

EXAM GENIUS ENGLISH EDITORIAL

WE COVER

- ✓ EDITORIAL
- ✓ SUMMERY
- ✓ VOCABULARY
- ✓ ANTONYMS & SYNONYMS

*Useful for SBI,IBPS,RRB,LIC,SSC,
RAILWAY & OTHER STATE EXAMS*

READ NOW



Visit our website
[HTTPS://EXAMGENIUS.IN/](https://examgenius.in/)



EXAM
Genius

Article For Reading -

Losing momentum: On slowing consumption demand

Several economic indicators released over the past week are bad news for the Finance Ministry and Reserve Bank of India's hopes of a growth **rebound** in the second half of 2024-25 — at least for the October-December quarter. While GDP growth slipping to 5.4% in the second quarter was termed a **transient blip**, policymakers have acknowledged slowing consumption demand led by restrained spending trends in urban India. They have also **exuded** optimism about a festive boost from cities along with a **resilient** rural demand outlook **lifting the momentum**. The latest data points are also important as they are part of the final **gauges** for the Finance Ministry to assess before it finalises its economic blueprint for 2025-26 in the February 1 Union Budget. Bank credit growth has slowed for the fifth straight month in November, while core infrastructure sectors — about 40% of industrial output — expanded at a four-month high pace of 4.3%. However, production levels were 3.3% below October with six of eight sectors operating at lower capacities. The Purchasing Managers' Index shows factory activity levels through November and December were the worst through 2024, even as input cost inflation **spurred** price hikes that would hit demand somewhat over time.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) receipts for December, based on transactions concluded in November, do not have much **succour** to offer either, especially on the consumption engine of the economy. Gross revenues were at a three-month low of almost ₹1.77 lakh crore, and just 7.3% higher than last year, marking the joint-second slowest uptick in three and a half years.

December's revenues, in fact, mark the fourth straight month of below-10% growth, with the pace decelerating every passing month, and the year-to-date rise in revenues is now just 8.6%, making the 11% growth estimate in the Budget **a tall task** to catch up with in the final quarter. Net revenues after refunds were just 3.3%, the slowest this fiscal, although this may partly be explained by high refund payouts in December. Revenue growth from domestic transactions slowed to 8.4%, while import revenues grew just 3.9% — the former may perhaps be linked to tighter retail credit flows and a post-Deepavali spending pullback, but the latter is a **tad** puzzling as November's goods import bill had shot up 27% to a record high of \$70 billion. The poor revenue growth rates for major consumer States such as Uttar Pradesh (1%) and Gujarat (4%), and the persistent contraction in Andhra Pradesh and a few northeastern States (including Manipur), also need closer scrutiny. For the Budget's formulation, the Centre would do well to try to understand and address the pain points **afflicting** consumption, including high inflation.

Summary –

India's economic indicators for the past week signal challenges for a growth rebound in late 2024-25. GDP growth slowed to 5.4% in Q2, with urban consumption demand weakening despite hopes for a festive boost and rural resilience. Bank credit growth decelerated for five consecutive months, and core infrastructure sectors grew 4.3% but saw reduced production from October levels. Factory activity weakened, and input cost inflation may dampen demand. December's GST revenues were at a three-month low with slow growth, particularly in domestic transactions and major consumer states, raising concerns about meeting Budget targets. Addressing consumption challenges, including inflation, is critical for the 2025-26 Union Budget.

Vocabulary –

1. Transient (Adj) (क्षणिक)

Meaning: Lasting for only a short time; temporary.

Synonyms: Temporary, fleeting, short-lived

Antonyms: Permanent, enduring, lasting

Example: The economic downturn was considered a transient phase by policymakers.

2. Exuded (Verb) (व्यक्त किया)

Meaning: To display an emotion or quality strongly and openly.

Synonyms: Emanated, radiated, displayed

Antonyms: Concealed, suppressed, withheld

Example: She exuded confidence as she stepped onto the stage.

3. Blip (Noun) (अल्पकालिक समस्या)

Meaning: A temporary or minor deviation from the usual trend or pattern.

Synonyms: Aberration, anomaly, fluctuation

Antonyms: Continuity, consistency, permanence

Example: The slight decline in sales was considered a blip in the company's otherwise steady growth.

4. Rebound (verb) उछाल

Meaning = to recover in value, amount, or strength after a decrease or decline.

Synonym: Recover, Bounce back

Antonym: Decline, Deteriorate

Example: The stock market rebounded quickly after the initial shock of the economic downturn.

5. Resilient (adjective) लचीला

Meaning= able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions.

Synonym: Tough, Hardy

Antonym: Fragile, Vulnerable

Example: Resilient communities are those that can bounce back from disasters more quickly.

6. Gauges (verb) मापना

Meaning= to estimate or determine the magnitude, amount, or volume of ()

Synonym: Measure, Assess

Antonym: Guess, Estimate

Example: The engineer used a device to gauge the pressure inside the tank.

7. Spurred (verb) प्रेरित करना

Meaning= motivate or encourage someone to do something.

Synonym: Stimulate, Propel

Antonym: Deter, Discourage

Example: His early success spurred him to take on more challenging projects.

8. Tad (noun) थोड़ा सा

Meaning= a small amount or degree; a little bit ()

Synonym: Bit, Smidgen

Antonym: Lot, Whole

Sentence: He's a tad late, but he'll be here soon.

9. Succour (Noun) (सहायता)

Meaning: Assistance and support in times of hardship or distress.

Synonyms: Aid, relief, help

Antonyms: Hindrance, obstruction, neglect

Example: The organization provided succour to the flood victims.

10. Afflicting (Verb) (पीड़ित करना)

Meaning: Causing pain or suffering to someone or something.

Synonyms: Troubling, tormenting, distressing

Antonyms: Comforting, soothing, relieving

Example: The drought is severely afflicting farmers in the region.

Idioms and Phrases –

1. Losing Momentum-

Meaning - means experiencing a decrease in energy, progress, or speed in a task, activity, or situation. It suggests that things are slowing down or becoming less effective, often leading to reduced motivation or success.

For example: "The team started the project with enthusiasm, but they are losing momentum as challenges arise."

2. Lifting the momentum –

Meaning – refers to increasing or boosting the pace, energy, or progress of a situation, project, or activity. It suggests revitalizing or intensifying efforts to achieve a goal or maintain positive progress.

For example: "The team was struggling initially, but the new strategy helped in lifting the momentum of the project."

3. Tall Task-

Meaning – It refers to a challenging or difficult job or responsibility that requires significant effort to accomplish. It is often used to describe something that seems daunting or nearly impossible to achieve.

Example: "Convincing the entire team to agree on the new strategy is going to be a tall task."