ABOUT US

Founded in 1994, the Delhi Policy Group is among India’s oldest independent think tanks with its primary focus on international and strategic issues of critical national interest. Over the past decades, the Delhi Policy Group has established itself in both domestic and international circles, particularly in the area of national security.

In keeping with India’s increasing global profile as a leading power and the accompanying dynamism of India’s foreign and security policy, the Delhi Policy Group has expanded its focus areas to include India’s broader regional and global role; India’s initiatives to strengthen its strategic periphery; India’s political, security and connectivity challenges and policies across the Indo-Pacific; and the strategic partnerships that advance India’s rise. To support these goals, the DPG undertakes research, publishes policy reports and organises conferences on strategic and geo-political, geo-economic, and defence and security issues.

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.

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(Courtesy: Cabinet approves mega consolidation of Public Sector Banks with effect from April 1st 2020 without affecting the core banking system keeping the customers in mind: @nsitharaman/Twitter)

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Delhi Policy Group
Core 5A, 1st Floor,
India Habitat Centre,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003.
www.delhipolicygroup.org
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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

GST lottery scheme to be introduced from April 1 for B2C transactions
Monthly GST lottery offer for B2C invoices to start from April 1
Financial Express, March 1, 2020

A step towards increasing farmers’ income: 10,000 FPOs launched
PM Modi launches 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations- move to turn farmers into businessmen
Financial Express, March 1, 2020

Cascading effects of oil prices fall in international markets
Petrol, diesel prices see sharp decline for second day row
The Economic Times, March 2, 2020

Aviation Turbine Fuel prices for domestic airlines slashed to 10.3 % since Feb 2020
State oil firms reduce jet fuel prices by 10%
The Economic Times, March 3, 2020

Government to enhance ethanol production
Government plans to double Ethanol output, increase blending to cut oil imports
The Economic Times, March 3, 2020

Finance Minister introduces Bill to regulate co-operative banks
FM Sitharaman introduces bill that aims to prevent a PMC Bank-like crisis
Business Standard, March 4, 2020
Centre restricts exports of key Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

Government restricts export of 26 drug formulations

The Hindu BusinessLine, March 3, 2020

Government allows NRIs to acquire 100 per cent stake in Air India

Government approves 100 per cent FDI by NRIs in Air India

The Economic Times, March 4, 2020

Direct Tax “Vivad Se Vishwas” Scheme Bill receives approval

Lok Sabha passes Direct Tax Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme

Financial Express, March 4, 2020

Merger of 10 public sector banks into 4 mega banks to become effective from April 1, 2020

Cabinet approves merger of 10 PSBs

LiveMint, March 4, 2020

Cabinet approves 72 changes to Companies Act 2013

Government approves more amendments to Companies law

The Economic Times, March 4, 2020

Ministry of Corporate Affairs issues partial relief to independent directors

Government gives partial relief to independent directors from prosecution

The Hindu BusinessLine, March 4, 2020

A step forward to promote ease of doing business

Government announces one-time amnesty scheme for non-compliant LLPs

Financial Express, March 5, 2020
A grant-in-aid of Rs. 67.29 crores sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana

Food processing ministry grants aid for 10 projects
The Hindu BusinessLine, March 5, 2020

Government to create a single unified procurement portal
Government to merge central public procurement portal with GeM
The Economic Times, March 6, 2020

EPF to fetch interest rate of 8.5% in FY20
EPFO cuts rate on employee provident fund to 7-year low of 8.5% for FY20
Business Standard, March 6, 2020
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Unemployment rate increases to 7.78% in February 2020
**India’s February unemployment rate rises to 7.78%, highest in 4 months: CMIE**
The Economic Times, March 1, 2020

Bank credit growth declines to 8.5% in January 2020 on Y-o-Y basis
**Bank credit growth dips to 8.5 per cent in January: RBI data shows**
BloombergQuint, March 1, 2020

GST collection at 1.05 lakh crores in Feb 2020 is up by 8% on Y-o-Y basis
**GST collections for February stand at Rs 1.05 lakh crore, fall short of target**
The Economic Times, March 2, 2020

The manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) falls to 54.4 in February
**Alarm bells ring for India’s factory activity growth as Coronavirus scare poses threat**
Financial Express, March 2, 2020

India’s services sector growth expands in February 2020
**Services grow at a pace not seen in 7 years, Feb PMI expands to 57.7**
Business Standard, March 4, 2020

Decline in global food prices due to fall in export prices of vegetable oil: FAO
**Global food prices decline in February for first time in four months**
Financial Express, March 6, 2020
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Imports from China hit due to Coronavirus

India starts to hunt for alternatives to China to source over 1k items
The Times of India, March 1, 2020

Government to lift six-month old ban on exports of onions

Onion export ban to be lifted on March 15
The Hindu BusinessLine, March 2, 2020

India’s VC industry registers record investment of $10 billion in 2019: Bain & Company report

India VC industry makes highest ever deployment of $10 billion in 2019: Study
The Hindu BusinessLine, March 2, 2020

FDI inflows decline in third quarter of FY20 on Y-o-Y basis

FDI inflow dips 1.4 percent to $10.67 billion in October-December
Financial Express, March 3, 2020

Subsidies on farm inputs to continue in India

India says it will not accept limits on farm input subsidies at WTO
The Hindu BusinessLine, March 4, 2020

Coronavirus outbreak impacts global supply chains

Global air cargo demand slips 3.3 per cent in January
The Hindu BusinessLine, March 4, 2020
Indian steel industry expects increased overseas demand due to Coronavirus outbreak in China

Coronavirus boosts Indian steel export prospects as China chokes
The Economic Times, March 5, 2020

India needs to focus on domestic demand that might play a greater role in India’s growth story

Domestic demand must play a greater role in India’s growth story
The Indian Express, March 5, 2020

Hospitality industry witnessed growth of more than 31% during 2019

Hospitality M&A deals to exceed $800 million in 2020: HVS
The Economic Times, March 5, 2020
INTERNATIONAL SCENE

OECD Interim Economic Outlook forecasts India’s GDP growth at 5.1%
OECD lowers India’s FY21 GDP growth to 5.1 per cent on coronavirus concerns
The Economic Times, March 3, 2020

UNCTAD report pegs India’s trade impact of Coronavirus at US$ 348 million
Trade impact of Coronavirus epidemic for India estimated at 348 million dollars: UN report
The Economic Times, March 5, 2020