Economic Intelligence Cell

Macro Insights

05th April 2025

Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for March 2025

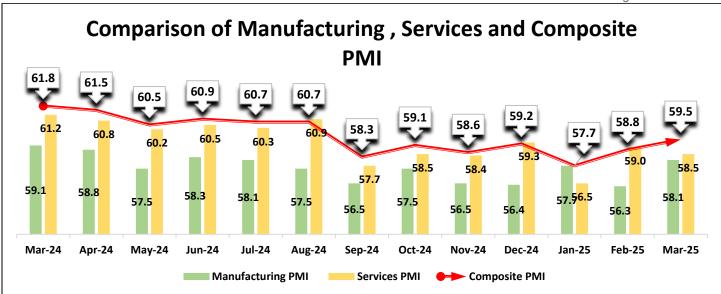
Manufacturing PMI Services PMI ${\mathscr F}$ The manufacturing PMI rose to an 8-month ${\mathscr F}$ India's service sector PMI was recorded at high of 58.1 in Mar'25, marked Quicker **58.5** in Mar'25 from 59.0 in Feb'25. This was primarily supported by favorable economic increases in factory orders and production. conditions at the end of 2024-25. The main observations for the month are: Manufacturing sector growth in India The main observations for the month are: recovered the ground lost in February, Inflationary pressures receded to a fivepicking up to its highest in eight months as month low which, coupled with competitive a faster upturn in total sales underpinned a conditions, curbed charge inflation. sharper increase in output. > Although below February's reading of 59.0, the headline index remained above ➤ Helping boost the PMI was a stronger contribution from its largest its long-run average (54.2). component: the New Orders Index. March At the sub-sector level, there was a broadsaw total sales expand to the greatest based increase in business activity and extent since July 2024, with companies sales, with Finance & Insurance exhibiting remarking on positive customer interest, the strongest growth trends, followed by demand favorable conditions and Consumer Services. successful marketing initiatives. There was a slowdown in growth of total > Although new export orders continued to new business reflected a weaker increase increase strongly in March, the pace of in international sales. New orders from growth retreated to a three-month low. abroad rose at the softest pace in 15 months.

India's Composite PMI rose to 59.5 from 58.8 in February 2025, marking the fastest expansion in 7 months, another month of above-trend growth.

(**Composite PMI** is a weighted average of comparable manufacturing and services PMI indices. Weights reflect the relative size of the manufacturing and service sectors according to official GDP data.)



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Source: HSBC India, S&P Global, PNB (EIC)

Outlook:

India's manufacturing and services sectors are exhibiting robust growth, with both the Manufacturing and Services PMIs' showing record expansion in Mar'25, indicating a positive economic outlook and a robust demand.

Private sector activity continued to rise strongly in March, as companies welcomed a further upturn in new orders. For both new business and output, rates of expansion were stronger in the manufacturing sector, where there was a pick-up in growth. Despite seeing a slowdown, service providers still registered substantial increases.

Going forward, we expect domestic economic activity to hold steady as the Indian side is engaged in a proactive discussion with their US counterparts to minimize the impact of reciprocal tariff measures. However, geopolitical pressures do pose downside risks.

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