Indian Economy:

Visit to Australia by His Excellency Ram Nath Kovind, President of India

His Excellency Mr Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India, and his wife, Mrs Savita Kovind, visited Australia from 21-24 November. This was the first state visit to Australia by an Indian President. During the visit, PM announced Australia’s response to An India Economic Strategy to 2035, providing in-principle support to the Strategy’s 20 priority recommendations. Australia’s Foreign Minister and India’s Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship witnessed the exchange of MOU on cooperation in the disability sector, bilateral investment, scientific cooperation, agricultural research and education, and on joint doctoral collaboration. The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade also signed a letter of intent seeking to collaborate with India’s Foreign Service Institute which is attached to the Ministry of External Affairs.

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PM Modi meets Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on the sidelines of East Asia Summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met his Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit which was being held in Singapore on the 14-15 November. Both the leaders discussed on deepening ties in trade & investment, defence & security and other areas of bilateral cooperation. Prime Minster Morrison raised the issue with Prime Minister Modi in regard with sugar subsidies seeking to resolve those issues.

Read More:
India’s first multi-modal terminal on inland waterways inaugurated in Varanasi by PM Modi

This is the first of the four multi-modal terminals being constructed on the National Waterway-1 as part of the World Bank aided Jal Marg Vikas project of the Inland Waterways Authority of India. The total estimated cost of project if Rs 5,369.18 crore, which will be equally shared between the centre and the World Bank.

Read More:

India To Be $10 Trillion Economy By 2035, Says Suresh Prabhu

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu today said Indian economy will quadruple to $10 trillion by 2035 riding on business-friendly policies, structural reforms and transparency in governance. "India is growing at a fast rate and will be a $5 trillion economy in another 7-8 years. By 2035, it will be a $10 trillion economy and we are preparing for that in an aggressive way," he said at the inauguration of India International Trade Fair (IITF).

Read More:

Statsguru: GST collections cross Rs 1-trillion mark for second time in FY19

Goods and services tax (GST) collections crossed the Rs1-trillion mark for the second time in 2018-19. Collections rose to Rs1.01 trillion in October, up from Rs944 billion in September. Collections had previously touched Rs1.04 trillion in April.

Read More:
India soon to have Banking Point within the reach of 5 Kms of every citizen: Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley

India will soon have banking point within the reach of 5 kms of every citizen, Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Shri Arun Jaitley said. The FM observed that during the period of 2014 – 2018, the population who had access to banking services rose from 58 per cent to almost 100 percent. The recent scheme of loan approvals in 59 minutes for MSMEs, launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is a step in that direction, stated the Finance Minister.

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Govt announces all households have been electrified in 15 states

The power ministry announced all the households have been electrified across 15 states in the country as a result of the implementation of the ambitious Saubhagya scheme. “Eight states have achieved 100 per cent saturation in household electrification under Saubhagya namely Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Bihar, J&K, Mizoram, Sikkim, Telangana and West Bengal.

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India to host G20 summit in 2022

India will host the G20 Summit In 2022, when the country celebrates its 75th year of Independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said during the meet of the international grouping in Argentina.

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3 lakh people benefited from Ayushman Bharat scheme so far: Arun Jaitley

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said as many as 3 lakh poor people have benefited from Ayushman Bharat health scheme in the last one-and-a-half months.

Read More:

Uttarakhand adjudged ‘best state’ at IITF Delhi

Uttarakhand was adjudged the best state at the 38th India International Trade Fair, New Delhi, which showcased reconstruction work done at Kedarnath in recent months besides steps taken by the state government to boost tourism and promote local products like organic honey.

Read More:
Companies:

Apple CEO Tim Cook ‘very bullish’ on India; confident of opening more stores in Indian market

Apple CEO Tim Cook voiced optimism that the Indian government will at some point agree to allow the technology giant to bring in its stores as he lauded the country’s bold reforms, saying he is a “big believer” and "very bullish" on India. Cook said that despite the challenges, including currency weakness, he was very optimistic about his company’s future growth in the Indian market.

