

Weekly Economic Roundup



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Delhi Policy Group

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DPG Weekly Economic Roundup Volume III, Issue 49 December 3, 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.

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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:

(Photographs)

RBI announces the launch of the first pilot for retail Digital Rupee

Source: @PIB_India|Twitter

Agriculture, allied activities clock a buoyant 4.6% growth in 2nd quarter

Source: @bsindia | Twitter

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POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Union Government seeks public participation for Union Budget 2023-24, to make the budget-making process participative and inclusive Union Budget 2023-24: Centre invites suggestions, Dec 10 last date Business Standard, November 27, 2022

Indian handmade products are an ideal example of a self-reliant India and all artisans are trying their best to make India "Atmanirbhar", said Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal

Handicraft far superior than machine-made products, exports rising: Goyal Business Standard, November 28, 2022

CII urges RBI to consider moderating the pace of its monetary tightening ahead of the forthcoming monetary policy review, citing challenges emanating from global headwinds

Industry body CII urges RBI to moderate pace of monetary tightening The Economic Times, November 28, 2022

Need to fix capital gains: Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj lists issues on direct taxes side, says new tax regime needs tweaks

Need more direct and indirect tax reforms: Tarun Bajaj

The Economic Times, November 28, 2022

Government to make e-filing of complaints compulsory from next April, to help in redressing grievances faster

Government to make e-filing of consumer complaints mandatory from April 2023: Official

The Economic Times, November 28, 2022

Power Ministry launched a scheme for procurement of aggregate power on competitive basis for five years under the Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India (SHAKTI) policy

Power Minister launches schemes to procure 4,500 MW electricity supply for 5 vears

Business Standard, November 28, 2022



Economists urge the government to ensure reasonable amount of fiscal consolidation for FY24 without curbing productive spending; also call for aggressive asset monetisation, meaningful privatisation initiatives and a reduction in the elevated import tariffs

Budget 2023-24: Economists call on FM Nirmala Sitharaman to keep up focus on growth and reforms

Live mint, November 29, 2022

Chief Executive Officers of pharma companies urge the government to set up a separate ministry for the <u>pharma sector</u> to encourage domestic producers and decrease Chinese imports

Need separate ministry for pharma to counter Chinese imports: Industry CEOs Business Standard, November 29, 2022

NITI Aayog releases study report on 'Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS) Policy Framework and its Deployment Mechanism in India' Niti Aayog launches carbon capture utilisation and storage policy framework Live mint, November 30, 2022

Procurement from GeM crosses ₹1 trillion in FY23, due to greater adoption of the online marketplace by Central government ministries, departments, states and public-sector enterprises

Purchases via GeM portal exceed ₹1 trillion so far in FY23

The Financial Express, November 30, 2022

Commerce Ministry to initiate a new scheme to create export infrastructure in select districts by extending total assistance of ₹3000-5000 crore Select districts to get aid under export hubs scheme The Financial Express, November 30, 2022

NK Singh, Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission urged the government to develop cohesive national policies to facilitate development of the health sector and boost health expenditure to 2.5% of GDP by 2025 from the current 1% Extend PM-JAY health cover to the "missing middle": NK Singh The Financial Express, November 30, 2022

Telecom operators write to the government urging for the setting up of a regulatory framework so as to charge a usage fee from big internet-based calling and messaging apps

<u>Telcos seek regulatory framework to levy 'fee' on internet messaging apps</u> Business Standard, November 30, 2022



Digital lending guidelines aimed at protecting customers from exorbitant interest rates charged by certain entities while also preventing unethical loan recovery practises, comes into effect

RBI's modified digital lending norms come into effect from December 1 The Economic Times, December 1, 2022

GST revenue for the month of November witnessed a surge of 11% on an annual basis

GST collection for November stands at ₹1,45,867 crore, surges 11% YoY The Economic Times, December 1, 2022

₹1,25,662 crore have been paid to the farmers against their claims under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana since its inception in 2016 Farmers paid ₹1.25 lakh crore as claims till October 31: Government The Economic Times, December 1, 2022

RBI announces the launch of the first pilot for retail Digital Rupee Digital Rupee makes retail debut: 10 things to know about RBI's eRs-R Live mint, December 1, 2022

With global prices falling, windfall taxes on locally produced crude oil and exports of high-speed diesel have been reduced Centre cuts windfall tax on crude oil, diesel exports The Financial Express, December 2, 2022

Government to extend the timeline to cap the share of digital payment transactions by about two years to December 31, 2024 <u>India extends deadline to levy cap on digital payment transactions</u> Business Standard, December 2, 2022



ECONOMIC TRENDS

<u>India</u> makes up 50.2 per cent of all gamers in the top 10 Asian countries' list India now has second largest gamer base in world at over 369 million Business Standard, November 27, 2022

Air traffic touched 96 per cent of pre-Covid traffic on Sunday, highest since May 2020

Domestic airlines flew 409,831 passengers on Sunday, highest since May 2020 Business Standard, November 28, 2022

