



**ICMAI**  
THE INSTITUTE OF  
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA  
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)

[www.icmai.in](http://www.icmai.in)



Telephones: +91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035  
+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619  
+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204  
Fax :+91-33-2252-7993  
+91-33-2252-1026  
+91-33-2252-1723

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

**29 August 2024**



## **ECONOMY**

**China dominates steel imports into India amid growing trade deficit and falling exports:** One out of every three steel products imported into India is from China, indicating continued pressure on the domestic market and exports. The steel trade deficit for April–July period widened to ₹11,592 crore, some 30 per cent higher than the FY24 (end) of ₹9,036 crore, a Steel Ministry report accessed by businessline shows. India was a net importer of steel. India had a trade surplus in the year-ago-period of ₹2,347 crore. Finished steel imports stood at ₹24,941 crore for the first four months, and 2.7 million tonnes (mt) in volume terms – up 32 per cent y-o-y. On the other hand, export of the metal stood at ₹13,349 crore, or 1.6 mt, down 41 per cent y-o-y.

***(Business Line)***

**Sebi flags inflated valuations and shady tactics in SME market:** India's markets regulator has raised concerns about questionable practices in the country's small and medium enterprise (SME) market, warning investors about unrealistic projections by some SMEs. In its advisory, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) noted that after listing, certain SME companies or their promoters have been making public announcements that paint an overly positive picture of their operations. These announcements are often followed by corporate actions such as bonus issues, stock splits and preferential allotments. “Such companies/promoters have been seen making public announcements that create a positive picture of their operations. These announcements are typically followed up with various corporate actions such as bonus issues, stock splits, preferential allotments, etc.,” the two-page advisory stated.

***(Mint)***



**ICMAI**  
THE INSTITUTE OF  
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA  
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)



[www.icmai.in](http://www.icmai.in)

Telephones: +91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035  
+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619  
+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204  
Fax :+91-33-2252-7993  
+91-33-2252-1026  
+91-33-2252-1723

## **BANKING & FINANCE**



### **No funding winter for Indian fintechs, \$6 bn poured into fintechs in last two year alone:**

Despite global headwinds and a slew of regulations from the Reserve Bank of India , the Indian Fintech continue to attract investments because of a huge potential in the financial services space from lending , payments to value added services. There is no funding winter when it comes to fintechs in India. Despite the Reserve Bank of India ( RBI) introducing a slew of regulations that impacted the fast-growing Fintech space, the sector has received investment of about \$ 6 billion in the last two years alone. The investment figure was disclosed by none other than RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das at the Global Fintech Fest where he was speaking on the Fintech innovation for India @100. The publicly available information places the number of Fintechs founded in India at approximately 11,000. These numbers are growing by the day. This is probably the reason why the RBI is keeping a close watch on Fintech as they work with the banks and other established institutions in retail, micro loans and MSME areas from lending , payments to value-added services.

***(Business Today)***

### **Paytm gets Finance Ministry nod for ‘downstream investment’ in Paytm Payments**

**Services:** One 97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm, on Wednesday announced that it has received approval from the Ministry of Finance to invest in its wholly owned subsidiary, Paytm Payments Services Limited (PPSL). With this approval in place, PPSL will proceed to resubmit application for its payment aggregator license. In a regulatory filing, Paytm said, “We would like to inform you that PPSL has received approval from the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services, vide its letter dated August 27, 2024, for downstream investment from the Company into PPSL. With this approval in place, PPSL will proceed to resubmit its PA application.”

***(Financial Express)***

### **RBI recognises FACE as self-regulatory organisation in FinTech sector:**

The Reserve Bank of India has recognised Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) as an Self-Regulatory Organisation in FinTech Sector (SRO-FT), it said on Wednesday. The RBI received three applications, including FACE, for SRO-FT. Of the remaining two applications, one application has



**ICMAI**  
THE INSTITUTE OF  
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA  
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)



Telephones: +91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035  
+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619  
+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204  
Fax :+91-33-2252-7993  
+91-33-2252-1026  
+91-33-2252-1723

[www.icmai.in](http://www.icmai.in)

been returned with a provision for resubmission after meeting certain requirements. The third application is under examination.

