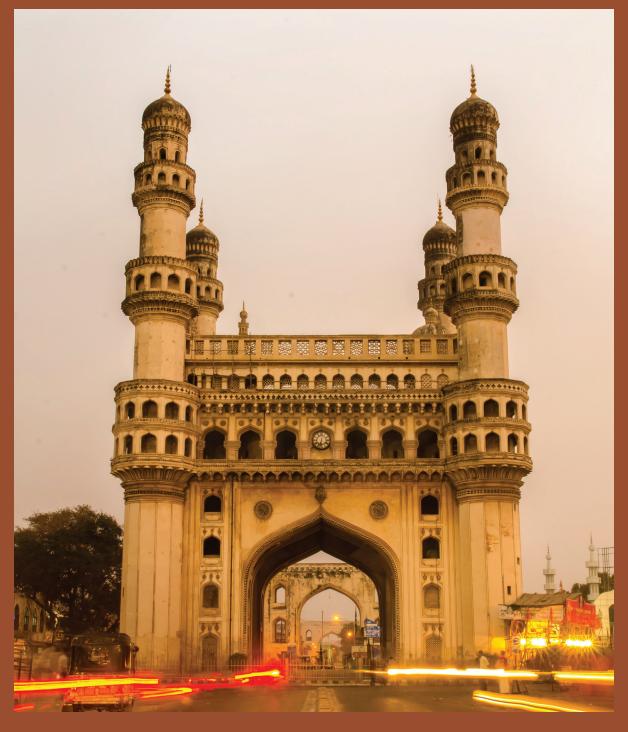


# arth 131 AUGUST 2021

SPECIAL FEATURE | DEVELOPMENT MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICE



#### Team ArthNITI

Abhishek Mukherjee, Ajit Pai, Amit Kumar, Drashti Shah, Gaurav Sharma, Himani Sachdeva, Indrani Dasgupta, Pranali Vanage, Ranbir Singh, Ranveer Nagaich, Tanushree Chandra, and Disha Bhattacharjee (edition contributor for DMEO)



## FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

According to the World Bank, the global economy is on a path of robust recovery, with a projected growth of 5.6% in 2021—the strongest post-recession pace in 80 years. The real GDP of advanced economies is projected to expand by 5.4% whereas emerging markets and developing economies are expected to grow by 6.0%. However, the pace of recovery is diverging across countries, reflecting variations in pandemic-induced disruptions and the extent of policy support.

In the first half of 2021, the global recovery was primarily led by the US and China. The two largest economies are expected to grow by 6.8% and 8.5%, respectively, and are likely to contribute about one quarter each of global growth in 2021. Recovery in several emerging markets and developing economies is likely to be constrained by the resurgence of Covid-19 infections, uneven vaccinations, and limited fiscal space.

Inflation is emerging as a key risk to sustainable global economic recovery. Energy and industrial commodity prices have continued their upward surge. Average crude oil prices in Q2 increased by >13% q/q due to both higher demand and OPEC-induced supply constraints. The average price of aluminum and copper also increased by >14% in Q2/Q1. The IMF has warned that rising inflation, notably in the US, can pose significant risks of an earlier-than-expected tightening of monetary policy by the Federal Reserve, which could lead to significant capital outflows from emerging economies. Therefore, we would do well to make our policy environment as attractive as possible to foreign investors.

Compared to steady expansion in the first five months of 2021, the global Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) recorded slower growth in June and July. However, it continues to remain in the expansion zone. In Asia, the manufacturing PMI witnessed deceleration in China. In India, manufacturing PMI rose to a three-month high of 55.3 in July, reflecting likely expansion of manufacturing activity in the coming months. India's services PMI improved to 45.4 but remained in the contraction zone.

Subsequent to a fairly robust recovery in the March quarter, the Indian economy was impacted by a much stronger Covid second wave, leading to imposition of strict curbs across states and decline in economic activity. High-frequency indicators, such as PMI, cement and steel production, power demand, auto

sales, etc., show that recovery was negatively impacted in the June quarter. The RBI, in the monetary policy review in June, lowered its projection of real GDP growth for FY22 from 10.5% to 9.5%.

However, as per consensus estimates, despite downward revision in GDP growth projections, India is expected to be amongst the fastest-growing major economies in the world. A strong rebound is expected on the back of rapid vaccinations, a recovering monsoon boosting agricultural output, thrust on infrastructure investments by the Government, growth in exports, which have performed remarkably during April—June registering a growth of 18% over the same period in the pre-pandemic year of 2019-20. We also expect consumption to recover in the third and fourth quarters of the fiscal year.

In May 2021, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rose to 6.3% and breached RBI's threshold of 4(+/-2)% for the first time in six months, whereas the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation spiked to an 11-year high of 12.9%. CPI inflation declined to 5.6% and WPI came down to 11.2% in July. Current high inflation is largely due to supply-side factors rather than demand-side issues and hence can be expected to be transitory.

After phased unlocking post the second Covid wave, economic activity has gained strength. The Government has also stepped in to provide another dose of stimulus of Rs 6.3 lakh crore, focused on healthcare, tourism, agriculture, infrastructure, MSMEs and exports. As growth momentum gathers pace, supported by the measures undertaken by the government, the Indian economy will emerge stronger on a sustainable development path.

This edition of *ArthNITI* has a special feature on the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), which actively monitors and evaluates the implementation of government programmes and initiatives. A performance evaluation of the programmes of the government across sectors by the DMEO yield important findings and help maximise the return on public expenditure.

I look forward to your feedback on this edition.

Dr Rajiv Kumar, August 2021, New Delhi

### **G20: The Macro Scene**

#### **Real Sector**

	% Share of World GDP, 2020	GDP Per Capita (\$), 2020	Latest GDP Growth (%)*	Inflation (y/y, %)	Industrial Output Growth (y/y,%)	Manufacturing (%) of GDP^, 2020	Manufacturing PMI
United States	24.7	63,544	12.5 Q2	5.4 Jul	9.7 Jun	10.9	63.4 Jul
China	17.4	10,500	7.9 Q2	1.0 Jul	8.3 Jun	26.2	50.3 Jul
Japan	5.8	40,113	-1.6 Q2	-0.4 Jun	22.6 Jun	20.7	53.0 Jul
Germany	4.5	45,724	9.6 Q2	3.8 Jul	8.9 Jun	17.8	65.9 Jul
United Kingdom	3.2	40,285	-6.0 Q1	2.5 Jun	8.4 Jun	8.4	60.4 Jul
India	3.1	1,901	1.6 Q1	5.6 Jul	13.6 Jun	13.0	55.3 Jul
France	3.1	38,625	19.1 Q2	1.2 Jul	9.9 Jun	9.3	58.0 Jul
Italy	2.2	31,676	0.1 Q1	2.0 Jul	14.0 Jun	14.9	60.3 Jul
Canada	1.9	43,242	-0.1 Q1	3.1 Jun	-	10.6	56.2 Jul
Korea	1.9	31,489	5.9 Q2	2.6 Jul	11.9 Jun	24.9	53.0 Jul
Russia	1.8	10,127	-0.7 Q1	6.5 Jul	10.4 Jun	13.3	47.5 Jul
Brazil	1.7	6,797	1.0 Q1	9.0 Jul	12.0 Jun	9.8	56.7 Jul
Australia	1.6	51,812	1.1 Q1	3.7 Jun	-1.6 Mar	5.7	56.9 Jul
Mexico	1.3	8,347	19.7 Q2	5.8 Jul	13.5 Jun	17.2	49.6 Jul
Indonesia	1.2	3,870	7.1 Q2	1.5 Jul	-	19.9	40.1 Jul
Turkey	0.9	8,538	7.0 Q1	18.6 Jul	23.7 Jun	18.8	54.0 Jul
Saudi Arabia	0.8	20,110	1.5 Q2	6.2 Jun	12.5 Jun	13.0	55.8 Jul
Argentina	0.5	8,442	2.5 Q1	51.2 Jul	19.1 Jun	13.9	-
South Africa	0.4	5,091	-3.2 Q1	4.9 Jun	12.5 Jun	11.5	46.1 Jul
European Union	17.9	33,928	-1.3 Q1	2.2 Jul	10.6 Jun	13.9	62.5 Jul

