

## Top Story 1

### **At \$4.3 Trillion, India's GDP Doubles In 10 Years, Outpaces World With 105% Rise**

India has been the fastest growing major economy in the world for the last ten years, with the latest data from the International Monetary Fund or IMF showing a staggering 105 per cent growth in the last decade. According to the IMF, India's GDP currently stands at \$4.3 trillion. It was \$2.1 trillion in 2015, when Narendra Modi's first term as prime minister was less than a year in office. Since then, India has more than doubled its economy in terms of Gross Domestic Product or GDP. India is on the cusp of overtaking Japan as the fourth-largest economy in the world. Japan's GDP currently stand at \$4.4 trillion and India is poised to go past that mark by the third quarter of 2025.

## Top Story 2

### **Rupee rises 10 paise to 86.71 against US dollar during early trade**

The rupee appreciated 10 paise to 86.71 against the US dollar in early trade recently, tracking its Asian peers and supported by positive domestic equities. Forex traders said the sharp upside for the local unit was restricted as investors grappled with the potential economic impact of growing global trade concerns. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 86.71 against the greenback, up 10 paise from its previous close. The rupee had appreciated 24 paise to close at 86.81 against the US dollar. Asian currencies gained slightly as CNH rose to 7.2338, IDR was at 16395 and KRW at Fears that US President Donald Trump's aggressive tariff policies could trigger a broader economic slowdown have undermined the greenback, said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. Meanwhile, the US dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.19 per cent higher at 103.56.

## **Economy: -**

### **India on track to surpass Japan's GDP, could overtake Germany by 2027: IMF**

India is on track to surpass Japan and become the world's fourth-largest economy by the third quarter of the financial year 2024-25, according to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has more than doubled in the past decade, rising from \$2.1 trillion in 2015 to an estimated \$4.3 trillion in 2025. The IMF data shows that India, currently the fifth-largest economy, is closing in on Japan, whose GDP stands at \$4.4 trillion. While India's economy has expanded by 105% in the last ten years, Japan's GDP has remained stagnant. If India continues on this growth path, it could also surpass Germany, the world's third-largest economy with a GDP of \$4.9 trillion, by the second quarter of 2027.

**Finance: -**

## **GDP growth likely improved to 6.3% in December quarter**

India's economy likely grew at 6.3% in October-December, up from 5.4% in July-September, mainly due to a broad-based pick-up in economic activity, the median of 16 estimates by economists showed. If the Q3FY25 growth comes in at 6.3%, GDP will have to grow by 7-7.3% in Q4 to average 6.4% for the full financial year. In Q1 and Q2, GDP grew by 6.7% and 5.4%, respectively. Economists say the lacklustre growth in Q2 was mainly due to manufacturing activity growing at a snail's pace (2.2%), which has recovered substantially in the December quarter. "Manufacturing should see a big pick-up in Q3, which would be leading the growth during the quarter," said Upasna Bhardwaj, chief economist. In Q2FY25, manufacturing had grown merely 2.2%, at a six-quarter low.

## **Invetsment: -**

### **Overseas investments by Indian firms grow 40% in FY25 to \$36 billion amid Trump tariff storm**

Indian companies are sending more money to their overseas businesses despite the uncertainty in global trade following the election of Donald Trump as the US President. In February, Indian companies sent \$5.35 billion overseas, the highest monthly outflow in at least 38 months, data compiled by Moneycontrol shows. In the first 11 months of FY25, Indian companies sent \$36 billion overseas, over 40 percent more than the \$25.2 billion in the previous year and \$24.8 billion in FY23, RBI data on overseas direct investment (ODI) shows. ODI is a special category of overseas remittance designed for companies looking to take money out of India for corporate purposes such as expansion plans and capital infusion. In a year, a company can send up to \$1 billion overseas. The ODI route is different from the Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS) through which Indian individuals are allowed to send up to \$250,000 overseas every year.

## Digitalization : -

### UPI Is Driving 84% Digital Transactions Of India

As India's digital payments landscape is transforming, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is emerging as the dominant force of such transactions driving financial inclusion, merchant adoption, and cross-border transactions. As per a new report by The Digital Fifth, UPI is responsible for 84 per cent of digital transactions in India. According to a new industry report, UPI now drives 84 per cent of all digital transactions in India, solidifying its reputation as a technological marvel and a model for digital-first economies worldwide. The report highlighted that UPI transactions surged 4.4 times from 2021 to 2024, reaching 172 billion transactions annually. UPI has emerged as the dominant force in digital payments, far outpacing both card-based and wallet transactions. Merchant adoption has also scaled rapidly, with over 30 million merchants onboarded onto UPI. The merchant-to-consumer (P2M) segment is growing at an impressive 67 per cent year-on-year, outpacing peer-to-peer (P2P) transactions, signalling UPI's transition into the primary retail payment system.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change		Index	Change
USDINR	85.602	0.019	NIFTY 50	23,614.10	-54.55
EURINR	93	0.228	BSE Sensex	77,738.73	-278.46
GBPINR	110.852	0.074			
JPYINR	57.044	-0.0656			