

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 24 JUNE 2021

1. Centre to restart quarterly jobs, migrant surveys in July

Source: Hindustan Times ([Link](#))

The Union labour ministry will start two key surveys—one that will capture job creation at establishments and the second on the socio-economic condition of migrants—in July, a move that will determine the course of India's policy response to joblessness and migrant welfare. After several false starts, the ministry will initiate the jobs survey across establishments, physically in both manufacturing and services sectors, starting next month. The surveys were earlier supposed to start in April, but the pandemic's second wave disrupted the plan. Subsequently, the labour bureau decided to do the quarterly jobs survey telephonically from late May, but the severity of the pandemic put paid to the plan.

2. Centre's new e-commerce rules to hit MakeMyTrip, Zomato, Uber among others

Source: Money Control ([Link](#))

The Centre's newly-proposed amendments to the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020 have irked the e-commerce sector that believes that the changes would affect a range of companies including online travel company MakeMyTrip, food delivery aggregators Zomato and Swiggy, ride-hailing service providers Ola and Uber and besides home services company Urban Company among others. The abovementioned companies are reportedly reviewing the potential impact of these amendments and some of these companies may participate in discussions through IndiaTech, CII and FICCI, a report in The Economic Times said. Views/comments/suggestions on the proposed amendments may be sent within 15 days (by July 6) by email to js-ca@nic.in," Anupam Mishra, Joint Secretary in the consumer affairs ministry, said in a public notice.

3. Apollo Hospitals creates India's largest omni-channel health platform, reports Rs 170 crore net profit for Q4FY21

Source: Money Control ([Link](#))

Apollo Hospitals, India's largest healthcare company, on June 23 announced creation of India's largest omni-channel digital health platform by merging its online, offline pharmacy and tele-medicine verticals into a single entity called Apollo HealthCo. As per the reorganisation Apollo has transferred its back-end offline pharmacy business (excluding hospital-based pharmacies), digital healthcare platform Apollo 24/7, its investment in retail pharmacy business (Apollo Medicals Private Ltd), and the "Apollo 24/7" brand, the "Apollo

Pharmacy" brand and private label brands into the healthcare group's 100 percent subsidiary Apollo HealthCo Limited.

4. Centre further eases norms for business process management firms

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

The Department of Telecommunication on 23 June further liberalised the guidelines for Other Service Providers (OSPs), enabling business process management (BPM) firms' employees to work from home and provide voice-based services in India and abroad. The government has removed the distinction between domestic and international OSPs, which means a BPM centre with common telecom resources will now be able to serve customers located worldwide including in India. It also means interconnectivity between all types of OSP centres is now permitted. "In order to encourage our BPO industry, OSP guidelines that were liberalised in November 2020 have been simplified even further, offering greater ease of business and regulatory clarity. This will further reduce compliance burden and help our tech industry," Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted. The guidelines issued in November 2020 had reduced the compliance burden of the BPM industry.

5. Adani group strikes first coal from its Carmichael mine in Australia

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

The Adani group struck first coal from its Carmichael, Australia project on 24 June and will start shipping to its customers according to schedule. With this, the project will not only lift the economic prospects of the hitherto barren Australian outback, but also help Indian power plants to source cheap coal. The project had faced protests from a section of population with several banks even refusing to fund it. The group, however, went ahead with the project which included construction of a brand new railway line connecting an Australian port to the mine -- situated 300 kilometers away in Queensland. The group had planned the project in 2010 with an investment of A\$16.5 billion but later scaled it down to A\$2 billion. The project will produce 15 million tonnes of coal per year and ramp up production later to 27.5 million tonnes per year. This was one of the biggest investments by an Indian company in Australia.

6. Heineken buys Mallya's 15% stake to take control of United Breweries

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

Heineken, the second largest beer company in the world, increased its stake in United Breweries (UBL) to 61.5 per cent on 23 June. The Dutch parent of UBL, which had 45 per cent stake prior to today's transaction, bought the 14.99 per cent stake worth about Rs 5,825 crore held by the Debt Recovery Tribunal. Given that Heineken received an exemption from

making an open offer, it could also acquire the balance 11 per cent UB group stake pledged with banks through the same route. If this goes through, Heineken's stake in UBL, which has a 50 per cent share in India's beer market, will cross the 72 per cent mark. These shares were earlier owned by UB group chairman, Vijay Mallya who fled India after defaulting on bank loans taken by his now closed airline – Kingfisher Airlines. After Mallya escaped to London – leaving unpaid bills of thousands of employees, vendors and lenders – the Enforcement Directorate attached his properties including his stake in Indian companies. The Indian lenders had made claims worth Rs 9,000 crore against the airline. The ED transferred the shares to the lenders after the PMLA Court ordered the agency in May last week.

7. Toyota joins hands with ACMA to share best practices with auto component firms

Source: Money Control ([Link](#))

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) on 23 June said it has inked a pact with auto component industry body ACMA for sharing its best practices. As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the automaker through its training arm Toyota Learning and Development India (TLDI) will share its best practices like people development and lean management principles with the industry members of ACMA. The Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA) represents over 850 domestic manufacturers. TKM will impart 131 training programs focusing on principles of lean manufacturing, automobile and electrified vehicle technologies, industrial safety, environmental management systems, quality and supply chain management and trades such as automobile welding, car painting, mechatronics, automation and robotics.

8. Myntra ready to face Nykaa in beauty segment

Source: Hindustan Times ([Link](#))

Walmart-backed online fashion store Myntra has ramped up its beauty and personal care portfolio with a clutch of premium brands as it takes on bigger rival e-tailer Nykaa for a larger share of the fashion and beauty market. Pricey products from Benefit, Bath & Body Works, Smashbox and Minimalist are on offer, as Myntra sets out to double its beauty and personal care offerings by the end of this fiscal year. The category could be among the top five of a dozen retailed by the marketplace by the end of the year. For the year 2019-20, the company reported a 58% jump in revenue at ₹1,719 crore, according to business intelligence platform Tofler. But Nykaa leads in market share by a distance. With sales of \$250 million in FY20, Nykaa accounts for over 30% of the online beauty and personal care market, Jefferies said in its note.