EDITORS' DESK

The month of November started with the Prime Minister addressing the COP26 world leaders' summit in Glasgow where he made a fervent pitch for climate action. While delivering his National Statement on India's behalf, he presented five commitments on behalf of India. These include – i) taking India's non-fossil fuel energy capacity to 500 gigawatts by 2030, ii) fulfilling 50% of India's energy requirements through renewable energy by 2030, iii) bringing down the carbon intensity of India's economy by more than 45% by 2030, iv) cutting down net projected carbon emission by 1 billion tons from now until 2030 and v) achieve the target of net zero carbon emission by 2070.

Keeping its focus on expansion of Electric Vehicles, India launched the 'E-Amrit' web portal on electric vehicles which is a one-stop destination for all information on electric vehicles.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched two innovative customer centric initiatives of RBI – The Retail Direct Scheme and an Integrated Ombudsman Scheme. The RBI Retail Direct Scheme is aimed at enhancing access to government securities for retail investors. The Integrated Ombudsman scheme is based on 'One Nation-One Ombudsman' with one portal, one email and one address for customers.

In India, almost 500+ services and over 1300 products fall under the 4 major GST slabs. The Government can potentially rationalize the GST rate structure by rejigging the four major rates with a three-rate framework as per a National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) study. Restructuring GST rates is a timely idea to improve revenues. In addition, the Crypto industry is awaiting a positive regulation that may permit investing and trading in crypto with certain restrictions.

The month came to an end with the commencement of the Winter Session of Parliament. As many as 26 new Bills have been listed for introduction, including 3 Ordinances. The session began amid protests and sloganeering by the opposition, who wanted a discussion around the Farm Laws Repeal Bill, but the Lok Sabha passed the bill as soon as the Session was convened.

From this issue onwards, we are introducing a new section called-"Multilaterals" where we will cover some of the Global policy developments that could potentially have an impact for us in India.

Our current issue covers:

1. National Policy

- a. The Winter Session of Parliament
- b. BJP National Executive Council Meeting: Highlights
- c. Supporting Framework to Encourage Circular Economy in India
- d. Repeal of Triple Farm Laws
- e. 12th India USA Trade Policy Forum: Key Takeaways
- f. Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS), 2021
- g. New scheme in the works to boost Service Exports

2. Multilaterals

- a. COP26 Key Takeaways
- b. India Energy Outlook 2021: IEA
- c. Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences, 2021

3. State Policy

- a. Haryana to Implement 75% Job Reservation in Private Sector
- b. Bill to renegotiate renewable energy tariffs in Punjab
- c. Assam Industrial Relation Rules, 2021
- d. H.P. Draft Electric Vehicle Policy
- e. Tamil Nadu Data Centre policy

Enjoy!