NATIONAL APEX CHAMBER

Economic Affairs Committee Newsletter

(Monthly Update on India's socio-economic development)

February 2021

PHD RESEARCH BUREAU
PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Economic Affairs Newsletter

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Introduction

The Union budget 2021-22 has been a historic budget that considered the aspirations of all sections of the society for the improvement of standards of living and ease of doing business in industry across the segments. The focus of budget on six pillars, including Health and Well-Being, Physical and Financial capital and infrastructure, Inclusive Development for Aspirational India, Reinvigorating Human Capital, Innovation and Research & Development, and Minimum Government, and Maximum Governance is highly encouraging and would go a long way to build a New India.

The counter cyclical fiscal policy adopted by the Government to rejuvenate the economic growth and development in the country with increased fiscal deficit for the year 2021-22 at 6.8% is highly appreciable. The budget very well recognises the significance of improving healthcare sector in current times, as it outlays a total of over Rs 2.33 lakh crore for healthcare sector.

It is highly appreciable that the focus of the budget is to strengthen the vision of Nation First, doubling farmers' income, strong infrastructure, enhancing women's empowerment, promoting healthy India, bring in good governance, education for all, inclusive development of all.

Government’s decision to set-up a Development Finance Institution (DFI), capitalised with Rs 20,000 crore to launch the National Asset Monetisation Pipeline to fund new infra projects will help increase the funds for infrastructural investment in the country and will in turn provide a multiplier effect to boost demand and rejuvenate overall economic growth trajectory.

Further, the Economic Survey 2020-21 very well portrays the economic thought process of the government through its four-pillar strategy of containment measures, fiscal support, financial measures and long-term structural reforms to mitigate the daunting impact of COVID-19 on trade, industry and economy and take the country to a higher economic trajectory, going forward. The Survey projections for India’s growth at (-)7.7% in FY2020-21 with significant growth rebound to the level of 11% in FY2021-22, following a v-shaped growth recovery is highly encouraging for businesses to move forward with a strong zeal and strength.

The RBI’s Monetary Policy Committee’s recent decision to keep the repo rate unchanged at 4% and maintain accommodative stance as long as necessary this year and next financial year to revive growth, mitigate impact of COVID-19 and keep inflation within the target, which is highly appreciable. It is encouraging to note from the RBI statement that the signs of recovery in economic and business lead indicators have strengthened further and list of normalising sectors is expanding.

With such bold steps of the government and RBI, a strong economic growth trajectory with continuous focus on the reforms is expected in times ahead.

PHD Research Bureau

Economic Affairs Committee

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1. Indian Economy so Far

1. Union Budget Highlights 2021-22

Hon'ble Finance Minister Mrs Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2021-22 on 1st February 2021. Major Highlights of the Union Budget 2021-22 are:

6 pillars of the Union Budget 2021-22:

1. Health and Wellbeing
2. Physical & Financial Capital, and Infrastructure
3. Inclusive Development for Aspirational India
4. Reinvigorating Human Capital
5. Innovation and R&D
6. Minimum Government and Maximum Governance

1. Health and Wellbeing

- Rs. 2,23,846 crore outlay for Health and Wellbeing in BE 2021-22 as against Rs. 94,452 crore in BE 2020-21 – an increase of 137%
- Focus on strengthening three areas: Preventive, Curative, and Wellbeing
- Rs. 35,000 crore for COVID-19 vaccine in BE 2021-22
- Rs. 64,180 crore outlay over 6 years for PM AatmaNirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana – a new centrally sponsored scheme to be launched, in addition to NHM
- Mission Poshan 2.0 to be launched
- Rs. 2,87,000 crore over 5 years for Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) to be launched
- Rs. 1,41,678 crore over 5 years for Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0
- Rs. 2,217 crore to tackle air pollution, for 42 urban centers with a million-plus population
- Voluntary vehicle scrapping policy to phase out old and unfit vehicles

2. Physical and Financial Capital and Infrastructure

- Rs. 1.97 lakh crore in next 5 years for PLI schemes in 13 Sectors to create and nurture manufacturing global champions for an AatmaNirbhar Bharat
- Mega Investment Textiles Parks (MITRA) scheme, in addition to PLI
- National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) expanded to 7,400 projects; around 217 projects worth Rs. 1.10 lakh crore completed
- Rs. 20,000 crore to set up and capitalise a Development Financial Institution(DFI); Rs. 5 lakh crore lending portfolio to be created under the proposed DFI in 3 years
- National Monetization Pipeline to be launched
- Rs. 5.54 lakh crore capital expenditure in BE 2021-22 – sharp increase of 34.5% over Rs. 4.12 lakh crore allocated in BE 2020-21 :
- Rs. 1,18,101 lakh crore, highest ever outlay, for Ministry of Road Transport and Highways – of which Rs. 1,08,230 crore is for capital

- Economic corridors, Flagship Corridors/Expressways and Advanced Traffic management system being planned.
- Rs. 1,10,055 crore for Railways of which Rs. 1,07,100 crore is for capital expenditure
- National Rail Plan for India (2030): to create a 'future ready' Railway system by 2030
- Raising the share of public transport in urban areas by expansion of metro rail network and augmentation of city bus service
- Rs. 18,000 crore for a new scheme, to augment public bus transport:
- Consumers to have alternatives to choose the Distribution Company for enhancing competitiveness
- Rs. 3,05,984 crore over 5 years for a revamped, reforms-based and result-linked new power distribution sector scheme
- A comprehensive National Hydrogen Energy Mission 2021-22 to be launched
- Rs. 2,000 crore worth 7 projects to be offered in PPP-mode in FY21-22 for operation of major ports
- Extention of Ujjwala Scheme to cover 1 crore more beneficiaries
- A new gas pipeline project in J&K
- An independent Gas Transport System Operator to be set up
- A single Securities Markets Code to be evolved
- Setting up a system of Regulated Gold Exchanges
- To increase the permissible FDI limit from 49% to 74% and allow foreign ownership and control with safeguards.
- Asset Reconstruction Company Limited and Asset Management Company to be set up
- Rs. 20,000 crore in 2021-22 to further consolidate the financial capacity of PSBs
- Amendments to the DICGC Act, 1961, to help depositors get an easy and time-bound access to their deposits to the extent of the deposit insurance cover
- To decriminalize the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act, 2008
- Launch of data analytics, artificial intelligence, machine learning driven MCA21 Version 3.0 in 2021-22
- Rs. 1,75,000 crore estimated receipts from disinvestment in BE 2020-21
- New policy for Strategic Disinvestment approved; CPSEs except in four strategic areas to be privatized

3. Inclusive Development for Aspirational India

- Ensured MSP at minimum 1.5 times the cost of production across all commodities.
- SWAMITVA Scheme to be extended to all States/UTs
- Agricultural credit target enhanced to Rs. 16.5 lakh crore in FY22 - animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries to be the focus areas
- Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to be enhanced to Rs. 40,000 crore from Rs. 30,000

crore

- To double the Micro Irrigation Fund to Rs. 10,000 crore
- Portal to collect information on unorganized labour force, migrant workers especially, to help formulate schemes for them
- Implementation of 4 labour codes underway
- Rs. 15,700 crore budget allocation to MSME Sector, more than double of this year's BE

4. Reinvigorating Human Capital

- 15,000 schools to be strengthened by implementing all NEP components. Shall act as exemplar schools in their regions for mentoring others
- 100 new Sainik Schools to be set up in partnership with NGOs/private schools/states
- Legislation to be introduced to setup Higher Education Commission of India as an umbrella body with 4 separate vehicles for standard-setting, accreditation, regulation, and funding
- 750 Eklavya model residential schools in tribal areas:
- Revamped Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for welfare of SCs
- Proposed amendment to Apprenticeship Act to enhance opportunities for youth
- Rs. 3000 crore for realignment of existing National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) towards post-education apprenticeship, training of graduates and diploma holders in Engineering

5. Innovation and R&D

- Modalities of National Research Foundation announced in July 2019 –Rs. 50,000 crore outlay over 5 years
- Rs. 1,500 crore for proposed scheme to promote digital modes of payment
- National Language Translation Mission (NTLM) to make governance-and-policy related knowledge available in major Indian languages
- PSLV-CS51 to be launched by New Space India Limited (NSIL) carrying Brazil's Amazonia Satellite and some Indian satellites
- Rs. 4,000 crore over five years for Deep Ocean Mission

6. Minimum Government, Maximum Governance

- National Commission for Allied Healthcare Professionals already introduced to ensure transparent and efficient regulation of the 56 allied healthcare professions
- The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill introduced for the same in nursing profession
- Rs. 3,768 crore allocated for first digital census in the history of India
- Fiscal Position

Item	Original BE 2020-21	RE 2020-21	BE 2021-22

Expenditure	Rs 30.42 lakh crore	Rs 34.50 lakh crore	Rs 34.83 lakh crore
Capital Expenditure	Rs 4.12 lakh crore	Rs 4.39 lakh crore	Rs 5.5 lakh crore
Fiscal Deficit	-	9.5%	6.8%

- Net borrowing for the states allowed at 4% of GSDP for the year 2021-2022 as per recommendation of 15th Finance Commission
- States expected to reach a fiscal deficit of 3% of GSDP by 2023-24, as recommended by the 15th Finance Commission
- Exemption from filing tax returns for senior citizens over 75 years of age and having only pension and interest income; tax to be deducted by paying bank
- Rules to be notified for removing hardships faced by NRIs regarding their foreign retirement accounts
- Limit of turnover for tax audit increased to Rs. 10 crore from Rs. 5 crore for entities carrying out 95% transactions digitally
- Infrastructure Debt Funds made eligible to raise funds by issuing Zero Coupon Bonds
- Additional deduction of interest, up to Rs. 1.5 lakh, for loan taken to buy an affordable house extended for loans taken till March 2022
- Tax holiday for Affordable Housing projects extended till March 2022; Tax exemption allowed for notified Affordable Rental Housing Projects
- Tax holiday for capital gains from incomes of aircraft leasing companies
- Exemption limit of annual receipt revised from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore for small charitable trusts running schools and hospitals
- Eligibility for tax holiday claim for start-ups extended by one more year
- Capital gains exemption for investment in start-ups extended till 31st March, 2022
- Duty on some parts of mobiles revised to 2.5% from 'nil' rate
- Customs duty reduced uniformly to 7.5% on semis, flat, and long products of non-alloy, alloy, and stainless steels
- Custom duty on gold and silver to be rationalized
- Phased manufacturing plan for solar cells and solar panels to be notified
- Duty on solar invertors raised from 5% to 20%, and on solar lanterns from 5% to 15% to encourage domestic production

2. Economic Survey 2020-21

Economic survey 2020-21 was released by the Government on 29th January 2021. India's real GDP to record a growth of 11 per cent in 2021-22 and nominal GDP by 15.4 per cent-the highest since independence. The V-shaped economic recovery is supported by the initiation of a mega vaccination drive with hopes of a robust recovery in the services sector and prospects for robust growth in consumption and investment. The Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Economic Survey 2020-21 in Parliament today, which states that the rebound will be led by the low base and continued normalization in economic activities as the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines gathers traction. The fundamentals of the economy remain strong as gradual scaling back of lockdowns along with the astute support of Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission have placed the economy firmly on the path of revival. This path would entail a growth in real GDP by 2.4 percent over the absolute level of 2019-20-implying that the economy would take two years to reach and go past the pre-pandemic level. These projections are in line with IMF estimate of real GDP growth of 11.5 per cent in 2021-22 for India and 6.8 per cent in 2022-23. India is expected to emerge as the fastest growing economy in the next two years as per IMF.

