

## **Top Story 1**

### **India's GDP growth seen at 6.5% in FY25, FY26**

India's economy is likely to grow by 6.5 per cent in the current and the next financial year, an EY report said, attributing lower than anticipated expansion in the September quarter to fall in private consumption expenditure and gross fixed capital formation. Real GDP growth eased to a seven-quarter low of 5.4 per cent in July-September -- the second quarter of the current 2024-25 fiscal year. This was compared to 6.7 per cent in the preceding quarter. This was primarily because two domestic demand components -- private final consumption expenditure and gross fixed capital formation -- together accounted for a fall of 1.5 percentage points. "One outstanding feature of demand is the slowdown in investment, as reflected in the growth of gross fixed capital formation. This growth is estimated at 5.4 per cent in 2QFY25, which is a six-quarter low. Apart from the fact that private investment demand has not picked up, there was a contraction in government of India's investment expenditure growth, which has remained negative at (-)15.4 per cent in first half of FY25," the report said.

## **Top Story 2**

### **India To Witness Healthy FDI Inflows In 2025**

India, averaging over \$4.5 billion in monthly foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows since January this year despite global uncertainties and challenges, is tipped to sustain the trend in 2025 on the back of measures by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-government to enhance the country's investor-friendly appeal. Investor-friendly policies, strong return on investments, skilled manpower, reduced compliance burdens, decriminalising minor industry-related offences, national single window system for streamlined approvals and clearances, and production linked incentive (PLI) schemes are key measures for keeping foreign investors focused on India.

## **Investment: -**

### **The India-UAE Bilateral Investment Treaty Came Into Effect**

India signed a landmark defense agreement with the United States in October 2024 to acquire 31 MQ-9B drones in a deal valued at \$3.5 billion. The procurement, aimed at enhancing India's defense preparedness, is particularly significant given the nation's ongoing focus on countering challenges posed by China. This milestone agreement, finalized after eight years of negotiations and approvals from two U.S. administrations, also involved India leasing two drones during the deliberative process. On the U.S. side, the deal required congressional approval, underscoring its strategic importance. Under the agreement, 15 drones will be deployed to the Indian Navy, while the remaining 16 will be divided between the Indian Army and the Air Force. The MQ-9B drones, known for their high-altitude, long-endurance capabilities, are expected to significantly bolster India's reconnaissance and operational capabilities.

## **Economy: -**

### **India has potential to leap to 30 trillion US dollar economy by 2047**

Former CEO of NITI recently said that India has potential to leap to 30 trillion US dollar economy by 2047 and it can be achieved by triggering its growth in manufacturing and exports. Mr. Kant was delivering the special memorial lecture on the occasion of Good Governance Day at Rajbhavan in Patna. He said India has to accelerate its national GDP nine times, per capita income 8 times and manufacturing capacity 16 times to become a developed nation. Mr. Kant said, at present Indian economy size is 4 trillion US dollar and it has to maintain compound power growth to excel further in present challenging scenario. The former Sherpa of India at G-20 summit Mr. Kant said, global great power conflict, tariff war and disturbed global supply chain are major challenges at international fora whereas in domestic aspect country has to improve its skewed population dividend and lopsided manufacturing growth.

**Finance: -**

## **India records strong FDI inflows in '24**

India, averaging over USD 4.5 billion in monthly foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows since January this year despite global uncertainties and challenges, is tipped to sustain the trend in 2025 on the back of measures by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-government to enhance the country's investor-friendly appeal. In the January-September period this year, FDI into the country rose by about 42% to USD 42.13 billion. The inflow was at USD 29.73 billion in the year-ago period. The inflows during April-Sept 2024-25 grew by 45% to USD 29.79 billion against USD 20.48 billion in the same period previous fiscal. Total FDI in 2023-24 was a healthy USD 71.28 billion. A total FDI inflow of USD 991 billion was recorded, with 67% (USD 667 billion) received during the last ten financial years (2014-2024). FDI equity inflow in the manufacturing sector increased by 69%, rising from USD 98 billion in 2004-2014 to USD 165 billion in 2014-2024. PTI

## **Digitalization: -**

### **The Future of E-Commerce and Digital Payment In India**

The Indian e-commerce market has witnessed unprecedented growth in recent years, driven by increasing internet penetration, growing smartphone adoption, and a rising middle class with a penchant for online shopping. The COVID-19 pandemic has further accelerated this growth, with millions of Indians turning to e-commerce platforms for their daily needs. As the Indian government continues to promote digitalization through initiatives such as Digital India and Make in India, the future of e-commerce and digital payments in India looks promising. This article explores the current state of e-commerce and digital payments in India, the drivers of growth, opportunities and challenges, and future trends that will shape the industry in the years to come. The rise of India's digital economy in a brief period of less than a decade has been nothing short of a revolution, transforming the everyday lives of people. The wave of digital transformation is evident from the smartphone penetration the country has witnessed over the past few years, boasting a population of almost eighty crore Indians interacting with the world wide web.

## **Digitalization: -**

# **NRI's Can Now Use UPI For Faster, Simpler Money Transfers To India**

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has taken a big step to enhance banking convenience for Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) by allowing them to link their international mobile numbers to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). This new feature provides NRIs with a faster, more efficient way to send money to India, bypassing the delays often associated with traditional wire transfers. With this update, NRIs holding Non-Resident External (NRE) or Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) accounts can seamlessly transfer funds directly from their smartphones. By linking their international mobile numbers, they gain access to instant UPI transactions, whether they're sending money to family, paying for services, or managing expenses in India.

## banking: -

### The Impact of UPI on Traditional Banking

In recent years, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has emerged as a game-changer in India's financial and spending habits. It has shifted how people handle their money and interact with banks. UPI payment systems have simplified transactions and have also introduced a new aspect of traditional banks' operations. UPI was introduced in 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) as a digital framework that allows seamless, instant money transfers between bank accounts using a mobile app. Thanks to **UPI apps** on most smartphones, customers can transfer money in real-time, pay bills, and manage their transactions effortlessly. Unlike traditional banking, which often still involves several steps and fees, UPI offers an all-in-one solution for cashless transactions. A huge population is still dependent upon banks for their finances but is looking for easier ways like UPI apps.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change	Index	Change	
USDINR	85.262	-0.173	NIFTY 50	23,742.95	15.3
EURINR	89	0.012	BSE Sensex	78,456.49	-16.38
GBPINR	106.818	-0.366			
JPYINR	0.5411	0.0011			