

Daily Economic News Summary: 25 September 2019

1. India turns to UAE for extra LPG imports as Saudi Arabia cuts supplies

Source: Money Control ([Link](#))

India will get two additional cargoes of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) from United Arab Emirate's Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) to make up for a shortfall from Saudi Arabia, two government officials said. India's oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan earlier in the day tweeted that ADNOC had agreed to give two additional cargos of LPG on an urgent basis to meet higher demand in the upcoming festive season. He said the cargoes will reach India in the next two weeks. The sources said additional supplies from ADNOC would compensate for lower imports from Saudi Arabia, which has lowered refinery runs to meet its oil exports commitment after attacks on its oil facilities.

2. Corporate Tax Cut | Companies to gain Rs 44,000 crore from deferred tax liabilities: Report

Source: Money Control ([Link](#))

The corporate tax cut bonanza continues as around 12 companies are set to benefit by Rs 44,000 crore due to deferred tax liabilities, The Times of India reported. As per Edelweiss Securities, the biggest gainers are Reliance Industries and ONGC, with each stand to gain over Rs 13,000 crore because of deferred tax. They are followed by Indian Oil (Rs 4,717 crore), PowerGrid (Rs 2,862 crore) and Tata Steel (Rs 2,231 crore). Deferred tax liabilities are taxes which have been accounted for but yet to be paid. It signifies that the company would make well on the tax payment at a deferred date. Companies can also choose to make payments early.

3. Talks on to extend SEZ sunset clause

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

After slashing corporate tax, India is re-looking at the special economic zones framework to make it more attractive for investors. Commerce and revenue departments have initiated discussions on extending the sunset clause for the scheme that ends March 31, 2020, two government officials familiar with the deliberations told ET. "Discussions are on various aspects of the special economic zones," said one of the officials quoted above. The government cut minimum alternate tax to 15% from 18.5% and slashed corporate tax rate to 22% from 30% on

20 September as part of the Rs 1.45 lakh crore mega stimulus package to pump prime growth that touched a six year low at 5% in first quarter.

4. GMR Infra, Reliance among 19 companies bidding to build Noida airport

Source: Business Standard ([Link](#))

GMR Infra, Adani Group, and Reliance Infra are among the 19 companies in the technical bidding process for developing the ~16,000-crore Noida International Greenfield Airport project at Jewar in Greater Noida. The Yogi Adityanath government is targeting to complete technical bidding by November 6; this will be followed by the financial bidding process. “We aim to complete the entire bidding process by February-March 2020,” Shrikant Sharma, UP Cabinet minister and state government spokesperson, told reporters in Lucknow on 23 September. He said the government is aiming for the commercial opening of the first runway by 2023.

5. Infosys is world’s third best regarded company

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

As many as 17 Indian companies, including Infosys, TCS and HDFC, have been named in the list of World’s Best Regarded Companies compiled by Forbes. IT major Infosys has been ranked third in the list of World’s Best Regarded Companies, along with global payments technology company Visa and Italian car-maker Ferrari on the first and second position, respectively. Infosys jumped to the third spot from 31st position in 2018. “Infosys’ leading position headlined an Asian invasion in the rankings,” Forbes said. The other top ten companies in the list for 2019 are Netflix at the 4th position, followed by PayPal (5), Microsoft (6), Walt Disney (7), Toyota Motor (8), Mastercard (9), Costco Wholesale (10). Indian companies Tata Consultancy Services (22nd position) and Tata Motors (31) featured among the top 50 in the coveted list. Other Indian companies in the list include Tata Steel (105), Larsen & Toubro (115), Mahindra & Mahindra (117), HDFC (135), Bajaj Finserv (143), Piramal Enterprises (149), Steel Authority of India (153), HCL Technologies (155), Hindalco Industries (157), Wipro (168), HDFC Bank (204), Sun Pharma Industries (217), General Insurance Corporation Of India (224), ITC (231) and Asian Paints (248).

6. World-class experience for passengers! Indian Railways eyes modern private trains on 24 busy routes;

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

World-class private trains on Indian Railways network soon! Piyush Goyal-led Indian Railways is working on plans to allow private operators to run trains on its network – a move that can be termed as a transformational initiative. The Railway Board has already proposed 24 key routes which zonal railways have been asked to study and come up with feasibility reports. A recent Railway Board letter, seen by Financial Express Online, lists 24 busy routes connecting important cities. These are for long-distance and overnight trains, inter-city trains and sub-urban trains. According to the letter, Railway Board’s Member Traffic will chair a meeting on September 27, by which time the zonal railways have been asked to identify “potentially viable and operationally feasible” routes.

7. India-US trade deal will help achieve bilateral trade target of \$500 billion

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

India and the US are close to finalising a bilateral trade deal that will help both the countries to achieve bilateral trade target of \$500 billion a year. India-US will soon have a trade deal said US President Donald Trump after a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This is second meeting between the leaders during this visit of Prime Minister Modi to the country following a joint public rally Howdy, Modi in Houston, Texas. “I think very soon we’ll have a trade deal. We’ll have the larger deal down the road a little bit, but we will have a trade deal very soon,” Trump told reporters after meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the annual United Nations General Assembly. Despite a lot of potential, the bilateral trade between the countries has been below the potential. India’s share in the US’ global trade remained below \$150 billion last year, which is just one-fifth of China’s bilateral trade with the country.