The Survey says, **India's mature policy response to this "once-in-a-century" crisis** provides important lessons for democracies to avoid myopic policymaking and demonstrates the significant benefits of focusing on long-term gains. India adopted a unique four-pillar strategy of containment, fiscal, financial, and long-term structural reforms. Calibrated fiscal and monetary support was provided given the evolving economic situation, cushioning the vulnerable in the lockdown and boosting consumption and investment while unlocking, mindful of fiscal repercussions and entailing debt sustainability. A favorable monetary policy ensured abundant liquidity and immediate relief to debtors via temporary moratoria, while unclogging monetary policy transmission.

The Survey says, **India's GDP is estimated to contract by 7.7 per cent in FY2020-21**, composed of a sharp 15.7 per cent decline in first half and a modest 0.1 per cent fall in the second half. Sector-wise, agriculture has remained the silver lining while contact-based services, manufacturing, construction were hit hardest, and have been recovering steadily. Government consumption and net exports have cushioned the growth from diving further down.

As anticipated, while the lockdown resulted in a 23.9 per cent contraction in GDP in Q1, the recovery has been a V-shaped one as seen in the 7.5 per cent decline in Q2 and the recovery across all key economic indicators. Starting July, a resilient V-shaped recovery is underway, as demonstrated by the recovery in GDP growth in Q2 after the sharp decline in Q1. As India's mobility and pandemic trends aligned and improved concomitantly, indicators like E-way bills, rail freight, GST collections and power consumption not only reached pre-pandemic levels but also surpassed previous year levels. The reignited inter and intra state movement and record-high monthly GST collections have marked the unlocking of industrial and commercial activity. A sharp rise in commercial paper issuances, easing yields, and sturdy credit growth to MSMEs portend revamped credit flows for enterprises to survive and grow.

Dwelling on the **sectoral trends**, the Survey says that the year also saw manufacturing sector's resilience, rural demand cushioning overall economic activity and structural consumption shifts in booming digital transactions. It adds that Agriculture is set to cushion the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Indian economy in 2020-21 with a growth of 3.4 per cent in both Q1 and Q2. A series of progressive reforms undertaken by the government have contributed to nourishing a vibrant agricultural sector, which remains a silver lining to India's growth story of FY 2020-21.

A **palpable V-shaped** recovery in industrial production was observed over the year. Manufacturing rebounded and industrial value started to normalize. Indian services sector sustained its recovery from the pandemic driven declines with PMI Services output and new business rising for the third straight month in December.

Bank credit remained subdued in FY 2020-21 amid risk aversion and muted credit appetite. However, credit growth to agriculture and allied activities accelerated to 7.4 per cent in October 2020 from 7.1 per cent in October 2019. October 2020 saw resilient credit flows to sectors such as construction, trade and hospitality, while bank credit remained muted to the manufacturing sector. Credit growth to the services sector accelerated to 9.5 per cent in October 2020 from 6.5 per cent in October 2019.

High food prices remained a major driver of inflation in 2020. However, inflation in December, 2020 fell back into the RBI's target range of 4+/-2 per cent to reach 4.6 per cent to reach 4.6 per cent year-on-year as compared to 6.9 per cent in November. This was driven by a step fall in food prices, particularly of vegetables, cereals, and protein products and favorable base effects.

The **external sector** provided an effective cushion to growth with India recording a current account surplus of 3.1 per cent of GDP in the first half of the year, largely supported by strong services exports, and weak demand leading to a sharper contraction in imports (with merchandise imports contracting by 39.7%) than exports (with merchandise exports contracting by 21.2%). Consequently, the Foreign exchange reserves rose to cover 18 months of imports in December 2020.

External debt as a ratio to GDP rose marginally to 21.6 per cent at end-September 2020 from 20.6 per cent at end-March 2020. However, the ratio of foreign exchange reserves to total and short-term debt (original and residual) improved because of the sizable accretion in reserves.

India remained a preferred investment destination in FY 2020-21 with FDI pouring in amidst global asset shifts towards equities and prospects of quicker recovery in emerging economies. Net FPI inflows recorded an all-time monthly high of US$ 9.8 billion in November 2020, as investors' risk appetite returned, with a renewed search for yield, and US dollar weakened amid global monetary easing and fiscal stimulus packages. India was the only country among emerging markets to receive equity FII inflows in 2020.

Buoyant Sensex and NIFTY resulted in India's market-capitalisation to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio crossing 100 per cent for the first time since October 2010. This, however, raises concerns on the disconnect between the financial markets and real sector.

Exports are expected to decline by 5.8 per cent and imports by 11.3 per cent in the second half of the year. India is expected to have a Current Account Surplus of 2 per cent of GDP in FY21, a historic high after 17 years.

On the supply side, Gross Value Added (GVA) growth is pegged at -7.2 per cent in 2020-21 as against 3.9 per cent in FY:2019-20. Agriculture is set to cushion the shock of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Indian economy in 2020-21 with a growth of 3.4 per cent, while industry and services are estimated to contract by 9.6 per cent and 8.8 per cent during the year.

The Survey underlines that the **year 2020 was dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic** and the ensuing global economic downturn, the most severe one since the Global Financial Crisis. The lockdowns and social distancing norms brought the already slowing global economy to a standstill. Global economic output is estimated to fall by 3.5 percent in 2020 (IMF January 2021 estimates). In view of this, Governments and central banks across the world deployed a range of policy tools to support their economies such as lowering key policy rates, quantitative easing measures, loan guarantees, cash transfers and fiscal stimulus measures. India recognized the disruptive impact of the pandemic and charted its own unique path amidst dismal projections by several international institutions of the spread in the country given its huge population, high population density and an overburdened health infrastructure.

The Survey observes that the intense lockdown implemented at the start of the pandemic – when India had only a 100 confirmed cases – characterized India's unique response in several ways. First, the policy response was driven by the findings from both epidemiological and economic research. Specifically, faced with enormous uncertainty about the potential spread of the pandemic, the policy implemented the Nobel-prize winning research in Hansen and Sargent (2001) that recommends a policy focussed on minimising losses in a worst case scenario. Faced with an unprecedented pandemic, loss of scores of human lives captured this worst case scenario. Moreover, epidemiological research highlighted the importance of an initial, stringent lockdown especially in a country where high population density posed difficulties with respect to social distancing. Therefore, India's policy humane response that focused on saving human lives, recognised that the short-term pain of an initial, **stringent lockdown would lead to long-term gains both in the lives saved and in the pace of the economic recovery**. The scores of lives that have been saved and the V-shaped economic recovery that is being witnessed bear testimony to India's boldness in taking short-term pain for long-term gain.

Second, **India recognised that the pandemic impacts both supply and demand in the economy**. The slew of reforms – again unique amidst all major economies – were implemented to ensure that the supply-side disruptions, which were inevitable during the lockdown, are minimized in the medium to long-run. The demand side policy reflected the understanding that aggregate demand, especially that for non-essential items, reflects precautionary motives to save, which inevitably remains high when overall uncertainty is high. Therefore, during the initial months of the pandemic when uncertainty was high and lockdowns imposed economic restrictions, India did not waste precious fiscal resources in trying to pump up discretionary consumption. Instead, the policy focused on ensuring that all essentials were taken care of, which included direct benefit transfers to the vulnerable sections and the world's largest food subsidy programme targeting 80.96 crore beneficiaries. Government of India also launched Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme to provide much needed relief to stressed sectors by helping entities sustain employment and meet liabilities.

During the unlock phase, when **uncertainty declined and the precautionary motive to save subsided**, on the one hand, and economic mobility increased, on the other hand, India has ramped up its fiscal spending. A favorable monetary policy ensured abundant liquidity and immediate relief to debtors via temporary moratoria, while unclogging monetary policy transmission. India's demand-side policy, thus, underscores the idea that pressing on the accelerator while the brakes are clamped only wastes scarce fuel.

The year 2020 threw at the world a bedlam of novel COVID-19 virus, threatening all that was taken for granted –mobility, safety, and a normal life itself. This, in turn, posed the most formidable economic challenge to India and to the world in a century. Bereft of a cure or a vaccine, public health policy became central to tackling this all-pervasive crisis. The imperative of flattening the disease curve was entwined with the livelihood cost of an imminent recession, which emanated from the restrictions in economic activities from the lockdown required to contain the pandemic. This inherent trade-off led to the policy dilemma of **"lives versus livelihoods".**

3. India's GDP growth is projected at (-)8% in FY2021, 11.5% in FY2022 and 6.8% in FY2023: IMF's World Economic Outlook Update, January 2021

According to International Monetary Fund's (IMF) World Economic Outlook Update, January 2021, although recent vaccine approvals have raised hopes of a turnaround in the pandemic later this year, renewed waves and new variants of the virus pose concerns for the outlook. Amid exceptional uncertainty, <u>the global economy is projected to grow 5.5 percent in 2021 and 4.2 percent in 2022</u>. The 2021 forecast is revised up 0.3 percentage point relative to the previous forecast, reflecting expectations of a vaccine-powered strengthening of activity later in the year and additional policy support in a few large economies.

The projected growth recovery this year follows a severe collapse in 2020 that has had acute adverse impacts on women, youth, the poor, the informally employed, and those who work in contact-intensive sectors. The global growth contraction for 2020 is estimated at -3.5 percent, 0.9 percentage point higher than projected in the previous forecast (reflecting stronger-than-expected momentum in the second half of 2020).

The strength of the recovery is projected to vary significantly across countries, depending on access to medical interventions, effectiveness of policy support, exposure to cross-country spillovers, and structural characteristics entering the crisis.

