

Top Story 1

Indian economy growing at 6.5% in FY26 despite global headwinds

India's GDP is projected to grow at 6.5 per cent in the current fiscal year, with the economy resilient enough to withstand short-term geopolitical disruptions. He emphasised the need for India to strengthen its trade position by pursuing bilateral agreements, especially amid the rising trend of global protectionism. We are looking at 6.5 per cent. We believe this number can be achieved fundamentally, because the fact is, we are starting with a reasonably good foundation, robust economic foundation. He highlighted several positive macroeconomic indicators supporting this projection, including easing interest rates, declining inflation, personal income tax concessions effective from, and a noticeable pickup in both public and private investments in the latter part of the previous fiscal year. Private investment is reportedly gaining momentum in key sectors such as energy, transportation, metals, chemicals, and hospitality. However, Puri acknowledged that current geopolitical uncertainties could result in "some cautiousness" when it comes to investment decisions.

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/money/topstories/robust-economic-foundation-cii-sees-indian-economy-growing-at-6-5-in-fy26-despite-global-headwinds/ar-AA1Eyofk?ocid=finance-verthp-feeds>

Top Story 2

Indian economy has potential to surpass China in near future

India is poised to become one of the most exciting investment destinations in the world and may even outperform China in the coming years. I have been around the investment world for decades, and for the first time in my life, I see that the people in Delhi understand economics. I think the people understand what needs to be done and are trying to do it. That would be wonderful for India and for the world. I don't have investments in India right now, but I really, really want to invest more in the fastest-growing economy," he added. He also noted that if the market declines and stays down for a while, I want to put more money in India. India is projected to become the world's fourth-largest economy in 2025, with the country's nominal GDP expected to rise to \$4,187.017 billion — surpassing Japan's GDP, which is pegged at \$4,186.431 billion.

<https://ddnews.gov.in/en/indian-economy-has-potential-to-surpass-china-in-near-future-jim-rogers/>

Economy

Indian Rupee Opens Stronger Against US Dollar

The Indian rupee opened 75 paise stronger at 84.65 against the US dollar, following its previous close at 85.38 a dollar. The trading range for the day was expected to be between 84.50 and 85.25, according to analysts. The dollar maintained its gains following a significant trade pact between the US and China. The US will reduce tariffs on Chinese goods from 145 per cent to 30 per cent for 90 days, while China said it will cut tariffs on US goods from 125 per cent to 10 per cent for 90 days. The two countries will establish a mechanism to continue discussions about economic and trade relations. Any fresh developments on the geopolitical front are likely to have a significant impact on the rupee's direction. In FY25, rupee traded in the range of 83.10 and 87.6 against the greenback, initially weakening after the US election results and depreciating by 2.4 per cent over the year due to persistent FPI outflows and a strong US dollar.

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/money/markets/indian-rupee-opens-stronger-against-us-dollar/ar-AA1EF58x>

Digitalization

India in the era of quantum mechanics and digital AI

The number of smartphone users in the world is about 4.88 billion, which is about 60% of the world's population. The total number of mobile connections is about 7.21 billion, of which smartphones account for about 86.8%. Currently, low-orbit satellites allow easy communication between humans in the Amazon jungle or on Mount Everest. Now, humans are entering the era of HUMMERBOT's, just like smartphones. The era of HUMMERBOT's refers to the era in which humans and robots coexist. It is a robot that coexists with people as a tool and helps people by humming and singing. The era of HUMMERBOT is an era of quantum mechanics that makes hacking impossible. How should we develop India, a huge country that includes 28 states, in a balanced manner. Currently, there are about 420 million young people in India, aged between 15 and 29. The government can create specialized training centers in each state and provide them with specialized training courseware.

<https://www.koreaitimes.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=141245>

Finance

How India's digital platforms are powering a developed economy vision

In the past 10 years, a slew of transformative activities in India have delivered more than improving just the business landscape. From better compliance to transparency, the aspects overlooking a business and its lifecycle have undergone a sea change. Businesses today, from inception to operations to their seizure, have a system to follow and meaningfully contribute to economic expansion and job creation. However, the current speed of business change in the AI age demands faster resolution. What more can India do to improve the ease of doing business? The latest Economic Survey, Budget announcements, and government dossiers document that growth and India's emphasis on deregulation, underlining the government's objective of creating a more seamless and business-friendly regulatory environment. The platforms India has created will improve ease of doing business and help the nation become a developed economy.

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/long-reads/putting-the-ease-back-in-doing-business-how-indias-digital-platforms-are-powering-a-developed-economy-vision/122778>

Investment

Foreign investors continue to show confidence in India despite global uncertainty

The management commentary across the board is by and large still somewhat weakish to at best neutral in most cases. So, we still are not really in a good news environment. The good news would be when I guess earnings really start delivering and you start seeing good earnings growth coming through. We have seen a series of downgrades in the last few weeks and over the earning season. The good news is definitely in terms of I guess tariffs and geopolitics. There definitely I guess there is a lot of optimism that things have settled down and the worst is over. But what definitely in our view investors globally are still very worried about a sharp global slowdown. Just the uncertainty caused by the tariff environment that itself will create issues in terms of economic growth globally which in turn as far as India is concerned that impacts us relatively less, which explains why a lot of foreigners are still interested in India.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/expert-view/foreign-investors-continue-to-show-confidence-in-india-despite-global-uncertainty-pratik-gupta/articleshow/121132557.cms?from=mdr>

Currency	Rate(Rs)	Change	Index	Change
USDINR	84.9016	-0.5104	NIFTY50	24,775.40 -67.85
EURINR	94.1278	-0.9872	BSE Sensex	81,552.56 -600.69
GBPINR	112.322	0.431		
JPYINR	0.5726	-0.0002		

