

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



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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.

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: The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi interacting with the Governors and Lieutenant Governors on COVID-19 situation and Vaccination Drive in the country through video conferencing, in New Delhi on April 14, 2021 Source: PIB

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Contents

POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK	1
ECONOMIC TRENDS	3
TRADE AND INVESTMENT	5
INTERNATIONAL SCENE	7



POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The Labour Bureau to conduct surveys to collect information on migrant workers, maids and professionals

Government to complete 5 surveys in 7 months on jobs: Labour Bureau DG The Economic Times, April 11, 2021

Economic recovery to be 'K-shaped' amid rising inequalities India to see 'k-shaped' recovery as inequalities grow: ex-RBI governor Business Standard, April 12, 2021

RBI Governor urges bank chiefs to ensure business continuity and credit flows to propel recovery

Remain watchful of evolving situation, push credit flows: RBI Governor to

The Economic Times, April 12, 2021

Indirect tax collections register an uptick in FY21 from previous fiscal Central government's indirect tax collection up 12% in FY21, GST number falls Business Standard, April 13, 2021

Minister of Commerce and Industry launches e-marketplace to connect aqua farmers with buvers

E-marketplace for marine products to raise farmer income: Piyush Goyal Business Standard, April 13, 2021

Emerging technology provides cutting-edge solutions to overcome traditional obstacles to growth

<u>View: Fast-spreading digital revolution offers a new growth path for India and</u> others

The Economic Times, April 14, 2021

Government approves ramping up production of Remdesivir drug amid surge in Covid cases

Amid Covid surge, government approves stepping up of production of Remdesivir

Business Standard, April 14, 2021

PM Modi interacts with Governors and Lt. Governors to speed up vaccination drive

PM interacts with the Governors on Covid-19 situation and Vaccination Drive in the country

Press Information Bureau, April 14, 2021

Prime Minister stresses need for united global efforts to deal with the coronavirus crisis

Covid-19 pandemic an opportunity to reshape world order: PM Modi Business Standard, April 14, 2021



PM Modi assures availability of Covid-19 vaccines to all Government to ensure vaccines are adequately available: Modi Livemint, April 15, 2021

Centre inks MoU with Microsoft to improve efficiency and productivity across entire farm sector value chain

Government inks MoU with Microsoft to provide post-harvest solutions to farmers

The Economic Times, April 15, 2021

Centre to initiative pilot project on digital farming in six states Government to try out digital farming in 100 villages The Times of India, April 15, 2021

Centre willing to act as an enabler rather than a regulator for startups Government ready to act as enabler for startups: Pivush Goval The Economic Times, April 15, 2021

National Education Policy aims at empowering a student to participate in national development

India's new national education policy is futuristic: PM Narendra Modi Business Standard, April 15, 2021

RBI sets up Regulatory Review Authority to streamline regulations and reduce complexity

RRA 2.0: RBI sets up regulatory review authority to review regulations, ease compliance

The Financial Express, April 16, 2021



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Power consumption rises owing to robust recovery in industrial and commercial demand

India's power consumption grows nearly 47% in first week of April The Financial Express, April 11, 2021

Unemployment touches 8.6% for the week ending April 11 vs 6.7% a fortnight ago: CMIE

India sees job losses as states impose lockdowns to check new Covid-19 wave Business Standard, April 12, 2021

Covid-19 puts brakes on the auto sector, vehicle sales decline in 2020-21 Passenger vehicle sales in India decline by over 2% in 2020-21: Industry body SIAM

The Indian Express, April 12, 2021

Companies gird up strategies to prevent migration of workers amid second surge of Covid-19

Flight of labour: Covid resurgence triggers fear of another exodus of migrant workforce

The Hindu BusinessLine, April 12, 2021

Retail inflation registers an uptick in March 2021 Retail inflation quickens to 5.52 pc in March on costlier food, fuel The Financial Express, April 12, 2021

Agri-credit registers fastest growth in February, Y-o-Y Agri credit growth at 4-year high of 10.2% in February The Financial Express, April 13, 2021

Demand for gasoline increases as people opt for private compared to public transport amid surge in Covid-19

Petrol usage in India jumps 27% to four-month high, shows data Business Standard, April 13, 2021

Industrial production registers a sharp decline for the second month in a row February factory output shrinks 3.6% in sharpest contraction in six months Business Standard, April 13, 2021

Urban unemployment increases following curbs and partial lockdowns in several states

