

# Industrial production growth rises to 14-month high of 10.3 pc in Aug

- Mining output rose by 12.3 per cent during the month under review against a 3.9 per cent contraction a year ago

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (PTI)

INDIA'S industrial production growth rose to a 14-month high of 10.3 per cent in August, mainly due to good show by the manufacturing, mining and power sectors, according to the official data released on Thursday.

The factory output growth measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) had contracted by 0.7 per cent in August 2022.

The previous high was recorded at 12.6 per cent growth in June

2022. The IIP growth for July has been revised to 6 per cent from 5.7 per cent provisional estimates released last month. During April-August 2023-24, the IIP growth works out to be 6.1 per cent, down from 7.7 per cent in the corresponding period a year ago. "The growth rates over the corresponding period of the previous year are to be interpreted, considering the unusual circumstances on account of the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020," an official statement said.

As per the IIP data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the manufacturing sector's output grew 9.3 per cent in August 2023 against a contraction of 0.5 per cent a year ago. Power generation rose 15.3 per cent in August 2023 compared to 1.4 per cent in

the year-ago period.

Mining output rose by 12.3 per cent during the month under review against a 3.9 per cent contraction a year ago. As per use-based classification, the capital goods segment grew 12.6 per cent in August this year compared to 4.3 per cent. Consumer durables output during the month declined by 5.7 per cent against a contraction of 4.4 per cent in the year-ago period. Consumer non-durable goods output increased by 9 per cent compared to a contraction of 9 per cent a year earlier.

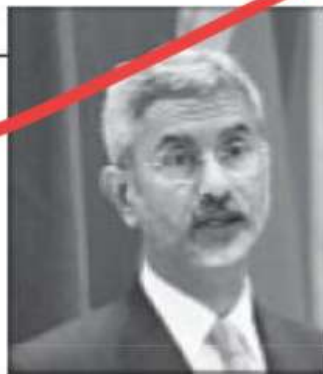
Infrastructure/construction goods posted a growth of 14.9 per cent against a three per cent expansion a year ago. The data also showed that output of primary goods logged 12.4 per cent growth in the month.

# Centre upgrades security cover of EAM Jaishankar

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (PTI)

THE security cover of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has been upgraded from the 'Y' category to 'Z', official sources said on Thursday.

The Union Home Ministry has asked the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to take the charge of his security, currently provided by



the Delhi Police, they said. Jaishankar, 68, was being guarded by an armed team of the Delhi Police under the 'Y' category security cover.

He will now be protected by the CRPF under the larger 'Z' category security cover which entails about 14-15 armed commandos moving with him round the clock in shifts across the country, the sources said.

# Nirmala meets Brazil's Minister of Economy

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (PTI)

---

FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday met Brazil's Minister of Economy Fernando Haddad and discussed various issues of mutual interest, including the strengthening of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs).

She also met UK Chancellor of Exchequer Jeremy Hunt.

These meetings took place on the sidelines of the 4th G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) and the IMF-WB annual meetings in Marrakech, Morocco. Brazil will take over the G20 presidency from India on December 1 and will host the next G20.

# India dubs Hamas strikes on Israel as terror attacks

NEW DELHI, Oct 12 (PTI)

INDIA on Thursday described the strikes by Hamas on Israeli cities as “terror attacks” but at the same time reaffirmed its long-standing position, advocating negotiations towards establishing a “sovereign, independent and viable” state of Palestine living side-by-side at peace with Israel.

In first detailed comments on the Israel-Hamas conflict, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said at a media briefing that there was a universal obligation to observe international humanitarian law as also a global responsibility to fight

the menace of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Bagchi was responding to questions about the plight of Palestinians in Gaza in view of Israel’s counter-attacks following Hamas’s surprise strikes and US President Joe Biden’s message to Tel Aviv to “operate by the rules of war”.

The spokesperson also said India’s focus has been to bring back from Israel the Indians who wish to return in view of the current situation.

On India’s position on Palestine, he said it has been always consistent.

“Our policy in this regard has been long-standing and consistent...India has always advo-

cated the resumption of direct negotiations towards establishing a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine living within secure and recognized borders, side by side at peace with Israel. That position remains the same,” Bagchi said, reiterating New Delhi’s position favouring a two-state solution to the Palestine issue.

The multi-pronged attacks against Israel by Hamas militants from Gaza since Saturday and the subsequent Israeli retaliation have left around 2,600 people dead. Israel has launched a massive counter-offensive in Gaza to avenge the attacks by Hamas.

# Plaque of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam unveiled at Permanent Mission of India to UN in New York

■ By Yoshita Singh  
NEW YORK, Oct 12 (PTI)

A PLAQUE with the inscription 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' has been installed in the premises of the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations here, embodying New Delhi's commitment to unity and global collaboration.

The plaque was unveiled at a special ceremony on Wednesday by the President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe and



Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations Ruchira Kamboj, President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Vinay Sahasrabuddhe and others during unveiling of the plaque with the phrase 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' at Permanent Mission of India to the UN. (PTI)

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj.

Read Editorial  
**ONE FAMILY**  
on page 8

The gold-hued plaque with the phrase 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' written in Hindi and 'The World is One Family' in English adorns a wall inside the entrance of the premises of India's Permanent Mission in the city.

(Contd on page 5)