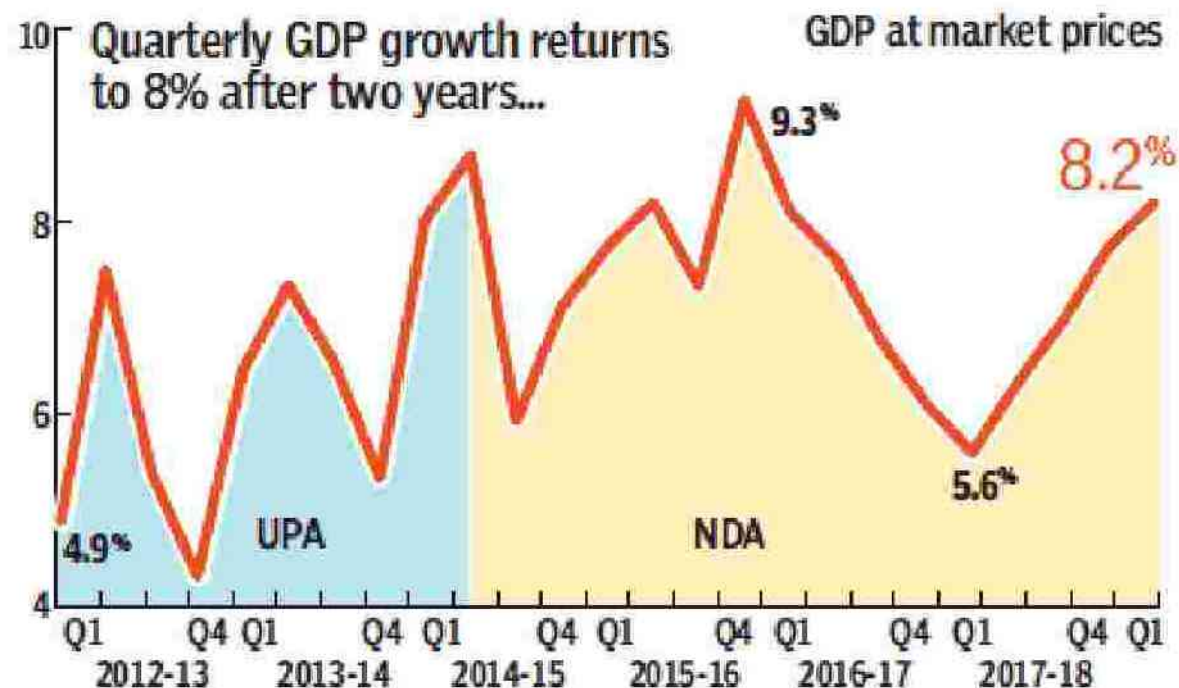
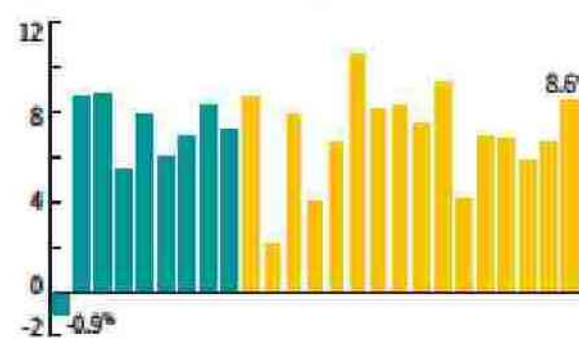


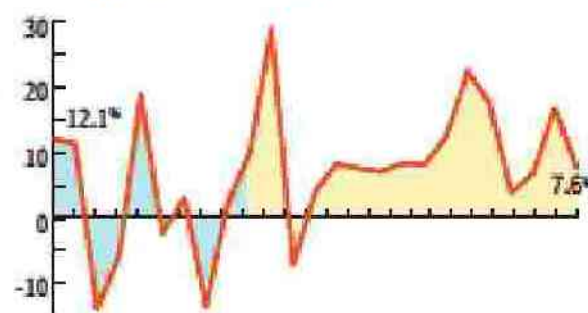
SPURT IN CONSUMPTION AND DOUBLE-DIGIT INVESTMENT RATE DELIVER 8.2% GDP GROWTH

Happy New Financial Year. With GDP clocking over 8% growth in the first quarter, the economy seems to be well and truly out of the slowdown it had slipped into after demonetisation when growth rate fell to 5.6% in the first quarter of last year. Since it's powered by a near-double-digit rise in private consumption and over two-digit increase in investments, the growth momentum is likely to build further in the coming months

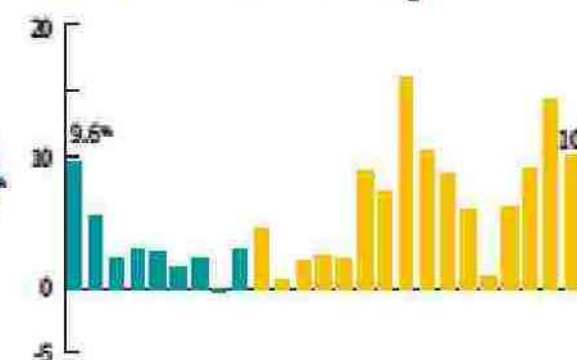
...driven partly by pick-up in private consumption...



...while govt consumption remains volatile...



...investment rate is up 10 times over last year



Rupee touches 71 to a dollar



Fiscal deficit at 86.5% of full year target



Core sector grew 6.6% in July vs 7.6% in June

Manufacturing, agriculture in top gear | P 19