

# Industry Developments

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025





## Overall

### India trade deal to take time amid tariff talks: US

The United States commerce secretary Howard Lutnick has stated that a trade deal with India will take time due to the need to negotiate around 7,000 tariff lines. He acknowledged India's strong interest but stressed the complexity involved.

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### India tops global PMI charts in April 2025: J. P. Morgan

According to a J.P. Morgan report, India recorded the highest manufacturing and services activity globally in April 2025 among both developed and emerging markets. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 58.2 for manufacturing and 58.7 for services, signalling strong expansion.

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## Energy & Natural Resources

### Coal imports up 6.6% m-o-m to 15.4 MT in April 2025: Kpler

Coal imports increased by 6.6 per cent month-on-month (m-o-m) to 15.4 million tonnes (MT) in April 2025, reaching an 11-month high, according to Kpler. This rise is because the power sector stocked up on coal supplies for the summer season.

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### India's mining sector records significant growth in 2024-25

India's mining sector has recorded significant growth in the financial year 2024-25. It achieved new highs in the production of key minerals and non-ferrous metals. The iron ore production went up by 4.3 per cent to reach 289 million metric tonnes (MMT) from 277 MMT in the previous year, according to provisional data from the ministry of mines.

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### Centre preparing fresh set of amendments to Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015

Aiming to cut the time between auction of mines and start of production, the Centre is preparing a fresh set of amendments to the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015. It plans to introduce intermediary timelines for activities, besides specifying the performance security appropriation for delay in completion of milestones.

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### India's installed renewable energy capacity from non-fossil fuel sources up 16% in April

India's installed renewable energy capacity from non-fossil fuel sources increased to 231.81 gigawatts (GW) as on 30 April 2025 over 199.86 GW recorded in April 2024, according to data released by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

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## Agri & Food processing

### India should increase its cashew production: NDFC-I

India should increase its cashew production to counter the on export restrictions imposed by major African producers, according to Gunjan Jain, president, Nuts and Dry Fruits Council of India (NDFC-I). India is no longer the largest exporter of cashews, though the country is the biggest processor and consumer.

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### Farmers seek Tamil Nadu govt's help for tender coconut exports

Coconut farmers from Tamil Nadu have sought the state government's support to develop infrastructure for taking up the export of tender coconuts to improve their livelihood. The farmers claimed that they could not explore export options as tender coconuts have a shorter shelf life, i.e., seven days.

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### CACP recommends to grow pest-resistant sugarcane varieties

The CACP has recommended that farmers should be encouraged to sugarcane varieties that are pest and disease resistant, along with integrated pest management (IPM) strategies to overcome the challenges of pests and disease infestations.

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## Industrial Manufacturing

### Creditors to Bhushan Power & Steel weigh legal options

Creditors to Bhushan Power & Steel are assessing the legal paths available to them after the Supreme Court (SC) scrapped the JSW Steel's Rs.193.50-billion resolution plan and order liquidation. The lenders, including State Bank of India (SBI), Punjab National Bank, and Asset Care Reconstruction Enterprise (ACRE), are weighing a review petition.

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### Govt identifies 13 countries for technology collaboration in steel sector

The government has identified 13 countries, including Australia, Germany, and Nordic countries, under the international comprehensive cooperation framework for technology collaboration in the steel sector.

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### Primary aluminium production set new record in 2024-25

In the non-ferrous segment, primary aluminium production set a new record in 2024-25. It increased from 4.16 million tonnes to 4.2 million tonnes, according to a provisional data from the ministry of mines.

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## Consumer Market

### Recovery in demand expected to be gradual: Britannia MD

The recovery in demand is expected to be gradual and continue till next year, according to Varun Berry, managing director and vice chairman, Britannia. He added that there will be some impact as the company had taken a pretty high price increase in the last quarter and it might have to raise prices a little more to handle rising costs.

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### Consumer durable industry's outlook positive but challenges remain: ShriRam Mutual Fund

The consumer durable industry's outlook remains positive, however, the growth will come with some challenges, ShriRam Mutual Fund. Increasing temperatures and demand for premium products are expected to boost sales of the industry.

