

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 2 SEPTEMBER 2022

1. Road ministry amends battery safety norms, to come into effect from Oct 1

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

Concerned over cases of fire incidents observed in electric two-wheelers, the road transport ministry has introduced additional safety provisions in the battery safety standards which will come into effect from October 1, according to an official release. The amendments include additional safety requirements related to battery cells, on-board charger, design of battery pack, and thermal propagation due to internal cell short circuit leading to fire. The notification to mandate amended standards for the respective categories of electric vehicles with effect from October 1, 2022, is in progress, the release said. In April this year, cases of electric two-wheelers of manufacturers such as Ola Electric, Okinawa Autotech and PureEV catching fire were reported. It prompted the government to form a panel to examine.

2. Google to extend third party billing to developers in India, other nations

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

In one of its biggest announcements that will impact thousands of app developers in India, Google announced that Google Play is extending its third-party billing pilot programme to India and four other countries--Australia, Indonesia, Japan, and the European Economic Area. Earlier this year, Google Play had announced additional billing options in South Korea and had started a pilot with Spotify, the company had then stated that it will run a small pilot in other countries too. What this basically means is that non-gaming developers in India can now have the option of providing third party billing systems to users. Developers in India have been demanding that Google Play should allow third party billing options for a long.

3. UPI transactions hit record 657 crore in August

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

Mass retail payments platform Unified Payments Interface, popularly known as UPI, posted yet another life high in August. The platform processed 6.57 billion (657 crore) transactions, totalling ₹10.73 trillion, data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) showed. UPI transactions by volume rose 85% on year, while it was up nearly 68% by value as compared to last year. In fiscal 2022, the platform processed 45 billion transactions worth ₹77.94 trillion. In the current year, UPI has recorded over 30 billion transactions worth ₹51.74 trillion so far. The next target for UPI is to process a billion transactions a day in the next 3-5 years.

4. Micron to invest \$15 bn by 2030 on semiconductor plant in Idaho's Boise

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

Micron will invest \$15 billion through the end of the decade on a new semiconductor plant in its hometown that the chipmaker said will create 17,000 American jobs. Sanjay Mehrotra, president and CEO of Boise, Idaho-based Micron, said his company's investment was made possible by last month's passage of the CHIPS and Science ACT of 2022, a \$280 billion bill aimed at bolstering U.S. competitiveness against China and avoiding another chip shortage like the one that derailed the auto and tech industries during the pandemic. The CHIPS law sets aside \$52 billion to bolster the semiconductor industry, which due to COVID-related supply chain constraints beginning in 2020, has struggled to manufacture the diminutive chips that power everything from smartphones to computers to automobiles.