December 2018

Economic Affairs Committee Newsletter

(Monthly update on India's socio-economic developments)

PHD Research Bureau

PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

EAC Newsletter
December 2018

India's GDP growth at 7.6% in the first half of FY2018-19 is impressive and expected to pick up in the coming quarters. With the improvement in India's ranking on Ease of Doing Business and announcement of major reforms for the MSMEs, growth of manufacturing sector is expected to improve in subsequent quarters. Reforms in the agriculture sector would be critical to strengthen the growth of the sector and create employment opportunities in the food processing sector, going forward. Going ahead, higher GDP growth of 7.5% in FY2019 as compared to 6.7% in FY2018 is expected.

Further, OECD expects India's economic growth at around 7.5% in 2019 and 2020. Private consumption and government consumption is expected to grow at 7.4% and 7.3%, respectively, in 2019. Despite higher oil prices and Rupee depreciation, business investment and exports are expected to remain strong amid structural reforms including new Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, smoother implementation of GST, better roads & electricity, among others.

On the macro-economic front, the lead indicators are in positive trajectory as the IIP has registered a significant growth of 8.1% in October 2018 on account of remarkable double digit growth capital goods and consumer durables. The CPI declined to 2.3% in November 2018 from 3.34% in October 2018. The WPI inflation fell to 4.6% in November 2018 from 5.3% in October 2018. The core infra on the other hand, registered a growth of 4.8% in October 2018 from 4.3% in September 2018.

The gross bank credit registered a growth of 13.1% in October 2018 from 11.3% in September 2018 which shows uptick in industrial investments. Further, the credit to agriculture and allied activities increased by 8% in October 2018 from 5.8% in September 2018. However, the merchandise exports grew by mere 0.8% in November 2018. The CAD also widened to 2.9% of GDP in Q2 FY2019 from 1.1% in Q2 of FY18 primarily on account of a higher trade deficit at US$ 50.0 billion as compared with US$ 32.5 billion a year ago.

The RBI has maintained status quo and Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.5%. Consequently, the reverse repo rate under the LAF remains at 6.25%, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75%. Further, the RBI proposed to reduce the SLR by 25 basis points every calendar quarter until the SLR reaches 18 per cent of Net Demand and Time Liabilities. The first reduction of 25 basis points will take effect in the quarter commencing January 2019.

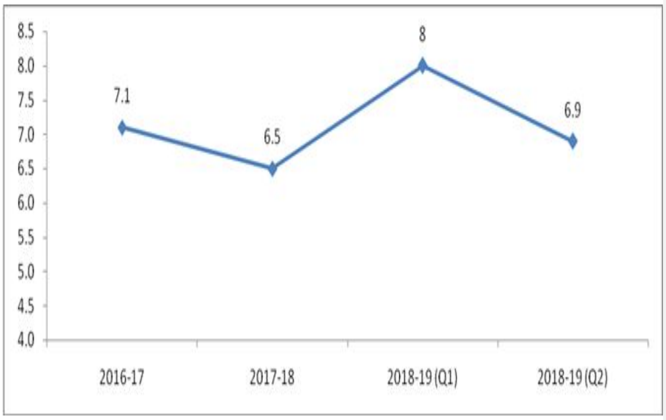
On the policy front, the government has rationalized the GST rates in 17 categories and 6 services. Reduction in tax rates on the items from TVs to movies tickets, marble rubble, frozen and preserved vegetables, among others is a great relief for every segment of the society. It is encouraging to note that only 28 items are left in the highest slab of 28%; the shift in items from higher tax slabs to lower tax slabs is the visible intent of the Government to constantly reforming the taxation system to make it simpler. Going ahead, rationalization of GST rates on cement, hotel & restaurants, tourism would further enhance the economic activity and strengthen the growth of construction and tourism sectors. Continuous reforms in the policy environment would pave the way for higher, sustainable and strong economic growth trajectory, going forward.

Contents

1. Indian economy so far

1.1 Growth

Gross Value Added (GVA) Growth Rates (in Percentage)

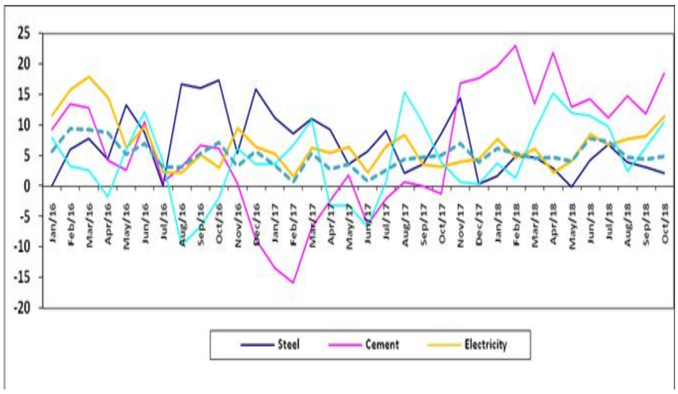


Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from CSO and MOSPI

India's GDP stands at 7.1% in Q2 FY2019- GDP stands at 7.1% in Q2 FY2019 as compared to 8.2% in Q1 FY2019 and 6.3% in Q2 FY2018. The agriculture sector growth stands at 3.8% in Q2 FY2019 from 5.3% in Q1 FY2019. Manufacturing sector registered a growth of 7.4% in Q2 FY2019 as compared to 13.5% in Q1 FY2019. Construction registered a growth of 7.8% in Q2 FY2019 as compared to 8.7% in Q1 FY2019 Growth of Trade, Hotel, Transport, Communication has been registered at 6.8% in Q2 FY2019 from 6.7% in Q1 FY2019. Financial, Real Estate & Professional Services registered a growth of 6.3% in Q2 FY2019 as compared to 6.5% in Q1 FY2019. Public Administration, Defence & Other Services registered a growth of 10.9% in Q2 FY2019 from 9.9% in Q1 FY2019.

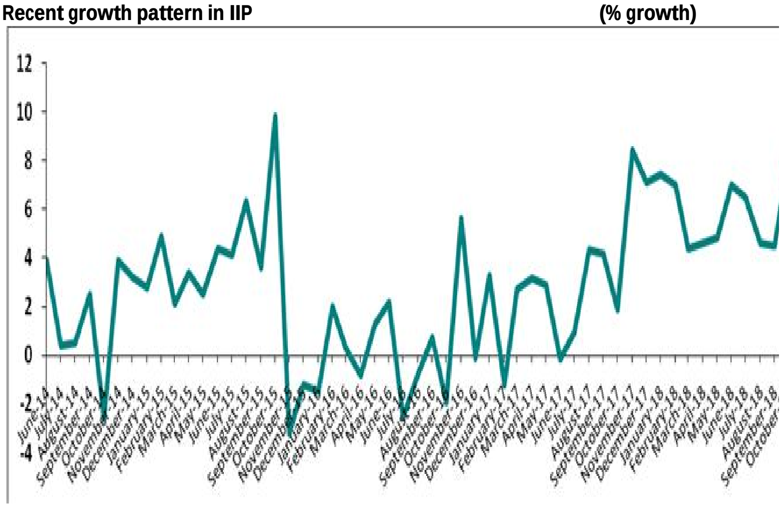
October 2018 core infra grows at 4.8%- The core infrastructure grows at 4.8% in October 2018 as against 4.3% in September 2018. The combined Index of Eight Core Industries stood at 134.8 in October, 2018, which was 4.8% higher as compared to the index of October, 2017. Cement and Refinery products growth stands at 18.4% and 1.3% respectively in the month of October 2018. In cumulative terms, core infrastructure industries registered a growth of 5.4% during April-October 2018-19 as against 3.5% during April-October 2017-18.

