

Weekly Economic Roundup



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Delhi Policy Group

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DPG Weekly Economic Roundup Volume 2, Issue 5 January 29, 2021

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.

Cover Photograph:

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Courtesy: The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressing the World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogue via video

conferencing, in New Delhi on January 28, 2021

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Adoption of flexible inflation targeting framework indicates strengthening of external competitiveness

RBI's inflation targeting policy helps improve external competitiveness as inflation differentials with trading partners narrow

The Economic Times, January 23, 2021

Union Budget mobile app launched

FM launches Union Budget mobile app, Halwa Ceremony conducted The Economic Times, January 24, 2021

Ministry of Finance allocates additional funds to MP for undertaking citizencentric reforms

FinMin allocates Rs 660 crore additional funds to MP for capex The Economic Times, January 24, 2021

Meet FM Sitharaman's team behind Union Budget 2021 Union Budget 2021: Meet the A-team

The Economic Times, January 25, 2021

RBI puts to rest rumours surrounding withdrawal of some banknotes of old series

Another demonetisation of small notes? RBI clarifies on withdrawing old Rs 100, Rs 10, Rs 5 notes

The Financial Express, January 25, 2021

Owners of old vehicles to pay green tax for polluting the environment 'Green tax' mooted for personal vehicles older than 15 years The Hindu, January 25, 2021

International investors support India's goal of doubling renewable power India's aim of doubling renewable power by 2022 gets foreign backers' boost Business Standard, January 26, 2021

Centre is missing the opportunity offered by bullish markets to push share sales in PSUs

Government missing the perfect opportunity for PSU privatisation: Experts Business Standard, January 26, 2021



Centre permanently bans 59 Chinese apps

<u>TikTok</u>, <u>WeChat</u>, <u>Baidu and UC Browser among 59 Chinese apps permanently banned in India</u>

The Times of India, January 26, 2021

Indian agriculture in need of reforms, says IMF Chief Economist

<u>India's new farm laws have potential, but they need a social safety net, says</u>

<u>IMF's Gopinath</u>

The Economic Times, January 27, 2021

Centre preparing to use AI for collecting, analysing and reporting data to better monitor the economy

<u>India turns to artificial intelligence for better and faster economic data</u> Business Standard, January 28, 2021

Cabinet gives nod to strategic PSU privatisation policy

<u>Cabinet clears policy on PSU privatisation ahead of Union Budget</u>

Business Standard, January 28, 2021

Budget to be less tight-fisted to support economic recovery <u>Budget could allocate 12-14% more for spending</u>
The Economic Times, January 28, 2021

Suspension of scheduled international passenger flights extended Scheduled international flight suspension extended till February 28 The Times of India, January 28, 2021

India must be careful in making fund allocation to stressed sectors India must spend, but can't ignore taper tantrum BloombergQuint, January 29, 2021

Budget 2021 must provide higher allocations to health India's economy rides on health of its people. Budget 2021 must acknowledge that

The India's Express, January 29, 2021

Introduction of Covid cess may prove detrimental to economic recovery Any new tax in budget could hurt India's recovery, warn economists Business Standard, January 29, 2021



Need to provide an aggressive economic vaccine to create more jobs for the vouth

<u>Vaccination plan for an ailing Indian economy: Job creation agenda needs a</u>

The Economic Times, January 29, 2021

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is committed towards global supply chain Atmanirbhar campaign in sync with globalisation, PM tells MNC heads Business Standard, January 29, 2021

PM Modi exudes confidence in the upcoming Budget

FM gave four-five mini-budgets in 2020, upcoming Budget will be seen as part of that series: Modi

The Times of India, January 29, 2021

Government priority to small marginal accords and farmers Agri policy needs to focus on small & marginal farmers: President The Economic Times, January 29, 2021

Government has executed major projects even during the pandemic and ensured their completion

Government has executed infra projects even during pandemic for Atmanirbhar Bharat: President

