

## **Economy Current Affairs for IBPS PO Exam 2012**

- The Reserve Bank of India on 29 December 2011 allowed non-residents to hedge their currency risk in respect of external commercial borrowings (ECB) denominated in rupees, with AD Category-I (authorised dealer) banks in India
- According to a data released on 29 December 2011, food inflation fell to its lowest level in six years at 0.42 per cent for the week ended 17 December with a sharp decline in prices of essential items like onions and potatoes
- The Reserve Bank on 27 December 2011 directed all banks to issue cheques conforming to Cheque Truncation System (CTS) 2010 standard with uniform features from 1 April 2012 onwards
- The Reserve Bank on 26 December 2011 tightened the prudential norms for the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) under which the NBFCs will have to account for risks towards off-balance sheet items while computing capital adequacy requirement
- The infrastructure sector recorded a growth of 6.8% in November 2011 after touching five-year low of 0.3% in October 2011. The growth in this sector was propelled by an impressive growth in cement, electricity and refinery products
- According to the Tea Board data released in December 2011, tea imports declined by 14 per cent to 9.91 million kg in the April-October period of 2011. Imports of the brew fell by 15% to 14.15 million kg from 16.57 million kg in January-October 2010
- The information technology (IT) sector led by the top three listed companies, TCS, Infosys and Wipro, created the most jobs in the five years ending 2011 compared with other sectors. Increased employment in the sector was boosted by an over two-fold jump in aggregate revenue
- According to the RBI data, India's foreign exchange reserves fell by a steep \$4.67 billion to \$302.1 billion during the week ended 16 December 2011 on account of a fall in foreign currency assets. The dip marked the lowest in nine months
- According to official data released here on 22 December 2011, food inflation dropped sharply to an almost four-year low of 1.81 per cent during the week ended 10 December indicating an overall easing of prices
- The first pan-India satellite survey jointly commissioned by Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Ltd (NFCSF) pegged the cane area for 2011-12 crop year starting October at 51.82 lakh hectares (lh). For the first time the survey was carried out State-wise and district-wise for the area under sugarcane, through satellite mapping on such a large-scale
- India's telecom ministry on 22 December 2011 informed mobile phone operators that they must scrap illegal mutual roaming agreements that allow them to provide seamless nationwide 3G services
- Credit rating agency Moody's on 21 December 2011 upgraded the credit rating of the Indian government's bonds from the speculative to investment grade
- According to the International Data Corporation's (IDC) Quarter 3 2011 Mobile Phone Tracker release, the Indian mobile phone market grew 12% in units shipped in the July-September quarter of 2011 to clock 47.07 million units. Year-on-year too, there was a shipment growth of 13.8%
- The Reserve Bank of India on 16 December 2011 left its policy rate unchanged at a three-year high of 8.5 per cent. RBI paused the hike after 13 consecutive rate hikes since March 2010

