

India on path to become 3rd largest economy by 2030 with **\$7.3 trillion** GDP

NEW DELHI, Nov 29 (IANS)

ALREADY the world's fourth largest economy, the nation is charting a confident course towards becoming the third largest one by 2030 -- with GDP projected at \$7.3 trillion, according to an official statement.

India's economic ascent continues to capture global attention and the current growth phase reflects the strength of decisive policymaking, structural reforms, and India's deepening global integration, the statement added.

As per the latest data, the real GDP of India, adjusted for inflation, is estimated to grow by 8.2 per cent in Q2 of FY 2025-26 against the growth rate of 5.6 per cent during Q2 of FY 2024-25.

The GDP in Q1 of FY 2025-26



grew at 7.8 per cent against the growth rate of 6.5 per cent during Q1 of FY 2024-25. Nominal GDP has witnessed a growth rate of 8.7 per cent in Q2 of FY 2025-26.

Each sector of the economy is playing a pivotal role in the growth of the country. Primary sector experienced the year-on-year Real GVA growth rate of 3.1 per cent in Q2 FY 2025-26.

Similarly, the Secondary (8.1 per cent) and Tertiary Sector (9.2 per cent) have boosted the Real GDP growth rate in Q2 of FY 2025-26.

Real GDP in H1 (April-September 2025-26) registered a growth rate of 8 per cent in comparison of 6.1 per cent growth rate witnessed in H1 of FY25. Primary sector (2.9 per cent) experienced a moderate growth, whereas secondary (7.6 per cent)

and tertiary sector (9.3 per cent) exhibited sustained expansion.

India's inflation trajectory in October 2025 reflects a remarkable softening, underscoring the economy's robust fundamentals and effective price management measures.

Headline inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) eased to 0.25 per cent over the previous year, marking the lowest level recorded in the current CPI series.

The inflation remains well within the tolerance band of RBI. The moderation in inflation is consistent with the RBI's decision to maintain the repo rate at 5.50 per cent with a neutral stance, reflecting confidence in price stability and growth prospects, according to the statement.

Russia set to ratify pact with India ahead of Putin's visit

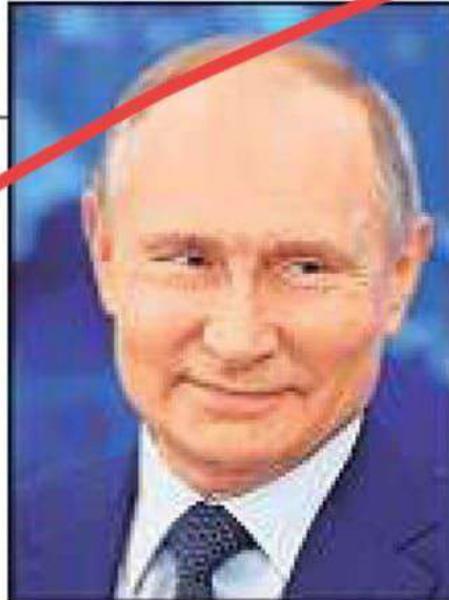
■ By Vinay Shukla

MOSCOW, Nov 29 (PTI)

THE Russian lower house of Parliament is set to ratify a crucial military pact with India ahead of President Vladimir Putin's state visit on December 4-5 for the 23rd bilateral summit, according to reports.

Signed on February 18, 2025 in Moscow by the Indian Ambassador Vinay Kumar and erstwhile Deputy Defence Minister Alexander Fomin the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) is to enhance military cooperation between the two strategic partners.

The State Duma has uploaded the RELOS in its ratification database along with the Russian government's note and said that "the Russian government believes that the ratification of the doc-



ument will strengthen cooperation between Russia and India in the military sphere", official news agency TASS reported.

The RELOS agreement aims to streamline coordination for joint military exercises, disaster relief and other operations.

According to local defence sources, RELOS will enhance military cooperation by simplifying procedures for joint activities, including exercises and disaster relief.

Agreements of this kind expand the geographic opportunities for peacetime operations for both participating parties. It is possible that the provisions of this agreement will apply to joint exercises in the Arctic, as India ships LNG from the Yamal Peninsula, Izvestia daily noted at the time of its signing.

