

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 5 AUGUST 2021

1. Swiggy commits to increase deployment of electric vehicles by 2025

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

Swiggy on 5 August announced the commencement of trials that will increase the deployment of electric vehicle (EV) in its delivery fleet, enabling the food aggregator to operate more sustainably and go pollution-free. Swiggy has signed an agreement with Reliance BP Mobility Limited (RBML) to build an EV ecosystem and battery-swapping stations for its delivery partners across the country. The trials are aimed towards Swiggy's commitment to cover deliveries spanning 8 lakh kilometers everyday through EVs by 2025. Making deliveries through EVs is expected to lower the running cost of vehicles by up to 40 per cent, leading to higher earnings for Swiggy's delivery partners. Its partners travel an average of 80-100kms daily.

2. Covaxin receives GMP certificate from Hungary, says Bharat Biotech

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

Bharat Biotech's COVID-19 vaccine Covaxin has received Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) compliance certificate from Hungary, the vaccine maker said on 5 August in a tweet. "Another milestone in our account as COVAXIN receives GMP certificate from Hungary. This marks the 1st EUDRAGDMP compliance certificate received by Bharat Biotech from European regulatory," the tweet said. The approval received is from the National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition, Hungary certifying the GMP for the manufacture of Covaxin, a note posted on twitter said. The certificate of GMP is now listed on the EudraGMDP database which is the collection of records of the European Community of manufacturing authorisations and certificates of good manufacturing practice, Bharat Biotech said. Bharat Biotech intends to submit documentation for emergency use authorisation to several additional countries worldwide, the company said.

3. UK eases covid-related travel restrictions for Indians

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

The UK has eased covid-related travel restrictions for Indians by moving the country from UK's "red" list to "amber" list. Fully vaccinated Indians will no longer need to mandatorily quarantine themselves in a hotel. The UK high commission in New Delhi on Thursday said that under UK's traffic light system for international travel, those coming into the country from destinations on the amber list means 10-day quarantining at home or any place of one's choice. The shift from red to amber status is expected to directly impact thousands of Indian

families as well as students looking to travel to the UK. India was placed on the "red" list after the country was devastated by a brutal second wave of covid-19 infections caused by the highly virulent Delta strain of the novel coronavirus in April-May. Infections that had crossed the 400,000 mark, have now fallen to under 50,000 new cases daily.

4. Snapdeal launches brand campaign for southern markets targeting value-conscious buyers

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

Snapdeal has launched its brand campaign for southern markets, including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. The campaign titled as 'Brand Waali Quality, Bazaar Waali Deal' targets savvy, value-conscious buyers. It will be live across all social media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and OTT platforms like Hotstar and MX Player. However, the e-commerce platform will run the campaign in the Malayalam market with Youtube Creator Promotions and Facebook Branded Content Ads only. The campaign takes a dig at the burden of a branded lifestyle. It attempts to portray how the users unburden themselves when they discover the high-quality, affordable selection available on Snapdeal.

5. Aurobindo Pharma channelising efforts to commercialise COVID-19 vaccine

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

Pharmaceutical company Aurobindo Pharma is looking to commercialise a COVID-19 vaccine, as per company's annual report for 2020-21. It has already entered an agreement with a US based company to develop and commercialise a multipeptide-based covid vaccine. "In viral vaccines, we are channelising our efforts to develop capabilities to commercialise COVID-19 vaccine. We have already entered into an exclusive license agreement with Vaxxinity, a US-based company to develop, commercialise and manufacture UB612, a multipeptide-based vaccine for COVID-19," said Vice Chairman K Nithyananda Reddy. Vaxxinity's phase II trials are ongoing in Taiwan which is expected to be completed by second quarter of FY22, he noted.

6. Titan Company partners with Flipkart to sell Sonata's new range of watches

Source: Livemint ([Link](#))

India's largest watch retailer Titan Company Ltd., has tied up with online marketplace Flipkart to retail an exclusive range of Sonata watches on the platform, in a sign that retailers are increasingly stitching partnerships with e-commerce platforms as consumers buy more goods online. As part of the deal, Titan will launch a range of its largest-selling Sonata watches under the 'Epic by Sonata' brand. The range will be priced upwards of Rs499. The

partnership will help the two companies tap into the next leg of consumption growth emerging from metros and middle cities.