Weekly Economic Roundup

Business sentiment at its peak; SHARP RECOVERY post 2nd COVID wave

Business Confidence Index (BCI) has increased by 89% (q-o-q) in 2021-22:Q2

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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.

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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.

Cover Photograph:

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The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressing at the 18th India-ASEAN Summit, through video conferencing, in New Delhi on October 28, 2021 - Source: PIB

NCAER’s business confidence index rises 90% in Q2 - Source: @mygovindia|Twitter

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

There is a need for continued monetary support to a still-recovering economy. **Monetary Policy Committee minutes: Continued monetary support necessary, says RBI governor Shaktikanta Das**
The Financial Express, October 23, 2021

Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** reviews the Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme. **Piyush Goyal reviews ATUF Scheme to boost Indian textile industry**
Business Standard, October 24, 2021

Audit is important for the country as public expenditure decisions are based on these reports. **Impartial audit essential for resilient economy: RBI governor**
The Hindu, October 25, 2021

Government to soon set up a committee to frame India’s first National Employment Policy to significantly push up employment generation. **Government to soon set up panel for National Employment Policy**
The Economic Times, October 25, 2021

PM Gati Shakti to transform Indian infrastructure and logistics to compete with the world’s leading economies. **What PM Gati Shakti plan means for the nation**
The Indian Express, October 25, 2021

Infrastructure projects totalling more than ₹4.3 lakh crore are hit by cost overruns. **438 infrastructure projects show cost overrun of ₹4.3 trillion**
Business Standard, October 25, 2021

Government is deliberating a semiconductor design-linked incentive policy to promote domestic manufacturing. **Government planning semiconductor design-linked incentive policy**
The Financial Express, October 26, 2021

Need to make India a country that will not be dependent on imports of petrol and diesel. **Gadkari bats for green hydrogen; says India needs to reduce oil imports**
Business Standard, October 26, 2021
India plans to pitch companies to encourage them to invest in manufacturing batteries locally

India targets major global firms for local battery manufacturing: Report
Business Standard, October 26, 2021

Working with a ‘Saturation Approach’ with the Block, District, State and National levels to provide for seamlessly connected, affordable and quality healthcare says, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission
PIB, October 26, 2021

Banks sanction loans to about 2 lakh borrowers under the credit outreach programme
Banks to give loans worth ₹11,168 crores: FM
The Hindu, October 27, 2021

Over five crore unorganised sector workers are registered on the e-Shram portal in exactly two months since the launch of the drive
Over 5 crore workers registered on e-Shram portal in two months
The Financial Express, October 27, 2021

Rates on short-term debt instruments such as commercial papers surge sharply by 10-15 basis due to liquidity management by RBI
Liquidity management by RBI pushes up CP rates
The Financial Express, October 27, 2021

Government’s social protection and economic stimulus packages, along with timely structural reforms in various sectors are pivotal in India’s economic recovery process
Stimulus package and reforms have put economy on track: FM Sitharaman
Business Standard, October 27, 2021

Union government issues 202 notices to e-commerce players for incorrect declaration of ‘country of origin’ on products on their platforms in the last one year
Government issues 202 notices to e-commerce players for violating country of origin norm
The Economic Times, October 27, 2021
Government sets up a nine-member advisory council to help with the conceptualisation of Open Network for Digital Commerce

**Government to set up a non-profit company to facilitate equitable e-commerce growth**
The Hindustan Times, October 27, 2021

Aluminium Association of India urges the Central government to immediately restart supply of coal and rakes to the aluminium industry to plug fuel shortages

**Industry body urges government to restart coal supplies to aluminium industry**
The Hindu, October 27, 2021

K V Kamath appointed as the chairperson of newly set up ₹20,000-crore development finance institution to boost the Aatmanirbhar Bharat scheme

**Government appoints KV Kamath as chairperson of newly set up ₹20,000 crore DFI**
Live mint, October 27, 2021

Government of India plans to allow retail sale of small LPG cylinders and offer financial services through fair price shops to enhance the financial viability of these outlets

**Government proposes sale of small LPG cylinders, offering financial services via ration shops**
The Financial Express, October 27, 2021

Civil aviation ministry announces waiver of landing, parking and route navigation charges for freighters at select airports to promote transport of agricultural products from North East

**Government waives charges on cargo flights to boost agro exports from North East**
Business Standard, October 27, 2021

Department of Pharmaceuticals proposes to reduce time taken for regulatory approvals for innovative products

**Government draft policy proposes to cut approval timelines for innovative products by 50%**
The Economic Times, October 27, 2021

Overseas buyers from over 90 countries register at the IHGF-Delhi fair

**90 countries to participate in key handicraft, gift fair**
The Economic Times, October 27, 2021
SBM-U 2.0 launched to realize the aspiration of making all our cities ‘Garbage Free’

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri launches the Operational Guidelines for Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban 2.0, and AMRUT 2.0
PIB, October 27, 2021