Sector wise trend in monthly production (% growth)



Source: PHD Research Bureau

Recent growth pattern in IIP (% growth)

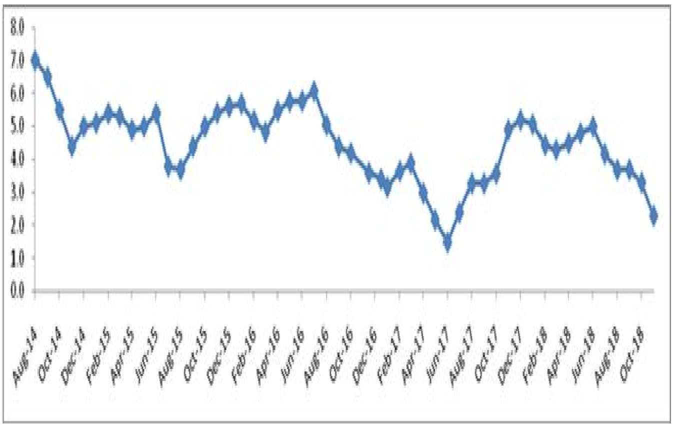


Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from CSO

October 2018 IIP grows at 8.1%- Growth in industry output, as measured in terms of IIP, for the month of October 2018 stands at 8.1% as compared to 4.5% in September 2018. The growth in the three sectors mining, manufacturing and electricity in October 2018 stands at 7.0%, 7.9% and 10.8% respectively over October 2017. Primary goods growth stands at 6.0%, capital goods growth stands at 16.8%, intermediate goods growth stands at 1.8%, infrastructure/construction goods growth stands at 8.7%, consumer durables stands at 17.6% and consumer non-durables growth stands at 7.9% during October 2018 as compared to the previous year. The high growth in IIP can be attributed to the demand due to festive season due to which the production was stepped up which translated in higher numbers of IIP.

1.2 Inflation

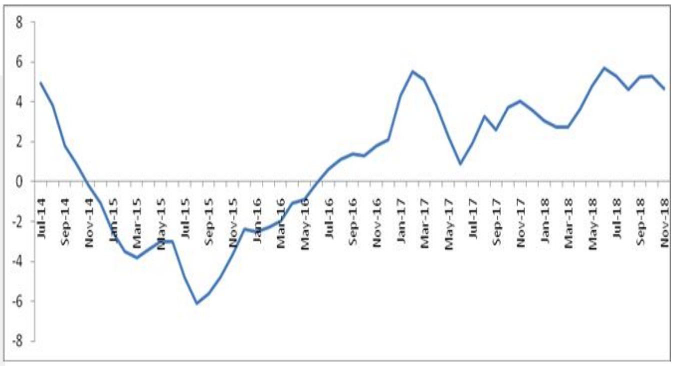
Consumer Price Inflation (Combined) (%)



November 2018 CPI inflation falls to 2.33%- The all India general CPI inflation (Combined) for November 2018 (Prov.) falls to 2.33% from 3.38% in October 2018. The inflation rates for rural and urban areas for November 2018 (Prov.) are 1.71% and 3.12%, respectively, as compared to 2.82% and 4.04% respectively, for October 2018. Rate of inflation during November 2018 (Prov.) for fuel and light (7.39%), housing (5.99%), transport and communication (6.09%), education (6.64%) and health (7.16%) etc. The deceleration in CPI to 2.3% in November 2018 from 3.4% in October 2018 is inspiring as softer monetary policy stance is expected to continue vis-a-vis benign inflationary conditions.

November 2018 WPI inflation falls to 4.64%- The WPI inflation falls to 4.64% in November 2018 as compared to 5.28% in October, 5.22% in September 2018, 4.62% in August 2018, 5.27% in July 2018 and 5.68% in June 2018. The fall in WPI inflation in the month of November 2018 is attributed to rise in the prices of Potato (86.45%), Petrol (12.06%) and LPG (23.22%). Build up inflation rate in the financial year so far was 4.73% compared to a build up rate of 2.83% in the corresponding period of the previous year. The WPI inflation for manufactured products stands 4.21% for November 2018 as against 4.49% for October 2018.

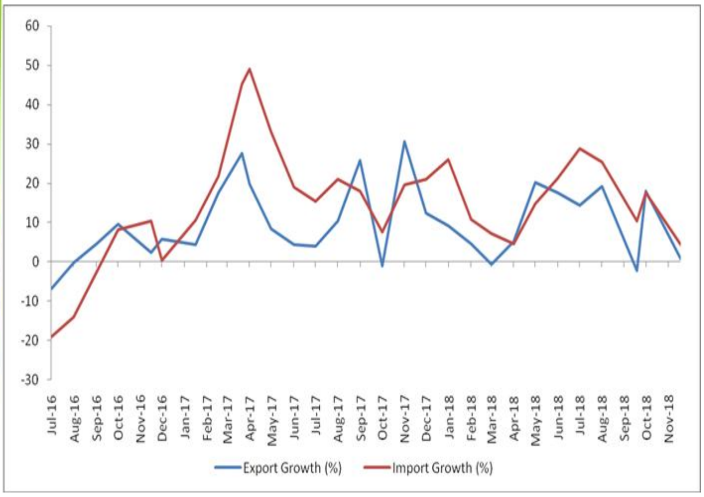
Trend in WPI inflation (Y-O-Y)



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from the office of the Economic Advisor to the Govt. of India

1.3 External sector

Trend in Export-Import Growth (in percentage)

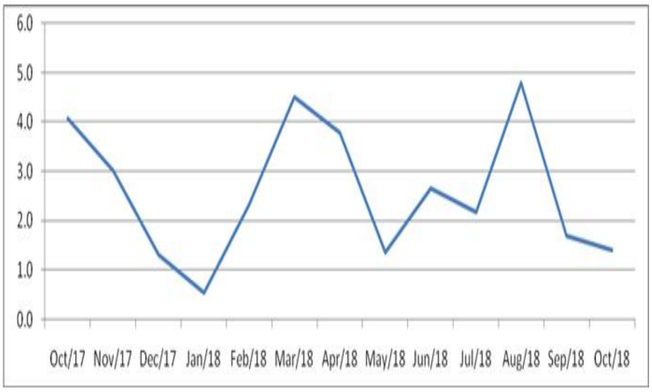


Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from Ministry of Commerce

Merchandise exports and imports grew by 0.8% and 4.31% respectively in November 2018- India's exports during November 2018 were valued at USD 26.50 Billion as compared to USD 26.29 Billion during November 2017 exhibiting a positive growth of 0.8%. India's imports during November 2018 were valued at USD 43.17 Billion (Rs 3,10,215.46 crore) which was 4.31% higher in Dollar terms and 15.55% higher in Rupee terms over the level of imports valued at USD 41.39 Billion (Rs. 2,68,467.53 crore) in November 2017. The major commodity groups of export showing positive growth over the corresponding month of last year are Petroleum Products (42.68%); Organic & Inorganic Chemicals (12.26%); Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (3.2%); RMG of all Textiles (8.98%); and Electronic Goods (37.07%).

ECBs stand at USD 1.4 billion during October 2018- Indian firms have raised about USD 1.4 billion through external commercial borrowings (ECBs) by automatic and approval route in October 2018 as against USD 1.7 billion in September 2018. The borrowings stood at USD 4.1 billion in October 2017. India has received gross ECBs worth around USD 357 billion between FY2001 and FY2019 (till October 2018). The lion's share in ECBs during the month of October 2018 is held for the Rupee Expenditure Loc.CG by about 38% of the total borrowings followed by Import of capital goods by around 22% and new project purpose at about 10%.

External commercial borrowings since Oct'17(US$bn)



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from RBI , Note: ECB contains both automatic and approval routes

Major Items of India's Balance of Payments (BoP)

	April-September 2018-19P			April-September 2017-18		
	Credit	**Debit**	**Net**	**Credit**	**Debit**	**Net**
A. Current Account	315.7	350.7	-35.0	285.4	307.3	-21.9
B. Capital Account and Financial Account	273.7	238.8	34.9	302.8	279.9	22.9
C. Errors & Omissions (-) (A+B)	0.1		0.1		1.0	-1.0

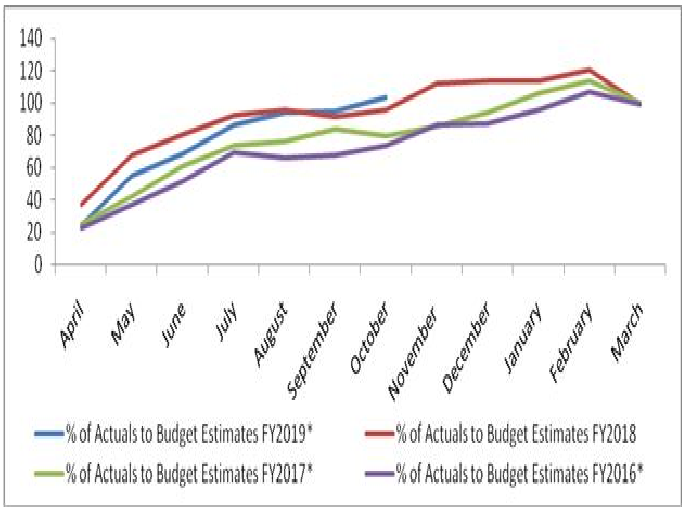
Source: RBI P: Preliminary. Note: Total of subcomponents may not tally with aggregate due to rounding off.

