

Weekly Economic Roundup



Volume II, Issue 9 | February 26, 2021

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 Union Minister for Law & Justice, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad and the Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Information & Broadcasting and Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise, Shri Prakash Javadekar addressing a press conference on Institutional mechanism for digital media, social media and OTT platforms, in New Delhi on February 25, 2021. Source: Press Information Bureau

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

PM Modi calls for repealing archaic laws and enhance ease of doing business in India

PM Modi bats for repealing archaic laws at NITI Aayog meeting

Business Standard, February 20, 2021

Centre-state must take measures to control fuel price

Centre, States must work to lower fuel price: FM

The Hindu BusinessLine, February 20, 2021

FM Sitharaman urges corporate sector to awaken its animal spirits and enhance investments

Unleash animal spirits of growth, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tells India Inc

The Financial Express, February 21, 2021

PM Modi calls for cooperation between Centre and states to expand the role of private sector in self-reliance

Modi backs bigger private sector role for self-reliance

The Times of India, February 21, 2021

Economic growth is uneven but recovering and gathering momentum RBI Governor: Growth momentum needs to be strengthened The Indian Express, February 23, 2021

Monetary policy needs to continue with accommodative stance, says RBI Governor

MPC minutes: Unwinding high indirect taxes on fuel critical, says Das Business Standard, February 23, 2021

Central government aiming to eliminate tuberculosis from the country by 2025 Aim to eliminate tuberculosis from the country by 2025: PM Modi Livemint, February 23, 2021

PM Modi urges private sector to partner with public sector on creation of cutting-edge health technologies

Government to implement 4-pronged health strategy, says PM

The Indian Express, February 24, 2021



Centre launches National Urban Digital Mission to create digital infrastructure for cities

Government launches National Urban Digital Mission for creating digital infra Business Standard, February 23, 2021

RBI governor voices concern over impact of cryptocurrency on India's financial stability

RBI governor Shaktikanta Das voices 'major concerns' about cryptocurrency The Economic Times, February 24, 2021

Union Cabinet gives nod to PLI scheme for ICT products Cabinet approves PLI scheme for laptop, tablets Livemint, February 24, 2021

Centre announces PLI scheme to promote manufacture of high value products in pharmaceutical sector

Cabinet clears ₹15,000-crore PLI scheme for pharma industry

The Hindu BusinessLine, February 24, 2021

Government targets to monetise 100 assets with chances for investment opportunities, says PM Modi at a webinar on privatisation by DIPAM PM Modi: We have targetted to monetise 100 govt-owned assets with mantra

The Financial Express, February 24, 2021

of monetise and modernise

Private sector banks can now conduct government related banking transactions such as tax and pension payments

Finance Ministry allows private sector banks for government related transactions

The Economic Times, February 24, 2021

Ministry of Finance to set up Working Group to check slippage in the fiscal consolidation path owing to Covid-19 pandemic

Finance ministry to set up Working Group to redraw fiscal consolidation path The Economic Times, February 25, 2021

Industry leaders laud Government's move towards privatisation Privatisation to unleash new opportunities, boost investment: India Inc. Business Standard, February 25, 2021



Budget 2021 is a budget of new decade

<u>Budget marks directional change for Indian economy: Nirmala Sitharaman</u> The Economic Times, February 25, 2021

Centre releases new guidelines to assert more control over big tech companies Government notifies new rules for social media, digital news and OTT platforms

BloombergQuint, February 25, 2021

Social media companies must reveal originator of illegal message in 72 hours Reveal 'originator' of unlawful message in 72 hours, government tells social media cos

The Times of India, February 26, 2021

Government releases guidelines to regulate digital news media and over-the-top content providers.

Explained: Inside new social media code

The Indian Express, February 26, 2021

MSME sector showing signs of revival post Covid-led degrowth

MSME sector emerges as growth engine of economy, says RBI Governor

Livemint, February 26, 2021

RBI did not compromise on core principles of central banking, says Shaktikanta Das

RBI balance sheet not compromised by liquidity operations: Shaktikanta Das Business Standard, February 26, 2021

Proposed Asset Reconstruction Company is an initiative by public sector lenders to take over bad assets

New ARC aimed at specific set of bad assets with PSBs: Das

The Financial Express, February 26, 2021

Ministry of Corporate Affairs signs MoU with CBIC to enhance ease of doing business

MCA signs pact with CBIC for data exchange to boost regulatory enforcement Business Standard, February 26, 2021

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry urges pharma companies to make next 10 years as "the decade of India"