'BSF boosting drone tech for modern conflicts'

JAMMU, Nov 29 (PTI)

THE Border Security Force on Saturday said that drone technology and aerial dimensions have become decisive elements of modern warfare, noting that conflicts worldwide -- from Russia-Ukraine to Israel-Palestine -- show how adversaries are increasingly exploiting the airspace.

India witnessed a similar tactic during Operation Sindoor in May, when Pakistan attempted to utilise aerial platforms for cross-border activities, Shashank Anand, BSF Inspector General, Jammu Frontier, told mediapersons, flanked by BSF DIGs Vikram Kunwar and Kulwant Rai Sharma.

"The BSF and other agencies are tackling the challenge of drones. We are increasing our capabilities, and we hope to be



Shashank Anand, BSF IG, Jammu Frontier addresses media on Saturday. (PTI)

even more successful in the next year," IG Anand said.

He said drone and anti-drone innovations are in a continuous process of research and development, with the BSF working closely with its industry partners. "The future conflicts or cross-border firing incidents will inevitably have a strong aerial component, making counter-drone preparedness a top priority," he said.

Pak shifted 72 terror launchpads from border areas: BSF

JAMMU, Nov 29 (PTI)

MORE than six dozen terror launchpads have been shifted to the "depth areas" in Pakistan after Operation Sindoor, and the force is ready to inflict heavy losses on the enemy if the Government decides to resume the cross-border operation, senior BSF officers said on Saturday.

However, the BSF is honouring the halt in military action after four days of clashes from May 7-10, they said.

"After the BSF destroyed many terror launchpads along the border during Operation Sindoor, Pakistan government shifted all such facilities to the depth areas... About 12 launch-



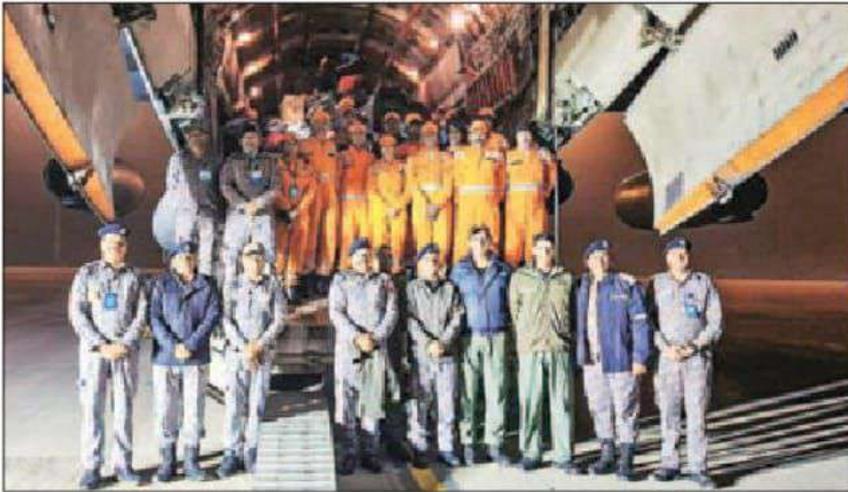
BSF personnel patrol LOC in Jammu on Saturday. (PTI)

pads are working from the depth areas of Sialkot and Zaffarwal, which are not exactly on the border. "Similarly, 60 launch-

pads are working in the other depth areas away from the border," BSF DIG Vikram Kunwar told reporters here.

OPERATION SAGAR BANDHU

Two IAF transport aircraft deliver aid, INS Sukanya on way to Lanka



NDRF personnel and others before departing for cyclone-hit Sri Lanka to carry out rescue operations as part of 'Operation Sagar Bandhu', at Hindon airport in Ghaziabad. (PTI)

NEW DELHI, Nov 29 (PTI)

TWO transport aircraft of the IAF – C-130J and IL-76 – delivered nearly 21 tonnes of relief material in Colombo on Saturday as part of India's humanitarian assistance extended to Sri Lanka under Operation Sagar Bandhu, launched to assist the island nation in its hour of crisis in the wake of Cyclone Ditwah.