***(Economic Times)***

### **IndiaFirst Life becomes first Indian life insurer to commence operations in GIFT City:**

IndiaFirst Life has become the first Indian life insurer to commence operations in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City), the company said in a release on Wednesday. The company inaugurated its IFSC Insurance Office (IIO) at the country's international financial gateway on Wednesday, it said. Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director and CEO, IndiaFirst Life, Rushabh Gandhi, said, "We are delighted to be the first Indian life insurance company to commence operations in GIFT City IFSC. Our IIO will offer foreign currency-denominated life insurance solutions to international customers of our partner banks and our preferred broker partners".

***(Economic Times)***

## **INDUSTRY OUTLOOK**



**CCI approves Rs 70,350-crore Reliance-Disney India merger':** India's competition watchdog has approved Reliance Industries Ltd's Rs 70,350-crore merger with Disney's Indian media assets, subject to certain voluntary modifications, setting the stage for a media powerhouse. "Commission approves the proposed combination involving Reliance Industries Ltd, Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd, Digital18 Media Ltd, Star India Pvt Ltd and Star Television Productions Ltd, subject to the compliance of voluntary modifications," the Competition Commission of India (CCI) said in a post on X platform.

***(Moneycontrol)***

**Cabinet approves rolling out Private FM Radio to 234 uncovered new cities / towns:** The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal for conduct of 3rd batch of ascending e-auctions for 730 channels in 234 new cities with estimated reserve price of Rs.784.87 crore under Private FM Radio Phase III Policy. State-wise list of the cities / towns and the number of Private FM channels approved for fresh auctions is enclosed as Annexure. The Cabinet also approved the proposal to charge Annual License Fee (ALF) of FM channel as 4% of Gross Revenue excluding Goods and Services Tax (GST). This will be applicable for 234 new cities / towns. The Private FM Radio rollout in 234 new cities / towns will fulfil the unmet demand for FM radio in these cities / towns, which still remain uncovered by Private FM radio broadcasting and bring new / local content in mother tongue.

***(PiB)***



**ICMAI**  
THE INSTITUTE OF  
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA  
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)



Telephones: +91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035  
+91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619  
+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204  
Fax :+91-33-2252-7993  
+91-33-2252-1026  
+91-33-2252-1723

[www.icmai.in](http://www.icmai.in)

**Cabinet approves 12 Industrial nodes/cities under National Industrial Corridor Development Programme:** India will soon wear a grand necklace of Industrial Smart Cities as in a landmark decision today, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved 12 new project proposals under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) with an estimated investment of Rs. 28,602 crore. Spanning across 10 states and strategically planned along 6 major corridors, these projects represent a significant leap forward in India's quest to enhance its manufacturing capabilities and economic growth. These industrial areas will be located in Khurpia in Uttarakhand, Rajpura-Patiala in Punjab, Dighi in, Maharashtra, Palakkad in Kerala, Agra and Prayagraj in UP, Gaya in Bihar, Zaheerabad in Telangana, Orvakal and Koppurthy in AP and Jodhpur-Pali in Rajasthan.

**(PiB)**



## REGULATION & DEVELOPMENT

**Cabinet accords approval for progressive expansion of Central Sector Scheme of 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund':** The Union Cabinet on 28<sup>th</sup> Aug approved the progressive expansion in Central Sector Scheme of financing facility under 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund' to make it more attractive, impactful and inclusive.

