?

The government is the largest shareholder in PFC, with a controlling stake of 56 per cent. PFC, in turn, has a controlling stake in REC. This, after it bought 52.6 per cent of REC's shares from the Government for ₹14,500 crore in 2019. Since PFC controls REC, it



SYNERGIES. PFC and REC are largely identical in the way they operate

consolidates REC's books in its consolidated financials. This is the current structure.

The in-principle approval of the boards clearly states that post the merger, PFC would remain a government company (where at least 51 per cent of the paid-up capital is held by the government). However, with a swap ratio of 6 shares of PFC for every 7 shares of REC — worked out based on prices as of February 10, the government's stake in PFC post-merger would drop to around 42 per cent.

To avoid this situation, there are two options for the government. One, direct PFC to carry out a buyback wherein the government does not participate, ensuring minimum public shareholding of 25 per cent. Two, infuse such capital into PFC that its stake remains at least 51 per cent post the transaction. The possibility for the former is remote, as reduction in capital would mean an

adverse impact on the capital adequacy ratio, which in turn can strangle growth. If the government were to opt to infuse capital, it would have to infuse at least ₹32,000 crore to maintain 51 per cent of stake in PFC post the transaction. A third path where the government relaxes the definition of government company — to a minimum stake of 26 per cent, for instance — cannot be ruled out.

At the above swap ratio, outstanding shares of PFC will rise by about 33 per cent without the government's capital infusion and will rise by about 56 per cent after such infusion.

Readers need to keep in mind that the above are just indicative numbers and that the final swap ratio can be different.

Do the stocks of PFC or REC become attractive buys after the announcement?

As of February 10, the stocks of PFC and REC trade at low price-to-book value multiples of about 1.1x each.

While there is no denying that valuation should factor in the high concentration to the power sector/state discoms and the lower loan growth in 9M FY26 versus FY25, the stocks still trade at relatively low multiples, considering their profitability.

PFC and REC have delivered RoA of 3 per cent and 2.8 per cent in the 12-month period ending September 2026 (when balance sheets are disclosed). Net NPAs, too, are contained at about 0.2 per cent. For context, SBI trades at 1.8x trailing book value for an RoA of 1.1 per cent (9M FY26 annualised).

LETTERS TO EDITOR Send your letters by email to bleditor@thehindu.co.in or by post to 'Letters to the Editor', The Hindu Business Line, Kasturi Buildings, 859-860, Anna Salai, Chennai 600002.

AI safety rules

This refers to 'Platforms must label AI content, take down flagged material in three hours' (February 11). Harmful or illegal online content must be removed within three hours after it is reported. This helps stop harm from spreading fast. If platforms fail to act, they may face fines. They may also lose legal protection or be blocked. This pushes them to follow the rules. To avoid genuine posts being removed, the government plans appeal systems. It will also run small trial

projects before full use. Platforms must label AI-made content using secure digital tags. These protect user privacy. The rules are not meant to stop new ideas. Regular checks, user feedback and trial results will improve the system. This will ensure that small creators and businesses are treated fairly.

S Balasubramanian

Villupuram, TN

Japan's gusty PM Apropos, 'A new Japan under Sanae' (February 11). Sanae Takaichi's

landslide victory in Japan represents a rare moment of political clarity in an era of drift, reflecting a restless electorate choosing momentum over stagnation. In a political culture defined by caution and consensus, Japan has delivered an emphatic and transformative verdict. As the country's first woman prime minister, Takaichi's rise is historic, shattering long-standing glass ceilings and challenging deeply entrenched male-dominated hierarchies. Voters were drawn to her relentless work ethic, modern

N Sadhasiva Reddy

Bengaluru

A resilient India Inc Apropos 'Good tidings' (February 11), India Inc's resilience in Q3 is encouraging, but the reliance on tax breaks and temporary relief

political instincts and a charisma absent from Japanese leadership since Shinzo Abe. For India, her leadership opens the prospect of stronger strategic convergence, and deeper defence and technology cooperation.

M Barathi

Bengaluru

measures raises concern. Sustainable growth requires deeper reforms: easing compliance for small firms, ensuring timely credit to productive sectors, and investing steadily in infrastructure. Equally important is strengthening labour protections while helping industries adjust to new codes without sudden profit shocks. If policy support is balanced with fiscal prudence, the current momentum can translate into long-term stability.

Uplifting women farmers

Land ownership, access to credit critical

BK Singhal
Harsh Ranjan

The staggering and persistent gender gaps in agriculture and the allied sector globally have led the United Nations to declare 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer (IYWF).

The gender gaps in the context of rural India are manifested primarily in three forms — land ownership, access to credit, and participation in collectives. Accordingly, the trend of feminisation of the agricultural workforce must be complemented with directed policy and executive focus on closing these gaps.

The exclusion of women from land ownership can be understood from the fact that while women make up more than 40 per cent of the overall agricultural workforce in India (Periodic Labour Force Survey), they account for only about 14 per cent of the overall land holdings and about 12 per cent of the overall operated area in the country (Agriculture Census 2015-16).

DEFINITION OF FARMER

How a farmer is defined in official practice has practical implications. It determines who benefits from farmer-centric government schemes, and who does not. To exemplify, as a consequence, women constitute only about 23 per cent of the direct beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN). In practice, those who cultivate or work on the land but do not own it are often excluded from access to agricultural credit, interest subvention for farm loans, and crop insurance. Further, access to subsidised crop inputs is difficult without identification as farmers. Besides, in the event of crop failure, compensation is only given to owners.

Therefore, feminisation of land ownership structure is critical. To this end, ensuring that schemes and programmes centered around 'record of rights' have a built-in gender component, so that names of both spouses can be included in land titles, can go a long way in addressing the gender gap in land ownership.

Further, as a natural consequence of under-representation in land ownership, women farmers tend to face difficulties in accessing institutional credit due to collateral-related limitations.

One approach for addressing



COLLECTIVES. The participation of women farmers is limited

the credit crunch among women farmers could be through catalysing credit appetite by way of capacity building. Institutions like NABARD are working towards addressing financial literacy gaps through Financial Literacy and Awareness Programmes. The RBI through the Depositor Education and Awareness Fund (DEAF) is also working on bridging this gap.

There also needs to be focus on credit intensification through skilling, technological enablement, and capacity building for women farmers. The Government is driving credit uptake via skill development through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKS), Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs), and schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.

Further policy support may be explored in the form of enabling targeted and focussed credit delivery to make it more impactful.

The third critical gender gap relates to limited participation of women farmers in collectives. Collectivisation or aggregation of women producers will help in consolidating resources, boosting operational efficiency through economies of scale, while also adding to the bargaining power of the individual producer members. These goals can be met with the promotion of cooperative societies or farmer producer organisations (FPOs) or companies focused on women farmers.

As the feminisation of agriculture deepens, it is essential to complement this trend with institutional recognition and support. Only then can India unlock the full strength of its women farmers to drive a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable second Green Revolution. Let us harness the women farmers' dividend in IYWF 2026.

Singhal is Chief General Manager, and Ranjan is Manager, at NABARD, Ahmedabad. Views are personal



VISHNU VENUGOPALAN

In the seminal essay, *I, Pencil*, an ordinary pencil is used to reveal an extraordinary fact that no single person on earth knows how to make a pencil entirely on their own. From the wood and graphite to the machines and transport, its creation relies on countless people's skills and decisions spread across countries, most of whom will never meet.

Over the modern industrial era, dominant ideas about how emerging economies should grow have shifted as global conditions changed. Import-substituting industrialisation dominated the post-war decades and delivered early industrial capabilities in countries such as Brazil, India, and Mexico, before running into scale, efficiency, and external balance constraints.

From the late twentieth century onwards, a different consensus gained ground involving attracting foreign investment, integrating into global value chains (GVCs), and relying on learning spillovers to drive scale and productivity. In a heavily globalised and relatively stable world order, this approach delivered substantial growth and employment.

As Richard Baldwin has argued, globalisation has unfolded in waves of unbundling. The first separated production from consumption, the second unbundled stages of production across borders and the current phase increasingly unbundles tasks rather than industries.

The implication is clear. The distinction that now matters is not whether a country participates in supply chains but which tasks it performs. Apple's supply chain tells a larger story. Spanning 748 manufacturing locations across 28 countries and 188 supplier firms, Apple's supply chain did not include India in 2013.

Still, by 2023, India had entered the network, with more than 10 facilities in official disclosures and over 20 in the pipeline according to independent estimates.

This shift was driven not merely by cost competitiveness, but by the convergence of firm strategy, geopolitics, and policy intent.

Yet most of the value in this ecosystem still lies beyond assembly, underscoring how much upgrading remains to be done.

The Economic Survey of India 2025-26 offers insights into the way forward for India by highlighting strategic indispensability, which means occupying positions in global production networks that are difficult to bypass or substitute as a core principle. Moving up the value chain often requires building the capabilities that allow firms

How to move up the value chain

PATH AHEAD. India should occupy positions in global production networks that are difficult to bypass or substitute



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

to internalise higher value tasks over time.

This challenge has acquired urgency as supply chains localise under the pressure of geopolitics, technology controls and resilience concerns.

What then does it take to move up the value chain?

First, task focused industrial policy. Instead of targeting sectors in the aggregate, policy must adjust to a world where production is fragmented into tasks. Value now sits in specific functions that enable systems integration and form choke points in global production networks.

The goal is not perfect foresight, but disciplined discovery, using export incentives, capability-linked procurement, standards to nudge learning and similar policy levers. Support and incentives must be conditional on firms internalising more complex tasks over time and not merely expanding output.

Second, deepening backward GVC participation. India's limited share in global manufacturing value added stems from weak backward linkages, particularly its limited role in importing intermediates and components for export oriented production.

India's industrial ambition will depend critically on how well economic and social infrastructure are planned together

Evidence shows that for labour rich economies, such integration initially raises foreign value addition but delivers higher domestic value addition and employment over time through scale effects. Integration, not insulation, is the pathway to upgrading.

Third, cluster-led scale. Knowledge intensive tasks thrive on proximity. International experience from China's Greater Bay Area to Vietnam's key economic regions shows that industrial success depends on concentration, connectivity, and dense ecosystems. For India, this means that industrial clusters cannot be treated as standalone industrial estates.

