

Top Story 1

India's economy has moved from fragile 5 to top 5 in the world:

Bharat's economy has transformed from being among the "fragile five" to one of the "top five" globally, reflecting its unstoppable growth and resilience. The leader emphasized that the nation continues to advance with full momentum, even as the world faces challenges and disruptions. Inflation remains low while growth stays strong, supported by major global investments and a surge in trade with key partners. Bharat has become self-reliant across sectors, from technology to manufacturing, shaping global opportunities through innovation and confidence. The address also highlighted the nation's progress in overcoming internal security challenges, with more individuals leaving extremist paths and joining the mainstream. Efforts are underway to eliminate violence, strengthen peace, and ensure that development reaches every region. The commitment to unity, stability, and progress remains central to Bharat's vision of inclusive growth and sustainable development for all.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/indias-economy-has-moved-from-fragile-5-to-top-5-in-the-world-pm-10313545/>

Top Story 2

'India clearly an economic superpower

At a global summit, a former world leader emphasized that every nation acts in its own national interest, calling such actions justified. Addressing recent tariffs imposed on India, he noted that relationships built solely on short-term transactions often fail, while those grounded in trust endure and grow stronger. He described India as an emerging economic superpower, highlighting its advancements in technology, energy, and innovation. The leader also observed that India is gaining global recognition, with achievements such as an increase in unicorn startups and growing cultural influence. Commenting on shifting global dynamics, he said the old world order has faded, giving rise to a more multipolar system where countries focus on their individual strengths. On trade issues, he acknowledged that tariffs and policy shifts reflect broader strategic realignments, while India continues to balance its energy and economic priorities based on national interests.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/us-news/india-clearly-an-economic-superpower-former-uk-pm-rishi-sunak-on-us-tariffs-trade-and-global-power-shifts/4014564/>

Economy

India-EU trade talks: Goyal to visit Brussels this month

India is advancing discussions with the European Union to strengthen trade relations and finalize a comprehensive free trade agreement (FTA). The upcoming high-level meetings in Europe aim to accelerate negotiations, which both sides intend to conclude soon. Recent rounds of dialogue have focused on aligning mutual interests in trade, investment protection, and geographical indications, signaling renewed momentum after a long pause. The partnership seeks to enhance market access, promote balanced trade, and expand economic cooperation. Bilateral engagements have intensified, reflecting the shared commitment to establishing a mutually beneficial framework. The EU remains one of India's key trading partners, accounting for a significant share of its exports and imports. Strengthening this alliance is expected to open new opportunities for businesses, boost exports, and attract investments, further supporting India's position in global trade networks and fostering long-term economic growth.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-trade-talks-goyal-to-visit-brussels-this-month/articleshow/124667623.cms>

Market

ESAF Small Finance Bank Secures RBI Approval for New Part-Time Chairman

The central banking authority has approved the appointment of a new Part-Time Chairman for a leading financial institution, marking a key milestone in strengthening its governance and strategic direction. This appointment follows a structured internal selection process, with the Nomination and Remuneration Committee and the Board recommending the candidate, subject to regulatory approval. With this approval now secured, the institution will proceed to obtain shareholder consent for the candidate's role as a Non-Executive Independent Director within the stipulated timelines. This move reflects the bank's commitment to maintaining transparency, accountability, and compliance with regulatory norms. The appointment is expected to enhance board oversight and support the institution's long-term growth strategy, aligning with the regulator's emphasis on strong governance practices across the financial sector. Such developments reinforce investor confidence and signal the sector's continued progress toward improved operational resilience and sound leadership in India's evolving financial ecosystem.

[ESAF Small Finance Bank Secures RBI Approval for New Part-Time Chairman](#)

Investment

Emirates NBD to invest \$3 bn in RBL Bank for up to 60% controlling stake

A leading global financial institution has announced plans to invest nearly \$3 billion in a prominent private sector bank in India, aiming to acquire up to a 60% controlling stake. The proposed investment underscores growing international interest in India’s expanding financial services sector and reflects strong confidence in the nation’s economic growth trajectory. The transaction, subject to regulatory and shareholder approvals, is expected to strengthen the bank’s capital base, enhance liquidity, and support its long-term growth and digital transformation strategy. This move also aligns with the investor’s broader vision to expand its presence in high-growth markets and diversify its portfolio. For India’s banking ecosystem, the investment signals increasing global participation and could foster stronger competition and innovation in retail and corporate banking services. The partnership is anticipated to bring in advanced financial technologies, strategic expertise, and operational synergies that can further accelerate the institution’s growth in India.

Digitalization

Digital Fleet Transformation: Roadcast’s Rahul Mehra on How Telematics and AI Are Reshaping Logistics in India

India’s telematics ecosystem is set to transform logistics by driving greater digitalization and efficiency. As adoption grows, traditional semi-digital and manual systems will gradually be replaced with centralized, data-driven fleet management processes. This shift will bring about automated trip planning, real-time vehicle and driver monitoring, predictive maintenance, and digital compliance management. Integrating enterprise systems will further enhance route optimization, fuel efficiency, and overall operational control. The transition from reactive to predictive decision-making will significantly reduce inefficiencies, improve safety standards, and enhance productivity across fleet operations. With these advancements, logistics companies will gain deeper visibility, better control, and streamlined processes, ultimately strengthening competitiveness in an evolving business landscape. Telematics will not only enhance transparency and reliability but also position India’s logistics sector as a key driver of innovation and sustainable growth, supporting the nation’s push toward smarter, technology-led transportation solutions.

<https://techgraph.co/interviews/roadcast-rahul-mehra-on-how-telematics-ai-reshaping-logistics-india/>

Metric	17-Oct-2025 Rate	18-Oct-2025 Rate	Change
USDINR	₹88.0256	₹88.0256	<u>0.0000 ₹</u>
EURINR	₹102.6418	₹102.6150	<u>-0.0268 ₹</u>
GBPINR	Data NA	Data NA	—
JPYINR	Data NA	Data NA	—
NIFTY 50	Market Closed	Market Closed	<u>—</u>
BSE Sensex	Market Closed	Market Closed	<u>—</u>