

## Top Story 1

### Understanding India's Corporate Taxation Framework

India's corporate taxation framework regulates the taxation of both domestic and foreign companies, with applicable rates—standard or concessional—determined by company classification and eligibility. Recent reforms have been aimed at easing tax burdens, improving compliance mechanisms, and fostering a more investor-friendly environment. As tax season approaches, understanding India's evolving corporate taxation rules is critical for both domestic and foreign businesses. From concessional tax rates to cross-border compliance and dividend taxation, this guide unpacks everything companies need to know for AY 2025–26. Corporate tax laws are seen as key factors in global investment decisions, often influencing how companies allocate capital. India has made notable strides in enhancing its tax competitiveness. Domestic companies can opt for a concessional base tax rate of 22 percent, while the standard rates remain at 25 percent or 30 percent, depending on turnover thresholds. When factoring in surcharge and cess, the effective tax rate hovers around 25.17 percent. Additionally, India imposes a Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) at 15 percent, and dividends are taxable in the hands of shareholders.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change		Index	Change
USDINR	85.528	-0.11	NIFTY 50	23,583.80	-10.80
EURINR	92	-0.135	BSE Sensex	77,522.32	-84.11
GBPINR	110.822	-0.119			
JPYINR	56.7641	0.0755			

## Top Story 2

### **PM pushes for stronger India-Saudi ties in energy, tech**

The trade between Saudi Arabia and India had grown even amid global challenges, with energy, agriculture and fertilizers as key sectors, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in an interview to Arab News on his two-day visit to Saudi Arabia. Modi is visiting the country on the invitation of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. “Indian companies have also maintained a strong presence across various sectors in Saudi Arabia,” Modi told the Saudi Arabian newspaper, welcoming deeper integration of Saudi and Indian businesses, particularly in emerging sectors like green hydrogen and technology. Modi highlighted that the two countries are working on a Bilateral Investment Treaty and the proposed Free Trade Agreement between India and GCC has immense potential to transform the economic relationship between India and Saudi Arabia, and the region in general.

## **Economy: -**

### **India Stays World's Fastest Growing Economy At Over 6% Growth As Imf Slashes Forecast For 127 Countries**

India continues to remain the world's fastest-growing major economy and the only country expected to clock over 6 per cent growth in the next two years, according to an IMF report released on Tuesday, which has trimmed the growth forecast for over 120 countries. IMF chief economist Gita Gopinath said, "Our April 2025 World Economic Outlook projects significantly weaker global growth at 2.8 per cent for 2025 with growth downgrades for 127 countries making up 86 per cent of world GDP." "The path forward requires clarity and predictability on trade policies. Countries should address structural challenges to rebuild resilience and restore growth momentum," Gopinath added in a post on X.

## **Investment: -**

### **Saudi Arabia, India to deepen energy ties, to set up two oil refineries**

Saudi Arabia and India agreed to deepen energy ties and pursue closer cooperation in areas like tourism and technology as the countries seek to strengthen relations at a time of turbulence for the global economy. An accord was reached to establish two oil refineries in India through a joint venture between the countries, India's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Suhel Ajaz Khan said in a briefing, without giving more details. The developments come after Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met in Jeddah on Tuesday night. India's leader departed shortly after, rather than staying in the kingdom until Wednesday, following one of the worst attacks on civilians in India's northern Jammu and Kashmir region in years.

## **Banking: -**

### **Nine Indian banks among forty Global Digital Champions**

According to the 6th Deloitte Global Digital Banking Maturity (DBM) survey, nine Indian banks have been recognised as 'Digital Champions' among 40 banks that received the title globally. Since 2022, India's DBM Index has grown from 43 percent to 59 percent, witnessing a 16-percentage point (pp) increase. Indian banks have observed the most notable gains in day-to-day banking (+9.8 pp) and expanding relationships (+3.4 pp). This change reflects Indian banks' increasing digital maturity, showcasing their focus on customised advisory, rapid technological advancements, AI integration and beyond-banking offerings. The Global DBM study, conducted biennially, surveyed 349 banks in its latest edition, assessing participants based on their retail banking maturity across three main channels: public websites, internet banking and mobile banking, which includes application messenger service-based banking. Using mystery shopping methodology, the banks' features were evaluated across six customer journey steps, namely information gathering, account opening, customer onboarding, day-to-day banking, expanding relationships and end relationships. The latest edition of DBM has improved the methodology by adding UX insights as a benchmarking segment in addition to the customer journey steps.

<https://www.deloitte.com/in/en/about/press-room/nine-indian-banks-among-forty-global-digital-champions.html>