

# Weekly Economic Roundup



Volume 1, Issue 42 | November 6, 2020

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



### 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.

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 Narendra Modi chairs Virtual Global Investor Roundtable Source: PMO

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### POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Government increases target of kharif procurement in the current marketing season

<u>Paddy purchase target at 74 million tonne, up 18% on year: Piyush Goyal</u> The Financial Express, October 31, 2020

<u>IISc</u> and Indian Oil to work jointly on the optimisation of both biomass gasification and hydrogen purification processes <u>IISc and Indian Oil R&D sign MoU for hydrogen-generation technology</u> Business Standard, October 31, 2020

Centre makes public the first set of draft rules under labour codes approved by Parliament

<u>Government gives digitisation push to labour codes, makes draft rules public</u> Business Standard, November 1, 2020

Centre transfers second tranche of GST compensation shortfall under special borrowing mechanism

<u>GST compensation shortfall: Centre transfers 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of Rs 6,000 crore to</u> <u>States/UTs</u>

The Hindu BusinessLine, November 2, 2020

Puducherry accepts Centre's proposal of borrowing shortfall in GST collection <u>GST shortfall: Puducherry accepts Centre's compensation proposal</u> Business Standard, November 3, 2020

FM expresses optimism at Centre's interventions for economic revival Industry is resetting to be competitive: Nirmala Sitharaman The Economic Times, November 3, 2020

Centre invites bids to facilitate strategic sale of Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited <u>Government begins process for strategic sale of Ferro Scrap Nigam</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 3, 2020

Data to be thought of public good and investments must be made accordingly <u>Need to think of data as infrastructure: CEA</u> The Economic Times, November 3, 2020

Centre reaches out to MNCs to point out issues relating global taxation <u>Government reaches out to MNCs over global digital tax</u> The Economic Times, November 4, 2020 Volume 1, Issue 42 | November 6, 2020



Centre directs states to identify priority beneficiaries for Covid-19 vaccine <u>States told to draw up a list of priority Covid-19 vaccine benefits</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 4, 2020

Centre issues ordinance to amend Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 <u>Government issues ordinance to amend arbitration law for stakeholder parties</u> Business Standard, November 4, 2020

Government to relook into exclusion-inclusion criteria to select beneficiaries for welfare initiatives

<u>Min to review criteria to select beneficiaries for welfare initiatives</u> The Economic Times, November 5, 2020

Will make India the engine of global growth resurgence, says PM Modi India to play the role of global growth engine, says PM Narendra Modi Business Standard, November 5, 2020

PM Modi pitches for investments in India Invest in India if you want returns with reliability: PM Narendra Modi to investors The Economic Times, November 6, 2020

RBI issues guidelines to facilitate flow of credit to underserved sections <u>RBI announces co-lending scheme for banks, NBFCs</u> The Financial Express, November 6, 2020



### ECONOMIC TRENDS

Urban unemployment rate declines to 7.9% in Q3, Y-o-Y basis Jobless rate in urban areas fell to 7.9% in Q3 of last year, shows data Business Standard, October 31, 2020

Indian economy to emerge stronger due to timely action by Centre: FICCI India's strategy of dealing with COVID-19 paid off, economy set to bounce back: Ficci The Financial Express, Nevember 1, 2020

The Financial Express, November 1, 2020

Power consumption rises to 110.94 billion units in October 2020 India's power consumption up 13.38% in Oct as industrial activity revives Business Standard, November 2, 2020

GST collection shows an uptick in October indicating economic revival October GST collection tops Rs 1 lakh crore, 1st time since February The Times of India, November 2, 2020

Diesel sales rebound in October 2020, Y-o-Y basis <u>Diesel sale clocks 6.1% growth; first time since Covid-19 induced lockdown</u> Business Standard, November 2, 2020

Unemployment rate marginally rises to 6.98% in October from previous month India's October jobless rate rises to 6.98%: CMIE The Times of India, November 2, 2020

Auto manufacturers report a jump in domestic sales due to festive season October sales rise for automakers, festive buying propels domestic numbers The Indian Express, November 2, 2020

Bad loan problem is big and to hinder economic recovery <u>Ex-Central Bank Chiefs Say Bad Debt Will Hinder India's Recovery</u> BloombergQuint, November 2, 2020

Nearly 1.67 crore new households added to functional household tap connection in 14 months <u>Piped water: Over 50% jump in rural areas in 14 months</u> The Financial Express, November 2, 2020 Volume 1, Issue 42 | November 6, 2020



Business sentiment rises to 65.5 in Q2 compared to 46.4 in Q1 <u>Business sentiment rises from record low, up 41% during July-September, says</u> <u>NCAER survey</u> The Former min Times, Newmon en 2, 2020

The Economic Times, November 2, 2020

Revival in power sector raises hope amid lacklustre economic recovery <u>Recovery tracker: Power puts a bright spot on otherwise lacklustre revival</u> The Economic Times, November 3, 2020

