

# Editorial Analysis

## 29 March 2022



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## The invisible tax: On hopes of smooth rebound of economy

The article focuses on the problem of rising inflation. The second wave of pandemics came with the problem of a sudden surge in wholesale and retail prices. The inflation rate has touched its six months high and WPI has hit its 25-year record.

Where fuel prices with high excise duties and taxes contributed maximum in raising inflation, food inflation was also not behind. Though the averaging is done on the retail inflation in April brought some relief, but not much should be expected on the monetary policy front that includes interest rates.

Many economists are of the view that inflation will continue rising at this pace this year too. Considering the issue, immediate action is required to curb price rise and fuel taxes. The states can cut taxes and bring petroleum products under GST. But, the ministry opines that the government is saving money to spend on welfare schemes and buying vaccines.

The situation has become worse because the population is suffering from job loss, high medical costs, and retail inflation, all at one go. And no welfare scheme can come to their rescue.

### Words to look out for

#### Dovish:

- **Synonyms:** pacifist, peaceful, irenic
- **Antonyms:** unfriendly, warmongering
- **Word usage:** Since becoming president in 1993 he has encouraged dovish leaders to move on the path to peace.

#### Tandem:

- **Synonyms:** team, pair, yoke
- **Antonyms:** single, alone
- **Word usage:** They moved in tandem without looking at each other, their movements controlled and efficient.

#### Muddle:

- **Synonyms:** jumble, mess, confusion
- **Antonyms:** order, certainty, clarify
- **Word usage:** He managed to muddle through university.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/the-invisible-tax-on-hopes-of-smooth-rebound-of-economy/article34825355.ece>

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## New Delhi's trilemma: How India manages its interests in the US-China-Russia game will be one of its toughest challenges

The article highlights the position of India amidst the ongoing game between US-China-Russia. The intent is clear as to how India would secure its interest. Note that it is going to be challenging for India because the relations between the US and Russia are bad and Russia is getting close to China to respond to the west's pushback.

Considering India's position, it is an ally of the West against China. Being part of the Quad, India is against China. But the doubt persists in the US will stand with India or not in case China takes some hostile action. So, India needs a sharp policy itself and citing the instance of Galway valley, India has all the potential to do it.

In this context, the arms and defense technology and knowledge of Russia are useful for India. But Russia is not much happy with India's increasing ties with Washington and is likely to have a defense tie-up with Pakistan. And China might take this as an opportunity to exploit the situation.

Other worries about this include, a missing trade pact between India and the US and America's military withdrawal from Afghanistan (which is supported by India).

The best for India would be America and Russia bond tighter. The idea is to prevent ties between Beijing and Moscow. It is so because not Russia but China has the power to be a global disruptor. India surely needs to expand its economy over the next 10 years to help emerge as a superpower and end this trilemma.

### Words to look out for

#### Mince:

- **Synonyms:** hash, soften, grind
- **Antonyms:** run, sprint
- **Word usage:** Chop or mince in a food processor and serve.

#### Anointing:

- **Synonyms:** unction, blessing, chrism
- **Antonyms:** curse, defile, denial
- **Word usage:** The priest anointed the baby's forehead.

#### Jousting:

- **Synonyms:** dueling, joust, disputative
- **Antonyms:** accord, agreement
- **Word usage:** Manchester United and Liverpool are jousting for the position at the top of the football league.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/new-delhis-trilemma-how-india-manages-its-interests-in-the-us-china-russia-game-will-be-one-of-its-toughest-challenges/>

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