

India logs 7.8% quarterly growth after data overhaul



Vehicles ply on the coastal road connecting with the Bandra-Worli sea link bridge in Mumbai

● **The Indian economy is now projected to grow 7.6% for the full fiscal year, up from a forecast of 7.4% published last month**

AFP | Mumbai, India

India's economy grew at a faster pace than expected in the last quarter of 2025 driven by solid consumer spending, data showed Friday, using a new framework that calculates economic output more accurately.

Gross domestic product rose 7.8% in the October-to-December quarter from the same period a year earlier, according to data from the statistics ministry.

While growth slipped from the 8.4% recorded in the previous quarter, it edged past market expectations of 7.6%.

Aditi Nayar of ratings agency ICRA said the GDP growth number was "healthier than what we had expected".

"The moderation was expectedly driven by the agriculture and the non-manufacturing industrial sectors," she said in a note.

Friday's reading re-affirmed India as the world's fastest-growing major economy and is a shot in the arm for policymakers who have struggled with steep US tariffs, a falling rupee and muted consumption for most of 2025.

Last year, the government claimed India had surpassed Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy.

However, the data for 2025 shows India's nominal GDP in dollar terms was still under the \$4 trillion mark compared to Japan's \$4.4 trillion -- indicating that while it was close, the crossover has yet to happen.

Based on current numbers, India will cross the \$4 trillion mark comfortably in 2026-27, India's chief economic advisor V. Anantha Nageswaran said.

"The relative ranking will also depend on other countries' growth rates and exchange rates as well," he said.

Faced with a dimming economic outlook, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sought to bolster the economy by slashing income and consumption taxes which have helped re-

bound consumer spending in recent quarters.

Data overhaul

New Delhi also managed to secure a trade deal with Washington in early February, which boosted sentiment around the rupee but came just weeks before the US Supreme Court struck down President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs.

The GDP numbers are the first data released under a revised framework that New Delhi said better captures "the realities of a fast-changing economy".

The data overhaul has seen India shift its GDP base year to 2022-23 from 2011-12 and adopt more granular price deflation to help quell concerns that earlier methods relied too heavily on the wholesale price index.

Growth calculations are now also based on sources of data including India's online tax and vehicle registration databases.

The government said the new data aligns official numbers "more closely with the structure and dynamics of today's economy".

The data revamp also sees New Delhi raising its growth projections for the current financial year that ends in March. The Indian economy is now projected to grow 7.6% for the full fiscal year, up from a forecast of 7.4% published last month, a press release from the statistics ministry said.

The latest figures bring Modi closer to his goal of transforming India into a developed nation by 2047 -- a target that most analysts say would require the economy to record about 8 percent growth every year until then.

YOU KNOW WHAT

India aims to become a developed nation by 2047, marking 100 years of independence, under its long-term vision known as Viksit Bharat 2047.

Revenues fall to BD1.8bn amid weaker oil prices

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Lower global oil and gas prices pushed state revenues down by BD200 million in 2024 to BD1.8 billion, compared with BD2bn in 2023, while non-oil income recorded an increase, the Ministry of Finance and National Economy said.

Reduced production at the Abu Safa oil field during scheduled maintenance also contributed to the decline, the ministry told Parliament's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee in written replies addressing remarks in the Financial and Administrative Audit Bureau's 2024-2025 report.

In its response on the State's unified final account for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, the ministry said efforts to reduce public debt remain tied to broader fiscal policy. It noted that when budgets are prepared with projected deficits, borrowing becomes necessary to finance expenditure and maintain essential services.



Representative picture

Regarding external loans obtained by government-linked entities but not recorded within public debt, the ministry cited Article 108(b) of the Constitution, which permits public institutions to borrow against their own assets without those liabilities being classified as state debt.

The ministry said it continues to enforce compliance with the State Budget Law, urging

government bodies to review financial obligations regularly to ensure spending remains within approved appropriations and to avoid over-commitment.

It added that Bapco Energies settled all returns due to the State for the 2023 and 2024 fiscal years during 2025, with the payments to be reflected in the 2025 final account. Monitoring mechanisms remain in place to ensure timely transfer

of due revenues to the public treasury.