Source: CEIC, World Bank, \* Calendar Year 2021. ^Japan (2018) & US (2019) values. PMI below 50: contraction; above 50: expansion. For KSA & RSA, PMI reported for whole economy. No new industrial production releases from Indonesia & Canada since March 2020. Data for December is from 2020.

#### **Financial and External Sectors**

	Interest Rates		External Sector <sup>^</sup>					
	10Y	Bank Lending	(% of GDP, 2020)					
	Bond	Rate	LCU/\$* (%,y/y)	Current Account	Trade	Exports	Imports	Inward Revenue (\$ Bn)
USA	1.32	3.25 Jul	1	-3.1	26.3	11.7	14.6	3,092
China	2.95	4.35 Jul	6.46 (-2.6)	1.9	34.5	18.5	16.0	2,993
Japan	0.06	1.48 Jul	109.70 (3.7)	3.5	34.9	17.5	17.4	1,094
Germany	-0.45	1.93 Jun	0.84 (-0.4)	7.0	81.8	43.8	38.0	1,914
India	6.39	8.80 Jun	74.34 (-0.7)	1.3	36.4	18.1	18.3	912
UK	0.62	1.10 Jun	0.72 (-5.6)	-3.5	55.1	27.3	27.8	591
France	-0.01	1.33 Jun	0.84 (-0.4)	-1.9	58.3	28.0	30.3	950
Italy	0.75	1.77 Jun	0.84 (-0.4)	3.7	55.3	29.5	25.8	647
Brazil	4.88	39.93 Jun	5.14 (-1.1)	-1.7	32.3	16.9	15.4	575
Canada	1.76	2.45 Jun	1.25 (-6.9)	-1.9	59.9	29.0	30.9	650
Russia	6.93	6.42 May	73.14 (-0.3)	2.9	46.1	25.5	20.6	433
Korea, Rep.	1.87	2.77 Jun	1,151.86 (-3.4)	4.6	70.1	36.9	33.2	253
Australia	1.25	6.51 Jul	1.36 (-2.6)	2.5	44.0	23.9	20.1	346
Mexico	2.84	4.40 Jul	19.85 (-10.7)	2.5	78.0	40.1	37.9	486
Indonesia	6.45	8.96 Jun	14,491.01 (-1.1)	-0.4	33.2	17.2	16.0	193
Saudi Arabia	0.79	0.63 Jul	3.75 (0.0)	-2.8	50.6	26.3	24.3	211
Turkey	14.29	22.98 Jul	8.51 (22.5)	-5.2	60.9	28.6	32.3	208
Argentina#	44.53	39.88 Jul	96.69 (33.7)	0.8	30.5	16.6	13.9	69
South Africa	9.60	7.00 Jun	14.56 (-14.2)	2.2	56.0	30.5	25.5	101
EU	0.16	1.75 Jun	0.84 (-0.4)	2.6	84.6	43.9	40.7	8,701

As of 31.07.2021,unless otherwise stated. Source: CEIC, World Bank, Investing.com & Trading Economics. # 7Y bond. \* - sign indicates appreciation. Inward revenue = export of goods & services+ primary income+ remittances. ^ US & Japan 2019 values. `52 week bond yield & 3 month interbank rate. .

#### **Commodities and Markets**

Data as of 31st Jul 2021						
Commodity Price (\$) Price (INR)						
Copper (MT)	9,450.8	7,60,000				
Iron Ore (dmtu)	214.1	6,160^				
Aluminium (MT)	2,497.6	2,10,000				
Steel (Rebar, MT)	720.6	51,640				
Brent Crude Oil (bbl)	73.3	5,517				
Coal (MT)	152.0	2,747^				
Natural Gas, US (MMBtu)	3.8	289.4				

Source: \$ Prices from World Bank Commodity Prices Pink Sheet. London Metal	
Exchange, Rs. Prices from MCX, CEIC, NMDC/CIL Price (excl taxes etc).	

	31st Jul 21	31st Jul 20
DJI	34,935.47 (32.2)	26,428.32
NASDAQ 100	14,672.68 (36.6)	10,745.27
SSE Composite	3,397.36 (2.6)	3,310.01
Nikkei 225	27,663.39 (27.4)	21,710.00
FTSE 100	7,032.30 (19.2)	5,897.76
Hang Seng	25,961.03 (5.1)	24,710.59
STI	3,166.94 (23.8)	2,558.37
BSE Sensex	52,586.84 (39.8)	37,606.89

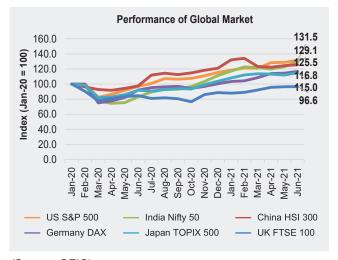
Source: Yahoo Finance. % change from last year in brackets.

## **Markets**

With countries around the world ramping up their vaccination campaigns, especially in Europe and the US, the global equity market rose in the second quarter of 2021. The second quarter was strong for US equities. The S&P 500 had a strong start in this period. Almost all sectors made gains and reached a new all-time high in late June. Eurozone shares gained and the earnings for the first quarter of 2021 were generally very robust, except in the healthcare sector. UK equities performed well over the second quarter and small and mid-cap (SMID) equities outperformed during this period. Emerging market equities registered a strong return.

US S&P 500	131.5	India Nifty 50	129.1
China HSI 300	125.5	Germany DAX	116.8
Japan TOPIX 500	115.0	UK FTSE 100	96.6

Figure 1: Global Markets



(Source: CEIC)

Backed by strong foreign institutional investment (FII) inflows and robust earnings in the March 2021 quarter, the Indian stock markets also traded at record high levels. Both the benchmark indices, Nifty 50 and S&P BSE Sensex, scaled new heights. After FIIs sold equities worth USD 1.3 billion in April 2021 and USD 0.4 billion in May 2021, they invested USD 2.4 billion in Indian equities in June 2021. On the debt side, FIIs pulled out funds from Indian debt instruments through June 2021 and made net sales worth USD 0.7 billion. This was the sixth consecutive month when they remained net sellers of the Indian debt.

A strong dollar demand weighed on the performance of the Indian rupee during June 2021. As compared to Rs 73.3 per USD in May 2021, the Indian rupee depreciated to an average at Rs 73.6 per USD in June 2021. RBI, in June 2021, reported to have added USD 10.8 billion to its forex reserves, which bulged to a record high of USD 609 billion by the end of the month.