According to RBI quarterly statistics on deposits and credit, bank credit rose in September, Y-o-Y

Bank credit grows to 17.2 per cent in September, reveals RBI data The Economic Times, November 28, 2022

Paddy procurement by the Centre rose in the ongoing 2022-23 kharif marketing season

Government's paddy procurement up 9 per cent at 306 lakh tonnes so far this year

The Economic Times, November 28, 2022

Passenger vehicle (PV) market is set to touch an all-time high of 3.7-3.8 million units in FY2023, a growth of 21-24% over the previous fiscal, driven by robust demand

PV sales in India set to hit record 3.8 million units in FY23: Icra Live mint, November 28, 2022

Prices of daily essentials are expected to fall as input costs are expected to decline which is expected to lead to an increase in sales

Falling input costs may cool prices of essentials, apparels

The Economic Times, November 29, 2022

With over 6.97 million sq. feet of space leased to startups in H1 2022, they are pegged to be top office occupiers in the coming year

Startups to account for nearly 30% of gross office leasing activity in 2022 Live mint, November 29, 2022

Sale of smartphones increased by 40%, led by premium segment and 5Genabled devices

Premiumisation drove the surge in smartphone sales this festive season Business Standard, November 29, 2022



CEA Anantha Nageswaran expresses optimism at India's economic recovery Economy will grow over 6.8% in FY23, says CEA V Anantha Nageswaran Business Standard, November 30, 2022

Pace of economic growth in Q2 of FY23 slows amid rising repo rates and contraction in manufacturing output

India's July-September economic growth rate slows to 6.3 per cent amid rising policy rates, weak manufacturing

The Economic Times, November 30, 2022

Fiscal deficit during the first seven months of FY23 is at 7.58 lakh crore rupees India's April-October fiscal deficit widens on-year to 45.6% of FY23 aim The Economic Times, November 30, 2022

Retail inflation for industrial workers rose to 6.08% in October from 6.49% in September 2022

Retail inflation for industrial workers eases to 6.08% in October The Economic Times, November 30, 2022

Agriculture and allied activities register a robust growth during the July-September guarter of FY23, driven by good performance of the sector Agriculture, allied activities clock a buoyant 4.6% growth in 2nd guarter Business Standard, December 1, 2022

Manufacturing PMI rose to 55.7 in November, from 55.3 in October due to expansion in new orders and exports, boosted by demand resilience and substantial easing of cost pressure

India's manufacturing PMI hits three-month high in November amid production expansion, inflation slowdown

The Indian Express, December 1, 2022

Debt servicing ability declined due to increase in interest rates and rising input cost

<u>India Inc's debt servicing ability declines in H1FY23</u>

Live mint, December 1, 2022

Growth in eight core infrastructure industries slows down to 0.1% in October, lowest in 20 months

Core infra sector growth drops to 20-month low in October

The Financial Express, December 1, 2022



S&P reduces India's economic growth projection for the current fiscal year, due to slower demand

S&P Global lowers India's growth forecast; pegs it at 6% for 2023

Business Standard, December 1, 2022

Unemployment rate rose to 8.0% in November, highest in three months, from 7.77% in the previous month

India's jobless rate rises to three-month high of 8% in Nov: CMIE data Business Standard, December 1, 2022

Power consumption logged a double-digit growth in November, indicating an increase in economic activities

India's electricity consumption grows 14% to 112.81 billion units in November Business Standard, December 1, 2022

Petrol sales soared 11.7 per cent to 2.66 million tonnes, while sales of diesel increased by 27.6 per cent rise in sales to 7.32 million tonnes in November Boosted by agriculture demand, petrol, diesel sales see double-digit growth Business Standard, December 1, 2022

Liabilities by households register an increase due to increased borrowing to spend on basic needs

Household debt soars by ₹6 trillion to ₹86.35 trillion in FY22, says RBI data The Financial Express, December 2, 2022

More than 22.5 million people applied for work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in November, the highest since August

Work demand under MGNREGS at 4-month high, FY23 funds almost exhausted Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Government's public procurement portal recorded a GMV of \$14.2 billion, as against Amazon India's \$17 billion and Flipkart's \$23 billion

GeM closes in on Amazon, Flipkart in gross merchandise value

Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Economist Sanjeev Sanyal gives a higher estimate than some economists, expects Indian economy to grow 6.5% to 7% next fiscal year if the global environment does not worsen

Economy likely to grow 6.5%-7% next fiscal year, says Sanjeev Sanyal Business Standard, December 2, 2022



Installation of open access solar capacity in India registers an increase during July to September period

India's open access solar capacity grows 91% to 596 MW in Jul-Sep: Report Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Economist Raghuram Rajan warns of an impending low inflation regime, urged Central Banks to pursue restrictive monetary polices

Global economy must start bracing for low inflation: Ex RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan

The Hindustan Times, December 2, 2022

Indian railways garnered ₹43,324 crore from its passenger services until November, Y-o-Y