India's CAD increased to 2.9% of GDP in Q2 of 2018-19 from 1.1% of GDP in Q2 of 2017-18- India's current account deficit (CAD) stands at US$ 19.1 billion (2.9 per cent of GDP) in Q2 of 2018-19 increased from US$ 6.9 billion (1.1 per cent of GDP) in Q2 of 2017-18 and US$ 15.9 billion (2.4 per cent of GDP) in the preceding quarter. The widening of the CAD on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis was primarily on account of a higher trade deficit at US$ 50.0 billion as compared with US$ 32.5 billion a year ago. Net services receipts increased by 10.2 per cent on a y-o-y basis mainly on the back of a rise in net earnings from software and financial services.

1.4 Fiscal scenario

October 2018 fiscal deficit stands at 103.9 % of actuals to BEs- The gross fiscal deficit of the Central government stands at 103.9% of the actuals to budget estimates (BEs) at the end of October 2018 as compared to 96.1% of the actuals to budget estimates in the corresponding period of the previous year. The primary deficit was registered at 735.3% of the actuals to budget estimates at the end of October 2018 as compared to 1140.2% of the actuals to budget estimates during corresponding period of the previous year. The revenue receipts at the end of October 2018 of the central government stands at 45.7% of the actuals to budget estimates as compared with 48.1% of the actuals to budget estimates at the end of October 2017.

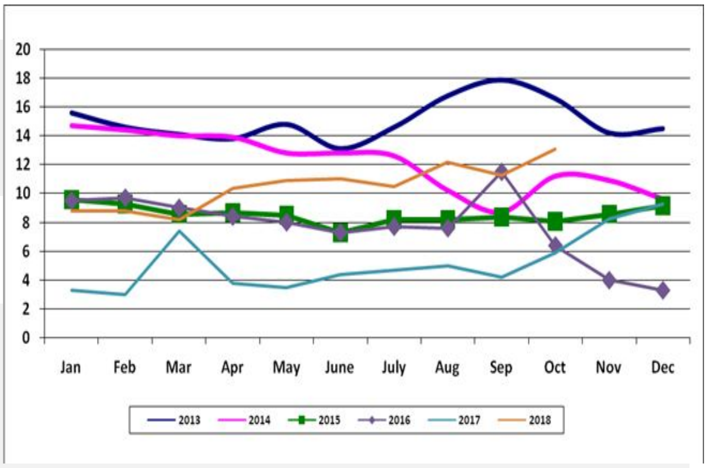
Differentials in use of fiscal deficit space at the end of October 2018 vis-à-vis October 2017 (in %)



1.5 Monetary scenario

Gross Bank Credit grows at 13.1% in October 2018- Gross bank credit grows at 13.1% in October 2018 as against 11.3% in September 2018. The gross bank credit growth stands at 6.0% in October 2017. On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit increased by 13.4% in October 2018 as against 11.3% in September 2018. Credit to agriculture and allied activities increased by 8% in October 2018 as against 5.8% in September 2018. Credit growth to infrastructure, textiles, chemical and chemical products and all engineering accelerated. However, credit growth to basic metal & metal product, cement & cement products, gems & jewellery and paper & paper products contracted/decelerated.

Monthly trend in growth of gross bank credit (%) (Y-o-Y)



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from RBI

RBI Policy Rates so far

Components	7th Feb 2018	05th April 2018	06th June 2018	01st Aug 2018	05th Oct 2018
CRR	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%
Repo Rate	6.00%	6.00%	6.25%	6.50%	6.50%
Reverse Repo Rate	5.75%	5.75%	6.0%	6.25%	6.25%
WPI Inflation	3.6% (Dec-17)	2.5% (Feb-18)	3.2% (Apr-18)	5.77% (Jun-18)	4.53% (Aug-18)
CPI inflation\@	5.2% (Dec-17)	4.44% (Feb-18)	4.6% (Apr-18)	5.00% (Jun-18)	3.69% (Aug-18)
IIP growth	8.4% (Nov-17)	7.5% (Jan-18)	4.4% (Mar-18)	3.2% (May-18)	6.60% (Jul-18)
Real GDP growth	6.6% ^&^*	7.4% (2018-19)$#	7.4% 2018-19)$##	7.4% 2018-19)$###	7.4% 2018-19 $####

Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from various sources, Note: ^&* GVA growth for 2017-18 as per First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18, ^&** GVA growth for 2017-18 as per Second Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18, ^&*** GVA growth for 2017-18 as per Third Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18. ^&^ GVA growth for 2017-18 as per Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18. ^&^^ GVA growth for 2017-18 as per Fifth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18. ^&^* GVA growth for 2017-18 as per Sixth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18. $# Projections by RBI in First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2018-19, $## Projections by RBI in Second Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2018-19, $### Projections by RBI in Third Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2018-19, $#### Projections by RBI in Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2018-19

RBI maintains status quo in Fourth Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2018-19- On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation at its meeting today, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has decided to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.5 per cent. Consequently, the reverse repo rate under the LAF remains at 6.25 per cent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75 per cent. The decision of the MPC is consistent with the stance of calibrated tightening of monetary policy in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of +/- 2 per cent, while supporting growth.

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Trade & Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)

Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)
Single Window Facilitation and Procedural Facilitation

Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) is a vital component for international trade and investment community. It is envisioned to facilitate firms across the globe for trade and investments in India while simultaneously meeting India's rapidly growing appetite for new markets to enhance trade and investments.

Considering the thirst of the Nation to place India at the forefront of Global Economic Architecture, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry launched a specialized desk on Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) on 31st March 2017. TIFS is an information and advisory hub to provide requisite and detailed information to facilitate national and international business firms to invest in India; advising them on prospective business opportunities in India in general and in States and promising sectors in particular.

Vision of TIFS

We aim to make India a US$ 100 billion (per annum) investment destination in the next five years and to enhance India's trade trajectory to the higher level. We envisages US$ 1000 billion merchandize trade (exports and imports) and US$ 500 billion services trade (exports and imports) per annum in the next five years.

Geographical Area

TIFS covers pan India from Jammu Kashmir in the North to Tamil Nadu in the South and from Gujarat in the West to Arunachal Pradesh in the East.

Three role dimensions

1. **Information role:**
Serving as a key link to all information centres on all national and regional/local regulations and clearances. This includes maintaining or having direct and easy access to such information. This also means constant updating of such information.

2. **Catalyst role:**
Providing facilitative advisory services to help overcome key obstacles and strengthen key positive enablers for enhanced trade and investments. This includes providing information or "leads" on opportunities that would benefit international business community to invest in India.

3. **Networking role:**
Effective networking with relevant Indian and overseas agencies and leveraging of such networks in the direction of risk mitigation and enhancing trade and investments.

Strategic Collaborators of TIFS

TIFS work in close coordination with Trade Consulars of different countries as well as international trade and business community and international chambers of commerce. Further, for facilitating and providing information on procedural requirements, TIFS also work in close coordination with the government both at the central and the state level as well as industry associations in India.

- Trade Consular's of different countries
- Government including Central and State
- Industry Associations
- International Trade and Business Community
- International Chambers of Commerce
- International Consulting Firms

How TIFS work in assisting investors?

It is envisaged to be the first-point-one-stop reference for potential investors from around the world. Our team of domain and functional experts provides sector-and state-specific inputs, and hand- holding support to investors. We assist with location identification, expediting regulatory approvals, facilitating meetings with relevant government and corporate officials among others. For instance, if an investor A from Germany wants to invest USD 100 million in a textile business in India.

- A team of trained staff will be associated with the task for maintaining a physical helpdesk and provide the investor with all the help required regarding the relevant approvals to set up a business and information related to investment areas across India.
- Facility to set up meetings of the investors with Government officials for specific investor queries, both at the state government and central government level.
- Regular updates on various economic developments in India in general and sector specific in particular.
- Updates on state level developments related to policy amendments, sectoral developments, taxation mechanism, infrastructural, etc.
- Updates on Foreign Direct Investment norms, Foreign Trade Policy, etc.

