

Economic Indicators: GDP-MPC Rates-Small Savings Rates- Inflation etc

1. GDP Forecasts

The session provided updated GDP forecasts for Financial Year 2026 by various organizations:

Organization	GDP Forecast (FY26)
Fitch	6.9%
RBI	6.8%
OECD	6.7%
World Bank	6.5% (Same as S&P and ADB)
Standard & Poor's (S&P)	6.5% (Same as World Bank and ADB)
ADB	6.5% (Same as World Bank and S&P)
IMF	6.6% (Noted as a recent update)
Crisil	6.5%
ICRA	6.2%
Economic Survey	6.3% to 6.8%

Additionally, the National Statistical Office (NSO) reported that **Real GDP** grew at 7.8% in Quarter 1 (FY 25-26), and **Real Gross Value Added (GVA)** growth was 7.6%.

2. Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Rates

The Monetary Policy Rates are critical components discussed in the session.

- **Policy Repo Rate:** 5.50%.
- **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate:** 5.25%.
- **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate:** 5.75%.
- **Bank Rate:** 5.75% (Noted as being the same as the MSF Rate).
- **Fixed Reverse Repo Rate:** 3.35%.
- **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):** 3.25%.
- **Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR):** 18.00%.

3. Inflation Indices: CPI and WPI

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The CPI (Consumer Price Index) is released by the **NSO (National Statistical Office)**, and its base year is **2012**. The CPI inflation for 2025-26 is projected at **2.6%**. Recent monthly CPI data included:

- **October:** 0.625%, which was the **lowest since January 2012**.
- **September:** 1.54%.

Wholesale Price Index (WPI)

The WPI (Whole Price Index) is compiled by the Union Office of Economic Advisor in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The previous year's base is **2011-12**. Recent monthly WPI data included:

- **October: Minus 1.21%** (a 27-month low, making it important).
- **September:** 0.13%. The sector with the **highest weightage in the WPI is the Manufactured Product**, holding a weight of 64.23%.

4. Small Saving Schemes Interest Rates

Interest rates for various Small Saving Schemes were discussed:

Scheme	Interest Rate
Post Office Saving Account	4%
Post Office Time Deposit (5 Year)	7.5%
PPF (Public Provident Fund)	7.1%
NSC (National Saving Certificate)	7.7%
Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)	7.5% (with a lock-in period of 115 months/30 months)
Senior Citizen Saving Schemes	8.2%
Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana	8.2% (Same as Senior Citizen Saving Schemes)

5. UPI Transactions and Limits

The sources emphasize that the **highest volume and value ever** for UPI transactions was clocked in **October**.

- **October Volume:** 20,700.92 million (in million).
- **October Value:** ₹27,27,790.68 crore.

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UPI crossed **750 million transactions in a single day** on October 18 for the first time, marking a record.

The session also detailed enhanced UPI limits for various categories:

Category	Previous Limit (Per Transaction)	Enhanced Limit (Per Transaction)	New Cumulative Limit (24 Hours)
Capital Market	₹2 lakh	₹5 lakh	₹10 lakh
Insurance	₹2 lakh	₹5 lakh	₹1 lakh
Credit Card	₹2 lakh	₹5 lakh	₹6 lakh
Government E-Market (GeM)	₹1 lakh	₹5 lakh	₹10 lakh
Jewelry	₹1 lakh	₹2 lakh	₹6 lakh

6. GST Collection

The sources provide month-wise GST collection data for FY 25.

- The **highest GST collection** was in **April**, totaling ₹2,36,716 crore.
- The **lowest GST collection** mentioned in the listed months was in **June**, totaling ₹1,88,4597 crore.
- **October GST Collection** was ₹1,89,5936 crore.

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