World Economic Outlook Projections, GDP Growth (%age Change)

	2020E	2021F	2022F
World	(-)3.5	5.5	4.2
Advanced Economies	(-)4.9	4.3	3.1
United States	(-)3.4	5.1	2.5
Euro Area	(-)7.2	4.2	3.6
Japan	(-)5.1	3.1	2.4
United Kingdom	(-)10.0	4.5	5.0
Canada	(-)5.5	3.6	4.1
Other Advanced Economies[1]	(-)2.5	3.6	3.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	(-)2.4	6.3	5.0
Emerging and Developing Asia	(-)1.1	8.3	5.9
China	2.3	8.1	5.6
India[2]	(-)**8.0**	**11.5**	**6.8**
Emerging and Developing Europe	(-)2.8	4.0	3.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	(-)7.4	4.1	2.9
Middle East and Central Asia	(-)3.2	3.0	4.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	(-)2.6	3.2	3.9

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, complied from IMF World Economic Outlook, June 2020.
Note: [1] / Excludes the Group of Seven (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, United States) and euro area countries.
[2] For India, data and forecasts are presented on a fiscal year basis and GDP from 2011 onward is based on GDP at market prices with fiscal year 2011/12 as a base year; 2020 represents FY2021, 2021 represents FY2022 and 2022 represents FY2023

Policy actions should ensure effective support until the recovery is firmly underway, with an emphasis on advancing key imperatives of raising potential output, ensuring participatory growth that benefits all, and accelerating the transition to lower carbon dependence. As noted in the October 2020 World Economic Outlook (WEO), a green investment push coupled with initially moderate but steadily rising carbon prices would yield needed emissions reductions while supporting the recovery from the pandemic recession. Strong multilateral cooperation is required to bring the pandemic under control everywhere.

Outlook for India

According to IMF, India's GDP growth is projected at (-)8% in FY2021. IMF has undertaken notable revisions to the forecast for India for FY2022, with 2.7 percentage points increase to 11.5% as compared to the previous World Economic Outlook projections, reflecting carryover from a stronger-than-expected recovery in 2020 after lockdowns were eased. The GDP growth of the country is forecasted at 6.8% for FY2023.

4. Total FDI inflow of US$ 58.37 billion received during April to November, 2020

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is a major driver of economic growth and an important source of non-debt finance for the economic development of India. It has been the endeavor of the Government to put in place an enabling and investor friendly FDI policy. The intent all this while has been to make the FDI policy more investor friendly and remove the policy bottlenecks that have been hindering the investment inflows into the country. The steps taken in this direction have borne fruit, as is evident from the ever-increasing volumes of FDI inflows being received into the country.

Measures taken by the Government on the fronts of FDI policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business have resulted in increased FDI inflows into the country. The following trends in India's Foreign Direct Investment are an endorsement of its status as a preferred investment destination amongst global investors:

- During April to November, 2020, total FDI inflow of US$ 58.37 billion has been received. It is the highest ever for first 8 months of a financial year and 22% higher as compared to first 8 months of 2019-20 (US$ 47.67 billion).
- FDI equity inflow received during F.Y. 2020-21 (April to November, 2020) is US$ 43.85 billion. It is also the highest ever for first 8 months of a financial year and 37% more compared to first 8 months of 2019-20 (US$ 32.11 billion)

5. US Fed Policy – January 2021

- The Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee (FOMC) unanimously decided to maintain the federal fund rate at 0 – 0.25% in its credit policy for 2021.
- The Committee asserted that it will be appropriate to maintain the policy rates in this target range until labour market conditions are consistent with the assessment of maximum employment and inflation averages 2% over time.
- It also expects to maintain an accommodative stance until these outcomes are achieved.
- The FOMC continues to believe that the outlook for the US economy is uncertain and depends on the course of the virus.
- The Committee will continue to monitor the implications of incoming information for the economic outlook.

6. November 2020 IIP growth stands at around (-)1.9%

Growth in industry output, as measured in terms of IIP, for the month of November 2020 stands at around (-)1.9% as compared to 4.2% in October 2020.

The growth in the three sectors mining, manufacturing and electricity in November 2020 stands at around (-)7.3%, (-)1.7% and 3.5% respectively over November 2019. Primary goods growth stands at around (-)2.6%, capital goods growth stands at (-)7.1%, intermediate goods growth stands at (-)3%, infrastructure/construction goods growth stands at 0.7%, consumer durables stands at (-)0.7% and consumer non-durables growth stands at (-)0.7% during November 2020 as compared to the previous year.

Recent growth pattern in IIP (% growth)

	Weight in IIP	April-November 2019-20	April-November 2020-21	October 2020	November 2020
Mining	14.3	-(0.1)	(-)12.5	(-)1.3	(-)7.3
Manufacturing	77.6	0.4	(-)17.3	4.1	(-)1.7
Electricity	7.9	0.8	(-)4.6	11.2	3.5
Primary goods	34.0	0.1	(-)11.3	(-)3.2	(-)2.6
Capital goods	8.2	(-)11.7	(-)31.1	3.5	(-)7.1
Intermediate goods	17.2	10.3	(-)17.2	2.1	(-)3
Infrastructure/construction goods	12.3	(-)2.4	(-)17.7	9.9	0.7
Consumer durables	12.8	(-)6.6	(-)28.1	18	(-)0.7
Consumer non-durables	15.3	3.5	(-)5.4	7.1	(-)0.7
Overall IIP	**100**	**0.3**	**(-)15.5**	**4.2**	**(-)1.9**

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, compiled from CSO

7. CPI inflation falls to 4.6% in December 2020

According to The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the CPI inflation has fallen to 4.6% in December 2020 as compared to the 6.9% in November 2020.

All India Inflation rates (on point to point basis i.e. current month over same month of last year, i.e. December 2020 over December 2019), based on General Indices and CFPIs are given as follows:

All India Inflation Rates (%) based on CPI (General) and CFPI

Indices	November 2020 (Final)			December 2020 (Prov.)		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
CPI (General)	7.2	6.7	6.9	4.1	5.2	4.6
CFPI	9.6	9.2	9.5	3.1	4.1	3.4

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, compiled from MOSPI

The Price data are collected from representative and selected 1114 urban markets and 1181 villages covering all States/UTs through personal visits by field staff of Field Operations Division of NSO, MoSPI on a weekly roster. During the month of December 2020, NSO collected prices from 99.5% villages and 98.5% urban markets while the market-wise prices reported therein were 88.3% for rural and 92.5% for urban.

All India Consumer Price Indices and year-on-year Inflation rates (%) for December, 2020 (Provisional) (Base 2012=100)

Category	All India Consumer Price Indices and year-on-year Inflation rates (%) for December, 2020 (Provisional)					
	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	December, 20 Index (Prov.)	Inflation Rate (%)	December, 20 Index (Prov.)	Inflation Rate (%)	December, 20 Index (Prov.)	Inflation Rate (%)
Food and Beverages	159.6	3.4	163.4	4.5	161	3.9
Pan, tobacco and intoxicants	184.6	10.0	192.1	12.7	186.6	10.7
Clothing and Footwear	156.8	3.2	150.2	3.9	154.2	3.5
Housing	-	-	157.7	3.2	157.7	3.2
Fuel and Light	151.1	0.8	142.8	6.9	148	3.0
Miscellaneous	155.9	6.0	147.6	7.2	151.9	6.6
General Index (All Groups)	158.5	4.1	156	5.2	157.3	4.6

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, compiled from MOSPI Note: CPI (Rural) for Housing is not compiled

8. WPI inflation declines to 1.2% in December 2020

The WPI inflation declines to 1.2% in December 2020 as compared to 1.6% in November 2020, 1.3% in October 2020, 1.3% in September 2020, 0.4% in August 2020, (-) 0.3% in July 2020, (-)1.8% in June 2020 and (-)3.4% in May 2020. The decrease in WPI inflation in the month of December 2020 is attributed to decrease in the prices of potato, whose inflation moderated to 37.7% in December 2020 as compared to 115.1% in November 2020, vegetables, whose inflation diminished to (-)13.2% in December 2020 as compared to 12.2% in November 2020 and onion whose inflation moderated to (-)54.7% in Dcember 2020 as compared to (-)7.6% in November 2020.

WPI inflation in Select Commodities (Base year: 2011-12)

S. No.	Commodity	WPI Inflation Y-o-Y % growth			
		Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Change in December-20 as

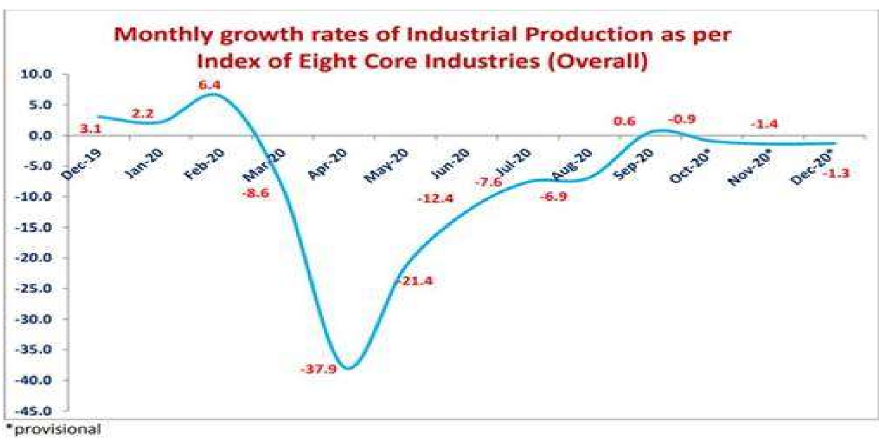
					Compared to Previous Month
1	**All Commodities**	1.3	1.6	1.2	↓
2	**Primary Articles**	4.3	2.7	(-)1.6	↓
3	**Food Articles**	7.1	3.9	(-)1.1	↓
4	**Cereals**	(-)5.2	(-)5.5	(-)6.5	↓
5	**Vegetables**	26.7	12.2	(-)13.2	↓
6	**Non-food Articles**	2.9	8.4	3.1	↓
7	**Fuel & Power**	(-)11.1	(-)9.9	(-)8.7	↑
8	**Petrol**	(-)14.5	(-)14.7	(-)12.9	↑
9	**Manufactured Products**	2.2	3.0	4.2	↑

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI compiled from the office of the Economic Advisor, Government of India (Note: Figures are rounded off)

9. December 2020 Core infra stands at (-)1.3%

The core infrastructure growth stands at (-)1.3% in December 2020, (-)1.4% in November 2020, (-)0.9% in October 2020 and 0.6% in September 2020. The cumulative growth of core infrastructure during April-December 2020-21 stands at (-)10.1% as compared to 0.6% in April-December 2019-20.