- Market regulator SEBI on 15 December 2011 directed intermediaries not to outsource their core business activities and compliance functions
- The world's largest coal miner Coal India Ltd (CIL's) board on 14 December 2011 approved a proposal to acquire stakes in unlisted firms overseas, provided the offers were valid
- A parliamentary committee on 13 December 2011 rejected almost all the key changes proposed in the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill 2008, including the key reform to allow 49% foreign direct investment in the sector
- According to data from research body All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD), domestic drugmakers posted sales of Rs 4912 crore in November 2011 compared with Rs 4668 crore in October
- CRISIL Research released its report on profitability of textile companies on 14 December 2011. According to the research firm, profitability of cotton yarn and man-made fibre (MMF) players are expected to improve over the next few quarters on account of decline in input costs and moderate demand growth
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs( CCEA) on 13 December 2011 approved *national electricity fund* to provide subsidy of 8466 crore rupees for projects of electricity distribution sector for a period of 14 years
- According to the data released by the regulator TRAI on 8 December 2011, mobile subscriber base in India increased to 881.4 million by October 2011 from 873.61 million in September 2011 registering a growth of 0.89%
- India's largest private lender by assets, ICICI Bank and IDBI Bank, the seventh largest public sector bank in India together launched India's first credit default swap (CDS) on 7 December 2011. CDS was launched seven days after the product was cleared by the Reserve Bank of India on 30 November 2011. Public sector undertaking Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) bought the CDS cover for its Rs 5 crore loan from ICICI Bank
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 2 December 2011 approved the creation of a separate category of non-banking financial companies for the microfinance institution (MFI) sector
- According to the UNAIDS report, drafted jointly with the UNICEF and the World Health Organisation (WHO) and released on 30 November 2011, India houses half of Asia's HIV patients and is way ahead of China in disease burden
- As per the Controller General of Accounts' (CGA) data released on 30 March 2012, union government's fiscal deficit during the April-February period of 2011-12 stood at Rs 4.93 lakh crore, or 95% of the revised estimates
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA) notified in March 2012 that premium rates for motor third party liability only cover will undergo an upward revision beginning 1 April 2012. IRDA listed the third party liability premium rates for vehicles of assorted categories
- As per the data on the core industries released on 29 March 2012, eight core infrastructure industries registered a robust 6.8 per cent growth in output in February 2012
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 28 March 2012 announced a several revisions with an objective to liberalise the norms for direct investment abroad by Indian residents
- The empowered group of ministers (EGoM) on 28 March 2012 fixed the issue price for the National Buildings Construction Corporation's public offer at Rs.106 a share. The issue price was fixed at higher end of price band of Rs 90-106/share for the state-owned construction company
- The Reserve Bank of India on 26 March 2012 restructured the fair practices code (FPC) to be adopted by non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) while doing lending business

- The union government of India on 23 March 2012 gave its consent to a seven percentage increase in the rate of dearness allowance (DA) for its employees and pensioners
- The Union government on 23 March 2012 reduced the import tariff value of gold from USD 573 per 10 grams to USD 530 per 10 grams
- The Union Cabinet on 23 March 2012 approved the setting up of a credit risk guarantee fund trust with an initial corpus of Rs. 1200 crore to with an objective to encourage housing for low-income groups in the India
- Union Railway Minister Mukul Roy rolled back the railway fare hike as proposed by Dinesh Trivedi in the first Union Rail Budget 2012-13 presented on 14 March 2012. Roy also struck down the plan to restructure Railway Board
- Four States namely Jharkhand, Mizoram, Sikkim and Lakshadweep on 16 March 2012 signed MoU with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation under the Indian Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) for the States and Union Territories
- The Union budget 2012-13 presented by Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee on 16 March 2012 proposed an increase by 18 per cent to Rs. 20208 crore in the total Plan Outlay for the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in 2012-13
- Union Finance Minister in his Union Budget 2012-13 speech tabled on 16 March 2012 announced several provisions for both the education and health sector
- Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee in the Union budget 2012-13 proposed allocation of Rs. 50 lakh crore towards infrastructure investment during the Twelfth Plan period. About half of this is likely to come from the private sector
- The Economic Survey was tabled by the Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee on 15 March 2012. Indian economy was estimated to grow by 6.9% in 2011-12 mainly due to weakening industrial growth
- Union Railway Minister Dinesh Trivedi presented the Union Railway Budget 2012-13 in the Lok Sabha on 14 March 2012. The total union budget outlay for 2012-13 stood at Rs 60100 crore
- As per data released by the Commerce Ministry on 9 March 2012, India's merchandise exports in February grew only by 4.3 per cent to \$24.6 billion due to poor overseas demand. Exports in February grew at the slowest pace in three months. The poor performance in the export sector was attributed to dip in demand for electronics, engineering and textiles goods in Europe
- As per the data released by the ministry of statistics and programme implementation on 12 March 2012, Indian industrial sector registered a growth of 6.8 per cent in January 2012 on a year-on-year basis
- The Reserve Bank of India on 9 March 2012 cut the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 75 basis points. The CRR was cut to 4.75 per cent of their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) effective the fortnight beginning 10 March 2012
- As per VCCEdge data, PE investors in February 2012 offloaded stakes worth \$751.45 million across eight open market transactions. PE investors in February 2012 encashed investments worth \$826 million in almost 16 deals
- As per the data released by the Central Statistical organisation (CSO) on 29 February 2012, India's economic growth rate dipped to 6.1% in the third quarter (October-December) of 2011-12 due to poor performance of the manufacturing, mining and farm sectors