They require deliberate regional planning that integrates social infrastructure such as housing, transport, healthcare, and education. India's industrial ambition will depend critically on the strength and governance of its clusters, and on how well economic and social infrastructure are planned together, not merely on national or sub-national level fiscal incentives.

Fourth AI-services-manufacturing convergence. Modern manufacturing is inseparable from services such as design, logistics, finance, software, and data support. Moving up the value chain, therefore, requires treating services not as a residual sector, but as a core pillar of industrial strategy.

This is also where India's comparative advantage can be leveraged more deliberately. Logistics offers an illustrative case. Nearly 41 per cent of

India's total logistics cost is driven by material handling, storage, and warehousing, making these activities highly susceptible to automation and AI adoption.

The challenge is not only to upgrade capabilities, but to anticipate and manage the labour disruptions that this convergence will inevitably bring.

Finally, economic statecraft with institutional capacity. As the Economic Survey notes, reducing the cost of capital depends as much on productivity, exports and surplus generation as on finance.

That requires regulatory coherence, logistics efficiency, trade facilitation and sustained investment in R&D and skills. Industrial policy must therefore operate as a continuous problem solving function, anchored in a capable and adaptive entrepreneurial state capacity rather than as a one time policy intervention.

Moving up the value chain is neither automatic nor assured. In a global economy where production is sliced into tasks and value accrues unevenly across borders, power and influence, the challenge is first and foremost about producing the right things, and only then about producing them better and smarter.

For India, the real test is whether it can build capabilities that move it beyond participation and towards indispensability in global supply chains.

The writer is an IAS officer and former Fellow at Harvard University

thehindu businessline.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY.

February 12, 2006

Dabhol dues: High-level team headed for Oman

With the erstwhile Dabhol project's dues to Oman threatening to derail fresh gas procurement for restarting operations at the station, the Centre has scheduled the visit of a high-level team to Oman next week to hammer out a settlement of the dues to pave the way for a fresh gas supply agreement.

Cipla to raise ₹882 cr; acquisitions on its radar

Acquisition is possibly on the radar for the estimated ₹2,400-crore drug company Cipla. Cipla has received an in-principle approval from its board of directors to raise about \$200 million (an estimated ₹882 crore) for capacity expansion and possible acquisition, the company's Joint Managing Director, Mr Amar Lulla, said.

Court allows SMS cricket updates

The Madras High Court today permitted SMS across the country on the One-day International cricket matches being played between India and Pakistan. The Court said if its interim injunction restraining the SMS on the ODIs was vacated, it would not affect the service providers or the firm which had acquired the restraint order.

Rush to build AI capacity isn't a wise move

Gao Yuan

China's top chipmaker has warned that breakaway spending on artificial intelligence chips is bringing forward years of future demand, raising the risk that some data centres could sit idle.

"Companies would love to build 10 years' worth of data centre capacity within one or two years," Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp.'s Co-Chief Executive Officer Zhao Haijun said on a call with analysts. "As for what exactly these data centres will do, that hasn't been fully thought through."

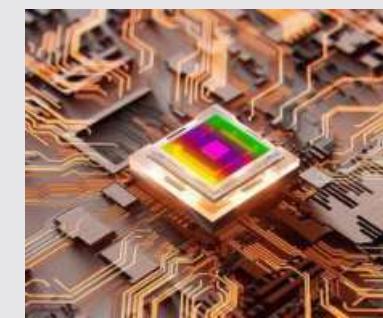
AI-related infrastructure investment is projected to exceed \$3 trillion over the next five years, according to Moody's Ratings, as

developers pour eye-watering sums into data centres to house training and inference chips designed by companies including Nvidia Corp., Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and Huawei Technologies Co.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

In 2026 alone, the combined capital expenditure of Alphabet Inc., Amazon.com Inc., Meta Platforms Inc. and Microsoft Corp. is on track to reach \$650 billion, driven by their costly AI arms race.

China's leading AI developers, including Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., Tencent Holdings Ltd. and ByteDance Ltd., are also investing heavily in AI infrastructure equipped with both Nvidia chips and domestically produced alternatives. SMIC operates



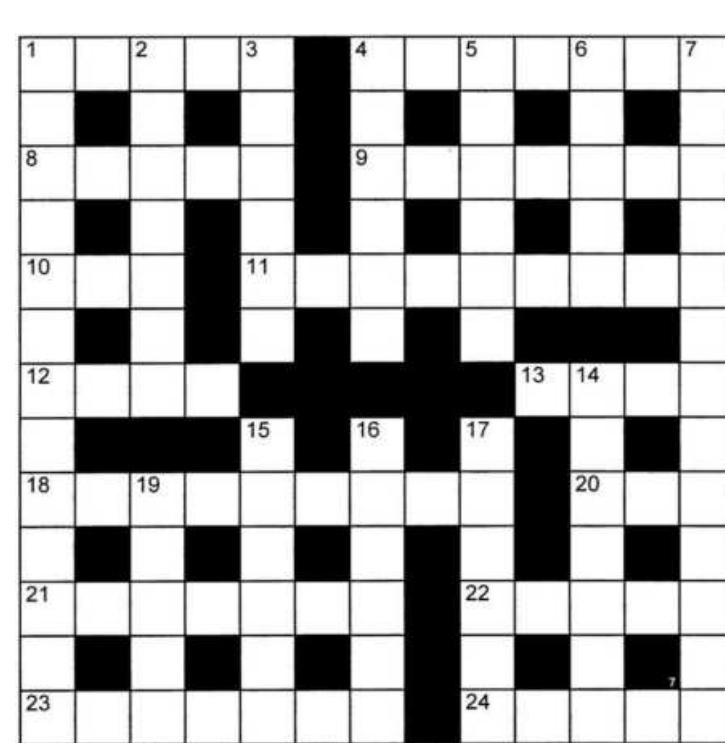
RISK. Idling of data centres

Co., due to US export restrictions that limit access to cutting-edge equipment.

The surge in spending has also triggered a shortage of high-bandwidth memory, a critical high-end component that enables advanced AI computing. The tight supply of HBM could persist for years, as new capacity takes time to build and qualify, Zhao said.

SMIC's domestic clients, including Huawei and Cambrian Technologies Corp., are aiming for a rapid ramp-up of their silicon production to meet China's AI needs. "It's like building high-speed rail stations and highways — even if there aren't that many cars today, you still want to complete 10 years' worth of infrastructure in just two years," Zhao said. BLOOMBERG

BL TWO-WAY CROSSWORD 2615



EASY

ACROSS

- 1. Correct (5)
- 4. Released hold on (7)
- 8. Circus entertainer (5)
- 9. Of the Pope's cathedral church (7)
- 10. To weary, disgust (3)
- 11. Highly detailed, complicated (9)
- 12. Separate article in enumeration (4)
- 13. Dismal, depressed (4)
- 18. Globe or Jerusalem vegetable (9)
- 20. Point of a lace (3)
- 21. Point of time (7)
- 22. Milk-container (5)
- 23. Irritated, heckled (7)
- 24. Get clothed (5)

DOWN

- 1. Act of accusing in return (13)
- 2. Summer visitor to holiday resort (7)
- 3. Sore to the touch (6)
- 4. Hundred-cents coin (6)
- 5. Act of choosing (6)
- 6. Shirt or coat with hood (5)
- 7. Small auxiliary motors (6-7)
- 14. Salad plant (7)
- 15. Hasty, untidy handwriting (6)
- 16. Sank billiard ball (6)
- 17. Enclosed in paling (6)
- 19. Flavour (5)

NOT SO EASY

ACROSS

- 1. It is one's entitlement to be on the conservative side (5)
- 4. Is no longer in the team for having missed a catch (7)
- 8. White-face left for the right symbol of monarchy (5)
- 9. Subsequently, an appearance by the papal church (7)
- 10. It will annoy one to be put among the shirkers (3)
- 11. Enlarge on details of tale a bore might put about (9)
- 12. Piece of news one came across in reverse (4)
- 13. Somewhat obscene athlete at university (4)
- 18. Chariot turning to half take Jerusalem perhaps (9)
- 20. Label it a game children can play (3)
- 21. Sort of coffee stain made by the National Trust (7)
- 22. In one's mind turn over ideas of how to make butter (5)
- 23. Goaded out of Eden, went ahead of the others (7)
- 24. Put vinaigrette on 14 and get the lines straight (5)

DOWN

- 1. Counter-charge makes minor react in one way (13)
- 2. A summer visitor might take last remaining locker (7)
- 3. For it to be legal a note must be readily chewed up (6)
- 4. Rod all that can be produced for a buck (6)
- 5. A choice of pin too awkward to make (6)
- 6. Father holding chest in garment with a hood (5)
- 7. Auxiliary motors with keys, in end, gone astray (6-7)
- 14. It wasn't this iceberg that sank the Titanic (7)
- 15. Hastily write out laws involving credit (6)
- 16. Being condensed, took a shot at it (6)
- 17. Played with the foil as one handled things that were hot (6)
- 19. Try a little breakfast as temptation to it (5)

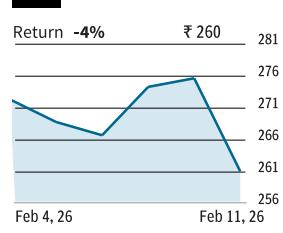
SOLUTION: BL TWO-WAY CROSSWORD 2614

ACROSS 1. Munificence 8. Squid 9. Rebuked 10. Athlete 11. Lance 12. Toyin 14. Adverb 18. Bogus 19. Marxist 21. Reserve 23. Beech 24. Commentator

DOWN 1. Miscalc 2. Naughty 3. Fudge 4. Carpet 5. Nobbled 6. Elk 7. Cadre 13. Nostrum 15. Evident 16. Butcher 17. Impede 18. Barre 20. Robot 22. Sac



QUICKLY.

