Weekly Economic Roundup

Volume III, Issue 44 | October 29, 2022
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.

Cover Photograph:

(Photographs)

Housing sales in top 7 cities gain momentum, likely to breach 2014 peak. Source: @bsindia|Twitter

Government introduces a first-of-its-kind initiative to incentivize farmers for adoption of environmentally sustainable agriculture practices, especially in India’s rice growing states. Source: @FinancialXpress|Twitter

© 2022 by the Delhi Policy Group

Delhi Policy Group
Core 5A, 1st Floor,
India Habitat Centre,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003.
www.delhipolicygroup.org
DPG Weekly Economic Roundup
Volume III, Issue 44

Contents

POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK ............................................. 1
ECONOMIC TRENDS ........................................................................ 6
TRADE AND INVESTMENT .............................................................. 8
INTERNATIONAL SCENE ............................................................... 11
POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

PM Modi launched the ‘Rozgar Mela’, a recruitment drive for 10 lakh personnel, through video conferencing

PM Narendra Modi launches ‘Rozgar Mela’, drive to recruit 10 lakh people
Live mint, October 22, 2022

Government to soon announce the sugar export quota for 2022-23 after a thorough review of production data, based on inputs from cane-producing states, and demand, and surplus quantity

Government may soon announce a cut in sugar export quota for 2022-23
The Financial Express, October 22, 2022

Andhra, Telangana, Rajasthan and Punjab along with three north-eastern states are repeatedly using the Reserve Bank’s special short-term liquidity windows instead of market borrowings, indicating their serious cash imbalances

AP, Telangana, Punjab among states that frequently use RBI’s short-term liquidity windows: Report
The Economic Times, October 23, 2022

According to the Finance Ministry, India’s monetary and fiscal policies have helped bring down inflation

Finance ministry says India’s inflation management is better than the most in the world
The Economic Times, October 23, 2022

As many as 384 infrastructure projects, each entailing an investment of ₹150 crore or more, have been hit by cost overruns

384 infrastructural projects show cost overruns of ₹4.52 trillion
Business Standard, October 23, 2022

UP government secures projects worth ₹16,000 crore as it looks to become a major data centre player in the South Asian region

Uttar Pradesh govt bags ₹16,000-crore deal for data centre projects
Business Standard, October 24, 2022

Bureau of Indian Standards initiates new framework to check fake reviews in e-commerce

Government mulls way of protecting online consumers from ‘reward’-based reviews
Business Standard, October 24, 2022
To promote ease of doing business, government is working on a proposal to raise the threshold to ₹5 crores under GST for initiating criminal prosecution. **GST offences up to ₹5 crore may be decriminalised**

The Financial Express, October 25, 2022

Centre accelerated disbursement of the 50-year interest-free capex loans to the state governments by releasing about 50% of the amount sanctioned so far in the current fiscal year. **Capex loans to states pick up, ₹30,000-crore released**

The Financial Express, October 25, 2022

Net new subscriber addition under EPFO fell by 7.1% in August at 1.69 million compared to 1.82 million in July. **Formal job creation in India slows down in August: MoSPI**

The Economic Times, October 25, 2022

The spread between Indian government bond yields and their corporate counterparts is expected to widen in the second half of this year, as tight liquidity and increased borrowings will push investors to demand higher returns. **Government, corporate bond yield spread to widen on rising supply: Analysts**

Business Standard, October 25, 2022

CAG to conduct a comprehensive audit of the country’s health sector based on common parameters, goals and analysis. **CAG set to conduct comprehensive audit of country’s health sector**

Business Standard, October 25, 2022

Wheat procurement and number of farmers benefitting from MSP fell in 2022-23 Rabi marketing season due to prevailing geopolitical tensions. **Wheat procurement fell in Rabi season due to geopolitical situation: Government**

Business Standard, October 25, 2022

Search engine giant Google was fined for the second time in a week for abuse of its dominant market position by CCI. **CCI imposes ₹936 crore fine on Google over billing policy**

Live mint, October 26, 2022
Windfall taxes imposed in July on domestic crude and export of petroleum products to likely generate additional revenues in the current fiscal
Windfall taxes on oil firms to fetch ₹40,000 crore in FY23
The Financial Express, October 26, 2022

The message of ‘swadeshi’ and self-reliance is extremely relevant in the "Azadi ka Amrit Kaal", says PM Modi
PM Modi pitches for promotion of indigenous products, self-reliance
The Financial Express, October 26, 2022