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### About 14 million ACs sold in 2024

India purchased about 14 million air-conditioners (AC) in 2024, according to media reports. Residential AC ownership is expected to increase nine times by 2050, added the reports. Currently, only about seven per cent of the households in India own an AC.

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## Pharmaceuticals

### US order to slash drug prices may lead to global price adjustments: GTRI

The US government's order to reduce drug prices by 30-80 per cent may lead to price readjustments across the globe, according to Ajay Srivastava, founder of GTRI. The move to reduce prices is expected to lead to pharmaceutical giants raising prices in lower cost countries like India through tighter patent laws under trade agreements.

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### Himachal Pradesh to get dedicated cancer research centre

Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has announced plans to set up a dedicated cancer research centre and a nursing college. The cancer centre will be established at a cost of Rs.6.5 billion. The aim is to transform the state into a global medical tourism destination.

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### Zydus receives USFDA nod for generic drug to treat multiple sclerosis

Zydus has received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to market Glatiramer Acetate Injection, which is a generic version of Copaxone used to treat relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis. This generic medication has been developed in collaboration with Chemi S.p.A and will be manufactured entirely in Europe.

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## Banking and Financial Services

### HDFC Bank reduces MCLR by 15 bps

HDFC Bank has slashed its marginal cost of funds-based lending rates (MCLR) by up to 15 basis points (bps). With this revision, the bank's MCLR now ranges between nine per cent and 9.2 per cent, depending on the loan tenure.

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### Credifin launches loans to boost EV startups

Credifin, a Jalandhar-based non-banking financial company listed on the Metropolitan Stock Exchange, has introduced electric vehicle (EV) startup loans to support new businesses in the electric vehicle sector. The company will offer loans up to Rs.5 million, with the option to increase based on need.

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### NaBFID explores first offshore bond issue

The National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID), held non-deal investor meetings in Hong Kong last week to assess interest in its first offshore bond. Citibank organised these meetings to gauge potential demand ahead of a possible USD bond sale.

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## Automobiles and Ancillaries

### Skoda Auto India starts deliveries of new-gen Kodiaq SUV

Skoda Auto India has started the deliveries of the new-generation Kodiaq SUV, which is priced at Rs.4.7 million, across the country. The car is powered by a 2.0-litre TSI engine producing 150kW of power and 320 Nm torque.

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### Delhi's new EV policy targets jobs and cleaner mobility

Delhi's upcoming electric vehicle (EV) policy will focus on job creation and better charging infrastructure, according to media reports. At least 20,000 jobs are expected through support services and new facilities. The government plans to install EV charging stations at regular intervals to reduce range anxiety.

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### Kia India eyes 20-25 per cent growth in Carens portfolio

Kia India expects a 20-25 per cent rise in Carens sales this year with the launch of the premium Carens Clavis. The new three-row model targets both sport utility vehicle (SUV) and multi-purpose vehicle (MPV) buyers, offering more space and style.

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## Healthcare

### Telangana govt to transform Jagtial into premier healthcare hub

The Telangana government has decided to transform Jagtial district into a premier healthcare hub. The information was shared by state health minister C Damodar Raja Narasimha. Additionally, he instructed the concerned officials to ensure proper management of the district's central drug centre without any lapses.

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### Telangana govt to enhance public healthcare institutions

The Telangana government is considering a strategic revamp to enhance both the branding and functionality of its public healthcare institutions. A delegation from the state's health department recently visited several government hospitals in Kerala to examine their operational models and patient-centric services.

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### Uttarakhand CM launches 5 fully-equipped Mobile Medical Units

Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami launched five fully-equipped Mobile Medical Units (MMUs). These vehicles will operate six days a week. They have been equipped with necessary diagnostic and treatment facilities in line with the state government's 'Healthy Uttarakhand, Prosperous Uttarakhand' mission.