Govt's BHEL share sale
subscribed over 2 times

New Delhi: The government's stake sale in BHEL was subscribed more than two times on Wednesday, with institutional investors placing bids worth over ₹5,650 crore on the first day of the sale. "Offer for Sale in BHEL received enthusiastic response and was over-subscribed 2.3 times on the first day," Department of Investment and Public Asset Management Secretary Arunish Chawla said. Retail investors will get to bid in the OFS on Thursday. The government will mobilise ₹4,422 crore at a floor price of ₹254 per share by selling 5 per cent of its stake in BHEL. On Wednesday, institutional investors put in bids for over 22.07 crore shares at an indicative price of ₹256.07 a share, as against over 9.40 crore shares on offer. **PTI**

RBI clears ICICI Pru AMC to up stake in two banks

Mumbai: Banking regulator RBI has given its approval to ICICI Prudential AMC and group entities of ICICI Bank to increase their "aggregate holding" up to 9.95 per cent of the paid-up share capital of Federal Bank. The approval granted is subject to compliance with the relevant provisions of the Banking Regulation Act. Federal Bank said in a statement on the stock exchanges. In a similar development, Equitas Small Finance Bank said RBI has given permission to ICICI AMC along with group entities of ICICI Bank to cumulatively acquire up to 9.95 per cent in the bank. Both the approvals are valid for one year. **OUR BUREAU**

SEBI to ease listing rules, plans digital SME portal to widen market access

ON THE AGENDA. Overhauling LODR norms, single-window gateway for compliance, regional outreach

Akshata Gorde
Mumbai

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) will undertake a comprehensive review of listing and disclosure rules and build a dedicated digital SME portal to make capital market access simpler and more transparent for small and medium enterprises, said Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey at the India SME Finance & Investment Summit on Wednesday.

The regulator's agenda includes pruning redundancy and ambiguity in the LODR (Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements), creating a single-window digital gateway with mapped compliance guidance, opening local SEBI offices in State capitals on a phased basis and running pan-India outreach programmes to boost awareness of market-based debt and equity routes.

CAPITAL-FORMATION SME platforms have already evolved into meaningful capital-formation channels. Over 1,400 SMEs are listed with the segment's market capitalisation around ₹4.1 lakh crore, and more than 350 firms have transitioned from SME boards to the main board. Fund-raising has also picked up: 241 SME IPOs raised ₹9,800 crore in FY25, while 232 SME IPOs have raised ₹10,500 crore in FY26 as of January 31, 2026.

Pandey said persistent hurdles such as unfamiliarity with markets, limited access to credible intermediaries,



BIG TARGET. Securities and Exchange Board of India Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey speaking at the India SME Finance & Investment Summit on Wednesday

IPO costs and cumbersome documentation, as well as past misuse of relaxed SME norms have dented investor sentiment. To counter these and raise disclosure quality and post-listing compliance, stock exchanges have tightened due diligence, including site visits and begun using technology and AI to

speed DRHP processing. "The SME capital market remains under-scaled relative to India's potential. Many SMEs still hesitate because capital markets feel unfamiliar and there is limited access to credible intermediaries such as merchant bankers. The cost of raising capital through IPOs may also deter

many SMEs," Pandey said. "Sometime back, another barrier to access capital from markets emerged due to egregious instances of some SMEs misusing the relaxations available under the SME framework. Such instances adversely affected investor sentiment in SME IPOs."

DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

Pandey also urged merchant bankers, exchanges and industry bodies to scale capacity building and asked ecosystem partners such as SIDBI and the Indian Banks' Association to deepen outreach beyond western and northern hubs, where most SME IPOs currently originate. "SEBI will continue to be a guardian of trust and facilitate efficient capital formation," he said.

On a lacklustre day, Sensex ends tad lower, Nifty higher

Anupama Ghosh
Mumbai

The benchmarks concluded a lacklustre Wednesday session with marginal change, as selling pressure in information technology stocks offset strong buying in the banking, auto and healthcare counters, with the Nifty extending its winning streak to a fourth consecutive session. The Nifty rose 18.70 points to close at 25,953.85, while the BSE Sensex slipped 40.28 points to settle at 24,233.64.

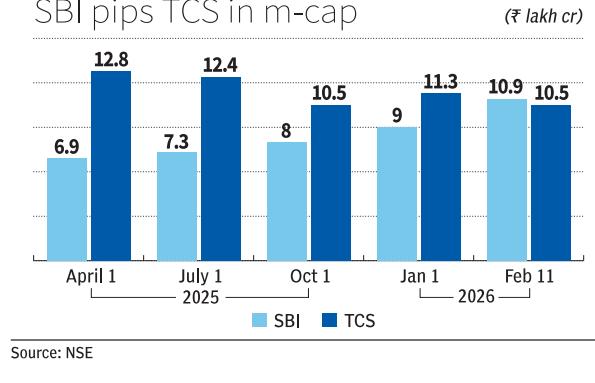
Eicher Motors emerged as the top gainer on the Nifty, surging 6.51 per cent, followed by Apollo Hospitals, which jumped 3.99 per cent and Max Healthcare, which climbed 3.29 per cent. On the losing side, TCS declined 2.51 per cent, while Infosys fell 1.73 per cent and Coal India shed 1.79 per cent.

NARROW RANGE

"Indian benchmark indices

SBI ousts TCS from 4th spot as most valuable firm

Our Bureau
Mumbai



SBI's shares have appreciated 61.6 cent and over a five-year time frame, were up over 3 times, compared to Nifty50's 71 per cent returns.

The stock has got a boost from its strong quarterly performance, reporting a 24

per cent rise in net profit led by good loan growth, while its asset quality has remained stable.

Its gross advances rose 15 per cent and it expects to end the year with 14-15 per cent growth in credit.

In contrast, TCS has been

an underperformer and over a one-year time period, it has fallen 26.6 per cent.

Slower deal-making in the US, the largest market for Indian IT companies, has had an impact on its performance and this has been an overhang on the company for several quarters now.

Mega deals are now fewer than they were before, and revenue visibility is still dependent on the US; headwinds, such as restrictions on H1B visas, are still playing out. Client spends are still tightly controlled and the company has now pivoted to shorter-cycle, AI-led work to boost revenue.

The most valuable companies are Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank and Bharti Airtel.

MSCI adds Aditya Birla Capital, L&T Fin to flagship global index, drops IRCTC

Reuters

Global index provider MSCI added financial services firms Aditya Birla Capital and L&T Finance to its widely-tracked Global Standard Index, while removing Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) in a periodic reshuffle.

The changes will take effect on February 27.

MSCI indexes serve as globally-recognised benchmarks tracked by large passive funds, implying that inclusions typically attract fresh capital inflows, while removals usually entail out-

flows. Following the rejig, the number of Indian companies in the MSCI Global Standard Index will rise to 165 from 164. However, India's overall weight in the index will remain steady at 14.1 per cent, according to Abhilash Pagarla, Head of Nuvama Alternative and Quantitative Research.

PASSIVE INFLOWS

Nuvama estimates that AB Capital and L&T Finance could see passive inflows of approximately \$257 million and \$238 million, respectively. In contrast, IRCTC is expected to face outflows of about \$141.6 million. AU Small Finance Bank is likely

to receive around \$172 million in inflows due to an increase in its index weight, according to Nuvama.

MSCI also made significant changes to its Small Cap Index, reducing the number of Indian constituents to 480 from 508.

While L&T Finance graduated from the Small Cap Index to the Global Standard Index, 34 companies including Dilip Buildcon, Zaggie Prepaid, Sterlite Technologies and KNR Constructors were removed.

However, seven firms, including Premier Energies, NSDL, Emcure Pharma and JSW Cement were added to the Small Cap Index.

TODAY'S PICK.

TVS Motor Company (₹3,864.85): BUY

Gurumurthy K

bl. research bureau

The short-term outlook for TVS Motor Company is bullish. The 2.7 per cent rise on Wednesday indicates that the upmove in the stock is gaining momentum. Immediate support is in the ₹3,800-3,770 region.

The 21-Day Moving Average (DMA) is turning up from near the 55-DMA. This is a positive signal. It indicates that the price can go further higher from here and thus strengthens the bullish case.

TVS Motor Company share price can rise to ₹4,030-4,050 in the coming weeks. Traders can buy TVS Motor Company shares now at ₹3,865. Accumulate on dips at ₹3,815. Keep the

TVS Motor Company (₹3,864.85): BUY

TVS Motor Company

Return 55% ₹ 3864 3880

Date	Price (₹)
Feb 11, 25	3548
Feb 11, 26	3216
Feb 11, 26	2884
Feb 11, 26	2552
Feb 11, 26	2220

stop-loss at ₹3,745 initially. Trail the stop-loss up to ₹3,890 as soon as the price goes up to ₹3,920. Revise the stop-loss higher to ₹3,930 and ₹3,970 when the price touches ₹3,960 and ₹3,995, respectively. Exit the long positions at ₹4,025.

Note: The recommendations are based on technical analysis. There is a risk of loss in trading

Day trading guide

25989 ➡ Nifty 50 Futures

S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT
25950	25855	26070	26145	Go long now and at 25965. Keep the stop-loss at 25910

25989 ➡ Nifty 50 Futures

S1 S2 R1 R2 COMMENT

25950 25855 26070 26145 Go long now and at 25965. Keep the stop-loss at 25910

927 ➡ HDFC Bank

S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT
925	920	930	935	Go short only below 925. Keep the stop-loss at 927

927 ➡ HDFC Bank

S1 S2 R1 R2 COMMENT

925 920 930 935 Go short only below 925. Keep the stop-loss at 927

1471 ➡ Infosys

S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT
1460	1430	1490	1515	Go long on dips at 1465. Keep the stop-loss at 1455

1471 ➡ Infosys

S1 S2 R1 R2 COMMENT

1460 1430 1490 1515 Go long on dips at 1465. Keep the stop-loss at 1455

318 ➡ ITC

S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT
316	312	321	325	Take fresh shorts below 316. Keep the stop-loss at 317

318 ➡ ITC

S1 S2 R1 R2 COMMENT

316 312 321 325 Take fresh shorts below 316. Keep the stop-loss at 317

274 ➡ ONGC

S1	S2	R1	R2	COMMENT
272	269	278	281	Go long now and at 273. Stop-loss can be placed at 270

274 ➡ ONGC

S1 S2 R1 R2 COMMENT

272 269 278 281 Go long now and at 273. Stop-loss can be placed at 270

1468 ➡ Reliance Ind.