The growth rate of Coal stands at 2.2%, Crude Oil at (-)3.6%, Natural Gas at (-)7.2%, Refinery Products at(-)2.8%, Fertilizers at (-)2.9%, Steel at (-)2.7%, Cement at (-)9.7% and Electricity at 4.2% in December 2020 as compared to 3.3%, (-)4.9%, (-)9.3%, (-)4.8%, 1.6%, (-)0.5%, (-)7.3% and 3.5% in November 2020, respectively.



Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, compiled from Ministry of Commerce & Industry

10. Merchandise exports and imports grew by 0.14% and 8% respectively in December 2020

EXPORTS

Exports in December2020 were USD 27.15 Billion, as compared to USD 27.1 Billion in December 2019, exhibiting a positive growth of 0.14 per cent. In Rupee terms, exports were Rs. 1,99,770 Crore in December 2020, as compared to Rs. 1,92,984 Crore in December 2019, registering a positive growth of 3.5 per cent.

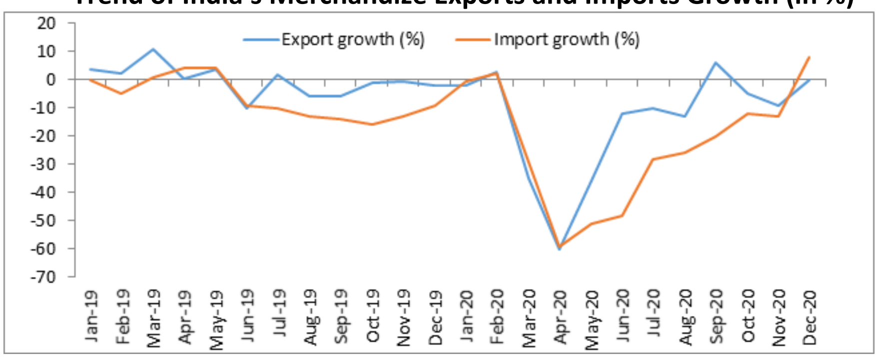
Cumulative value of exports for the period April-December 2020-21 was USD 201 Billion (Rs.14,95,706 Crore) as against USD 238 Billion (Rs.16,77,371 Crore) during the period April-December 2019-20, registering a negative growth of (-) 16 per cent in Dollar terms (negative growth of (-) 11per cent in Rupee terms).

IMPORTS

Imports in December 2020 were USD 42 Billion (Rs.3,13,407 Crore), which is an increase of 8 per cent in Dollar terms and 11 per cent in Rupee terms over imports of USD 40Billion (Rs2,81,881 Crore) in December 2019.

Cumulative value of imports for the period April-December 2020-21 was USD 258 Billion (Rs.19,22,790 Crore), as against USD 364 Billion (Rs.25,62,539 Crore) during the period April-December 2019-20, registering a negative growth of (-) 29 per cent in Dollar terms and a negative growth of (-) 25per cent in Rupee terms.

Trend of India's Merchandize Exports and Imports Growth (in %)



Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

India's Merchandise Trade Statistics at a Glance

Merchandise	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	July-20	Aug-20	Sept-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20
Exports (USD billion)	**21**	**10**	**19**	**22**	**24**	**23**	**27**	**25**	**23**	**27**
Growth (%)	-35	-60	-36	-12	-10	-13	6	-5	-9	0.14
Imports (USD billion)	**31**	**17**	**22**	**21**	**29**	**30**	**30**	**34**	**33**	**42**
Growth (%)	-29	-59	-51	-48	-28	-26	-20	-12	-13	8
Trade Balance (USD billion)	**-10**	**-7**	**-3**	**1**	**-5**	**-7**	**-3**	**-9**	**-10**	**-15**

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

11. Service exports registered a growth of (-)5.09% in November 2020

EXPORTS

As per the latest press release by RBI dated 15th January 2021, exports in November 2020 were USD 17 Billion (Rs.1,26,767 Crore) registering a negative growth of (-) 5.09 per cent in Dollar terms, vis-à-vis November 2019. The estimated value of services export for December2020* is USD 17 Billion.

IMPORTS

As per the latest press release by RBI dated 15th January 2021, imports in November 2020 were USD 10 Billion (Rs. 75,110 Crore) registering a negative growth of (-) 11.7 per cent in Dollar terms, vis-à-vis November 2019. The estimated value of services import for December2020* is USD 10 Billion.

Trade in Services at a Glance

Services	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sept-20	Oct-20	Nov-20
Exports (Receipts) (USD billion)	18	18	16	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Imports (Payments) (USD billion)	11	11	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Trade Balance (USD billion)	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

12. December 2020 Fiscal Deficit stands at 145.5% of actuals to BEs

The gross fiscal deficit of the Central government stands at 145.5% of the actuals to budget estimates (BEs) in December 2020 as compared to 132.4% of the actuals to budget estimates in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The primary deficit and revenue deficit stands at 778.7% and 144.9% of the actuals to budget estimates in December 2020 as compared to 1172.1% and 145.7% of the actuals to budget estimates in the corresponding period of the previous year.

13. Gross Bank Credit growth stands at 6.0% in December 2020

Gross bank credit growth (year-on-year) stands at 6.0% in December 2020 same as in November, 2020. On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit growth stood at 6.0 per cent in December 2020 as compared to 7 per cent in December 2019.

- On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit growth stood at 5.9 per cent in December 2020 as compared to 7.0 per cent in December 2019.
- Credit growth to agriculture and allied activities accelerated to 9.4 per cent in December 2020 from 5.3 per cent in December 2019.
- Credit to industry contracted by 1.2 per cent in December 2020 as compared with 1.6 per cent growth in December 2019 mainly due to contraction in credit to large industries by 2.4 per

cent as compared with 1.8 per cent growth a year ago. Credit to medium industries registered a robust growth of 15.3 per cent in December 2020 as compared to 2.5 per cent a year ago and credit to micro & small industries registered an accelerated growth of 1.2 per cent in December as compared to 0.1 per cent a year ago.

- Within industry, credit to 'food processing', 'gems & jewellery', 'petroleum, coal products & nuclear fuels', 'leather & leather products', 'paper & paper products', 'mining & quarrying', 'glass & glassware' and 'wood & wood products' registered accelerated growth in December 2020 as compared to the growth in the corresponding month of the previous year. However, credit growth to 'rubber plastic & their products', 'cement & cement products', 'all engineering', 'beverages & tobacco', 'infrastructure', 'basic metal & metal products' and 'construction' decelerated/contracted.
- Credit growth to the services sector accelerated to 8.8 per cent in December 2020 from 6.2 per cent in December 2019 mainly on the back of acceleration in credit growth to 'transport operators' and 'trade'.
- Personal loans registered a decelerated growth of 9.5 per cent in December 2020 as compared with 15.9 per cent growth in December 2019. Vehicle loans continued to perform well registering an accelerated growth of 7.8 per cent in December 2020 as compared to 7.2 per cent a year ago.

Statement 1: Deployment of Gross Bank Credit by Major Sectors

(Rs.crore)

		Variation (Year-on-Year)	
Sr.No	**Sector**	**Dec.20, 2019 / Dec.21, 2018**	**Dec.18, 2020 / Dec.20, 2019**
		%	**%**
I	**Gross Bank Credit (II + III)**	**7.0**	**5.9**
II	**Food Credit**	**10.1**	**9.4**
III	**Non-food Credit (1 to 4)**	**7.0**	**5.9**
1	**Agriculture & Allied Activities**	**5.3**	**9.4**
2	**Industry (Micro & Small, Medium and Large)**	**1.6**	**-1.2**
2.1	Micro & Small	0.1	1.2
2.2	Medium	2.5	15.3
2.3	Large	1.8	-2.4
3	**Services**	**6.2**	**8.8**
3.1	Transport Operators	7.8	10.4
3.2	Computer Software	-2.8	2.8
3.3	Tourism, Hotels & Restaurants	15.3	14.5
3.4	Shipping	5.0	12.1
3.5	Professional Services	0.5	-25.6
3.6	Trade	5.8	14.7
3.6.1	Wholesale Trade (other than food procurement)	6.8	25.1
3.6.2	Retail Trade	5.0	6.4

3.7	Commercial Real Estate	15.6	5.1
3.8	Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)	27.6	8.4
3.9	Other Services	-15.2	15.6
4	**Personal Loans**	**15.9**	**9.5**
4.1	Consumer Durables	66.2	30.1
4.2	Housing (Including Priority Sector Housing)	17.6	8.1
4.3	Advances against Fixed Deposits (Including FCNR (B), NRNR Deposits etc.)	-7.0	1.4
4.4	Advances to Individuals against share, bonds, etc.	-17.8	-4.0
4.5	Credit Card Outstanding	25.3	4.2
4.6	Education	-3.2	-3.3
4.7	Vehicle Loans	7.2	7.8
4.8	Other Personal Loans	19.4	15.4
5	**Priority Sector**	**6.1**	**6.0**
5.1	Agriculture & Allied Activities	5.4	7.7
5.2	Micro & Small Enterprises	5.7	6.6
5.2(a)	Manufacturing	0.1	1.2
5.2(b)	Services	8.9	9.4
5.3	Housing	11.9	2.2
5.4	Micro-Credit	47.0	-8.8
5.5	Education Loans	-6.1	-5.0
5.6	State-Sponsored Orgs. for SC/ST	16.9	53.2
5.7	Weaker Sections	18.3	5.8
5.8	Export Credit	-18.1	-9.3

Note: 1. Data are provisional and relate to select banks which cover about 90 per cent of total non-food credit extended by all scheduled commercial banks.

2. Export credit under priority sector relates to foreign banks only.

3. Micro & small under item 2.1 includes credit to micro & small industries in manufacturing sector.

4. Micro & small enterprises under item 5.2 includes credit to micro & small enterprises in manufacturing as well as services sector.

5.Priority Sector is as per old definition and does not conform to FIDD Circular FIDD.CO.Plan.BC.54/04.09.01/2014-15 dated April 23, 2015.

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, compiled from RBI

14. Current Account Surplus moderated to 2.4% of GDP in Q2 2020-21 from 3.8% in Q1 2020-21

Key Features of India's BoP in Q2 of 2020-21

- India's current account surplus moderated to US$ 15.5 billion (2.4 per cent of GDP) in Q2 of 2020-21 from US$ 19.2 billion (3.8 per cent of GDP) in Q1 of 2020-21; a deficit of US$ 7.6 billion (1.1 per cent of GDP) was recorded a year ago [i.e. Q2 of 2019-20].
- The narrowing of the current account surplus in Q2 of 2020-21 was on account of a rise in the merchandise trade deficit to US$ 14.8 billion from US$ 10.8 billion in the preceding quarter.

