



# Delhi Policy Group

Advancing India's Rise as a Leading Power



## Weekly Economic Roundup



Volume II, Issue 13 | March 26, 2021

Delhi Policy Group  
Core 5A, 1st Floor, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003  
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## DPG Weekly Economic Roundup

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### ABOUT US

Founded in 1994, the Delhi Policy Group (DPG) is among India's oldest think tanks with its primary focus on strategic and international issues of critical national interest. DPG is a non-partisan institution and is independently funded by a non-profit Trust. Over past decades, DPG has established itself in both domestic and international circles and is widely recognised today among the top security think tanks of India and of Asia's major powers.

Since 2016, in keeping with India's increasing global profile, DPG has expanded its focus areas to include India's regional and global role and its policies in the Indo-Pacific. In a realist environment, DPG remains mindful of the need to align India's ambitions with matching strategies and capabilities, from diplomatic initiatives to security policy and military modernisation.

At a time of disruptive change in the global order, DPG aims to deliver research based, relevant, reliable and realist policy perspectives to an actively engaged public, both at home and abroad. DPG is deeply committed to the growth of India's national power and purpose, the security and prosperity of the people of India and India's contributions to the global public good. We remain firmly anchored within these foundational principles which have defined DPG since its inception.

### DPG Weekly Economic Roundup

DPG Weekly Economic Roundup covers developments related to India's economy, compiled from open source media.

Your comments and feedback can be addressed to Shruthi Mohan Menon at [shruthi@dpg.org.in](mailto:shruthi@dpg.org.in).

Delhi Policy Group is an independent and autonomous, not for profit think tank which focuses on strategic issues of critical national interest.

### Cover Photograph:

*(Photograph)*

*Courtesy: Address by Shri Shaktikanta Das, RBI Governor at India Economic Conclave*

*Source: @RBI | Twitter*

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## POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Standing Committee on Food recommends to implement the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 in 'letter and spirit'

[Parliamentary panel asks government to implement Essential Commodities \(Amendment\) Act in letter and spirit](#)

The Financial Express, March 20, 2021

PSUs that are being privatised will receive capital infusion and professional management in her address at the Economic Times Award for Corporate Excellence

[FM promises to protect rights and perks of workers of privatised PSUs](#)

The Times of India, March 21, 2021

Centre to implement online monitoring system in foreign trade

[Foreign trade policy 2021-26 to focus on MSMEs, new export potential](#)

Business Standard, March 22, 2021

Parliament approves bill to increase FDI limit in the insurance sector from 49% to 74%

[Parliament passes insurance amendment bill to raise FDI limit to 74 per cent](#)

The Financial Express, March 22, 2021

Former RBI Deputy Governor pitches for changing the central bank's inflation target band

[Ex-RBI Deputy Governor Rakesh Mohan moots 5 per cent inflation target](#)

The Economic Times, March 22, 2021

Tax collection on petrol and diesel registers an uptick

[Central government's tax collection on petrol, diesel jumps 300% in six years](#)

The Economic Times, March 22, 2021

Development Financial Institution to be eligible to raise funds from RBI at cheaper rates

[DFI to get direct access to Reserve Bank of India's funding facilities](#)

Business Standard, March 23, 2021

Lok Sabha gives nod to Finance Bill

[Lok Sabha clears Finance Bill: Goods owned by Indians not to attract equalisation levy](#)

The Hindu BusinessLine, March 23, 2021

Government extends ban on international commercial flights

[India extends ban on international flights till 30 April](#)

Livemint, March 23, 2021

Centre not to levy 2% digital service tax if goods and services are sold through Indian arm of foreign e-commerce players

[No digital tax if goods, services sold via Indian arm of foreign e-commerce players](#)

The Hindu, March 24, 2021

Pandemic-induced job loss has not tapered off consistently

[One year since COVID-19 lockdown: India still recovering from unemployment blow](#)

The Financial Express, March 24, 2021

RBI flagged concerns on cryptocurrencies to the government, says RBI Governor at India Economic Conclave 2021

[RBI has major concerns on cryptocurrencies, flagged it to government: Governor](#)

Business Standard, March 25, 2021

RBI governor underlines need for innovation in financial sector for effective service delivery

[Regulation should not constrain innovation in fintech space, says RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das](#)

The Financial Express, March 25, 2021

India's economic revival must continue unabated, says RBI Governor

['Economic revival must continue in full steam'](#)

The Hindu BusinessLine, March 25, 2021

Parliament passes bill to fund infrastructure projects in India

[Parliament passes bill to set up National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development](#)

The Financial Express, March 25, 2021

Competition Commission of India orders probe against Whatsapp for breaching anti-trust law

[CCI orders antitrust probe against WhatsApp's new privacy policy](#)

Business Standard, March 25, 2021

E-commerce players express divergent views over new FDI policy

[E-commerce cos divided in stance over FDI policy](#)

Livemint, March 25, 2021

Ministry of Corporate Affairs mandates firms to disclose investments in cryptocurrencies

[Government mandates companies to disclose investments in cryptocurrencies](#)