Government is nudging LIC to tweak its product strategy to maximise profitability to help realise its full growth potential and yield better returns for investors
Government nudges LIC to tweak product strategy for better investor return
The Indian Express, October 27, 2022

Government introduces a first-of-its-kind initiative to incentivise farmers for adoption of environmentally sustainable agriculture practices, especially in India’s rice growing states
45,000 acre paddy in carbon trading project
The Financial Express, October 27, 2022

Finance Ministry may not review export duties imposed on a host of steel and iron products to calm down prices of critical inputs
No proposal yet to review export duties on iron and steel products
The Financial Express, October 27, 2022

CAG to undertake performance audit of various schemes including Ayushman Bharat to probe if there are any fund leakages, diversion, mismanagement and corruption
CAG to audit Ayushman Bharat scheme
The Financial Express, October 27, 2022

Government unveiled new policy reforms for satellite communications services to ease procedures and streamline clearances to expedite the rollout of Satcom
Government unveils new policy reforms for satellite communication services
Business Standard, October 27, 2022
India grants environmental clearance for indigenously developed genetically modified (GM) mustard seeds paving the way for commercial use of its first GM food crop

India gives environmental approval for gene-modified mustard
The Economic Times, October 27, 2022

CBDT extended the deadline for filing quarterly TDS statement in Form 26Q for the June quarter by a month till November 30

CBDT extends deadline for filing TDS for non-salary transactions till November 30
The Economic Times, October 27, 2022

With inflation likely to remain elevated for a longer period and key state elections due in 2023, government may choose not to restructure the Goods and Services Tax (GST) slabs

GST slabs rejig unlikely before 2024 general elections
The Financial Express, October 28, 2022

Government is planning to establish centrally appointed Grievance Appellate Committees to provide users of social media sites like Facebook and Twitter with an alternative dispute resolution method

Government to set up social media grievance appellate committees within 3 months
Business Standard, October 28, 2022

Approval for the “environmental release” of genetically modified (GM) mustard to boost the GM technology sector and benefit farmers

No more approvals needed: Experts on environmental release of GM mustard
Business Standard, October 28, 2022

FM Nirmala Sitharaman pushed for easing some tax burdens for exporters and even incentivising them through a central policy to boost overseas shipments

India needs to remove certain taxes impacting exporters, says Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
The Economic Times, October 28, 2022

India needs 108 million tonnes of foodgrains to support 80 crore people under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana

India needs 108 million tonnes of foodgrains a year to be distributed to the poor: Piyush Goyal
The Economic Times, October 28, 2022
Weekly Positivity Rate is 1.11%

COVID-19 UPDATE

PIB, October 29, 2022
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Marking the occasion of Dhanteras, consumer spending on jewellery shows increased momentum
Dhanteras begins on positive note; jewellers expect footfalls to increase
Business Standard, October 22, 2022

Rebounding after two pandemic-hit years automobile dealers expect a bumper sale of two- and four-wheelers
Expect record deliveries of cars, two-wheelers on Dhanteras: FADA
Business Standard, October 23, 2022

Housing sales in 2022 are expected to breach the previous peak of 2014 with an all-time high sale across the top seven cities
Housing sales in top 7 cities gain momentum, likely to breach 2014 peak
Business Standard, October 25, 2022

Companies hired a record 400,000 gig and temporary workers to serve festival shopping demand
Demand for temporary, gig workers peaks as festive season orders surge
Live mint, October 26, 2022

New average retail prices for common garden vegetables have now shot up, due to excessive rainfall and crop damage
Vegetable prices soar above ₹100 per kg as unseasonal rainfall and high fuel prices pinch India
The Economic Times, October 26, 2022

Major industrialised states like Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh saw decrease in net new EPF subscriptions
Manufacturing states see dip in net new EPF subscriptions in August
Business Standard, October 26, 2022

Demand for air travel during the peak festival season failed to cross the pre-pandemic level, belying expectations of a full recovery
Festivals fail to lift air travel in October above pre-covid level
Live mint, October 27, 2022

Automobile companies expect sales momentum to remain strong in November as supplies of popular car models improve
Auto firms expect sales momentum to continue in November
Live mint, October 27, 2022
Equity derivatives volumes on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) hit a record ₹17,350 trillion this fiscal, led by proprietary and retail investors.

