#### **DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 18 OCTOBER 2021**

### **1. India set to update 2030 climate targets under Paris Agreement Source: The Economic Times (Link)**

After months of pushing back, India is set to update its 2030 climate targets under the Paris Agreement. India is considering cutting down almost by half the amount of greenhouse gases produced for every dollar of economic activity by the end of the decade. India's updated nationally determined contributions or NDCs, as commitments by countries under the Paris Agreement are referred to, could include a commitment to reduce the emissions intensity of the economy by at least 46 to 48 per cent from its 2005 levels. Building on its enhanced renewable energy target of 450GW, India could pledge to increase the share of non-fossil fuel sources in its energy generation capacity to at least 60 per cent, with the possibility of raising it to 65 per cent, by 2030. With less than two weeks to the Glasgow meet, inter-ministerial consultations are on to finalise the details.

# **2.** Finance Ministry to seek Cabinet nod for setting up company to monetise land assets of privatisation-bound CPSEs Source: Financial Express (Link)

The finance ministry will soon move the Cabinet to seek approval for setting up a company for transfer and subsequent monetisation of land and non-core assets of privatisation-bound CPSEs, an official said. A special purpose vehicle (SPV) in the form of a company would be set up to hold these assets which would be monetised to fetch value to the exchequer, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said. "We are talking about a company which will be there for many years, which will specialise in handling surplus land and non-core asset monetisation. We are expecting it shortly. As soon as we get Cabinet approval," Pandey told PTI. There are some CPSEs for strategic disinvestment and "we feel certain portion of land is not really worth going with the company and those assets could be monetised", he said.

## **3.** Over 50 Indian IT companies showcase products at Dubai trade show Source: Business Standard (Link)

Over 50 Indian electronics and computer software companies are showcasing their products and services at Gitex Global, the annual trade show, exhibition and conference. Gitex Global, dubbed as the world's biggest technology show, is being organised from October 17 to 21 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) has been facilitating regular Indian participation at Gites to take advantage of the booming IT market in the Gulf, said Kamal Vachani, Regional Director, Middle East at ESC. Gitex is continuing to emerge as the largest and the most impressive Information and Communications Technology (ICT) event of its kind in the Middle East. India has a great stake in the booming Middle East, Africa, Asia (WANA Region) and European markets for which Dubai is the Gateway. Thus, the event provides the participating Indian ICT companies opportunities for scouting the expanding Middle East market, said Gurmeet Singh, Executive Director at ESC.

### 4. Over 40 million unorganised workers registered on e-Shram portal: Govt Source: Business Standard (Link)

The Ministry of Labour and Employment on Sunday said the number registrations has crossed 4-crore mark on e-Shram portal in less than two months of its launch. According to a labour ministry statement, workers in diverse occupations such as construction, apparel manufacturing, fishing, gig and platform work, street vending, domestic work, agriculture and allied, transport sector have registered on the portal. In some of these sectors, an overwhelming proportion of migrant workers are also engaged, it stated. All workers in the unorganised sector, including migrant ones, can now take the benefits of various social security and employment-based schemes through registration on the e-Shram portal. As per latest data, 4.09 crore workers have registered on the portal. Of these, around 50.02 per cent beneficiaries are female and 49.98 per cent are male. It is encouraging that equivalent proportion of men and women have been part of this drive, it stated.

#### 5. Procurement of expensive aircraft parts to be done after approval of senior official: Air India

#### Source: Money Control (Link)

New aircraft parts worth more than Rs 10 lakhs and non-aircraft parts worth more than Rs 5 lakh will now be procured only after the approval of the either Director Finance or Executive Director Finance, Air India said on 17 October. Moreover, the airline in an order stated that if the repair of aircraft parts is going to cost more than Rs 10 lakh, it has to be first approved by the Executive Director Engineering. This order was issued by Air India's Director, Finance, Vinod Hejmadi after Civil Aviation Secretary Rajiv Bansal stated that the airline's disinvestment exercise is likely to complete within the next 10 weeks and only necessary revenue and capital expenses should be carried out till then. Bansal also holds the charge of Chairman and Managing Director of Air India.