



Data is data. Oil is oil.



India's approach to data should be based on access and not physical storage. Calling data the new oil is problematic. This is especially true with data localisation being wrapped in the language of 'data nationalism'. Physical location of data is less relevant than access to it. To address strategic concerns, the government can create a whitelist of trusted partner countries.



Economic Cooling

The Economic Survey shows that growth is slowing down. Private consumption is decelerating and investment is increasing sluggishly. The savings rate is low. And external uncertainties - the US-China trade war and rising tensions in West Asia - loom large.

Access DNAed

The DNA Bill introduced in this Lok Sabha regulates the use of fingerprinting technology for expediting justice. The bill is a potpourri of good intentions with no clear implementation strategy. Judges and law enforcement officers need training, and privacy and security protocols are unclear.



Mainland China's units, shown as countries with similar GDP



France, Qatar, Malaysia, and the UAE are as valuable as 4 Chinese provinces
(Source: IMF WEO April 2019)

Parting shot:

With more space presence also comes more vulnerability

Indian satellites: 60

Chinese satellites: 299

(Source: Union of Concerned Scientists Database)

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