India UNWRAPPED WEEKLY

NEWSFLASH

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US WANTS TO SELL INDIA AS MUCH ENERGY AS IT CAN BUY

The United States has shown strong interest in expanding energy trade with India, with Senator Marco Rubio stating that the US is ready to supply India with as much energy as it requires. This reflects growing strategic and economic cooperation between the two countries. Increased energy exports from the US could help India diversify its energy sources and strengthen energy security. The move is also expected to boost bilateral trade relations and create long-term opportunities in sectors.

'GOVT IN ADVANCED STAGE OF CONSULTATION ON COTTON IMPORT DUTY REMOVAL'

Indian government is in the advanced stage of consultations regarding the removal of cotton import duty to support the domestic textile industry. Industry experts believe that reducing or removing the duty may lower raw material costs for textile manufacturers and improve export competitiveness. The proposal comes amid concerns over cotton supply shortages and rising prices in the domestic market. If implemented, the move could benefit garment exporters, textile producers, and related industries.

INDIA AND ITALY TO INCREASE BILATERAL TRADE TO €20 BILLION BY 2029

India and Italy have agreed to strengthen economic relations and aim to increase bilateral trade to €20 billion by 2029. Both nations are focusing on expanding cooperation in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, renewable energy, and defense. The initiative reflects India's strategy of deepening trade partnerships with European nations to boost exports and foreign investment. Stronger economic collaboration between the two countries.

UN CUTS INDIA'S 2026 GDP FORECAST TO 6.4% CITING GLOBAL UNCERTAINTIES

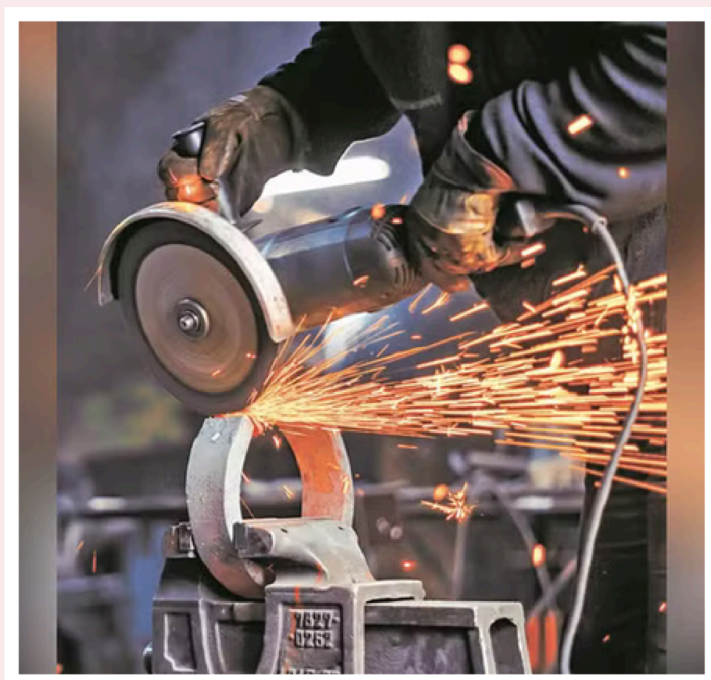
United Nations has reduced India's GDP growth forecast for 2026 to 6.4%, citing global economic uncertainties, geopolitical tensions, and weaker international demand. Despite the downgrade, India remains one of the fastest-growing major economies in the world. The report highlights concerns regarding inflationary pressures, trade disruptions, and slowing global growth affecting emerging economies. However, strong domestic demand, infrastructure spending, and government reforms continue to support India's economic performance.

RBI TRANSFERS RECORD ₹2.87 TN SURPLUS TO GOVERNMENT IN FY26

Reserve Bank of India announced a record surplus transfer of ₹2.87 trillion to the government for FY26, providing significant fiscal support. The surplus transfer is expected to strengthen government finances and help fund infrastructure development, welfare schemes, and fiscal deficit management. Economists believe the record transfer reflects strong earnings by the central bank through foreign exchange operations and investments. The additional funds may also provide flexibility for the government to increase spending.

INDIA'S CORE SECTOR GROWTH RISES TO 1.7% IN APRIL ON STEEL, CEMENT OUTPUT

India's core infrastructure sector recorded 1.7% growth in April, supported mainly by higher steel and cement production. The core sector includes industries such as coal, electricity, steel, cement, natural gas, crude oil, and refinery products, which are crucial for economic development. Growth in steel and cement output indicates rising construction and infrastructure activity across the country. However, slower growth in some energy-related sectors limited overall expansion. Economists believe continued infrastructure investment by the government.