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## Infrastructure

### MoU signed by MP, Maharashtra govts to develop spiritual tourism circuit

The MP and Maharashtra governments have signed MoUs to develop a spiritual tourism circuit by connecting the jyotirlingas in the two states. These include the Mahakaleshwar, Omkareshwar, Trimbakeshwar, Bhimashankar and Grishneshwar jyotirlingas.

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### Odisha's Koraput admin to construct truck terminal near Jeypore

Koraput administration has announced plans to construct a dedicated truck terminal near Jeypore. It will serve as a hub for truck parking and loading & unloading. The location has been strategically chosen due to its proximity to the Koraput segment of the greenfield six-lane Raipur-Visakhapatnam economic corridor and connectivity to National Highway-26.

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### Railways approves final location survey for new line in Sikkim

The Indian Railways has approved a final location survey (FLS) for a new line in Sikkim. The new line from Melli to Dentam via Jorethang and Legship will be surveyed by Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) at a cost of about Rs.22.5 million.

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## Technology, Media and Telecom

### Tariff hikes slow down subscriber additions in rural India

Tariff increases in telecom in July 2024 have slowed down the pace of subscriber additions in rural India. Net subscriber additions in rural India were 790,000 in the 12 months preceding March 2025, a small increase compared to 15.27 million added in the previous year, according to data by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

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### TRAI recommends satcom spectrum price at 4% of AGR

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has recommended that satellite spectrum fees be set at four per cent of the adjusted gross revenues (AGR). The spectrum will be assigned for a period of five years and can be extended by another two years.

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### Spectrum auction likely in 2026

The DoT is expected to hold its next spectrum auction at the beginning of 2026, with no auction planned for 2025. The three major private telecom operators are not looking to buy additional spectrum at this time, as they are focused on recovering the substantial investments made in the previous auctions.

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## Real Estate

### Around 7,500 complaints pending with Maharashtra RERA

Around 7,500 complaints are pending with the Maharashtra Real Estate Regulatory Authority (MahaRERA). A large number of complaints have burdened the limited number of MahaRERA benches. The current MahaRERA chairman Manoj Saunik has been working to clear pending complaints by hearing as many as 200 complaints per day.

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### Smartworld, Tribeca sell all 298 homes in Trump-branded project in Gurugram

Realty firms Smartworld Developers and Tribeca Developers have sold all 298 units in the 'Trump' branded ultra-luxury residential project in Gurugram for Rs.32.5 billion. This reflects a strong demand for premium homes in the Delhi-NCR market.

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### Uttar Pradesh govt to construct 6 mln houses under PMAY(R)

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to construct over six million homes under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural) (PMAY(R)) in the 2025-26 financial year. This is double the previous fiscal's delivery of approximately 3.7 million homes.

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## Information Technology

### IT, SaaS firms activate contingency plans to ensure business continuity

Several IT companies and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) firms have activated contingency plans to ensure business continuity amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan. A business continuity plan (BCP) involves securing important data through backups across various locations, including sites overseas, to safeguard against local disruptions.

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### IT sector hiring rises 16% in April 2025: Foundit

IT sector's hiring rose by 16 per cent during April 2025, according to the the foundit Insights Tracker report. The report states that factors like AI adoption, cloud modernisation and the expansion of GCCs were major factors driving growth in the hiring.

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### Tech Mahindra appoints Manish Mangal, Sahil Dhawan in key leadership roles

Tech Mahindra has appointed Manish Mangal as Head of the Americas Communications Business. Manish Mangal served as chief technology officer, telecom and global business head of network services.

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## Education

### Nagaland education dept undertakes reforms to address changing needs

The Nagaland education department is undergoing reforms to address the state's changing educational needs. The information was shared by advisor for school education Kekhrielhoulie Yhome. He highlighted the introduction of multi-age classrooms in rural, sparsely populated areas as a key component of the reform plan.

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### Assam govt to convert 4,000 schools into modern 'dream hubs' by 2035

The Assam government has decided to convert 4,000 high and higher secondary schools into modern 'dream hubs' by 2035. Each school will receive Rs.80 million to support extensive renovation and infrastructure upgrades.