TIFS undertakes the following activities

i. Through regular research and networking with Government bodies, Entrepreneurs, Industry associations, Embassies/Consulates, Investment delegations, etc., the TIFS gather information on possible trade and investment opportunities in various sectors of the Indian economy.

ii. TIFS advises prospective traders and investors, national and international, in their process of filing applications and helping them meet other procedural and regulatory requirements. For this purpose, information on specific trade and investment guidelines at the state and central level is provided by TIFS.

iii. TIFS provides information at a broad level to international investors about possible potential joint venture partners in India. If TIFS is aware of any Indian parties interested in formation of Joint Ventures (JVs) with some global partners, such information is made available to interested investors.

iv. In case of requests made by individual investors to undertake specific research assignments, financial analysis or due diligence of any specific joint venture partner or Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) targets, TIFS provides adequate resources to carry out such requests on an agreed cost.

v. In a nutshell, TIFS increases understanding amongst national and international investors on the promising investment areas and requirements and regulations for making investments. Facilitates in dealing with the Government in application procedures amongst the national and international Investors. Reduce lead time in investment processes and procedural transactions.

Registration

Registration is open to both Indian and foreign entities.

ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE

Indian Entities	Foreign Entities
Rs. 2500*	USD 100*

Registration fees is for your registration with TIFS program to receive updates on Trade and Investment scenario regularly for 1 year from the date of registration. However, for your specific queries consultancy charges would vary from case to case basis for facilitation services on detailed projects and exhaustive research studies.

* Inclusive of all taxes.

For details, contact:

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2. Major Policy Pronouncements

Union Cabinet approves Agriculture Export Policy, 2018- Streamlining of National Pension System (NPS): Union Cabinet Decision- The Government has streamlined the National Pension Scheme which includes enhancement of the mandatory contribution by the Central Government for its employees covered under NPS Tier-I from the existing 10% to 14%. The initiative provides freedom of choice for selection of Pension Funds and pattern of investment to central government employees. Surther, tax exemption limit for lump sum withdrawal on exit has been enhanced to 60%. With this, the entire withdrawal will now be exempt from income tax. (At present, 40% of the total accumulated corpus utilized for purchase of annuity is already tax exempted. Out of 60% of the accumulated corpus withdrawn by the NPS subscriber at the time of retirement, 40% is tax exempt and balance 20% is taxable.).

RBI caps ECB limit at 6.5% of GDP at USD 160 billion for the current financial year- RBI has decided in consultation with the Government of India to have a rule-based dynamic limit for outstanding stock of External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) at 6.5 per cent of GDP at current market prices. Based on the GDP figures as on March 31, 2018, the soft limit works out to USD 160 billion for the current financial year. The outstanding stock of ECB as on September 30, 2018 stood at USD 126.29 billion.

Lok Sabha passes Consumer Protection Bill to improve ease of doing business- The Lok Sabha passed the Consumer Protection Bill, and the government introduced a Bill to amend the Companies Act to further improve the ease of doing business and ensure better compliance levels. The Lok Sabha also passed the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 2018. The Consumer Protection Bill seeks to strengthen the rights of consumers and provide a mechanism for redressing complaints regarding defects in goods and deficiency in services.

Sebi unveils rules for reclassification of promoter as public investor - Markets regulator SEBI has come out with new rules for re-classification of a promoter as a public investor, wherein an outgoing promoter will have to relinquish special rights as well as control over the affairs of the listed firm and not be allowed to hold over 10 per cent stake. Besides, the promoter would not be allowed to have any representation on the board of directors or act as a key managerial person in the listed entity. Furthermore, the promoter seeking re-classification must not be a wilful defaulter or a fugitive economic offender, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has said in a notification dated November 16.

Shri Shaktikanta Das appointed as the new RBI Governor- Former economic affairs secretary Shri Shaktikanta Das was named the 25th governor of the Reserve Bank of India to succeed Shri Urjit Patel. Shri Shaktikanta Das is a former Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officer.

India again postpones levying retaliatory tariffs on US goods to January 31st, 2019- India has deferred imposing higher duties worth USD235 million on 29 American goods to January 31, 2019. The retaliatory tariffs were scheduled to come into effect on December 17 and have been postponed for the fourth time. The extension coincides with the US and China's 90-day truce as the two try to find a solution to the escalating trade dispute.

India to export fish meal and fish oil to China: Protocol signed- A protocol on Hygiene and Inspection requirements for the export of Fish Meal and Fish Oil from India to China was signed. The signing of Protocol formalizes the consensus reached by both sides on hygiene and inspection requirements of fish meal and fish oil to be exported from India to China, and will enable India to commence export of fish meal and fish oil to China. In the last 6 months this is the second product to get clearance from China. A few months ago, during the meeting of two leaders in Wuhan, the protocol for Indian rice export to China was signed paving the way for export of Indian rice to China.

Government rationalises GST rates- The 31st GST council meeting was remarkably successful in fulfilling the central government's objective of cutting GST rates. Rates of more than 20 goods and several services have been reduced. The decision was in line with the long-term objective of the government to slowly reduce the scope of the 28 percent category and merge the 18 percent and 12 percent categories into a single rate of 15 percent. The top sectors benefitting from the rate cuts are consumer electronics (monitors and TVs, digital cameras, power banks, video games), food (frozen and branded vegetables, restaurants), renewable energy (solar power projects) and education. With seven goods removed from the 28 percent category, the only remaining items are luxury goods apart from automobile parts and cement which also may be dealt with once GST throws up the adequate revenue buoyancy. In a huge relief to the entertainment sector, the GST rate on cinema tickets has been rationalised. On the renewable energy front, to provide relief to this sector and correct the anomaly, the GST council has provided for an artificial split between the goods and service portion of the contract.

Cabinet apprised of Agreement between India and Uzbekistan on Cooperation in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been apprised of an Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation between India and Uzbekistan. The Agreement was signed on 1st October 2018 at New Delhi in the presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of Uzbekistan Mr. Shavkat Mirayoyev, by the Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan on the Indian side and Minister of Innovative Development, Mr. Ibrohim Abdurakhmanov on the Uzbek side. The signing of the Agreement will open a new chapter in bilateral relations, as both sides will now leverage complementary strengths spurred by a significant convergence of mutual interests in science and technology. The objective of the Agreement is to promote cooperation in the fields of science, technology and Innovation between the two countries. The stake-holders will include researchers from scientific organizations, academia, R&D laboratories and industries from India and Uzbekistan. Agriculture and Food Science and Technology; Engineering Sciences; Information and Communication Technology, Applied Mathematics and Data Science and Technology; Health and Medical Technology; Materials Sciences; Life Sciences & Biotechnology; Physics and Astrophysics and Energy, water, climate and natural resources were identified as potential areas for immediate collaboration.

SEBI releases operating guidelines for Alternative Investment Funds in International Financial Service Centres- For registration as Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) for operating in IFSC, any fund established or incorporated in IFSC in the form of a trust or a company or a limited liability partnership or a body corporate, can seek registration under the provisions of SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012 ('AIF Regulations') under the categories mentioned therein. An application for grant of certificate shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter II of AIF Regulations, accompanied by a non-refundable application fee as stated in para 15 of the Annexure. The Board may grant certificate under any specific category of AIF, if it is satisfied that the applicant fulfills the requirements as specified in AIF Regulations.

Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit- it has been decided by the Government of India to increase w.e.f. November 02, 2018 Interest Equalisation rate from 3% to 5% in respect of exports by the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector manufacturers under the Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit.

RBI relaxes guidelines for NBFCs on securitisation transactions- In order to encourage NBFCs to securitise/assign their eligible assets, it has been decided by RBI to relax the Minimum Holding Period (MHP) requirement for originating NBFCs, in respect of loans of original maturity above 5 years, to receipt of repayment of six monthly installments or two quarterly installments (as applicable).

Government of India and Republic of Peru signs Co-operation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Peru on Co-operation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters was signed, on the side-lines of the 80th Session of the Policy Commission meeting of the World Customs Organisations (WCO) which is taking place in Mumbai, India, from 3rd-5th December 2018. The Agreement provides a legal framework for sharing of information and intelligence between the Customs authorities of the two countries and will help in the proper application of Customs laws, prevention and investigation of Customs offences. The Agreement will also help in the availability of relevant information for the prevention and investigation of Customs offences. The Agreement is expected to facilitate trade and ensure efficient clearance of goods traded between the countries.