- **Viable Farming Assets:** To allow all eligible beneficiaries of scheme for creation of infrastructure covered under 'viable projects for building community farming assets'.
- **Integrated Processing projects:** To include integrated primary secondary processing projects in list of eligible activities under AIF. However standalone secondary projects would not be eligible and would be covered under MoFPI schemes.
- **PM KUSUM Component-A:** To allow convergence of Component-A of PM-KUSUM with AIF for farmer/group of farmers/ Farmer Producer Organizations/ Cooperatives/ Panchayats.
- **NABSanrakshan:** In addition to CGTMSE, it is proposed to extend AIF credit guarantee coverage of FPOs through the NABSanrakshan Trustee Company Pvt. Ltd. also.

Since its launch in 2020, AIF has been instrumental in supporting creation of 6623 warehouses, 688 cold stores and 21 silos projects, resulting in additional storage capacity of about 500 LMT in the country.

**(PiB)**





**ICMAI**  
THE INSTITUTE OF  
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA  
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)

[www.icmai.in](http://www.icmai.in)

Telephones: +91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035  
+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619  
+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204  
Fax :+91-33-2252-7993  
+91-33-2252-1026  
+91-33-2252-1723



**Sebi proposes mandatory UPI block secondary market for larger brokers:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) plans to mandate the UPI block mechanism, also known as the ASBA-like facility, in the secondary market for Qualified Stock Brokers (QSBs). QSBs are brokers with larger client sizes and thus more significance in the market ecosystem. Till now, the facility is mandatory only in the primary market (IPOs) and is currently optional for brokers to provide in the secondary market from January 2024. In a consultation paper floated on Wednesday, the market regulator said that the mechanism may eventually become a popular method for retail investors to trade in the securities markets, provided that trading members (TMs) are willing to adopt the system.

***(Business Standard)***



## FINANCIAL TERMINOLOGY

### GILT-EDGED SECURITIES

- ❖ Gilt-edged securities are high-grade bonds issued by certain national governments and private organizations. In the past, these instruments referred to the certificates issued by the Bank of England (BOE) on behalf of the Majesty's Treasury, so named because the paper they were printed on customarily featured gilded (golden) edges.
- ❖ By nature, a gilt-edged denotes a high-quality item whose value remains fairly constant over time. As an investment vehicle, this equates to high-grade securities with relatively low yields compared to riskier, below-investment-grade securities.
- ❖ Government bonds in the U.K., India, and several other commonwealth countries are still known as gilts.



**ICMAI**  
THE INSTITUTE OF  
COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA  
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)



www.icmai.in

Telephones: +91-33- 2252-1031/1034/1035  
+ 91-33-2252-1602/1492/1619  
+ 91-33- 2252-7143/7373/2204  
Fax :+91-33-2252-7993  
+91-33-2252-1026  
+91-33-2252-1723

### **RBI KEY RATES**

Repo Rate: 6.50%  
SDF: 6.25%  
MSF & Bank Rate: 6.75%  
CRR: 4.50%  
SLR: 18.00%  
Fixed Reverse Repo: 3.35%

### **FOREX (FBIL 1.30 PM)**

INR / 1 USD : 83.9671  
INR / 1 GBP : 111.0504  
INR / 1 EUR : 93.5920  
INR /100 JPY: 58.1100

### **EQUITY MARKET**

Sensex: 81785.56 (+73.80)  
NIFTY: 25052.35 (+34.30)  
Bnk NIFTY: 51143.85 (-134.90)

### **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.**

For details please visit  
**BFSIB portal of the ICMAI  
website**

### **Publications by BFSI Board**

- ❖ **Aide Memoire on Infrastructure Financing.**
  - ❖ **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)**
- To purchase please visit  
**BFSIB portal of ICMAI**

### **TEAM BFSIB**

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

**Disclaimer:** Information published in the Daily News Digest are taken from publicly available sources and believed to be accurate. BFSI Board of ICMAI takes no responsibility for the accuracy and reliability of information published in the Daily News Digest. No part of this Daily News Digest may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means - electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the permission of BFSIB of ICMAI. For Restricted Circulation only. A Compilation of News in this regard from Secondary Sources.