'Sop for cloud, data centres will aid local data storage'

AI RESERVES. Finance Minister rejects claims of potential data loss to overseas entities

Shishir Sinha
New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday strongly refuted the allegation that the proposed tax holiday for global data centres would result in transporting data overseas. In her response to the general discussion on the 2026-27 Budget, she also said that states will get ₹2.7 lakh crore more during FY27 through devolution.

"Leader of the Opposition Shri Rahul Gandhi expressed concerns over artificial intelligence and data. I want to underline that we are incentivising setting up of cloud and data centres in India, so that the data is stored here and our youth gets employment opportunities," Sitharaman said.

Further, she said, the India AI Mission has a dedicated allocation of ₹1,000 crore for 2026-27.

In her Budget speech, the FM had proposed providing a tax holiday until 2047 to any foreign company that uses data centre services in India to provide cloud services to customers globally.



COUNTERPOINT. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaking in the Lok Sabha PTI

It will, however, need to provide services to Indian customers through a local reseller entity, she said. Sources later said that any foreign company providing cloud services through a data centre in India will get tax exemption, subject to meeting four conditions.

First, the foreign company must be notified. Second, the company in India providing the data centre services must be Indian. Third, the data centre must be notified by MeitY. Fourth, the services provided by the foreign company to Indian users must be through an Indian reseller entity.

On the issue of funds for

states, Sitharaman said that in the coming year, FY26-27, the states' share is estimated at ₹25.44 lakh crore — an increase of ₹2.7 lakh crore from last year (FY25-26).

"The Finance Commission itself, after studying this in detail, has stated in its report that the money which

has to go from the Centre to the states, taking the years 2018-19 to 2022-23 as examples and examining them, has clearly said that whatever amount has to go from the Central Government to the State governments has been given. There is no scope for any doubt in this for the States," she said.

She also emphasised that

the cess and surcharge collected by the Centre are given to states for development work in various sectors. "This is separate from the 41 per cent of funds allocated to the States," she said.

FERTILIZER SUPPLY

Debunking claims of fertilizer shortage in the country, she said there is enough for farmers, and the government has made a budgetary allocation of ₹1.71 lakh crore for fertiliser imports to support farmers. Sitharaman also gave a point-by-point rebuttal to Rahul Gandhi's charge that India had buckled under US pressure in signing the interim trade agreement with Washington.

"Leader of the Opposition Shri Rahul Gandhi also expressed concerns over geopolitics, energy and weaponisation of finance. He said that the Budget acknowledges these challenges, but he didn't read the budget and the steps announced in it to address these challenges," she said, listing measures such as the Economic Stabilisation Fund and the Technology in National Security Fund.

'More private capex needed to reach Viksit Bharat goal by 2047'

Our Bureau
Chennai

India's economy needs to consistently grow at around 7.5 per cent each year to reach the Viksit Bharat goal by 2047, while its per capita income must grow from about \$3,000 at present to \$18,000, C Rangarajan, former RBI Governor and Economic Advisory Council Chairman, said here on Wednesday.

"It is possible; there are some countries that have achieved such a feat earlier," he said, noting that a key requirement is increased investment.

Rangarajan was in conversation with NR Bhanumurthy, Director, Madras School of Economics, at the Madras Management Association's (MMA) annual convention themed 'India@2035: Driving progress in a changing global paradigm', during a session on the country's economic growth amid geopolitical flux.

GROWTH DRIVERS

"India needs to increase its gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) rate by 2 per cent or so. In the last 3-4 years, GFCF has been at



ECONOMIC PULSE. C Rangarajan, former Governor, RBI, in conversation with NR Bhanumurthy, Director, Madras School of Economics, at MMA Annual Convention 2026 in Chennai BIJU GHOSH

33.6 per cent share," he said. While government capex is rising, private sector investments have not increased despite measures such as the repo rate cut, he added, urging the attending corporate leaders to introspect.

He listed other key measures needed for growth, including embracing new technologies, focus on more labour-intensive sectors, multi-dimensional strategies that go beyond domestic markets, and investing in the health and education of citizens for long-term impacts.

"This capital is structured in a way that it attracts private money alongside it, which means every rupee of

public investment could multiply into three to five rupees of innovation capital flowing into Indian companies and research," he said. TVS Capital is looking to make large-scale investments in AI infrastructure and will announce these in a few weeks, he added.

He pointed out that if IT services companies, which have returned nearly ₹72,000 crore through share buybacks over the past five years, had invested in building foundational AI models, India may have had globally competitive platforms by now.

Shokin Chauhan, former DG, Assam Rifles; R Vijayakumar, Executive Director, MMA; Lakshminarayanan D, Managing Director, Sundaram Home Finance; and MP Surya Prakash, Executive Director, PonPure Chemicals; were present at the event.

The event also saw awards presented to the winners of the 29th MMA competition for young managers, a platform for young professionals below the age of 40 to display their potential and leadership skills.

The Hindu and businessline are media partners for the MMA Annual Convention 2026.

Kirloskar Oil Engines net profit up 80% in Q3

Our Bureau
Pune

Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd (KOEL) reported a 35 per cent year-on-year rise in standalone net sales at ₹1,371 crore for the third quarter of FY26, compared with ₹1,015 crore in the corresponding quarter last year.

Standalone net profit for the quarter rose 80 per cent to ₹102 crore from ₹57 crore a year ago. EBITDA for Q3 FY26 stood at ₹169 crore against ₹106 crore in Q3 FY25, registering a 59 per cent increase, while EBITDA margin improved to 12.2 per cent from 10.3 per cent.

On a consolidated basis, revenue from operations rose 29 per cent y-o-y to

₹1,873 crore in Q3 FY26 from ₹1,449 crore in Q3 FY25. Consolidated net profit increased 90 per cent to ₹126 crore, compared with ₹67 crore in the yearago quarter.

For the nine months ended FY26, standalone net sales grew 25 per cent to ₹4,082 crore from ₹3,256 crore in the previous year. Standalone net profit rose 37 per cent to ₹345 crore from ₹251 crore, while EBITDA margin improved to 13.2 per cent from 12.2 per cent. Consolidated revenue from operations for the nine-month period stood at ₹5,585 crore, up 22 per cent from ₹4,580 crore a year earlier. Consolidated net profit increased 38 per cent to ₹420 crore from ₹305 crore.

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No. PI-3195/2026/482 Dated:03.02.2026

Re - e - Tender Notice

Re - e - tenders are invited through www.etenders.kerala.gov.in for the supply of Process free thermal CTP plates required for our printing unit. Offers are acceptable up to 5 pm on 19.02.2026. For more details please contact over Phone no. 9995412786 (office hours only) or visit our website www.kbps.kerala.gov.in Sd/- Managing Director

NAGPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, NAGPUR PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

E-TENDER NOTICE

Municipal Commissioner, Nagpur Municipal Corporation, Nagpur invites e-tenders from Experienced bidders for "Disposal of Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) as-is where-is basis from NMC's Bhandewadi processing site to end users approved locations for scientific disposal." The Detailed Tender Notice and bid Document can be downloaded from website www.mahatenders.gov.in having Tender ID 2025_NMCN_1257496_3 from 10/02/2026. The sale/purchase and submission of the bid document shall be online only.

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E TENDER NOTICE

Title E tender ID Bid closing
Supply of Drinking water (Prebid meeting-13.02.2026, 10:00 am) 2026_KCMMF_833528_1 28.02.2026 at 01:00 am

Floor revamping civil works for CIP area (Prebid meeting-13.02.2026 at 10:30 am) 2026_KCMMF_834324_1 21.02.2026 at 06:00 pm

Roofing repair works at Muvattupuzha Unit (Prebid meeting-12.02.2026 at 11:00 am) 2026_KCMMF_834326_1 23.02.2026 at 10:00 am

For NIT visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in (Sd/-) Senior Manager I/c

Rs. in Lakhs

S. No	Particulars	Three months ended			Nine Months Ended		Year ended
		Dec 31, 2025 (Unaudited)	Sep 30, 2025 (Unaudited)	Dec 31, 2024 (Unaudited)	Dec 31, 2025 (Unaudited)	Dec 31, 2024 (Unaudited)	
1	Total Income from operations (net)	10,815.62	10,436.64	10,912.72	31,247.53	31,988.38	42,879.75
2	Net profit/ (loss) for the period (before tax exceptional and/or extraordinary items)	103.09	110.62	259.99	384.27	(174.48)	154.35
3	Net profit/ (loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional and/or extraordinary items)	103.09	110.62	259.99	678.98	(174.48)	154.35
4	Net profit/ (loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional and/or extraordinary items)	71.99	75.37	178.36	510.89	(112.50)	115.17
5	Total comprehensive Income for the period [comprising profit / (loss) for the period (after tax) and Other comprehensive income (after tax)]	75.44	78.81	178.57	521.23	(111.87)	128.97
6	Equity share Capital	904.15	904.15	904.15	904.15	904.15	5,779.17
7	Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve)						
8	Earnings per share (face value of Rs.10/- each) for continuing and discontinued operations	0.80	0.83	1.97	5.65	(1.24)	1.27
a. Basic							
b. Diluted							

Notes:

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2025 filed with Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 as amended. The full format of the financial results for the quarter and Nine months ended December 31, 2025 are available on the website of the BSE Limited i.e. www.bseindia.com, on the stock exchange where the Company's shares are listed and on the website of the Company i.e. www.klrf.in. Investorcentre. The same can be accessed by scanning the QR code provided below.
- In accordance with SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015, the above unaudited financial results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2025, as reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee, has been approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on February 11, 2026. A limited review has been carried out by the Statutory Auditor of the company and have issued an unmodified opinion on the above results.
- Exceptional item represents Profit on Sale of Asset.
- On November 21, 2025, the Government of India notified the four Labour Codes consolidating existing labour laws. The Company has assessed the impact of these Codes on its employees and concluded that there is no material incremental liability. The Company is evaluating the potential impact on its contract workforce and based on the assessment to date, does not expect any material impact. The Company continues to monitor developments relating to the finalisation of Central and State Rules and will recognise the accounting impact, if any, as required.
- Consolidated financial statements is not applicable since the Company has no subsidiary / associate / joint venture company as on December 31, 2025.
- Figures for the corresponding quarter / period ended have been regrouped wherever necessary.

