

OxyGarden, Gurugram-based cleantech startup, launched its first commercial product – Forest. It is an IoT-enabled garden that purifies and humidifies indoor air naturally. It removes viruses, bacteria, dust particles and harmful chemical pollutants like carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, benzene, etc. in an enclosed space. It also claims to produce 700 litres of oxygen per day, reduces carbon emissions and maintains an optimum level (40 percent to 60 percent RH) of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ).

DrinkPrime, a Bengaluru-based cleantech startup, created smart water purifiers, leveraging Internet of Things (IoT) technology to track a household's water input and consumption in real time. The startup retrofits seven-stage filtration process, that give its customers access to clean drinking water on tap with sensors that are synced with a user's smartphone over Bluetooth. Meanwhile, the DrinkPrime app sends the consumption and other data from the phone to the cloud to track the usage and water input.

In the coming years, many of clean tech startup will be encouraged to provide solutions in areas such as fuel-from-plastic, waste-to-energy, ocean and water bodies clean up etc. as reducing carbon footprint while catering to the ever-growing energy demand would not be an easy task for India.

Today's News

Paytm announces a Rs 10 cr fund for mini-app developers in its fight against Google

Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma announced a Rs 10 crore investment fund for app developers at a virtual conference on Thursday.

"You are the champions of new technology, I call upon all of you to champion the mini-apps," Sharma said while giving shoutouts to developers who joined the conference from across India. Sharing his ambitious goal, the Paytm founder said that he hopes to reach "at least one million mini-apps" to stop "the victimization of 30% charges Google is putting on all of us."

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Amazon approaches Singapore Arbitration Centre to halt Reliance-Future deal

Amazon has approached the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), claiming that Future Group breached the contract under which the US online giant took an indirect stake in their retail business and Reliance Industries' deal to acquire Future Group's retail assets should be called off.

SIAC, a non-profit body is an alternative method of dispute resolution arising from cross-border transactions involving foreign' companies beyond the traditional forum of court.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Treebo Hotels raises \$6 million in funding led by existing investors

Budget hospitality chain Treebo Hotels has raised \$6 million (about Rs 44 crore) in fresh funding led by its existing set of investors - Matrix Partners India, SAIF Partners, Ward Ferry and Bertelsmann India, the Bengaluru-headquartered company announced on Thursday.

The latest round of financing comes more than three years after Treebo raised \$34 million in its Series C funding round from Hong Kong-based hedge funds Ward Ferry Management and Karst Peak Capital. In June, the company was also reported to have raised Rs 22.5 crore from Bertelsmann BV, SAIF Partners, and Matrix Partners.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Realme prepares for aggressive smart TV, IoT play in India

Chinese smartphone maker Realme is planning to aggressively expand its smart TV business with products across price ranges to get into the top three smart TV makers in India by next year.

The company is also aiming to significantly expand its consumer Internet of Things (IoT) business with the launch of as many as 100 products across various categories such as audio, home automation and lifestyle in 2021.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Flipkart acquires 140-acre land at Rs 432 crore, to develop logistic park

Walmart-owned Flipkart has acquired 140-acre land to set up their largest fulfilling centre in Asia in Manesar in Gurgaon in a bid to scale up their fulfilment infrastructure to cater to increased demand post Covid.

The executive empowered committee of Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) has approved the allotment at a cost of Rs 432 crore. Flipkart will set up a logistic park in the land parcel over the next 3-5 years, which has a potential of a total built up area of five million square feet and will be developed in 2-3 phases.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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US explores restrictions on Ant Group, Tencent's payment systems: Report

The United States is looking at restrictions on China's Ant Group as well as Tencent Holdings over concerns that their digital payment platforms threaten national security, Bloomberg News reported on Wednesday.

Any potential restrictions by the Trump administration would further escalate tensions between Washington and Beijing following an ongoing dispute over the ownership of social media app TikTok. Talks over how and whether to restrict Ant Group and Tencent's payment systems has picked up pace among senior U.S. officials in recent weeks though a final decision is not imminent, Bloomberg reported, citing people familiar with the matter.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Pesto Tech raises funds from Product Hunt's Ryan Hoover, others tech angels

Pesto Tech, a career accelerator startup for software professionals, has raised an undisclosed amount of funding from marquee tech angels like Product Hunt founder Ryan Hoover, Gumroad founder Sahil Lavingia, Teachable founder Ankur Nagpal and former Facebook executive Anand Chandrasekaran.

Also participating in the round are FYI co-founder Hiten Shah, Remote First Capital founder Andreas Klinger, Interact founder Maran Nelson, Bevy co-founder Derek Anderson and CapitalX general partner Cindy Bi. The company had earlier raised \$2 million in seed funding from Matrix Partners, Swiggy founders Sriharsha Majety, Nandan Reddy and Rahul Jaimini, and Innov8's Ritesh Malik among others.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Unocoin raises funding from Draper Associates, others

Bengaluru-based cryptocurrency trading platform Unocoin has raised an undisclosed amount of funding from US venture capitalist Tim Draper's Draper Associates, along with participation from XBTO Ventures and 2020 Ventures.

Draper, who has famously backed companies such as Skype, Twitter, and Tesla, will lead an ongoing round in which the crypto startup expects to bag as much as \$5 million at a valuation of \$20 million.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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AgriTech startup Ergos Business Solutions raises Rs 38.5 crore from Chiratae Ventures, Aavishkar Capital

AgriTech startup Ergos Business Solutions has raised Rs 38.5 crore in Series A funding from Chiratae Ventures and Aavishkar Capital. The ongoing round could see it raise as much as Rs 80 crore.

The company provides farmers a platform that operates similar to a bank, but for grains, offering facilities for storage, digitisation, credit and liquidation. The startup said it works with small farmers, and over the past five years has been able to help them improve their incomes.

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