Derivative volumes touch record ₹17,350 trillion in April-October
Live mint, October 27, 2022

Wheat sown is 59 per cent higher in the ongoing rabi season of the 2022-23 crop year, Y-o-Y
Wheat_sown_in_54,000_hectare,_mustard_in_18.99_lakh_hectare_so_far: Government data
The Hindu, October 28, 2022
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Coal India Limited (CIL) initiates 17 more first mile connectivity (FMC) projects under phase-III to strengthen its network of eco-friendly coal transportation

CIL firms up ₹11k-crore investment for eco friendly coal handling
The Financial Express, October 22, 2022

Netherlands emerged as India’s third-largest export destination, ahead of China and Bangladesh

Netherlands beats China, becomes India’s third-largest export market
The Financial Express, October 22, 2022

Foreign investors pulled out around ₹6,000 crore from the Indian equity markets so far this month

Foreign investors pull out ₹6,000 crores from Indian markets this October
Live mint, October 23, 2022

Cashew exports contract in September due to intense competition in the international markets

Cashew exports plunge deeper to 38% in September at $22.71 million
Business Standard, October 23, 2022

India aims to increase its share in global trade from the current 2.1% by promoting a hundred Indian brands as global champions

India aims for 10% share in global exports by 2047
The Economic Times, October 23, 2022

Wheat exports increased from 21.83 LMT between April 1, 2021 and May 14, 2021 to 24.08 LMT between May 15 and September 30 2022 after the government imposed a ban on shipments of the grain to other countries five months back to curb domestic prices

Wheat exports shrink this year after imposition of curbs
The Economic Times, October 23, 2022

Textile and garment exports contracted 8.5% in the first half of FY23, Y-o-Y due to demand slowdown

Textile and garment exports shrink
The Financial Express, October 24, 2022
Political stability in the UK to help fast-track the negotiations for the proposed India-UK free trade agreement, which would give a boost to the bilateral trade and investments between the two countries.

**UK’s political stability may give momentum to ongoing India-Britain trade pact talks**
The Economic Times, October 25, 2022

Forex reserves decline fast; forex reserves were $528.4 billion as of 14 October, the lowest since July 2020, and sharply down from the record $642.4 billion last year.

**India’s forex store dips faster than peers**
Live mint, October 26, 2022

Hopes for India-UK FTA talks to gather pace with new PM Rishi Sunak

**India-UK free trade talks to gather pace after a brief lull**
The Financial Express, October 26, 2022

India and China bilateral trade cross $100 billion for the second year in the first nine months of 2022.

**India-China trade crosses $100 billion during Jan-Sept; deficit up at $75 billion**
Business Standard, October 26, 2022

According to Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, India's textiles sector aims to hit $100 billion exports in 5-6 years, which would take the industry's combined domestic and international economic value to USD 250 billion.

**India’s textiles sector eyeing $100-billion exports in 5-6 years: Piyush Goyal**
The Economic Times, October 27, 2022

India’s oil imports from the Middle East fell to a 19-month low in September while Russian imports rebounded.

**India’s Russian oil binge sends Middle East imports to 19-mth low**
The Economic Times, October 27, 2022

Foreign exchange reserves fell to $524.52 billion for the week ended October 21.

**India’s foreign exchange reserves hit another low as RBI’s rupee defense makes it burn $118 billion**
The Economic Times, October 28, 2022
S Vikramjit Singh, MP, Chair, India-Arab Council, and Member of the India-UAE Joint Task Force, met Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade of UAE and discussed various areas of bilateral cooperation

India flags key agri-sector issues, rice export in meeting with UAE minister
The Economic Times, October 28, 2022

Crude oil imports decline in September, Y-o-Y

India's September crude oil imports fall 6.7% to 16 million tonnes; 5.8% YoY decline
Business Standard, October 28, 2022

Foreign trade to help India become a USD 30 trillion economy in the Amrit Kaal

Foreign trade vital in making India a $30 trillion economy: Piyush Goyal
Business Standard, October 28, 2022
INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Asia Pacific region is expected to dominate global economic growth in 2023, supported by regional free-trade agreement
Asia-Pacific to dominate global growth in 2023: S&P
The Economic Times, October 26, 2022

FM Nirmala Sitharaman urged the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to scale up investments in clean energy and social infrastructure, with a special focus on education, health and digital infrastructure
FM Nirmala Sitharaman asks AIIB to invest more in clean energy, social infra
The Financial Express, October 27, 2022

According to a study by the World Bank, Global energy prices will ease in the next couple of years but “remain considerably” higher than the historic average
Energy prices to fall 11% in 2023 as economies slow down: World Bank study
Business Standard, October 27, 2022

PM Modi congratulated UK PM Rishi Sunak on his appointment; both countries agree on early completion of a comprehensive and balanced FTA
PM speaks to Rishi Sunak on assuming charge as UK PM
PIB, October 27, 2022