

## **DAILY NEWS DIGEST BY BFSI BOARD**

**11 February 2026**



### **ECONOMY**

**US–Bangladesh trade pact dents India's tariff edge in American market:** The US has signed a new trade pact with Bangladesh, lowering its reciprocal tariffs by 1 per cent to 19 per cent, which has narrowed India's promised tariff advantage over the country in the American market. The deal is set to hit textiles and garments exporters from India the most as it provides a mechanism for zero-duty access to Bangladeshi garments, based on a quota, with a condition that it is made with cotton sourced from the US. "This mechanism will provide that a to-be-specified volume of textile and apparel exports from Bangladesh can enter the US at this reduced tariff rate, but this volume shall be determined in relation to the quantity of exports of textiles, for example, US-produced cotton and MMF textile inputs from the US," per the agreement.

**(Business Line)**

**Unemployment rate declined in urban and rural India during Oct-Dec quarter:** Unemployment rate declined across both urban and rural areas during the October-December quarter of Fiscal Year 2025-26, the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) released by the Statistics Ministry on Tuesday said. The data is based on a survey of 5.61 lakh individuals across urban and rural areas. According to data, the unemployment rate among persons aged 15 years and above in rural areas fell to 4 per cent in October-December 2025, from 4.4 per cent in the previous quarter. In the same age group, the urban unemployment declined to 6.7 per cent from 6.9 per cent.

**(Business Line)**

## **Corruption Perception Index: India ranks 91st among 182 nations; scores 39:**

India ranked 91st out of 182 countries and territories on the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) for 2025, with a score of 39, according to the latest report released by Transparency International on Tuesday. The index measures perceived levels of public sector corruption on a scale from zero, indicating a highly corrupt environment, to 100, indicating a very clean one. India's score rose by one point from 38 in 2024 to 39 in 2025. At the lower end of the index, Afghanistan and Myanmar each scored 16, while North Korea scored 15.

**(Business Standard)**

## **BANKING & FINANCE**



**RBI plans to up individual loan limits for UCBs unsecured advances to ₹5 lakh-₹10 lakh range:** In a bid to provide greater flexibility to urban co-operative banks (UCBs) in their lending operations, the RBI plans to enhance the individual loan limits for unsecured advances to the ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh range, depending upon the size of the Bank. Currently, the aforementioned limit ranges from ₹25,000 to ₹5 lakh, depending on the Bank's deposit size and capital to risk-weighted assets ratio. The limit for individual unsecured advances for Tier-I UCBs (with deposits up to ₹100 crore) and Tier 2 UCBs (with deposits more than ₹100 crore and up to ₹1000 crore) are proposed to be set at ₹5 lakh and ₹7.5 lakh, respectively. For Tier 3 UCBs (with deposits more than ₹1000 crore and up to ₹10,000 crore) and Tier 4 UCBs (with deposits more than ₹10,000 crore), the loan limit will be the same at ₹10 lakh.

**(Business Line)**

**FDI in banking sector declined to \$115 million:** Foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflow in the banking sector has declined to \$115 million at the end of FY25, from \$898 million in FY23, the Finance Ministry told Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. In a written reply, Minister of State in the Finance Ministry, Pankaj Chaudhary said that FDI is considered a major source of non-debt financial resource for economic development.

**(Business Line)**

**RBI allows bank loans to NCDC to be counted as priority sector lending:** The Reserve Bank of India said on Tuesday that loans given by banks to the National Cooperative Development Corporation will be counted as priority sector lending if they are sanctioned on or after January 19, 2026. These loans will be used by NCDC to provide funds to cooperative societies. The benefit will apply to banks other than Regional Rural Banks, Urban Cooperative Banks, Small Finance Banks and Local Area Banks. According to the RBI, the loans must be used for activities listed under the Master Direction on Priority Sector Lending, 2025.

**(Economic Times)**

**Citi India names Ankur Khurana as commercial banking head:** Citigroup has appointed Ankur Khurana as the new head of its Commercial Bank in India. This move highlights the US lender's commitment to expanding its commercial banking services across Asia. Khurana brings extensive experience from her previous leadership roles at Standard Chartered and Credit Suisse. Her expertise will be crucial in bolstering Citi's presence and client coverage in the region.

**(Economic Times)**

## INDUSTRY OUTLOOK



**Inflows into gold, silver ETFs pip equity schemes in January:** For the first time ever, in January, inflows into precious metals — gold and silver through exchange-traded funds (ETFs) exceeded that of all equity schemes, which were beaten down by mark-to-market losses. Combined inflows into gold and silver ETFs hit a high of ₹33,503 crore in January with gold ETFs garnering ₹24,040 crore ( ₹11,647 crore) and silver ETFs ₹9,463 crore ( ₹3,962 crore) as investors used the fall in precious metal prices to pump in more money. Inflows into equity schemes were lower at ₹24,029 crore in January, declining from ₹28,054 crore logged in December.