Addressing audit observations, the ministry said fixed asset inventory processes have resumed in line with the Unified Financial Manual, supported by a training programme for relevant staff. A review of the IT asset register policy is under way, with plans to maintain an updated and unified record by the first quarter of 2026. A procedural guide covering maintenance, replacement and disposal of IT assets is also being prepared.

Vulnerability assessments are conducted through a central system overseen by the National Cyber Security Centre, and a specialised firm will carry out penetration testing of systems and applications by the second quarter of 2026.

A business continuity committee has been formed to ensure operations continue during emergencies, and approval has been secured to host the ministry's website on dual servers to improve resilience and availability by early 2026.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025		2025 US\$ '000		2024 US\$ '000	
ASSETS					
Cash and balances with banks		791		451	
Due from banks		-		7,288	
Investment in sukuk		27,732		18,425	
Investment in equities and funds		4,906		4,906	
Investment in real estate		19,421		19,421	
Equipment		8		29	
Other assets		562		889	
Total assets		53,420		51,409	
Liabilities and owners' equity					
Liabilities					
Staff payables		803		803	
Other liabilities		1,099		1,128	
Total liabilities		1,902		1,931	
Owners' equity					
Share capital		59,039		59,039	
Reserves		7,027		6,823	
Accumulated losses		(14,548)		(16,384)	
Total owners' equity		51,518		49,478	
Total liabilities and owners' equity		53,420		51,409	

STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025		2025 US\$ '000		2024 US\$ '000	
INCOME					
Income from:					
Investment in sukuk		1,410		379	
Due from banks		95		957	
		1,505		1,336	
Investment banking fees		602		50	
Rental income		1,207		1,320	
Other income - net		66		50	
Total operating income		3,380		2,756	
Expenses					
Staff costs		(579)		(683)	
Depreciation		(22)		(28)	
General and administrative expenses		(735)		(1,377)	
Total operating expenses		(1,336)		(2,088)	
Net income for the year before expected credit losses and fair value gain on investment in funds		2,044		668	
Expected credit losses (charge) / reversal, net		(4)		167	
Fair value gain on investment in funds		-		613	
Net income for the year		2,040		1,448	

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN OWNERS' EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025						
	Share capital US\$ '000	Statutory reserve US\$ '000	General reserve US\$ '000	Total reserves US\$ '000	Accumulated losses* US\$ '000	Total owners' equity US\$ '000
Balance as at January 1, 2025	59,039	4,597	2,226	6,823	(16,384)	49,478
Net income for the year	-	-	-	-	2,040	2,040
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	204	-	204	(204)	-
Balance as at December 31, 2025	59,039	4,801	2,226	7,027	(14,548)	51,518
Balance as at January 1, 2024	59,039	4,452	2,226	6,678	(17,687)	48,030
Net income for the year	-	-	-	-	1,448	1,448
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	145	-	145	(145)	-
Balance as at December 31, 2024	59,039	4,597	2,226	6,823	(16,384)	49,478

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025		2025 US\$ '000		2024 US\$ '000	
Net cash flows generated from / (used in) operating activities					
		275		(3,403)	
Net cash flows generated from investing activities					
		65		50	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents					
		340		(3,353)	
Cash and cash equivalents at January 1,		451		3,804	
Cash and cash equivalents at December 31,		791		451	

	Mohamed Al Sharif Chairman	Ameer Abdul Ghani Director	Bader Al Abbasi Acting Chief Executive Officer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These were extracted from the Financial Statements on which Deloitte & Touche - Middle East issued an unqualified opinion dated 25 February 2026 which were available on LMC's Website. These Financial Statements have been authorized for issuance in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors dated 15 February 2026. Liquidity Management Centre B.S.C. (c) is licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as Wholesale Islamic Bank. The Bank's total equity as at 31 December 2025 is US\$ 51,518 million (31 December 2024: US\$ 49,478 million) which is less than the minimum capital requirement of US\$ 100 Million required under LR Module of Volume 2 of the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) rule book (LR-2.5.2B), and the Shareholders of the Bank, in their Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM") held on 27 April 2020, passed a resolution approving the conversion of the Bank's license from an Islamic Wholesale Bank to a Bahrain Shareholding Company subject to CBB approval. 			

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