Central Government releases ₹44,000 crores to States and Union Territories as back-to-back loans in lieu of their GST compensation dues

Centre releases final tranche of GST recompense loans to States
The Hindu, October 28, 2021

Prime Minister Narendra Modi approves the reconstitution of his economic advisory council

PM Economic Advisory Council reconstituted; meet 7 experts who will advise PM Modi on India’s economy
The Financial Express, October 28, 2021

Ministry of Power fast-tracks the planning and approval process for power transmission projects to achieve the government’s energy transition goal

Government fast-tracks planning, approval process for power transmission projects
Business Standard, October 28, 2021

Centre receives ₹413 crores as dividend from NBCC, NALCO, 3 other CPSEs

Government gets ₹413 crore as dividend from 5 CPSEs
The Economic Times, October 28, 2021

Shaktikanta Das’ extension for three years as the governor of RBI signals the government’s endorsement of the policies pursued by the central bank

Shaktikanta Das’ three-year extension to ensure policy continuity
Business Standard, October 29, 2021

Ministry of Labour and Employment revises the rate of variable dearness allowance

Labour Ministry hikes minimum wages for central sphere workers from Oct 1
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021

Bank accounts under PM Jan Dhan Yojana increase to 44 crores in 7 years till October 2021

PM Jan Dhan Yojana accounts swell to 44 crore till October this year
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021
DGTR recommends continuation of anti-dumping duty for five years on certain steel imports from China to guard domestic manufacturers from cheap inbound shipments

Commerce ministry for continuation of anti-dumping duty on certain steel imports from China

The Economic Times, October 29, 2021

Competition Commission of India directs six firms and their officials to cease and desist from indulging in anti-competitive practices

CCI directs 6 firms, officials to desist from anti-competitive practices

The Economic Times, October 29, 2021

Dr T.V. Somanathan releases guidelines to usher in reforms in Public Procurement and Project Management

Finance Secretary Dr T.V. Somanathan releases guidelines for reforms in Public Procurement and Project Management

PIB, October 29, 2021

Cumulative number of Covid-19 vaccine doses administered in the country cross 105 crore

Over 105 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses administered in India: Health Minister

India Today, October 29, 2021
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Industry chamber PHDCCI expects strong GDP growth in the coming quarters
Strong GDP growth expected in coming quarters: PHDCCI
The Financial Express, October 24, 2021

Active number of companies rise to more than 14.14 lakh in September
India sees registration of over 16,500 new companies in September
The Economic Times, October 24, 2021

Gold prices increase, tracking positive global cues
Gold price today jumps to near 2-month high, silver rate move up
Live mint, October 25, 2021

Indian airports cater to 15.44 million in September highlighting a sustained recovery in air travel demand in line with economic recovery and the progress on vaccinations
Airports in India catered to 8.3% more passengers sequentially in September
Live mint, October 25, 2021

Formal job creation strengthens further in August
1.46 million net subscribers added to EPFO in August
The Economic Times, October 25, 2021

India’s GDP growth appears poised for a sequential rebound in Q3
Q3 growth poised for sequential rebound: Nomura
The Economic Times, October 25, 2021

Increase in sales and higher input cost impact India Inc. and markets
Sales rise, input costs hurt India Inc. profit margins in Q2
The Indian Express, October 25, 2021

Business Confidence Index increases indicating signs of improvement
NCAER’s business confidence index rises 90% in Q2
The Economic Times, October 26, 2021

Non-food credit growth was stuck at 6.53% year on year during the fortnight ended October 8
Non-food credit growth stuck at 6.5% despite festive season onset
The Financial Express, October 26, 2021
Rural economy show signs of uneven growth
India's rural economy shows uneven growth as Covid-19 spread eases
Business Standard, October 26, 2021

Spiralling fuel prices, untimely rains and costlier kitchen staples make it a tough festive season for Indian households
Higher fuel and food prices dampen festive spirit for Indians
The Economic Times, October 26, 2021

Consumer sentiment is strong indicating signs of recovery
Festive season fuels India’s return to world-beating growth
BloombergQuint, October 27, 2021

Industry experts worry that cost of raw materials for the wind turbine manufacturing will lead to an increase in wind power generation cost
Wind sector stares at cost surge amid supply glut: Industry experts
Business Standard, October 28, 2021

Intentions to buy consumer products through Nykaa and Croma pick up pace
Purchasing intention gets a boost as economy shows signs of recovery
Business Standard, October 28, 2021

Economic activity continues to normalise as most sectors are on their way to reach pre-pandemic levels
Most sectors of economy on way to reach pre-pandemic levels, surpass them: NCAER
The Financial Express, October 28, 2021

India’s federal fiscal deficit during April-September is at 35% of budgeted target for the whole year
India’s April-September fiscal deficit touches $70.4 billion
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021