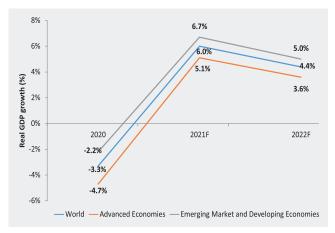
In the bonds market, high inflation during May 2021, along with speculations for a further increase in inflation due to surging crude oil prices and depreciating rupee, seems to have impacted upward pressure on G-sec yields. Ten-year government bond yield rose to 6.05% at the end of June 2021. On the global front, 10-year US Treasury yield declined from 1.7% to 1.5% over the second quarter of 2021. Amid growing optimism about Europe's recovery, followed by accelerated vaccination programmes, government bonds underperformed the US. Following a sharp rise in the previous period, the UK 10-year yield also fell from 0.8% to 0.7%.

In the commodities market, gains from oil prices widened in June 2021 climbing from USD 68 per barrel by the end of May 2021 to USD 74 per barrel towards the end of June 2021. This rise in price can be attributed to a recovery in demand and a drop in US crude inventories. The S&P GSCI Index saw a sturdy performance in the second quarter of the financial year 2021. The industrial metals component also advanced during the second quarter, driven by higher prices for lead, aluminum and nickel. Energy was the best-performing index component, driven by strong performances from crude oil and natural gas.

## A Steady Global Revival with Divergent Recovery

Following a sharp contraction of 3.3% in 2020, the global economy is expected to grow at 6% in 2021 and 4.4% in 2022, as per IMF's April 2021 World Economic Outlook. While recovery is already underway across all regions and income groups, the pace remains uneven, depending on a host of factors—such as the speed of the vaccination rollout, the extent of fiscal and monetary support, and structural issues related to the relative impact on major sectors that contribute to economic growth (for example, tourism).

**Figure 1: GDP Growth Projections** 



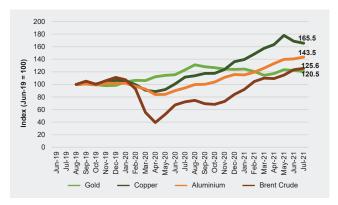
Source: IMF

In the first half of 2021, global recovery was primarily led by the US and China. According to the World Bank, these two major economies are each expected to contribute about one quarter of the global growth in 2021. At the same time, recovery in several emerging markets and developing economies is likely to be constrained by the resurgence of Covid-19 infections, uneven and slow vaccination, and a partial withdrawal of government economic support measures.

In June 2021, the total number of Covid deaths worldwide crossed the grim milestone of 4 million. According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), 114 million jobs were lost in 2020. Relative to 2019, the pandemic-induced global shortfall in jobs is estimated at 75 million for 2021 and 23 million in 2022. While labour markets are improving, the recovery is incomplete with still-elevated unemployment and underemployment. According to the IMF, despite strong policy support, unemployment rates have risen by about 1.5 percentage points above their prepandemic averages in both advanced and emerging markets and developing economies. Even as global economic revival gathers pace, policy efforts to sustain the growth momentum must not be allowed to wane.

Global economic rebound and improved growth prospects have buoyed commodity prices. Copper breached its all-time high in May 2021. Revival in the industrial demand and a synchronised move towards clean energy projects are viewed as the potential catalysts for the persistent rise in prices. Buoyed both by recovery-driven demand revival across geographies as well as supply cuts by key oil-producing countries, crude oil prices have also been rising steadily since November 2020. From \$43.2 per barrel in November 2020, the price of brent crude increased by 72% to \$74.4 per barrel in July 2021.

**Figure 2: Global Commodity Prices** 



Source: World Bank

Global PMI continues to indicate a steady economic recovery. The progress is highlighted by the fact that in April 2021, the global service sector recorded faster growth than manufacturing for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, achieving its strongest upturn in business activity since July 2007. The service sector had consistently lagged the manufacturing sector's revival due to restrictions on travel and social distancing. Meanwhile, the manufacturing sector witnessed growth despite input shortages, delays and supply constraints.

Figure 3: Global PMI



According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Global Trade Update (May 2021), global trade recovery from the Covid-19 crisis hit a record high in the first quarter of 2021, increasing by 10% year-over-year and 4% quarter-over-quarter. The impressive revival was driven by the strong export performance of East Asian economies, whose early success in containing the pandemic enabled them to rebound quickly and tap into the booming global demand for Covid-19 related products. As with the other economic indicators, trade recovery has been uneven across regions and the trend is expected to continue.

Robust fiscal support has been one of the key drivers of global recovery. However, such support has raised government deficits and debt to unprecedented levels across all countries. According to the IMF, average overall deficits as a share of GDP in 2020 reached 11.7% for advanced economies, 9.8% for emerging market economies, and 5.5% for low-income developing countries. However, fiscal deficits in 2021 are projected to contract in most countries as pandemic-related support phases out and revenues recover. In a similar vein, average public debt worldwide, which reached an unprecedented 97% of GDP in 2020, is projected to stabilize at around 99% of GDP in 2021.

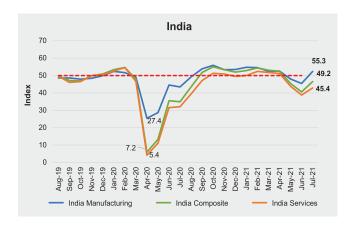
As global recovery gathers momentum, timely and universal access to Covid-19 vaccinations will be crucial to end the pandemic promptly and place the world economy on the path of a resilient recovery.

## **Indian Macro**

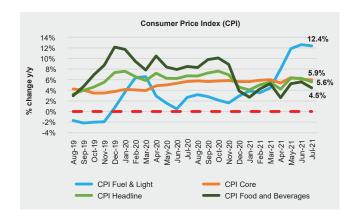
Provisional estimates of national income released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on 31 May, 2021 placed India's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contraction at 7.3% for FY 21. The Real GDP growth in March 2021 quarter stood at 1.6% y/y. The uptick in the March 2021 quarter was driven mainly by the manufacturing and construction sectors as seen in Gross Value Added (GVA) estimates. manufacturing sector rose to 6.9% y/y and the construction sector to 14.5% y/y in the March 2021 quarter. The service sector remains sluggish and rose only marginally by 1.5% y/y in the March 2021 guarter. This is the first full-year contraction in the Indian economy in the last four decades since 1979-80, when GDP had shrunk by 5.2%. This is also the second straight quarter of expansion for the FY 21.

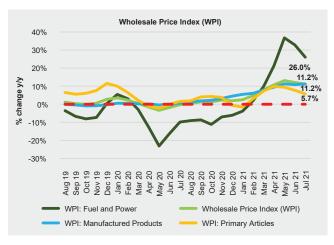
The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) depicts 3-6 month forward trend. PMI for the manufacturing sector rose to 55.3 in July 2021 - up from 48.1 in June 2021 and 50.8 in May 2021. Factory orders rose amid reports of improved demand and the easing of restrictions. Strengthening international demand contributed to the uptick in total order books. PMI for the manufacturing sector had slipped into contraction for the first time in the last 11 months in June 2021. For the service sector, PMI stood at 45.4 and it remained in contraction for the third consecutive month in July

2021. It signals a bleak outlook for the service sector and due to its contact-intensive nature, it hasn't seen a swift recovery like the manufacturing sector.



Retail inflation based on Consumer Price Index (Headline) eased to a three-month low of 5.6% in July 2021 due to moderation in food prices. The inflation print has come within the RBl's targeted range of (4[+/-2%]) after two months. CPI Food and Beverages eased to 4.5% in July 2021 from 5.6% in June 2021. Fuel inflation fell marginally to 12.4% in July 2021 from 12.6% in June 2021.





