

# 'Private sector investments show signs of revival'

**STEADY PROGRESS.** Capital formation cycle 'unfolding at a steady pace', says CEA Anantha Nageswaran

**Shishir Sinha**  
New Delhi



**KEY ROLE.** CEA V Anantha Nageswaran said fossil fuels have an important role to play in the economy. KAMAL NARANG

Investments by the private sector are showing signs of picking up, said Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran, on Thursday. "We do see signs of the corporate sector beginning to make investments. There are some new investment announcements," he said at the CII's annual session. Based on the data available for the first six months of the last three years, he said it was ₹2.1-lakh crore in 2020-21; ₹2.7-lakh crore in 2021-22; and ₹3.3-lakh crore in 2022-23.

Expressing optimism about the private sector's capital formation cycle in the country, he said: "We have been waiting for it. It's

already unfolding. It is unfolding at a steady pace."

**KEY CONCERN**  
Capacity utilisation in some sectors such as steel and cement has reached a point

where greenfield investment has to happen," he added.

Observing that energy is an important driver of economic growth, he said it is energy security that is com-

ing under a lot of pressure thanks to geopolitical developments and climate change.

"If there is a single-most important worry in my mind for sustaining the growth rate that we have been able to achieve in the last 2-3 years, it is energy security. We cannot completely swear off fossil fuels," he said.

The government has a target to balance the proportion of non-fossil fuels and fossil fuels in our energy mix, in terms of installed capacity, by 2030. It is equally important we understand that there are important roles for fossil fuels — if not coal, then gas," he said.

And, therefore, if the financial industry completely avoids funding fossil fuel-

based power generation projects, then economic growth will suffer.

"And if we place economic growth in jeopardy, then the generation of fiscal and private sector resources will also be in jeopardy and, therefore, our ability to provide the right kind of financing for dealing with climate change will also be in doubt," he said.

Asked about the interest rate outlook, Nageswaran said: "I have always said in my last 16 months in this job that I don't comment on [Indian] monetary policy in

public. So, I am not going to change that stance." With regard to the US Fed, he said they have given the indication that they will be on pause in June.

"I also don't believe that in the US case, rate cuts are imminent. I don't think so. Unless, of course, there are further financial accidents like we saw in March and April, because if you look at the macro data, they are still holding up pretty well.

"So, I think stable for longer might be more likely than looser policy, but that's my personal view," he said.

# R Dinesh elected President of CII

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi



R Dinesh, CII's new President

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has elected R Dinesh, the Executive Vice-Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions, as its President for 2023-24.

He takes over from Sanjiv Bajaj, the Chairman and Managing Director of Bajaj Finserv Limited.

Dinesh is a fourth-generation member of the TVS family. He founded TVS Supply Chain Solutions (formerly TVS Logistics) in 1995, and steered the company into a

billion-dollar organisation. Sanjiv Puri, the Chairman and MD of ITC Ltd, will assume the role of President-Designate for the year 2023-24.

Rajiv Memani, Chairman of the India region of Ernst & Young, has been appointed as Vice-President.

# 'India poised for world-beating growth'

**Bloomberg**

India's strong credit demand and softening crude oil prices could buoy the economy, putting it on course for a 6.5 per cent expansion this fiscal year, according to a top adviser to the Finance Ministry.

These indicators, together with an uptick in construction activity, may shield the economy from slower global growth and weather-related risks, said Chief Economic Adviser, V Anantha Nageswaran.

Data next week is likely

to show the economy expanded 7 per cent in the year that ended March, according to Bloomberg estimates compiled on Thursday.

While higher borrowing costs might have slowed some activity, India remains the world's fastest-growing major economy, outpacing China and drawing foreign inflows into the equity markets.

"In the economic survey we said 6.5 per cent is our baseline with the downside risks more than the upside risks and we maintained it in the April monthly economic report," said

Nageswaran. "Now I am incrementally, slightly more inclined to move to the neutral range, in saying risks to this number are evenly balanced in the kind of position I am willing to take," he added.

**'ON RIGHT TRACK'**

So barring the monsoon and geo-political risks, India's economy is on a "steady auto-pilot" and "ticks all the right boxes at this point," said Nageswaran.

High-frequency indicators showed India's economy gaining momentum

in April thanks to higher tax collections and a booming services sector.

However, exports and imports declined, smudging the outlook.

For Nageswaran, the data is positive overall. Trade is "not singing a different tune" as goods exports are falling on slowing global demand, and the decline in imports is due to lower crude oil prices, he said.

Nageswaran said he is "confident about the inflation trajectory", and sees it slowing further to 4 per cent by next year if crude prices stay low.

# Innovate, not imitate, to become tech leader: Rajnath Singh tells industry

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi

Innovate to make India a 'leader' from an 'imitator' of futuristic technologies in defence and other sectors, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told the industry on Thursday at the annual session of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Throughout his address, themed 'Future Frontiers: Competitiveness, Technology, Sustainability and Internationalisation', the Defence Minister focussed on the importance of research and development (R&D) for generational leap solutions in sectors such as defence, health, education, agriculture, commerce, and communication through emerging technologies.

**'INVEST IN R&D'**

He urged the industry to invest in R&D and increase the capacity of in-house research. The Minister invited

the industry to give suggestions for changes they feel should be brought into defence-related policies, and promised to look into them for the ease of doing business.

