

Daily News Monitor: 12 April 2021

1. 'Tika Utsav' beginning of second big war on coronavirus, says PM Modi

Source: Business Standard ([Link](#))

Asserting that the 'Tika Utsav', a vaccination drive between April 11 and 14, marks the beginning of the second big war on COVID-19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 11 April made several suggestions to people on tackling the virus and urged them to focus on personal and social hygiene. In a statement, he urged people to keep four things in mind, including "each one, vaccinate one", "each one, treat one" and "each one, save one". Elderly people or those who may not be much educated should be helped in getting the vaccine, he said, and also asked people to help those COVID-19 patients in getting treatment who may lack resources or information. By wearing masks, people can save themselves and others, Modi added. He also asked families and members of the society to take lead in setting up micro containment zones in case of anyone getting the infectious disease, saying this is an important way to fight the disease in a densely populated country like India.

2. Flipkart inks pact with Adani Group

Source: The Hindu, Business Line ([Link](#))

Flipkart on 12 April said it has entered into a commercial partnership with the Adani Group to strengthen logistics and data centre capabilities of the Walmart-owned company and create about 2,500 direct jobs. In this two-pronged partnership, Flipkart will work with Adani Logistics Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd, to strengthen its supply chain infrastructure and further enhance its ability to serve its rapidly growing base of customers, a statement said. In addition, Flipkart will set up its third data centre at Adaniconnex's Chennai-based facility, leveraging the latter's expertise and industry-leading data centre technology solutions, it added. Adaniconnex is a new joint venture formed between EdgeConneX and Adani Enterprises Ltd. Financial details of the partnership were not disclosed. As part of this partnership, Adani Logistics Ltd will construct a 5.34 lakh sq ft fulfilment centre (warehouse) in its upcoming logistics hub in Mumbai that will be leased to Flipkart to address the growing demand for e-commerce in western India and support market access of several thousands of sellers and MSMEs in the region.

3. Govt may hike FDI limit in pension sector to 74%; Bill likely in monsoon session

Source: The Economic Times ([Link](#))

The government may hike foreign direct investment (FDI) limit in the pension sector to 74 per cent and a Bill in this regard is expected to come in the next Parliament session, according to sources. Last month, Parliament approved a Bill to increase FDI limit in the insurance sector from 49 per cent to 74 per cent. The Insurance Act, 1938 was last amended in 2015 which raised FDI limit to 49 per cent, resulting in foreign capital inflow of Rs 26,000 crore in the last 5 years. Amendment to Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Act, 2013 seeking to raise FDI limit in the pension sector may come in the monsoon session or winter session depending on various approvals, sources said.

4. RMZ and CPP join hands for commercial real estate development in India

Source: Business Standard ([Link](#))

RMZ Corp, one of Asia's largest privately-owned real estate owners & developers and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board ("CPP Investments") announced today that they have entered into a joint venture to develop and hold commercial office space in Chennai and Hyderabad. CPP Investments will invest Rs 15,000,000,000 (USD 210 million), which will allow for the expected development of 10.4 million square feet of high-quality commercial office sites. "RMZ is widely recognized as one of the most innovative and prolific developers in Asia, dedicated to working to the highest standards across all aspects of the real estate equation. The partnership with CPP Investments, a globally respected institutional investor, will only strengthen our vision of achieving our hyper-growth strategy target of RMZ 2.0," said Manoj Menda, Corporate Chairman, RMZ Corp. "The value of the partnership assets, once developed, is estimated to be over USD 1.5 billion".

5. Govt to complete 5 surveys in 7 months on jobs: Labour Bureau DG

Source: The Economic Times ([Link](#))

The Union government is conducting five different types of surveys through which it aims to collect the data of all migrant workers, maids, professionals, etc. The Labour Bureau of the Ministry of Labour and Employment has been designated to complete these surveys in seven months. Labour Bureau Director General (DG) D.P.S. Negi told IANS: "The actual situation of the employment in the country will be clear after the completion of these five surveys. The government requires data to formulate any policy. These surveys will provide an extensive data of all the professionals, migrant labourers as well as those who are working in

unorganised sectors and employment opportunities being generated in unorganised sector which will help the government in framing new policy on employment."

6. India may approve third covid vaccine soon, expert committee to consider Sputnik V today

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

India may get a third vaccine for the novel coronavirus very soon. As more and more states flag shortage of Covid-19 vaccine doses, the Subject Expert Committee (SEC) will be meeting today to take up Sputnik V application for emergency use authorisation in India, new agency ANI reported. Top government sources told ANI that by end of the third quarter of this year, India will be getting vaccines from five additional manufacturers. India currently manufactures Covishield and Covaxin. Out of almost 20 COVID-19 vaccines in various clinical and pre-clinical stages, Sputnik V vaccine will get the nod first. It is expected that Sputnik is likely to get the EUA within the next ten days.