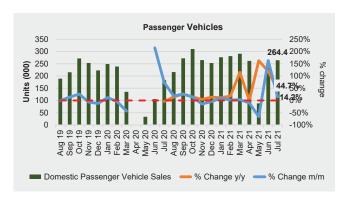
Inflation as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) stood at 11.2% in July 2021, falling from a record high of 13.1% in May 2021. The high rate of inflation is due to the low base effect and soaring prices of crude oil and manufactured goods. Inflation in manufactured products, the largest component of the index rose 11.2% and fuel and power index rose 26.0% in July 2021 compared to a year ago.

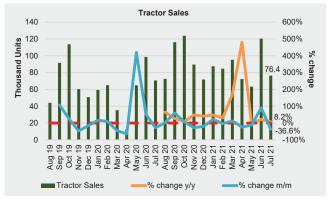
India's factory output that is tracked by Index of Industrial Production (IIP) rose by 13.6% y/y in June 2021 on the back of low base effect (IIP saw a contraction of 16.6% in June 2020 due to the nationwide lockdown). The core sector output grew 8.9% y/y in June 2021, supported by six sectors reporting positive growth, albeit on a low base effect. However, the anecdotal evidence suggests of industrial activity being greatly impacted in many states due to the second wave of the pandemic in the months of April and May 2021.

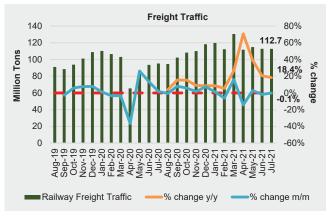
With phased unlocking taking place, high frequency indicators like finished steel, cement production and electricity demand saw an increase as compared to the previous year. Finished steel and electricity demand witnessed a growth of 8.3% y/y and 11.1% y/y in July 2021. Cement production rose by 7.9% y/y in May 21. However, there has been a sequential decline for cement production if we compare the values of May 2021 against April 2021. With the second wave of the pandemic having affected the rural areas, the data on tractor sales showed a fall for May 2021 and a pickup is seen for June and July 2021, which shows a rise of 8.2% y/y for July 2021.

The contact-intensive service sector continues to be impacted with passenger bookings for air and rail transport falling steeply in May 2021. The latest rail freight data for the month of July 2021 shows that freight traffic increased by 18.4% y/y, which is also the highest-ever loading and collection of freight revenue in the past 10 months. Thus, amid challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the railway sector registered a high momentum mainly due to freight traffic. In terms of automobiles, passenger vehicle and two-wheeler sales also showed a significant decline for May 2021; however, with easing of mobility restrictions across states a pickup in consumption is seen for July 2021. Passenger vehicle sales rose 44.7% y/y and 14.2% m/m, while two wheeler sales rose 18.8% m/m but witnessed a decline of 2.1% y/y.

### **High-Frequency Indicators**







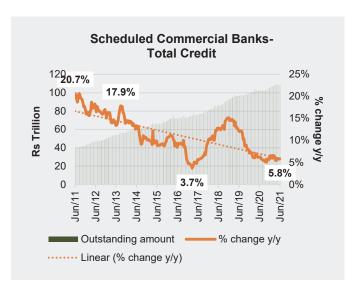


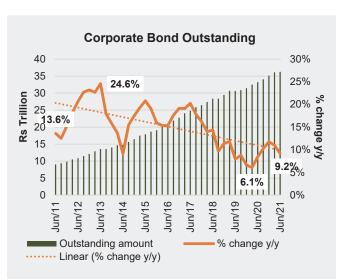
Going forward, the inflation trajectory has both upsides and downsides. The trajectory of global commodity prices will influence the overall price level in a great way. The Central Excise Duty and taxes imposed by states on fuel like petrol and diesel need to be coordinated to contain input cost pressure. A hastened pace of vaccination, strict rules on following Covid-appropriate protocols, ramping up of the health infrastructure in rural and urban areas, ensuring adequate medical supplies in case of an emergency

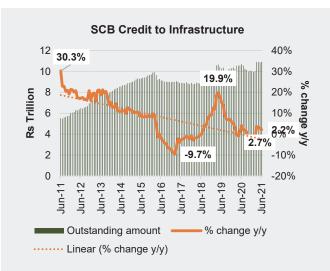
will be crucial to prevent the resurgence of new infections. For the Indian economy to emerge stronger in the aftermath of the pandemic, it will be important that people do not let their guard down and act responsibly. The new normal would require effective policymaking as we unlock several parts of India. Close monitoring by municipal corporations and local authorities would be crucial to identify against the possible threat of new covid variants and to stop further spread.

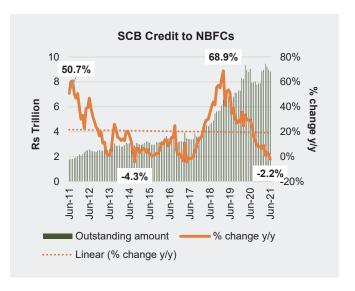
# CREDIT

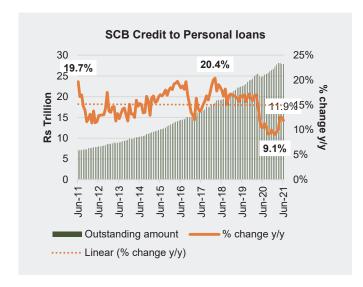
## **Indian Credit Scenario**

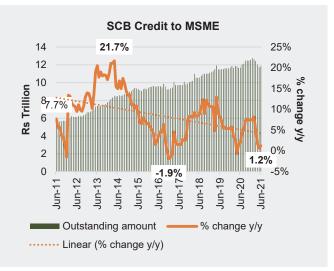




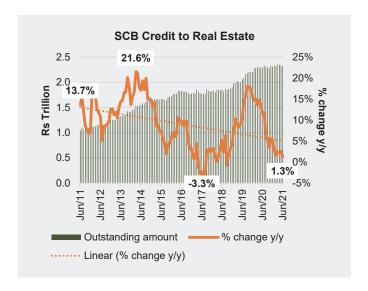


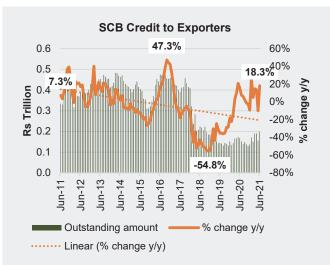


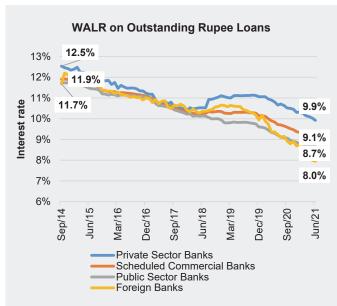


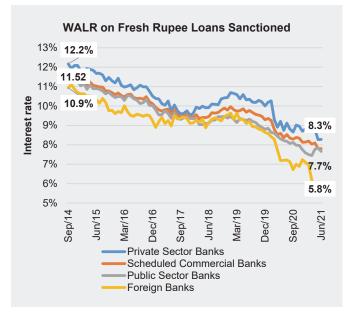


# 2 CREDIT









# STATES OF THE NATION

## Telangana

The youngest state of India, Telangana was formed on 2 June 2014. Geographically, the state is land-locked, with Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Karnataka as its neighbours. It is situated in the Deccan Plateau and Krishna and Godavari are its main rivers. It is the twelfth largest state of the country in terms of area as well as population. It has 33 districts and Telugu is the main language for communication in the state. In some pockets, Urdu is also spoken.