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### Tripura govt launches 'Saharsh' curriculum for classes I-VII students

The Tripura government has launched the 'Saharsh' curriculum for students of classes I-VII under the National Education Policy (NEP). The curriculum aims to provide quality education to children in a joyful environment, in addition to the textbook.

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## Textile

### India's garment sector faces labour, capacity and pricing challenges

Tiruppur, India's knitwear capital, is seeing an opportunity to increase apparel exports to the US as tariffs on competitors like Bangladesh and China rise, according to media reports. However, the sector struggles with a shortage of skilled labour, high turnover and limited economies of scale, making it hard to scale up production.

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### India-UK trade deal to boost textile exports

The India-UK free trade agreement will reduce import duties on Indian textiles and clothing from 12 per cent to zero. India currently holds seven per cent of the UK's textile import market, compared to Bangladesh's 15 per cent.

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### India-UK FTA to unlock USD 1 billion apparel exports

The landmark India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will significantly enhance the export competitiveness of India's labour-intensive textile and apparel sectors, unlocking additional export opportunities worth \$1 billion to the UK, according to industry experts.

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## Chemical and Petrochemical

### Hindustan Zinc likely to begin fertiliser plant operations by 2026-27

Hindustan Zinc is expected to start operations of its fertiliser plant in Rajasthan by 2026-27, according to Priya Agarwal Hebbbar, chairperson of the company. The company is foraying into the fertiliser industry by establishing a 0.5 million tonnes (MT) per annum production plant in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.

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### Tropical Agrosystem introduces new insecticide Tag Stem-Lee for paddy crops

Tropical Agrosystem (India) has introduced Tag Stem-Lee, the country's first patented granular insecticide that combines three active ingredients, Thiamethoxam 1.25%, Fipronil 1.25%, and Chlorantraniliprole 0.60% WW GR, in a single formulation.

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### Fertiliser demand to boost amid early monsoon

Demand for fertilisers is expected to increase because of early and abundant monsoon, according to media reports. Early monsoon will lead to the sowing of crops, especially rice, in large areas. Reportedly, additional subsidies will also be provided to farmers if required for the upcoming kharif season or the summer season.

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## Aviation

### IndiGo cancels flights for several cities

IndiGo has cancelled flights to and from several cities on 13 May 2025. These include Jammu, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Leh, Srinagar and Rajkot. The decision was taken to prioritise passenger safety amid airspace restrictions following the conflict with Pakistan.

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### Arunachal Pradesh's Tezu Airport installs advanced ATC units

The Airdrome Control Unit (ACU) and Approach (APP) Combined Unit were inaugurated at Tezu Airport in Arunachal Pradesh's Lohit district on 9 May 2025. This marks a critical upgrade to the airport's air traffic management system, significantly enhancing both flight safety and operational efficiency in the region.

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### AERA fixes differential UDF for international flights from Mumbai airport

The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) has fixed differential User Development Fee (UDF) for economy and business class passengers on international flights from Mumbai airport. The UDF for the international departing passenger in economy class has been fixed at Rs.615 per pax and for international departing passenger in business class it will be Rs.695 per pax.

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## Transportation

### Kerala govt sanctions Rs.1 bln for KSRTC

The Kerala government has sanctioned around Rs.1 billion for the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC). Out of this, Rs.732.3 million is intended for the payment of pension and Rs.300 million as financial assistance for other requirements.

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### Maharashtra's MSRTC to add 25,000 new buses to its fleet over next 5 years

The Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) has decided to add 25,000 new buses to its fleet over the next five years, with 5,000 vehicles to be procured annually. Of the total, 20,000 buses to be procured from 2025-26 onwards will run on hybrid fuel.

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### BEST announces fare hike across its bus services in Maharashtra

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) in Maharashtra has announced a fare hike across its bus services. Both air-conditioned (AC) and non-AC buses will see higher ticket prices. This came in effect from 9 May 2025.

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