

# India's September factory activity grew at fastest pace in over eight years

REUTERS, Bengaluru

India's factory activity expanded at its fastest pace in over eight years in September as a relaxation in coronavirus lockdown restrictions drove a surge in demand and output, a private survey showed on Thursday, though layoffs continued.

Signs of recovery are welcome news for Asia's third-largest economy, which is widely expected to mark its first full-year contraction since 1979 this year. The pandemic is spreading in India at the fastest pace in the world.

The Nikkei Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index, compiled by IHS Markit, jumped to 56.8 in September from 52.0 in August, above the 50-level separating growth from contraction for a second straight month. It was the highest reading since January 2012.

"The Indian manufacturing industry continued to move in the right direction, with PMI data for September highlighting many positives. Due to loosened COVID-19 restrictions, factories went full steam ahead for production, supported by a surge in new work," noted Pollyanna De Lima, economics associate director at IHS Markit.

"While uncertainty about the COVID-19 pandemic remains, producers can at least for now enjoy the recovery."

A sub-index tracking output hit its highest since December 2007 and new orders expanded at the sharpest pace since February 2012, helped by



A worker pours molten iron from a ladle to make automobile spare parts inside an iron casting factory in Ahmedabad, India.

both domestic and foreign demand which grew for the first time in seven months.

Although input prices increased at a slower rate in September, manufacturers raised their selling prices after having cut them since March to secure sales.

Despite the significant rebound, firms cut staff for the sixth month in a row. Coronavirus-related distortions have already made millions jobless.

The sector is unlikely to get much

support from the Reserve Bank of India over the coming months as persistently high inflation is expected to force the RBI to remain on the sidelines.

The RBI early this week postponed a policy committee meeting that was slated for Sept. 29-Oct. 1 and said it would be rescheduled. It did not give a reason for the move.

Still, business optimism about the coming 12 months hit its highest since August 2016.

# Tokyo Stock Exchange paralysed by hardware glitch in worst-ever outage

REUTERS, Tokyo

A hardware failure shut down trading on the Tokyo Stock Exchange on Thursday in the worst outage ever suffered by the world's third-largest stock market, which said it aimed to reopen on Friday.

The TSE's first full-day suspension since it began all-electronic trading in 1999 left investors searching in vain to buy back shares after the first US presidential debate.

"I feel painfully responsible for all the confusion this incident has caused for investors and market participants," TSE Chief Executive Officer Koichiro Miyahara told a news briefing.

It also raises questions over the exchange's credibility just as Japan's new Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga makes digitalisation a top priority and could dent Tokyo's hopes of attracting more banks and fund managers from Hong Kong amid concerns over a new security law imposed by China.

TSE said the outage was the result of a hardware problem at its "Arrowhead" trading system, and a subsequent failure to switch over to a backup device.

Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike said a quick fix was crucial to ensure trust in the roughly \$6 trillion market, which ranks behind New York and Shanghai, data from the World Federation of Exchanges shows.

Many market participants had hoped to buy back stocks or increase holdings after an overnight rise on Wall Street, but were unable to do so, traders and analysts told Reuters.

Smaller regional bourses in Nagoya, Fukuoka and Sapporo were also forced to suspend trade because they use the TSE system, leaving derivatives-focused Osaka Exchange

as the only equity market still running in Japan on Thursday

"There will be a huge surge in trading volumes around the US presidential election, and this does raise some concerns about the TSE's ability to process a large increase in orders," Hideyuki Ishiguro, senior strategist at Daiwa Securities, said.

Nikkei futures, which trade in

still a global hub for foreign investors. The volume of shares traded on the TSE's main board was an average of 1.13 billion in the past 30 days.

The TSE was prone to technical troubles in the past and was notorious for sluggish trading, although there have been fewer glitches since a new system was adopted in 2010.

Fujitsu Ltd, which developed



Tokyo Stock Exchange President and CEO Koichiro Miyahara and other officials attend a news conference after trading in all shares was suspended due to a technical problem, in Tokyo yesterday.

Osaka, rose 0.56 per cent on Thursday, in line with a rise in US stocks.

"We have to make sure this kind of situation is never repeated," Japan's top government spokesman, Katsunobu Kato, told a news briefing, calling it "extremely regrettable".

While Tokyo has been eclipsed by Shanghai's market in recent years, it is

the trading system, said it was investigating the problem.

The Nikkei fell 1.5 per cent on Wednesday, its biggest drop in two months, as an acrimonious debate between US President Donald Trump and Democrat Joe Biden highlighted the risk of an inconclusive outcome to the presidential election.

