

Daily News Monitor: 24 November 2020

1. Adani Ports ranks 14th on global transportation in Dow Jones EM index

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

The Dow Jones Sustainability Emerging Markets Index has ranked Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) at number 14 in the highly competitive global transportation and transportation infrastructure sector. APSEZ is the only company from India to have been included in this sector. This initiates the presence of APSEZ on the DJSI Emerging Markets Index, one of the most sought-after Sustainability indices in the world that represents the top 10 per cent of the largest 800 companies within the world's 20 emerging markets and is based on long-term Environment, Social and Economic, and Governance criteria. As part of a stringent DJSI rating process all responses by APSEZ were substantiated with internal documentation and real-life examples and audited by an independent third party to verify the accuracy of the information provided.

2. With 1 million followers, RBI most popular central bank on Twitter

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

The Reserve Bank of India, the world's first central bank to have over 1 million followers on Twitter, can give top social media influencers and celebrities a run for their money as far as genuine followers are concerned (and not bots pushing up numbers, as is often the case with those in the social influence race.) But 1 million in a country of 1.3 billion people is only a fraction, besides the People's Bank of China isn't on Twitter. A central bank's influence is more measurable in terms of foreign reserves it holds and how it stacks up vis-a-vis other central banks. A partial reference to this can be found in the monthly US Treasury Department release which lists major foreign holders of the US Treasury — India is not in the top 10.

3. India smartphone exports could cross \$1.5 billion in 2020: techARC

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

India is expected to export smartphones worth USD 1.5 billion (over Rs 11,113 crore) this year to various countries, including the UAE, the US and Russia, according to a report by research firm techARC. techARC, in its India Mobile Phone Exports Market Scan Report, pegged the total exports of smartphones to cross USD 1.5 billion by value in 2020, with smartphones accounting for over 98 per cent of the total mobile phones exported from the country. "India has been exporting mobiles to destinations like UAE and neighbouring SAARC countries for

quite some time. However, ‘Make in India’ initiative has made India a truly global exporter of mobile phones,” techARC founder and Chief Analyst Faisal Kawoosa said.

4. PM Modi likely to discuss COVID-19 vaccination strategy, resurgence in cases with CMs today

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

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a virtual meeting with chief ministers and other representatives of states and Union Territories on November 24 to discuss India’s COVID-19 vaccine distribution strategy and recent resurgence in cases, news reports suggest. It was earlier reported that emergency authorisation of vaccines would be discussed with the states. This comes at a time when multiple drug makers have announced positive results from clinical trials for their COVID-19 vaccine candidates. According to a report by NDTV, PM Modi is also expected to discuss with states the cause for the recent surge in daily COVID-19 cases and the countermeasures they have planned...

5. UNDP, Invest India Launch SDG Investor Map to Promote Sustainable Development

Source: News 18 ([Link](#))

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Invest India launched the SDG Investor Map for India, laying out 18 investment opportunities areas (IOAs). These IOAs are in six critical SDG (sustainable development goals) enabling sectors that can help India push the needle forward on Sustainable Development, the UNDP, which works to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities through the sustainable development of nations, said in a release. "India occupies a key role in determining the success of the SDGs, globally. This initiative is an instrumental stride in India's development trajectory, and I believe it couldn't have come at a better time. We hope our data-backed research and insights serve as useful blueprints to understand how best the SDG financing gap can be narrowed in India," Invest India MD & CEO Deepak Bagla said. The development pathway that India chooses will set an example for other emerging nations and determine the achievement of global environmental and social targets, the UNDP said.

6. Vice-President to lead India at SCO Heads of Govt meet aimed to pushing eco ties in Eurasia

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

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu is expected to lead the country at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting that India is hosting on November 30 with a focus on forging economic and trade partnerships in the larger Eurasian region, including Russia and Central Asia. This is the first time India is hosting the summit since it became a member of the group

in 2017. The meeting will be held through video link because of the pandemic. According to officials, India has offered to host a new SCO Special Working Group on Startups and Innovation, formation of a sub-group on cooperation in traditional medicine for attainment and hosting the first-ever SCO Conclave for Young Scientists.

7. Budget to unveil more changes to push growth, says Nirmala Sitharaman

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

Notwithstanding the Covid-19 pandemic, the government has initiated a series of reforms to promote its Aatmnirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-Reliant India Initiative), and the momentum of the process will continue, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday, indicating that the coming budget will unveil more structural changes to boost the economy. Outlining the government's policy direction from the perspective of multi-national companies (MNCs), she said: "If you were to look at the Indian economy, and where the emphasis would be in the coming budget..., I would start with the fact that the Prime Minister himself has been engaging with the global investor community and talking to them {about} what exactly he looks at for India, how does he view India in this changing environment."