

## Daily News Monitor: 8 March 2021

### **1. More jobs for blue collar workers in retail, e-commerce**

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

The demand for courier and home delivery boys, as also account executives, has picked up nicely since January as the retail and e-commerce sectors stage a comeback. Betterplace, a tech platform that manages the life cycles of informal and semi-formal workforces, estimates the demand for blue collar workers has shot up by 54% to eight lakhs in the January-March quarter from 5.2 lakhs in the six months to December 2020. Indeed, many more employers are in the market today, about 1,107 compared with 774 in the last six months.

### **2. Amazon onboards 50,000 small sellers under ‘Local Shops’ programme for shopkeepers in less than a year**

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

Amazon India’s hyperlocal programme for offline retailers and neighbourhood stores to cater to nearby customers has scaled to over 50,000 sellers from 450 cities in less than one year of launch, according to a company statement on Sunday. Launched in April 2020, Local Shops on Amazon had more than 20,000 sellers participating in Amazon.in’s Great Indian Festival hosted in October 2020. Amazon said that the programme supplements the existing footfalls at sellers’ offline stores with a digital presence. The programme enables online product discovery for customers from shops in their vicinity.

### **3. Govt to refresh laws before 5G rollout**

**Source: Livemint ([Link](#))**

The government plans to simplify and update the archaic laws that govern telecom services in India before the launch of 5G to allow, for instance, communication between connected devices to spur growth in the digital economy, a top official said. The department of telecommunications (DoT) has proposed replacing the outdated provisions of the Indian Telegraph Act and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, which came into effect in 1885 and 1933, respectively, with rules that embody the current reality and evolving communication trends.

### **4. India Inc's overseas direct investment declines 31% to \$1.85 billion in February**

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

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Reserve Bank of India does have its hands full managing the government's large debt issuance, strategists see the country in a much stronger financial position now than it was during previous bouts of turmoil in world markets. They cite the rupee, which has eked out a gain this year, defying the slump seen in most emerging-market currencies, and relative stability of India's bonds. With reserves closing in on \$600 billion and a current-account surplus forecast to exceed 1 per cent of gross domestic product, talk of India as one of five fragile emerging markets has mostly faded away. When the description was coined during the taper tantrum in 2013, inflation in India was running at around 10 per cent.

### **5. India looks set to weather global bond rout with record reserves**

**Source: The Hindu, Business Line ([Link](#))**

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