- As per the data released by the Controller General of Accounts on 29 February 2012, fiscal deficit stood at Rs 4.34 lakh crore, or 105 per cent of the total annual target in the April-January period of 2011-12
- According to data released by the ministry of commerce and industry on 28 February 2012, output of eight core segments that comprise the manufacturing sector dipped to 0.5% in January 2012, marking the slowest growth in three months
- The Delhi High Court on 23 February 2012 dismissed a plea from the Centre challenging Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal's (TDSAT) authority to stop the department of telecom (DoT) from enforcing a ban on 3G roaming pacts between telcos
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) panel on priority sector lending on 21 February 2012 proposed increment in the target (priority sector) for foreign banks to 40% of net bank credit from the current level of 32 per cent with sub-targets of 15 per cent for exports and 15 per cent for the MSE sector
- Director General of Foreign Trade [DGFT] on 22 February 2012 issued a formal notification allowing the domestic airlines to directly import Aviation Turbine Fuel [ATF]. At present only state trading enterprises of the government are allowed to import ATF
- The Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Panel (PMEAC) on 22 February 2012 projected 7.5 - 8 per cent growth rate for the fiscal 2012-13. India is also expected to achieve a higher economic expansion if the global environment turns favourable
- As per the first nationwide retail inflation data released by the Centre of Statistical Office on 21 February 2012, inflation based on the all India Consumer Price Index stood at 7.65 per cent in January 2012
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 13 February 2012 changed the bank rate, a medium-term signal rate after nine years. The bank rate, a benchmark rate at which RBI buys or re-discounts bills of exchange or other commercial papers eligible for purchase, was hiked with immediate effect to 9.5% from 6%
- The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) headed by Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee on 15 February 2012 approved the auction route for selling 5 per cent stake in state-run oil major ONGC before the end of the current fiscal 2011-12
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 14 February 2012, issued the 'Draft Circular for Deployment of White Label Automated Teller Machines (WLAs) from non-bank entities
- The number of foreigners availing Visa on Arrival (VOA) scheme registered 72 per cent increase in January 2012 as against January 2011. There were as many as 1359 foreigners, who availed themselves of the scheme in January compared with 790 in January 2011, registering a growth of 72 per cent
- Railway Ministry on 7 February 2012 extended the time period for the advance booking of Railway tickets from 90 days to 120 days. This new reservation policy will come into effect from March 10, 2012
- The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) set up by the Supreme Court to investigate illegal mining in Karnataka submitted its final report on 4 February 2012. The committee recommended the cancellation of leases of 49 mines that have violated the terms of their licence. It also recommended the auction of these leases
- The Baltic Dry Index, a measure of shipping costs for dry bulk goods plunged to its lowest level after it touched 647 points on 3 February 2012. The lowest level was nearly

20 points lower than the previous low of 663 points recorded during the 2008 global financial meltdown