### **Economy**

Telangana is the seventh largest state in terms of GSDP and has clocked a CAGR of more than 11% (in Rupee terms) since 2015–16. It is one of the fastest-growing states in the country. The state's economy has grown at an average annual rate of more than 9% since its formation, which is significantly higher than the growth rate it had attained before its formation as a separate state. In terms of sectoral contribution, the tertiary sector has been the largest in the state, with a share of nearly 60% in the State Domestic Product. However, the agriculture sector has made a significant contribution towards employment, with almost 54% of the population engaged in agricultural activities.

Figure I: GSDP/NSDP at Current Prices



(Source: MoSPI)

### **Agriculture**

Contribution of agriculture is around 16% in the State Domestic Product. Agriculture forms the backbone of the state's economy. As per the latest Census records, 86% of the farmers are small and marginal, while the average land-holding is 1.12 hectares. Rice, maize, cotton, sugarcane, mango and tobacco comprise

the main agricultural produce of the state. Telangana is primarily dependent on rainfed water sources for agriculture. Adequate rainfall is necessary as nearly half of the state is not irrigated. The state government has implemented several irrigation projects, such as the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, to reduce the dependency on rainfed irrigation. The state government has also come up with schemes such as Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima to support the farmers.

### **Industry**

The industrial sector contributes nearly 17% to the state's GDP. Telangana's industrial landscape has been a mix of high-tech sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and nanotechnology, and traditional sectors, such as textiles, leather, food processing and minerals. Micro, small and medium enterprises also have a significant presence in the state and provide raw materials for the other sectors. As of October 2020, Telangana has a total of 153 SEZs, of which 34 are operational, 56 are notified, and 63 are formally approved SEZs.

In 2020, the state government rolled out a 10-year electric vehicles policy, with the aim to attract foreign investments in this sector. The policy aims to make the state a hub for electric vehicles and energy storage systems. The policy envisages employment creation for 1,20,000 people through shared mobility, charging infrastructure development, and manufacturing activities.

As per the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) data, the cumulative Foreign Direct Investment inflow in Telangana amounted to USD 1,539.82 million between October 2019 and December 2020.

The state is a national leader in the pharmaceutical sector. Pharmaceutical exports also have a majority share in the total merchandise exports from the state. In 2019–20, pharmaceutical product exports from the state stood at USD 4.63 billion. Hyderabad accounted for nearly 20% of India's total pharma export. To further boost the pharmaceutical sector in the state, the government aims to develop Hyderabad as a pharma city–a first of its kind, smart ecosystem, which will create new international benchmarks for sustainable industrial cities.

In the latest ranking on DPIIT's Ease of Doing Business, Telangana secured the third position. The new industrial policy TS-iPASS (TS-Industrial Project Approval and Self Certification System) is a major

# STATES OF THE NATION

reform undertaken by the state in this context. It is a single-window clearance system for doing business in the state.

**Services** 

Apart from being a pharmaceuticals hub, Telangana is also a leading state in the information technology (IT) sector. IT and ITeS exports from Telangana have seen a steady growth rate over the past few years. Leading IT companies like Google, Facebook, IBM, etc., have their offices in the state capital. An Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) near Hyderabad was recently announced, which is likely to generate nearly 1.5 million direct and 5.3 million indirect jobs in the IT sector in the next five years.

#### **State Finances**

As per the state budget for FY 22, the total expenditure of Telangana is estimated to be Rs 2,30,826 crore, which is an increase of 13% over the actual expenditure in FY 20. This expenditure is proposed to be met through receipts (other than borrowings) and borrowings. Also, the state has estimated that the total receipts for FY 22 (other than borrowings) are expected to register an annual increase of 31% over FY 20. In FY 22, receipts from the state's share in central taxes are estimated to be Rs 13,990 crore—an annual decrease of 6% over FY 20.

As per the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission, the following fiscal deficit targets for states for the 2021-26 period (as a percentage of GSDP) have been assigned: (i) 4% for 2021–22, (ii) 3.5% for 2022–23, and (iii) 3% for 2023–26. The Commission estimates that this path will enable Telangana to bring down its total liabilities from 29.5% of GSDP in 2020–21 to 29% of the GSDP at the end of 2025–26. Further, as per the 15th FC's recommendations for the 2021–26 period, Telangana will have a 0.86% share in the divisible pool of central taxes, implying that out of every Rs 100 of revenue in the divisible pool during the 2021–26 period, Telangana will receive Rs 0.86. Telangana is not among the qualifying states for which

the 15th Finance Commission has recommended revenue deficit grants during the period 2021–26.

#### Infrastructure

Telangana boasts of excellent road connectivity and railway network. The state is connected by 16 national highways and a total length of 2,592 km, which is nearly 10% of the overall road length in the state. Telangana is well connected to other parts of the country through a robust rail network. The state has more than 200 railway stations. Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Kacheguda, Kazipet, Warangal are its main stations, all of which are well connected to other major cities. The Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad is the only international airport in the state.

As of February 2021, the total installed power capacity in Telangana was 16,931.08 MW. Of this, 8,223.65 MW is contributed by state utilities, 6,531.28 MW by private utilities and 2,176.15 MW by central utilities. Thermal power is the largest contributor to the state's total installed capacity, with 9,941.19 MW, followed by hydropower with an installed capacity of 2,479.93 MW, renewable energy with an installed capacity of 4361.23 MW and nuclear power with a capacity of 148.73 MW.

#### **Tourism**

Hyderabad is a prominent location for meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions. The city has hosted many international events, such as the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in 2017, and the World Stroke Congress and International Congress on Infectious Diseases in 2016. Hyderabad is also a major city for medical tourism in the country. Apart from Hyderabad, the rest of Telangana has several religious places like Srisailam, Bhadrachalam, Hanamkonda and Yadagiripally; heritage sites like Golconda Fort, Qutb Shahi Tomb Complex; eco-tourist spots and wildlife reserves, which attract tourists not only from India but also from abroad. In 2018, domestic tourist arrival in the state stood at 92.8 million, whereas foreign tourist arrival was over 0.32 million.

**& & & & & & & & &** 



# Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office

## **Overview and Key Initiatives**

The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) was established in 2015 as an attached office of NITI Aayog by merging the erstwhile Programme Evaluation Office (PEO) and Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). DMEO has separate budgetary allocations and manpower in addition to complete functional

autonomy. PEO was established by the Government of India in October 1952 with the task of evaluating the government's community development programmes and other intensive area development schemes. It worked as a division of the erstwhile Planning Commission and had 15 field units located across the country. In an effort to accord more functional autonomy to the programme-evaluation mechanism in the country, the Government of India established IEO in November 2010.

As the apex monitoring and evaluation (M&E) office in the country, DMEO supports the government in achieving the National Development Agenda by monitoring and evaluating government policies and programmes. It aims to support rigorous, data-driven, citizen-centric, and outcomes-driven programme management and policymaking.