Read More:

Dubai fast food chain plans $28m Indian expansion

Dubai-based quick service restaurant chain Doner and Gyros will reportedly invest Rs200 crore ($28 million) over the next five years to fund its expansion in India. The brand is looking to open 150-200 stores in India over the next five years.

Read More:

ITC eyes Rs1 trillion turnover from FMCG, plans to expand food portfolio

Diversified conglomerate ITC is looking at portfolio expansion in its food division to achieve the stated vision of the company of achieving Rs1 trillion turnover from FMCG. “The ambition set by our chairman and managing director of Rs1 trillion by 2030 is something we are all working towards, with current categories as well as new categories that we are getting into,” ITC divisional chief executive — foods division Hemant Malik told PTI.

Read More:

Tata Steel plans expansion, eyes installed capacity of 30 mt by 2025

Tata Steel is eyeing an installed capacity of 30 million tonnes (mt) by 2025 from the existing 18.5 mt. The company plans to achieve the capacity through brownfield expansion across its plants in Jamshedpur (Jharkhand), Kalinganagar (Jajpur district of Odisha), the newly acquired Bhushan Steel, and the Usha Martin steel facility, for which it has signed an agreement. “Our aim is to cross 30 mt by 2025. It’s an aspiration. We have got a line of sight up to 27-28 mt. The balance should happen,” said Anand Sen, president of steel business at Tata Steel.

Read More:
**Export / Import:**

**India’s Foreign Trade: October 2018**

India’s overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in April-October 2018-19* are estimated to be USD 308.32 Billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 17.17 per cent over the same period last year. Overall imports in April-October 2018-19* are estimated to be USD 374.88 Billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 18.88 per cent over the same period last year.

**EXPORTS (including re-exports)**

Exports in October 2018 were US $ 26.98 Billion, as compared to US $ 22.89 Billion in October 2017, exhibiting a positive growth of 17.86 per cent.

**IMPORTS**

Imports in October 2018 were US $ 44.11 Billion (Rs. 3,24,774.78 Crore), which was 17.62 per cent higher in Dollar terms and 33.07 per cent higher in Rupee terms over imports of US $ 37.50 Billion (Rs. 2,44,064.20 Crore) in October 2017.

**India keen to locally manufacture and export bullet train coaches**

India has proposed to Japan that it is keen to manufacture and export the bullet train coaches which could bring down the cost of operating the Shinkansen trains in the country, a senior official of the Indian Railways said. India is building the country’s first high speed rail corridor between Mumbai to Ahmedabad which is expected to be operational by 2022. Initially, India is set to buy 18 such Shinkansen trains from Japan for Rs 7,000 crore.

Read More:


**Cotton textile exports grew 26 pc in April-Sept 2018**

India’s cotton textile exports grew by 26 per cent at USD 6,235 million in the first six months ended September 2018 and the on-going trade war between US and China will open up new export opportunities, the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (Texprocil) said. The country had exported cotton textiles (raw cotton, yarn, fabrics and made-ups) worth USD 4,917 million in April-September 2017-18, the association said in a statement.

Read More:

Industry:

**India produced 8.77 MT crude steel in October**

India registered a marginal growth in its crude steel output at 8.77 million tonne (MT) during October 2018, according to World Steel Association. The country had produced 8.73 MT crude steel during the same month a year ago, the global industry body said in its latest report.

Read More:

**India ER&D market to grow to USD 42 bn by FY22: Report**

India’s engineering and R&D (ER&D) sector is set to grow to USD 42 billion by FY2022, helped by increasing focus on new-age technologies like Internet of Things, big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning, IT industry body Nasscom said in a report.

Read More:

Agriculture:

**Milk output up 28% in last 4 yrs: Agri Minister**

The country’s milk production has risen by 28 per cent in the past four years to 176.35 million tonnes, while farmers are getting an average Rs 7 per litre higher price for their milk, agriculture minister Radha Mohan Singh said. “We have taken a number of steps in the last four years to boost the dairy sector which is very important for doubling farmers income by 2022. He said the annual growth in milk production stood at 6.5 per cent during 2014-18, against 4.29 per cent during 2010-14.

