Weekly Economic Roundup
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 Chief Ministers on COVID-19 and vaccination programme through video conferencing, in New Delhi on April 08, 2021

Source: PIB

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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

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Centre allows more flexibility to tax filers operating under Quarterly Return Filing and Monthly Payment of Taxes scheme of GST
Government allows further operational flexibility to GST filers
Business Standard, April 3, 2021

RBI to wait for an opportune time to announce monetary policy action
Surge in Covid cases may prompt RBI to maintain status quo on rates: Experts
The Financial Express, April 4, 2021

Government to set aside funds to facilitate safety protocol for skill training amid Covid surge
Centre approves covid allowance in skill training ecosystem
Livemint, April 5, 2021

Centre should apply concepts of game theory in policymaking to tackle corruption
View: Why aspects of game theory must be applied in our policymaking
The Economic Times, April 6, 2021

Ministry of Finance expresses optimism at India’s economic recovery
Recovery ‘resilient’ despite rise in Covid-19 cases: Finance Ministry
The Financial Express, April 6, 2021

RBI keeps policy rates unchanged amid rising Covid cases
RBI keeps repo rate, reverse repo rate unchanged at 4% and 3.35%
Business Standard, April 7, 2021

RBI enhances liquidity limit for states and UTs temporarily to help them tide over cash flow mismatches
RBI enhances temporary liquidity limit for states, UTs by around 46%
The Economic Times, April 7, 2021

RBI Governor assures of liquidity and cheaper funds to sustain economic recovery
Supporting growth paramount for RBI now: Governor Shaktikanta Das
The Economic Times, April 7, 2021

Lenders must put in place board-approved policies to refund interest charged to borrowers during the moratorium period
Moratorium: RBI directs lenders to refund compound interest to borrowers
The Financial Express, April 8, 2021
Cabinet gives nod to ₹6,238 crore PLI scheme
PLI schemes for white goods, solar modules get Cabinet clearance
The Indian Express, April 8, 2021

PM asserts the need to focus on micro containment zones to combat second surge of Covid-19
PM Modi urges states to ‘focus on micro containment zones, COVID curfews’ as cases surge
Livemint, April 8, 2021

Prime Minister urges states to propel testing for Covid infections
No need for lockdown, focus on Covid-19 tests: PM Narendra Modi to CMs
Business Standard, April 9, 2021

RBI’s decision to maintain accommodative stance will be instrumental to achieve sustainable growth of economy
Bankers, realtors hail RBI’s move to maintain accommodative policy stance
The Economic Times, April 9, 2021

Net direct tax collection registers an increase of 5% from revised estimates for fiscal ended March 31
Net direct tax mop up exceeds revised estimates at Rs 9.45 trillion in FY21
Business Standard, April 9, 2021
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Increasing prices and pandemic induced effects put tremendous pressure on households
Rising prices hit households reeling from shrunk budgets
The Economic Times, April 3, 2021

Crude steel output declines by 1% during first two months of 2021
India’s steel output falls marginally to over 19 MT in January-February 2021
The Hindu BusinessLine, April 4, 2021

Manufacturing PMI declines to 55.4 in March 2021
Manufacturing PMI falls to 7-month low in March as Covid cases rise
Business Standard, April 5, 2021

BSE Sensex plunges amid rising Covid cases
Sensex dives 1.7% as surging Covid cases infect sentiment
The Indian Express, April 6, 2021

Total steel consumption in the country rises to 81.2 MT from Jul’20 to Mar’21
Covid year ends on a positive note; steel demand adequate
The Financial Express, April 6, 2021

Domestic passenger traffic slips to 10-year low at 53.4 million in FY 21
Domestic passenger traffic slips to 10-year low in pandemic-hit FY21
Business Standard, April 6, 2021

Services PMI declines to 54.6 in March 2021
India services PMI slows down in March amid rising covid cases
Livemint, April 7, 2021

RBI projects retail inflation at 5.2%
RBI targets 5.2 per cent retail inflation for first half of FY22
The Economic Times, April 7, 2021

Potential lockdown to induce reverse migration of workers
The second wave: Migrant crisis looms again as Covid-19 curbs expand
Business Standard, April 7, 2021