Business Standard, March 26, 2021

## ECONOMIC TRENDS

Retail inflation for farm workers and rural labourers rise to 2.67% and 2.76% respectively in February

[India's retail inflation for farm, rural workers up in February](#)

The Economic Times, March 20, 2021

Electricity generation was 0.2% less in February 2021, Y-o-Y

[Power output flat in February on y-o-y basis](#)

The Financial Express, March 22, 2021

Surge in coronavirus cases to hurt economic recovery

[India's rising coronavirus cases risk denting recovery out of recession](#)

Business Standard, March 23, 2021

Railways suffered loss of ₹ 38,017 crore in passenger segment in the last fiscal

[Railways registers 70% loss in passenger earnings; sees profit in freight](#)

Business Standard, March 24, 2021

India achieves second position among large emerging markets in February

[India second-most attractive emerging market after China](#)

Livemint, March 24, 2021

Petrol and diesel prices cut first time since March 2020

[Petrol price cut by 18 paise, diesel by 17 paise](#)

The Times of India, March 24, 2021

Two- and Four- wheeler prices to surge from next month

[Car and bike prices to go up from April](#)

The Economic Times, March 24, 2021

Mumbai, Pune and Hyderabad lead a sharp jump in real estate business

[Home sales jump 29% due to better demand in Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad](#)

Business Standard, March 25, 2021

Palm oil imports to jump almost 11% due to faster rise in prices of competing cooking oils

[Palm oil purchases by India to soar as users shun pricey rivals](#)

The Economic Times, March 26, 2021

## TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Exports of engineering goods decline to \$6.5 billion in February 2021, Y-o-Y  
[Engineering exports drop 5% in Feb as shipments to US fall](#)

The Hindu BusinessLine, March 21, 2021

Top-12 ports witnessed considerable decline in cargo traffic in February  
[Cargo traffic at 12 major ports falls for eleventh month in February 2021](#)

The Hindu BusinessLine, March 21, 2021

Foreign portfolio investors have pumped in a record USD 36 billion into equities up to March 10 this fiscal

[At \\$36 billion, FPI inflows into equities at record high since FY13: RBI report](#)

The Financial Express, March 21, 2021

Gold imports decline during April-February 2020-21

[Gold imports slip 3.3% to \\$26.11 billion in Apr-Feb, jewellery exports fall 34%](#)

Business Standard, March 21, 2021

India's engineering exports to China record positive growth in both monthly and cumulative terms

[Indian engineering goods witness a surge in demand](#)

The Economic Times, March 22, 2021

Urgent need to hike the prices of knitwear products to sustain and face the challenging business

[Textile exporters asks buyers to increase prices as raw material costs rise](#)

Business Standard, March 23, 2021

India to get back to the level of trade in goods experienced in the previous year  
[Goods exports likely to fall 8-10% in FY21: Piyush Goyal](#)

Business Standard, March 23, 2021

India and Iran negotiate for the use of other currencies for bilateral trade  
[Government hopeful of resolving Iran's currency issue by next month; export to resume soon](#)

The Economic Times, March 24, 2021

First crude cargo from Guyana after Centre calls for diversification of imports to cut their dependence on Middle Eastern crudes

[First Guyanese crude cargo to India on its way to Mundra Port](#)

The Economic Times, March 24, 2021



Refiners in India search for new destinations to import oil  
[Indian Refiners grab new oil supply to cut Mideast reliance](#)  
BloombergQuint, March 25, 2021

CEA expresses optimism at India's investment climate  
[Investment climate going well in India; private sector should skill workforce: CEA](#)  
The Economic Times, March 25, 2021

New Finance Bill permits issuing units of International Financial Services Centre fund either to investors in the offshore fund or to the offshore fund itself  
[Finance Bill amendment eases Mauritius funds' path for India shift](#)  
Business Standard, March 26, 2021

RBI permits premature redemption of sovereign gold bonds  
[Investors can now redeem March 2016 sovereign gold bonds at 54% higher price](#)  
Livemint, March 26, 2021

## INTERNATIONAL SCENE

India is ranked 139 out of 149 countries in the list of UN World Happiness Report 2021

[India ranks 139 in World Happiness Report, Pak happier at 105: Here's list of 20 happiest nations](#)

Livemint, March 20, 2021

IMF deputy managing director warns of significant risks despite emerging signs of stronger global economic recovery

[IMF sees signs of stronger global recovery, but significant risks remain](#)

Business Standard, March 21, 2021

India ranked 40 among 53 global economies on International [Intellectual Property Index](#)

[India ranks 40th on International Intellectual Property Index](#)

Business Standard, March 24, 2021

PM Modi undertakes first foreign visit since outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic

[PM Modi begins 2-day visit to Bangladesh from today](#)

The Hindustan Times, March 26, 2021

IMF expresses optimism at India's economic recovery

[India's economy on path of gradual recovery: IMF](#)

The Financial Express, March 26, 2021

Closure of Suez Canal to cost global trade

[What a long Suez Canal closure means for the Oil price](#)

BloombergQuint, March 26, 2021



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