

## Daily Economic News Summary: 28 December 2015

### 1. “Start up India, stand up India” mission will be launched in January: Modi

Source: **Live Mint** ([Link](#))

The government’s ‘start up India, stand up India’ mission will be launched on 16 January, Prime Minister Narendra Modi informed the nation in his last radio address for 2015. He also spoke about how the direct benefit transfer scheme is helping people. *“On 15 August, in my speech I had announced the scheme of ‘start up India, stand up India’. The world doesn’t grow without innovation and opportunity for the youth. The government is going to launch the complete action plan and details on 16 January for the mission,”* Modi said. As in all other editions of his Mann ki Baat programme, he spoke in Hindi. *“We have to make changes according to the need of the country. There is talent across the country but they need the opportunity. ‘Start up India stand up India’ should be spread across the country and I need the help of states for this,”* he added.

Institutions including the Indian Institutes for Technology, Indian Institutes of Management and central universities will be connected live through this scheme. Talking of the advantages of direct benefit transfer, Modi said, *“Subsidy is reaching people directly under the world’s largest direct benefit transfer scheme. I feel proud to inform you that this scheme has been given a place in the Guinness book of records.”* He added, *“under different schemes around Rs.40,000 crore has been transferred directly to beneficiary bank accounts. This will be extended.”*

### 2. President wants govt to focus more on job creation

Source: **Live Mint** ([Link](#))

President Pranab Mukherjee on Sunday said policymakers should emphasize the provision of adequate job opportunities as economic growth would be meaningful and inclusive only if the living standards of every Indian were improved. *“Growth which favours the top deciles or an even lower proportion of the population can never be sustainable or desirable. Balancing growth with equity and social justice is a fundamental requirement of our democratic polity,”* he said.

Mukherjee was speaking while inaugurating a three-day annual conference of the Indian Economic Association, a body of economic professionals, in Hyderabad. The main theme of the conference this year is growth, inequality and human development. The Indian Economic

Association is a member of the International Economic Association, a federation of national economic associations from developed and developing countries, and regularly interacts with the international counterpart on economic policy issues. The president said that the government should focus on achieving growth with job creation because the bulk of Indians are of working age.

As per a report by Macquarie Research and Global Demographics, the Indian working-age population is expected to increase by 100 million in the next 10 years. According to UN estimates, 285 million people will be added to India's working-age population by 2050, compared with nearly 210 million fewer workers in China by then. Experts believe that policies to create more jobs and sharpen the skills of the labour force will be needed to take advantage of this demographic edge. Since the National Democratic Alliance government came to power, it has initiated campaigns such as 'Make in India', which have the potential to create jobs. The government has also put an emphasis on the 'Skill India' programme and allocated around Rs.5,040 crore for skill development across ministries in the Union budget of 2015-16.

### **3. CRDA releases master plan draft notification for Andhra Pradesh capital**

Source: **Live Mint** ([Link](#))

The Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) has released a master plan draft notification for both the new capital and the capital region of Andhra Pradesh. CRDA has sought objections, modifications and suggestions for the draft notification within 30 days. The master plan draft was released on the CRDA website late on Saturday night.

People can also meet CRDA officials to submit their objections and suggestions either at the CRDA office in Vijayawada city or its sub-offices in Guntur, Tenali, Mangalagiri and Tulluru. The objections and suggestions can be sent either by post or e-mail. The capital region is of 8,603.32 sq.km. which consists of 54 revenue mandals in both Guntur and Krishna districts, while the capital city has only 217 sq.km. The CRDA has made some modifications to meet local conditions, in the master plan provided by the Singapore government in July to the Andhra Pradesh government. The capital city has been divided into nine small areas dedicated to government, financial, tourist, knowledge, health, electronics, media, justice and sports activities.

#### 4. India did well in year of global economic turmoil: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley

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

Voicing "great satisfaction" over performance of the Indian economy in "a year of turmoil and volatility" globally, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today dismissed grumblings about the economy not having taken off as "cynicism -- a way of life in India". Looking back at 2015, Jaitley said India has been the bright spot with growth prospects of 7-7.5 per cent despite global slowdown and adversities, and expressed optimism that the growth rate which is "quite good" would improve further in the months to come.

India has responded well to the challenge posed by the slowdown in global economy, he said, but acknowledged that *"there are areas (in which) we have to respond faster"*. *"As the year ends, I look back with a sense of great satisfaction,"* Jaitley told PTI in an interview, during which he underlined that India's fiscal fundamentals are "extremely sound". Outlining his priorities for the New Year, the Finance Minister said he would continue with structural reforms and the priorities would include GST, rationalizing direct taxes, further easing the system of doing business.

#### 5. Hyundai's India unit set to close 2015 with record numbers

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

Hyundai Motor India, the subsidiary of South Korea's largest car company, is set to exceed its target for 2015 with the fastest sales growth in five years led by strong demand for its new vehicle models. The company is likely to sell 4.76 lakh vehicles this year, which is 11,000 units more than the 4.65 lakh target for the domestic market. It is also poised to meet its export target of 1.67 lakh units, which means the company would have used 98 per cent of its capacity, the highest among Indian car makers. The Indian unit is set to close 2015 with record numbers, led by new-age products such as Creta and Elite, Rakesh Srivastava, senior vice president, sales and marketing at Hyundai Motor India, told ET. *"It has been a good year for Hyundai Motor India as we have added incremental sales of 50,000 units. Strong demand for Creta, which has already seen a booking over 75,000 units, and sustained demand for Elite have been the key driving forces for 2015,"* said Srivastava.

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