

1. Rain-deficit Southern States drag down kharif sowing numbers

Lakh hectare

Kharif acreage (in lakh ha as of August 18)			
	This year	Last year	% change
Rice	341.58	348.14	0.42
Pulses	130.68	135.42	-3.59
Arhar	40.81	49.91	-18.24
Urdbean	39.44	32.23	22.39
Moongbean	30.58	32.60	-6.46
Kulthi	0.23	0.49	-52.47
Other pulses	19.78	29.18	-2.41
Coarse cereals	171.75	179.17	-4.14
Jowar	15.73	18.54	-15.13
Rajra	69.29	67.00	3.41
Ragi	5.95	7.94	-25.03
Small millets	4.05	4.14	-2.02
Maize	76.72	81.55	-5.93
Oilseeds	157.36	175.10	-10.13
Groundnut	37.67	42.98	-12.95
Soyabean	102.33	112.51	-9.05
Sunflower	1.17	1.45	-18.77
Sesamum	11.67	13.30	-12.24
Niger	0.84	0.55	48.13
Caster	3.68	4.30	-14.43
Sugarcane	49.78	45.64	9.07
Jute & mesta	7.05	7.56	-6.72
Cotton	118.14	101.54	16.35
Total	976.34	984.57	-0.84

Kharif Crop Sowing dropped to 943.45 Lakh Hectare Area compared to 984.57 lakh hec

- ❖ The total sown area during the ongoing kharif season had dropped to 976.34 lakh hectares (ha) by the end of the week, against 984.57 lakh ha during the same time last year.
- ❖ Deficient rains in parts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana seem to have hit kharif sowing this year with the total area covered coming down for the first time from the corresponding period last year.
- ❖ As on date, 10 out of 36 agro-meteorological subdivisions in the country are reeling under deficient rainfall as compared to six subdivisions in the same week last year

Source : Ministry of Agriculture, 18 August 2017

2. Money Market : Reference date : 18 August 2017

Bank rate	6.25	Base rate	9.00-9.55
Repo Rate	6.00	S L R	20.00
Reverse Repo Rate	5.75	Term Deposit Rate	6.25 - 6.90 >1 Yr
C R R	4.00	Call Money (wtd.Avg)	5.84
Marginal Standing Facility	6.25	CBLO (Wtd.Avg)	5.84

Source : Reserve Bank of India

Source: global-rates.com	Date>	18 August	1-Week	1-month	6-Month	1-Year
On US \$ (%)	LIBOR>	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.46	1.73

3. Foreign Exchange Rate (Rs) :

Category	14 Aug	15 Aug	16 Aug	17 Aug	18 Aug	% Ch.
US \$	64.03	NA	64.24	NA	64.10	0.11
Euro	75.70	NA	75.38	NA	75.21	-0.65

Source : RBI

4. Stock Exchange Indices :

Category	14 Aug	15 Aug	16 Aug	17 Aug	18 Aug	% Ch.
BSE	31449	NA	31771	31795	31525	0.24
Nifty	9794	NA	9897	9904	9837	0.44

Source : BSE, NSE

5. Gold & Silver Prices (Rs) :

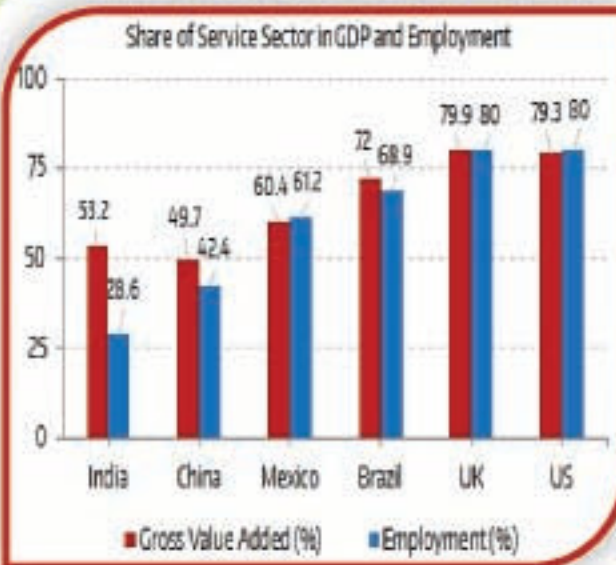
Kolkata Prices	14 Aug	15 Aug	16 Aug	17 Aug	18 Aug	% Ch.
Gold 24 Carrots /10 gms	30357	30367	30318	30503	30689	1.09
Silver / kg	42400	42200	42200	42200	42200	-0.47

6. Crude Oil Price: US\$/Barrel :

Date>	11 Aug	14 Aug	15 Aug	16 Aug	17 Aug	% Ch.
Price>	49.37	49.46	148.45	48.69	48.07	48.67

Source: OPEC

7. India's Services Sector Growth Not in Line with Employment Growth



- ❖ India's services sector remains the key driver of economic growth, contributing about 53% of gross value-added (GVA) growth in the last year.
- ❖ The alarming part is, that growth is not commensurate with employment growth, which could very well be a cause for concern going forward
- ❖ In most economies, both growing and developed, the sector's GVA rate is similar to the sector's contribution to total employment.
- ❖ For example, in Mexico, services are 60.4% of the overall economy and provide 61.2% of the jobs. In India, the sector is 53.2% of the overall economy but only contributes 28.6% to total employment.
- ❖ The services sector in India, however, remains dynamic and growth is very high.

Data Source : Economic Survey 2016-17

8. RBI releases Data on India's International Trade in Services: June 2017

Table: International Trade in Services

Month	(US\$ Million)	
	Receipts (Exports)	Payments (Imports)
April -2017	12,904	7,222
May-2017	13,430	7,615
June -2017	13,388	7,457

Note: Data are provisional.

- ❖ The Reserve Bank releases monthly data on India's international trade in services with a lag of around 45 days.
- ❖ The value of exports and imports of services during the month of June 2017 are given in the Table.
- ❖ Monthly data on services are provisional and would undergo revision when the Balance of Payments (BoP) data are released on a quarterly basis.

9. GST impact: India Inc profits dip 11% in Q1 on de-stocking

- ❖ The impending goods and services tax (GST) regime has made a dent on India Inc's earnings for the April-June period, with profit growth falling to a five-quarter low of 11 per cent, says a **Morgan Stanley report**.
- ❖ "Most of the impact was caused by channel de-stocking and dealer incentivisation which probably explains why both revenue growth and particular margin performance were weak in the quarter for these sectors," it added.
- ❖ Financials, utilities, technology and telecom sector companies did not report impact of GST on their earnings either in their earnings release or the management commentary.
- ❖ For an even broader sample of 2,629 companies, revenue rose 9 p.c. and net profit growth fell 11 p.c. year-on-year, it said.
- ❖ At the sector level, commodity linked sectors (energy, materials and utilities) and industrials reported the strongest revenue growth, while telecom, consumer discretionary saw the most decline in net profits.