

Daily Economic News Summary: 4 September 2018

1. US Trade Group Warns On Knee Implant Prices In India

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

The US medical device lobby group AdvaMed has said India's drug pricing regulator's decision not to raise the prices of knee implants for another year could take a "toll" on manufacturers. The US trade association said it was "critical" for the government to evaluate the long-term "negative impact" of such decisions on patient outcomes. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) had reduced knee implant prices by as much as 69% last August. The reduced prices were to be effective for a year. This month, while reviewing its decision, the NPPA decided to extend the ceiling price by another year.

2. Mauritius Tops India's FDI Charts Again In FY18

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

Mauritius remained the top source of foreign direct investment into India in 2017-18 followed by Singapore, whereas total FDI stood at USD 37.36 billion in the financial year, a marginal rise over the USD 36.31 billion recorded in the previous fiscal, according to RBI data. While FDI from Mauritius totalled USD 13.41 billion as against USD 13.38 billion in the previous year, inflows from Singapore rose to USD 9.27 billion from USD 6.52 billion. Even as FDI from Netherlands declined marginally to USD 2.67 billion as against USD 3.23 billion in the year-ago period.

3. Delhi's IGI May Overtake Heathrow Next Fiscal

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

The Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) here could overtake London's Heathrow airport in traffic volume by the 2020 financial year, a Sydney-based aviation research body has said. In its latest report, the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation (CAPA) India said that IGI airport, which handled 65.7 million passengers in FY18, is likely to cross 80 million passenger by FY20. "India's largest airport, Delhi, which handled 65.7 million passengers in FY2018, is likely to cross 80 million passengers in FY2020, which would see it approach or even overtake London Heathrow in traffic volumes," the report said.

4. India To Buy Iran Oil Despite Sanction Threat?

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

India is allowing state refiners to import Iranian oil with Tehran arranging tankers and insurance after firms including the country's top shipper Shipping Corp of India (SCI) halted voyages to Iran due to US sanctions, sources said. New Delhi's attempt to keep Iranian oil flowing mirrors a step by China, where buyers are shifting nearly all their Iranian oil imports to vessels owned by National Iranian Tanker Co (NITC). The moves by the two top buyers of Iranian crude indicate that the Islamic Republic may not be fully cut off from global oil markets from November, when US sanctions against Tehran's petroleum sector are due to start.

5. Rupee Hits New All-Time Low Of 71.37, Drops 16 Paise Against US Dollar; Trade Concerns, Crude Prices Impact Currency

Source: Firstpost ([Link](#))

The rupee on 4 September slumped 16 paise against the dollar to trade at a life-time low of 71.37 on strong demand for the US currency. At the Interbank Foreign Exchange, the local currency opened at a record low of 71.24 against a dollar, down from its previous close of 71.21, and weakened further to trade at a fresh low of 71.37, down 16 paise. Forex dealers said besides strong demand for the American currency from importers, capital outflows too impacted the domestic currency. According to analysts, along with trade concerns, high crude oil prices and consistent outflow of foreign funds also weighed on the Indian currency.

6. India To Soon Have London-Like 'One-Nation-One-Card' Policy For Transport

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

Soon, on the lines of London, Singapore and many other international metropolises, India would have a single card for multiple modes of transport, said Amitabh Kant, CEO Niti Aayog. India will shortly unveil a 'One Nation-One Card Policy' for public transport that will entail connectivity between various modes of transport. For instance in London, you can buy one card (Oyster card) and can travel on the bus, metro and even suburban trains using that card. While the Indian mobility market is expected to see dynamic changes, it is expected that the biggest disruption will play out in the battery storage space, which is expected to be a \$300 billion opportunity in the years to come, he said