Read More:

**Australia based MoooFarm to train 2 lakh farmers in dairy skills**

Australia-based MoooFarm said it will train two lakh Indian dairy farmers by 2020 to develop their skills in areas like cattle nutrition with a view to increase farmers’ income by at least 20 per cent. MoooFarm will train the farmers through UDAY, a skill development firm, which is its partner in India.

Read More:
Automobile:

Indian automotive aftermarket may touch Rs 75,000 cr by 2020

The domestic automotive aftermarket is expected to touch Rs 75,000 crore by 2020 driven by exponential rise in number of vehicles, according to a Confederation of Indian Industry report.

The boosters

6 million units – India’s vehicle market likely to grow by 2020, from 3.7 million units in 2016

6-7% – growth expected in the number of vehicles during the next year

5-7 mn – deployment of electric vehicles expected in the country by 2020

400,000 – passenger battery electric cars (BEVs) likely by 2020

$2 trillion – the new mobility solutions market likely by 2030

5-7 mn – deployment of electric vehicles expected in the country by 2020

400,000 – passenger battery electric cars (BEVs) likely by 2020

$2 trillion – the new mobility solutions market likely by 2030

Read More:


Volvo to assemble plug-in-hybrid vehicles in India

Volvo Cars India Ltd said it is planning to launch four plug-in hybrid vehicles in the next three years, starting with the XC90 sport utility vehicle. The company, the smallest premium car maker in India by market share, will be the first to launch a plug-in hybrid in the country. Plug-in hybrids have an electric motor that can be charged from a wall socket, apart from a conventional fuel engine. The vehicles will be imported in knocked-down kits and assembled at Volvo’s Bengaluru facility.

Read More:


Maruti Swift crosses 2 million sales milestone

Maruti Suzuki India said its premium hatchback Swift has crossed 2 million sales milestone since its launch the country in May 2005. The model raced past five lakh sales mark in September 2010, 10 lakh sales mark in September 2013, 15 lakh mark in March 2016 and 20 lakh milestone in November this year.

Read More:

Renewables:

India is now a world leader in renewable energy

Developing nations are now driving the world’s gradual shift towards renewable energy, and India has become one of the leaders of the pack. With increased investments and clean energy installations, as well as the world’s largest renewables auction market, India ranks 2nd after Chile in the 2018 Climatescope report by energy researcher BloombergNEF.

Read More:

EV Motors, DLF, Delta & ABB to invest US$ 200m in charging stations

EV Motors India said it plans to set up 6,500 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations over the next five years in partnership with DLF, ABB India and Delta Electronics, and will invest up to USD 200 million in the project. The charging outlet named PlugNgo will be installed at businesses and residential complexes across cities and will be networked and connected to its cloud-based integrated software platform, the company said in a release.

Read More:

India’s solar capacity at 27.4 GW till Sept-end

The country’s total solar energy capacity stood at 27.4 GW, including 23.2 GW utility-scale solar, 3.4 GW rooftop solar and 0.8 GW off-grid solar, at the end of September, according to a report released.

Read More:

Oil & Gas:

Adani, GAIL & Bharat Gas to invest Rs 34 bn in gas distribution in Odisha

Adani Gas, GAIL Gas and Bharat Gas Resources (a subsidiary of BPCL) will invest Rs 34 billion in creating city gas distribution (CGD) network in Odisha in the next eight years in seven geographical areas (GA) covering 17 districts. A CGD network is an interconnected network of pipelines for supply of gas to domestic, industrial or commercial premises and CNG stations situated in a specified GA.

Read More:

India can produce 62 MMT of CBG

India can produce 62 million tonnes of compressed bio gas (CBG) that will be sufficient enough to replace entire demand for gas, Vijay Sharma, Director in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, said. "If total potential of CBG is exploited in the country, India can produce approximately 62 million tonnes equivalent of CBG annually which is sufficient to replace the entire gas demand of the nation".

Read More:
**Electronics:**

**Mahindra Electric Mobility opens Rs 100-cr manufacturing hub in Bengaluru**

Mahindra Electric Mobility on Thursday opened its electric technology manufacturing hub set up with an investment of Rs 100 crore in Bengaluru. The company said, with the new facility, it's manufacturing capacity will increase to 25,000 units per annum.

