

[India jumps 30 spots to 100 in World Bank's ease of doing business rankings](#)

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## newsletter

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## News

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### Business agreements:

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French Prez Emmanuel Macron to visit India in Dec to discuss bilateral ties [+ Info](#)

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India-Ethiopia trade pact gets ex-post facto Cabinet approval [+ Info](#)

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Russian, Japanese companies keen to supply amphibious planes: Nitin Gadkari [+ Info](#)

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Lens on foreign firms investing in power sector [+ Info](#)

Cairn India to invest \$4.6 bn in new oil & gas exploration projects [+ Info](#)

Power sector's first InvIT IndiGrid acquires 3 more projects at Rs 1,490 cr [+ Info](#)

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Warning bells till Christmas for foreign account holders [+ Info](#)

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Govt to set up food parks, bats for direct farm sourcing to boost income [+ Info](#)

### Industry:

India jumps 30 spots to 100 in World Bank's ease of doing business rankings [+ Info](#)

Poor rains, global headwinds hinder FMCG growth [+ Info](#)

Services PMI rebounds to 50.7 in September on new orders [+ Info](#)

### Infrastructure:

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Development of waterways smoother than highways [+ Info](#)



### “Kumbh Mela”

Kumbh Mela or Kumbha Mela This mass Hindu Pilgrimage is revered as one of the largest peaceful gatherings in the entire world. The term 'Kumbh' is derived from a Sanskrit word meaning 'pitcher.' It also refers to the zodiac sign of Aquarius. While, the term 'Mela' means 'gathering.' This tradition is so ancient and sacred, that it was even included in the travel accounts of Chinese traveller Hsuan Tsang, when he visited India in 629-645 BCE.

Hindus believe that those who bathe in the sacred waters during the Kumbh Mela are eternally blessed by the divine. All their sins are washed away and they come one step closer to salvation.

Legend has it that in the mythological times, during a waging war between the demigods and demons for the possession of nectar of eternal life, a few drops of it had fallen on to four places that are today known as Prayag (Uttar Pradesh - Allahabad), Haridwar (Uttarakhand), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) and Nashik, (Maharashtra).

It is believed that these drops gave mystical powers to these places. Kumbh Mela is celebrated only 4 times in every 12 years. The normal Kumbh Mela is held every 3 years, the Ardh (half) Kumbh Mela is held every six years

Kandla Port gets green nod to develop Rs 1,176 crore smart city [+ Info](#)

Indian Railways to invest about Rs 2,000-cr for expansion [+ Info](#)

#### Pharma / Healthcare:

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Govt readies policy to regulate online pharmacies [+ Info](#)

Govt set to bar homeopathy doctors from selling drugs [+ Info](#)

#### Renewable energy:

Govt to auction 3 GW of wind power projects by the end of this fiscal [+ Info](#)

Big potential for small hydropower [+ Info](#)

EBRD, International Solar Alliance to ink pact for cooperation on energy projects [+ Info](#)

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Smartphone shipments touch record high in Q2 [+ Info](#)

Telcos gear up to update networks for 5G switch [+ Info](#)

## Economy

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Food processing, retail will get \$10 billion in FDI: Harsimrat Kaur Badal [+ Info](#)

DIPP approves 3 FDI proposals for single brand retail [+ Info](#)

DIPP eases mechanism for processing FDI proposals [+ Info](#)

#### GDP:

Cash ban, GST to cool GDP growth to 4-year low at 6.7%, shows poll [+ Info](#)

#### Import-export:

India flags off first shipment via Chabahar to Afghanistan [+ Info](#)

3 months into GST, exports rise over 25% [+ Info](#)

Antwerp Port 'ready' to make India call, again [+ Info](#)

Non-major ports pip major ports in cargo growth in 5 years [+ Info](#)

#### Inflation:

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IGST relief likely for foreign banks, MNCs [+ Info](#)

GST invoicing norms for retailers eased [+ Info](#)

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Modi gives exit route to small traders from I-T lens [+ Info](#)

Govt amends Arms Rules to spur Make in India [+ Info](#)

## Upcoming Events

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Upcoming Trade fairs in India [+ Info](#)

at Haridwar and Allahabad (Prayag) while the Purna (complete) Kumbh mela takes place every twelve years, at four places Prayag (Allahabad), Haridwar, Ujjain, and Nashik, based on planetary movements. The Maha Kumbh Mela is celebrated at Prayag after 144 years (after 12 'Purna Kumbh Melas'). Depending on what position the Sun, Moon, and Jupiter hold in that period in different zodiac signs, the venue for Kumbh Mela is decided.

These respective pilgrimages are located on the banks of the most sacred rivers of Hinduism. It is believed that once every 12 years, when the Maha Kumbha Mela is observed, the sacred river itself transforms into sanctity spots, holding the primordial nectar. The pilgrims get to wash their sins, rejuvenate their lives and taste salvation.

Several groups of holy men or sadhus including the Nagas, Urdhwavahurs, Kalpvasis come throng to the Kumbh Mela sites in order to perform rituals and bathe in the holy waters. The ritual bath for cleansing one's soul is the most important aspect of rituals in Kumbh Mela. Right from 3 o' clock in the morning, the pilgrims start assembling in lines. The other rituals include devotional singing, religious assemblies, mass-feeding and debates on religious doctrines. The order of entering into the sacred river is already fixed. The Naga Sadhus (who do not wear cloth, their forehead is smeared with ash and they are not affected by material possessions) enter first. They are followed by others.

The previous Kumbh Mela was held in Ujjain (2016). More than 75 million people attended the month-long Kumbh Mela that ended on May 21 in a central Indian city. All roads in Ujjain were packed with devotees jostling to reach the banks of Kshipra for the holy dip. Not just Indian, but nearly 10,000 foreigners attended this according to the local ministry.

An estimated amount of business earnings in Kumbh Mela is 12,000 crore rupees (120 billion rupees). Employment opportunities created during Kumbh Mela is approximately 6,50,00.

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***"A life of joy and happiness is possible only on the basis of knowledge and science."***

- Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan  
(India's 2nd President)

11/3/2017

\*|MC:SUBJECT|\*

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