

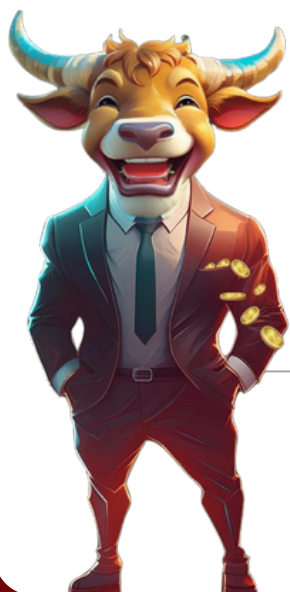
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भारत UNWRAPPED WEEKLY



NEWSFLASH

6th April - 12th April

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ADB PEGS INDIA FY27 GROWTH AT 6.9% SUPPORTED BY REFORMS, TRADE DEALS



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has raised India's growth outlook, highlighting strong domestic demand, rising consumption, and continued policy reforms. The improved forecast reflects resilience in manufacturing and services, supported by trade agreements and investment activity. However, risks from global uncertainties, including geopolitical tensions and energy price volatility, persist. Despite these challenges, ADB expects India to maintain steady growth momentum, driven by structural reforms, public investment, and improving external demand conditions.

INDIA, US TO BOOST COOPERATION IN AI, CRITICAL MINERALS UNDER PAX SILICA

India and the United States have agreed to strengthen cooperation in artificial intelligence and critical minerals under the Pax Silica initiative. The collaboration focuses on enhancing supply chain resilience, securing key resources, and advancing technology partnerships in emerging sectors. The move reflects growing strategic alignment between the two nations, aimed at reducing dependency on limited suppliers while promoting innovation, economic security, and long-term development in critical technology ecosystems.



WEST ASIA WAR: INDIAN REFINERS TURN TO VENEZUELA, RUSSIA FOR OIL SUPPLY



Amid disruptions in West Asia, Indian refiners are increasingly sourcing crude oil from Russia and Venezuela to secure energy supplies. The shift reflects efforts to reduce dependence on traditional Middle East routes affected by geopolitical tensions. While Venezuelan crude offers short-term relief, its heavier grade limits wider usage, prompting refiners to diversify sourcing strategies to maintain stable operations

INDIA SET TO GET FIRST IRANIAN OIL CARGO IN 7 YEARS, TRACKING DATA SHOWS

India is poised to receive its first Iranian crude oil shipment in seven years, according to ship-tracking data, signalling a shift in energy sourcing amid global supply disruptions. The development reflects India's strategy to diversify imports and secure supplies during geopolitical uncertainty. Renewed inflows from Iran could help ease pressure on refiners and stabilise crude availability in the domestic market.



INDIA'S FOREX RESERVES JUMP \$9 BN TO \$697.1 BN IN WEEK ENDED APRIL 3



India's foreign exchange reserves rose sharply by \$9 billion to reach \$697.1 billion for the week ending April 3, driven by gains in foreign currency assets and gold reserves. The increase strengthens the country's external position and provides a buffer against global economic volatility. Strong reserves also enhance confidence in India's ability to manage currency fluctuations and external shocks.

INDIA EXPANDS EUROPE TIES WITH FOCUS ON ENERGY, DEFENCE & TRADE

India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri is on a key Europe visit to France and Germany, aiming to strengthen ties in energy, defence, and trade amid rising global uncertainties. Discussions will cover critical areas like energy security, AI, technology, and investments, especially in light of the West Asia crisis. The visit also seeks to deepen strategic partnerships and review overall bilateral relations, signaling India's proactive geopolitical engagement with major European economies.



STRONG START TO 2026: INDIA REAL ESTATE ATTRACTS \$1.2 BILLION IN PRIVATE EQUITY



India's real estate sector began 2026 strongly, attracting \$1.2 billion in private equity during Q1, a 66% year-on-year increase. Domestic investors led the surge, contributing 66% of the total capital. The office segment remained the primary focus, accounting for 41% of investments, particularly in Gurugram and Pune. Additionally, the hospitality and co-living sectors showed growth through diversification. Stable interest rates and government infrastructure focus continue to bolster investor confidence, signaling a resilient and lucrative market for the year ahead.