Government enhances bank recapitalisation outlay- The Government has recently moved a proposal in Parliament for the enhancement of bank recapitalisation outlay from Rs. 65,000 crore to Rs. 1,06,000 crore in the current financial year to propel economic growth, cementing India's position as the fastest growing economy of the world. This would enable infusion of over Rs. 83,000 crore in the coming few months in Public Sector Banks (PSBs).

Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and France in the field of new and renewable energy- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which has been signed between the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI), India and Commissariat a l energieatomique et aux energies alternatives (CEA), French state-owned research entity and BlueStorage SAS, a French Company. The MoU was signed on 3rd October, 2018 in New Delhi. The objective of the MoU is to define the modalities of discussions concerning, in particular, the future collaboration regarding in a pilot project to provide SECI an e-vehicle charging station with embedded batteries, powered by solar panels and optimized connection to the grid in order to support the Indian governments ambitious plan for the deployment of electrical vehicles by maximizing solar mobility and minimizing its grid impact. The Memorandum of Understanding will help in strengthening bilateral cooperation between India and France.

Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and Afghanistan in the field of human resource development- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Afghanistan on cooperation in the field of Human Resource Development. The MoU would facilitate students and faculty of Educational Institutions in Afghanistan to register and use the SWAYAM Courses. Also, it would facilitate them to upload on SWAYAM, the courses developed in Afghanistan. The required training to students and faculty from Afghanistan would be imparted by MHRD, Government of India. Through this MoU, Government of India would provide access and share the technology of other major ICT Initiatives in Education such as National Digital Library of India (NDLI), Virtual Labs, Spoken Tutorials. It is also proposed to establish Joint Master Degree Programmes between Indian and Afghanistan Universities / Institutions. MHRD would assist the Ministry of Higher Education, Afghanistan in the areas of Curriculum Development and Capacity Development of Teaching Staff.

An online portal "ENSURE" has been launched to connect with Direct Benefit Transfer- Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh launched a portal ENSURE- National Livestock Mission-EDEG developed by NABARD and operated under the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries. Under the National Livestock Mission's component called Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation (EDEG), subsidy payment for activities related to poultry, small ruminants, pigs etc. through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) goes directly to the beneficiary's account. In order to make it better, simpler and transparent, the NABARD has developed an online portal "ENSURE" (https://ensure.nabard.org) so that the information related to beneficiary and processing of application can be made readily available.

3. Other key developments

OECD Economic Outlook expects India's growth to remain strong in 2019 & 2020- According to OECD's Economic Outlook November 2018, the global economy is going through a rough phase. Global GDP growth is strong, but has peaked. OECD expects India's economic growth close to 7.5% in 2019 & 2020. Private consumption and government consumption is expected to grow at 7.4% and 7.3%, respectively, in 2019. Despite higher oil prices and Rupee depreciation, business investment and exports are expected to remain strong amid structural reforms including new Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, smoother implementation of GST, better roads & electricity, among others. Further, according to OECD, monetary policy need to be tightened as inflation expectations are trending up. Containing the relatively higher public debt-to-GDP ratio would require controlling contingent liabilities. Also, subsidy reforms would help make social spending more effective.

Fitch Affirms India at 'BBB-'; Outlook Stable- Fitch Ratings has affirmed India's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BBB-' with a Stable Outlook. India's strong growth outlook continues to stand out among peers. Fitch expects real GDP growth of 7.8% for the FY19, up from 6.7% in FY18, although this forecast is subject to downside risks from tightening financial conditions, weak financial-sector balance sheets and high international oil prices. Fitch forecasts growth to decelerate to a still-strong 7.3% in both FY20 and FY21 for the same reasons. Average projected growth for the three years through to FY21 would be the highest among 'BBB' peers and the third-highest among all sovereigns rated by Fitch.

India leads in South Asia with highest average real wage growth: ILO- According to International Labour Organisation's Global Wage Report, 2018-19, the average world labour force participation rate stands at about 62% of the working-age population, with approximately 3.3 billion individuals engaged in employment. Among all who are employed, some 54%, that is, 1.8 billion, are wage and salaried workers, which represents an increase of some 760 million wage and salaried workers compared to 25 years ago. The report notes that among South Asian countries, India is leading with highest average real wage growth of 5.5% over 2008-17, followed by Nepal (4.7%), Sri Lanka (4%), Bangladesh (3.4%), Pakistan (1.8%) and Iran (0.4%).

50% increase in the number of patents granted by India: UN's World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Report- According to the WIPO Report, patent filings around the world reached 3.17 million, representing a 5.8% growth on 2016 figures. Trademark filing activity totaled 12.39 million which is an increase of 26.8% since 2016. Industrial design filing activity exceeded 1.24 million. China remained the main driver of global growth in IP filings. From already high levels, patent filings in China grew by 14.2% and trademark filing activity in China by 55.2%. These high growth rates propelled China's shares of global patent filings and trademarks filing activity to reach 43.6% and 46.3%, respectively.In 2017, an estimated 1.4 million patents were granted worldwide, up 3.9% on 2016 figures, and represent 17 consecutive years of growth. China (420,144) issued the largest number of patents in 2017, followed by the U.S. (318,829), Japan (199,577), the Republic of Korea (120,662) and the EPO (105,645). These five offices issued more than 1.16 million patents between them – 83% of the world total. Among the top 10 offices, India granted 50.2% more patents in 2017 than in 2016, with grants increasing from 8,248 in 2016 to 12,387 in 2017. Non-resident grants accounted for 85% of the total increase. The EPO (+10.1%) and the Republic of Korea (+10.8%) also exhibited double-digit growth in 2017. For the EPO, this is the second successive year of double-digit growth. The office of the U.S. (+5.2%) also saw strong growth in 2017. Following three successive years of strong growth, China reported modest growth of 3.9% in 2017.

National Account Statistics: Back-Series 2004-05 to 2011-12- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released the back series data for the year 2005-06 to 2011-12 based on the new base year 2011-12. The Ministry had released the new series of national accounts, revising the base year from 2004-05 to 2011-12 in January, 2015. The methodology for preparing the back-series estimates for the years 2004-05 to 2010-11 is largely the same as the methodology followed in the new base (2011-12).In the new series, the share of primary sector in total GVA is higher than that in the earlier 2004-05 series primarily due to changes in the data sources. The average share of primary sector in total GVA for the years 2004-05 and 2011-12 under base 2004-05 was 20.9% and under base 2011-12 was 21.8%. The share of Secondary Sector in total GVA has increased in the back-series compared to the 2004-05 series, due to use of MCA data and Public Sector data in organized Electricity and Manufacturing Sectors. The average share of secondary sector in total GVA for the years 2004-05 and 2011-12 under base 2004-05 was 25.3% and under base 2011-12 was 29.6%. The share of tertiary sector in overall GVA has reduced in the back-series compared to the 2004-05 series, on account of the use of revised methodology and latest survey data sources of unorganised sector in the new base. The average share of tertiary sector in total GVA for the years 2004-05 and 2011-12 under base 2004-05 was 53.7% and under base 2011-12 was 48.5%.

9.73 lakh jobs created in Sep, 79.48 lakh in last 13 months: EPFO – Job creation more than doubled to 9.73 lakh in September, the highest monthly addition since September 2017, compared to 4.11 lakh in the same month last year, according to the EPFO payroll data released Tuesday. Around 79.48 lakh new subscribers were added to social security schemes of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) from September 2017 to September 2018, the data showed. This indicates that these many jobs were created in the last 13 months. The lowest number of 2.36 lakh subscribers were added to the EPFO schemes in the month of March this year.

Government procures 16.51 million tons of rice so far; to exceed target- The government has procured 16.51 million tonnes of rice so far in the current 2018-19 marketing year and the total quantity is likely to surpass the target. The rice procurement target set for this year was 37 million tonnes. The government had procured 38.18 million tonnes during the last marketing year (October-September), exceeding the target of 37.5 million tonnes set for that year.

India and France to overtake as UK economy to slip to 7th on Brexit- According to an analysis by PwC, Britain risks slipping from being the world's fifth-biggest economy to its seventh-largest next year, when it is due to leave the European Union, with France and India on course to overtake it. Economic growth in 2019 is projected at 1.6% for Britain, assuming the country manages to avoid the shock of a no-deal Brexit in March -- versus 1.7% for France and 7.6% for India.

Demonetisation hit growth by 2 percentage points: US Study- According to a working paper by the US-based National Bureau of Economic Research, demonetisation hit India's economic activity in the period following the November 8, 2016, event but the impact had dissipated by the summer of 2017.