Make next 10 years 'the decade of India': Piyush Goyal to pharma firms Business Standard, February 26, 2021



Focus must be on creation of new and better financial products for Startups and Fintech, says PM

Credit flow to new entrepreneurs and businesses has to increase, products have to be tailored for fintech: PM Modi

The Indian Express, February 26, 2021



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Centre releases 17th instalment to the states to meet GST compensation shortfall

Government releases GST compensation of ₹5,000 crore for states in 17th installment

Hindustan Times, February 20, 2021

RBI pumping liquidity in the market RBI scoops up Rs 26,000-crore bonds anonymously in a single day Business Standard, February 22, 2021

Commodity spot index registers an uptick Commodity Spot Index up 60% from March lows amid inflation concern Livemint, February 23, 2021

Pace of underlying growth in the economy remains subdued Growth pace in high volume indicators slows in January, says ICRA Business Standard, February 24, 2021

Higher growth in Index of consumer expectations is reflection of rising confidence of Indian households

Indian homes hopeful of a turnaround, reveals CMIE's consumer index The Economic Times, February 25, 2021

Business and consumer activity showing signs of gathering momentum India's recession exit gains momentum on services, manufacturing BloombergQuint, February 26, 2021

Inflation targeting framework of 2-6% appropriate for the next five years India's inflation target band appropriate for next 5 years: RBI report The Economic Times, February 26, 2021



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

India-UK economic partnership to touch a new high India-UK bilateral relations to touch new high post Covid: Report The Economic Times, February 21, 2021

Government begins clearing FDI proposals from China on a case-by-case basis After 9-month freeze. Centre starts clearing China FDI The Economic Times, February 22, 2021

India to give nod to 45 investment proposals from China India to clear 45 investments from China, likely to include Great Wall, SAIC: Sources

The Economic Times, February 22, 2021

India and Mauritius enter into a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Partnership Agreement

India, Mauritius enter into limited free trade act

The Hindu BusinessLine, February 22, 2021

The energy cooperation between US and India harnesses sources to meet 21st century power needs

India, US energy partnership supports sustainable development: Official The Financial Express, February 23, 2021

Indian pharma companies seek to end reliance on China for APIs Indian pharmaceutical firms go local for APIs, seeking to end reliance on China The Economic Times, February 23, 2021

China regained its position as India's top trade partner China back as India's top trade partner, despite government's 'atmanirbhar' push

Business Standard, February 23, 2021

Ministry of Commerce initiates a probe to review continuation of antidumping duty on certain steel products

Government starts probe to review continuation of anti-dumping duty on some steel items from China

The Economic Times, February 23, 2021



Exports to China rise in 2020, Y-o-Y

India's exports to China up 16.15% to \$20.87 billion in 2020

The Financial Express, February 23, 2021

Exim Bank extends line of credit to Mauritius for defense items to be procured from India

Exim Bank extends USD 100 million loan to Mauritius on behalf of India The Economic Times, February 24, 2021

Exports of other vaccines drop to \$648 million during April 2020-January 2021, Y-o-Y

As demand for India's Covid-19 vaccines rise, export of general vaccines slides The Hindu BusinessLine, February 24, 2021

Unofficial imports of gold register a decline owing to logistical disruptions caused by Covid-19

Unofficial imports of gold into India plunge 80% in 2020: World Gold Council The Economic Times, February 24, 2021

Increased support for India-South Africa proposal at WTO is putting pressure on developed countries

Developed world under pressure as India-South Africa proposal gains more support: Goval

The Hindu BusinessLine, February 25, 2021

Government extends anti-dumping duty on melamine imports up to March 31 India extends anti-dumping duty on melamine, vitrified tile imports from China

The Economic Times, February 25, 2021

Restoration of India's GSP status is on high priority: Biden administration Question on GSP in India is very high on my radar: USTR nominee The Economic Times, February 26, 2021



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Centre to file appeal in the retrospective tax demand case involving Cairn energy

Government to contest Cairn award, suits in international courts The Indian Express, February 20, 2021

Indian government, Government of Nagaland and World Bank ink \$68 million project to enhance the governance of schools across Nagaland India, World Bank sign \$68 million project for improving education in Nagaland

Business Standard, February 23, 2021

India's share of labour supply across online platform jobs registers an uptick India largest supplier of workers on digital platforms: ILO BloombergQuint, February 24, 2021

India assumes the BRICS chairmanship for this year India hosts first meeting of the BRICS finance and central bank deputies of 2021 The Economic Times, February 24, 2021



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