Figure 1: Genesis of DMEO

1950 to 2010	2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020		
Program Evaluation (		Development Monitoring	
Independent	Evaluation Office (IEO)	Evaluation Office (DMEO)	
	nance Monitoring and on System (2009-2014)	eSamiksha & Pragati	

#### **Mandate of DMEO**

DMEO's mandate currently involves: i) monitoring the progress and efficacy of strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives to help innovative improvements, including necessary mid-course corrections; and ii) actively monitoring and evaluating the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery. DMEO has an advisory role across ministries and departments of the Union government, and is one of the few institutions within the government to provide cross- and inter-ministerial perspectives. Its mandate also expands to technical advisory to states, under NITI Aayog's mandate of cooperative and competitive federalism. Additionally, DMEO undertakes evaluation of selected programmes/schemes suo moto or on the request of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) or the programme-implementing ministries/ departments of the Government of India.

# Monitoring and Evaluation Activities at DMEO

## Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework

Since 2017, DMEO, along with the Union Ministry of Finance, has been working closely with various ministries to develop a standardised framework for monitoring the outputs and outcomes of more than 500 central sector and centrally sponsored schemes (CSS). This is fine-tuned every year based on prevailing schemes and annual targets fixed by the respective ministry/department. This framework is presented in the Parliament as part of the Union Budget and Detailed Demand for Grants. The Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF) aims to provide measurable indicators for achievement of scheme objectives, or the 'outcomes'. Actively tracking the progress against defined targets provides two key benefits for governance: improving (i) the developmental impact and (ii) the accountability of development public expenditure.

# POLICY AND PROGRAMME

Figure 2: Monitoring, Evaluation and Other Functions of DMEO

#### **Monitoring**

#### Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework

- Targets for CS/CSS Schemes (appended to Budget)
- Performance Reviews on OOMF Indicators by M/Ds
- Global Indices & Growth Reforms (GIRG)
- Infrastructure Sector Reviews
- Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)
- M/D Level Outcomes

#### **Evaluation**

- Centrally Sponsored Schemes Evaluation Studies
- Flagship Evaluation Studies
- Quick Assessment Studies
- Performance Notes

Capacity Building at Ministry/Department and State Level; Pre-Service; In-Service

#### **Partnership & External Collaborations**

Figure 3: Outcome Budget Document<sup>1</sup>



# Evaluations of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)

DMEO undertook the evaluation of 28 Umbrella CSS across ten packages: i) agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries; ii) women and child; iii) human resource development; iv) urban transformation; v) rural development; vi) drinking water and sanitation; vii) health; viii) jobs and skills; ix) water resource, environment and forest; and x) social inclusion, law and order and justice delivery. The findings and

recommendations from these studies identified and addressed challenges in public service, allowing for corrections to ensure efficient use of public resources, and thereby, improving the effectiveness of government schemes. Compendiums of best practices emerging from the studies have also been shared with state governments.

The schemes were assessed based on the internationally recognized evaluation framework, REESI (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and impact), and were contextualised to include equity (REESI+E) in line with India's national priorities. The evaluation reports have been shared with the Department of Expenditure and respective line ministries/ departments for consideration. Compendiums of best practices emerging from the studies have also been shared with chief secretaries of states, and can also be accessed here.

#### **Sector Reviews**

DMEO prepares monitoring reviews covering 13 infrastructure sectors and 4 social sectors for some of the highest decision-makers in the country. These reviews provide a unique opportunity to present a cross-ministerial view of the performance of the sectors and deep-dive into India's sectoral strengths and weaknesses compared to its global peers. By identifying bottlenecks and suggesting interventions, immediate actions are often initiated from the highest levels of the government, improving overall development outcomes.

<sup>1</sup> https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/doc/OutcomeBudgetE2021\_2022.pdf



In this endeavour, DMEO has developed an interactive dashboard to facilitate monitoring and analysis. The dashboard has been made accessible to ministries or departments, enabling them to upload progress data and action taken on tasks from the previous review.

In 2021, four rounds of sector reviews in civil aviation, roads, telecom, power, coal, mines, railways and shipping were held, focused on the key achievements and reforms in the sector, challenges and proposed interventions, and the way forward and action plan for the next year. Reviews on new and renewable energy and petroleum and natural gas are expected to be held soon.

#### **Engagement with States**

DMEO has also been engaging with various states and union territories for strengthening capacities by sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices in monitoring and evaluation. In line with NITI's mandate for cooperative federalism, DMEO plans to engage with the planning departments of all the state governments and UTs, along with the respective state administration training institutes, on capacity-building activities, specially output-outcome monitoring framework, disseminating guidelines and toolkits on evaluation studies, among others.

In February 2021, DMEO and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) completed an evaluation of centrally sponsored schemes that involved urban transformation. The findings from the report and some of the best practices in implementing key urban initiatives were disseminated amongst a seminar held in June. Panel members of the session included Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu; Joint Secretary, Smart Cities, MoHUA, among others This is the first such presentation and DMEO aims

to have similar such presentation for all the other 8 sectors in the next few months.

## Global Indices for Reforms and Growth (GIRG)

DMEO has been assigned the responsibility of facilitating the measurement and monitoring of India's performance across states/UTs on select 30 global indices through a single dashboard. The objective is to use the indices as tools for self-improvement for guiding reforms in policies and processes of government agencies and financial institutions, while creating a conducive ecosystem for foreign and domestic investment flow.

To enable this, DMEO has developed an interactive dashboard to monitor the indices and reforms. It is currently coordinating activities of the nodal ministries/ departments in obtaining the necessary information on the indices and reforms required for configuration of the dashboard.

### Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)

DMEO has developed a Data Governance Quality Index to assess the data preparedness levels and use of IT-based systems for monitoring of schemes across 65 ministries/departments on six key parameters: data generation, data quality, data analysis, use and dissemination, use of technology, data security and human-resource capacity and case studies.<sup>2</sup> As the next step, data strategy units have been proposed to be set up in each ministry/department to further strengthen and improve data capabilities. This initiative is an important step in the direction towards institutionalising the culture of evidence-based policymaking in India.

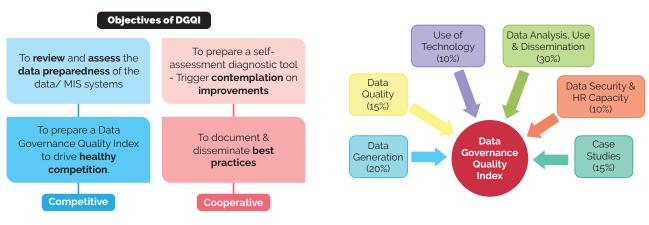


Figure 4: Objective and Index Composition of DGQI

 $<sup>2 \</sup>qquad \text{https://dmeo.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-03/DGQI\_Toolkit.pdf} \\$ 

# POLICY AND PROGRAMME

#### **Quick Assessment Studies**

**DMEO** has undertaken quick assessments of several key government initiatives such as e-National Agriculture Market, BharatNet, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (watershed component), post-matric scholarships, National Council for Teacher Education, Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, etc. These studies provided urgent inputs for reform and future policy initiatives for ministries, departments, state governments, and other stakeholders. Other studies in the pipeline include process evaluation of the National Council of Scheduled Castes (NCSC) and evaluation of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

#### Other Activities at DMEO

#### **Toolkits**

Knowledge dissemination and exchange are critical to DMEO's vision of strengthening the M&E ecosystem and it is accordingly building a repository of vital M&E resources to support practitioners of the same. Various toolkits have been developed and made available on the DMEO website to provide practitioners, government officials and other stakeholders access to tools and knowledge in the M&E domain.

