

Weekly Economic Roundup



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Delhi Policy Group

Core 5A, 1st Floor, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003 www.delhipolicygroup.org



DPG Weekly Economic Roundup Volume 1, Issue 25 July 10, 2020

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.

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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.

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: PM Modi delivers inaugural address at India Global Week 2020

Source: PM Modi office

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

India needs to institute schemes to provide minimum income for the vulnerable groups says Rangarajan and Mahendra Dev

A safety net, post Covid: We need to provide minimum income for poor and vulnerable

The Indian Express, July 3, 2020

PM invites start-ups to participate in the Atmanirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge

Chinese app ban: PM urges start-ups to create 'Atmanirbhar' App ecosystem Business Standard, July 4, 2020

Chinese investment proposals to be subjected to further strict regulations India reviewing around 50 investment proposals from Chinese firms: Sources The Economic Times, July 6, 2020

Centre to set up incubation fund for drone manufacturing Self-reliance in full flight: Government's drone incubation fund set to take off Business Standard, July 6, 2020

Stressed companies can now restructure finances outside of IBC leading to timely settlement

Rule change to help over 270 stressed cos raise funds, restructure finances The Indian Express, July 7, 2020

Green shoots of economic revival emerge: Finance Ministry report India has flattened COVID curve, green shoots emerging: Finance Ministry The Economic Times, July 7, 2020

Centre revokes earlier order declaring masks and sanitisers as essential commodities

Masks, sanitisers out of essential commodities list

The Hindu BusinessLine, July 7, 2020

Traders' body urges government to put in place alternatives before boycotting Chinese products

Boycott of Chinese products should be done in calibrated manner: Traders' body

The Economic Times, July 7, 2020



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman holds review meeting to accelerate economic growth

Finance Minister holds review meeting on CAPEX of 23 CPSEs to boost expenditure in the economy

Press Information Bureau, July 7, 2020

Finance Minister asks PSUs to focus on timely achievement of targets for revival of the economy

FM Sitharaman asks PSUs to meet capex targets to revive Indian economy from coronavirus impact

The Financial Express, July 8, 2020

India's lockdown is responsible for surge in COVID-19 cases says Kaushik Basu The way in which it was executed, India's lockdown itself became source of virus's spread

The Indian Express, July 8, 2020

Injustices of economic inequality are drivers of pandemics such as COVID-19 View: Inequality and pandemics

The Economic Times, July 8, 2020

Union cabinet approves medium-to-long term debt financing facility to support infrastructural needs of the agricultural sector

Cabinet approves setting up Rs 1 lakh-crore agri infra fund

The Hindu BusinessLine, July 8, 2020

Cabinet gives nod to extend distribution of free food grains and pulses Union Cabinet approves extension of free grain scheme till November Business Standard, July 8, 2020

The Cabinet led by PM Narendra Modi extends relief measures to the beneficiaries of various schemes for another three months

Cabinet extends EPF sop, approves affordable rental housing scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

The Financial Express, July 9, 2020

Former RBI governor prescribes measures to improve India's macro-economic position amid COVID-19 pandemic

Raghuram Rajan's bitter medicine for India: 'Sell PSUs now, don't wait, stock market is buoyant'

The Financial Express, July 9, 2020



Cabinet approves capital infusion of Rs 12,450 crore in ailing public sector general insurance companies

Government calls off merger of the three public sector general insurers Business Standard, July 9, 2020

Draft rules of the Centre recommend eight hour working day against 10-12 hours in twelve states

Centre notifies draft wage rules, recommends eight hour working day The Economic Times, July 9, 2020

Centre to push for self-reliance in bulk drugs during COVID-19 pandemic Government to announce scheme to boost output of 41 bulk drugs The Indian Express, July 9, 2020

Fifteenth Finance Commission underlines the need for expanding the ambit of the country's laws related to disaster management

Finance Commission starts looking into disaster management laws in view of pandemic

The Economic Times, July 10, 2020



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Power demand improves in July as economic activity renews

Power demand slump narrows to 2.6% in July beginning showing improvement in commercial activities

The Financial Express, July 5, 2020

Retail prices of vegetables rise from 25 to 200 per cent past one month Vegetable prices rise up to 200%; trade blame crop damage and fuel price Business Standard, July 6, 2020

Solar power plant to feed overhead lines to run the trains

First time in the world! Indian Railways sets up solar plant in Bina to directly power railway overhead line

The Financial Express, July 6, 2020

Current economic scenario has provided a learning opportunity to effectively adapt business models

Eco scenario in India, global markets is challenging: Tata Sons chairman Business Standard, July 6, 2020

Changes in mode of payments push households into financial stress Buy now, pay later options push consumption; households still under financial stress

The Financial Express, July 7, 2020

People's Bank of China has been a leading investor in key sectors China central bank slowly buying into Indian companies The Economic Times, July 7, 2020

States expect more funds from Centre due to loss incurred by COVID-19 Virus-ravaged states clamor for more funds from Modi The Economic Times, July 9, 2020

FMCG majors report a rise in rural demand in post-lockdown period FMCG companies see sales recovering faster in rural areas The Hindu BusinessLine, July 9, 2020

Consumption of fuel declines Y-o-Y in June 2020 India's fuel demand declines 7.9% yoy in June, consumption totals 16.29 MT Business Standard, July 9, 2020



