GST Council reduces rate on electric vehicles from 12% to 5%

The Goods & Services Tax (GST) council decided to reduce the tax rate on electric vehicles (EVs) to 5 percent from the existing 12 percent, effective from August 1, 2019. The move is aimed at accelerating the adoption of eco-friendly mobility solutions. The council also approved GST exemption for hiring old electric buses by local authorities. The Government of India has been taking initiatives to popularize environment friendly electric vehicles.

Chandrayaan-2: ISRO shoots for the Moon

India took a giant leap in its space program, after its space agency, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched a second moon spacecraft Chandrayaan-2, on 22 July 2019, that is scheduled to touch down on the Moon on September 7, 2019. After the Moon touch down, India will become the first country to achieve a soft, controlled landing close to the Moon’s south pole and the fourth country after the United States, China and Russia to land a spacecraft on the Moon.

E-commerce boost for 200 rural products in India

In a major boost to Rural artisans, they may soon be able to sell their products through e-commerce platforms as part of a facilitation plan envisaged by the Government of India, that includes setting up of producer companies in select clusters. The rural development ministry has drawn up a list of 200 products that will be sold on e-commerce platforms, including the Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

Indian telecom sector to create 3,00,000 jobs in next 18 months

The Telecom commission assured that it will create up to 3,00,000 jobs in the next 18 months mostly in rural areas of India. The sector has already created over 1,00,000 jobs since the introduction of the National Digital Communications Policy-2018 (NDCP). The Telecom Ministry had earlier said that the new framework (NDCP) would draw investments worth $100 billion into the country’s telecom industry in five years.