



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

PayU is in talks to invest \$150 million in CapFloat

Microsoft in talks with ITI to tap public sector cloud business

Flipkart Co-founder Sachin Bansal invests Rs. 650 crore in Ola

MakeMyTrip ties up with Capital Float to offer zero interest loans

Today's View

Tackling Cyber Bullying

There is no doubt that Bullying can cast a dark shadow over people's lives and leave permanent scars, creating problems in their future life. We can now add bullying to the list of things made easier by technology. Young adults today live much of their lives on the Internet. Online bullying or cyberbullying, can involve using the Internet, cell phones, or other devices to send text or images that are intended to embarrass or hurt the other person.

A study done by **OFCOM** in 2017 suggests that around 1 in 8 young adults have been bullied online. But the National Crime Prevention Council in UK says that the numbers are far higher, suggesting that a massive 43% of children have experienced online bullying. According to **PEW Research**, 59% of U.S. teens have been bullied or harassed online, and a similar share says it's a major problem for people their age.

To counter the problem, initiatives such as **Hack Harassment**, founded by **Intel**, **Vox Media**, and **Born This Way Foundation** founded by Lady Gaga, are attempting to fight online harassment by partnering with tech companies to find technological solutions.

**IBM Watson technologies** enabled with NLP and NLC, is able to understand and categorize what individuals are sending and receiving. Their complex algorithms identify instances, or potential instances, of cyberbullying or self-harm. If a threat is identified, it triggers an alert that is sent to parents.

**Akhil Handa**  
+91 22 6759 2873

**Aparna Anand**  
+91 22 6759 2873  
aparna.anand@bankofbaroda.com

Job switches fetching most for pros in tech, ecommerce, and digital

Technology, e-commerce, digital, Fintech, IT and manufacturing are among the sectors leading the charge, offering enticing hikes of 30-40% for in-demand talent, around half a dozen headhunters and recruitment firms said.



Source – The Economic Times

READ MORE

Date – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 19

The Parental Control technology provided by **TechNadu** notifies parents when children are verbally abused online when they're inadvertently engaged in inappropriate language, inappropriate requests for photos or meetings outside the house, and even requests for private information like passwords or card numbers. This advanced digital protection against cyberbullying and online predators enables parents to protect their children when online, in a completely non-intrusive way.

Then are apps like **Block Together**, which allow Twitter users under attack to share lists of blocked users with one another, or to automatically block suspicious accounts, such as those that are newly created or have very few followers.

Trisha, a Harvard graduate student has designed **ReThink**, an app intended to stop cyberbullying by detecting offensive messages and encouraging users to reconsider their (potentially angry and emotionally-charged) posts before pressing send.

Cyberbullying is a menacing trend which is also linked to the rise in teenage suicides. We believe that technology and humans can come together to counter online trolling.

---

## Today's News

### PayU is in talks to invest \$150 million in CapFloat

Global Fintech major PayU is in advanced discussions to invest \$100-150 million in Bengaluru-based CapFloat Financial Services, which owns and operates digital lending platform Capital Float, as the Naspers-owned company looks to expand its reach in India's small and medium business lending segment. PayU, according to four people aware of the negotiations, is seeking to acquire a 25-30% stake in Capital Float, a transaction that could value the Indian company at about \$500 million. If successful, this deal will mark the largest investment by the Netherlands-based financial services major in an Indian start-up. In 2016, PayU paid \$130 million to acquire home-grown Fintech start-up CitrusPay.

Source – *The Economic Times*

[READ MORE](#)

### Ziploan raises Rs 90 crore led by SAIF Partners

Fintech lending platform Ziploans, which provides micro-loans of up to Rs 5 lakh to small and medium enterprises (SMEs), has raised Rs 90 crore in its Series B funding led by venture capital firm, SAIF Partners. The round also saw participation of existing investors Matrix Partners India, Waterbridge Ventures and Whiteboard Capital. The New Delhi-based firm plans to utilise the funds to grow its business, expand its offering in cities it is already present in like Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Indore, Lucknow, Dehradun and Jaipur, apart from growing its tech and sales teams. All said, the company has in total picked up equity capital of Rs 125 crore.

Source – *The Economic Times*

[READ MORE](#)

This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of G Balakrishna and Aparna Anand

### Flipkart Co-founder Sachin Bansal invests Rs. 650 crore in Ola

Ride hailing application backed by SoftBank Group and Tencent Holdings - Ola confirmed an investment of Rs. 650 crore by Flipkart co-founder Sachin Bansal, said the Bengaluru-based firm in a statement.

The investment from Mr. Bansal comes as Ola is locked in a battle for market leadership with US-based rival Uber in India and other markets such as Australia, New Zealand and the UK. This investment by Sachin Bansal is part of Ola's larger Series-J funding round and is in Sachin's personal capacity as an investor, the statement added.

Source – NDTV

[READ MORE](#)

### T-Hub invites startups for the second batch of Lab32 Incubation Programme

T-Hub announced the start of call for applications for the second batch of Lab32, a comprehensive incubation program, tailor-made for early-stage tech product startups. This comes after the success of its first batch of 70 startups, graduating in April 2019.

