

## Top Story 1

### **India and the Netherlands: Trade and Investment Profile**

The relationship between India and the Netherlands, which began with the spice trade several centuries ago, has evolved into a robust bilateral trade partnership, leading to extensive collaborations between the two nations across various sectors. Over the years, India has emerged as a key trade and investment partner for the Netherlands, with numerous partnerships formed with Dutch companies. Economic and commercial relations between India and the Netherlands play a key role in Indo-Dutch relations, with businesses focusing on sectors like water management, agriculture, food processing, health, environment, transport, logistics, services, and science and technology. The Netherlands ranks as India's 11th largest global trading partner for merchandise and the top partner within the European Union.

## Top Story 2

### **UPI, Global APIs, More: Homegrown Tech That's Helping India Shape Global Digital Infrastructure**

India is not just embracing the digital future; it's creating it. By building a robust digital backbone that powers payments, commerce, trade, and lending, India is crafting a framework that connects everyone, anywhere, through API plug-ins. At the heart of this revolution lies UPI (Unified Payments Interface) and instant KYC (Know Your Customer) verification. These innovations are reshaping financial inclusion, governance, and economic transparency. India's digital infrastructure is empowering millions, breaking down barriers to access, and enabling real-time transactions and authentication on a global scale. This isn't merely a technological leap — it's a transformative approach to governance and finance. As India pioneers this new digital era, it positions itself as a global leader, ready to share its solutions with the world, driving economic growth and inclusion across borders.

## **Economy: -**

### **Banks to set up a Unified Recovery Interface to enhance efficiency**

Eying benefits from digital banking, banks are now looking at building Unified Recovery Interface (UPI) for enhancing efficiency, reducing costs and getting good prices for properties of defaulters. This would be managed by public sector bank, a company set up by all public sector banks in the country, chairman, Indian Banks' Association (IBA), said: "Till now we had Unified Payment Interface (UPI), a product developed by National Payment Corporation Ltd (NPCI). The second leg that is coming is Unified Lending Interface (ULI). There is a thought process in bank that after the payment and lending side, the important aspect that is left out is recovery." With the bank balance certificate process in place, now Unified Recovery Interface will come through them. This will give comfort to bankers that when they lend this, the process will run for the recovery also, so there may not be many challenges in collection management. This will bring down the cost of collections, said.

**Banking: -**

## **Indian Economy Set for a Comeback: World Bank Predicts 7% Growth Amid Global Challenges**

Is the Indian economy back on track and will it soon be soaring despite earlier hiccups? When the first quarter of the present financial year witnessed a GDP growth rate of 6.7%, a lower-than-expected rate of 7.1%, all naysayers actively rejected the saga of Indian growth. However, the future is not so bleak with an anticipated spurt in the economic and financial activities unfolding and spiraling soon. The International Bank for Reconstruction Development, better known as the World Bank, has forecasted a GDP growth rate of 7% for the Indian economy despite growing unemployment, falling exports, and widening the rich-poor chasm. In its latest 'India Development Update: India's Trade Opportunities in a Changing Global Context', the World Bank has said that the Indian economy is growing quickly despite challenging global conditions. Boosted by the investment in public infrastructure and real estate projects, the Indian economy recorded a growth rate of 8.2% in 2023-24.

## **Market: -**

### **Rupee settles 4 paise higher at 83.97 against US dollar**

The rupee traded in a narrow range and settled for the day higher by 4 paise at 83.97 against the US dollar on recently due to weakening of the American currency in the overseas market and an overall drop in crude oil prices. Forex traders said the domestic unit witnessed a slight negative bias on weak global equities and concerns over global economic growth. Moreover, dollar demand from importers also dented investor sentiments. The domestic unit finally settled for the day at 83.97, registering a gain of 4 paise from its previous close. Recently, the rupee breached the crucial 84-mark for the second time within a month and settled 3 paise lower at 84.01 against the American currency. “The Indian rupee which continued to drop to a record low witnessed a range-bound trading session as it stayed wedged between negative global cues and intervention from the central bank,” said Maneesh Sharma, AVP – Commodities & Currencies, Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers.

## Investment: -

# India's role in global economy offers opportunities for S'pore

India's growing role in the global economy presents Singapore with opportunities for collaboration across economic, technological and geopolitical spheres, Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Neil Parekh has said. The Indian-origin business leader's comments came as Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong announced the elevation of the India-Singapore strategic partnership to comprehensive strategic partnership on Thursday. Parekh was speaking at the inaugural "Singapore India Forum The Next Phase" which was attended by some 350 members of the Singapore business community. By strengthening its relationship with India, Singapore can further solidify its position as a pivotal player in the evolving global landscape, given that the two countries have a long-standing partnership that has deepened over the years, Parekh said.

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change	Index	Change	
USDINR	83.96	0.068	NIFTY 50	25,198.70	-0.21
EURINR	93	0.334	BSE Sensex	82,352.64	394.84
GBPINR	110.34	0.275			
JPYINR	58.407	0.1743			