Read More:

**Consumer electronics tops India’s retail sector**

Consumer electronics topped India’s online shopping list last year, accounting for 17 percent ($4.5 billion) of the total $29 billion consumer electronics retail sales in the country.

Read More:

**Retail:**

**Amway forays into herbal skincare segment, targets USD 1billion sales by 2025**

Direct selling major Amway announced its foray into herbal skincare segment in India to tap the growing demand of such products among youths in its pursuit of USD 1 billion total sales by 2025. In the next six years, the company expects its Attitude range of skincare products to become a Rs 500-crore brand accounting for 10 percent of its total sales.

Read More:

**Khadi sales jump 3-folds in FY18; KVIC to run ‘Khadi Express’ train to boost sales**

State-run Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has said the sale of Khadi products rose over three-fold in the last three fiscals and ‘Khadi Express’ train will be run to create awareness about the segment. According to KVIC, the Khadi turnover was Rs 811 crore in 2014-15, and it increased to Rs 2,509 crore in 2017-18.

Read More:
**Tech:**

**India will play a key role in achieving 200-million-unit shipment target: Huawei**

Chinese tech giant Huawei is betting on India to play a key role in achieving its global target of shipping 200 million smartphones this year. The company, which has shipped close to 100 million units in the first half of the year.

Read More:

**India’s mobile subscriber base to touch 1.42 bn by 2024; 80% to use 4G**

India’s mobile subscriber base is expected to reach 1.42 billion by 2024 and 80 percent of users are likely to have 4G connections, according to Ericsson Mobility Report released. Total global mobile subscriptions in the third quarter of 2018 increased by 120 million while India accounted for 31 million out of it.

Read More:

**Digital lending to MSMEs to grow up to US$ 100bn annually in 5yrs**

Even as fears are expressed about credit flow to small businesses in the immediate term, a study pegged digital lending to the MSME sector to grow 15 times to up to USD 100 billion annually in five years. As of 2018, most of the credit demand for USD 600 billion is being met through informal sources. India stands on the cusp of a watershed moment and can serve as a case study for other nations to elevate the role of MSMEs in the economy," Omdiyar’s partner and managing director for India, Roopa Kudva, said.

Read More:

**Video streaming market in India to reach $5 billion by 2023: BCG report**

The over-the-top (OTT) video streaming market in India is set to touch $5 billion by 2023, according to a report by Boston Consulting Group (BCG). The expansion of the country’s online video base is likely to be driven by rising affluence, increase in data penetration in rural markets and adoption across demography like women and older generations, BCG said in its titled *Entertainment Goes Online* report.

Read More:
https://www.livemint.com/Consumer/P9ZSN91tXV9eWM3mXRndrJ/Video-streaming-market-in-India-to-reach-5-billion-by-2023.html

**PC market in India grows 20.2% QoQ to 2.7 mn units in Sept qtr**

PC shipment in India grew 20.2 per cent in the July-September period to 2.71 million units against the previous quarter, driven by strong growth in commercial and consumer segments, as per research firm IDC.

Read More:
IT Hyderabad researchers are using smartphones to check milk purity

The dairy industry is one big enterprise with a huge customer base. Thus, the issue of milk adulteration directly affects millions of people. Consumption of chemically treated milk can result in health disorders, which may turn fatal for infants. As such, the social implication of this problem is tremendous, which inspired the researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad to take up this challenge. As a result, the researchers from IIT Hyderabad are developing 'smartphone-based sensors' to detect adulteration in milk.

Read More:

Suresh Prabhu launches AirSewa 2.0 web portal, mobile app in New Delhi

The upgrade and improved version of AirSewa operate through an interactive web portal as well as through a mobile app for both Android and iOS platforms and will offer passengers a convenient and hassle-free air travel experience. The web portal and application will help to capture air travellers’ feedback for policy interventions.

Read More:

NSE launches online platform for retail investors to buy G-sec

NSE launches online platform for retail investors to buy g-sec, National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) launched a mobile application and web-based platform for retail investors to buy government securities. The platform will allow retail investors to invest in treasury bills (T-Bills) of 91 days, 182 days and 364 days and various government bonds from one year to almost 40 years.