ECONOMIC SHOCK OF MIDDLE EAST WAR TO CAST SHADOW OVER IMF, WORLD BANK

The ongoing Middle East conflict cast a significant shadow over the April 2026 IMF and World Bank meetings. Global finance leaders warned that an escalating regional war poses a severe "economic shock," threatening global growth through soaring oil prices and disrupted trade routes. While the U.S. economy remains resilient, officials emphasized that persistent geopolitical instability could trigger sticky inflation and higher interest rates. The meetings underscored a shift in focus toward crisis management as global fragmentation and security risks intensify.



INDIA-UK FREE TRADE PACT MAY COME INTO FORCE FROM SECOND WEEK OF MAY'



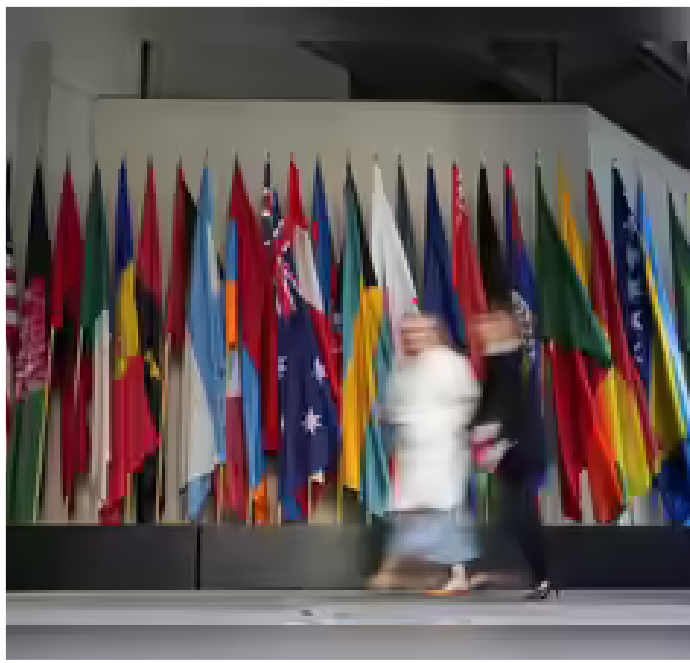
The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), signed in July 2025, is anticipated to take effect by the second week of May. This free trade pact aims to double bilateral trade to \$56 billion by 2030. Under the agreement, 99 percent of Indian exports, including textiles and footwear, will gain zero-duty access to the British market. In exchange, India will significantly lower import tariffs on British products like automobiles and Scotch whisky, while opening its consumer goods market.

INDIA'S FISHERIES EXPORTS RISE TO ₹68,000 CR AFTER US TARIFFS: MOS BAGHEL

Union Minister Satya Pal Singh Baghel announced that India's fisheries exports have surged from ₹60,000 crore to ₹68,000 crore. This significant growth is attributed to India successfully exploring new global markets across Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia following the imposition of US tariffs. Driven by major coastal export hubs like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha, the government now aims to reach an ambitious ₹1 trillion in fisheries exports over the next five years.



WORLD BANK RELEASES \$340 MILLION FOR AMARAVATI DEVELOPMENT



The World Bank has disbursed \$340 million for Amaravati's Phase-I development, with an additional \$150 million expected by April, supported jointly with the Asian Development Bank. The total committed funding stands at \$1.6 billion, with disbursements linked to milestone achievements. The project focuses on infrastructure, urban governance, and job-oriented skilling programs. Key works, including roads, housing, water systems, and flood management, are progressing, aiming to transform Amaravati into a sustainable growth hub.

INDIAN RUPEE, BONDS AWAIT RBI VERDICT; GUIDANCE ON LIQUIDITY, CURRENCY MOVES EYED

Indian financial markets, specifically the rupee and government bonds, are trading cautiously as investors await the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) latest monetary policy verdict. Market participants are primarily seeking clear guidance on the central bank's liquidity management strategy and its stance on future interest rates. Additionally, traders are closely monitoring currency movements, looking for the RBI's action plan for managing the rupee's volatility against the US dollar amid global economic headwinds and fluctuating oil prices.





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