- Heads of the two Public Sector Undertakings, IRCON International Limited and Rail Land Development Authority on 1 February 2012 inked the Memorandum of Understanding to set up the Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited. The MoU was signed in the presence of Railway Minister Dinesh Trivedi and Minister of State for Railway K.H. Muniyappa
- HSBC Purchasing Managers' Index — a headline index designed to measure the overall health of the manufacturing sector registered a reading of 57.5 in January 2012 up from 54.2 in December 2011
- Committee of secretaries, led by the prime minister's principal secretary Pulok Chatterji on 1 February 2012 recommended that state-run Coal India should step up supplies and face penalties if it fails to provide 80% of coal allocated to a power plant
- Data released by the Controller General of Accounts on 31 January 2012 showed that the deficit situation in December 2011 was the highest since December 2008 when it stood at 163.8% of the full-year target due to the fiscal stimulus provided by the government to boost the economy
- As per data published by the market regulator SEBI on 27 January 2012, net FII buying crossed the \$2-billion mark in January 2012 making January the best month in terms of foreign fund flows since November 2010
- Market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on 28 January 2012 decided to enhance the minimum investment amount per client managed by portfolio managers to Rs.25 lakh from Rs.5 lakh at present by amending the SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 1993
- Government-appointed C R Sundaramurti Committee submitted its report to finance minister Pranab Mukherjee. The report suggested a complete overhaul of government accounting norms in order to enforce transparency and better monitor public spending
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 24 January 2012 cut the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 50 basis points from 6 per cent to 5.5 per cent with effect from 28 January 2012. RBI thus released Rs 32000 crore to banks through a half percentage point cut in the cash reserve ratio
- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India on 20 January 2012 asked telecom companies to block bulk international SMS. TRAI's move is aimed at giving mobile subscribers further relief from pesky messages
- The Reserve Bank of India in January 2012 allowed banks to grant permission to listed and unlisted companies to hedge price risk in commodities other than precious metals in international exchanges. The move is aimed at helping the companies limit losses from volatility. Currently, banks need RBI's approval to give permission to companies to hedge
- The Indian rupee rose to a two-month high and shares climbed on 18 January 2012 as a result of revival of US dollar flows and also because of the undervalued shares which lost more than 35% in US dollar terms in 2011
- As per data released by the government on 18 January 2012, cheaper food items, including fruit and vegetables, pulled down the Consumer Price Index (CPI) by 0.44 per cent month-on-month in December 2011

- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 16 January 2012 proposed a fee of Rs.20 crore for a national-level unified licence under the new regime, which suggests that there will be only four types of licence in future as against many currently available across the communication sector
- India on 13 January 2012 extended for five years anti-dumping duty on import of four Chinese products in the face of widening trade gap with China. The duty has been imposed to protect the domestic industry from cheap imports
- Market regulator SEBI on 13 January 2012 unveiled rules for direct investment in stocks by foreign investors, including individuals. SEBI's guideline was issued seeking to put curbs on opaque structures to prevent routing of funds by resident Indians
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 13 January 2012 issued guidelines on compensation of wholetime directors, chief executive officers and other risk takers in private and foreign banks
- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notified that the Commerce Ministry on 11 January 2012 lowered the minimum export price of onions by \$100 a tonne to \$150 a tonne to boost exports
- The Prime Minister's Office on 11 January 2012 directed cash-rich public sector undertakings (PSUs) to invest around Rs.1.76 lakh crore, including Rs.1.41 lakh crore domestically to act as a stimulus in the next fiscal (2012-13)
- The tax collection data for the April-December 2011 period was released by Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) on 10 January 2012
- The Finance Ministry announced on 10 January 2012 that rating agency Moody's Investor Services upgrade the short-term country ceiling on foreign currency bank deposit increasing from NP (not prime) to Prime (P-3)
- As per the Forward Markets Commission data released on 9 January 2012 that the turnover of the 21 commodity exchanges in India increased by 66% to Rs 137.22 lakh crore till December 2011 in the current fiscal (2011-12)
- According to data released by the Reserve Bank on 6 January 2012, foreign exchange reserves fell by over \$4.18 billion to \$296.69 billion, slipping below the long-held \$300-billion mark in the week ended 30 December 2011. The drop in the reserves was attributed to the fall in the core foreign currency assets (FCAs) and gold reserves
- Data released by the commerce and industry ministry on 5 January 2012 showed food inflation, as measured by the wholesale price index, fell by (-)3.36% sharply lower than the 0.42% registered in the week ended 16/17 december 2012
- Insurance regulator IRDA on 4 January 2012 introduced uniform asset-liability management norms for market players to ensure their solvency. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) announced a broadly-defined uniform framework for reporting asset liability management activities adopted by life and non-life insurance companies
- The Reserve Bank of India on 3 January 2011 decided to conduct an open market operation (OMO) to inject more liquidity into the system. The RBI will buy up to Rs 12000 crore of government bonds via open market operations on 6 January 2012, including the 10-year paper which till recently was the benchmark paper
- The capital market regulator SEBI on 3 January 2012 allowed auctioning of securities through stock exchanges and introduced a new method for institutional placement of stocks

