

## DAILY NEWS MONITOR: 7 MARCH 2022

### **1. India suggests holding discussions at WTO on role of e-commerce during pandemic**

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

India has suggested to convene a meeting under the aegis of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to discuss the role of e-commerce during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a statement delivered by Ambassador of India to the WTO Brajendra Navnit at the General Council meeting held on February 23 to 24, many members have spoken about how e-commerce helped their economies during pandemic-led lockdowns. "India suggests holding a discussion on the role of e-commerce during the time of the pandemic... Within the boundaries of every country, there may have been positive examples. But, did international e-commerce play a big role? It will be good to hear member experiences specifically linked to cross-border trade," he has said.

### **2. Matsya Setu 2.0 app to boost freshwater fisheries**

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

In an initiative to bring inland fisheries trade under a single digital platform, the government will soon launch a mobile app whereby farmers, wholesale buyers, suppliers of feed and equipment and other members of the value chain will be able to share information on market prices and availability of produce. Matsya Setu 2.0, an android mobile app developed by ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar, with funding from the National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad, has features to facilitate trade in freshwater fisheries based on geographical location of the stakeholders.

### **3. Budget 2022: PM Modi, ministers to brainstorm strategies to implement key Budget proposals on Tuesday**

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

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on 8 March address dozens of central government ministries, states and financial sector regulators in the inaugural session of a webinar that aims to firm up strategies to implement key Budget proposals, especially on infrastructure creation, effectively. The webinar on "Financing for Growth and Aspirational Economy", organised by the finance ministry, will be attended by representatives of 16 ministries, Niti Aayog, Capacity Building Commission, state governments and regulators like RBI, Sebi, IFSCA and IRDAI.

#### **4. Skoda set to play part in India green mobility space, mulls EV launch**

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

Czech carmaker Skoda is mulling to drive in electric vehicles in the Indian market as it expects the green mobility segment to pick up significantly in the country over the next few years, according to a senior company official. The automaker, which is witnessing a turnaround in its domestic business, however, has no plans to get into the CNG space in the immediate future. "We will have to (get into the EV segment) because we plan a long term future in India," Skoda Auto India Brand Director Zac Hollis told PTI when asked if the company is looking to launch electric vehicles (EVs) in the country. "We estimate that by 2030, 25-30 per cent of the market would be electric cars and we need to make sure that we play our part, so we will bring EVs to the market," he added.

#### **5. India approaching US over ONGC Videsh taking Venezuelan oil cargoes: CEO**

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

The chief executive of ONGC Videsh, India's second-largest oil and gas company, on 6 March confirmed talks between India and the U.S. State Department are underway to allow the company to settle past debts by trading Venezuelan oil cargoes. CEO A.K Gupta told Reuters in Houston ahead of the CERAWEEK by S&P Global energy conference that "it's only logical" for an agreement because the proposal would not provide payment to U.S. sanctioned Venezuela's government. Oil cargoes were assigned by Venezuelan state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA) to ONGC Videsh and France's Maurel & Prom, a partner in another Venezuelan joint venture, for debt payment, Reuters reported earlier this month. Any transfer would require U.S. approval.