The Economic Times, January 29, 2021

FM presents Economic Survey ahead of Budget FY 2021-22 Finance minister tables Economic Survey 2020-21 in Lok Sabha The Times of India, January 29, 2021

India's response to Covid-19 helped faster economic recovery: Economic Survey

Economic Survey 2021 Live updates: Lockdown saved lives, helped faster recovery, says CEA

The Times of India, January 29, 2021

Economic Survey questions the credibility of sovereign credit rating agencies Economic Survey slams Credit Rating Agencies, says they do not reflect India's economic fundamentals

The Economic Times, January 29, 2021



Key service indicators have bottomed out and are showing a V-shaped recovery

Key Service Indicators showing a 'V' shaped recovery after a sharp decline during lockdown

Press Information Bureau, January 29, 2021

Fiscal deficit may overshoot initial estimates of 3.5% of GDP India says fiscal deficit may overshoot budget estimates in 2020/21 The Economic Times, January 29, 2021

Economic survey recommends increase in public spending on healthcare services

Economic Survey Strongly recommends increase in public health spending from 1% to 2.5-3% of GDP

Press Information Bureau, January 29, 2021

India should continue to focus on economic growth to lift the poor out of poverty

India must continue to focus on Economic Growth to Alleviate Poverty: Economic Survey 2020-21

Press Information Bureau, January 29, 2021

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana played a crucial role in providing healthcare access

Key Finding of Economic Survey 2020-21 Reveals Strong Positive Impact of PMJAY on Health Outcomes

Press Information Bureau, January 29, 2021

India followed an approach similar to barbell strategy of finance to contain spread of coronavirus

Economic Survey: The barbell strategy that dictated India's response to the coronavirus pandemic

The Economic Times, January 29, 2021

Economic Survey 2020-21: A snapshot Summary of Economic Survey-2020-21

Press Information Bureau, January 29, 2021



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Employment in the services sector shows recovery: CMIE Services jobs witness recovery by December guarter The Economic Times, January 23, 2021

Economic indicators show a gradual and clear recovery Montek Singh Ahluwalia says country's economy is gradually recovering The Financial Express, January 24, 2021

Ministry of Women and Child Development data show uptick in female population in 2019-20

Sex ratio up from 918 in 2014-15 to 934 in 2019-20

The Times of India, January 24, 2021

Electricity generation grew 4% in December, Y-o-Y Power scenario looked up in December The Financial Express, January 25, 2021

Sales in corporate bonds to decline by 17% post reaching a record high in 2020 India's corporate bond sales set to slow significantly after record year Business Standard, January 25, 2021

Wealth of India's top 11 billionaires rises by 35% during pandemic months Pandemic saw 11 richest Indians Rs 7.2 lakh crore: Oxfam report The Hindu BusinessLine, January 25, 2021

Indian economy need to open its market to propel growth No major economy has grown 10% without opening up of market; India should cut tariffs: Panagariya

The Economic Times, January 26, 2021

GDP to register a decline, says FICCI Economic Outlook Survey India's GDP to contract 8% this fiscal: FICCI Survey The Financial Express, January 26, 2021

Economic indicators suggest recovery due to consumer confidence and rising demand

India's economy shows signs of recovery as virus cases decline BloombergQuint, January 26, 2021



Five large corporates announce investments worth billions Ports, roads, steel: 5 companies step up investments as economy recovers The Economic Times, January 27, 2021

India's economic recovery to be faster than expected Indian economy to get shot in the arm from Budget 2021: Economists The Economic Times, January 27, 2021

Vegetable prices register a drop due to good output and unhindered arrivals Seasonal vegetable prices drop in January

The Economic Times, January 28, 2021

Stress on self-reliance will boost globalism with new vigour, says PM Economy to see rapid changes

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 28, 2021

Indian economy to contract 7.7% in the current fiscal owing to the Covid-19 pandemic: Economic Survey

