

BUSINESS NEWS UPDATE

“Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom.”

Strong execution key to Zepto’s success

At a time when valuation markdowns have become a common affair, three-year-old quick commerce firm Zepto has seen a nearly four times increase in its value in just one year. Analysts attribute this success to strong execution and better unit economics. Analysts also see Zepto as the best bet for investors in terms of direct exposure to quick commerce since other top players (Blinkit and BBNOW) are deep-pocketed and already either acquired by top companies or run as a vertical by an established player (Swiggy Instamart). Further, this is also a space that experts say will be a duopoly with top two or maximum three players serving the market. Zepto is seen to be a contender for the second spot, with Zomato-owned Blinkit leading the pack with its gross order value (GOV) at Rs 4,027 crore in Q4FY24.

Source: [Financial Express, August 26, 2024](#)

India to install 40-50 small modular nuclear reactors to reach net-zero emission by 2070, claims Tata Consulting Engineers’ CEO

India plans to install 40–50 small modular nuclear reactors, primarily to replace captive thermal power facilities in order to reach net-zero emissions by 2070. According to a senior industry official (as shared to PTI), the 220-MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) is currently undergoing redesign through the use of 3D design platforms. “We are going to take the old design of the PHWR and then reconfigure and redesign it to be modular, scalable and safety-aligned to post-Fukushima standards,” Amit Sharma, managing director and CEO of Tata Consulting Engineers, said. To create the Bharat Small Modular Reactor, the Department of Atomic Energy and Tata Consulting Engineers are redesigning the PHWRs.

Source: [Financial Express, August 26, 2024](#)

FMCG firms step up rural push

The rural resurgence visible in the Rs 5-trillion domestic fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) market has put the spotlight firmly on the hinterland for companies. FMCG majors are expanding direct distribution, adding small packs to their portfolios to tap rural demand. At the same time, top FMCG executives said that rural-specific promotions at local festivals, door-to-door campaigns offering free samples and trial packs, and buy-one-get-one (BOGO) schemes have been introduced to draw the attention of the rural consumer and improve sales. “Rural-specific initiatives had taken a backseat when urban growth was ahead of rural growth over the last two years. But now that rural is coming back, the focus will have to be on the rural consumer,” says Mohit Malhotra, chief executive officer (CEO), Dabur India.

Source: [Financial Express, August 26, 2024](#)

India-Australia make progress on trade pact talks

India and Australia have reached an understanding of each others’ proposals in five key policy areas including goods and services trade that will form part of the proposed Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA). The understanding of the positions will lead to both sides working out an action plan for further negotiations. The 10th round of CECA talks, held in Sydney between August 19 and August 22, also led to an understanding in areas such as government procurement, rules of origin and digital trade. The India-Australia CECA covers 19 policy areas, of which discussions have been completed in four. “It was decided that, given the clear understanding of each other’s proposals under the five tracks, track leads from both sides would work out an action plan for negotiations through virtual intersessional meetings before the next round,” said a statement from the commerce and industry ministry on Sunday.

Source: [Financial Express, August 26, 2024](#)