

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: Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman chairing the 43rd GST Council meeting via video conferencing in New Delhi today.

Source: @FinMinIndia|Twitter

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Compliance relaxations offered by the government inadequate: Small businesses survey

Small businesses need more time for GST compliances: survey The Hindu, May 23, 2021

Centre and states expect GST collection to decline in June 2021 Centre, states stare at Rs 2-trillion GST cess gap amid Covid-19 Business Standard, May 24, 2021

Need of the hour is to contain the spread of virus in rural areas What we need to save lives and livelihoods as Covid reaches rural India The Indian Express, May 24, 2021

WhatsApp maintains shift in stance, to wait till personal data protection law comes into effect

Shift in stance: WhatsApp says won't limit functionality The Indian Express, May 25, 2021

Ministry of Finance plans stimulus package for sectors worst affected by Covid-19

India plans stimulus package for sectors worst affected by second wave The Economic Times, May 25, 2021

Centre considering options to provide support to states requiring fiscal help Government assessing eco impact of second COVID wave for possible stimulus The Financial Express, May 25, 2021

Abhijit Banerjee urges Government to expand limit of pandemic related spending

Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee calls on Modi government to raise pandemic support spending

The Economic Times, May 26, 2021

India may need to borrow more to meet GST revenue shortfall GST shortfall situation becomes clearer, government may have to borrow \$22 billion more to pay states

The Economic Times, May 26, 2021

Indian economy needs fiscal spending to support businesses impacted by the pandemic

More fiscal support is imperative: CII chief

The Hindu, May 26, 2021



New digital rules are intended to protect security, sovereignty and integrity of India

New digital rules: Immediately report status of compliance, Centre asks social media firms

The Economic Times, May 26, 2021

Second surge of virus triggers revision of growth projections for the current fiscal

COVID second wave triggers raft of growth forecast revisions: RBI annual report

The Financial Express, May 27, 2021

Ministry of Electronics and Telecommunications asks social media companies to furnish details

IT Min asks social media cos to furnish details of grievance officers, others The Indian Express, May 27, 202 1

India's growth prospects to depend on its ability to contain virus spread RBI Annual Report: Economy not as hard hit as first wave but uncertainties remain

Livemint, May 27, 2021

World will not be the same after the pandemic, says PM Economic impact of Covid-19 is huge, says PM Modi Livemint, May 27, 2021

Durable revival of private consumption and investment critical for sustaining economic growth post-pandemic

Revival of private consumption, investment critical for sustaining post-COVID growth: RBI

The Financial Express, May 27, 2021

New rules are designed to prevent abuse and misuse of digital platforms WhatsApp users have nothing to fear about new social media rules: Prasad Business Standard, May 27, 2021

Rules enacted are not in isolation but have global precedence, says Centre Government on new IT rule: Not against privacy, to be used in exceptional cases

The Financial Express, May 27, 2021

FM Nirmala Sitharaman chairs 43rd GST council meet via video conference GST Council meeting: Sitharaman chairs first meeting in 7 months; states push for compensation extension

BloombergQuint, May 28, 2021



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Covid-19 pandemic necessitates consumers to search for healthy alternatives Covid impact on retail: Health, hygiene, instant food products sales surge Business Standard, May 22, 2021

India's economic recovery shows a fallout due to second wave of Covid A recovery interrupted

Business Standard, May 23, 2021

Urban unemployment rate rises to 17.4% for the week ended May 23 Weekly Unemployment Rate spikes to 17.4% in urban areas: CMIE BloombergQuint, May 24, 2021

States led restrictions taking toll on employment in India Double-digit unemployment rate makes a return Business Standard, May 24, 2021

Gross new enrolments in social security scheme of ESIC register a rise in March 2021

Around 1.2 million join ESIC in March, 100,000 more than February Business Standard, May 26, 2021

GDP is likely to grow at 1.3% in fourth guarter of 2020-21 India's GDP to grow at 1.3% in March guarter: SBI report Indian Express, May 25, 2021

