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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.

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Cover Photograph:

(Courtesy: PM Modi's address to the nation on COVID-19 | 12th May, 2020
Source: Press Information Bureau)

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DPG Weekly Economic Roundup
Volume 1, Issue 17

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

NRIs and foreign nationals stuck in India due to lockdown allowed tax residency relief
COVID-19 relief: Relief for NRIs, foreign visitors as tax residency rules eased
Business Standard, May 9, 2020

Government to formulate plan to expedite resolution process for stressed assets
Pre-packaged resolution plan to help expedite insolvency process: Experts
The Economic Times, May 10, 2020

Prime Minister interacts with state Chief Ministers to discuss the road ahead in India’s fight against COVID-19
Prime Minister interacts with the Chief Ministers of all the states and UTs
Press Information Bureau, May 11, 2020

Centre provides financial relief to Special Economic Zones
COVID-19 impact: Centre offers relief on lease payment to SEZ units
The Hindu BusinessLine, May 11, 2020

Centre releases funds to states as part of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant
Finance Ministry releases Rs 6,195 crore to 14 states
The Economic Times, May 12, 2020

Prime Minister underlines benefits of self-reliance
PM gives a clarion call for Atmanirbhar Bharat
Press Information Bureau, May 13, 2020

Economic relief package of Rs 20 trillion unleashed to boost the economy
PM Modi announces Rs 20 trillion stimulus package to jump-start the economy
Business Standard, May 13, 2020

Finance Minister announces first set of relief measures under the Center’s Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
Nirmala Sitharaman unveils first set of measures under COVID-19 relief package
BloombergQuint, May 13, 2020
India can rest on its own strength and contribute to the globe says Nirmala Sitharaman

*Self-reliant India does not mean we will look inwards, or become isolationist country: Nirmala Sitharaman*

The Economic Times, May 13, 2020

GoI announces key measures to revive the MSME sector

*FM Sitharaman announces big-bang package for MSMEs to revive economy*

Business Standard, May 13, 2020

Government revises definition of MSMEs and raises the investment limit upwards

*Government changes definition of MSMEs, revises investment limit*

The Times of India, May 13, 2020

New initiative to support ‘Make in India’ programme

*No global tender for government procurement of up to Rs 200 crore*

Financial Express, May 13, 2020

State-run power distribution companies to receive huge loans to discharge liabilities

*Discoms receive Rs 90,000-crore lifeline to fight COVID-19 crisis*

Financial Express, May 13, 2020

GoI provides liquidity support to NBFCs, HFCs and MFIs

*FM Nirmala Sitharaman announces Rs 30,000 crore support for NBFCs, HFCs, MFIs*

Financial Express, May 13, 2020

Government extends completion and registration dates of real estate projects

*Real estate sectors heave a sigh of relief*

The Hindu BusinessLine, May 13, 2020

Rs 50,000 crores liquidity relief through TDS/TCS rate reduction

*Government announces 25% cut in TDS/TCS rate for non-salary payments*

The Economic Times, May 13, 2020

GoI extends the date for filing income tax returns giving major relief to taxpayers

*Date for filing income tax return extended to November 30: Nirmala Sitharaman*

The Indian Express, May 13, 2020
Rs 6750 crores liquidity support to businesses and workers for three months
*Take-home salary to go up as govt reduces employee EPF contribution for next three months*
The Indian Express, May 14, 2020

Finance Minister announces second tranche of measures under the Center’s Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
*Nirmala Sitharaman announces second tranche of governments Rs 20 lakh crore stimulus package*
The Times of India, May 14, 2020

GoI to spend Rs 3500 crores on provision of free food grains and pulses to workers
*FM announces free food grains for 8 crore migrant workers for 2 months*
The Economic Times, May 14, 2020

GoI introduces ‘one nation, one ration card’ scheme to facilitate migrant workers
*One nation, one ration card: Nandan Nilekani’s digital PDS scheme being carried forward by Modi government*
Financial Express, May 14, 2020

Rs 30,000 crores additional working capital fund to ease the stress of small and marginal farmers
*Centre to provide Rs 30,000 crore additional emergency fund to small marginal farmers*
The Times of India, May 14, 2020

FM announces Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHC) scheme to facilitate migrant workers with housing facilities
*Affordable rental housing for poor soon*
The Times of India, May 15, 2020

India’s Chief Economic Advisor rules out inflationary impact through fiscal deficit or stimulus package
*COVID-19 to have significant deflationary impact due to demand evaporation: CEA*
The Economic Times, May 15, 2020

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announces third tranche of measures under the Center’s Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
*FM’s third tranche today to cover agriculture and allied activities*
The Economic Times, May 15, 2020
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Former World Bank Chief Economist, Kaushik Basu urges GoI to adopt a large fiscal stimulus
India needs large fiscal stimulus
The Economic Times, May 9, 2020

Raghuram Rajan calls for fiscal stimulus and monetization to stimulate the economy
Raghuram Rajan explains how best to stimulate the economy
The Times of India, May 9, 2020

COVID-19 impact: Economy likely to witness negative growth in 2020
Economy likely to show negative growth in current year: Montek Singh Ahuwalia
The Economic Times, May 9, 2020

Centre’s financial stimulus insufficient says D Subbarao
Centre’s financial stimulus “not sufficient”; fiscal deficit may go up 14%: Former RBI Governor D Subbarao
The Economic Times, May 10, 2020

