

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 30 MAY 2022

1. PM Narendra Modi to release benefits under PM CARES for Children Scheme today

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release benefits under the PM CARES for children scheme on 30 May at 10:30 AM via video conferencing. "At 10:30 AM tomorrow, 30th May would be releasing benefits under the PM CARES for children scheme. Through this effort, we are supporting those who lost their parents to COVID-19," tweeted PM Modi on 29 May evening. Prime Minister will transfer scholarships to school going children. A passbook of PM CARES for Children, and health card under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana will be handed over to the children during the programme, the Prime Minister's Office said.

2. US surpasses China as India's biggest trading partner in FY22 at \$119.42 bn

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

The US surpassed China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22, reflecting strengthening economic ties between the two countries. According to the data of the commerce ministry, in 2021-22, the bilateral trade between the US and India stood at \$119.42 billion as against \$80.51 billion in 2020-21. Exports to the US increased to \$76.11 billion in 2021-22 from \$51.62 billion in previous fiscal year, while imports rose to \$43.31 billion as compared to about \$29 billion in 2020-21. During 2021-22, India's two-way commerce with China aggregated at \$115.42 billion as compared to \$86.4 billion in 2020-21, the data showed. Exports to China marginally increased to \$21.25 billion last fiscal year from \$21.18 billion in 2020-21, while imports jumped to \$94.16 billion from about \$65.21 billion in 2020-21. Trade gap rose to \$72.91 billion in 2021-22 from \$44 billion in previous fiscal year.

3. Govt withdraws advice against sharing photocopies of Aadhaar: Report

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

The government on 29 May withdrew a warning not to share photocopies of the national biometric identity card after the announcement caused widespread panic on social media. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) had issued the warning earlier in the day, citing misuse of Aadhaar details. The new statement said the Aadhaar ecosystem had adequate features to protect the identity and privacy of users, and that users are only advised to exercise "normal prudence". "This is in pursuant of the Press Release dated 27 May 2022 by the Bengaluru Regional Office, UIDAI. It is learnt that it was issued by them in the context of an attempt to misuse a photoshopped Aadhaar card. The release advised the people

to not to share photocopy of their Aadhaar with any organization because it can be misused. Alternatively, a masked Aadhaar which displays only the last 4 digits of Aadhaar number, can be used.

4. Centre setting up infra projects worth Rs 1.34 tr in North East: Sitharaman

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

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on 29 May said the Centre is implementing various rail, road and air connectivity projects worth Rs 1,34,200 crore in the northeast. Addressing the 'Natural Allies in Development and Interdependence' conclave here, she said the Union government has been pumping in huge money in developing a number of infrastructure projects throughout the region. "We are carrying out 20 railway projects worth Rs 74,000 crore for 2,011 km, which are spread across the northeast," Sitharaman said. The Centre is also developing 4,000 km of roads in the region at a total cost of Rs 58,000 crore, she added. "There are 15 ongoing air connectivity projects in the northeast, costing around Rs 2,200 crore," the finance minister said.

5. 1 GW solar project may be commissioned in '23

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

As part of its diversification drive, India's largest hydropower generation firm NHPC Ltd expects to commission the 1 gigawatt solar power project awarded recently by November 2023, said a top company executive. The state-run company had awarded the contracts for one of India's largest solar power projects to three entities under Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSU) scheme, which mandates the use of domestically produced cells and modules. Adani Infra bagged the contract for producing 600 MW, Tata Power Solar for 300 MW and a joint venture of Sri Sai will set up 100 MW capacity. India rolled out the scheme for state-run firms to build solar capacity with a viability gap funding component. The government plans to award large solar contracts to expedite its target of reaching 500 GW of non-fossil fuel power generation capacity by 2030, from an existing capacity of 153 GW.