"The way government is working, our hopes have increased as to the Ram temple at Ayodhya. Now, there is no point in waiting," — UDMARK TRAVELLER, Shiv Sena chief, speaking on the construction of the Ram temple.

"As far as the conversation on mental health is concerned, I think we've come a long way. But we have a long way to go." — DEEPAK MISHRA, former cricketer, on Rohit Sharma opening in Test matches.

"Opening is a specialised job. He's been opening in limited-overs cricket, but Test cricket requires a massive adjustment in mindset." — NEVISH CHOPRA, former cricketer, on Rohit Sharma opening in Test matches.

"I'm setting a new benchmark in tennis. I want to break rules. Still the profiles tell a way to go." — MEHBOOB, an unused, in 2019 250 cases of malaria in New Delhi, including 33 cases in September.

"The guardian on need for a villain in the UK."

No single evil genius behind Brexit debacle

Boris Johnson's adviser Dominic Cummings, is nicknamed the Mekon after the comic-book villain in a TV series. He has a starring role in the drama 'Brexit: The Uncivil War'.

"The fact that the campaign Cummings led was found guilty of breaking the law was mentioned once in the drama. The narratives claim Cummings's success as the Vote Leave campaign is because of talent, not a willingness to break rules. Still the profiles tell a tale of the outsider geniusing his way into the heart of politics.

Britian always needs a villain to blame for situation.

The trope of the evil genius feeds off another cliché, that of the hapless political leader who is overwhelmed, and surrounded by plotters and in need of a firm hand to steer him or her through political crises. Cummings does not control Johnson, and Jeremy Corbyn is not the political prisoner of his project."

A closer look at the Indian exports may help one acknowledge that the last few years have seen a negative Current Account Balance, with a poor export performance trend. In fact, over the last five years, Indian exports have performed dismally across all markets. One of the key concerns in this regard has been the worsening of "farm-to-factory" production line, which in an agrarian economy like India's, helps in boosting agri-based exportables in regional markets. India's agriculture sector and manufacturing sector (i.e. depending on agri-inputs), have been witnessing a slowdown with declining incomes. It is understandable to see the wrath of sector-based performance declines on the aggregate export performance levels too. Further, an overvalued (and a poorly competitive) position of the Rupee – within other exporting markets, hasn't helped India's export scenario as well. It is also useful to highlight that while big-bang incentives through tax-exemptions are often argued as the 'most ideal' scenario for textile-led (or other medium scale) export productions, a reflection on ex-Chief Economic Advisor, Dr. Arvind Subramaniam's own Economic Survey study – released a couple of years ago – offered some useful insights on how most export tax-exemption packages don't work.

For example in June 2016, the Union Cabinet announced a $9.5 billion export package for the apparel sector. The largest component of this package included rebates on state levies (ROSL) in an attempt to offset indirect taxes levied by the states (when VAT was there) that were embedded in exports. After the package, the ROSL increased export incentives by between 2.8 per cent – 3.3 per cent. Subramaniam's team, in testing the success of this export package, highlighted how “the package increased exports of ready-made garments (RMGs)” but made no "statistically significant point of impact on ready-made garments made of other fibres (alk. cotton etc.), and the impact man-made fibres increased gradually over time, by September 2017." Need for reforms

India's export scenario requires a slew of micro reforms – accompanied by a more flexible exchange rate design that allows India's farm-to-factory product line to become more export oriented, especially in the regional markets (and in boosting ties with countries like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar to mention a few). However, additional measures in providing higher insurance cover, more regular shopping festivals (on line with the GST and shopping festival, monitoring of export finance, and turn around times of ports and airports will gradually help in improving export competitiveness from a macro-standpoint. Having said that, in current scenarios of pessimistic performance trends, the extent to which macro-measures alone can help deal with structural economic problems or ones that can push for a higher growth trajectory in potentially higher export areas (agriculture, manufacturing, textiles), remains to be seen.

Long-term scenario

On measures to boost investment in real-estate sector and government's affordable housing plan, these warrant a separate mention. The Finance Minister announced a last mile fund to the tune of $10,000 crores in partnership with a government entity to target the lower income groups (as opposed to the middle income group). The funds will be used to promote affordable housing, contribute to the housing dream. Furthermore, the lowering of home loan commercial bank rates (now around 6.8 per cent – 7.0 per cent) will subconsecutively compliment the increase in housing demand (and supply) eventually. At the same time, apart from sectoral areas that the Finance Minister emphasized upon, a few key maco trends that still needs greater monitoring and policy attention (i.e. in context of the economic slowdown) include: decline (and near stagnation) of housing demand, GDP growth levels, along with a rising divergence seen in urban and rural inflation trends, along with lowering of household saving levels and private consumption expenditure."

The writer, an assistant professor, is director Centre for New Economic Studies, University of Delhi. The views expressed are personal.
The Last Gambit originated in 2008 by mnemonic member Michael Belletz and graphic designer Danny Fischer, who works under the pseudonym Qasot. What started out as a short term cooperation, with rising enthusiasm of the two musicians, became a growing project which directs its musical focus on gentle electronic tonal aesthetic. The last-mile window, on the face of it, is likely to help provide the necessary funding for healthy housing projects. That won’t be enough. by Deepanshu Mohan Sep 17, 2019 3 minutes. In another episode of sector-specific reforms to arrest the current economic slowdown, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced measures to revive growth in the housing sector and to push for greater exports. Nirmala Sitharaman has announced a last-mile Rs 20,000 crore package with.