Place : Coimbatore
Date : 11th February, 2026

Scan this QR code to view the above Result in detail
For Kovilpatti Lakshmi Roller Flour Mills Limited
Shanth Jayaraman
Chairman and Managing Director
DIN : 07298941

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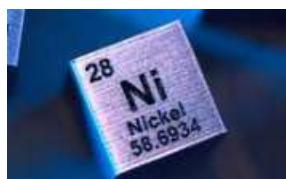
EXTRACT FROM THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2025 (Rs. In Lakhs, Except EPS)

Sl. No	Particulars	Standalone		Consolidated		Year ended
Quarter Ended	Nine Months Ended	Quarter Ended	Nine Months Ended			

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QUICKLY.

Nickel jumps as top miner gets lower output quota



Nickel rose for a fourth straight session on Wednesday after the world's biggest nickel mine in Indonesia received a sharply reduced output quota for this year. Benchmark three-month nickel on the London Metal Exchange was up 2.1 per cent to \$17,860 a tonne as of 1000 GMT. Copper was up 1.2 per cent at \$13,266.50. Tin jumped 2.8 per cent to \$50,700. REUTERS

Crude oil edges up on US-Iran tensions

London: Crude oil prices gained buoyed by escalating risk as US-Iran talks remained tenuous, while draws of crude from key stockpiles suggested stronger demand. Brent crude oil futures were up 98 cents at \$69.78 a barrel by 0949 GMT. US WTI crude rose 95 cents to \$64.91. REUTERS

Gold trims gains on strong US jobs data



Gold prices traded higher but pared gains from earlier in the session, after a strong US employment report suggested the Fed may keep interest rates unchanged for some time. Spot gold was up 0.8 per cent at \$5,067.09 per ounce by 1402 GMT. US gold futures for April delivery gained 1.1 per cent to \$5,087.80 per ounce. Silver was up 5.1 per cent at \$84.84. REUTERS

As supply concerns ease, uranium bull run ends

UPBEAT OVER LONG TERM. Analysts see the metal's prospects as promising with the emergence of structural deficit

Subramani Ra Mancombu
Chennai

Radioactive heavy metal uranium soared over \$100 a pound due to supply disruption last month, but analysts are divided on the prospects for the critical mineral for 2026.

In the long term, the metal's prospects are promising with the emergence of structural deficit. Swiss multinational financial services firm UBS has forecast a 3 per cent growth in nuclear reactor demand over the next few years, from 2 per cent during 2020-25.

PRICE OUTLOOK

"We think spot prices for uranium hit a ceiling in January 2026 after rallying more than 25 per cent to highs above \$100/lb. In our view, the uranium market is only in a minor deficit currently,

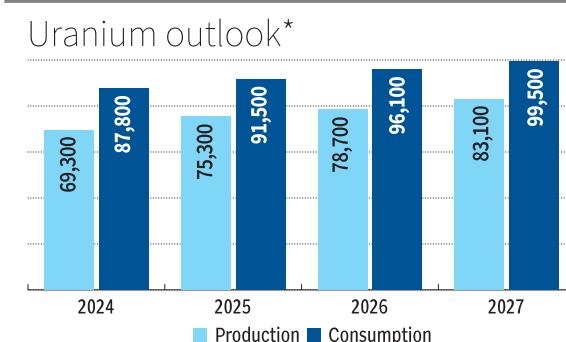
with supply from Central Asia, Canada and Namibia likely to support demand for the next 2-3 years," said research agency BMI, a unit of Pitch Solution.

Australia's Office of the Chief Economist (AOCE), in its forecast to 2028, sees spot prices rising from \$73 a pound in 2025 to an average of \$91 in 2027 as demand growth continues to outpace supply. Vancouver-based global investment bank Canaccord Genuity sees uranium prices at \$110 in the long term, while Swiss multinational investment bank UBS has forecast demand for nuclear reactors at 3 per cent.

Currently, uranium is ruling at \$82 a pound, after a fresh bout of increase in supply outweighing demand.

SUPPLY DISRUPTION

BMI said spot prices, which track market sentiment towards uranium, surged in re-



sponse to supply disruption throughout 2025. The world's two largest uranium mining companies, Kazatomprom and Cameco, cut production guidance for key projects due to a mix of weak prices and operational challenges.

"While we remain bullish on uranium over the medium to long term, we think prices may struggle to head higher than \$100/lb this year, for

two reasons," said the research agency.

First, spot uranium is currently trading more than 10 per cent above the term price, which tracks the price utilities pay for delivery of uranium over the next 3-10 years. "This suggests the recent rally in the spot market is mostly speculative, rather than driven by fundamentals," said BMI.

Second, a decision on whether to approve NexGen's Rook I Project in Canada's Saskatchewan province is due to be delivered in the coming weeks by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, which is holding a hearing on the project currently.

US DEAL

"If the project is approved, it will be on track to deliver over 10,000 tonnes of uranium annually in the early 2030s. This would add to fears of a supply glut in uranium, weighing on both the spot price and the term price," it said.

UBS and Canaccord are bullish on the price outlook for uranium as supply-side challenges continue against rising demand. The AOCE said a \$80 billion deal to build reactors in the US boosted sentiment. In late September 2025, prices rose to over \$83 following the re-

lease of the World Nuclear Association (WNA) fuel report. The WNA estimates that global nuclear capacity will likely triple by 2050 to meet decarbonisation and electrification goals. But years of underinvestment have hollowed out the uranium project pipeline.

The US plans to quadruple domestic nuclear capacity. China has almost tripled its nuclear capacity in the last decade and is aiming to add a further 150 nuclear reactors over the next 15 years.

Lobo Tiggre, CEO of IndependentSpeculator.com, said even at a spot price above \$80 per pound, major producers such as Cameco and Kazatomprom were cautious about committing capital to new largescale developments. BMI said in 2026, any further gains for uranium prices will likely come from strong retail demand and/or policy support.

COMMODITY CALL.

Buy natural gas futures at ₹280, ₹265

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau



Natural gas futures have been very volatile over the past few weeks. The February contract, now trading at ₹280 (per mmBtu), rebounded on the back of the support at ₹240 nearly a month ago. It hit a high of ₹425.6 on February 1.

But the contract saw a quick reversal in trend. The price dropped significantly in recent sessions and the contract is now at ₹280.

Going ahead, the selling pressure is expected to reduce as there is a strong base at ₹260. A decline below this is less likely. If not a bullish reversal, we expect the contract to at least see a corrective rally after touching ₹260.

The uptick can take the price to ₹350. That said, if the support at ₹260 is breached, bears could gain considerable traction, potentially dragging natural gas futures to ₹235. The downswing might extend to ₹200.

Overall, there is a chance for natural gas futures to see some recovery in price, which could begin anywhere between ₹280 and ₹260, a potential support zone.

TRADE STRATEGY

Buy natural gas futures at ₹280 and ₹265. Place stop-loss at ₹245. On a rally to ₹320, revise the stop-loss to ₹290. Book profits at ₹350.

India's cotton exports to Dhaka safe despite US deal

Vishwanath Kulkarni
Bengaluru

A majority of Indian cotton stakeholders feel that shipments of the natural fibre crop to Bangladesh will continue as usual, despite the US-Bangladesh trade deal. Only some think exports to the neighbouring country may get impacted.

Dhaka has traditionally been the largest buyer of Indian cotton, while as part of the deal, it is expected to source the cotton from US.

"I don't think our cotton exports to Bangladesh will be impacted due to our proximity. From the US and other places, it takes a minimum of 45 days for shipments to

reach Bangladesh, whereas from India, it takes 8 days. Their working finances are tight. Also, they have domestic consumption and they export to other markets like Europe, for which they need Indian cotton," said Vinay N Kotak, President, Cotton Association of India (CAI), the apex trade body.

LOGISTICS ADVANTAGE

"Only 25 per cent of Bangladesh's apparel export goes to US and 50 per cent to Europe. The only problem is that we have stopped exports through road. That may affect it. If road export is opened, then we may not have any issue. After the elections (in Bangladesh), things can improve," Kotak

said. The US-Bangladesh trade deal may have better implications for the domestic cotton market, believes, Lalit Kumar Gupta, CMD, Cotton Corporation of India, currently the largest stockholder in the country.

"It should be better because we are also one of the cotton bales exporters to them. If their demand increases, certainly they will

import little bit cotton from us," Gupta said, adding that India has a lower logistic cost advantage to the neighbouring country when compared with other origins.

"We have also sold some cotton to the Bangladesh recently. We are selling the cotton also in export market," Gupta added.

CCI revised the domestic sale prices recently and has also set the floor price for exports.

"The export price is in line with our domestic price," Gupta added.

Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent in Raichur said, though the exports have slowed down, there is demand for cotton from Bangladesh, but at a lower

rate than the prevailing market price.

BRAZILIAN COTTON

However, Atul Ganatra, former President, CAI, said,

"Cotton and cotton yarn exports to Bangladesh will get affected. Currently, they have been buying Indian and Brazilian cotton. But if they have to save that 18 per cent tariff, they will have to buy the US cotton. If they buy the US cotton, then why will they buy the Indian cotton or yarn."

Ganatra said India's cotton exports had already come down over the past few months because of the disturbance in the neighbouring country.

Moreover, Bangladesh is

getting Brazilian cotton at a cheaper at 68-69 cents per pound, which works out to ₹49,000-50,000 per candy (of 356 kg). "Why will they buy the Indian cotton at ₹55,000-56,000 levels," he asked.

Further, he said that the lower imports to Bangladesh may also impact the domestic prices.

"Against our estimates of 15 lakh bales (of 170 kg each), the overall exports this year may hardly be around 10 lakh bales," he added. CAI has estimated cotton exports for the 2025-26 season ending September at 15 lakh bales against previous year's 18 lakh bales.

Till January end, about 6 lakh bales have been exported.

the packaging intended for re-export.

Upon arrival, a Tea Board official will, within 24 hours, draw two sets of samples from a randomly selected container out of every batch of five containers at the port.

NEPAL TEAS

Welcoming the move, Bijoy Gopal Chakraborty, President of the Confederation of Indian Small Tea Growers' Associations (CISTA), said the directive will curb the entry of poor-quality and non-FSSAI-compliant teas and check the practice of re-exporting substandard imports.