- Net services receipts increased both sequentially and on a year-on-year basis, primarily on the back of higher net earnings from computer services.
- Private transfer receipts, mainly representing remittances by Indians employed overseas, declined on a y-o-y basis but improved sequentially by 12 per cent to US$ 20.4 billion in Q2 2020-21.
- Net outgo from the primary income account, primarily reflecting net overseas investment income payments, increased to US$ 9.3 billion from US$ 8.8 billion a year ago.
- In the financial account, net foreign direct investment recorded robust inflow of US$ 24.6 billion as compared with US$ 7.3 billion in Q2 of 2019-20.
- Net foreign portfolio investment was US$ 7.0 billion as compared with US$ 2.5 billion in Q2 of 2019-20, largely reflecting net purchases in the equity market.
- With repayments exceeding fresh disbursals, external commercial borrowings to India recorded net outflow of US$ 4.1 billion in Q2 of 2020-21 as against an inflow of US$ 3.1 billion a year ago.
- Net accretions to non-resident deposits moderated to US$ 1.9 billion from US$ 2.3 billion in Q2 of 2019-20.
- There was an accretion of US$ 31.6 billion to the foreign exchange reserves (on a BoP basis) as compared with that of US$ 5.1 billion in Q2 of 2019-20.

BoP during April-September 2020-21 (H1 of 2020-21)

- India recorded a current account surplus of 3.1 per cent of GDP in H1of 2020-21 as against a deficit of 1.6 per cent in H1 of 2019-20 on the back of a sharp contraction in the trade deficit.
- Net invisible receipts were lower in H1 of 2020-21, mainly due to decline in net private transfer receipts.
- Net FDI inflows at US$ 23.8 billion in H1of 2020-21 were higher than US$ 21.3 billion in H1of 2019-20.
- Portfolio investment recorded a net inflow of US$ 7.6 billion in H1of 2020-21, almost at the same level as a year ago.
- In H1 of 2020-21, there was an accretion of US$ 51.4 billion to the foreign exchange reserves (on a BoP basis).

15. India's external debt stands at around US$ 555 billion at end-June 2020

At end-June 2020, India's external debt was placed at US$ 554.5 billion, recording a decrease of US$ 3.9 billion over its level at end-March 2020.

- The external debt to GDP ratio increased to 21.8 per cent at end-June 2020 from 20.6 per cent at end-March 2020.
- Valuation loss due to the depreciation of the US dollar vis-à-vis major currencies such as euro, yen and SDR2 were placed at US$ 0.7 billion. Excluding the valuation effect, the decrease in external debt would have been US$ 4.5 billion instead of US$ 3.9 billion at end-June 2020 over end-March 2020.
- Commercial borrowings remained the largest component of external debt, with a share of 38.1 per cent, followed by non-resident deposits (23.9 per cent) and short-term trade credit

(18.2 per cent).

- At end-June 2020, long-term debt (with original maturity of above one year) was placed at US$ 449.5 billion, recording a decrease of US$ 2.0 billion over its level at end-March 2020.
- The share of short-term debt (with original maturity of up to one year) in total external debt declined to 18.9 per cent at end-June 2020 from 19.1 per cent at end-March 2020; the ratio of short-term debt (original maturity) to foreign exchange reserves declined to 20.8 per cent at end-June 2020 (22.4 per cent at end-March 2020).
- Short-term debt on residual maturity basis (i.e., debt obligations that include long-term debt by original maturity falling due over the next twelve months and short-term debt by original maturity) constituted 44.0 per cent of total external debt at end-June 2020 (42.4 per cent at end-March 2020) and stood at 48.2 per cent of foreign exchange reserves (49.6 per cent at end-March 2020).
- US dollar denominated debt remained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 53.9 per cent at end-June 2020, followed by the Indian rupee (31.6 per cent), yen (5.7 per cent), SDR (4.5 per cent) and the euro (3.5 per cent).
- The borrower-wise classification shows that the outstanding debt of both government and non-government sectors decreased at end-June 2020.
- The share of outstanding debt of non-financial corporations in total external debt was the highest at 42.3 per cent, followed by deposit-taking corporations (except the central bank) (28.1 per cent), general government (18.0 per cent) and other financial corporations (7.4 per cent).
- The instrument-wise classification shows that the loans were the largest component of external debt, with a share of 35.4 per cent, followed by currency and deposits (24.3 per cent), trade credit and advances (18.8 per cent) and debt securities (16.3 per cent).
- Debt service (principal repayments plus interest payments) increased to 8.1 per cent of current receipts at end-June 2020 as compared with 6.5 per cent at end-March 2020, reflecting lower current receipts.

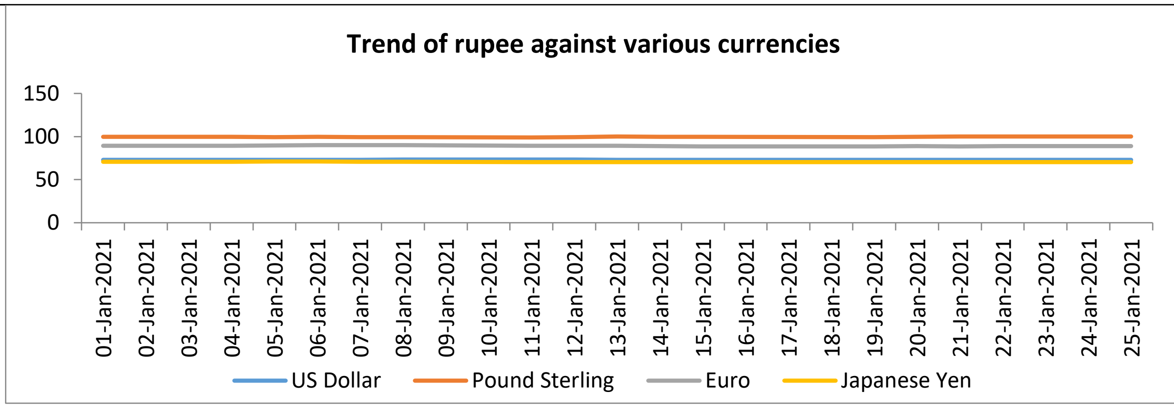
16. ECBs raised at about USD 2.9 billion during December 2020

Indian firms have raised about USD 2.9 billion through external commercial borrowings (ECBs) by automatic and approval route in December 2020 as against around USD 2.04 billion in November 2020. While, ECBs were at about USD 2.04 billion in December 2019.

A closer look at the ECBs pattern reveals that the largest share in ECBs during the month of December 2020 is held for Refinancing of earlier ECBs, New project purpose, working capital purpose and Refinancing Of Rupee Loans purpose, among others.

17. Overview of Indian Rupee

In the month of January 2021 (till 25th January 2021), the average exchange rate of rupee against USD stands at 73.1. The average exchange rate of rupee against Japanese yen stands at 70.6. The exchange rate of rupee against Euro has remained at an average of 89.2 in the month of January 2021. While, the average exchange rate of rupee against pound sterling is at 99.7 during January 2021.



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from RBI (Note: data till 25th January 2021)

18. Monthly trend of rupee exchange rate (high and low) against currencies in January 2021

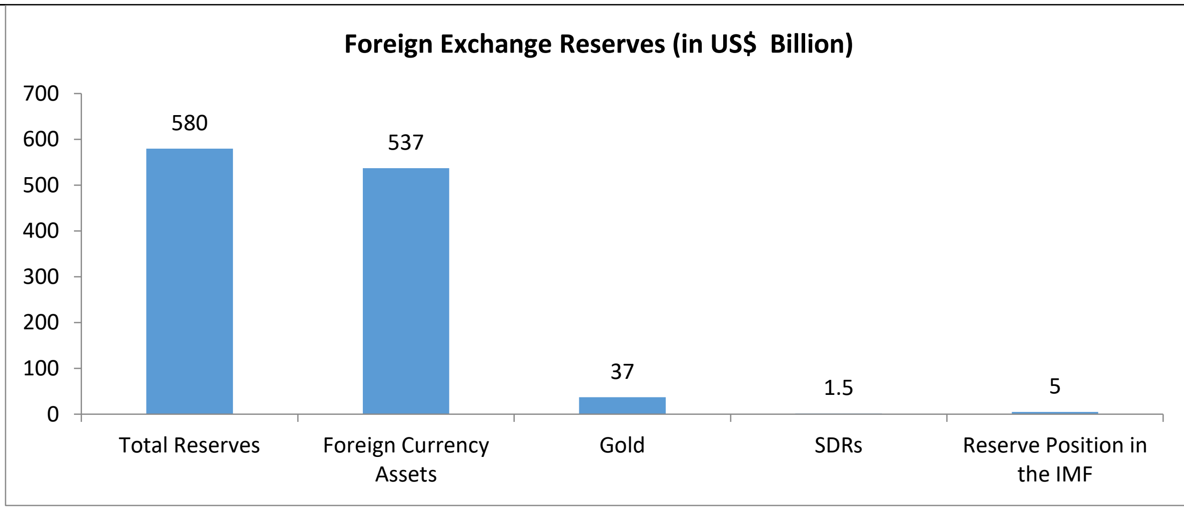
In the month of January 2021, the exchange rate of rupee against USD recorded highest at 73.4, while it registered lowest at 72.9. The exchange rate of rupee against pound registered highest at 100.06 and lowest at 99.2. In case of Euro currency, exchange rate of rupee recorded highest at 90.04 and lowest at 88.5. The exchange rate of rupee against Japanese yen recorded highest at 71.2 and lowest at 70.3.