SITHARAMAN, US ENVOY GOR DISCUSS DEEPENING INDIA-US ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

US envoy held discussions on strengthening India-US economic relations and expanding bilateral cooperation. The meeting focused on trade, investment, technology, and strategic partnerships between the two countries. Both sides emphasized the importance of deeper economic engagement to support business growth and investment opportunities. The discussions come at a time when India and the US are working toward stronger trade agreements.

INDIA'S EXPORTS RISE 13.8% IN APRIL; FDI HITS RECORD $95 BILLION

India's exports increased by 13.8% in April, reflecting strong global demand for Indian goods and improved trade performance. At the same time, foreign direct investment reached a record $95 billion, highlighting growing investor confidence in the Indian economy. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal stated that exports are expected to maintain strong growth momentum in the coming months. Rising exports and FDI inflows are likely to support economic growth, job creation, industrial expansion.

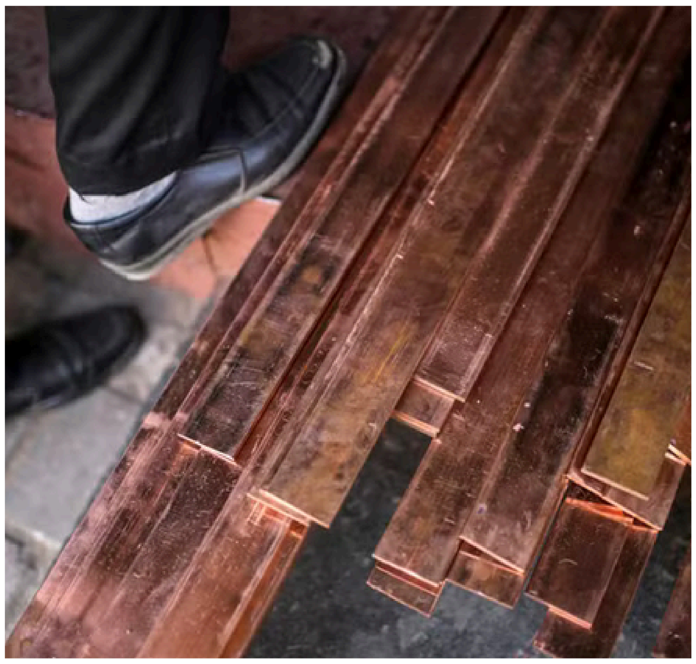
INDIA SEEKS ADVANTAGE OVER RIVALS AS US TRADE PACT NEARS FINALISATION

India is aiming to secure a strategic advantage over competing economies as negotiations for a major trade agreement with the United States move closer to completion. The proposed agreement is expected to improve market access, strengthen supply chains, and boost bilateral trade opportunities. India is focusing on securing favorable terms in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, agriculture, and services. Experts believe the agreement could enhance India's competitiveness in global markets, attract additional foreign investment.

WEST ASIA CRISIS: INDIA TO BUY RUSSIAN OIL DESPITE US WAIVER LAPSE

India has decided to continue purchasing Russian oil despite the lapse of US waivers linked to the ongoing West Asia crisis. The government emphasized that energy security and stable fuel supply remain top priorities for the country. Russian crude oil has become an important source of affordable energy imports for India, helping manage domestic fuel prices and inflation. The decision highlights India's independent energy strategy and its effort to balance geopolitical relationships while protecting economic interests.

INDIA'S COPPER IMPORT BILL CROSSES ₹1 TRILLION AS STRUCTURAL GAPS WIDEN



India's copper import bill has crossed ₹1 trillion due to rising industrial demand and structural gaps in domestic production capacity. Copper is widely used in industries such as construction, power, electronics, electric vehicles, and renewable energy. Increasing imports indicate strong industrial growth but also highlight dependence on foreign supply to meet domestic requirements. Experts believe India needs higher investment in mining, refining, and recycling infrastructure to reduce import dependence. The rising import bill may also impact the country's trade balance.

INDIA FACES POWER CUTS AS HEATWAVE DRIVES RECORD ELECTRICITY DEMAND

India is facing power shortages in several regions as severe heatwaves have driven electricity demand to record levels. Increased use of cooling systems and industrial energy consumption has placed significant pressure on the country's power infrastructure. Experts warn that rising temperatures and climate-related challenges may continue to affect electricity supply during peak summer months. The situation highlights the need for greater investment in power generation, renewable energy, and transmission infrastructure.

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