

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 17 OCTOBER 2022

1. PM Narendra Modi to release 12th installment under PM-KISAN scheme today

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

In what could be a Diwali bonanza for millions of farmers, the government will release Rs 16,000 crore under the 12th installment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme on Monday through direct benefit transfer, which is expected to benefit 10 crore farmers. The installment amount will be released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday during the inauguration of the "PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022" at Indian Agricultural Research Institute here. IANS had reported on October 13 that the government could release the 12th instalment amount within a week.

2. Avataar Venture Partners launches new fund, with a target size of \$350 mn

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

Avataar Venture Partners, a technology focussed growth-stage investor, said it has launched its latest fund with a target size of \$350 million. The fund had its first close with marquee institutional investors from the US, Europe, and the West Asia. Founded in 2019, Avataar said the launch of the new fund highlights the huge market opportunity in business-to-business (B2B) tech and software-as-a-service (SaaS) sectors which have been resilient through the funding winter. Avataar has already started investing from its new fund and is undergoing several discussions with companies raising their early growth rounds, including Series C.

3. After 2 years of pandemic, medical tourism in India on a rise: Report

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

After a two-year hiatus, medical tourism in New Delhi is flourishing again with patients coming in from Bangladesh, Iraq, Uzbekistan and Kenya, according to a report by Times of India (TOI). Most of the patients coming to India are availing of cardiac surgery, liver transplants, and kidney and bone marrow transplants. The 'flattening' of the third wave of Covid-19, easing restrictions and removing government quota on private hospitals can be attributed to the rise in medical tourism. They remained frozen for over two years. "Hospitals have begun receiving international cases, especially with life-threatening illnesses like cancer, orthopaedic surgery and organ transplants. We expect a further rise in the number (of medical tourists)," Dr Sangita Reddy, joint managing director, of Apollo Hospitals told TOI.

4. PM Modi to launch PMJAY-MA Yojana Ayushman cards distribution in Gujarat today

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

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on 17 October attend an event to distribute Ayushman cards to beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana–Ma Amrutam (PMJAY-MA) scheme in Gujarat, officials said. PM Modi will join the programme organised in Gujarat capital Gandhinagar in the presence of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel via video conference and will also interact with three beneficiaries, an official release said on Sunday. The Ayushman PVC cards (made of polyvinyl chloride material which can be carried easily) are to be distributed to more than 50 lakh beneficiaries under the PMJAY-MA scheme in Gujarat, the release said.

5. Nokia signs multi-year hardware supply deal with Reliance Jio for 5G network

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

Reliance Jio has selected Nokia as a key supplier to provide 5G Radio Access Network (RAN) hardware across the nation in a multi-year deal, announced Nokia. With one of the largest RAN footprints in the world, Reliance Jio is the top mobile operator in India. According to a press filing, under the agreement, Nokia will provide base stations, 5G Massive MIMO antennas with high capacity, Remote Radio Heads (RRH) that support various frequency bands, self-organizing network software, and base stations. The standalone 5G network that Reliance Jio aims to build will be able to communicate with its 4G network. Reliance Jio will be able to offer cutting-edge 5G services on the network, including network slicing, ultra-low latency, and large machine-to-machine interactions.