# Big US banks to report profit plunge as pandemic recession takes hold

REUTERS, New York

As big US commercial banks close their books on the third quarter, analysts expect them to report a 30 per cent to 60 per cent plunge in profits on the year-ago period due to the pandemic-induced recession and near record low interest rates.

That slump in third quarter net income comes even though lenders are not going to make outsized provisions for expected loan losses as they did in the first and second quarters.

And, while capital markets and investment banking revenue is expected to be up from 5 per cent to 20 per cent, that won't be enough to make up for the decline in interest income from loans and securities.

"You have soft loan growth and you're still feeling the impact from aggressive Fed actions earlier this year," said analyst Jason Goldberg of Barclays. Citigroup Inc and Wells Fargo & Co, the third- and fourth-biggest US banks by assets

respectively, will report net income down by about 60 per cent, according to I/B/E/S analyst survey data from Refinitiv.

JPMorgan Chase & Co and Bank of America Corp, which rank first and second in assets respectively, are expected to show profits down about 30 per cent.

Investment banks Goldman Sachs Group Inc and Morgan Stanley, which are benefitting from being more concentrated in the busy capital markets, are expected to report more modest profit declines of about 5 per cent to 10 per cent. JPMorgan and Citigroup will kick off the third-quarter bank earnings season on Oct. 13.

Pandemic-driven lockdowns have put tens of millions of Americans out of work and plunged the US into a recession. US output is forecast to fall 3.7 per cent in 2020, the Federal Reserve said here last month. That is not as bad as feared earlier in June, allowing banks to hold off on adding to their loss reserves.

At an online Barclays investor conference last month, bank executives said consumers have paid down credit card debt during the recession and businesses have shunned bank loans. Big companies have instead been able to raise cash via the bond markets, which are being propped up by the Fed. Consumer loans at large US banks were also down about 3 per cent in the quarter from a year earlier, according to Fed data.

As markets plunged in March, the central bank cut overnight interest rates to near zero and began a massive campaign to buy securities. Those purchases and a surge in savings from worried consumers have flooded banks with more deposits than they can lend or risk putting into longer-term securities.

Stuffed with cash, bank net interest margins -- the spread between their cost of money and what they earn on loans and securities -- fell to their lowest levels in 35 years in the second-quarter, according to research by Goldman Sachs.

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**নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

১	প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়।
২	নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তির নম্বর ও তারিখ	নম্বর-১১.০০.০০০০.৩০৯.৪৫.০৪৮.১৯(অংশ-১)-৪৩৯ তারিখঃ ২৯ সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০২০খ্রিঃ।
৩	দরপত্রের নাম	প্রকাশ্য নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি।
৪	নিলামের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ	জাতীয় সংসদ ভবন ও নাখালপাড়া সংসদ-সদস্য ভবন এলাকার ১৮৪টি আমগাছ, ১৫৫টি কাঁঠাল গাছ এবং ২১৪টি নারিকেল গাছে যে সকল ফল (যেমন আম, কাঁঠাল ও নারিকেল) হচ্ছে/হবে তা ০১ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২০ হতে ৩০ নভেম্বর, ২০২১ পর্যন্ত (বার মাস) সময়ের জন্য বিক্রয়ের নিমিত্ত প্রকাশ্যে নিলাম।
৫	নিলাম কার্যাদি সম্পাদনের স্থান	সুপারিনটেনডেন্ট এর অফিস, শেরেবাংলা নগর সদস্য ভবন, ঢাকা।
৬	নিলামে অংশগ্রহণের যোগ্যতা	(ক) যে কোন ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান নিলাম ডাকে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন; (খ) নিলাম ডাকে অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রতিনিধি কর্তৃক নিলাম ডাকের পূর্বে ৪০,০০০/- (চল্লিশ হাজার) টাকা জামানত হিসেবে নিলাম কমিটির নিকট জমা দিতে হবে; (গ) নিলাম ডাক সম্পাদন হওয়ার সাথে সাথে সকল ডাককারীকে ডাকের সমুদয় অর্থ নিলাম কমিটির নিকট জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। সমুদয় টাকা জমা প্রদানে ব্যর্থ হলে জামানতের অর্থ বাজেয়াপ্ত করে নিলাম কমিটি তাৎক্ষণিক সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। সফল ডাককারী ছাড়া নিলামে অংশগ্রহণকারী অন্যান্য সকলের জামানতের টাকা তাৎক্ষণিক ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে। তবে সফল ডাককারীর ৪০,০০০/- (চল্লিশ হাজার) টাকা জামানত হিসেবেই কর্তৃপক্ষের নিকট জমা থাকবে। নির্দিষ্ট মেয়াদ শেষে উক্ত টাকা ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে।
৭	নিলাম ডাক সম্পাদনের তারিখ ও সময়	(ক) আগামী ১১/১০/২০২০ তারিখ সকাল ১১:০০টায় প্রকাশ্য নিলাম ডাক অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উক্ত তারিখে সফল ডাককারী পাওয়া না গেলে পুনরায় ১৮/১০/২০২০ তারিখ সকাল ১১:০০টায় ২য় নিলাম ডাক অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উক্ত তারিখেও সফল ডাককারী পাওয়া না গেলে পুনরায় ২৫/১০/২০২০ তারিখ সকাল ১১:০০টায় ৩য় ও শেষ নিলাম ডাক অনুষ্ঠিত হবে; (খ) নিলাম ডাকে অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রতিনিধি নিলাম ডাক অংশগ্রহণের পূর্বে আম, কাঁঠাল ও নারিকেল গাছ সরেজমিনে দেখতে পারবেন।
৮	বিশেষ শর্তাবলী	(ক) প্রকাশ্যে নিলাম ডাকে অংশগ্রহণ প্রয়োজনে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর হতে প্রাসংগিক তথ্যাবলী জানতে পারবেন; (খ) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে নিলাম ডাক বাতিল কিংবা শর্তাদি পরিবর্তনের সকল ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