In the domestic market, Darjeeling tea faces stiff competition from Nepal-origin teas, which are priced up to 50 per cent lower.

Kerala farm varsity launches rejuvenated varieties of Cochin ginger, Alleppey finger turmeric

Our Bureau

Kochi

The Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) has launched selected varieties of Cochin ginger and Alleppey finger turmeric, two iconic spices traded from the State for centuries.

It noted that these trade names were formally documented as early as the 19th century, with clearly defined quality parameters that distinguished them in global markets. However, the availability of these traditional varieties has declined sharply in recent years, hurting their niche export segments.

The fall in production is attributed to the shift towards high-yielding varieties favoured in the domestic



Cochin ginger



Alleppey finger turmeric

market for size and productivity. Indiscriminate cultivation and varietal mixing further eroded the distinct quality traits of the traditional strains.

BOOSTING EXPORTS

A seminar was held under the MIDH project, "Rejuvenation of Cochin Ginger and Alleppey Finger Turmeric for export promotion," implemented by the Department of Plantation, Spices, Medicinal and Aromatic Crops at the College of Agri-

culture, Vellanikkara (2022-26). Sunil Appukuttan Nair, Principal Investigator, said reviving these varieties could provide a significant export boost to markets in the Middle East, Europe and the US. The initiative will identify potential FPOs and spice exporters for large-scale cultivation, and distribute token seed kits.

Ramkumar Menon, Chairman of the World Spice Organisation (WSO), said annual industry demand is estimated about 20,000 tonnes of dry Cochin ginger (around one lakh tonnes of fresh ginger) and nearly 50,000 tonnes of high-curcumin turmeric comparable to the Alleppey variety.

Demand is rising, driven by growing interest from nutraceutical and pharmaceutical sectors for immunity-boosting properties, but supplies meeting quality specifications remain limited, he said. The All India Spices Exporters Forum and WSO flagged the issue to the Agriculture Ministry and the Spices Board, prompting a targeted project to identify, purify, and multiply authentic planting material for commercial use.

The initiative is expected to enable better price realisation while ensuring compliance with international quality standards.

Indonesia's biodiesel pause, rising output pressure palm oil

Reuters
Kuala Lumpur

Indonesia's move to pause biodiesel expansion and expectations of higher production in the coming months are likely to pressure palm oil prices, although strong demand and slowing growth in overall output could limit the downside, analysts said.

Palm oil output from South-East Asia, which supplies 90 per cent of the global market, is expected to edge up in 2026 on improved weather in Indonesia, even as production in second-largest grower Malaysia is expected to decline. The benchmark palm oil contract for April delivery on the BMD fell 35 ringgit to 4,060 ringgit (\$1,037.83) a tonne.

The Tea Board has mandated the compulsory testing of all tea import consignments from May 1, following complaints from the domestic industry over rising imports of cheap and inferior-quality teas.

In a directive issued on Tuesday, the Board said all imported tea must be tested in line with the prescribed standard operating procedure (SOP) to ensure quality compliance.

CHEAPER INFLOWS
Imports have been a persistent concern for planters, who say such shipments depress domestic prices and hurt growers.

Industry bodies have previously urged the government to impose a 100 per cent import duty on cheap tea imports, mainly from Nepal, Kenya and other African nations.

CRACKDOWN

The Tea Board said importers must hold a valid licence and submit shipment details — including tentative arrival date, warehouse information, number of containers and a proforma invoice detailing tea cost, freight and insurance — through the Tea Council portal.

An application fee of ₹11,120 plus GST per sample must be paid online while applying for a provisional import permit.

Importers are also required to upload images of

'Low' likely over south Bay, say IMD models

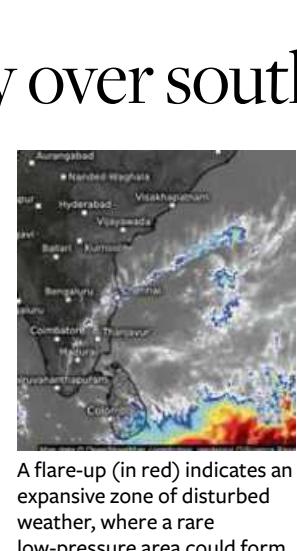
Vinson Kurian

Thiruvananthapuram

An upper-air cyclonic circulation persisted over the east Equatorial Indian Ocean and adjoining south-east Bay of Bengal for the past few days. It has been attracting the attention of weather watchers for its potential to develop into a low-pressure area or even a likely storm.

February is typically a quiet month for the Bay, but the basin remains susceptible to early-season, low-intensity systems that develop over the equatorial Indian Ocean and move towards the coast of Sri Lanka and, by extension, the southern coast of India. This has sparked meteorologists' interest areas.

OCCASIONAL SYSTEMS
Peak activity occurs in the basin during the post-monsoon (October-November) or pre-monsoon (April-May) seasons.



Atmospheric conditions in February generally do not favour cyclogenesis (the birth of cyclones), but historical data show occasional depressions/low-pressure areas have defied the trend. The latest numerical prediction models of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) do not rule out such a possibility.

The Myanmare Department of Meteorology and

Hydrology has issued a watch for a low-pressure area developing over the south Bay during the next 10 days.

Satellite images on Wednesday evening showed a dense cloud mass to the entire south and east of Sri Lanka, from where

QUICKLY.

Services may be disrupted today due to strike by TUs

New Delhi: Services related to electricity, banking, insurance, transport and health, as well as gas and water supply, are likely to be affected across the country on Thursday due to a nationwide strike called by a joint forum of central trade unions. A group of trade unions announced the strike to show their "resistance to anti-worker, anti-farmer and anti-national pro-corporate policies of the Central government".

UBS plans to hire about 3,000 people in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: UBS, the Swiss wealth manager, opened its second office in the city on Wednesday. With this expansion, UBS expects to hire another 2,000 to 3,000 professionals in the next few months, doubling its workforce in the city. UBS has offices in Pune, Navi Mumbai and Hyderabad. OUR BUREAU

Centre introduces Bill in LS to amend Industrial Relations Code

POSITIVE OUTLOOK. Hiring up in tier-3 and-4 cities, shows impact of labour codes: Minister Mansukh Mandaviya

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya introduced the 'Industrial Relations Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026, in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, seeking to rest "future unwarranted complication" by insisting that the proposed specific code will replace existing laws relating to industrial employment and disputes.

While the three other labour codes — Code on Wages 2019, Code on Social Security 2020, and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code 2020 — specified that they will automatically replace earlier laws and rules governing their respective jurisdictions, the Industrial Rela-

tions Code, 2020, mentioned that replacement of existing Acts will be done through a separate decision, a Ministry official explained.

The Industrial Relations Code will replace the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, and the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. It contains provisions under Section 104 to ensure continuity and legal certainty.

"Though the repeal has occurred by operation of Section 104 of the Code itself, there is a possibility of future confusion being created on a misconceived ground that the Act delegates the power to repeal the said enactments to the executive," it explained.

The provisions of Section 104 and a February 2026 no-



NEW INDIA. The Industrial Relations Code will replace the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946

tification are clear that the repeal has occurred by the operation of Section 104 of the Code itself, "it is considered desirable to introduce the proposed amendment to avoid any future unwarranted complication," it noted.

INCLUSIVE GROWTH

The government has pub-

lished draft rules for the four new labour codes following their implementation on November 21, 2025, inviting public feedback. These reforms consolidate 29 Central labour laws to simplify compliance, secure minimum wages, and provide benefits for gig and platform workers.

Meanwhile, Mandaviya posted on X that the impact

of the new labour codes is "translating into real, inclusive growth across Bharat."

"Recent data shows a massive surge of up to 56 per cent in hiring across tier-3 and -4 cities, drastically outpacing metros," the Union Minister wrote on the basis of data sourced from reports of WorkIndia and TeamLease, which compiled them over a period from October 2025 to January 2026.

STEADY RISE

In the graphics accompanying his post on social media, the Minister stated that metros like Mumbai and Kolkata had shown steady growth in employment of over 8.8 per cent and 8.9 per cent respectively but they had been outpaced by smaller cities like Udaipur, Vijayawada and Kolhapur.



Minister Hardeep Singh Puri addressing a press conference on Wednesday SHIV KUMAR PUSHPKAR

gotiate with a man called Velupillai Prabhakaran, who was the LTTE chief. Just because I was negotiating with Prabhakaran, who was the LTTE chief and who was later alleged to be responsible for the assassination of our Prime Minister, does that make me, because I was talking to a terrorist, share a terrorist's value?" he countered.

He further said, "In eight years, I met him (Epstein) three or four times. I can tell you frankly that the first time when I met him, I was ambushed. I was told by somebody, my Boss (Larsen), that I want to take you and the Chairman of the commission (ICM) and other members of the board to dinner. So, I said where. He said that I won't tell you the address because if you get the address, you may not go there. This is minimal interaction."

Puri countered that on one hand, there are leaders who have dedicated their lives to transforming the country and work around the clock, and then there are "elements of buffoonery".

The Minister was responding to Gandhi's claims to mediapersons outside the Parliament building that the names of Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and businessman Anil Ambani figured in the 'Epstein Files' released in the US.



GRAVE CHARGES. Lok Sabha LoP Rahul Gandhi speaking in the House during the Budget Session on Wednesday ANI

these challenges. Instead, he said, "we have compromised on the most valuable asset India has in terms of its data".

"Data is what will transform India in the 21st century. But what the Modi government has done is to give

up control over our digital trade rules. They have undermined the need for data localisation. They are promising free data flow to the US and setting limits on digital tax while diluting the need to disclose source code. We have given a 20 year tax holi-

day to the big tech companies. That is what you have done on data," Gandhi said.

ABSURD COMPROMISE

On tariffs, the compromise achieved is "absurd". "We had, on an average, 3 per cent tariffs. It has gone up by six times to 18 per cent. US imports are to go up from \$46 billion to \$146 billion. This is absurd when they have made absolutely no commitments to us. Their tariffs have come down from 16 per cent to zero and ours have gone up from 3 to 18 per cent, and we are standing around like fools," he claimed.

For the first time in history, he said the government agreed to allow mechanised and heavily subsidised US

agricultural products to flood the Indian market and endanger India's farmers.