	Open	**High**	**Low**	**Close**
USD	73.03	73.4	72.9	73
Pound Sterling	99.8	100.06	99.2	100
Euro	89.2	90.04	88.5	88.8
Japanese Yen	70.7	71.2	70.3	70.3

Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from RBI (Note: data till 25th January 2021)

19. Foreign exchange reserves

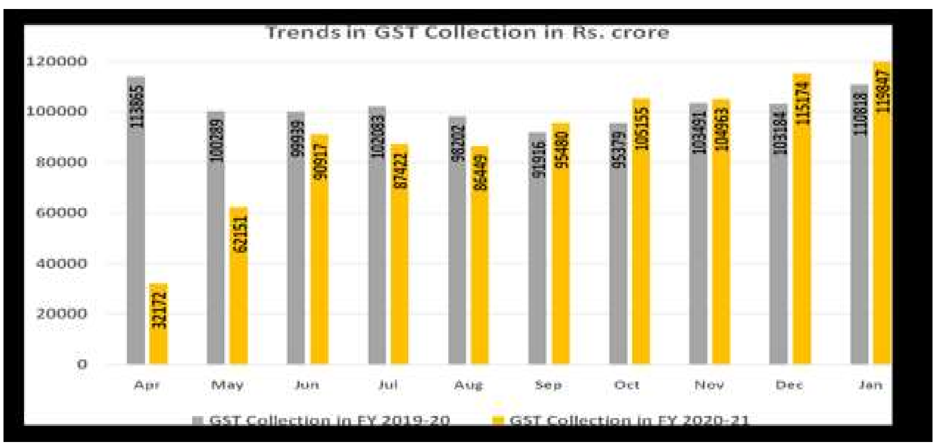
India’s foreign exchange reserves stands at about USD 580 billion as on December 25, 2020 of which Foreign Currency Assets consists of USD 537 billion, Gold reserves at USD 37 billion, SDRs at USD 1.5 billion and reserve position in the IMF at USD 5 billion.



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from RBI Bulletin of January 2021. (Note: Figures are round off)

20. GST Revenue collection for January 2021 stands at Rs 1,19,847 crore

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of **January 2021** is **Rs 1,19,847 crore** of which of which CGST is **₹ 21,923 crore**, SGST is **₹ 29,014 crore**, IGST is **₹ 60,288 crore** (including ₹ 27,424 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is **₹ 8,622 crore** (including ₹ 883crore collected on import of goods). The total number of GSTR-3B Returns filed for the month of December up to 31st January 2021 is 90 lakhs.



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from Ministry of Finance

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Trade & Investment Facilitation Services

TIFS

SINGLE WINDOW INFORMATION AND PROCEDURAL FACILITATION

Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) is a vital component for international trade and investment community. It is envisioned to facilitate firms across the globe for trade and investments in India while simultaneously meeting India's rapidly growing appetite for new markets to enhance trade and investments.

Considering the thirst of the Nation to place India at the forefront of Global Economic Architecture, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry launched a specialized desk on Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) on 31st March 2017. TIFS is an information and advisory hub to provide requisite and detailed information to facilitate national and international business firms to invest in India; advising them on prospective business opportunities in India in general and in States and promising sectors in particular.

Vision of TIFS

We aim to make India a US$ 100 billion (per annum) investment destination in the next five years and to enhance India's trade trajectory to the higher level. We envisage US$ 1000 billion merchandize trade (exports and imports) and US$ 500 billion services trade (exports and imports) per annum in the next five years.

Geographical Area

TIFS covers pan India from Jammu Kashmir in the North to Tamil Nadu in the South and from Gujarat in the West to Arunachal Pradesh in the East.

Three role dimensions

1. **Information role:**
Serving as a key link to all information centres on all national and regional/local regulations and clearances. This includes maintaining or having direct and easy access to such information. This also means constant updating of such information.

2. **Catalyst role:**
Providing facilitative advisory services to help overcome key obstacles and strengthen key positive enablers for enhanced trade and investments. This includes providing information or "leads" on opportunities that would benefit international business community to invest in India.

3. **Networking role:**
Effective networking with relevant Indian and overseas agencies and leveraging of such networks in the direction of risk mitigation and enhancing trade and investments.

Strategic Collaborators of TIFS

TIFS work in close coordination with Trade Consulars' of different countries as well as international trade and business community and international chambers of commerce. Further, for facilitating and providing information on procedural requirements, TIFS also work in close coordination with the government both at the central and the state level as well as industry associations in India.

- Trade Consular's of different countries
- Government including Central and State
- Industry Associations
- International Trade and Business Community
- International Chambers of Commerce
- International Consulting Firms

How TIFS work in assisting investors?

It is envisaged to be the first-point-one-stop reference for potential investors from around the world. Our team of domain and functional experts provides sector-and state-specific inputs, and hand- holding support to investors. We assist with location identification, expediting regulatory approvals, facilitating meetings with relevant government and corporate officials among others. For instance, if an investor A from Germany wants to invest USD 100 million in a textile business in India.

- A team of trained staff will be associated with the task for maintaining a physical helpdesk and provide the investor with all the help required regarding the relevant approvals to set up a business and information related to investment areas across India.
- Facility to set up meetings of the investors with Government officials for specific investor queries, both at the state government and central government level.
- Regular updates on various economic developments in India in general and sector specific in particular.
- Updates on state level developments related to policy amendments, sectoral developments, taxation mechanism, infrastructural, etc.
- Updates on Foreign Direct Investment norms, Foreign Trade Policy, etc.

TIFS undertakes the following activities

i. Through regular research and networking with Government bodies, Entrepreneurs, Industry associations, Embassies/Consulates, Investment delegations, etc., the TIFS gather information on possible trade and investment opportunities in various sectors of the Indian economy.

ii. TIFS advises prospective traders and investors, national and international, in their process of filing applications and helping them meet other procedural and regulatory requirements. For this purpose, information on specific trade and investment guidelines at the state and central level is provided by TIFS.

iii. TIFS provides information at a broad level to international investors about possible potential joint venture partners in India. If TIFS is aware of any Indian parties interested in formation of Joint Ventures (JVs) with some global partners, such information is made available to interested investors.

iv. In case of requests made by individual investors to undertake specific research assignments, financial analysis or due diligence of any specific joint venture partner or Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) targets, TIFS provides adequate resources to carry out such requests on an agreed cost.

v. In a nutshell, TIFS increases understanding amongst national and international investors on the promising investment areas and requirements and regulations for making investments. Facilitates in dealing with the Government in application procedures amongst the national and international Investors. Reduce lead time in investment processes and procedural transactions.

Registration

Registration is open to both Indian and foreign entities.

Registration fee is for your registration with TIFS program to receive updates on trade and investment scenario regularly for 1 year from the date of registration. However, for your specific queries consultancy charges would vary from case to case basis for facilitation services on detailed projects and exhaustive research studies.

For details, contact:

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2. Key Banking Developments

21. Key Banking Developments

RBI releases the Financial Stability Report, January 2021

The Reserve Bank released the 22nd issue of the Financial Stability Report (FSR), which reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability, and the resilience of the financial system in the context of contemporaneous issues relating to development and regulation of the financial sector.

Highlights:

- In the initial phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, policy actions were geared towards restoring normal functioning and mitigating stress; the focus is now being oriented towards supporting the recovery and preserving the solvency of businesses and households. Positive news on vaccine development has underpinned optimism on the outlook, though it is marred by second wave of the virus including more virulent strains.
- Policy measures by the regulators and the government have ensured the smooth functioning of domestic markets and financial institutions; managing market volatility amidst rising spillovers has become challenging especially when the movements in certain segments of the financial markets are not in sync with developments in the real sector.
- Bank credit growth has remained subdued, with the moderation being broad-based across bank groups.
- Performance parameters of banks have improved significantly, aided by regulatory dispensations extended in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) improved to 15.8 per cent in September 2020 from 14.7 per cent in March 2020, while their gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio declined to 7.5 per cent from 8.4 per cent, and the provision coverage ratio (PCR) improved to 72.4 per cent from 66.2 per cent over this period.
- Macro stress tests incorporating the first advance estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) for 2020-21 released on January 7, 2021 indicate that the GNPA ratio of all SCBs may increase from 7.5 per cent in September 2020 to 13.5 per cent by September 2021 under the baseline scenario; the ratio may escalate to 14.8 per cent under a severe stress scenario. This highlights the need for proactive building up of adequate capital to withstand possible asset quality deterioration.
- Network analysis reveals that total bilateral exposures among entities in the financial system increased marginally during the quarter-ended September 2020. With the inter-bank market continuing to shrink and with better capitalisation of banks, the contagion risk to the banking system under various scenarios declined as compared to March 2020.

Securities And Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 30 read with clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 11 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (15 of 1992), the Securities And Exchange Board Of India (SEBI) hereby makes the following regulations to further amend the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013, namely, –

1. These Regulations may be called the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021.

2. They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette

3. In the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013,

   I. after clause (m) of regulation 6, the following clause shall be inserted, namely, -"(n) Whether the applicant is a member of a recognized body or body corporate as specified under regulation 14:Provided that the existing investment advisers shall comply with the requirement under this clause in such manner as may be specified by the Board."

   II. In the Second Schedule, -

   i. in clause 1,

   a. sub-clause (a) shall be substituted with the following, namely, -"For individuals and firms: ₹2,000"

   b. sub-clause (b) shall be substituted with the following, namely, -"For body Corporate including Limited Liability Partnerships: ₹10,000"

   ii. clause 2 shall be substituted with the following, namely,-"2. Every applicant shall pay registration feeat the time of grantof certificate by the Board as under:

   a. For individuals and firms: ₹3,000

   b. For body Corporate including Limited Liability Partnerships: ₹15,000"

   iii. in clause 3,

   a. the words"prescribed at paragraph 2 above" shall be substituted with the words and symbol "specified below,"

   b. after the words"has been paid",the symbol "."shall be substituted with the symbol ":"

   c. after the newly inserted ":", the following sub-clauses shall be inserted, namely, -"(a) for individuals and firms: ₹1,000 (b) for Body Corporate including Limited Liability Partnerships: ₹5,000"

Launch of Regulatory Compliance Portal to minimize Regulatory Compliance Burden for Businesses and Citizens

India's commitment to reforms is evident from the width and scale of reforms undertaken at pan-India level since 2014 under the visionary leadership of Honble Prime Minister. This is reflected in the meteoric rise of India's rank in World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Report from 142nd in 2014 to 63rd in 2019.

In order to translate the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan into a reality, the next generation of reforms relating to minimizing regulatory burden on businesses and citizens are being taken up by Central

Ministries and States/UTs on a mission mode. Making Government to Business and Government to Citizen interfaces online, transparent and time bound are among the key priorities of the Government of India.

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been directed by Cabinet Secretary to act as the nodal department for coordinating the exercise of minimizing regulatory compliance burden for citizens and businesses. A systematic exercise across Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs is being undertaken by DPIIT to eliminate/reduce compliances which have an adverse impact on time and cost of businesses.

A major initiative in this regard is the launch of Regulatory Compliance Portal by DPIIT on 1st January 2021. The objective of this portal is to act as a bridge between citizens, industries and the Government in order to minimize burdensome compliances. It will also act as a first-of-its-kind central online repository of all Central and State-level compliances.

All Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs would examine laws/regulations/rules under their purview and implement an Action Plan to rationalize and simplify all the processes and remove burdensome compliances, decriminalize laws and repeal redundant Acts. These details would be captured and tracked on the Regulatory Compliance Portal. Industry stakeholders from Trade bodies would also be able to submit compliances and proposed recommendations. This will be assessed by concerned Government authorities and suitable action would be undertaken to minimize the regulatory compliance burden.

Performance of activities on this portal would be closely reviewed by the senior Government officers. Cabinet Secretary would have real-time comprehensive view of all compliances and status of all requests raised across Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs. Customized reports of action taken by each Ministry/Department and State/UT also gets generated for monitoring and evaluation.

The Regulatory Compliance Portal will be instrumental in achieving the vision of a truly Atmanirbhar Bharat and help usher ease of doing business for industry and ease of living for citizens.

DPIIT has conducted 21 training sessions from 04.01.2021 to 14.01.2021 for all ministries and states to familiarize them with Regulatory Compliance Portal. Additional 12 training sessions are also underway from 18.01.2021 to 23.01.21. These training sessions involve detailed information about submitting details in Regulatory Compliance Portal by respective Nodal Officers in Central Ministries and States.

RBI releases framework for strengthening the grievance redress mechanism in banks

RBI had announced in the 'Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies' issued as part of the Monetary Policy statement dated December 4, 2020 that with a view to strengthen and improve the efficacy of the grievance redress mechanism of banks, a comprehensive framework will be put in place during January 2021.

Accordingly, a framework comprising of i) enhanced disclosures on complaints to be made by the banks; ii) recovery of the cost of redress of maintainable complaints from the banks against whom the number of complaints received in the Offices of Banking Ombudsman (OBOs) are in excess of their peer group averages; and iii) intensive review by RBI of the grievance redress mechanism of banks having persisting issues in their redress mechanism has been issued by RBI.

The redress of complaints will continue to be cost-free for the customers of banks and members of public.

The framework intends to, inter-alia, provide greater insight into the volume and nature of complaints received by the banks as also the quality and turnaround time of redressal, promote satisfactory customer outcomes and improved customer confidence, and identify remedial steps to be taken by the banks having persisting issues in grievance redress mechanism.

The framework has come into effect from January 27th, 2021.

Conclusions

Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman has provided a calibrated budget in the most difficult times of last 100 years. The focus of the budget on rejuvenating growth, boosting demand, inducing investments and creating employment opportunities for the growing young population is encouraging and providing a roadmap for US$ 5 trillion economy and Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Further, the proactive reforms undertaken by the Government in last 10 months have pulled the economy from the low growth of (-)23.9% in Q1 FY 2020-21 to (-)7.5% in Q2 FY2020-21. The continuous improvement in the key economic and business indicators suggests that the economic recovery is turning from steady to speedy path and expectations of a positive GDP growth at more than 1% in Q3 and more than 3% in Q4 FY 2020-21 are becoming strong.

Going forward, there is a need to further fuel the drivers of household consumption and business investment, while creating well-designed social protection policies for the vulnerable sections of the society and ensuring fiscal sustainability.

Further infrastructural spending by the government would help stimulate confidence further among firms and households, generating stronger consumption, investment, and employment upturns. The continued implementation of expansionary fiscal policy should aim to facilitate the transformation to a more digital and inclusive economy, while managing fiscal and financial risks.

While, maintaining the repo rate at 4% and continuation of accommodative stance by the RBI in its Monetary Policy Statement of February 5, 2021 is highly appreciable, a possible repo rate cut in future is expected as cost of funds has to come down in coming times.

Further, the banking sector should transmit all the cuts in the repo rate by RBI during last 10 months to percolate the benefits to trade, industry and consumers for rejuvenating the demand and economic growth trajectory, going forward.

NATIONAL APEX CHAMBER

India: Statistical snapshot

Indicators	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
GDP at FC - Constant prices (Rs cr)	10536984	11381002	12189854	13010843##^	14077586##&	3314167++&
GDP at FC-Constant prices growth YOY (%)	7.5*	8*	7.1@#	6.7 ##^	6.8##&	(-)7.5++&
Agriculture growth	(-)0.3	0.7*	4.9@#	3.4 ##^	2.9##&	3.4++&
Industry growth	6.9	8.2	5.8@#	5.5 ##^	6.9##&	-
Services growth	9.8	7.9	7.9@#	7.9 ##^	7.5##&	-
Consumption (% YOY)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private consumption (% YOY)	6.2	7.3	7.2	-	-	-
Gross domestic savings as % of GDP	30.6‴	-	-	-	-	-
Gross Fixed Capital Formation as % of GDP	32.3	31.2	29.5	7.6##^	-	-
Gross fiscal deficit of the Centre as a % GDP	4.1''	3.9	3.5	3.5@*	3.4^**	9.6^*
Gross fiscal deficit of the states as a % GDP	2.3''	-	-	-	-	-
Gross fiscal deficit of Centre & states as a % GDP	6.6''	-	-	-	-	-
Merchandise exports (US$Bn)	310.5	261.14	274.64	29.11&&$	331^^**	27^^^^
Growth in exports (%)	(-)1.2	(-)15.9	4.7	(-)0.66&&$	9^^**	0.14^^^^
Imports (US$Bn)	447.5	379.59	380.37	42.80&&$	507^^**	42^^^^
Growth in imports (%)	-0.59	(-)15.3	(-)0.17	7.15&&$	9^^**	8^^^^
Trade deficit (US$Bn)	137	118.46	46.42	13.69&&$	176^^**	9^^^^
Net invisibles US$Bn	-	107.9^^	-	-	-	-
Current account deficit as % of GDP	1.3	1.1^^	0.7^^*	1.9	2.1+&&	2.4+&&
Net capital account US$Bn	11.8	23.2	14.9^^*	-`	-	-
Overall balance of payments US$Bn	6.9	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign exchange reserves US$Bn	316.2	355.56~~	367.9~~~	424.36~~$	421&&$$	580 ~~~
External debt - Short term US$Bn	86.4```	83.6&&&	88^^*	97.6&^	-	-
External debt - Long term US$Bn	376.4```	398.6&&&	383.9^^*	415.8&^	-	-
External debt - US$Bn	462```	480.18&&&	472^^*	513.4 &^	-	-
Money supply growth	11.1&&	11.3&&&&	6.3^^	9.8&&^	10.9%$##	10.9%$##
Bank credit growth	8.6	9~~~~	7^^	8.2**	12&&$$	6.0^^^^
WPI inflation	2.1	(-)0.85^^^	1.33	2.47&&$	4.31^^**	1.2^^^^
CPI inflation	6.4	4.83^^^	4.5	4.28&&$	3.4^^**	4.6^^^^
Exchange rate Rs/US$ annual average	61.14	66.43@@	64.39^^	65.04@@$	68.37^^**	72.9@@@

Handbook of Statistics of Indian Economy 2014 -15 from RBI, ‴ Data pertains to Annual Report of RBI 2013 -14, *@Data pertains to Budget Estimates of 2017-18, '' Data pertains to GVA at Basic Prices at constant prices for Q3 2015 -16, ‴Data pertains to the new Series Estimates from economic survey 2014-15. ^^Data pertains to India's Balance of payment for 2015 -16 from RBI, ^^^Data pertains to March 2016, ``India's external debt end Dec 2013 from RBI, ``` Data pertains to end Dec 2014 from RBI, # Data pertains to Mar 2013, ~ Data pertains to 2014 -15 from the Economic Survey,^^* Data pertains to FY 2016-17 ~~Data as on week ending 25th March 2016 from RBI, ~~~ Data as on 25 December 2020 from RBI, && Data pertains to March 2015, &&& External debt at end December 2015 (Quick Estimates), @@ Data pertains to 13th April 2016 from RBI, @@@ Data as on 9th February 2021 from RBI, &&&& Y-o-Y Growth of Money Supply, 2015-16 from RBI. # Data pertains to end March 2017, compiled from RBI, ** Bank credit growth as on March 2018 &&^ as on June 2018.@# GDP growth and agriculture growth is as per Provisional Estimates of Annual National Income, 2016-17 and Industry and service growth is from Office of economic advisor, #*^Data pertains to Q3 2017-18, ##^ Data pertains to Provisional estimates of GDP for 2017 -18, ^* pertains to the Estimates for FY2021 in Union Budget 2021-22 , @* data pertains to budget estimates of 2018-19, &^ pertains to data at end December 2017, &&$data pertains to March 2018, @@$ data as on March 28, 2018, ~~$ Data as on end March 2018 from RBI, &&^ as on 16 March 2018, +&Data pertains to Quarterly Estimates of 2Q FY 2019-20, %$##Data pertains to 12th April 2019, +&&Data pertains to Q2 FY2021; ++&Data pertains to quarterly Estimates of 2QFY2021; ##&Data pertains to provisional estimates of 2018-19; &&$$data pertains to March 2019Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI compiled from various sources, *Data pertains to Provisional Estimates of Annual National Income 2016-17 from MOSPI, ^^**data pertains to FY18-19; ^** Revised Estimates 2018-19; ^^^^ data pertains to December 2020; ^^^ data pertains to March 2020; ^^^^^ data pertains to September 2020.

PHD Research Bureau

PHD Research Bureau; the research arm of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was constituted in 2010 with the objective to review the economic situation and policy developments at sub-national, national and international levels and comment on them in order to update the members from time to time, to present suitable memoranda to the government as and when required, to prepare State Profiles and to conduct thematic research studies on various socio-economic and business developments.

The Research Bureau has been instrumental in forecasting various lead economic indicators national and sub-national. Many of its research reports have been widely covered by media and leading newspapers. The Research Bureau has undertaken various policy studies for Government of India and State Governments.

