Weekly Economic Roundup

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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.

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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 targeted to monetise 100 govt-owned assets with mantra of monetise and modernise
The Financial Express, February 24, 2021

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

**Budget marks directional change for Indian economy: Nirmala Sitharaman**
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 plans
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 anti-dumping 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: Goyal

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