Public limited companies account for substantial amount of GST revenue Public limited companies just 0.6% of GST taxpayer base but pay 35% of revenue The Financial Express, July 10, 2020



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Indo-China standoff: Government imposes blanket ban on import of power equipment from China

Biggest economic retaliation step! India puts complete ban on import of power equipment from China

The Financial Express, July 4, 2020

Covid-19 impact: Start-ups need immediate relief package to survive <u>Unprecedented impact of COVID-19 on start-ups: FICCI-IAN survey</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, July 5, 2020

'Digital Silk Road' policy of China enabled it to dominate India's digital space Stop app: How Chinese companies came to dominate India's digital space The Indian Express, July 5, 2020

Augmenting competitive advantage is need of the hour for Aatmanirbharta in agriculture

Aatmanirbhar in agriculture will require incentives for export of high-value agri-produce

The Indian Express, July 6, 2020

Trade surplus in June to be around \$786 million as imports are seen to have fallen almost 49% during the month

India may see first monthly trade surplus in 18 years

The Economic Times, Jul 6, 2020

Centre contemplates to further curtail imports from China

\$12 billion worth Chinese imports under government lens; customs duty may be hiked

The Financial Express, Jul 6, 2020

Business activity surges to pre-Covid levels in June as 4.27 crore e-way bills are generated

E-way bill generation scaling back to pre-Covid levels, number inching higher with each passing week

The Financial Express, Jul 6, 2020

India's top exports to China remain in the raw materials category Raw materials continue to dominate India's top exports to China Business Standard, July 6, 2020



Commerce and Industry Ministry pushes for stricter scrutiny on imports from neighbouring countries

India-China tussle: Government seeks stricter checks on Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, South Korea, Asean imports

The Economic Times, July 6, 2020

Coal imports register a drop during April-June of FY 2020-21 India's coal imports decline 29.7% to 48.84 MT in April-June of FY21 Business Standard, July 6, 2020

Call for unity and push for a stronger Aatmanirbhar Bharat Sajjan Jindal calls for unity among industrialists to curb Chinese imports Business Standard, July 6, 2020

India and China are inseparable in many areas of trade and commerce says Swaminathan Aiyar

The dangers of going all out against China, according to SA Aiyar The Economic Times, July 7, 2020

India needs to follow a strategic trade policy which is imperative to higher growth

Sanctions by India alone will hardly sting China. There's a need to think beyond trade barriers

The Indian Express, July 8, 2020

India imposes anti-dumping duty on steel and fibre glass to protect domestic manufacturers

India again imposes anti-dumping duty on certain types of measuring tapes imported from China

The Financial Express, July 8, 2020

U.S. in talks to reinstate India's trade concessions under the Generalised System of Preferences

U.S. in talks with India on market access, trade concessions: U.S. envoy The Economic Times, July 9, 2020

Indian coffee facing stiff competition from low-cost producers such as Uganda Trouble brewing: India losing Italian coffee market to Uganda The Hindu BusinessLine, July 9, 2020



Government stipulates new deadlines for e-commerce companies to boycott Chinese products

Boycott China: Display country of origin by August 1, Govt tells ecommerce companies

The Economic Times, July 9, 2020

Reciprocity and mutual gains absent in the Indo-China trade relations says Bibek Debroy

India's trade agreement with China was one-sided to begin with The Indian Express, July 9, 2020

India is adopting a multi-pronged strategy to enhance trade and business partnership with Bangladesh

India plans to enhance trade with Bangladesh

The Economic Times, July 10, 2020



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The Fifteenth Finance Commission to collaborate with the World Bank on healthcare financing

Fifteenth Finance Commission's high-level group on health to work with World Bank on recommendations for health sector

The Economic Times, July 7, 2020

Business Twenty (B20) urges governments to reduce restrictions on exports and emphasises the need for greater international cooperation

Government regulations shouldn't become permanent after Covid-19 ends: B20

Business Standard, July 8, 2020

China is out from India's latest proposal to cap fisheries subsidies at WTO China out of India's proposal to protect small fishermen at WTO talks The Economic Times, July 8, 2020

USAID and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy join hands to step-up clean energy

US, India to increase collaboration for clean energy development The Hindu BusinessLine, July 8, 2020

World Bank urges India to take advantage of private sector to improve health facilities

World Bank's prescription to heal India's health sector; use private bodies, they meet 60% of demand

The Financial Express, July 8, 2020

PM Narendra Modi addresses India Global Week 2020 event stressing on India's leading role in combating against COVID-19 pandemic

Story of global revival will have India playing a leading role: PM Modi The Indian Express, July 9, 2020

India will continue to focus on controlling COVID-19 pandemic and reviving stalled economic growth

Government will focus on both health of economy and people as coronavirus takes toll, says PM Modi

The Financial Express, July 9, 2020



World's economic revival will be linked to the growth of India says PM Modi Global economic revival relies on India's growth: PM Modi
The Financial Express, July 10, 2020

India and EU to discuss global cooperation and solidarity to protect lives during the COVID-19 pandemic

Modi, EU leaders to discuss multilateralism, strategic partnerships at India-EU Summit

The Hindu BusinessLine, July 9, 2020



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