

**Daily Economic News Summary: 14 February 2019**

**1. Supreme Court Grants 4 More Weeks To Up Govt To Submit Vision Document On Taj Mahal**

Source: Financial Express ([Link](#))

The Supreme Court on 13 February directed the Uttar Pradesh government to submit a vision document for protection and preservation of the Taj Mahal in Agra within four weeks, saying it was difficult to proceed in the matter without it. A bench comprising justices S A Bobde and S K Kaul also asked the Centre to place before it in eight weeks time a report on declaring Agra a heritage city. The vision document is being prepared by the Delhi School of Planning and Architecture for the UP government.

**2. Lufthansa Open To Partnerships For Tapping Indian Market**

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

European airline group Lufthansa said on 13 February it was open to marketing arrangements with its counterparts in India for boosting its share in the rapidly growing air travel market in the subcontinent. Lufthansa and other foreign airlines operating in India are vying to cater to international traffic to and from India. According to official data from the directorate general of civil aviation, domestic airlines served 3.1 million passengers flying out of India, while international carriers served 4.7 million passengers flying out of the country.

**3. Canada, Us Accuse India Of ‘Dramatic’ Under-Reporting Of Msp For Five Pulses**

Source: The Hindu, Business Line ([Link](#))

Canada and the US have accused India at the World Trade Organization (WTO) of “dramatic under-reporting” of market price support for pulses chickpeas, pigeon peas, black matpe, mung beans, and lentils and have submitted their own steeper calculations for scrutiny of members. India’s minimum support price (MSP, also referred to as market price support) for the five pulses is about 26 times higher at ₹69,923 crore instead of the notified ₹2,667 crore, as per a joint submission made by the countries to the WTO on 12 February.

#### **4. GoAir To Start Kannur-Abu Dhabi Flight Services From March 1**

**Source: The Hindu, Business Line ([Link](#))**

Adding Abu Dhabi as its fourth foreign destination, GoAir on 12 February announced that it will start flight services from Kannur to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) capital from March 1. “GoAir will operate four direct flight services per week between Kannur-Abu Dhabi-Kannur and bookings are now open at an attractive all-inclusive one-way fare starting from Rs 6,099,” the airline said in a statement. Earlier this month, the budget carrier had announced that it would start flight services to Muscat, its third international destination, from the recently-commissioned Kannur International Airport in northern Kerala from February 28.

#### **5. Budget Session Of Parliament: Citizenship, Consumer Protection And Unregulated Deposits Among Key Bills Pending On Final Day**

**Source: Firstpost ([Link](#))**

The Budget Session, which started 31 January, will hold its final session on 13 February and is likely to end with a large list of bills remaining pending in both Houses of Parliament. With Congress staging a walk-out on 12 February in the Lok Sabha over the Rafale deal and the Rajya Sabha being adjourned following an uproar by Samajwadi Party members after party chief Akhilesh Yadav was allegedly stopped at Lucknow airport while on his way to Allahabad, both Houses once again lost valuable time. At the end of the Winter Session (247th session), the Upper House had 49 government bills and 130 private members bills pending; the Lok Sabha, on the other hand, according to its official website, had 25 government bills and over a thousand private members bills pending.

#### **6. Data Protection To Form Core Of Ecommerce Policy**

**Source: The Economic Times ([Link](#))**

Protection, localisation and cross-border flows of data and privacy will be at the core of the upcoming ecommerce policy that will also focus on India’s position in global trade negotiations, officials in the know said. With a group of 76 members including the US, European Union, China, Japan, Australia and Singapore working to develop trade rules for ecommerce, the Department for Promotion of Investment and Internal Trade (DPIIT), which is drafting the policy, has said the policy would focus on India’s interest at the World Trade Organization. A draft of the policy is being deliberated upon within the commerce and industry ministry. While the Department of Commerce, which deals with India’s trade issues, had floated a draft policy in

July last year, the DPIIT was made the nodal department for the government's ecommerce initiatives in September.

### **7. Marii Hopes India Will Be A Key Exporter Of Auto Components**

**Source: The Times of India ([Link](#))**

The Malaysia Automotive, Robotics & IoT Institute (MARii) is expecting to make India a key hub from where auto components and services can be exported to ASEAN countries and the rest of the world, Dato Madani Sahari, CEO of MARii, said. In an exclusive interaction with ToI, Sahari who is in India to meet with ministers and officials of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that MARii, an agency under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, would be offering partnerships to the Indian MSME sector in the auto components industry.