- The Union government on 3 January 2012 approved Reliance Industries' (RIL) \$1.529 billion investment plan for developing four satellite fields in the flagging KG-D6 block. RIL's investment plan will boost falling output in the Krishna-Godavari Basin KG-D6 block
- State-owned Coal India (CIL) announced on 2 January 2012 that its board approved in a meeting held on 30 December 2011 the switching over to internationally-accepted Gross Caloric Value-based pricing mechanism
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised red flags over the high dependability of non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) on the banking system because the apex bank feels that the higher dependence would mean systemic vulnerability in the context that NBFCs are involved in higher risk activities vis-à-vis the banking system
- As per the to Commerce Ministry data released on 2 January 2012, India's exports recorded their slowest pace of growth in two years at 3.8 per cent in November 2011 as a result of the global slowdown
- The HSBC Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) - a headline index designed to measure the overall performance of the manufacturing sector - registered 54.2 in December, up from 51.0 in November. The PMI was released by the banking major HSBC on 2 January 2012
- The Reserve Bank of India on 29 December 2011 allowed non-residents to hedge their currency risk in respect of external commercial borrowings (ECB) denominated in rupees, with AD Category-I (authorised dealer) banks in India
- The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) recommended a financial package of Rs 257 crore to revive the sick newsprint unit NEPA. The initiative was taken after the government shelved its plan to divest majority stake in the company and revive it through a joint venture with the private sector
- The Reserve Bank on 27 December 2011 directed all banks to issue cheques conforming to Cheque Truncation System (CTS) 2010 standard with uniform features from 1 April 2012 onwards
- The Reserve Bank on 26 December 2011 tightened the prudential norms for the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) under which the NBFCs will have to account for risks towards off-balance sheet items while computing capital adequacy requirement
- State-owned oil companies for the second time in the month of April reduced jet fuel prices by a marginal Rs 312 per kilolitre or kl on 30 April 2012. The price of aviation turbine fuel (ATF), or jet fuel, in the reduction was announced in the wake of a Rs 169.3 per kl cut in rates effected from 16 April 2012
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on 27 April 2012 lowered India's growth projection to 6.9 per cent for 2012. The multilateral agency in January projected Indian economy to grow to by 7 per cent for 2012
- Standard & Poor's downgraded credit rating outlook for India to negative from stable on 25 April 2012. The cut in credit rating is the reflection of India's widening fiscal and current account deficits
- The Supreme Court of India on 24 April 2012 turned down the union government's plea to grant 400 days to complete fresh distribution of 2G spectrum licenses
- Apex Indian bank, the Reserve Bank of India on 21 April 2012 directed all commercial banks to print the MICR (Magnetic Ink Character Recognition) and IFSC (Indian Financial System Code) code on the passbook and statement of account of the customers. The bank made the printing of MICR and IFSC code compulsory for all the banks

- The Union government on 20 April 2012 approved 22 foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals, amounting to Rs.586.137 crore (\$112.5 million). The proposals were cleared following recommendations made by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) at its meeting on 30 March 2012
- Telecom regulator TRAI on 19 April 2012 approved increase in processing fee for all mobile recharge coupons (top-up vouchers) priced above Rs 20. The government however left the processing fee unchanged for the vouchers below Rs 20
- The Union government on 19 April 2012 permitted companies engaged in the aviation sector to raise working capital resources through the external commercial borrowings (ECBs) route to the tune of \$1 billion
- As per the government data released on 18 April 2012, retail inflation shot up to 9.47% in March 2012 because of higher prices of milk, vegetables, protein-based items and edible oil products
- The Union government on 18 April 2012 decided to liberalise the external commercial borrowing (ECB) norms for the power sector. The announcement was made in tune with the announcement made in this respect by the Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee while presenting the Union budget 2012-13
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 17 April 2012 instructed commercial banks to reduce their exposure to gold loan companies to 7.5% of their capital funds from the existing 10%. The directive will impact the gold loan companies such as Muthoot Finance and Manappuram Finance as they will receive less funding
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 17 April 2012 banned banks from charging a prepayment penalty on floating rate home loans. Banks were barred from charging any fee from a customer who wants to repay an outstanding loan and close the account
- Reserve Bank of India, the apex Indian Bank, on 17 April 2012, cut the key policy rates for the first time in the past three years. While the repo rate (the rate at which the RBI lends money to banks) was cut down by 50 basis points from 8.50 per cent to 8.00 per cent, the reverse repo rate (normally fixed at a spread of 100 basis points below the repo rate) was reduced to 7.0 per cent
- The Union Cabinet on 12 April 2012 approved a proposal to set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) to help facilitate the smooth introduction of the new indirect tax regime
- The Union Cabinet on 12 April 2012 approved the extension of funding support for implementing the Swavalamban Scheme under the New Pension System (NPS) from three years to five years for all subscribers enrolled during 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13
- The Union Cabinet on 12 April 2012 approved Public Procurement Bill, 2012 which aims at regulating public procurement of above Rs 50 lakh and provides fair treatment to bidders. The move is aimed at bringing transparency in State purchases
- The Union government on 12 April 2012 approved Rs 30000 crore bailout for Air India. It was decided that Rs 6750 crore would be infused immediately to meet the airline's working capital requirement and the total of bailout amount would be spread out over a period of 9 years
- The Union government on 11 April 2012 made it mandatory for individuals with income above Rs 10 lakh to file their tax returns 2011-12 onwards electronically. E-filing was made compulsory for the person who is an individual, or a Hindu Undivided Family, if