He said on a crucial strategic issue like energy security, India had allowed America to dictate terms. "No PM has ever done this before, and let me tell you, no Prime Minister after you is ever going to do it," he said. He charged that the PM surrendered because the Americans are "choking him".

"There is a businessman called Anil Ambani. Why is he not in jail? He is not in jail because his name is in the Epstein files. I want to also ask Hardeep Singh Puri who introduced him to Epstein," Gandhi said, amid pandemonium and interruptions from the Treasury benches.

SURESH KHANNA
UP Finance Minister



Jewar International Airport and 17 solar cities.

Our second strategic pillar is our commitment to agriculture and the rural economy. We are building a sustainable ecosystem by allocating ₹10,888 crore in the agriculture sector, which is 20 per cent higher than last year. We are also funding critical irrigation projects that are moving forward with, like the Madhya Ganga Stage 2, Ken Betwa Link and Kanhar, while the Jal Jeevan

Mission has received over ₹22,452 crore. To ensure rural development, we have allocated about ₹25,500 crore in sectors like water, power, roads, and livelihood. We have proposed ₹2,365 crore in advanced technical education, which is a 72 per cent increase.

How do you see devolution as recommended by 16th Finance Commission?

We're holding a strong rev-

ene surplus of ₹64,457.57 crore and have estimated our total revenue receipts at ₹7.28 lakh crore with tax revenue of ₹6,03 lakh crore. Out of that, the state's own tax is ₹3.34 lakh crore, and the central share is ₹2.68 lakh crore. This shows that for FY27, we are not completely relying on devolution, as our own tax mobilisation remains strong.

What are the measures for fiscal consolidation?

In consonance with the recommendations made by the 16th CFC accepted by the GOI, the Uttar Pradesh government is bringing UP-FRB Amendment Act to amend the annual borrowing ceiling to 3 per cent of GSDP, which in the previous regime was 3.5 per cent (inclusive of 0.5 per cent for Power Sector Reforms). This amendment also seeks to prescribe a ceiling of 30 per cent of GSDP on the indebtedness of the State. These two ceilings shall remain in force for the State's economic health.

award period of the 16th CFC — FY27 to FY31. The condition of maintaining a revenue surplus remains unchanged. The revenue surplus for FY27 is estimated at ₹64,457.57 cr, and the Fiscal Deficit for 2026-27 is estimated at 2.98 per cent of GSDP. Debt at the close of FY27 is estimated at ₹9.19 lakh crore, which is 23.1 per cent of GSDP.

What is the estimate for growth in the State's own tax revenue?

Our tax revenue projection of ₹3.34 lakh crore this fiscal is based on the State's economic momentum, rising consumption, property sales, and rise in vehicle sales. It is an ambitious goal, but we believe it is achievable, including ₹1.98 lakh crore from SGST and VAT, ₹1,278 crore from excise duties, ₹43,802 crore from stamps and registration, and ₹15,808 crore from vehicle tax. It truly reveals the State's economic health.

What is the theme of the budget?

The FY27 Uttar Pradesh Budget is based on the "Viksit Uttar Pradesh 2047 Vision," focusing on holistic growth, delivery, development, and inclusive prosperity, which will make the State a trillion-dollar economy. The numbers speak for themselves, as the total outlay of ₹9.12 lakh crore is 12.9

per cent higher than FY26's ₹8.08 lakh crore. This shows our commitment to creating a self-reliant economy, as out of the ₹2.48 lakh crore capital expenditure, ₹1.77 lakh crore is capital outlay, which will empower our long-term assets like agriculture, infrastructure, employment, medical colleges, energy, and multiple other sectors. At the same time, we will continue to focus on our welfare commitments by integrating safety (Safe City Project) and modern technology (AI Mission).

Edited excerpts:
What are the three most important features of the budget?

The Uttarakhand government has decided to introduce the State's Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (UP-FRB) to lower the annual borrowing ceiling to 3 per cent of the GSDP against 3.5 per cent now. After presenting the Budget, Finance Minister Suresh Khanna said own tax mobilisation had been strong.

Let's start with infrastructure investments. We want Uttarakhand to become a logistics hub, with an allocation of ₹34,468 crore for roads and bridges, ₹18,290 crore for irrigation and flood control, ₹65,926 crore for energy, and ₹27,103 crore for infrastructure and industrial development, including the

formation of the House that no units were established under other central and Union Territory schemes such as the Youth Start-Up Loan Scheme (YSSL), the Seed Capital Fund Scheme (SCFS), and the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years.

The disclosure comes at a time when the administration has been projecting entrepreneurship and start-ups as key drivers of employment generation in the Union Territory.

SIGNIFICANT GAP
However, the figures highlight a significant gap between policy intent and on-ground implementation, particularly in terms of financial support to new ventures.

The government also in-

dustry observers have repeatedly flagged delays in funding, procedural bottlenecks, and limited outreach of existing schemes as major hurdles for aspiring entrepreneurs in the region.

The government, however, maintains that efforts are underway to strengthen the start-up ecosystem and expand institutional support in the coming years.

REVIEWING SCHEMES
Officials said the administration was reviewing existing start-up schemes to streamline approval processes and improve disbursal timelines.

"Steps are being taken to improve coordination between financial institutions and implementing agencies to ensure wider coverage and more effective support for early-stage entrepreneurs in the region," said the officials.

Start-up founders and in-

Over 400 private space start-ups have taken off in India since 2014: Govt in LS

Rohan Das
Chennai

Private sector participation in India's space sector has expanded sharply over the past decade with the number of registered space start-ups in India having gone from one in 2014 to over 400 in 2026, according to a written reply in the Lok Sabha by Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of Science and Technology.

Over this period, the investment in space start-ups crossed more than \$500 million, a release from the Department of Space added.

As of 2026, two private sector companies have tested and flown their launch vehicles at suborbital orbit — Skyrock Aerospace in November 2022 and Agniul Cosmos in May 2024.

I met Epstein only 3-4 times in 8 years: Puri

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Accusing Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi of making baseless allegations, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Wednesday that he met the infamous Jeffrey Epstein three or four times in eight years.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters, Puri countered, "These facts are in public domain. Three million emails have been released. I was in New York for 8 years. We are talking about a period in May 2009, when I joined as India's Ambassador to the United Nations in New York, and when I became a Minister in 2017."

On who introduced him to Epstein, Puri said: "I sent Rahul Gandhi a note. In the note, I told him that after I retired as India's ambassador to the UN, a few months later I was invited to join the International Peace Institute (IPI). I was not part of the IPI per se. I was Secretary General of the Independent Commission on Multilateralism (ICM). This was a commission set up in the IPI as a project to see if the UN was fit for purpose on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

My boss in the IPI, Terje Rød-Larsen, was the person who knew Epstein. Larsen was President of the IPI. It is as part of a IPI delegation or ICM that I met Epstein on a few occasions, three or maximum four."

'A PROMINENT MEMBER'
Puri said that Epstein was a "very prominent member of the New York society" and half the world that interacted with him had no clue to his past.

"We have to deal with people in our lifetime. For instance, I was a young First Secretary in Colombo (Sri Lanka), and I was sent to ne-



Vice Chief of the Air Staff Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor ANI

transfer by the original manufacturer Dassault Aviation.

The deal, likely to cost around ₹3.25 lakh crore, was approved by the Defence Acquisition Board last month.

AIR EXERCISE
Addressing a gathering at the unveiling of the Vayu Shakti 2026 air exercise, Air Marshal Kapoor said, "Rafale was definitely the hero during Operation Sindoora. He also said the Indian Air Force is looking to induct more multi-role fighter aircraft (MRFA), which can be either the French-origin Rafale or any other aircraft.

His comments at the unveiling of the Vayu Shakti 2026 air exercise gain significance coming ahead of the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) meeting on Thursday and French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to India from February 17.

The DAC is expected to discuss and clear the induction of 114 Rafale aircraft, with production planned in India through technology.

J&K has funded just 18 start-ups in last 3 years

Gulzar Bhat
Srinagar



The Jammu and Kashmir government has said only 18 start-ups received seed capital support in the Union Territory over the last three financial years, with funds released only in the current fiscal under the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI).

The government on Tuesday informed the Assembly that no seed capital was provided to start-ups in 2023-24 and 2024-25 under JKEDI or any other government-supported mechanism. In the current year, ₹3.6 crore was sanctioned in favour of 18 start-ups, at ₹20 lakh per start-up.

This has led to a massive jump in travel demand with deluxe rooms and suites in five-star hotels going for up to ₹5-6 lakh a night.

In a statement, the Hotel Association of India (HAI) said that weighted average room rates in Delhi range from ₹40,000-₹60,000 per night during the summit.

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The government, however, maintains that efforts are underway to strengthen the start-up ecosystem and expand institutional support in the coming years.

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Officials said the administration was reviewing existing start-up schemes to streamline approval processes and improve disbursal timelines.

"Steps are being taken to improve coordination between financial institutions and implementing agencies to ensure wider coverage and more effective support for early-stage entrepreneurs in the region," said the officials.

Beyond sub-orbital launches, 25 payloads from private entities have flown or are planned to fly on the PSLV

QUICKLY.

'File report on procedural protocol in AI crash probe'



New Delhi: The Supreme Court has asked the Centre to file a brief report on the "procedural protocol" followed so far, after it was informed that the investigation into the June 12, 2025, Air India plane crash by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Board (AAIB) is at its fag end. PTI

Three start-ups chosen to develop small satellite bus

New Delhi: Three private firms were selected to develop a modular and scalable small satellite bus, which houses various components of a spacecraft, as a product to the burgeoning space sector in the country, IN-SPACE said. Each selected company will receive a grant of ₹5 crore. PTI

OneSource gets Saudi nod for generic Ozempic

Mumbai: OneSource Specialty Pharma has received Saudi Food and Drug Authority approval for its generic Ozempic (semaglutide) in Saudi Arabia, paving the way for its commercialisation with Hikma Pharmaceuticals Plc, its exclusive partner for the Middle East and North Africa, it said. The approval marks OneSource's entry into Saudi Arabia, one of the largest markets for GLP-1 therapies. OUR BUREAU

Noida International Airport awaits final clearances: CEO Schnellmann

REGULATORY NOD. Review by Security Bureau underway; aerodrome licence from DGCA to follow

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

After missing several completion deadlines, the Noida International Airport (NIA) is now in the advanced stages of securing the remaining statutory approvals required to commence operations.