**(Business Line)**

**India to commit zero tax on digital services in trade pact:** The US has said that India will remove its digital services taxes and negotiate rules that prohibit the imposition of customs duties on digital transmissions as part of the trade deal finalised on Saturday through a joint statement. The key detail of the digital trade was made public in the Fact Sheet on the deal released by the White House early Tuesday. The joint statement of February 6 just had a mention of both sides aggressing discriminatory or burdensome practices and other barriers to digital trade without mentioning taxes. While India had removed 6% levy on payments made to non-resident companies for online advertising and 2% tax imposed on overseas e-commerce companies and streaming platforms in 2025, by putting in a trade agreement with the US it would forgo freedom to re-introduce it in future for American companies.

**(Financial Express)**

**SC nudges Fssai to consider front-of-pack warning labels on foods:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to seriously evaluate the introduction of front-of-pack warning labels on packaged foods, citing concerns over excessive sugar, saturated fat and sodium content. The Bench comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Viswanathan, while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) that sought mandatory front-facing warnings, said that a *prima facie* case had been made for such disclosures advancing public-health objectives. The Court noted that resistance from food companies could not outweigh the regulator's obligation to protect consumer health, and cautioned that continued inaction by FSSAI may invite judicial intervention.

**(Business Standard)**



## REGULATION & DEVELOPMENT

**Govt tightens rules on AI-generated content, mandates labels and faster takedowns:** The government has tightened India's internet rules to bring AI-generated and deepfake content under stricter compliance, mandating clear labelling, permanent metadata and faster takedown timelines for online platforms. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on February 10 notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2026, expanding the scope of the law to explicitly cover what it calls "synthetically generated information". The notification defines synthetically generated information as audio, visual or audio-visual content that is "artificially or algorithmically created, generated, modified or altered using a computer resource" in a way that makes it appear authentic. However, the government clarified that routine editing, formatting, technical correction or the good-faith creation of documents, PDFs, research outputs and educational material will not be treated as synthetic content.

**(Business Today)**

**SEBI tightens norms for CRAs to rate instruments under other regulators:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has tightened obligations for credit rating agencies (CRAs) when they rate financial instruments that fall under the jurisdiction of other financial sector regulators. The circular, issued on Tuesday, sets out conditions on grievance handling, disclosures, net worth, client communication and internal audits for such activities, in order to "protect the interest of investors in securities and to promote the development of, and to regulate, the securities market," it said. Under the new framework, CRAs must maintain separate email IDs and web disclosures for SEBI-regulated activities and those regulated by other authorities. They must also ensure that their minimum net worth, as prescribed under SEBI's CRA regulations, is not affected by undertaking ratings for instruments overseen by other regulators.

**(Business Line)**



## **FINANCIAL TERMINOLOGY**

### **OCCURANCE POLICY**

- An occurrence policy is a type of insurance that covers claims for injuries or damages that happen during the policy's active period, even if the claims are filed years after the policy has expired.
- Under these types of contracts, the insured party has the right to request compensation for damages that occurred within the timespan that the policy was active, even if several years have since passed and the insurance agreement is no longer in force.



## RBI KEY RATES

Repo Rate: 5.25%

SDF: 5.00%

MSF & Bank Rate: 5.50%

CRR: 3.00%

SLR: 18.00%

Fixed Reverse Repo: 3.35%

## FOREX (FBIL 1.30 PM)

INR / 1 USD : 90.5773

INR / 1 GBP : 123.8614

INR / 1 EUR : 107.8697

INR /100 JPY: 58.3100

## EQUITY MARKET

Sensex: 84273.92 (+208.17)

NIFTY: 25935.15 (+67.85)

Bnk NIFTY: 60626.40 (-42.45)

### Courses conducted by BFSI Board

- ❖ **Certificate Course on Concurrent Audit of Banks**
- ❖ **Certificate Course on Credit Management of Banks**
- ❖ **Certificate Course on Treasury and International Banking**
- ❖ **Certificate Course on Investment Management**
- ❖ **Certificate Course on General Insurance.**
- ❖ **Advance Certificate Course on FinTech**

For details please visit  
BFSIB portal of the ICMAI  
website

### Publications by BFSI Board

- ❖ Handbook on Aide Memoire on Infrastructure Financing (3rd enlarged revised edition).
- ❖ Aide Memoire on lending to MSME Sector (including restructuring of MSME Credit).
- ❖ Guidance Note on the Internal Audit of General Insurance Companies.
- ❖ BFSI Chronicle (quarterly issue of BFSIB)
- ❖ Handbook on Stock & Book Debts Audit (Revised and Enlarged 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)
- ❖ Handbook on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)
- ❖ Monograph on Climate Risk and Green Finance-Banking Sector-International Practices and Indian Perspective (2nd Series)
- ❖ Guidance Note on Cost Control Strategies in the Banking Sector

## TEAM BFSIB Banking, Financial Services & Insurance Board The Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI)

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