Rail passenger revenue zooms 76% YoY, speeds past pre-Covid levels Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Wheat acreage is at 21.16 million hectares, which is 5.38 per cent more than during the same period last year and the best since 2017-18 Steady pace: Wheat acreage rises 5.4% due to favourable prices Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Domestic coal production increased by 17.13 per cent to 524.20 million tonnes during April-November 2022 as compared 447.54 million tonnes of production recorded during the same period in the previous year

Coal production for April-Nov period up 17% to touch 524 million tonnes Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Banking system's outstanding credit grew to ₹133.29 lakh crore for the fortnight ended November 18

Bank credit grows nearly 17% for fortnight ended November 18, says RBI Business Standard, December 2, 2022



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Reduced demand led to a decline in import of gold Gold imports fall 17 per cent in Apr-Oct to USD 24 billion The Economic Times, November 27, 2022

US industry associations raise serious concern over India's trade restrictive measures with the United States Trade Representative

<u>US industry associations red-flag India's 'restrictive' trade barriers</u>

Business Standard, November 27, 2022

Russia and Iran agree on transit of 12 million tons of Russian goods via International North-South Transport Corridor to increase trade volumes <u>Moscow, Tehran to raise volume of Russian goods to India via INSTC</u> The Economic Times, November 28, 2022

Passenger vehicle makers expected to invest around ₹65,000 crore by FY25, as demand for passenger vehicles remains healthy, aided by strong underlying demand and an easing up of semiconductor shortages

Passenger vehicle makers to invest ₹65,000 crore by FY25: Report

Business Standard, November 28, 2022

Steel imports from Russia increased to 149,000 tonnes in the first seven months of the current fiscal year from 34,000 tonnes shipped a year earlier India's finished steel imports from Russia hit 4-year high in April-October Business Standard, November 29, 2022

Government lifts ban on exports of organic non-basmati rice and organic broken rice after the easing of the domestic supplies moderated prices India lifts ban on exports of organic non-basmati rice
Live mint, November 29, 2022

Russian government sent India a list of more than 500 products for delivery, as sanctions squeeze Russia's ability to keep vital industries running Cars, aircraft and trains: Sanctions-hit Russia asks India to send parts for 500 products

The Economic Times, November 29, 2022

Foreign investors show interest to invest in India due to improvement in manufacturing capacity and infrastructure

Investors want more of India as it improves infra: Goldman Sach's Sengupta

Business Standard, November 30, 2022



FTA between India and Australia to come into force from December 29, expected to double bilateral trade to USD 45-50 billion in around five years India, Australia free trade agreement to come into force from December 29 The Economic Times, November 30, 2022

Services exports decline to \$25.38 billion in October, from \$28.03 billion in September

India's services exports, imports in October fall on sequential basis The Economic Times, December 1, 2022

Market players suggest that the Union Budget must consider bringing a parity in tax treatment of dividends and buybacks

Foreign investors bat for tax parity on dividends, buybacks in Budget FY24 The Financial Express, December 2, 2022

Protests in China against the restrictions imposed under its Zero-Covid policy may impact India's consumer goods including gold, electronics, and engineering goods

Lockdown, protests in China may impact key sectors in India: Report Business Standard, December 2, 2022

Foreign currency assets rose by \$3 billion to \$487.29 billion for the week ending November 25

India's foreign exchange reserves move up for a third week The Economic Times, December 2, 2022



INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Kazuya Nakajo, Executive Vice President, <u>Japan</u> External Trade Organisation lauds PM Gati Shakti for its focus on easing logistics and aiming to be a game changer for businesses

<u>Japan trade body praises PM Gati Shakti plan as a 'game changer' for business</u> Business Standard, November 28, 2022

Brent crude futures fell 45 cents, or 0.5%, to trade at \$82.74 a barrel due to slowing fuel demand from China amid Covid curbs

Oil prices slide on concerns over China's demand

Live mint, November 29, 2022

Current Goods Trade Barometer index reading is 96.2, suggesting a likely slowdown in global trade in the closing months of 2022 and in 2023 Strong headwinds to slowdown global trade growth next year: WTO Live mint, November 29, 2022

Government of India and the Republic of Korea signed a loan agreement from EDCF to establish an Intelligent Transport System on the Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway project to enhance the efficiency in traffic management

India and South Korea sign agreement for EDCF loan to develop Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway project Live mint, November 30, 2022

Cash transfers to low- and middle-income countries decline in 2022, as rising prices taking a toll on migrants' incomes

Remittances to lower income countries ease in 2022: World Bank Live mint, December 1, 2022

India assumes G20 Presidency on December 1, with a focus on forging unity within a disparate grouping to tackle larger global challenges such as an economic slowdown, indebtedness of countries and the climate crisis amid persisting divisions over the Ukraine conflict

Focus on unity: India takes G20 reins today

The Hindustan Times, December 1, 2022



Prime Minister Narendra Modi writes: India's agenda during its G20 Presidency will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive

Today, India commences its G20 Presidency- Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

PIB, December 1, 2022



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