7th round of India – South Korea CEPA negotiations held- The 7th round of India – South Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) negotiations were held in South Korea between 11-13 December, 2018. The discussions were positive, and subject to Indian sugar industry meeting the quality standards and specifications prescribed by the South Korean Government. The Indian sugar industry will undertake further discussions and talks with the sugar refineries in South Korea to pursue the matter further so that sugar exports may take place from India to South Korea.

Foreign medical tourist arrivals rose 16% in 2017- India witnessed nearly 16% increase in foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) on medical visas in 2017. FTAs in India on medical visa during 2016 and 2017 were estimated at 4,27,014 and 4,95,056, respectively, registering a growth of 15.9% in 2017.

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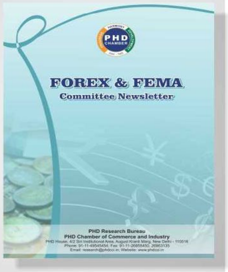

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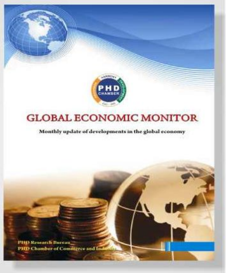

Global Economic Monitor (GEM) aims to disseminate information on latest updates on global macro-economic indicators including growth, inflation, trade, markets, commodities, unemployment, policy developments and publications of international organization

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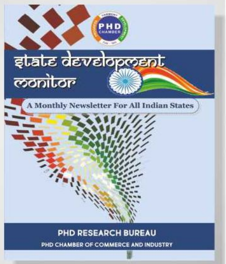

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67% of 5,151 smart city projects stuck on paper- Only 33% of the total 5,151 Smart City Mission projects have been completed or are under implementation, utilising 25% of the envisaged investment. According to data presented by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to the Lok Sabha, 2,342 projects (45%) worth Rs. 90,929 crore have been tendered, of which 1,675 projects (33%) worth Rs. 51,866 crore are under implementation or have been completed.

Investment climate in India has improved, govt capex picking up: CARE- The investment climate has seen signs of a pick-up, based on factors including improved gross fixed capital formation and higher government expenditure, according to CARE ratings. Gross fixed capital formation has been at 29% in the first half of FY19. It was at 28.3% in the first half of FY18.

Solar installations see 4% drop in Q3 due to lack of clarity around GST- The Indian solar market installed 1,589 MW (mega watt) in the third quarter of 2018. Installations declined by four per cent compared to 1,659 MW in the second quarter of 2018, while a year ago (Q3 2017) it was 2,278 MW. The safeguard duty, lack of clarity around GST rates and land and transmission issues have all drained the momentum from the solar market.

Funding constraints to slow pace of construction in FY20: CARE Ratings- The pace of the construction sector is set to face a decline in FY20 on funding shortage for new projects. Funding will be constrained by the limited number of banks which are in a position to offer credit outside the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework. That apart, tight liquidity in the NBFC (non-banking financial companies) space will constrain further lending and budgetary support may not be able to compensate for this shortfall, according to a report by CARE Ratings.

India's gem & jewellery exports may recover in remaining months of FY19- India’s gem and jewellery exports, which witnessed a decline of 4.35% in dollar terms during April-October, 2018, may post a recovery in the remaining five months of the current fiscal year, due to improved macroeconomic conditions in the US. The Middle East, another major market where movement of gems and jewellery had slowed down after the UAE imposed a 5% value-added tax, may now see a recovery.

Wealth and consumption inequality in India is rising- Wealth and consumption inequality in India is rising, with the gap between the forward and other castes becoming wider over the years, according to a World Inequality Database. It has estimated that the wealth share of the rich, top 10% of the population, has risen from 45% in 1981 to 68% in 2012. Moreover, the historical inequality in wealth distribution along caste lines has not been corrected even though the situation of every caste has improved over time.

India's crude steel output grows 4% to 8.92 million tonne in November, 2018- India's crude steel output grew 3.8% to 8.92 million tonne (MT) in November 2018, according to the Joint Plant Committee (JPC). The country produced 8.60 MT crude steel during the same period a year ago.

Pakistan-India trade much below full potential of USD37 billion: World Bank- The current level of trade between Pakistan and India is valued at a little over USD2 billion, but it could be as high as USD37 billion if both neighbours agree to tear down artificial barriers. In order to achieve the real potential of regional trade, the bank suggested the removal of unnecessary non-tariff barriers within the region, increase of people to people contacts, improvement in road and air connectivity and liberalization of trade within South Asia.

India's cotton output could drop to the lowest in 9 years- India's annual cotton output could drop 12% to the lowest in nine years as limited rainfall in the top two producing states has slashed crop yields, potentially cutting exports from the world's top producer. Lower cotton shipments from India will allow competitors such as the United States, Brazil and Australia to increase cargoes to key Asian buyers such as China and Pakistan.

India claims top ten in list of world's fastest-growing cities: Oxford Economics Report- When it comes to the top 10 cities for economic growth, India is set to dominate over the next two decades. Surat would see the fastest expansion through 2035, averaging more than 9%. All of the 10 fastest over that period would be in India. While economic output in many of those Indian cities would remain rather small in comparison to the world's biggest metropolises, aggregated gross domestic product of all Asian cities would exceed that of all North American and European urban centers combined in 2027.

Electricity demand rises 5.5% in November, 2018- After recording a massive 14% year-on-year (y-o-y) surge in electricity demand in October, 2018, the country's electricity requirement registered a 5.5% y-o-y growth in November, 2018. Power generation from conventional sources such as thermal, nuclear and hydro went up by 4.6% y-o-y in the month to 99.9 billion units (BUs). Renewable energy-based power plants produced 8 BU in November, 2018, 16% more than the corresponding period last year.

Oilmeals export falls by 16% in November- The export of oilmeals during November 2018, reported at 311,739 tons compared to 369,522 tons in November 2017, down by 16% according to Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA). The overall export during April to November 2018 is reported at 2,043,282 tons compared to 1,855,558 tons during the same period of last year, up by 10%.

Manufacturing PMI jumps to 11-month high of 54 in November, 2018 on strong demand- Growth in manufacturing activity hit an 11-month high in November as new orders and output rose at a slower pace, according to purchasing managers' index (PMI). The PMI in November continued its northward climb for the third month, going up to 54 from 53.1 in October, 2018.

Crisil cuts India growth forecast to 7.4% on weakening global growth- Crisil cut India's growth forecast for fiscal 2019 to 7.4% from 7.5% estimated earlier. India's growth in the July-September quarter slipped to 7.1% from 8.2% in the April-June quarter. According to Crisil, the forecast has a downward bias given that global growth prospects turning weaker than estimated earlier. Also, if liquidity issues persist in the financial system, demand could get further dented.

Government clears Rs 91,149 crore GST refunds to exporters so far; Rs 6,053 crore still pending- According to the Ministry of Finance, Rs 91,149 crore has been issued so far to exporters as GST refunds, which are 93.77% of total claims with the tax authorities. Rs. 48,455 crore of IGST refunds have been disposed of as on November 28, 2018 which is 95% of the total such claims. As much as Rs 2,473 crore worth of IGST refund claims are held up on account of "various deficiencies" which have been communicated to exporters for remedial action.

Over 18.10 lakh registered companies, only 62% active at end of October: Official data- The country has more than 18 lakh registered companies but only 62% of them were actively functioning at the end of October, 2018. The majority of active companies were engaged in business services. With more than 6.46 lakh companies shuttered and many others undergoing various regulatory processes, including liquidation, the total number of active entities stood at 11.16 lakh during the period.

Finished steel exports fall over 23%; imports up 17% in October 2018 - India's finished steel exports fell by 23.4% to 0.596 million tonnes (MT) in October 2018. The country had exported 0.778 MT of finished steel during the same month a year ago. Exports stood at 0.596 MT in October 2018, down by 23.4% over October 2017 and was up by 3.8% over September 2018. As against exports, the imports grew by 17.3% to 0.706 MT in October 2018 from 0.602 MT in year-ago period.

Indirect tax evasion of Rs 29,088 crore detected during April-October, 2018- The investigation arm of the Hon'ble Ministry of Finance has detected tax evasion worth Rs 29,088 crore in 1,835 cases during April-October period of FY2019. The bulk of the evasion was detected in case of service tax. The total number of cases where service tax was evaded stood at 1,145 involving Rs 22,973 crore.