Core sector rise 4.4% in September as against 11.5% in August
INDEX OF EIGHT CORE INDUSTRIES (BASE: 2011-12=100) FOR SEPTEMBER, 2021
PIB, October 29, 2021

Retail inflation for industrial workers eases in September due to lower prices of certain food items
Retail inflation for industrial workers eases to 4.41 per cent in September
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Will take reciprocal action in the event of imposition of non-tariff barriers
Will retort if India faces unfair trade rules, says Industry Minister Piyush Goyal
The Economic Times, October 23, 2021

Exports of engineering goods cross USD nine billion in September, 2021
Engineering goods exports record positive growth, says EEPC
The Financial Express, October 25, 2021

India in talks with UAE, for duty-free market access in products ranging from
gems & jewellery to certain engineering goods
India-UAE FTA talks: Duty relief likely for job-intensive sectors
The Financial Express, October 25, 2021

Outbound shipments of marine products from India are facing non-tariff
barriers in China, causing concerns for Indian exporters
Marine exports from India risk damage as China imposes non-tariff barriers
Business Standard, October 25, 2021

India ranks at the ninth spot globally for climate tech investment
India ranked 9th in VC funding for climate tech globally: Report
Business Standard, October 26, 2021

Foreign exchange reserves surge during April-September 2021
Forex reserves surge by $58.38 billion in first half of FY22: RBI report
Live mint, October 27, 2021

India’s textile exports is expected to grow by 81 per cent backed by the
‘China Plus One’ sentiment globally
China-Plus-One to push Indian textile exports to $65 billion by 2026: Study
Business Standard, October 27, 2021

India’s crude oil imports in September pick up pace as economic activity and
mobility lead to higher fuel demand
India September crude imports hit 5-mth high as business activity picks up
Business Standard, October 28, 2021

RBI must let the rupee rally against the dollar to contain imported inflation
coming in mainly from crude prices and help push exports
Let rupee gain to contain imported inflation, boost exports: Report
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021
CAIT estimates Chinese exporters to suffer business losses this Diwali season due to its boycott call

CAIT pegs ₹50,000 crore losses to Chinese exporters this Diwali

Business Standard, October 29, 2021
INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Sri Lankan government continuing efforts to secure loan from India to ensure fuel supplies amid a severe foreign exchange crisis
Sri Lanka seeks USD 500-million loan from India for fuel purchases amid forex crisis
The Financial Express, October 23, 2021

FM Sitharaman and Liz Truss discuss Green Energy, Infrastructure & NMP to boost India-UK Ties
FM holds meeting with UK Foreign Secy, discussed ways to enhance biz ties
Business Standard, October 23, 2021

Multiple nations are responsible for reduction in optimism
No heroes at COP
Business Standard, October 24, 2021

Dr Jitendra Singh addresses the India-Sweden Innovation meet
Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh says, Indo-Swedish cooperation in Energy Sector will go a long way in achieving the ultimate goal of fossil fuel free economy
PIB, October 26, 2021

AIIB to support India to meet future health challenges
AIIB to support India in improving healthcare infrastructure
The Economic Times, October 26, 2021

ADB loan to help provide financing opportunities for farmer producer organizations and value chain operators
ADB, India sign $100 million loan for agribusiness development in Maharashtra
PIB, October 27, 2021

India will spend USD 316 billion in the decade to 2030 towards de-carbonisation
India to invest USD 316 billion for de-carbonisation by 2030: Bofa Securities
The Financial Express, October 27, 2021

PM Modi emphasizes on the establishment of a better balance between economy and ecology and climate sustainable lifestyle at the 16th East Asia Summit
Prime Minister participates in 16th East Asia Summit on October 27, 2021
Ministry of External Affairs, October 27, 2021
Prime Minister Modi highlights India’s efforts in the fight against the pandemic in the region and also reiterates support for ASEAN’s initiatives in this regard
Prime Minister co-chairs the 18th India-ASEAN Summit
PIB, October 28, 2021

Morgan Stanley has downgraded India and Brazil equities to equal-weight
Morgan Stanley downgrades India to equal-weight
The Economic Times, October 28, 2021

India and ADB sign loan to strengthen resilience of Chennai city to floods
India, ADB sign $251 million loan for integrated urban flood management in Chennai
Live mint, October 28, 2021

IMF advises the central bank against excessive forex market intervention
IMF advises RBI to go slow on reserves accumulation
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi arrives in Rome to attend the 16th G-20 Summit
Arrival of Prime Minister to Rome
PIB, October 29, 2021

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman participates in the G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers’ meeting, discusses opportunities to boost economic and trade relations with Singapore counterpart Lawrence Wong
Sitharaman meets Singapore FM, discusses opportunities for collaboration
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021

Asian Development Bank approves loan to support India’s National Industrial Corridor Development Program
ADB approves $250 million loan for India’s industrial corridor development
The Economic Times, October 29, 2021