Total food-grain production registers an uptick in FY21 Foodgrain output touches record 305 MT in 2020-21 The Financial Express, May 26, 2021

Local lockdowns temper economic activity in April India's economic activity slows down in April as states impose lockdowns Business Standard, May 26, 2021

Supply-side bottlenecks and high retail margins to exert pressure on food items Supply-demand imbalances may continue to exert pressure on pulses, edible oils: RBI

The Economic Times, May 27, 2021

Monetary transmission to continue unimpeded: RBI

RBI to ensure 'comfortable level' of liquidity in system this fiscal The Economic Times, May 27, 2021

RBI balance sheet shows a growth due to increase in FDI and domestic investments

RBI balance sheet grew 7% in 9 months to March

The Hindu, May 27, 2021



Banknotes in circulation witness growth due to precautionary holding of cash Notes in circulation go up due to holding of cash amid pandemic: RBI Business Standard, May 27, 2021

High taxes causing inflationary trends in wholesale and retail prices of diesel High level of taxation widens divergence in diesel inflation in WPI, CPI Business Standard, May 28, 2021

PM visits Odisha and Bengal to assess the damage caused by cyclone Yaas Cyclone Yaas: PM Modi to visit cyclone-affected Odisha and Bengal today The Economic Times, May 28, 2021



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Engineering goods exports soar to 229.74% in April, Y-o-Y Base effect, recovery boosts India's engineering goods exports in April Business Standard, May 22, 2021

Surge in Covid-19 cases threatens supply of electronic chips Global supply of chips in danger unless Taiwan gets vaccinated Business Standard, May 24, 2021

Foreign direct investments register a rise in FY21, Y-o-Y FY21 data: FDI equity inflows rise 19% to \$60 billion The Financial Express, May 25, 2021

Garment exporters hit hard due to Covid induced economic crisis Why Noida textile exporters are losing biz to Bangladesh and Vietnam The Times of India, May 25, 2021

Large FDI inflow into India reflects country's status as preferable destination for investments

Healthy FDI inflow corroborates India's status as preferred investment destination: CII

The Financial Express, May 25, 2021

UK kick-starts preparation for trade negotiations with India UK launches consultation round in run-up to FTA talks The Financial Express, May 26, 2021

Exports rise by 11% in first seven weeks of FY22 Exports hit \$51 billion in first 7 weeks of current fiscal The Economic Times, May 26, 2021

Returns on India's dollar bonds 0.8% in May; emerge as best performers in Asia India bond returns are the best in Asia this month as covid cases drop Livemint, May 27, 2021

It's time for countries to make joint efforts and ensure collaborative multilateral trading system

View: The multilateral trading system is under stress, member countries must repair it

The Economic Times, May 27, 2021

Centre contemplating options to invite overseas investors to pick up majority stake in BPCL

Government considering FDI policy tweak to facilitate privatisation of BPCL Business Standard, May 28, 2021



Trade between India and Singapore likely to touch USD 21 billion in FY21 India-Singapore trade likely to be around \$21 billion in 2020-21 The Economic Times, May 28, 2021



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Second wave in India, a signal of an impending catastrophe in developing countries: IMF

COVID-19 | Second wave in India a warning of possible events in the developing world, says IMF

The Hindu, May 22, 2021

TRIPS council to discuss revised proposal seeking patent waiver to manufacture COVID-19-related medical products

WTO's TRIPS Council to discuss revised proposal of IPR waiver to deal with COVID-19

The Financial Express, May 23, 2021

India and Israel sign joint work programmes to enhance cooperation in the field of agriculture

India, Israel sign 3-year work programme for cooperation in agriculture: Tomar

Business Standard, May 24, 2021

Deputy US Treasury Secretary seeks support from G7 industrial democracies for proposed 15%-plus global minimum corporate tax Deputy U.S Treasury chief sees G7 support for 15%-plus global minimum tax The Hindu, May 25, 2021



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