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In a nutshell

The global economic activity has shown signs of weaknesses on account of rising trade tensions in the recent times. However, the domestic macro-economic environment is in a positive trajectory as GDP growth of 7.6% in the first half of FY2018-19 is impressive and is expected to be around 7.5% in 2019 and 2020. Though there was a slowdown in public consumption, Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) expanded by double-digits for the third consecutive quarter, driven mainly by the public sector's thrust on national highways and rural infrastructure. This was also reflected in robust growth in cement production and steel consumption. Within industry, growth in manufacturing decelerated due to lower profitability of manufacturing firms, pulled down largely by a rise in input costs, while that in mining and quarrying turned negative, caused by a contraction in output of crude oil and natural gas. On the other hand, Purchasing Managers' Index for services registered a sharp uptick in November, driven by new business.

On the inflation front, the CPI inflation is in benign trajectory with deepening of deflation in vegetables, pulses and sugar. Though the export growth moderated in November 2018, the trade facilitation measures in India are inspiring and there is a great scope for enhancement of exports growth trajectory, going forward. As teething problems of GST are almost over, the export trajectory is expected to gain momentum in the coming months. Going ahead, the continuous pace of reforms at domestic front and recovery in the international markets would help India to remain in positive exports growth trajectory in the coming months. In a nutshell, with growth in exports, increase in manufacturing activity, reduction in inflation rate, improving exchange rate, along with stabilising global macroeconomic effects, India's growth rate is expected to gain momentum in the coming times.

The lead economic and financial indicators so far...

S. No	Components	September 2018	October 2018	November 2018
1.	IIP Growth	4.5%	8.1%	-
2	Export Growth	(-)2.2%	17.8%	0.8%
3	WPI Inflation Y-O-Y growth	5.13%	5.28%	4.6%
4	CPI inflation (combined)	3.70%	3.31%	2.3%
5	Gold (10 GRMS)	30296^	31698^^	30240^^^
6	Crude Oil (1 BBL)	5240^	4869^^	3597^^^
7	BSE Sensex	36227^	34442^^	36194^^^
8	Exchange rate average (INR/ 1 USD)	72.91^	73.45^^	69.58^^^
9	Repo rate	6.50%	6.50%	6.5%
10	CRR	4%	4%	4%
11	10 year Bond yield	7.7334%	7.7334%	7.2731%
12	Base rate	8.85% - 9.45%	8.85% - 9.45%	8.95% - 9.45%

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from various sources, ^ Data pertains to 28th September 2018, ^^Data pertains to 31st October 2018, ^^^Data pertains to 30th November 2018; @@#Data pertains to 5th October 2018

India: Statistical snapshot

Indicators	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
GDP at FC - Constant prices (Rs cr)	9817822	10536984	11381002	12189854	13010843##^	3397620+&
GDP at FC-Constant prices growth YOY (%)	6.4*	7.5*	8*	7.1@#	6.7 ##^	7.1+&
Agriculture growth	5.6	(-)0.3	0.7*	4.9@#	3.4 ##^	3.8+&
Industry growth	4.2	6.9	8.2	5.8@#	5.5 ##^	10.3+&
Services growth	9.5	9.8	7.9	7.9@#	7.9 ##^	7.3+&
Consumption (% YOY)	4.7	-	-	-	-	-
Private consumption (% YOY)	6.8	6.2	7.3	7.2	-	-
Gross domestic savings as % of GDP	30.5	30.6"'	-	-	-	-
Gross Fixed Capital Formation as % of GDP	33	32.3	31.2	29.5	7.6##^	-
Gross fiscal deficit of the Centre as a % GDP	4.5	4.1''	3.9	3.5	3.5@*	3.5^*
Gross fiscal deficit of the states as a % GDP	2.5	2.3''	-	-	-	-
Gross fiscal deficit of Centre & states as a % GDP	6.7	6.6''	-	-	-	-
Merchandise exports (US$Bn)	312.35	310.5	261.14	274.64	29.11&&$	26.50^^^^
Growth in exports (%)	3.98	(-)1.2	(-)15.9	4.7	(-)0.66&&$	0.8^^^^
Imports (US$Bn)	450.94	447.5	379.59	380.37	42.80&&$	43.17^^^^
Growth in imports (%)	-8.1	-0.59	(-)15.3	(-)0.17	7.15&&$	4.31%^^^^
Trade deficit (US$Bn)	138.6	137	118.46	46.42	13.69&&$	16.67^^^^
Net invisibles US$Bn	115.0	-	107.9^^	-	-	-
Current account deficit US$Bn	32.4	26.8^^	22.1^^	15.2^^*	13.5 ##^	19.1+&&
Current account deficit as % of GDP	1.7	1.3	1.1^^	0.7^^*	1.9	2.9+&
Net capital account US$Bn	33.3^^	11.8	23.2	14.9^^*	-`	-
Overall balance of payments US$Bn	15.5^^	6.9	-	-	-	-
Foreign exchange reserves US$Bn	304.22	316.2	355.56~~	367.9~~~	424.36~~$	393.7~~~
External debt - Short term US$Bn	89.2``	86.4```	83.6&&&	88^^*	97.6&^	-
External debt - Long term US$Bn	351.4``	376.4```	398.6&&&	383.9^^*	415.8&^	-
External debt - US$Bn	441``	462```	480.18&&&	472^^*	513.4 &^	-
Money supply growth	13.2	11.1&&	11.3&&&&	6.3^^	9.8&&^	9.4%$##
Bank credit growth	14	8.6	9~~~~	7^^	8.2**	13.1%$#
WPI inflation	5.7#	2.1	(-)0.85^^^	1.33	2.47&&$	4.64^^^^
CPI inflation	9.8	6.4	4.83^^^	4.5	4.28&&$	2.33^^^^
Exchange rate Rs/US$ annual average	60.68	61.14	66.43@@	64.39^^	65.04@@$	70.17@@@

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from various sources, *Data pertains to Provisional Estimates of Annual National Income 2016-17 from MOSPI, '' Handbook of Statistics of Indian Economy 2014-15 from RBI, ''' Data pertains to Annual Report of RBI 2013-14, *@Data pertains to Budget Estimates of 2017-18, '' Data pertains to GVA at Basic Prices at constant prices for Q3 2015-16, "'Data pertains to the new Series Estimates from economic survey 2014-15. ^^Data pertains to India's Balance of payment for 2015-16 from RBI, ^^^Data pertains to March 2016, ``India's external debt end Dec 2013 from RBI, ``` Data pertains to end Dec 2014 from RBI, # Data pertains to Mar 2013, ~ Data pertains to 2014-15 from the Economic Survey,^^* Data pertains to FY 2016-17 ~~Data as on week ending 25th March 2016 from RBI, ~~~ Data as on 30 November 2018 from RBI, && Data pertains to March 2015, &&& External debt at end December 2015 (Quick Estimates), @@ Data pertains to 13th April 2016 from RBI, ^^^^Data pertains to November 2018, @@@ Data as on 24th December from RBI, &&&& Y-o-Y Growth of Money Supply, 2015-16 from RBI. # Data pertains to end March 2017, compiled from RBI, ** Bank credit growth as on March 2018 &&^ as on June 2018.@# GDP growth and agriculture growth is as per Provisional Estimates of Annual National Income, 2016-17and Industry and service growth is from Office of economic advisor, #*^Data pertains to Q3 2017-18, ##^ Data pertains to Provisional estimates of GDP for 2017-18, ^* pertains to the budget estimates of FY19, @* data pertains to budget estimates of 2018-19, &^ pertains to data at end December 2017, &&$data pertains to March 2018, @@$ data as on March 28, 2018, ~~$ Data as on end March 2018 from RBI, &&^ as on 16 March 2018, %$#Data pertains to October 2018, +&Data pertains to Q2 FY2019, %$##Data pertains to September 2018, +&&Data pertains to Q1 FY2019.

PHD Research Bureau

PHD Research Bureau; the research arm of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was constituted in 2010 with the objective to review the economic situation and policy developments at sub-national, national and international levels and comment on them in order to update the members from time to time, to present suitable memoranda to the government as and when required, to prepare State Profiles and to conduct thematic research studies on various socio-economic and business developments.