his or its total income, or the total income in respect of which he is or it is assessable under the Act during the previous year, exceeds Rs 10 lakh for assessment year 2012-13 onwards. E-filing for such individuals was optional till 2010-11

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its flagship annual publication Asian Development Outlook (ADO) released on 11 April 2012 projected moderate increase in growth rate for India to 7 percent in 2012-13
- The Supreme Court of India on 4 April 2012 quashed the review petitions filed by seven telecom companies (Videocon Telecommunications, S Tel, Sistema Shyam Teleservices, Tata Teleservices, Unitech Wireless (Tamil Nadu), Etisalat DB Telecom and Idea Cellular), whose license was cancelled by the Supreme Court in its 2 February 2012 verdict
- The Reserve Bank of India on 3 April 2012 tightened the reporting requirements of the banks. As per the directions issued, banks will have to submit a monthly statement informing the central bank about the quantity of gold imported and mode of payment adopted
- As per official data at the retail level released on 18 May 2012, retail inflation shot up to the double digit mark at 10.32 percent in April 2012 on account of substantial increase in vegetable, edible oils and milk prices
- The Commerce Ministry, on 16 May 2012, relaxed conditions for sugar exports by raising the quota to 25000 tonnes from 10000 tonnes
- Indian Rupee plunged to its historic low mark of 54.56 against the U.S. dollar on 16 May 2012. At the Interbank Foreign Exchange market, the rupee opened sharply lower at 54.06 and plunged to all time low of 54.56, surpassing the previous all-time low of 54.30 recorded in December 2011. It finally closed at 54.50
- Goa topped the list of the states with highest per capita income in the country with a total per capita income of 192652 rupees
- Union minister of labour and employment Mallikarjun Kharge inaugurated the E-Challan and Receipt (ECR) facility on 1 May 2012 to bring transparency and accessibility for employers in depositing monthly Employees' Provident Fund or EPF contributions of their workers
- The Reserve Bank of India on 2 May 2012 published guidelines for implementation of the new global capital adequacy norms, called Basel III, by March 2018. Indian banks will have to maintain Tier I capital, or core capital, of at least 7 per cent of their risk weighted assets on an ongoing basis
- The Union government constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) for developing a coordinated approach for optimal exploitation of coal bed methane (CBM), underground coal gasification and shale gas
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 4 May 2012 raised the interest rate ceiling on NRI deposits in foreign currencies by up to 3%. The interest rate ceiling on Foreign Currency Non-Resident FCNR (B) deposits of banks was raised from 125 basis points (bps) (1.25%) above the corresponding LIBOR or swap rates to 200 bps for maturity period of one year to less than three years, and to 300 bps for maturity period of three to five years. The RBI's measure was aimed at checking flight of foreign currency in the wake of continued fall in the value of the Indian rupee
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) formed an Eminent Persons Advisory Group (EPAG) on 7 May 2012. The group is constituted to provide CCI inputs and advice on issues impacting markets and competition, among others