Vehicle registration across categories drops in March, Y-o-Y
Vehicle registration fell 28.64% y-o-y in March despite low base: Dealers
Business Standard, April 8, 2021
Indian consumers turn pessimistic, spend less
Indian Consumers turn more glum about the future, survey shows
BloombergQuint, April 8, 2021

Government Securities Acquisition Program may result in a glut of rupees
$14 billion bond-buy plan is RBI’s ‘whatever it takes’ moment for Indian economy
Livemint, April 9, 2021
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Market value of UK’s FDI in India at ₹5,31,200 crore exceeds the US’

Market value of UK’s FDI in India surpasses the US’: RBI Census

The Hindu BusinessLine, April 3, 2021

Commerce ministry makes import registration compulsory to boost domestic manufacturing and prevent import of unnecessary goods

Commerce ministry makes import registration compulsory for host of aluminium, copper products

The Financial Express, April 4, 2021

Saudi Arabia takes retaliatory action

Amid India’s bid to cut Saudi oil imports, Aramco raises oil price for Asia

The Times of India, April 4, 2021

India’s exports of ‘core’ products grew 60.7% in March, Y-o-Y

Defying the Covid-19 pandemic: Buoyant exports of ‘core’ products signal trade edge

The Financial Express, April 5, 2021

The trilateral trade between India, Israel and the UAE to usher in future

India, UAE and Israel’s trilateral trade could reach USD 110 billion by 2030: Top diplomats

The Economic Times, April 5, 2021

FDI rises by 15% during April-January of last fiscal

At $72.12 billion, FDI inflow in Apr-Jan sets 10-month record

The Hindu BusinessLine, April 5, 2021

Foreign portfolio investors register record investment during FY21

At Rs 2.74 trillion, FPI flows surpass previous best in FY13: Government

Business Standard, April 6, 2021

US to impose retaliatory tariffs on countries taxing Internet-based companies

India to be impacted as US works on $1 bn tariff plan over digital taxes

Business Standard, April 6, 2021

International Trade Administration recommends levying a countervailing duty against wind energy equipment manufacturers from India

US calls for duty on Indian wind energy equipment manufacturers

Business Standard, April 7, 2021
Exports of cereals register an increase during Apr’20 to Feb’21, Y-o-Y
Cereals lift farm exports to $17.5 billion in April-Feb
The Hindu BusinessLine, April 7, 2021

India and EU open to further negotiations of trade and investments agreements
India open for stronger trade relations with EU: Anurag Thakur
The Economic Times, April 8, 2021

Equity mutual funds register net inflows of ₹9,115 crore in March 2021
Equity mutual funds see net inflows for 1st time in 8 months
The Indian Express, April 8, 2021
INTERNATIONAL SCENE

India insists on strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation based on Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus

India hosts First Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors April 6, 2021
Press Information Bureau, April 6, 2021

IMF projects an impressive 12.5% growth rate for India in 2021
IMF upgrades India growth forecast. Conditions apply.
BloombergQuint, April 6, 2021

Actions taken to prevent economic downturn may have unintended consequences

Economic measures taken by countries during pandemic may have unintended consequences: IMF
The Financial Express, April 7, 2021

Finance Minister supports extending Debt Service Suspension Initiative to boost the most vulnerable economies

Nirmala Sitharaman backs 6-month extension for Debt Service Suspension initiative
The Hindu BusinessLine, April 7, 2021

FM Nirmala Sitharaman urges members of the G20 nations to ensure equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines

India urges G20 members to ensure equitable access to vaccines
The Economic Times, April 8, 2021

Economic recovery underway post worst global recession

Recovery is underway after worst global recession since World War II: IMF MD Christine Georgieva
The Financial Express, April 8, 2021

Faster global growth driven primarily by countries having strong rebounds

Faster global growth driven primarily by US, China and India, says World Bank president
The Hindu, April 8, 2021
India’s debt to GDP ratio registers a rise amid the pandemic

*During COVID-19 pandemic, India’s debt to GDP ratio increased from 74 pc to 90 pc: IMF*

The Financial Express, April 8, 2021

India may have to handle the new goalpost of carbon neutrality

*Cloud over climate action*

Business Standard, April 8, 2021

FM urges for focus on agreed principles of equity and differentiated responsibility of climate action

*Hastening transition to low carbon economy may prove burdensome for emerging economies: FM*

The Hindu BusinessLine, April 8, 2021