Economic Survey pegs India's real economic growth in 2021-22 at 11% Business Standard, January 29, 2021



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Rise in FDI in India boosted by interest in digital sector: UNCTAD FDI in India rose by 13% in 2020 as inflows declined in major economies: UN Business Standard, January 25, 2021

Overseas investment by Indian companies registers a decline in December 2020

Overseas investment by Indian companies dips 42% to \$1.45 billion in Dec: RBI Business Standard, January 25, 2021

IMF projects global economy to grow by 5.5% in 2021 COVID-hit global economy projected to grow at 5.5 per cent in 2021: IMF The Financial Express, January 26, 2021

US India Business Council recommends Biden administration to strengthen India-US partnership

USIBC recommends big ideas to Biden Administration to boost Indian-American ties

The Economic Times, January 26, 2021

UK-India FTA to be formalized soon Enhanced trade partnership first step towards UK-India FTA, says UK minister The Financial Express, January 26, 2021

Bilateral trade between India and Nepal continues to remain under stress <u>Uncertainty looms over India-Nepal cross border trade</u> The Economic Times, January 27, 2021

FDI equity inflow registers an uptick during April-November, Y-o-Y FDI equity inflow in April-November rises 37% to \$44 billion The Hindu BusinessLine, January 27, 2021

Rice exports register an uptick

Rice exports up 80.37% to 11.58 million tonne in April-December The Economic Times, January 28, 2021

India and Japan review progress of ongoing projects India, Japan review implementation of projects in Northeastern region The Hindu, January 28, 2021



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

India ships 2 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine to Brazil Brazil's Bolsonaro terms Indian vaccine as Sanjeevani after receiving 2 million

doses

Livemint, January 23, 2021

Increased investment to create 53 lakh jobs globally by 2030

Investment in upskilling can boost global GDP by \$6.5 trillion by 2030: WEF report

The Hindu BusinessLine, January 25, 2021

India should contribute to framing of new rules to govern global capitalism and reshape international institutions

WEF's initiative for 'The Great Reset' has set off conspiracy theories on the right and dismissal from the left

The Indian Express, January 25, 2021

China launches campaign to discredit India's initiative to combat Covid-19 China starts smear campaign against India's vaccine diplomacy The Times of India, January 25, 2021

Oxfam warns of biggest increase in global inequality amid the Covid-19 pandemic

Oxfam urges radical economic rejig indouble post-COVID era, warns inequality rise

Business Standard, January 25, 2021

Indian economy expected to contract as lockdown affected domestic consumption: UN report

Indian economy estimated to contract by 9.6 per cent in 2020: UN report The Financial Express, January 25, 2021

IMF revises its forecast projecting 11.5% growth for India in FY22 India only key nation with double-digit growth in FY22: IMF The Indian Express, January 27, 2021

IMF favours India to continue liquidity support introduced during pandemic period

IMF favours extension of pandemic support measures, thrust on infra investment in Budget

The Economic Times, January 27, 2021



IMF Chief Economist urges countries to take necessary measures to be better prepared for addressing challenges like Covid-19

IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath says improve health system, enhance global cooperation to tackle Covid-like crisis in future

The Financial Express, January 28, 2021

India's pace of recovery to depend on reforms introduced in the new Budget India may not hit pre-Covid growth levels before 2025: Gita Gopinath The Economic Times, January 28, 2021

India must contain spread of Covid-19 to achieve double-digit growth: IMF India needs bold, multifaceted policy response to secure robust economic recovery: IMF

The Financial Express, January 28, 2021

India to supply vaccines under the GAVI's COVAX facility Covid-19 vaccines: India to supply 10 million doses to Africa, one million to UN The Hindu BusinessLine, January 28, 2021

PM Modi addresses 'Fourth Industrial Revolution - using technology for the good of humanity' at the World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogue PM addresses WEF's Davos Dialogue

Press Information Bureau, January 28, 2021



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