Urban unemployment nears 10% as states reimpose curbs Livemint, April 13, 2021

Oil demand to decline as Mumbai heads towards lockdown like situation Covid-19: Deserted streets, fleeing workers threaten India's oil demand Business Standard, April 14, 2021



Enrolments in Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan dip owing to job losses Enrolments in informal workers' pension plan drop 92% to 130,000 The Economic Times, April 14, 2021

WPI registers an uptick owing to rising crude oil and metal prices WPI inflation spikes to over 8-year high of 7.39% in March The Financial Express, April 15, 2021

Petrol and diesel prices decline due to price revisions by oil marketing companies

Petrol, diesel prices cut after 15-day pause

The Indian Express, April 16, 2021



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Government prohibits exports of Remdesivir injection and Remdesivir API amid surge in Covid cases

Centre prohibits export of Remdesivir injection and Remdesivir API Livemint, April 11, 2021

Inordinate delay in release of funds to limit exporters' capacity to ramp up supplies

Over Rs 35,000-crore export aid held up amid trade recovery The Financial Express, April 12, 2021

Gold imports surge in March 2021

India gold imports jump to near two-year high as weddings revive demand Business Standard, April 12, 2021

Centre considering talks with the US on equalisation levy or digital taxes Government open to talks on US tax plan, seeks support on equalisation levy The Indian Express, April 12, 2021

Exports of sugar reach 2.49 million tonne so far, maximum to Indonesia Indonesia emerges largest buyer of India sugar in first guarter of 2021, says **AISTA**

The Economic Times, April 12, 2021

Finance Ministry imposes anti-dumping duty to prevent imports of N-Butanol Definitive anti-dumping duty imposed on N-Butanol imports from EU, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and US

The Hindu BusinessLine, April 13, 2021

Ten Indian startups turned Unicorns within first 100 days in 2021 In 2021 startup gold rush, Unicorn sightings peak The Times of India, April 14, 2021

Government permits export of sugar under tariff rate quota to UK India allows additional 3,675 tonnes of sugar export to UK under concessional duty quota

The Financial Express, April 14, 2021

Import of palm oil rises in March 2021 India's palm oil imports rise 56.50 per cent in March The Financial Express, April 14, 2021

Indo-China trade gap narrows to \$39 billion during April-February of FY 21, Yo-Y

Indo-China trade deficit hits 7-year low amid Covid-19 pandemic Business Standard, April 15, 2021



US remains non-committal on TRIPS waiver for vaccines from India and South Africa

US remains non-committal on India's move to get TRIPS waiver to COVID vaccines at WTO

The Economic Times, April 15, 2021

Fertiliser manufacturers seek Centre's intervention on supplies and prices Fertiliser firms want government to tap diplomatic channels on supplies The Times of India, April 15, 2021

Outward FDI reduces by half in March 2021, Y-o-Y India Inc's outward FDI halves to \$1.93 billion in March The Financial Express, April 15, 2021

India's exports register an uptick in March 2021

Exports up 60% in March at \$34.5 billion, but decline by 7% in FY21: Government data

Business Standard, April 15, 2021

Trade deficit rises to \$13.93 billion in March 2021, M-o-M Trade Deficit widens in March as imports spike BloombergQuint, April 15, 2021

Bond yield rises by 11 basis points at RBI's government securities acquisition programme auction

Bond yield jumps after first G-SAP auction

The Indian Express, April 16, 2021



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

India criticises US attempt to link climate issues with economic recovery India hits out at US on linking climate issues to economic recovery Business Standard, April 11, 2021

India's goal must be to have an economy and financial system that can absorb shocks

India must capture all segments of financial market to fuel growth: IMF The Hindu, April 12, 2021

India and the EU exchange ideas to foster greater engagement on human rights issues

India, EU reiterate commitment on human rights Livemint, April 12, 2021

FM Nirmala Sitharaman holds meeting with World Bank Group President via virtual mode

Covid second wave: FM discusses India's five-pillared strategy with World Bank **Group President**

The Hindu BusinessLine, April 13, 2021

WTO Director General sets target for member countries to reach an agreement on pruning harmful fisheries subsidies

WTO DG sets July target for pact, India insists on special treatment The Hindu BusinessLine, April 15, 2021

India holds first National Level Dialogue on Agri-Food Systems-Advancing Equitable Livelihoods

India Holds National Dialogue on UN Food Systems Summit 2021 Press Information Bureau, April 15, 2021



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