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Economic & Business

India's Economic Landscape:

Growth and Stability: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, speaking at the ET World Leaders Forum 2025, stated that India is the world's fastest-growing major economy, driven by a decade of macroeconomic stability. He predicted that India would soon become the world's third-largest economy and contribute around 20% to global growth.

Fiscal and Monetary Health: The Prime Minister highlighted India's narrowing fiscal deficit, with an expected drop to 4.4%. He also pointed to stronger banks, low inflation, low interest rates, controlled current account deficit, and strong forex reserves as indicators of economic health.

Technological Advancements: PM Modi announced that the first "Made in India" semiconductor chip is expected to be in the market by the end of 2025.

GST Reforms: The government is working on "next-generation" GST reforms, which are expected to be completed by Diwali. These reforms aim to simplify the tax regime, lower prices, and boost market demand and employment.

Defense and Manufacturing: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh stated that India's defense exports have grown significantly, and the government aims to achieve Rs 50,000 crore in defense exports by 2029. He also mentioned that the domestic defense production has more than tripled since 2014.

Postal Services: The Department of Posts has temporarily suspended most international postal services to the United States. This is a response to a new US executive order that removes the duty-free exemption for low-value goods, making all goods subject to customs duties.

Global Economic Developments:

Trade and Tariffs: The US has imposed new secondary tariffs on India as a way to pressure Russia to end the war in Ukraine. The US has also instituted a new tariff regime on various imports, which is projected to have a significant impact on global trade and the profits of major international companies.

Central Bank Policies: The global economic outlook remains uncertain. While global growth is projected to be around 3.0% for 2025, inflation, particularly in the US, is a concern. The US Federal Reserve's preferred measure of inflation is set to be updated, which will provide more clarity on the future path of interest rates. The European Central Bank President has warned against political interference with central bank independence.

Market Outlook: The Indian stock market ended the previous week on a positive note, with the Nifty50 gaining about 1%. However, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) have been net sellers, with total selling in 2025 so far amounting to over Rs 1,57,000 crore. The Nifty and Bank Nifty indices are expected to face some resistance and potential consolidation in the coming days.





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MCQS

1. What is the expected fiscal deficit for India, as highlighted by Prime Minister Modi?

- A) 5.1%
- B) 4.4%
- C) 3.9%
- D) 6.2%

Answer: B) 4.4%

The news states, "The Prime Minister highlighted India's narrowing fiscal deficit, with an expected drop to 4.4%."

2. When is the first "Made in India" semiconductor chip expected to be in the market?

- A) End of 2026
- B) Mid-2025
- C) End of 2025
- D) Early 2026

Answer: C) End of 2025

According to the information provided, "PM Modi announced that the first 'Made in India' semiconductor chip is expected to be in the market by the end of 2025."

3. What is the target for India's defense exports by the year 2029?

- A) Rs 25,000 crore
- B) Rs 40,000 crore
- C) Rs 50,000 crore
- D) Rs 65,000 crore

Answer: C) Rs 50,000 crore

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is quoted as saying that the government "aims to achieve Rs 50,000 crore in defense exports by 2029."

4. Why has the Indian Department of Posts temporarily suspended most international postal services to the United States?





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- A) Due to a shortage of postal staff.
B) As a protest against new US tariffs on Indian goods.
C) In response to a new US executive order that removes the duty-free exemption for low-value goods.
D) Because of a new US law requiring stricter security checks on international mail.

Answer: C) In response to a new US executive order that removes the duty-free exemption for low-value goods.

The news states that the suspension "is a response to a new US executive order that removes the duty-free exemption for low-value goods, making all goods subject to customs duties."

5. What has been the trend of Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) in the Indian stock market in 2025 so far?

- A) Net buyers
B) Net sellers
C) No significant activity
D) Mixed trend

Answer: B) Net sellers

The provided text notes that "Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) have been net sellers, with total selling in 2025 so far amounting to over Rs 1,57,000 crore."

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