Also, INS Sukanya, carrying more humanitarian aid, has left Visakhapatnam and is expected to reach Sri Lanka soon, officials said.

"A C-130J transport aircraft carrying approximately 12 tonnes of humanitarian aid, including tents, tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene kits, and ready-to-eat food items, landed in Colombo today morning," a senior official said on Saturday. An IL-76 aircraft carrying 9 tonnes of relief material, 80
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Rain triggered by Cyclone Ditwah lashes TN coastal areas, Cauvery delta districts

CHENNAI, Nov 29 (PTI)

RAIN triggered by Cyclone Ditwah lashed coastal areas and Cauvery delta districts in the State on Saturday, with Ramanathapuram and Nagapattinam districts bearing the brunt.

As normal life in Rameswaram and Nagapattinam was affected by continuous rain accompanied by gusty winds, State Revenue and Disaster Management Minister K K S S R Ramachandran said that about 28 disaster response teams, including SDRF and NDRF teams, are on standby.

Cyclone Ditwah lay centred over the Vedaranyam coast in Tamil Nadu's Nagapattinam
(Contd on page 3)

Airlines rush to fix A320 radiation risk with software update

Around 6,000 A320-family jets were affected globally

More than 350 airline operators worldwide were issued a bulletin by Airbus

In India, a total of 338 aircraft belonging to three airlines were identified as requiring the software update

WASHINGTON, Nov 29 (AP)

AIRLINES around the world cancelled and delayed flights heading into the weekend to fix software on a widely used commercial aircraft after an analysis found the computer code may have contributed to a sudden drop in the altitude of a JetBlue plane last month.

Airbus said on Friday that an examination of the JetBlue incident revealed that intense solar radiation may corrupt data critical to the functioning of flight controls on the A320 family of aircraft. The FAA joined the European Union Aviation Safety Agency in requiring airlines to address the issue with a new software update. More than 500 US-registered aircraft will be impacted.

The EU safety agency said it may cause "short-term disruption" to flight schedules. The problem was introduced by a software update to the plane's onboard computers, according to the agency.

In Japan, All Nippon Airways, which operates more than 30 planes, cancelled 65 domestic flights for Saturday. Additional cancellations on Sunday were possible, it said. The software change comes as US passengers were beginning to head home from the Thanksgiving holiday, which is the busiest travel time in the country.



An AirAsia India Airbus A320 aircraft takes off as it embarks on the carrier's inaugural domestic flight to Goa from Bengaluru. Indian airlines said some flights may be delayed or cancelled on Saturday. (PTI)

American Airlines has about 480 planes from the A320 family, of which 209 are affected. The fix should take about two hours for many aircraft, and updates should be completed for the overwhelming majority on Friday, the airline said. A handful will be finished on Saturday.

Americans expected some delays, but it said it was focused on limiting cancellations. It said safety would be its overriding priority.

Air India said via the social platform X that its engineers were working on the fix and

(Contd on page 3)

Indian airlines complete software upgrade for 80 pc of affected planes

NEW DELHI, Nov 29 (PTI)

INDIGO, Air India and Air India Express on Saturday started carrying out software upgrade of A320 family planes to address a potential flight control issue, and requisite modifications have been done for 80 per cent of the affected 338 aircraft, an exercise that also resulted in delays and some flight cancellations.

According to the latest data from the aviation regulator DGCA, IndiGo and Air India did not cancel any flights, while Air India Express cancelled four flights due to the system modification process.

Flight delays have been 60-90 minutes at various airports, sources said.

On Friday, Airbus said intense solar radiation might

corrupt data critical to flight controls in a significant number of A320 family aircraft and that the software changes required to fix the issue would lead to operational disruptions.

As many as 338 A320 family aircraft operated by Indian airlines require the software upgrade to address a potential issue related to flight controls, and modifications have been carried out in 80 per cent of the affected fleet, according to DGCA data.

The software upgrades have been completed for 270 A320 family planes out of the total 338 aircraft, as per the data available with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) till 5.30 pm on November 29.

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