#### **Capacity Building**

Towards the vision of strengthening M&E in India, DMEO has been focusing on building capacity within the Government of India and the larger ecosystem. Since its inception in 2015, DMEO has focused largely on responding to the immediate government environment. However, there remains a need for long-term, continuous and sustainable engagement with our two key stakeholders—central ministries and state governments—to inculcate and institutionalise an understanding of monitoring and evaluation as a management tool that should be used to improve government service delivery and outcomes.

In order to strengthen capacities at the central and state level, DMEO has developed a comprehensive curriculum with World Food Programme for introducing government Officers to key M&E concepts.

DMEO also organises discussions with international evaluation experts to build the knowledge base and technical skills of its internal staff. A recent partnership was with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to understand best practices for evaluations and

evaluator competencies in countries such as the USA, Canada and South Africa. A capacity-building workshop 'Questionnaire Development' was also organised in collaboration with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, South Asia.

DMEO also organises knowledge-exchange webinars through our Conversation Series and Brown Bag sessions. These have been envisioned as a platform to bring together leading M&E practitioners from the development sector. We have had sessions with World Food Programme, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), and Karnataka Evaluation Authority.

#### **Partnerships**

DMEO engages with multilateral organisations, think tanks, research organisations, academia and others to leverage existing capacities in the external ecosystem, meet M&E technical-assistance needs of the Union and state governments and other stakeholders, jointly conduct high-quality evaluation and research, strengthen evidence-based policymaking, and foster a development data architecture for programme management.

DMEO organized a 2-day national conference on 'Institutionalising M&E practices for Sustainable Impact' earlier this year. The event spread across 10 sessions saw 1000+ registrations, including participants from over 47 countries.

DMEO participated in the second edition of gLOCAL, the international evaluation week from 31 May–4 June 2021, organized by the CLEAR initiative and supported by World Bank. DMEO has also hosted several events on monitoring and evaluation in the government.

### **Way Forward**

# Transforming DMEO into a Globally Recognized Institution

Looking forward, DMEO's vision is to be an institution recognised globally for its technical competence and credibility in the field of monitoring and evaluation by helping government institutions improve and sustain their development outcomes. DMEO's mission will be to build upon the progress made so far and work towards institutionalising the application and use of monitoring and evaluation at all levels of government policy and programmes and help improve the efficiency, effectiveness, equity, sustainability, and achievement of results.



The principles underpinning DMEO's strategy, among others, will include: a) building a high-quality, credible, neutral, independent, and inclusive M&E framework for India; b) partnership and collaboration with ministries, departments, and states based on mutual trust and empowering them to undertake M&E;

and c) democratizing data and emphasising ethics in data collection and management. These objectives, comprising medium-term sub-objectives achievable by 2025 and short-term sub-objectives achievable by 2023, have been summarised below:

DMEO Long- Term Objectives Achievable by 2030	DMEO Medium-Term Sub-Objectives Achievable by 2025	DMEO Short-Term Sub-Objectives Achievable by 2023
Strengthening the M&E ecosystem	<ul> <li>Provide technical assistance, capacity-building support, and outreach to key M&amp;E stakeholders.</li> <li>Partner with ministries, states, international organisations, academic institutions, think tanks, private sector, etc., to strengthen the overall M&amp;E ecosystem in the country.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Create platforms and resources (i.e., toolkits, technical guidance notes, presentations, videos, etc.) for knowledge dissemination and exchange.</li> </ul>
Building robust data systems and data architecture	<ul> <li>Facilitate state governments to establish data architecture for key sectors to track priority outputs and outcomes regularly.</li> <li>Improve the quality of administrative data through the use of technology and self-assessment tools, such as DGQI.</li> <li>Leverage data, evidence, tools, and current and emerging technologies available in the private and public sector to drive effectiveness, efficiency, and equitability in government programmes.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Facilitate the Union government to establish data architecture for key sectors to track priority outputs and outcomes regularly.</li> <li>Support the strengthening of data strategy units (DSUs) in central ministries.</li> <li>Improving diagnosis and tracking of key development indices for targeted reforms through GIRG.</li> </ul>
Enabling evidence-based policymaking	<ul> <li>Strengthen outcome-based monitoring by working with key stakeholders at the Centre and states in their M&amp;E system.</li> <li>Establish multidimensional gateways for dissemination and exchange of evidence among key stakeholders in the M&amp;E ecosystem.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Institutionalise rigorous tracking of performance metrics and comprehensive programme evaluations through a National Evaluation Policy and monitoring guidelines.</li> <li>Ensure that the M&amp;E plan, budget, indicators, and logframe are clearly defined and articulated in the expenditure proposals for new and continuing schemes.</li> <li>Use insights generated from programme evaluations to provide recommendations to government for necessary course corrections.</li> <li>Conduct programme and policy-relevant evaluative research from secondary and primary data sets to track progress on priority outcomes.</li> <li>Facilitate multidimensional gateways like conferences, webinars and other platforms for dissemination and exchange of M&amp;E evidence.</li> </ul>



## US Sees Highest Inflation Rate Since 2008

According to the US Bureau of Labour Statistics, the CPI rose at an annual rate of 5% in May, up from 4.2% in April and the highest since August 2008, as the world's largest economy rebounded strongly from the coronavirus crisis.

#### Read more:

https://on.wsj.com/3CafdpH

### **US Inflation Rises to 5.4% in July**

Fuelled by economic recovery, consumer prices in the US rose 5.4% in July. The CPI rose 0.5% in July from June, at a significantly slower pace than its 0.9% increase in June from May, though well above the average 0.2% rate from 2000 to 2019.

#### Read more:

https://on.wsj.com/3iTcZ6q

### China Cuts Reserve Ratio for Banks to Catalyze Eco Recovery

The People's Bank of China reduced the reserve ratio by 0.5 percentage points, according to an official statement published on 9 July 2021. This move is expected to unleash about 1 trillion Yuan (\$154 billion) of long-term liquidity into the economy. The cut was made effective from 15 July.

#### Read more:

https://bloom.bg/3A8sltn

## India Records 13% FDI Growth in 2020

Touching a major milestone, India recorded 13% growth in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in 2020 at a time when fund flows declined most strongly in major economies such as the UK, US, and Russia. Amidst the global collapse, China is the only other country to have shown remarkably high FDI growth.

#### Read more:

https://bit.ly/3jjMmGO

## UK to Launch £15 bn Green Bonds to Assist Net-Zero Aim

On 1 July 2021, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, outlined plans to transform the UK's financial services industry through \$20.72 billion green bonds that will support projects that decarbonize key parts of the UK while improving climate resiliency and adaptation.

Read more: https://reut.rs/3fu6dBW

# G7 Summit in UK Ends with Pledge on Covid

The Group of Seven (G7) advanced economies met in Cornwall, UK, on 11 June 2021. Some of the key outcomes of the summit included the G7 leaders' pledge to deliver an additional 870 million vaccine doses for the developing world, besides the 250 million doses already promised by the US and 100 million by the UK. The G7 economies also pledged to phase out coal-fired power generation; to offer developing nations \$2.8 billion to help them switch to cleaner fuels; and to levy a minimum 15% corporate tax rate globally.

Read more: https://bit.ly/3jIOfCL

## Powell Signals Two Rate Hikes by 2023

In its July 21 meeting, the Federal Reserve held its benchmark interest rate (0.0%-0.25%) near zero and is likely to maintain this stance until late 2022. Chair Jerome Powell signalled two rate hikes by the end of 2023 as economic recovery gathers momentum.

