

# World Economic Features

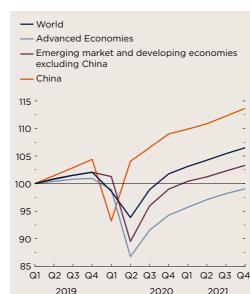
The world entered 2020 with expectations of steady GDP growths across geographical pockets, with significant improvements in emerging economies.

The projections and estimates, however, were deeply dented by the entirely unforeseen event – the Black Swan – COVID-19. IMF's World Economic Outlook Update June 2020 (A Crisis Like No Other, An Uncertain Recovery) highlights a few things, which are important indicators. The chart below encapsulates the summary of the update.

The key features are:

- 1. Global growth is projected at -4.9% in 2020.
- 2. China may remain the only economy in the positive-growth zone at the end of 2020.
- 3. Emerging economies may require the complete 2020 calendar year to stage a recovery.
- 4. The advanced economies, however, may face a greater uphill task and for longer.
- 5. Despite the damage, it still conveys, as of June 2020, a hope for V-shaped recovery, as has abundantly been evidenced.

#### Quarterly World GDP (2019:Q1 = 100)



Source IMF staff estimates

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# India's Economy & Real Estate

The same report, projects India's real GDP growth to tread into the negative zone (at -4.5%) during the 2020 fiscal year. However, the recovery is expected to be sharp in the following year, i.e. in 2021 fiscal year, at 6%.

The Reserve Bank of India, on May 22nd 2020, estimated that the impact of the COVID crisis may last till the mid-2021.

# India's Office Real Estate in H1-2020

The office markets have clearly mirrored the overall economic pattern in the country.

For the top 6 markets of Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune & Hyderabad (which we reported in Office Market Watch Year-end 2019) Office absorption and supply recorded significant Y-O-Y declines, as shown here.

From nearly 32.3 mn sq. ft. of space absorbed in H1-2019, the H1-2020 absorption fell to approx. 13.7 mn sq. ft. Similarly, the cumulative supply addition was 13.5 mn sq. ft. in H1 2020, compared to 26.6 mn sq. ft. in H1 2019.

#### H1 2019 vs H1 2020

■ H1 2019 ■ H1 2020 ■ YOY Decline 35 -5% 30 -15% **25** 20 **20** -25% 0 -35% <sup>...</sup> **5** 15 -45% Ō 10 -55% 5 -65% 0 -75% Absorption Supply

The exemplary lockdown which stretched to nearly 50 days, before the unlocking process began towards the close of H1-2020, was one of the largest implemented lockdowns. Amidst the crisis and the resultant slowdown, the central government announced an economic package of approx. USD 265 billion, which was approx. 10% of the country's GDP. It is

### Citywise Demand Split & Comparisons

It is important to take a quick view of the mid-year demand patterns and present a brief year-on-year comparison for each of the six cities.

The demand continues to be driven by BFSI and IT across all the cities, with Mumbai experiencing a substantial 36% from Consulting firms (incorporated within 'Others' in the chart below).

A broader and macro look reveals an interesting pattern. Except Mumbai, all other markets in the COVID & lockdown phase remained dependent on three core sectors, namely, BFSI (Banking Financial Services & Insurance), Technology and Manufacturing. While this pattern may change during the second half, if the pandemic led crisis persists, India's focus on its traditional sectors may need to increase, necessitating vital policy initiatives as well.

This section has presented a toplevel summary of office markets' performance on the national scale. Further details on absorption, stock and supply, rentals, vacancies, sectoral splits, etc. are provided in each citys section.



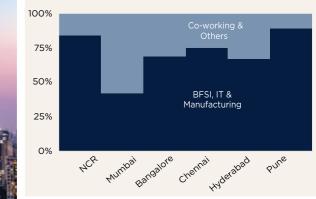
reckoned to be among the largest financial supports globally.

Overall, the economic recovery is rivetted strongly on a scientific solution to the current problem. The hopes of a breakthrough have consistently risen as the first half of 2020 ended.

## Demand Comparisons: H1 2019 vs H1 2020 ■ H1 2019 ■ H1 2020 ■ YOY Decline 0% -10% -20% -30% -40% -50% -60% -70% Source Savills India Research Demand Sectors in H1 2020 ■ BFSI ■ IT ■ Manufacturing ■ Co-working ■ Others 100% 75% 50% 25% 0%

Source Savills India Research

#### Core Demand Sectors in H1 2020



Source Savills India Research

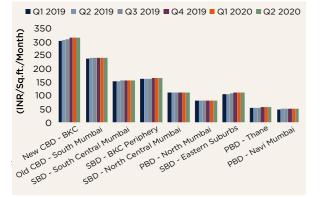


#### Mumbai Absorption, Additional Stock and Vacancy, Q1/2019 to Q2/2020



Source Savills India Research

Rental Trends - Micro market Wise, Q1/2019 to Q2/2020



Source Savills India Research

## MUMBAI COMMERCIAL **OVERVIEW**

#### Demand: The office market of Mumbai

Metropolitan Region (MMR) has been performing well since the last 5 years. 2019 particularly witnessed strong leasing activity with transactions of over 6.9 mn sq.ft taking place. The momentum continued into 2020; with space take up remaining buoyant till the nation-wide lockdown towards the end of Q1- 2020. As MMR remained under lockdown for an extensive period in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, office leasing stood at 2.8 mn sq. ft. in the H1 2020, a decline of nearly 24% YoY. Micromarkets like PBD – North Mumbai accounted for nearly 40% of the leasing activity, followed by New CBD – BKC and SBD – Eastern Suburbs with 15% and 12% share respectively.