Speaking to *businessline*, the management of NIA said that the focus has now shifted from construction to regulatory clearances and the operational planning phase.

The airport missed multiple completion deadlines, including those scheduled for late 2024 and April 2025, largely due to constraints in sourcing construction materials, such as special-grade structural steel required for the terminal roof.

However, with core infrastructure now in place, the project has moved into its final regulatory clearance phase.

ON TO THE NEXT PHASE

According to NIA Chief Executive Christoph Schnellmann, the airport is working closely with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) to complete the final stages of aerodrome licensing and security-related clearances.

Following clearance from BCAS, Schnellmann said the next step will be the issuance of the aerodrome licence by the DGCA, which will enable the airport to firm up timelines for the start of operations in coordination



Christoph Schnellmann, CEO, Noida International Airport

with airlines and other partners.

The operational readiness process, he said, will involve finalising airline networks and route plans, as well as completing slot filing and approval procedures with the DGCA and other stakeholders.

Once slots are approved, airlines typically begin com-

mercial preparations, such as opening ticket sales and initiating customer outreach ahead of launch.

On the city side, the airport is preparing surface connectivity to support passengers from the first day of operations.

Schnellmann pointed out that the mobility options will include intercity and long-haul bus services, airport taxis and cab aggregators, supported by intelligent traffic management systems to regulate traffic flow.

BETTER CONNECTIVITY

Looking ahead, he said long-term connectivity could be strengthened through a proposed Regional Rapid Transit System link from Ghaziabad and a planned high-speed rail corridor

between Delhi and Varanasi, with a stop at the airport.

On airline partnerships, he said IndiGo will be the launch carrier at NIA.

The airport has also entered into a strategic partnership with Akasa Air, which plans to operate both domestic and international services, while Air India Express is set to begin flights as well.

Discussions are under way with other Indian carriers, and airlines from West Asia and South-East Asia have also expressed interest in operating from the airport, Schnellmann said.

Once operational, the airport, in its first phase (with one runway and one terminal), will have the capacity to handle about 12 million passengers annually.

amending or relaxing this ban," the Health Ministry said in response to *Reuters'* queries. "India remains committed to evidence-based tobacco control and cessation measures," it said in a statement, adding that the law on e-cigarettes explicitly prohibits heat-not-burn devices, and that situation will stay.

A *Reuters* review of confidential company letters from 2021 to 2025 shows the Marlboro-maker privately lobbied top Indian officials and a parliamentary panel to consider the science behind devices like IQOS, and exempt heat-not-burn products from the ban.

Philip Morris ran a four-year-long campaign to push Indian officials and a parliamentary panel on health to allow heated tobacco devices, letters show.

Its executives also met many State government officials in Davos in January on creating long-term value in the tobacco sector.

In a blow to Philip Morris, ban on e-cigarettes stays

Reuters
New Delhi/London

India has ruled out relaxation of a ban on e-cigarettes that would have allowed heat-not-burn tobacco products, dealing a blow to a lengthy private lobbying campaign by Philip Morris International for New Delhi to permit such devices.

India banned e-cigarettes, including heated tobacco products, in 2019. With more than 100 billion cigarettes sold annually, it is the seventh-largest cigarette market by volume, where tobacco kills more than a million people a year.

Philip Morris had hoped India could be a key market for its heated tobacco device, IQOS, which the company says is less harmful to health than smoking.

NO RELAXATION

"The government of India is not considering revoking,

Three Jet Airways Boeing 777s sold to European cargo airline for \$46 m after 4 years of litigation

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai



TO FLY AGAIN. The Boeing 777 aircraft have been parked in Mumbai for almost six years following the airline's closure REUTERS

est money deposits to proceed with the purchase.

OBJECTIONS RAISED

However, the sale was put on hold by the lender-controlled monitoring committee due to opposition from the Jalan Kalrock Consortium, which had won the bid to revive the grounded airline.

Malta-based Ace Aviation, which is part of the Challenge Group, had won the bid to acquire the three aircraft in October 2022. The company executed letters of intent and came up with earn-

pany Law Tribunal, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal and the Supreme Court, which cleared the sale.

Objections were raised against the sale by Mumbai International Airport Ltd, following the airline's liquidation in November 2024. Ace Aviation and Mumbai airport entered into a consent agreement over pending parking dues last August, but the

matter dragged on before the insolvency courts again. Finally, last December, the airport granted its no objection to the sale and released its lien on the aircraft. Following this, the sale agreement was executed between Jet Airways and Ace Aviation last month. "The successful conclusion of this transaction represents a landmark development in India's aviation and insolvency landscape. It marks the first instance where Boeing 777 wide-body aircraft have been sold under the insolvency/liquidation framework. The deal also sets a key precedent and reference model for future transactions of a similar nature involving aviation assets," said Dentons Link Legal, which represented Ace Aviation in the matter.

Nashik airport to get ₹572 crore upgrade ahead of Kumbh Mela

Our Bureau
Mumbai



From April to December 2025, Nashik airport handled nearly three lakh passengers

The Nashik airport will get a ₹572-crore facelift, which will triple its handling capacity to 1,000 passengers per hour, as it prepares to host the Kumbh Mela next year.

The upgrade includes construction of an 18,250 sq m terminal with space for 24 check-in counters. A new apron will also be built, doubling the aircraft parking bays to 12.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis performed the ground-breaking ceremony for the new terminal on Sunday following an MoU between the State government and the airport owner, Hindustan Aeronautics.

on-year. Currently, IndiGo is the only airline operating to Nashik with services from Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Delhi, Goa and Hyderabad.

Gedam said the airport expansion will support industrial and tourism growth in the region. From April to November last, the airport also handled over 6,400 tonnes of international cargo, primarily comprising goat exports to West Asia.

Last year, Prayagraj airport in Uttar Pradesh saw record air traffic during the Kumbh Mela, handling over half-a-million passengers from January 11 to February 26. While airlines added extra flights to cater to the surge in demand, the airport also witnessed a large number of non-scheduled flights during the period.



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Regional Finale - New Delhi

February 15, 2026

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Venue : BIMTECH Bschool, Knowledge Park 2, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, Specifically at Plot Number 5, BIMTECH Road.

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T&C

20 Microns [S]	181.73	188.07	181.73	201.50	181.73	555.07	284.10	188.00	11	187.25	Garde Tch [S]	2130.40	2130.60	2130.40	2157.50	2071.20	531.11	3290.50	1362.50	-	Goldman Int [T]	411.30	391.00	414.85	419.90	390.00	1700.01	495.85	352.00	105	391.20
360 One WAM	112.40	138.49	116.10	116.20	112.60	766.80	1273.80	790.50	-	Cayess [T]	974.80	985.50	974.80	1004.20	953.00	61.10	101.99	482.30	-	Gold Tech [T]	45.89	43.96	47.50	47.50	43.43	56.55	80.50	40.10	44	44.02	
31 Infotech	16.22	16.04	16.37	16.90	15.81	316.71	179.29	19.44	14.00	-	CASTROL [S]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50
3 India	3765.00	3758.00	3780.00	3780.00	3780.00	410.80	3808.90	745.35	76	3758.30	CDSL [T]	140.00	139.70	140.70	140.90	140.00	138.50	132.25	104.75	-	Gopal Snacks [T]	308.45	305.25	311.00	311.00	303.00	303.00	303.00	303.00	34	2065.55
5 SPAISA	339.10	333.25	339.00	341.00	331.00	37.45	313.40	287.95	24	332.15	GE Info Sys [T]	400.00	398.00	400.00	400.00	398.00	390.00	400.00	400.00	23	4065.55										
63 Moontee [T]	724.80	701.15	709.00	739.95	697.80	231.25	113.00	575.05	85	701.30	GATE [T]	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	-	GPT Health [T]	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	120.40	20	178.15
A *****	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CEAT [T]	400.00	398.00	400.00	400.00	398.00	390.00	400.00	400.00	23	4065.55										
Adhaar Hgg.	473.55	472.60	473.55	477.20	471.05	271.12	547.80	361.60	-	CGPL Prod [T]	1031.05	1014.15	1040.70	1409.00	1385.00	1302.25	128.90	1047.45	-	GR Infra [T]	1000.05	974.65	1000.00	1000.00	971.00	135.75	144.40	895.00	34	1618.40	
Aarey Drugs	65.33	67.19	65.66	68.50	64.09	180.00	108.00	31.35	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
Aarti Ind [S]	467.80	467.15	470.00	470.00	459.35	79.96	494.00	338.20	46	467.45	Cello World [T]	205.45	206.55	299.00	299.00	291.00	305.67	307.90	422.61	-	KIRI DYES [T]	468.70	550.45	461.00	469.00	453.00	145.45	177.80	277.29	30	166.25
Aarti Ind [S]	467.80	467.15	470.00	470.00	459.35	79.96	494.00	338.20	46	467.45	Cemindia Pro [T]	65.60	635.50	657.50	658.00	631.30	322.31	94.40	476.60	-	KIRI DYES [T]	468.70	550.45	461.00	469.00	453.00	145.45	177.80	277.29	30	166.25
Aarti Pharm [T]	134.10	134.00	134.00	134.00	134.00	128.00	134.00	128.00	-	Centimill Fert [T]	453.75	455.45	457.65	469.00	446.50	201.03	412.45	410.15	10	465.45	GR Infra [T]	1000.05	974.65	1000.00	1000.00	971.00	135.75	144.40	895.00	34	1618.40
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	Chambari Fert [T]	37.95	37.81	38.12	38.12	37.41	410.97	50.44	32.32	7	37.78	Grasim [T]	295.00	293.00	297.00	297.00	294.00	157.00	152.00	204.00	50	2128.45
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
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Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85	172.85	176.85	172.85	-	CEATL [T]	187.83	186.88	188.10	185.05	187.15	125.00	180.60	19	186.90	Good Luck [T]	1138.80	110.20	1138.80	110.20	108.90	106.50	132.80	156.80	22	2110.50	
Aarti Pharm [T]	176.85	174.50	176.85	174.50	176.85																										

