Daily MBA News Digest – March 7, 2026

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Indian Economy & Policy

West Asia conflict threatens India’s $11.8 billion agri exports: GTRI

India's agricultural exports to West Asia are under serious threat due to escalating regional conflicts. The turmoil is thwarting shipping routes and skyrocketing insurance costs, putting a staggering $11.8 billion in food products on the line. Key exports, including rice, bananas, and spices, are especially at risk, creating a climate of anxiety for Indian farmers and food processors.

India got best trade deal with US among competing nations; both share powerful relationship: Piyush Goyal

India has secured the best trade deal with the United States. Minister Piyush Goyal stated this at the Raisina Dialogue 2026. He highlighted the strong relationship between the two nations. The deal provides India preferential access over competitors. This partnership extends beyond trade to critical minerals and defense. The agreement framework has been finalized.

Geopolitics (India Focus)

‘Approached from a point of humanity,’ Jaishankar on why India let Iran warship dock in Kochi

Jaishankar, flagging social media debates over the incident, called for people to ‘understand the reality of the Indian Ocean’

‘India purchases oil from wherever most competitive’: Govt clears stand after US ‘allows’ Russian oil buy

Indian Stock Market & IPOs

Dalal Street Week Ahead: Defensive, stock-specific approach advised to protect gains

Indian markets experienced a sharp downturn this week, with the Nifty closing significantly lower and testing a crucial 100-week moving average support. Rising volatility and weakening market breadth signal caution for investors. While some sectors like Infrastructure and Pharma show relative strength, others are under pressure, suggesting a defensive approach is advised.

Explained: Why BlackRock stock tanked 7% after curbing withdrawals from flagship fund

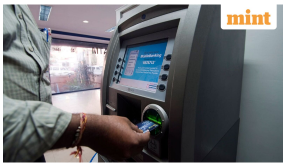
BlackRock shares fell sharply after the asset manager restricted withdrawals from its flagship private credit fund, HLEND, following a surge in redemption requests. The move has intensified concerns about liquidity risks in the fast-growing private credit industry, even as investors shift towards safer assets amid global economic and geopolitical uncertainty.

Marketing, Brands & Consumer Trends

SBI rolls out $500 million social loan programme for women empowerment

State Bank of India has launched a USD 500 million syndicated social term loan focused on women empowerment, marking a significant step in ESG financing.

Bank holidays: Are banks closed today and tomorrow on 7-8 March for the weekend? Check full RBI calendar here



The RBI has listed a total of 18 public holidays for all banks in March 2026 for public and private lenders across India. This also includes the weekend holidays for second Saturday, fourth Saturday, and all Sundays this month.

Sports (Business & Governance)

‘India has pressure of 1.5 billion people, they’ve already lost a final in Ahmedabad’: Shoaib Akhtar on India facing home pressure against New Zealand

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