#### Supply:

As supply chain disruptions and labour issues became real bottlenecks in construction related activities for most of April, May and June 2020, incremental office stock creation was negligible. H1-2020 witnessed 0.8 mn sq.ft of additional stock creation- a declineof 70% YoY. Micromarkets like Navi Mumbai, PBD – North Mumbai and SBD – Eastern Suburbs saw bulk

of the additional supply creation, and at the end of H1 2020, the total stock stood at around 125 mn sq.ft for MMR. Commencement of Unlock 1.0 & 2.0 indicates a revival of sorts, though putting a number to it still remains difficult.

#### Vacancy, Rentals and Segmental Demand:

Vacancy levels have been around 13% in H1 2020. Despite a drop in the leasing activity, the weighted average rental grew by 2% YoY in H1 2020. We do not anticipate an increase in rents in the next few quarters due to the economic and demand uncertainty. As far as the sectoral demand is concerned, Financial Services and Technology segments were the biggest contributors -21% and 19% respectively. Co-working operators accounted for 14% of the market activity in H1 2020. We foresee reduction in fresh leasing activity by co-working operators in the near term.



**2%** 

ΙТ

**3%** 

Healthcare

Consulting & Research

36%

Source Savills India Research

Manufacturing

### **IMPACT OF COVID-19 AND OVERALL OUTLOOK**

Leasing activity and additional supply has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many transactions were deferred by 3-6 months as businesses took a hit, on account of stringent lockdown. Many companies have put their expansion plans on hold. We expect gradual recovery in fresh leasing activity for the rest of the year. Infact, the overall recovery of commercial office market is expected to be highly contingent on how businesses react to the ever-evolving and dynamic COVID-19 situation. In the near term the tenants focus is expected to be clearly on cost optimization and creation of safe and secure workplaces. Demand generated by the healthcare segment is expected to remain favourable in the medium term.

#### Key Office Transactions, H1-2020

Building	Tenant	Micro-market	Sq ft*
Lodha i-Think - Tower A	Deloitte Shared Services India Limited Liability Partnership	PBD - Thane	180,000
Akruti Business Port	HDFC Bank Limited	SBD - North Central Mumbai	140,000
Prism Tower A (Mindspace)	Tech Mahindra Business Services Limited	PBD - North Mumbai	120,000
Prism B (Mindspace)	Tech Mahindra Business Services Limited	PBD - North Mumbai	120,000
247 Park	Future Retail Limited	SBD- Eastern Suburbs	110,000

#### MUMBAI MICROMARKETS:

Old CBD (South Mumbai) - Nariman Point, Cuffe Parade, Ballard Estate, Fort and Churchgate New CBD (BKC) - G Block and Other than G Block

SBD - I (SBD - South Central Mumbai) - Mahalaxmi, Worli, Lower Parel, Prabhadevi, Dadar West, Dadar East and Parel SBD - II (SBD - BKC Periphery) - Bandra E, Bandra W, Kalina, Vakola, Khar E, Khar W, Kurla, Santacruz E and Santacruz W SBD - III (SBD North Central Mumbai) - Vile Parle E, Vile Parle W, Andheri E, Andheri W, Jogeshwari E Jogeshwari W, Goregaon E and Goregaon W SBD - IV (SBD - Eastern Suburbs) - Sion, Chembur, Ghatkopar, Mulund, Kanjurmarg, Powai and Vikhroli PBD - I (North Mumbai) - Malad East, Malad W, Kandivali E, Kandivali W, Borivali E and Borival W

PBD - II (Thane) - Thane

PBD - III (Navi Mumabi) - Airoli, Vashi, CBD Belapur, Mahape and Turbhe

\*Approximate and indicative area only



Source Savills India Research



# **Terms & Acronyms**

#### Recovery Shapes

Harvard Business Review suggested various possible recoveries from the Corona crisis. Three of those are commonly used, namely V, U & L shapes. V-Shaped is a strong recovery after the debacle, U-shaped is a slower and long-drawn recovery, while an L-shaped aftermath is where the previous peak is not recovered.

#### BFSI

Banking, Financial Services and Insurance

#### DELHI NCR

National Capital Region. For our report purposes, we include New Delhi, NOIDA & Gurgaon (however, in general parlance it is meant to include several others like Ghaziabad, Dwarka, Faridabad, etc.)

#### BKC

Bandra Kurla Complex, now the established main business district of Mumbai, supplanting the erstwhile Central Business District of Nariman Point

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