

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.

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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.

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Courtesy: The Largest Vaccine Drive is guided by humanitarian principle

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches the world's largest vaccination drive PM Modi launches India's coronavirus vaccine drive, first shot administered The New Indian Express, January 16, 2021

RBI policies have helped in easing the severity of economic impact of the pandemic

RBI remains steadfast to take any further measures to support growth: Shaktikanta Das

The Financial Express, January 16, 2021

Government to launch 'Startup India Seed Fund' to help start-ups India will launch Rs 1,000-crore seed fund for start-ups: PM The Hindu BusinessLine, January 17, 2021

Integrated Power Development Scheme achieves a high success rate of 90% completion in the seven Northeast states

System strengthening: Northeast states lead in power supply infra push Business Standard, January 18, 2021

Online gaming industry pitches for a self-regulatory organisation to standardise regulations

Online gaming industry urges government to set up self-regulatory body for sector

The Indian Express, January 18, 2021

FM Nirmala Sitharaman holds pre-Budget meeting with state Finance Ministers

Budget 2021: Finance Minister holds pre-Budget meeting with state Finance Ministers

The Economic Times, January 18, 2021

States push for higher fiscal limit highlighting weak fiscal position States urge FM Nirmala Sitharaman to raise fiscal limit in Budget Business Standard, January 18, 2021

India to raise import duties to promote and support domestic manufacturing India's budget seen raising import duties by 5%-10% on dozens of items: Sources

The Economic Times, January 19, 2021



India needs to remain integral part of the global economy to achieve higher growth rate

India must remain a part of global economy, open: Amitabh Kant The Hindu, January 19, 2021

PM Modi to chair the customary all-party meeting on January 30 Budget session of Parliament: PM to chair all-party meeting on January 30, 2021

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 20, 2021

Provisions of Budget 2021 are crucial to restore a battered economy amid the pandemic

Budget 2021 needs to restore millions of lost jobs to boost demand Business Standard, January 20, 2021

Centre asks Whatsapp to withdraw its controversial privacy update programme in India

Withdraw controversial privacy update programme for Indians: Government to Whatsapp

The Times of India, January 20, 2021

Centre and states to take corrective action to reduce compliance burden on businesses and citizens

Centre, states to take corrective action to reduce compliance burden by March 31

The Economic Times, January 20, 2021

Higher investment on infrastructure crucial to restore employment India's Budget Must Fix a Broken Labor Market to Boost Demand BloombergQuint, January 21, 2021

India becomes the third-largest start-up ecosystem in the world View: Leveraging innovation in a post-Covid world The Economic Times, January 21, 2021

Centre completes discussions before implementation of four labour codes Government completes tripartite talks on labour codes The Financial Express, January 21, 2021



Fall in tax proceeds and missing disinvestment target to lead to revenue shortfall

Budget 2021: Government stares at revenue shortfall of Rs 7 trillion this fiscal <u>vear</u>

Business Standard, January 22, 2021

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman should unravel a pragmatic budget amid the pandemic

Budget 2021: Make it inclusive and substantive

The Economic Times, January 22, 2021



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Former Chief Economic Advisor projects contraction in GDP this fiscal GDP may contract 7.5% this year, need policy reforms in Budget: Virmani Business Standard, January 16, 2021

Bank credit registers an uptick during the first nine months of FY21, Y-o-Y Bank credit grows 3.2 pc in first nine months of FY21 The Economic Times, January 17, 2021

India has a long road to recovery provided it adopts the right policies National economy | The long road to recovery: Arvind Panagriya India Today, January 18, 2021

Economic activity records an uptick in December 2020 Economic activity tentatively returning to pre-Covid levels, says Icra Business Standard, January 18, 2021

Early data suggest a good start for Indian economy in 2021 In Charts: Early Data Suggests A Good Beginning For The Indian Economy In 2021

BloombergQuint, January 19, 2021

Government reforms to facilitate rise in India's contribution to global GDP India seen contributing 15% of global growth by FY26 The Financial Express, January 19, 2021

UPI transactions hit a new high in December 2020 WhatsApp Payments grows over 2X in December UPI volume, value; PhonePe pips Google Pay to lead tally