Research Activities	Comments on Economic Developments	Newsletters	Consultancy
• Research Studies	• Global Economic Developments	• Economic Affairs Newsletter (EAC)	• Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)
• State Profiles	• India's Economic Developments	• Forex and FEMA Newsletter	
• Impact Assessments	• States' Economic Developments	• Global Economic Monitor (GEM)	
• Thematic Research Reports	• International Developments	• Trade & Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) Newsletter	
• Releases on Economic Developments	• Financial Markets	• State Development Monitor (SDM)	
	• Foreign exchange market	• Industry Development Monitor (IDM)	
	• Developments in International Trade		

Studies Undertaken by PHD Research Bureau

A: Thematic research reports

1. Comparative study on power situation in Northern and Central states of India (September2011)
2. Economic Analysis of State (October 2011)
3. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy, Vision 2021 (December 2011)
4. Budget 2012-13: Move Towards Consolidation (March 2012)
5. Emerging Trends in Exchange Rate Volatility (Apr 2012)
6. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2010-11 (May 2012)
7. Global Economic Challenges: Implications for India (May 2012)
8. India Agronomics: An Agriculture Economy Update (August 2012)
9. Reforms to Push Growth on High Road (September 2012)
10. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2011-12: Beating Slowdown (March 2013)
11. Budget 2013-14: Moving on reforms (March 2013)
12. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities (November 2013)
13. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities: Suggestions Report (November 2013)
14. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry-2012-13 (December 2013)
15. Imperatives for Double Digit Growth (December 2013)
16. Women Safety in Delhi: Issues and Challenges to Employment (March 2014)
17. Emerging Contours in the MSME sector of Uttarakhand (April 2014)
18. Roadmap for New Government (May 2014)
19. Youth Economics (May 2014)
20. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2014-15 (July 2014)
21. Budget 2014-15: Promise of Progress (July 2014)
22. Agronomics 2014: Impact on economic growth and inflation (August 2014)
23. 100 Days of new Government (September 2014)
24. Make in India: Bolstering Manufacturing Sector (October 2014)
25. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2013-14 (November 2014)
26. Participated in a survey to audit SEZs in India with CAG Office of India (November 2014)
27. Role of MSMEs in Make in India with reference to Ease of Doing Business in Ghaziabad (Nov 2014)
28. Exploring Prospects for Make in India and Made in India: A Study (January 2015)
29. SEZs in India: Criss-Cross Concerns (February 2015)
30. Socio-Economic Impact of Check Dams in Sikar District of Rajasthan (February 2015)
31. India - USA Economic Relations (February 2015)
32. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2015-16 (February 2015)
33. Budget Analysis (2015-16)
34. Druzhba-Dosti: India's Trade Opportunities with Russia (April 2015)
35. Impact of Labour Reforms on Industry in Rajasthan: A survey study (July 2015)
36. Progress of Make in India (September 2015)
37. Grown Diamonds, A Sunrise Industry in India: Prospects for Economic Growth (November 2015)
38. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2014-15 (December 2015)
39. India’s Foreign Trade Policy Environment Past, Present and Future (December 2015)
40. Revisiting the emerging economic powers as drivers in promoting global economic growth(February 2016)

41. Bolstering MSMEs for Make in India with special focus on CSR (March 2016)
42. BREXIT impact on Indian Economy (July 2016)
43. India's Exports Outlook (August 2016)
44. Ease of Doing Business : Suggestive Measures for States (October 2016)
45. Transforming India through Make in India, Skill India and Digital India (November 2016)
46. Impact of Demonetization on Economy, Businesses and People (January 2017)
47. Economy on the eve of Budget 2017-18 (January 2017)
48. Union Budget 2017-18: A budget for all-inclusive development (January 2017)
49. Annual Survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2015-16 (February 2017)
50. Worklife Balance and Health Concerns of Women: A Survey (March 2017)
51. Special Economic Zones: Performance, Problems and Opportunities (April 2017)
52. Feasibility Study (socio-Economic Survey) of Ambala and Rohtak Districts in Haryana (March 2017)
53. Goods and Services (GST): So far (July 2017)
54. Reshaping India-Africa Trade: Dynamics and Export Potentiality of Indian Products in Africa (July 2017)
55. Industry Perspective on Bitcoins (July 2017)
56. Senior Housing: A sunrise sector in India (August 2017)
57. Current state of the economy (October 2017)
58. Equitable finance to fulfill funding requirements of Indian Economy (October 2017)
59. The Wall of Protectionism: : Rise and Rise of Protectionist Policies in the Global Arena, (November 2017)
60. India-Israel Relations: Building Bridges of Dynamic Trade(October 2017)
61. Role of Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) in Improving Export Competitiveness (November 2017)
62. India - China Trade Relationship: The Trade Giants of Past, Present and Future (January 2018)
63. Analysis of Trade Pattern between India and ASEAN(January 2018)
64. Union Budget 2018-19 – (February 2018)
65. Ease of Doing Work for Women: A survey of Delhi NCR (February 2018)
66. Restraining Wilful Defaults: Need of the hour for Indian Banking System (March 2018)
67. Impact of GST on Business, Industry and Exporters (April 2018)
68. India – Sri Lanka Bilateral Relations: Reinforcing trade and investment prospects (May 2018)
69. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy: Road to US $5 Trillion Economy(May 2018)
70. India's Free Trade Agreements Dynamics and Diagnostics of Trade Prospects(May 2018)
71. India – UK Trade Relations and Societal Links: Way Forward (June 2018)
72. Rural Economy: Road to US $5 Trillion Economy(September 2018)
73. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2019-20 (Interim): Steady…strong…fastest moving economy (January 2019)
74. Interim Budget 2019-2020: A Dynamic, Inclusive & Pragmatic Budget (February 2019)
75. Women Entrepreneurship: Transforming from Domestic Households to Financial Independence (March 2019)
76. Prospects for Exports from India: Five Pronged Strategy to Achieve USD700 Billion Merchandise Exports by 2025 (March 2019)
77. India Towards Shared Prosperity: Economic Agenda for the Next five Years (March 2019)
78. Job Creation: A Pan India Survey of Households (March 2019)
79. India Inc. Speaks Live: Wish List for the Next Five Years (May 2019)

80. Suggestive Roadmap for Revitalizing Economic Growth (June 2019)
81. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2019-20 (July 2019)
82. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2019-20 (July 2019)
83. Union Budget 2019-20: Road to US$ 5 trillion economy (July 2019)
84. Ease of Doing Business for MSMEs (September 2019)
85. Report Emerging contours in the defence and homeland security
86. Framework of University-Industry Linkages in Research DSIR
87. India's Trade and Investment opportunities with ASEAN Economies (November 2019)
88. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2020-21 (February 2020)
89. Union Budget 2020-21: Aspirational, Caring and Developmental Budget (February 2020)
90. Macroeconomic Indicators and Pandemic COVID-19 Stimulus provided by Select Economies (April 2020)
91. Report on impact of Pandemic COVID-19 by PHDCCI (April 2020)
92. Tax relief measures provided by Pandemic COVID-19 impacted Countries (April 2020)
93. Impact of Pandemic COVID-19 : PHD Chamber's detailed representation on short term and long term measures submitted to the Government (April 2020)
94. Mitigating the Impact of Pandemic COVID-19 on Trade & Industry: PHDCCI Representations to Government of India and State Governments (April 2020)
95. Relief Measures provided by Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce & others
96. Analysis on Relief Measures -Salaries wages by pandmeic COVID-19 impacted countries (April 2020)
97. Relief measures provided by various countries to mitigate the daunting impact of pandemic COVID-19 on economy, trade and industry (April 2020)
98. Analysis of COVID at International and Sub-National Level- Speed of spread, Mortality and Recovery (April 2020)
99. Supplement of Recent Notifications by the Central Government, State Governments and Tax Authorities to Mitigate the Impact of Pandemic COVID-19 (May 2020)
100. PHDCCI Quick Survey on Post Lockdown Business Scenario (May 2020)
101. Impact of GST on Economy and Businesses
102. Report on India's imports from China-Strategy for domestic capacity building (September 2020)
103. PHDCCI Economic and Business Momentum (EBM) Index (November 2020)
104. The Future of Expanding India-USA Bilateral Relations- Strengthening bilateral ties through FTA (November 2020)
105. PHDCCI Economy GPS Index January 2021

B: State profiles

106. Rajasthan: The State Profile (April 2011)
107. Uttarakhand: The State Profile (June 2011)
108. Punjab: The State Profile (November 2011)
109. J&K: The State Profile (December 2011)
110. Uttar Pradesh: The State Profile (December 2011)
111. Bihar: The State Profile (June 2012)
112. Himachal Pradesh: The State Profile (June 2012)
113. Madhya Pradesh: The State Profile (August 2012)
114. Resurgent Bihar (April 2013)
115. Life ahead for Uttarakhand (August 2013)
116. Punjab: The State Profile (February 2014)
117. Haryana: Bolstering Industrialization (May 2015)
118. Progressive Uttar Pradesh: Building Uttar Pradesh of Tomorrow (August 2015),
119. Suggestions for Progressive Uttar Pradesh (August 2015)
120. State profile of Telangana- The dynamic state of India (April 2016)

121. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016-Transforming Uttar Pradesh (August 2016)
122. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016-Transforming Uttar Pradesh : Suggestions for the State Government (August 2016)
123. Rising Jharkhand: An Emerging Investment Hub (February 2017)
124. Punjab: Roadmap for the New Government Suggestions for the Industrial and Socio-Economic Development – Focus MSMEs ease of doing business (May 2017)
125. Prospering Himachal Pradesh: A Mountain of Opportunities (August 2017)
126. Kashmir: The way forward (February 2018)
127. Analysis of State Budgets for 2018-19: Select Sates (March 2018)
128. Rising Uttar Pradesh One District One Product Summit (August 2018)
129. Rajasthan: Steady Strides into the Future-Emerging Growth Dynamics and the Way Forward (September 2018)
130. Rising Jharkhand: Economic Profile (January 2019)
131. Rising Jharkhand: Skill Development to Spur Socio-Economic Growth (January 2019)
132. Progressive Haryana: Economic Profile (February 2019)
133. Progressive Haryana: The Agricultural Hub of India (February 2019)
134. Progressive Haryana Steady Growth Strides into the Future (June 2020)

135. Progressive Haryana Steady Growth Strides into the Future (June 2020)

About the PHD Chamber

PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry, a leading Industry Chamber of India, ever since its inception in 1905, has been an active participant in the India Growth Story through its Advocacy Role for the Policy Makers and Regulators of the Country. Regular interactions, Seminars, Conference and Conclaves allow healthy and constructive discussions between the Government, Industry and International Agencies bringing out the Vitals for Growth. As a true representative of the Industry with a large membership base of 48000 direct and indirect members, PHD Chamber has forged ahead leveraging its legacy with the Industry knowledge across sectors (58 Industry verticals being covered through Expert Committees), a deep understanding of the Economy at large and the populace at the micro level.

At a Global level we have been working with the Embassies and High Commissions in India to bring in the International Best Practices and Business Opportunities.

PHD signifies
PROGRESS • HARMONY • DEVELOPMENT

Seven Thrust Areas

- Industrial Development
- Infrastructure
- Housing
- Health
- Education and Skill Development
- Agriculture and Agribusiness
- Digital India

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"Towards Building Aatmanirbhar Bharat"

NABET

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