

ECONOM DIPLOMA & STATES DIVISION





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COVID-19: Turning Crisis into Opportunity

This vision of India – turning crisis into opportunity – is going to prove equally effective for our resolve to build a self-reliant India.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

COVID-19: Impact

The COVID-19 Pandemic has claimed over 320,000 lives (beginning of December 2019 and May 19, 2020) and has infected more than **4.9 million** people in 180 countries. During this time, India has reported more than **100,000 COVID-19** cases and over **3,000 casualties**.

- First detected in China in Nov 2019, COVID-19 has spread rapidly, bringing the world to a halt
- Total reported cases at +4.9 million, total casualty at ≈320,000, total recovery at +1.9 million
- Around 10 COVID-19 vaccines are various stages of testing and development

 COVID-19 has disrupted human/goods traffic, likely to cost the global economy US\$8.8 trillion

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- India is working on vaccines, plasma therapy, drug therapeutics, medical devices for COVID-19
- India has supplied essential medicines to over 123 countries and set up a SAARC COVID-19 fund
- India is partnering globally on COVID-19 R&D, medical supplies including trade of key commodities, exchange of information



Measures Taken: India

Health Related Steps taken so far for COVID containment Announced measures amounting to ₹150 billion

- Released to states ₹41.1 billion
- Essential items ₹37.5 billion
- Testing labs and kits ₹5.5 billion
- Insurance cover of ₹5 million per person for health professionals

Leveraging IT

- Roll out of **e-Sanjeevani** Tele-Consultation Services
- Capacity Building: Virtual learning modules iGOT platform
- $\circ~$ Arogya Setu: Self assessment and contact tracing

Protection to Health Workers

- Amendment in Epidemic Diseases Act
- Adequate provision for PPEs
- From zero to > 300 domestic manufacturers
- PPEs (5.1 million), N95 masks (8.7 million) HCQ tablets (110 million

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Preparing India for future Pandemics

- Infectious Disease hospital blocks envisaged in all districts
- o Strengthening lab networks
- Encouraging Research
- Implementation of National Digital Health Mission

For more information: Link

₹20 trillion reforms to attract

investments

Equivalent to around 10% of India's GDP, ₹20 trillion (~US\$265 billion) has been budgeted helping make India an ideal destination for for trade and investment

- Land, Labor, Liquidity, Laws, amongst other reforms
- These reforms to strengthen the cottage • industries and MSMEs that employ millions of Indians - the foundation of a consumer economy.
- Strong focus on key sectors including • Agriculture, Health, Education and FDI
- The package aims to empower labourers and • farmers, who have been working even amid the COVID-19 crisis

Demand side push: This package to help improve the economic strength of India's middle class

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- Intention of boosting global socio-economic leadership by facilitating business and start-ups
- The package seeks to create improved opportunities for foreign traders and investors
- The proactive measures assert the Government's **commitment** towards delivering economic prosperity in uncertain times.

These timely measures also show how India is being predicted to emerge as an exception while the world slips into an economic recession due to the pandemic.

Human-centric Globalisation

The idea of 'self-reliance' has evolved with respect to the ongoing debate of Human-centric Globalisation against Economy-centric Globalisation. Herein. India's fundamental thinking provides a ray of hope to the world. Our country does not advocate self-centric arrangements when it comes to self-reliance. India's self-reliance is ingrained in the happiness, cooperation and peace of the world.

- PM Modi

A self-reliant India will stand on 5 Pillars.

• Economy that brings Quantum Jump rather than Incremental change

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- Infrastructure that asserts the identity of a prosperous modern India
- System, driven by **technology**, to fulfill the dreams of the 21st century
- **Demography** of the democracy is source of energy for self-reliance
- **Demand** strengthening by empowering the demand-supply ecosystem

Focus on credit provision, infrastructure, access to market, skill development, and to produce job creators





India: The land of opportunities



Opportunities in Minerals, Defence

Enhancing Private Investments in the Mineral Sector

Structural reforms to boost growth, employment and bring state-of-the-art technology especially in exploration through:

- Introduction of a seamless composite exploration-cum-production regime
- 500 mining blocks to be offered through an open and transparent auction process
- Introduction of Joint Auction of Bauxite and Coal mineral blocks to enhance Aluminum Industry's competitiveness
- Ministry of Mines is in the process of developing Mineral Index for different minerals
- Rationalisation of stamp duty payable at the time of award of mining leases
- Production earlier than schedule to be incentivised through rebate in Revenue share

Enhancing Self Reliance in Defence Production

- FDI limit in the defence manufacturing under automatic route raised from 49% to 74%
- Time-bound defence procurement process and faster decision making will be ushered in by:
 - Setting up of a Project Management Unit (PMU) to support contract management
 - Realistic setting of General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQRs) of weapons/platforms
 - Overhauling Trial and Testing procedures
- Increased push for 'Make in India' in defence production
 - Notify a list of weapons/platforms for ban on import with year wise timelines
 - Indigenisation of imported spares
 - Separate budget provisioning for domestic capital procurement
- Improved autonomy, accountability and efficiency in Ordnance Supplies by Corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board



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Opportunities in Space, Atomic Energy

Boosting Private Participation in Space activities

Indian private sector will be a co-traveller in India's space sector journey through

- Provision of level playing field for private companies in satellites, launches and space-based services
- Provision of predictable policy and regulatory environment to private players
- Private sector to be allowed to use ISRO facilities and other relevant assets to improve their capacities
- Future projects for planetary exploration, outer space travel etc to be open for private sector
- Liberal geo-spatial data policy for providing remote-sensing data to tech-entrepreneurs

