

Top 1

Foreign investment in Indian government securities surpasses \$9B in 2024

Foreign investment in Indian government securities (G-secs) via the fully accessible route (FAR) has surpassed \$9 billion in the first seven months of 2024. This impressive influx outpaces the total investment for all of 2023, which saw \$8.21 billion, according to Clearing Corporation of India Ltd (CCIL) data. The surge reflects strong investor confidence in India's economic stability and growth prospects. The FAR initiative, allowing unrestricted access to foreign investors, has been crucial in achieving this milestone. Increased foreign investment not only boosts India's financial markets but also enhances fiscal stability. This trend underscores India's growing prominence in the global financial landscape and highlights the effectiveness of policies aimed at creating a favorable investment environment, marking a positive outlook for the nation's economic future.

TOP 2

UPI One World' wallet service now available to inbound international travellers visiting India

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the rollout of 'UPI One World' wallet for inbound travellers, across all nations of the world, visiting India. This initiative is designed to provide international visitors with a seamless, real-time digital payment experience through UPI, making it easier to explore India's cultural wonders and vibrant landscapes. Additionally, this innovative service will be available to the esteemed delegates attending the World Heritage Committee meeting in New Delhi from July 21-31, 2024. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is India's popular mobile-based real-time payment system, which enables instant personal and merchant payments. Through this development, delegates as well as other foreign visitors will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in India's rich culture, cuisine, and many diverse experiences with the ease of UPI payments.

Digitalization

UPI transactions cross ₹20 trillion for third successive month in July 2024

Payments through the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) reported a 45% yearly growth, according to data from the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI). The value of transactions also saw a growth of over 35%, totaling ₹20.64 trillion. This marks the third consecutive month when total transactions exceeded ₹20 trillion. In June 2024, the total UPI transaction value was ₹20.07 trillion, while in May it was ₹20.44 trillion. NPCI data also showed that the average daily transaction value through UPI in July 2024 was ₹466 million, or about ₹66,590 crore. Compared with June, the volume of UPI transactions grew by 3.95% in July, while the value of transactions increased by 2.84%. In the first four months of the current fiscal year (2024-25), UPI recorded transactions amounting to ₹80.79 trillion across approximately 55.66 billion transactions.

Economy

India became the fifth largest economy under PM Modi's leadership

India and Vietnam have taken a significant step forward in enhancing their strategic partnership by firming up a new action plan. Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the shared vision of both nations for a free and rules-based Indo-Pacific, highlighting New Delhi's commitment to development rather than expansionism. Praising India under PM Modi's leadership, Vietnam's Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh noted, "India has become the fifth-largest economy in the world, one of the top powers with a striking global role." During his visit, PM Chinh paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat, laying floral wreaths while the prayer "Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram," a favorite of the Mahatma, played in the background. PM Modi announced a \$300 million credit line for Vietnam to bolster its maritime security, reinforcing the strong ties between the two countries. PM Chinh's three-day visit to Delhi underscores the commitment to expanding comprehensive strategic cooperation, as stated by PM Modi, "We have adopted a new plan of action to further strengthen our comprehensive strategic cooperation."

Finance

Retail credit growth moderates to 16.6% in June 2024, shows RBI data

The retail loan growth declined to 16.6 per cent year-on-year (YoY) in June 2024 from 21.3 per cent a year ago, largely due to sharp moderation in credit in the segment. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed that growth in the other personal loan category, which consists mainly of unsecured credit, fell sharply to 13.2 per cent YoY in June 2024 from 28.4 per cent in June 2023. However, credit growth to 'housing,' the largest constituent of the segment, accelerated to 18.2 per cent YoY from 14.8 per cent YoY. The credit growth numbers exclude the impact of the merger with Private Bank. The RBI in its statement said non-food credit grew by 13.9 per cent in June 2024, down from 16.3 per cent in June 2023. Credit to industry inched up to 7.7 per cent YoY in June 2024 compared with 7.4 per cent a year ago. There was a slight improvement in credit to large industries at 6.9 per cent in June 2024 from 5.4 per cent a year ago.

Market

India's Digital Rupee Surpasses 5 Million Users, RBI Discloses

India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has revealed that as of June, there were five million digital rupee users and 420,000 merchants participating in the retail central bank digital currency (CBDC) pilot. The RBI emphasized that the digital rupee is designed to complement cash and existing payment systems, serving both wholesale and retail sectors. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a report on Currency and Finance 2023-24 on Monday. One of the key highlights was the progress of the central bank digital currency (CBDC) pilot, also known as the digital rupee. "The introduction of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) on a pilot basis in 2022 is the latest innovation which would entail a 'more efficient and cheaper currency management system,'" RBI stated. "Digital currency is expected to complement cash and current payment systems."

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change	Index	Change	
USDINR	83.524	0.063	NIFTY 50	24,135.20	-8.60
EURINR	89.648	0.009	BSE Sensex	79,432.88	-43.30
GBPINR	105.56	-0.014			
JPYINR	51.66	-0.007			