

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 31 AUGUST 2022

1. E-governance: Draft rules on data anonymisation, mobile security released

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

The Ministry of Electronics and IT on 30 August released draft documents for guidelines on data anonymisation and mobile security for e-governance projects conducted by the government. The documents are open for public consultation and the comments will be accepted by September 21. The draft, titled Guidelines for Anonymisation of Data (AoD) and Mobile Security Guidelines (MSG), were shared on the official portal for e-Governance Standards. Mobile Security Guidelines (MSG) have been proposed to achieve mobile security goals such as confidentiality, integrity, authentication, accountability, etc. It categorises mobile security into three sections such as mobile device security, mobile communication security, and mobile services security.

2. Zomato launches 'intercity legends', now order from anywhere in India

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

From biryani from the Land of Nizams and Kolkata's spongy sandesh to Lucknow's juicy kebabs, Zomato is 'tasting' the waters with its Intercity Legends. Its new intercity service launched on Tuesday allows foodies to order popular authentic dishes from across the country and have them delivered to their doorstep the following day. The restaurant aggregator will pilot the initiative in Gurugram and South Delhi. "Food is freshly prepared by the restaurant and packed in reusable and tamper-proof containers to keep it safe during air transit. State-of-the-art mobile refrigeration technology (tech) preserves the food without the need to freeze it or add any kind of preservatives. Once you receive your order, you can microwave, air-fry, or pan-fry the food, just like any other dish out of the refrigerator," said Deepinder Goyal, founder and chief executive officer, in a blog.

3. Govt open to giving non-tax incentives on solar modules

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

The government is open to giving incentives to the domestic solar industry to help ease the impact of high import duties on solar modules and cells. While the government is not in favour of giving tax relief to importers of solar modules, it is open to examining any "workable plans" presented by the industry for support, said a person aware of the matter. The government is of the view that incentives could be given directly to the industry where needed, but tweaking taxes could prove to be counter-productive, add to litigation and set a precedent to more sectors asking for tax breaks. Businesses had sought relief for projects that

were bid out prior to the announcement of the customs duty. But the government believes such exemptions can create practical difficulties, said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

4. State of the economy: Q1 GDP hints at resilience amid rising rates

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

India's economy probably grew at the fastest rate in a year last quarter driven by healthy consumption, but the pace of expansion is seen slowing as policymakers prioritize rising prices over growth. Gross domestic product is estimated to rise 15.4% in the three months to June from a year ago, according to a Bloomberg survey of economists. That's the fastest reading since the April-June quarter of 2021 and compares with a 4.09% expansion in the previous three months. The Statistics Ministry is due to release the data for the first quarter of the fiscal year that started April 1 at 5:30 p.m. India time on Wednesday. Stock and bond markets will be shut on the day for a local holiday.

5. Centre working to develop portal for 'ease of living' of pensioners

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

The Centre is working to develop an integrated portal to enhance "ease of living" of pensioners, said a senior official in the department of pension under the Union personnel ministry. V Srinivas, Secretary of Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW), was speaking after inaugurating a two-day bankers' awareness programme. Srinivas stressed on providing seamless experience to pensioners for which the DoPPW is working on an Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning enabled integrated pensioners portal, a statement issued by the personnel ministry said.

6. Goyal reviews ongoing FTAs; deliberates ways to fast track negotiations

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

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on 30 August reviewed the progress of India's ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations. "Deliberations focused on ways to fast-track negotiations to achieve mutually beneficial FTAs, paving the way for increased exports, investments and people to people ties," the minister's office said in a tweet. India is negotiating trade deals with developed nations such as the UK, Canada and the EU. India and the UK had completed five rounds of negotiations in July. Last month, Commerce Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam had said the India-UK free trade FTA negotiations will be concluded by August 31 and the trade deal will be signed by Diwali as decided by Prime Minister Narendra

Modi and his UK counterpart Boris Johnson. Government officials said negotiations with the UK are at an advanced stage and could be wrapped up soon.