Atomic Energy Reforms

 Establish research reactor in PPP mode for production of medical isotopes – promote welfare of humanity through affordable treatment for cancer and other diseases

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- Establish facilities in PPP mode to use irradiation technology for food preservation – to compliment agricultural reforms and assist farmers
- Link India's robust start-up ecosystem to the nuclear sector

 Technology Development cum Incubation Centres to be set up for fostering synergy between research facilities and tech-entrepreneurs





Opportunities in Civil Aviation





Efficient Airspace Management for Civil Aviation

- Restrictions on utilisation of the Indian Air Space to be eased so that civilian flying becomes more efficient (Only 60% of the Indian airspace freely available)
- Expected to bring a total benefit of about ₹10 billion per year for the aviation sector
- Optimal utilization of airspace; reduction in fuel use, time; Positive environmental impact

More World-class Airports through PPP

- AAI has awarded 3 airports out of 6 bid for Operation and Maintenance on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) basis.
- 6 more airports identified for the 2nd round. Bid process to commence immediately
- Additional Investment by private players in 12 airports in 1st and 2nd rounds expected around ₹130 billion
- Another 6 airports to be put out for the third round of bidding.

India to become a global hub for Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO)

- Tax regime for MRO ecosystem has been rationalized
- Aircraft component repairs and airframe maintenance to increase from ₹8 billion to ₹20 billion in three years
- Major engine manufacturers in the world are expected to set up engine repair facilities in India in the coming year
- Convergence between defence sector and the civil MROs to be established to create economies of scale

Opportunities: Commercial Coal Mining

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Policy Reforms – Introduction of Commercial Mining in Coal Sector

- Focus on reduction of import of substitutable coal and increase self-reliance in coal production
- Government to introduce competition, transparency and private sector participation in the Coal Sector through
 - Revenue sharing mechanism instead of regime of fixed Rupee/tonne
 - Entry norms to be liberalized
 - Nearly 50 blocks to be offered immediately
 - No eligibility conditions, only upfront payment with a ceiling

- Exploration-cum-production regime for partially explored blocks
 - Fully explored coal blocks and partially explored blocks to be auctioned
 - To allow private sector participation in exploration.
- Production earlier than scheduled to be incentivized through rebate in revenue-share
- Diversified Opportunities in Coal Sector Investment of ₹500 billion
 - Coal Gasification / Liquefaction to be incentivised through rebate in revenue share
 - Infrastructure development of ₹500 billion
- Liberalised Regime in Coal Sector
 - Coal Bed Methane (CBM) extraction rights to be auctioned from Coal India Limited's (CIL) coal mines.
 - Ease of doing business measures, such as Mining Plan simplification, to be taken

Opportunities: Agriculture

"A 1991 moment for Indian Agriculture"

Amendments to Essential Commodities Act

- Focus on better price realisation through attracting investments
- Deregulation of cereals, edible oils, pulses, onions and potatoes
- Stock limits to be imposed only under special circumstances like national calamities (eg. Famines with price rises)
- No stock limit for processors or value chain participant, subject to installed capacity or export demand
- Focus on boosting supply chain especially cold storage investment

- A. Gulati, Infosys Chair Prof for Agriculture, ICRIER Agriculture Marketing Reforms

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- Farmers can sell to anyone, not just APMC licensees (Agriculture Produce Market Committees)
- Barrier free inter-state trade
- Framework for e-trading of Agricultural produce

Enabling Contract Farming

- Legal framework to facilitate farmer engagement with processors, aggregators, large retailers, exporters, etc.
- Risk Mitigation, assured returns, quality standardisation, to forma an integral part of the framework

Empowering the Agriculture Ecosystem

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- **₹1 trillion** Agri Infrastructure Fund for farm-gate infrastructure for farmers
- **₹100 billion** scheme for formalisation of Micro Food Enterprises (MFE)
- ₹200 billion for Fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)
- National Animal Disease Control Programme for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis launched with total outlay of ₹133.4 billion
- Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund -₹150 billion
- Promotion of Herbal Cultivation with ₹40 billion
- Beekeeping initiatives with ₹5 billion
- Operation Greens to be extended from Tomatoes, Onion and Potatoes (TOP) to ALL fruits and vegetables (TOTAL) for ₹5 billion
- Agriculture Produce Price and Quality Assurance to be implemented

In Union Budget 2018-19, "Operation Greens" was announced with an outlay of ₹500 billion to promote Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. Accordingly, the Ministry has formulated a scheme for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain



For more information: Link

Education: Technology Driven Systems

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- PM e-VIDYA : multimode access to digital/online education
 - DIKSHA: QR coded energised textbooks for school education. Has already 610 million hits since 24th March
 - Earmarked channels for education
 - Extensive use of Radio, community radio and podcasts
 - Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired
 - Top 100 Universities allowed (automatically) to start online courses
- Launch of Manodarpan (psychological support), New National Curriculum and Pedagogical Framework for school, early childhood and teachers and National Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Mission

- SWAYAM PRABHA DTH channels to support and reach those who do not have access to the internet. 3 channels were already earmarked for school education; now another 12 channels to be added
- Provision made for telecast of live interactive sessions on these channels with experts from home through Skype
- Also tied up with private DTH operators like Tata Sky & Airtel to air educational video content to enhance the reach of these channels
- Coordination with States of India to share air time (4 hrs daily) on the SWAYAM PRABHA channels to telecast their education related contents
- 200 new textbooks added to e-Paathshaala