Demand for work under MGNREGS rises in October 2020 88% more households sought work under MGNREGS in October, shows data Business Standard, November 4, 2020

Private banks register growth in net profits in Q2 <u>Indian private banks shed Covid-19 woes, net profit rises by 159%</u> Business Standard, November 4, 2020

Services PMI rises to 54.1 in October 2020 <u>India's services activity grows in October after eight months of contraction</u> The Economic Times, November 4, 2020

Finance Ministry expresses optimism on economic growth <u>Indian economy poised to recover at a fast pace, reach pre-Covid levels by</u> <u>fiscal end: FinMin report</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 4, 2020

Distressed consumers and jewellers pushes gold recycling amid rising gold prices <u>Gold recycling hits 8-year high on record prices</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 4, 2020

Fund raising via capital markets declines in September 2020 Fund raising via capital markets drops 31% to Rs 75,230 crore in September Business Standard, November 4, 2020

Time for Indian manufacturing revolution to take-off <u>2020 could be for manufacturing what 1991 was for our economy</u> Livemint, November 4, 2020 Volume 1, Issue 42 | November 6, 2020



India is restraining its expenditure on productive assets <u>Looming deficit blowout is forcing India to spend less on economy's real</u> <u>saviours</u> The Economic Times, Neuember 5, 2020

The Economic Times, November 5, 2020

Employment falls in October 2020 after a brief recovery in May <u>Employment rate falls to 37.8% in October, a first since the start of recovery in</u> <u>May</u>

The Economic Times, November 5, 2020

About 19.48 Lac farmers benefitted from ongoing KMS procurement operations <u>MSP Operations during Kharif Marketing Season 2020-21</u> Press Information Bureau, November 5, 2020

Decline in growth of economy triggered by Covid-19 is short lived <u>GST collection, power consumption show recovery: Ex-RBI chief C Rangarajan</u> Business Standard, November 5, 2020

Economic recovery not possible unless lockdown restrictions are completely removed <u>No economic recovery till norms end, says Rangarajan</u> The Hindu, November 6, 2020

Rajasthan is the latest state to choose borrowing option 1 to meet GST shortfall Rajasthan picks Option 1 to meet GST shortfall

The Indian Express, November 6, 2020



### TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Foreign exchange reserves register an uptick <u>India's Forex Reserves Surge \$5.4 Billion To All-Time High of \$560.53 Billion:</u> <u>RBI</u> BloombergQuint, October 31, 2020

Exports of Viscose Staple Fibre register substantial rise in Q2 of FY21 Indian VSF exports rise nearly 40 per cent in Q2 The Hindu BusinessLine, November 1, 2020

Freight earnings of Railways up by 9 % in October, Y-o-Y basis <u>Freight loading up by 15%, revenue by 9% this Oct as against Oct '19: Rlys</u> Business Standard, November 1, 2020

Uptick in demand from online sellers to raise exports of handicraft products <u>Demand from online sellers seen reviving handicraft exports</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 2, 2020

Government proposes to slowly phase out hike in customs duty <u>'Customs duty: Need judicious use, has to be phased out slowly</u>' The Indian Express, November 3, 2020

Exports drop to \$ 24.82 billion in October, Y-o-Y basis <u>Exports sink 5.4% in October after September buoyancy</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 3, 2020

Covid-19 impact: India faces shortage of containers for exports India faces container shortage due to export-import mismatch The Economic Times, November 4, 2020

India-Africa bilateral trade reflects deep engagement between the two nations <u>Will support our industry to invest in Africa in big way: Piyush Goyal</u> Business Standard, November 4, 2020

India-Indonesia discuss coal trade <u>India-Indonesia joint working group on coal holds discussions</u> The Economic Times, November 5, 2020

Iran lifts ban on imports of basmati rice from India Basmati exports to Iran to resume soon The Economic Times, November 5, 2020



Nafed to float regular tenders for additional supply of imported onions <u>Nafed finalises bidders, issues order for supply of 15,000 tonnes of imported</u> <u>onions</u> The Hindu, November 6, 2020



### INTERNATIONAL SCENE

IMF urges G20 countries to continue spending on the pandemic crisis <u>IMF tells G20 countries to 'keep spending' on Covid-19 crisis</u> The Hindu BusinessLine, November 3, 2020

Key policy interventions to accelerate growth of India's manufacturing sector <u>Three policy interventions could add billions of dollars to GDP: McKinsey</u> Business Standard, November 3, 2020

Asian Development Bank approves loan to Meghalaya <u>ADB approves USD132.8 million loan to improve power distribution network in</u> <u>Meghalaya: Minister</u> The Financial Express, November 3, 2020

India and UAE to strengthen trade and economic ties India, UAE agree to explore ways to facilitate investments The Financial Express, November 3, 2020



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