Several states easing labour laws as a step to welcome investment
Odisha, Goa go for 12-hr workdays. Karnataka may ease labour norms too
The Times of India, May 10, 2020

Exceptional situations call for creative solutions says experts
Plotting the economic revival: Exceptional situation calls for creative solutions
The Indian Express, May 11, 2020

COVID-19 pandemic, an opportunity to improve efficiency of India’s agri-marketing and PDS system
There is an opportunity to put India’s agri-marketing and PDS system on a more efficient path
The Indian Express, May 11, 2020

More than one third of annual budget has been spent under MGNREGS in first 40 days of FY21
MGNREGS: Govt spends 35% of FY21 budget in 40 days
Financial Express, May 11, 2020
Retail interbank transfers dip to 12.2 crores in April 2020
*IMPS transfers in April plunge to 2-year low*
The Economic Times, May 11, 2020

Right time for labour reforms to boost productivity and enhance employment generation: NITI AAYOG
*View: We will never get this opportunity for reforms again*
The Economic Times, May 12, 2020

Economic activity taking pace as government eases curbs
*Economic wheel starts churning as govt eases curbs: over 1,300 firms resume operations in Gurugram*
Financial Express, May 12, 2020

Substantial loss of employment due to COVID – 19: Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy
*27 million youth in age group of 20-30 years lost jobs in April: CMIE*
The Economic Times, May 12, 2020

Slow improvement in consumer demand after weeks of declining trend
*Consumers up spends as areas reopen for biz*
The Times of India, May 12, 2020

Prime Minister Modi’s economic relief package among the most substantial in the world
*COVID-19 crisis: India’s latest stimulus package among largest in the world*
Financial Express, May 13, 2020

Center’s economic package to provide safety net for all segments of society
*Economic package: Safety net for the poor, MSMEs, tax breaks, land assets*
The Indian Express, May 13, 2020

Lockdown weighs on economic activity as industrial output crashes in March
*Record fall in March as IIP crashes to 16.7%, FY20 growth squeezed by 0.7%*
Business Standard, May 13, 2020

India should specialize in sectors where it has competitive advantage
*The path of self-reliance*
The Economic Times, May 13, 2020
Inadequacy of human capital may be a major hindrance in India to becoming self-reliant says Sanjaya Baru

*It’s not trade dependence that makes India vulnerable but inadequacy of its human capital*

The Indian Express, May 14, 2020

Wholesale food inflation eases to 3.6% in April

*COVID-19 impact: Centre releases truncated WPI inflation data for April*

Business Standard, May 15, 2020
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

India’s initiative to take on offshore currency market
Sitharaman launches two exchanges to take on offshore currency market
Business Standard, May 9, 2020

Foreign Portfolio Investors infuse substantial sum in first week of May
Foreign investors infuse Rs 16,000 crore in first week of May
The Times of India, May 11, 2020

GoI to mandate check on Chinese portfolio investments, in view of new FDI policy
Government plans to check China FPI flows
The Times of India, May 11, 2020

Following a surge in duty-free purchases from neighbouring countries, India suspends import licenses for refined palm oil
India suspends 39 import licenses for refined palm oil
The Economic Times, May 12, 2020

COVID-19 impact: India’s leather exports decline
India’s leather industry stares at export loss of $1.5 billion
The Economic Times, May 13, 2020

G20 trade ministers discuss vital steps to prevent restrictions on trade with specific emphasis on pharma supplies
Not create unnecessary trade barriers, allow essential cross-border travel: G20 trade ministers
The Economic Times, May 14, 2020
INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Global economy to expect more waves of financial turbulence: IMF  
Crisis not going away soon: IMF says, new incoming economic data worse than previous estimates  
Financial Express, May 9, 2020

India lauded by WHO as the COVID – 19 cases are low compared to other countries  
Commendable that India has been able to keep Covid-19 cases very low compared to other nations: WHO’s chief scientist  
The Times of India, May 11, 2020

Political contestations between the US and China to draw major economies to the conflict  
All major economies will be drawn into US-China contestations over international trade  
The Indian Express, May 12, 2020

The US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) commits financial support to India  
US CDC commits $3.6 million to assist India’s fight against COVID-19  
The Economic Times, May 12, 2020

The United States reaches out to India and five other countries to discuss future of global trade and excessive dependence on China  
US, India and five other nations talk post-covid trade  
The Economic Times, May 13, 2020

The New Development Bank of BRICS countries provides emergency assistance loan to India  
BRICS’s New Development Bank provides $1 billion loan to India to fight COVID-19  
Financial Express, May 13, 2020

India improves position on Global Energy Transition index  
India up at 74th place on WEF’s global energy transition index  
Financial Express, May 13, 2020
UN slashes India’s growth rate to 1.2 per cent in CY20
*India to grow at 1.2% in CY20, global GDP to shrink by 3.2%, says UN*
Business Standard, May 14, 2020

Top UN experts acknowledge India’s impressive stimulus package
*[UN_Economic_experts_hail_India’s ‘impressive’ stimulus_package_to_revive_economy_hit_by_coronavirus]*
The Economic Times, May 14, 2020

World Bank provides funds to India to fight against COVID-19
*[World_Bank_approves_S1-billion_to_support_India’s_fight_against_COVID-19]*
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