Read more: https://bit.ly/3szZNqk

# UK Economy Grows 4.8% in Second Quarter of 2021

UK GDP is estimated to have jumped by 4.8% between April and June 2021 as services, production and construction output all increased with the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. Despite the country's reopening giving the economy a boost, estimates show GDP in the UK is still 4.4% below where it was before the coronavirus pandemic, at the end of 2019.

Read more: https://on.ft.com/3mcURqf



# Meghalaya Targets Adoption of 15% EVs by 2025

The Meghalaya government issued the 'Meghalaya Electric Vehicle Policy 2021', which came into effect from 1 April 2021 and remain in operation and valid for the next five years. The state government has decided to go green by facilitating the adoption of at least 15% EVs by 2025.

#### Read more:

Meghalaya EV policy: Meghalaya EV policy targets adoption of 15% EVs by 2025, Auto News, ET Auto (indiatimes.com)

### Uttar Pradesh Launches e-Mandi Project

The Uttar Pradesh government launched the e-Mandi project in an effort to assure sufficient income to farmers. The scheme entails the establishment of grain and vegetable markets equipped with information technology (IT).

#### Read more:

Taking agri-markets online, E-Mandi project kickstarts in Uttar Pradesh–Knocksense

# Centre Releases Ease-of-Living Index 2020

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs released the rankings of cities with a population of more than a million and a separate ranking of cities with population of less than a million. In the million-plus cities, Bengaluru emerged as the best city while Pune bagged the second position. Shimla topped the category of cities with a population of less than a million.

#### Read more:

https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1702417

## MP Tops Land Records and Services Index 2020–21

According to the second edition of the National Council for Applied Economic Research Land Records and Services Index 2020–21 released on 4 March 2021,

almost all states and union territories (UT) have shown an improvement in their efforts to digitize land records, as compared to the previous year. Madhya Pradesh topped the list for the second time in a row, followed by West Bengal, Odisha, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

#### Read more:

MP, West Bengal top performers in land records digitalisation (businesstoday.in)

# Bihar Launches Ethanol Production Promotion Policy

Bihar recently launched the Ethanol Production Promotion Policy. With this, the state has become the first one to have such a policy under the National Policy of Biofuels.

#### Read more:

Bihar 1st state to have own ethanol policy for biofuel | Patna News–Times of India (indiatimes.com)

# States to Get Rs 150 bn for Capital Expenditure

The Ministry of Finance will provide an additional amount of up to Rs 150 billion to states as part of the 'Scheme of Financial Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure' for 2021–22. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to states in the form of a 50-year interest-free loan.

#### Read more:

https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1715018

## Tripura Launches Education Channel for Students

Tripura recently launched an education channel called Vande Tripura, which will offer lessons to school-going students round-the-clock, in line with the NCERT syllabus.

#### Read More:

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/tripura-govt-launches-education-channel-for-school-students/articleshow/82713763.cms



# Rajasthan First in Implementing Smart City Projects

Among all the states and union territories (UT), Rajasthan has secured the first spot in implementing the Smart City project. Udaipur, Kota, Ajmer and Jaipur districts have made a mark by achieving the eighth, 11th, 29th and 36th ranks among the 100 smart cities of the country.

#### **Read More:**

https://realty.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/infrastructure/rajasthan-ranks-second-in-country-in-implementing-smart-city-projects/82737649

## Kerala Retains Top Spot in NITI's SDG India Index 2020-21

Kerala has retained the top rank in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2020-21, while Mizoram, Haryana, and Uttarakhand are the top gainers in terms of improvement in their rankings from 2019. Chandigarh has maintained its top spot among the UTs.

#### **Read More:**

https://indianexpress.com/article/india/kerala-retains-top-rank-in-niti-aayogs-sdg-india-index-2020-21-bihar-worst-performe-7342325/

### Madhya Pradesh Tops Anaemia Mukt Bharat Index 2020-21

Madhya Pradesh has topped the charts in the Anemia Mukt Bharat Index 2020-21, with a score of 64.1. The second spot has been secured by Odisha, with a score of 59.3, followed by Himachal Pradesh with 57.1.

#### Read More:

https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/others/himachal-jumps-to-third-spot-in-anemia-mukt-bharat-index-101622999437291.html

# Gujarat Waives Off Property Tax for 1 year

In view of the losses incurred due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Gujarat government announced property tax wavier for hotels, resorts, restaurants and water parks, for a period of one year.

#### **Read More:**

https://www.livemint.com/politics/policy/covid19-1-year-property-tax-waiver-for-gujarat-hotels-resorts-11623093059099.html

### Haryana Launches App for Delivery of Govt Services to

Haryana has launched a mobile app, called 'Jan Sahayak-Aapka Sahayak', to offer government-to-citizen and business-to-citizen services anytime and anywhere through a single platform. Citizens will be able to avail all emergency services, such as fire, ambulance, health, etc., with the help of the new app. It will also have information regarding new jobs, tenders and upcoming events, payment of bills, press releases and calendars, among others.

#### Read More:

https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/cm-launches-mobile-app-for-govt-services-7383700/lite/



#### **AIM Gets New Mission Director**

Acclaimed socio-technologist Dr Chintan Vaishnav has been appointed as the new Mission Director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM). Dr Vaishnav took over the charge from Ramanathan Ramanan, who had been leading AIM as its first Mission Director since its conception in June 2017.

## NITI Aayog Launches India Energy Dashboards (Version 2.0)

The India Energy Dashboards Version 2.0 was launched by Dr Rajiv Kumar (Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog), Dr VK Saraswat (Member, NITI Aayog), Shri Amitabh Kant (CEO, NITI Aayog) and Dr Rakesh Sarwal (Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog). India Energy Dashboards aims to provide a single-window access to energy data for the country via the Central Electricity Authority, Coal Controller's Organisation, and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is compiled in the Dashboards.

## NITI Aayog Launches 'Poshan Gyan'

NITI Aayog, in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University, launched Poshan Gyan, a national digital repository on health and nutrition. The repository has been conceptualized as a resource, enabling search of communication materials on 14 thematic areas of health and nutrition across diverse languages, media types, target audiences and sources.

### NITI Aayog & Mastercard Release Report on 'Connected Commerce'

NITI Aayog and Mastercard released a report titled 'Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat'. The report identifies challenges in accelerating digital financial inclusion in India and provides recommendations for making

digital services accessible to its 1.3 billion citizens. It highlights key issues and opportunities, with inferences and recommendations on policy and capacity building across agriculture, small business, urban mobility and cyber security.

## NITI Aayog & Piramal Foundation Launch Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyaan

NITI Aayog and Piramal Foundation launched Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyaan in 112 Aspirational Districts to assist district administrations in providing home-care support to Covid-19 patients who are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms. Piramal Foundation will work withdistrict magistrates to support the training of NGOs and volunteers.

# UNDP Report Lauds Aspirational Districts Programme, Recommends Replication

In an independent appraisal report released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India has lauded the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) as 'a very successful model of local area development' that 'should serve as a best practice for several other countries where regional disparities in development status persist for many reasons'.

## NITI Aayog Releases Report on Not-for-Profit Hospital Model in India

NITI Aayog released a comprehensive study on the not-for-profit hospital model in the country. The study provides insights into the operation model of not-for-profit hospitals. It presents research-based findings on such hospitals—categorized under ownership and premise of service—and makes subsequent comparisons with private hospitals and health schemes of the Union government.

