

## DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 3 AUGUST 2021

### **1. Centre may allow mixing of Sputnik, Covishield shots**

**Source: Livemint ([Link](#))**

India is set to allow mix-and-match inoculation, with people free to choose the first jab of one vaccine and the second jab of a different one, as it moves to overcome supply constraints and evidence grows that the practice is not only safe but also produces a strong immune response. The covid-19 working group of the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) is considering allowing mixing and matching, but with one restriction—both doses will need to be from similar platforms. That's to say, a person getting Covishield as the first vaccine can opt for a second dose of the Sputnik V shot because both the vaccines use adenoviruses to deliver antigens to the body. Similarly, people can get the first dose of Pfizer's covid vaccine and the second dose of Moderna's as both are mRNA jabs.

### **2. Vedanta Aluminium becomes India's largest green power buyer at IEX**

**Source: Financial Express ([Link](#))**

Vedanta said on 2 August that its aluminium business unit became the largest green power procurer in the Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) platform in the first quarter of FY22, sourcing 354 million units of renewable energy (RE)-based electricity for its aluminium production facility at Jharsuguda, in Odisha. The power was bought through the green term-ahead-market (G-TAM) market in the IEX. Corporate India is increasingly trying to reduce their carbon footprint and many corporate consumers already receive RE power through the 'open access' mechanism.

### **3. Unacademy raises \$440 million in fresh funding, valued at \$3.44 bn**

**Source: Financial Express ([Link](#))**

Unacademy has raised a fresh \$440 million in funding led by Temasek at a post-money valuation of \$3.44 billion. The investment, that is part of the company's series H financial round, was also heavily backed by General Atlantic, Tiger Global and SoftBank Vision Fund. Mirae Asset, Aroa Ventures, the family office of Oyo founder Ritesh Agarwal and Zomato CEO & co-founder Deepinder Goyal also participated in the funding round that gave an exit to some of Unacademy's angel investors, the company said in a statement on 2 August.

### **4. Reliance slips 59 places on Fortune list, SBI jumps 16 notches**

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

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's oil-to-telecom conglomerate Reliance Industries Ltd slipped 59 places to rank 155th on the 2021 Fortune Global 500 list released on 2 August. Reliance took

a beating on the rankings as revenues dropped owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is its lowest ranking since 2017. Walmart continues to top the Fortune list with a revenue of USD 524 billion, followed by China's State Grid at USD 384 billion. With USD 280 billion revenue, Amazon came in at the third spot, replacing Chinese giants. China National Petroleum was ranked fourth and Sinopec Group fifth. Reliance's revenue fell 25.3 per cent to USD 63 billion, mostly because oil prices plunged in the second quarter of 2020 when the global spread of the pandemic wiped away demand.

#### **5. BSES ties up 3.3 Gw green power for supply in Delhi as it exits older PPAs**

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

Reliance Infrastructure promoted power distribution company BSES Ltd, which operates in some areas of Delhi, is in the process of tying 3.3 Gw of green energy for supply in the national capital. When the deal is concluded, the company would become the discom with the highest green energy tie-ups, claimed company executives. Executives said BSES will sign power purchase agreements (PPAs) with projects tendered by central agency SECI Ltd. The projects that BSES will sign up are of Adani Green Energy, Amp Energy, Avikaran Surya among others, said sources. "By FY 23-24, about 3.3 Gw of green power will be operationalised by BSES. Out of this, 2.3 Gw will be pure-play renewable, consisting of solar, wind and waste to energy and around 1 Gw would be hydro," said an executive.

#### **6. Infosys hits ₹7 trillion in market cap for the first time**

**Source: Livemint ([Link](#))**

Infosys Ltd on 3 August became the fourth Indian firm to hit ₹7 trillion in market capitalisation after its shares surged over 71% in the last one year. The stock touched an all-time high of ₹1644.05 on BSE with a market cap of ₹7.01 trillion. The scrip was trading at ₹1644, up 0.7% from its previous close. So far this year it has gained over 31%. Earlier, Reliance Industries Ltd, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd and HDFC Bank Ltd have achieved this milestone. The stock has been gaining since the firm increased its fiscal year 2022 revenue guidance to 14-16% on a constant currency basis from 12-14% earlier. The firm maintained its operating margins guidance at 22-24%.