

DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 6 JANUARY 2022

1. Coronavirus Omicron Update | India records biggest single-day rise of 495 Omicron cases

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

India on 6 January saw the biggest single-day jump of 495 Omicron cases, taking the total number of infections of the new variant of coronavirus to 2,630, according to Union health ministry data. Of the total cases, Maharashtra has the maximum at 797, followed by Delhi at 465, Rajasthan 236, Kerala 234, Karnataka 226, Gujarat 204 and Tamil Nadu 121. Meanwhile, 90,928 new coronavirus infections were reported, the highest in over 200 days, taking India's caseload to 3,51,09,286, the data stated. The death toll climbed to 4,82,876 with 325 fatalities, it said. The number of active cases stands at 2,85,401, comprising 0.81 percent of the total infections, the ministry said.

2. Exclusive | Centre works on new ease of doing business reforms

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

The Centre is planning an overhaul of processes and procedures that will help improve the ease of doing business in India. The overhaul, to be carried out in the current calendar year, will include a new set of guidelines to examine challenges that businesses face and also measures to remove them. The government is keen to infuse a fresh approach in the evaluation of ease of doing business, as the current parameters are based on the World Bank's now-discredited global index. Government officials told Moneycontrol that the Department for Promotion of Industries and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is planning a nationwide exercise to upgrade the action plan to cut red tape and attract more foreign direct investment (FDI).

3. Food processing minister launches 6 brands under One District-One Product

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

Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Pashupati Kumar Paras on Wednesday launched six brands, including Kashmiri chilli, developed as part of the 'One District-One Product' (ODOP) approach under a central scheme PMFMES. These six brands are out of 10 that the ministry has signed up with cooperative NAFED for branding and marketing of ODOPs under the Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFMES). The central scheme PMFMES aims to provide financial, technical and business support for upgradation/ setting up of two lakh micro food processing units based on the ODOP approach in a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs

10,000 crore. Minister of the State for Food Processing Industries Prahlad Singh Patel was also present at the launch.

4. Govt allows certain gold imports through India International Bullion Exchange IFSC
Source: The Economic Times ([Link](#))

The government on 5 January permitted qualified jewellers to import certain kinds of gold including certain unwrought forms through India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Ltd. The changes were notified by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) in its amendment in the gold import policy. “In addition to nominated agencies notified by RBI (in case of banks) and nominated agencies notified by DGFT, qualified jewellers as notified by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) will be permitted to import gold through India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Ltd,” the directorate said in a notification.