The Research Bureau has been instrumental in forecasting various lead economic indicators national and sub-national. Many of its research reports have been widely covered by media and leading newspapers. Recently, the Research Bureau has undertaken various policy projects of Government of India including Framework of University-Industry Linkages in Research assigned by DSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology, Study on SEZ for C&AG of India, Study on Impact of Project Imports under CTH 9801 for C&AG of India and has attracted a World Bank Project on free trade zones.

Research Activities	Comments on Economic Developments	Newsletters	Consultancy
• **Research Studies**	• Macro Economy	• Economic Affairs Newsletter (EAC)	• Trade & Inv. Facilitation Services (TIFS)
• **State Profiles**	• States Development	• Forex and FEMA Newsletter	
• **Impact Assessments**	• Infrastructure	• Global Economic Monitor (GEM)	
• **Thematic Research Reports**	• Foreign exchange market	• Trade & Inv. Facilitation Services (TIFS) newsletter	
• **Releases on Economic Developments**	• International Trade	• State Development Monitor (SDM)	
	• Global Economy	• Industry Development Monitor (IDM)	

Studies Undertaken by PHD Research Bureau

A: Thematic research reports

1. Comparative study on power situation in Northern and Central states of India (September2011)
2. Economic Analysis of State (October 2011)
3. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy, Vision 2021 (December 2011)
4. Budget 2012-13: Move Towards Consolidation (March 2012)
5. Emerging Trends in Exchange Rate Volatility (Apr 2012)
6. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2010-11 (May 2012)
7. Global Economic Challenges: Implications for India (May 2012)
8. India Agronomics: An Agriculture Economy Update (August 2012)
9. Reforms to Push Growth on High Road (September 2012)
10. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2011-12: Beating Slowdown (March 2013)
11. Budget 2013-14: Moving on reforms (March 2013)
12. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities (November 2013)
13. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities: Suggestions Report (November 2013)
14. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry-2012-13 (December 2013)
15. Imperatives for Double Digit Growth (December 2013)
16. Women Safety in Delhi: Issues and Challenges to Employment (March 2014)
17. Emerging Contours in the MSME sector of Uttarakhand (April 2014)
18. Roadmap for New Government (May 2014)
19. Youth Economics (May 2014)
20. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2014-15 (July 2014)
21. Budget 2014-15: Promise of Progress (July 2014)
22. Agronomics 2014: Impact on economic growth and inflation (August 2014)
23. 100 Days of new Government (September 2014)
24. Make in India: Bolstering Manufacturing Sector (October 2014)
25. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2013-14 (November 2014)
26. Participated in a survey to audit SEZs in India with CAG Office of India (November 2014)
27. Role of MSMEs in Make in India with reference to Ease of Doing Business in Ghaziabad (Nov 2014)
28. Exploring Prospects for Make in India and Made in India: A Study (January 2015)
29. SEZs in India: Criss-Cross Concerns (February 2015)
30. Socio-Economic Impact of Check Dams in Sikar District of Rajasthan (February 2015)
31. India - USA Economic Relations (February 2015)
32. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2015-16 (February 2015)
33. Budget Analysis (2015-16)
34. Druzhba-Dosti: India's Trade Opportunities with Russia (April 2015)
35. Impact of Labour Reforms on Industry in Rajasthan: A survey study (July 2015)
36. Progress of Make in India (September 2015)
37. Grown Diamonds, A Sunrise Industry in India: Prospects for Economic Growth (November 2015)
38. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2014-15 (December 2015)
39. India's Foreign Trade Policy Environment Past, Present and Future (December 2015)
40. Revisiting the emerging economic powers as drivers in promoting global economic growth(February 2016)
41. Bolstering MSMEs for Make in India with special focus on CSR (March 2016)
42. BREXIT impact on Indian Economy (July 2016)
43. India's Exports Outlook (August 2016)
44. Ease of Doing Business : Suggestive Measures for States (October 2016)
45. Transforming India through Make in India, Skill India and Digital India (November 2016)
46. Impact of Demonetization on Economy, Businesses and People (January 2017)
47. Economy on the eve of Budget 2017-18 (January 2017)
48. Union Budget 2017-18: A budget for all-inclusive development (January 2017)
49. Annual Survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2015-16 (February 2017)
50. Worklife Balance and Health Concerns of Women: A Survey (March 2017)
51. Special Economic Zones: Performance, Problems and Opportunities (April 2017)
52. Feasibility Study (socio-Economic Survey) of Ambala and Rohtak Districts in Haryana (March 2017)
53. Goods and Services (GST): So far (July 2017)
54. Reshaping India-Africa Trade: Dynamics and Export Potentiality of Indian Products in Africa (July 2017)
55. Industry Perspective on Bitcoins (July 2017)
56. Senior Housing: A sunrise sector in India (August 2017)
57. Current state of the economy (October 2017)

58. Equitable finance to fulfill funding requirements of Indian Economy (October 2017)
59. The Wall of Protectionism: : Rise and Rise of Protectionist Policies in the Global Arena, (November 2017)
60. India-Israel Relations: Building Bridges of Dynamic Trade(October 2017)
61. Role of Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) in Improving Export Competitiveness (November 2017)
62. India - China Trade Relationship: The Trade Giants of Past, Present and Future (January 2018)
63. Analysis of Trade Pattern between India and ASEAN(January 2018)
64. Union Budget 2018-19 – (February 2018)
65. Ease of Doing Work for Women: A survey of Delhi NCR (February 2018)
66. Restraining Wilful Defaults: Need of the hour for Indian Banking System (March 2018)
67. Impact of GST on Business, Industry and Exporters (April 2018)
68. India – Sri Lanka Bilateral Relations: Reinforcing trade and investment prospects (May 2018)
69. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy: Road to US $5 Trillion Economy(May 2018)
70. India's Free Trade Agreements Dynamics and Diagnostics of Trade Prospects(May 2018)
71. India – UK Trade Relations and Societal Links: Way Forward (June 2018)
72. Rural Economy: Road to US $5 Trillion Economy(September 2018)

B: State profiles

73. Rajasthan: The State Profile (April 2011)
74. Uttarakhand: The State Profile (June 2011)
75. Punjab: The State Profile (November 2011)
76. J&K: The State Profile (December 2011)
77. Uttar Pradesh: The State Profile (December 2011)
78. Bihar: The State Profile (June 2012)
79. Himachal Pradesh: The State Profile (June 2012)
80. Madhya Pradesh: The State Profile (August 2012)
81. Resurgent Bihar (April 2013)
82. Life ahead for Uttarakhand (August 2013)
83. Punjab: The State Profile (February 2014)
84. Haryana: Bolstering Industrialization (May 2015)
85. Progressive Uttar Pradesh: Building Uttar Pradesh of Tomorrow (August 2015),
86. Suggestions for Progressive Uttar Pradesh (August 2015)
87. State profile of Telangana- The dynamic state of India (April 2016)
88. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016- Transforming Uttar Pradesh (August 2016)
89. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016-Transforming Uttar Pradesh : Suggestions for the State Government (August 2016)
90. Rising Jharkhand: An Emerging Investment Hub (February 2017)
91. Punjab: Roadmap for the New Government Suggestions for the Industrial and Socio-Economic Development – Focus MSMEs ease of doing business (May 2017)
92. Prospering Himachal Pradesh: A Mountain of Opportunities (August 2017)
93. Kashmir: The way forward (February 2018)
94. Analysis of State Budgets for 2018-19: Select Sates (March 2018)
95. Rising Uttar Pradesh One District One Product Summit (August 2018)
96. Rajasthan: Steady Strides into the Future-Emerging Growth Dynamics and the Way Forward (September 2018)

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About the PHD Chamber

PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry, a leading Industry Chamber of India, ever since its inception in 1905, has been an active participant in the India Growth Story through its Advocacy Role for the Policy Makers and Regulators of the Country. Regular interactions, Seminars, Conference and Conclaves allow healthy and constructive discussions between the Government, Industry and International Agencies bringing out the Vitals for Growth. As a true representative of the Industry with a large membership base of 48000 direct and indirect members, PHD Chamber has forged ahead leveraging its legacy with the Industry knowledge across sectors (58 Industry verticals being covered through Expert Committees), a deep understanding of the Economy at large and the populace at the micro level.

At a Global level we have been working with the Embassies and High Commissions in India to bring in the International Best Practices and Business Opportunities.

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Seven Thrust Areas

- Industrial Development
- Infrastructure
- Housing
- Health
- Education and Skill Development
- Agriculture and Agribusiness
- Digital India

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