The Financial Express, January 19, 2021

Retail inflation for farm and rural workers eases to 3.25% and 3.34% respectively

Retail inflation for farm, rural workers eases in December on lower food prices The Financial Express, January 20, 2021

Niti Aayog releases India Innovation Index 2020 Niti Innovation Index: Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu top 3 states in innovation

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 20, 2021



Pandemic-induced lockdowns boost household savings

With \$200 billion in extra savings, lockdown boosts household savings to 20year high: Report

The Times of India, January 21, 2021

Recovery in unemployment has been uneven since August 2020 <u>Pandemic Effect: 9 months on, more younger workers remain jobless</u> BloombergQuint, January 21, 2021

Appreciation in Indian rupee is due to large capital inflows: RBI study RBI Sees Rupee As Fairly Valued, Suggests New Paper BloombergQuint, January 21, 2021

India is close to attain positive GDP growth, says RBI report

<u>India within striking distance of attaining positive growth: RBI January bulletin</u>

The Economic Times, January 21, 2021

Vaccination drive raises optimism, economic recovery is getting stronger <u>Economy getting over pandemic, growth headed for 'glorious summer': RBI</u> Business Standard, January 22, 2021

Recent shifts in the macroeconomic landscape have brightened economic outlook

<u>India bent Covid curve like Beckham, growth on solid ground: RBI</u> The Economic Times, January 22, 2021

Covid-19 pandemic leads to a shift in labour from high productive sectors Covid-19 resulted in jobs moving away from high labour productive sectors to agriculture, construction: CMIE

The Economic Times, January 22, 2021



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Imports rise 7.6% in December 2020

<u>Road to Recovery: Imports rise for the first time in 10 months</u>

The Financial Express, January 16, 2021

TRIPS waiver: WTO to reconsider India-South Africa proposal India, South Africa proposal for TRIPS waiver to be taken up again at WTO The Hindu BusinessLine, January 17, 2021

Indian gelatine manufacturers struggle to utilise installed capacity due to drop in availability of raw material

Shortage of cattle bones hit India's gelatin manufacturers hard

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 18, 2021

India Subcontracting Expo 2021 to bring out unique opportunities for US businesses

<u>India Subcontracting Expo 2021 to highlight trade opportunities in India for US businesses</u>

The Financial Express, January 19, 2021

Oil imports register an uptick in December 2020 <u>India's oil imports at near 3 year high in December</u> The Economic Times, January 19, 2021

Merchandise exports to the US increase while with China at a distant second position

<u>US remains key forex source for India, accounts for 15-17% of goods exports</u> Business Standard, January 20, 2021

Technology sectors propel India-US bilateral trade to 400% since 2005 Tech played critical role in booming India-US bilateral trade: Nasscom Business Standard, January 21, 2021

RBI continues to remain net buyer of US currency in November 2020 RBI remains net purchaser of US dollar in November, buys USD 10.261 billion The Financial Express, January 21, 2021



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Bhutan and Maldives will be the first recipients of India's gift of Covishield vaccines

Bhutan, Maldives to be the first recipients of India's Covid -19 vaccines The Hindu BusinessLine, January 19, 2021

Nobel laureate Mohammad Yunus cautions against going back to the prepandemic world

We should not go back to pre-pandemic world, says Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus

The Financial Express, January 19, 2021

Covid-19 pandemic has widened disparities in health care, economic and digital systems

COVID-19 pandemic increasing disparities, social fragmentation; threatening economy, geopolitical stability: WEF study

The Hindu, January 19, 2021

Union Cabinet approves the signing of MOU between India and Uzbekistan for cooperation in the field of solar energy

Cabinet approves India, Uzbekistan tie-up in solar energy

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 20, 2021

Ministry of Finance and World Bank discuss roadmap on asset monetisation Finance ministry holds meeting to discuss roadmap for asset monetization Business Standard, January 20, 2021

Strong and durable India-US partnership key to address broad range of challenges impacting the global community today

Strong India-US partnership key to address challenges impacting global community: USISPF

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 21, 2021



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