Singh pointed out that there are two faces to the technology paradigm across the globe — one of a leader nation, which grabs an opportunity, innovates, and invents a new technology — the other of an imitator, which follows the leader. Stating that new technological avenues are coming to the fore without any established leader, he exhorted industry captains to strive to make India a technology leader from an imitator.

"We need to set new goals and achieve them through innovative methods to keep ourselves prepared to deal with any challenges arising out of the ever-evolving global situation," said the Minister. "R&D has the ability to convert things, which are viewed as resources, into



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addresses the CII AGM in New Delhi. KAMAL NARANG

resources. Technology improves the utilisation of available resources. It acts as a force multiplier," he added.

In today's era, security equations, according to the Minister, are changing at an unprecedented pace, and countries are focussing more than ever on technological advancements in the fields of artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and genetics.

"To keep ourselves strong, we need to maintain our edge in these sectors. It will be

possible only if we become technology leaders," he said.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

With new technologies replacing the old regime, Singh exhorted the CII to invest in human resources for capacity building. He shared insights into another dimension of technology, or 'socio-economic technology' which, according to him, is commonly referred to as governance.

The country's population, once considered a liability, is now being viewed as an asset, he insisted. "India is passing through a demographic dividend. Policies have been rolled out for the optimum utilisation of this population," he said.

The Minister exuded confidence that the government's efforts will convert the demography into a 'wealth-creating resource' from mere 'wealth-consuming entity'.

# Delayed power projects: Government will crackdown on developers, says RK Singh

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi



RK Singh, Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy

India is planning to crackdown on developers of power projects who miss the scheduled commercial date of operation or project completion deadline, said RK Singh, Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, on Thursday.

According to him, electricity generation capacity addition is a big challenge, and many developers are reportedly delaying projects they won under the bidding process.

Nearly 50,000 MW of under construction projects — for capacity addition — have been held back by bidders.

**TO BE BANNED**

According to the initial plans, if developers miss the scheduled commercial date of operation or deadline to complete the project (SCOD) — which was won under a bidding process — then they will be banned from participating in

project bidding for one year. For a repeat of the same offence, a second-time failure, the developer will be banned for five years, said Singh.

"We [plan] to put this [rule] in [policy]. Failing in SCOD will not be healthy, until and unless you have good reasons. So, if you bid, bid with foresight and [due] deliberations," he said while speaking at the annual session of the CII. Power project developers are waiting for demand to grow, but this will not happen, he said. Discom losses are down from 22 per

cent to 17 per cent last fiscal, and will come down to "less than 15 per cent, next year", said Singh, adding that legacy dues of the sector are down 50 per cent, and will be "wiped out in the next 8-9 months or so".

India's per capita emissions are among the lowest in the world, and 40 per cent of India's power capacities comes from non-fossil fuel sources. The target is to get 45 per cent of capacities from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.

"We have over 52,000 MW of thermal capacity under construction," he said, adding that until battery energy storage becomes viable, India will have to add thermal power capacity to meet demand. At present, battery storage is ₹10 per unit (per kilo watt hr) and the energy rate is ₹2.30.

"We have to come up with more viability gap funding," he said. And if storage becomes viable by then, nearly 65 per cent of capacities will come from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.



## HINDUSTAN OIL EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED

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Extract of statement of standalone and consolidated financial results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2023

(₹ in lacs except per share data)

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone					Consolidated				
		Quarter ended		Year ended			Quarter ended		Year ended		
		March 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
1	Total Income from Operations	15,070.02	10,637.03	4,432.18	40,895.67	14,730.88	17,932.03	17,156.25	4,362.66	56,771.08	16,718.91
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	10,697.14	1,591.98	2,347.15	16,366.73	7,019.04	11,011.82	4,815.05	764.93	20,951.17	5,405.00
3	Net Profit/(loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	10,697.14	1,591.98	(1,089.38)	16,366.73	3,582.51	11,011.82	3,593.06	(2,671.60)	19,729.18	1,968.47
4	Net Profit/(loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	10,697.14	1,591.98	(1,089.38)	16,366.73	3,582.51	10,665.39	3,733.58	(2,721.14)	19,404.82	1,999.37
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	10,703.35	1,590.97	(1,096.61)	16,369.90	3,578.45	10,671.60	3,732.57	(2,728.37)	19,407.99	1,995.31
6	Equity Share Capital	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93	13,225.93
7	Reserves				79,740.47	63,370.57				81,494.32	62,086.33
8	Earnings Per Share (Face value of ₹ 10/-each) (not annualized)										
	Basic EPS ₹	₹ 8.09	₹ 1.20	₹ (0.82)	₹ 12.37	₹ 2.71	₹ 8.06	₹ 2.82	₹ (2.06)	₹ 14.67	₹ 1.51
	Diluted EPS ₹	₹ 8.09	₹ 1.20	₹ (0.82)	₹ 12.37	₹ 2.71	₹ 8.06	₹ 2.82	₹ (2.06)	₹ 14.67	₹ 1.51

The above is an extract of detailed format of Quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation 2015. The full format of the quarterly financial results is available on the stock exchange websites www.bseindia.com, www.nseindia.com and Company's website www.hoec.com.

Place : Chennai  
Date : May 25, 2023

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD**  
For Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited  
R. Jeevanandam  
Director & CFO  
DIN: 07046442  
P. Elango  
Managing Director  
DIN: 06475821