The programme aims to support the government's 'Startup India Initiative' by directing entrepreneurship, innovation and addressing the challenges faced by startups. The second batch of Lab32 will commence on 1 May 2019 with leading-edge solutions by startups in industries such as health-tech, Fintech, smart mobility, sustainability, social impact, smart cities, and Ed-tech, amongst others.

Source – *The Economic Times*

[READ MORE](#)

## Microsoft in talks with ITI to tap public sector cloud business

Microsoft is in talks with ITI Ltd to use the public sector company's large data centre for its Azure cloud services and tap the growing opportunity in government contracts in the country. The Bengaluru-based public sector undertaking is building a 1,000 rack data centre in the city, as it looks to leverage the land in Bengaluru to diversify its business, ITI Chairman and Managing Director K Alagesan, said.

India has emerged as the next battleground for cloud companies as they look to tap the growing opportunity in banks and internet companies to locally host data they generate from local users. Global players Microsoft, Amazon Web Services, Google and Alibaba have their data centres in the country and offer cloud services to customers. India has nearly 150 data centres spread across the country as banks and government organisations store their digital data at these centres.

Source – *The Economic Times*

[READ MORE](#)

## MakeMyTrip ties up with Capital Float to offer zero interest loans

In an industry-first initiative, online travel portal MakeMyTrip (MMT) has tied up with digital lending platform Capital Float for providing travel finance for customers, which will let them avail of credit facility of up to Rs 2 lakh to book flights, hotels, holidays or international travel. Customers will be able to pay back in monthly instalments of up to nine months at zero interest and with zero down payment.

Initially an invite-only programme, it will be rolled out for 10 million eligible customers in the first phase. MMT had 37 million transacted customers until the beginning of February, across all its platforms, including Goibibo and redBus.in. Targeted at customers who may be low in credit preference for banks or new to credit, the programme, called MMT Travel Finance, will let selected customers enrol after completing a two-step registration process. After this, they will be assigned a credit limit to make travel purchases.

Source – *Business Standard*

[READ MORE](#)

## Demon then, Angel now! Govt widens tax net, expands the ambit of startup definition

The Minister for Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu has cleared the proposal to simplify the exemptions for start-ups under Section 56(2) (viiB) of Income Tax Act—a clause that has been a bone of contention in the start-up world, since it was introduced in 2012.

Section 56(2)(viiB) of the Income Tax Act provides that the amount raised by a start-up in excess of its fair market value would be deemed as income from other sources and would be taxed at 30 per cent. Now with the new notification, all investments made up to Rs 25 crore will be exempt from any form of scrutiny from the government. This move will encourage the angel investments in country that are crucial to catalyse the start-up ecosystem.

Source – *Business Today*

[READ MORE](#)

## Travel tech firm Pickyourtrail raises Rs 21 crore in Series-A funding

Chennai-based travel-technology start-up Pickyourtrail has raised Rs 21 crore in a series-A round of funding led by Zoho Corp co-founder Kumar Vembu and Shyam Sekhar, Founder of financial services company iThought. The startup helps travelers plan and book curated, multi-country vacations online.

The fresh round of funds would be deployed towards product innovation, scaling up of the company's proprietary technology platform, expansion of its technical team and marketing.

Source – *The Economic Times*

[READ MORE](#)

## OakNorth to create 300 additional jobs in India

SoftBank-backed OakNorth, which is now Europe's most valuable Fintech Company, will look to create 300 additional jobs in its Indian operations in the next 12-18 months, its co-founder Joel Perlman has said. Currently, OakNorth has in India nearly 50 per cent of its global workforce of about 400 people. "India is the backbone of OakNorth's credit analysis, data engineering and software engineering efforts," he said.

TPerlman sees the next level of growth for OakNorth to come from three areas. First, this SME-focused digital lender will lend additional £2 billion in the UK this year. The second area of growth will be lending in the US.

Source – *BusinessLine*

[READ MORE](#)

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in this newsletter are personal views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Bank of Baroda. Nothing contained in this publication shall constitute or be deemed to constitute an offer to sell/ purchase or as an invitation or solicitation to do so for any securities of any entity. Bank of Baroda and/ or its Affiliates and its subsidiaries make no representation as to the accuracy; completeness or reliability of any information contained herein or otherwise provided and hereby disclaim any liability with regard to the same. Bank of Baroda Group or its officers, employees, personnel, directors may be associated in a commercial or personal capacity or may have a commercial interest including as proprietary traders in or with the securities and/ or companies or issues or matters as contained in this publication and such commercial capacity or interest whether or not differing with or conflicting with this publication, shall not make or render Bank of Baroda Group liable in any manner whatsoever & Bank of Baroda Group or any of its officers, employees, personnel, directors shall not be liable for any loss, damage, liability whatsoever for any direct or indirect loss arising from the use or access of any information that may be displayed in this publication from time to time.