বিঃদ্রঃ- নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়ের [www.parliament.gov.bd](http://www.parliament.gov.bd) ওয়েবসাইটে পাওয়া যাবে।

*(স্বাক্ষর)*  
**আবদুর রহমান**  
সিনিয়র সহকারী সচিব  
ফোনঃ ৫৫০২৮৯৮৯

GD-1570

## Tesla Autopilot scores low for driver engagement in European safety rating

REUTERS

Tesla Inc's Autopilot has ranked sixth in 10 driver assistance systems evaluated in a European safety assessment, scoring low on its ability to keep drivers engaged.

The Tesla Model 3's Autopilot scored just 36 when assessed on its ability to maintain a driver's focus on the road. But it gained the highest marks for performance and ability to respond to emergencies, receiving an overall score of 131 and a rating of 'moderate'.

In contrast, the Mercedes GLE's system, which had the highest overall score of 174 and received the top rating of 'very good', received a score of 85 for driver engagement. Most other vehicles had scores of 70 or above for driver engagement.

The European New Car Assessment Program (NCAP), which worked with UK insurance group Thatcham Research, called the assessments the first consumer ratings specifically focused on driver assistance systems - technology that automates some tasks, including acceleration, braking and steering support.

Safety and insurance researchers have frequently warned of the risks of consumers overestimating the systems' abilities, a misconception increased by some automakers calling their products Autopilot, ProPilot or CoPilot.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE  
Bagerhat District, Bagerhat

Memo No. 46.03.0100.061.07.032.15-455/50

Dated: 29/09/2020

## e-GP Tender Notice No. 04 (2020-21)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works. Details are given below:

Sl. No.	Package No.	Tender ID & Ref. No.	Description of works	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1	0560	499595, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 06 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Mongla Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:30	14-Oct-2020 14:30
2	0573	499594, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 05 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:30	14-Oct-2020 14:30
3	0571	499593, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 05 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Sharnkhola Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:30	14-Oct-2020 14:30
4	0568	499591, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 06 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Morelganj Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:30	14-Oct-2020 14:30
5	0567	499590, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 05 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Morelganj Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:30	14-Oct-2020 14:30
6	0565	499589, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 06 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Kachua Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:00	14-Oct-2020 14:00
7	0564	499588, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 05 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Kachua Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:00	14-Oct-2020 14:00
8	0561	499587, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 06 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Chitalmaly Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:00	14-Oct-2020 14:00
9	0558	499577, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 5 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Mollahat Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:00	14-Oct-2020 14:00
10	0557	499576, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 08 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Fakirhat Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:00	14-Oct-2020 14:00
11	0554	499575, 46.03.0100.061.14.162. 16-56 Dated: 16/07/2020	Construction of 5 Nos. 2-storied RCC WASH Block having 4-storied foundation i for MT & boys and FT & girls at Sadar Upazila in Bagerhat District including all associated construction sanitary plumbing & electrical works Primary Education Development Program-4 PEDP 4 FY-2020-21	14-Oct-2020 14:00	14-Oct-2020 14:00
12	REV/DTWKB	497565, 46.03.4700.018.14.357. 16-1467 Dated: 17/9/2020	An estimate for installation of 6 Nos. Deep tubewell 02 Nos. at Rampal & Morrelganj upazila in Bagerhat district under Revenue Budget FY 2020-2021	07-Oct-2020 14:30	07-Oct-2020 14:30

The interested persons/firm may visit the website [www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) to get the details of the tender. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Executive Engineer  
DPHE, Bagerhat

GD-1568