Read More:

India Post launches e-commerce portal

Leveraging its parcel business network, India Post announced the soft launch of its e-commerce portal.

Read More:
PwC India to invest Rs 100 cr for new tech solutions, hire 1,000 digital tech experts

PwC India said it will invest Rs 100 crore on development of digital solutions and expects to hire 1,000 digital technology experts over the next three years. The move is aimed at strengthening capabilities to deliver tech solutions that will help clients address real-world business challenges, it said in a statement.

Read More:

Amazon triples Cloud services earnings from India to Rs 21.47 billion

Amazon more than tripled its earnings to Rs 21.47 billion from cloud and data hosting services in India, while profits surged by more than 10 times to Rs 1.16 billion in the year that ended March 2018. Amazon Data Services India Pvt Ltd, which is into the business of data storage, protection, safety and recovery, and web hosting, posted a revenue of Rs 9.45 billion in FY18, while making a profit of Rs 879 million.

Read More:

Pharma:
Bluewater Alkaline Solutions launches portable oxygen cans OXY99 in India

Bluewater Alkaline Solutions, a city-based pulmonology solutions provider said it has launched portable oxygen cans OXY99 for the first time in India. Italian health major ING L and A Boschi manufactured the handy can weighing just 120 grams which can be used for 150 inhalations with a shelf life of two years. The company is also manufacturing 75 litres to 1,700 litres lightweight easy to carry oxygen cylinders certified by Indian pharmacopoeia,

Read More:

Defence:
Nuclear submarine Arihant completes first deterrence patrol mission

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India’s first nuclear armed submarine INS Arihant had successfully completed its first deterrence patrol, heralding India’s entry into an exclusive club of powers with land, air and sea-based nuclear weapons delivery platforms.

Read More:
https://www.livemint.com/Politics/MPSTSAYPZq855MBeczEg1N/India-says-nuclear-submarine-makes-first-patrol-PM-Modi-war.html
Space:

**ISRO successfully launches earth observation satellite HysIS**

ISRO's workhorse rocket PSLV-C43 successfully injected into orbit with India's earth observation satellite HysIS along with 30 co-passenger satellites from eight countries. The mission was one of the longest missions for ISRO. The primary mission of the Hyper Spectral Imaging Satellite (HysIS), whose life is five years, is to study the earth's surface in visible, near infrared and shortwave infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Read More:


**ISRO launches communication satellite GSAT-29**

ISRO's heavy-lift rocket GSLV-Mark-Three has proven its reliability by successfully launching the communication satellite GSAT-29. It lifted off from the second launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. The GSLV Mark Three injected the satellite in an orbit closer to the earth at 190 km and farthest at 35,975 km.

Read More:


Tourism:

**Indian tourists among world’s highest spenders abroad, reveals new data**

Indian tourists are quite the spendthrift when it comes to vacationing, says a new study. A new data about the Indian tourists has revealed that they are among the world's highest spenders per visit made abroad. According to the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Indian outbound tourists account for 22.5 million of worldwide tourists in 2018. According to estimates, even this figure of tourists flogging abroad will increase by 122 per cent by 2022.

Read More:


**Rapid growth in arrival of foreigners with e-visa; 137 million dollars collected as fees till October this year**

Over 1.7 million foreigners visited India with e-visa last year and the number of tourists availing the popular scheme this year is likely to cross two million mark. The top five countries whose nationals availed e-visa services in 2018 are: United Kingdom -292,143, the United States 221,339, China 127,022, France 107,185, Germany 89,863.

Read More:

Upcoming Trade Fairs in India

**Vibrant GUJARAT 2019**
- Shaping a New India | 9th Global Summit
- January 18-20, 2019
- Exhibition Center, Ahmedabad

**India STEEL 2019**
- January 22 - 24, 2019
- Mumbai Exhibition Centre, Mumbai

**Indus FOOD**

**Invest MADHYA PRADESH**
- Global Investors Summit
- February 23rd & 24th, 2019

**World Famous Annual International Yoga Festival**
- March 1-7, 2019
- Parmarth Niketan in Rishikesh, Yoga Capital of the World