



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

IndiaFirst Life Insurance ties up with Oxigen to widen reach

Differentiation through innovation: Banks pick fintech firms over bigtech

Zomato in talks to raise \$400 million at \$2 billion valuation

SBI denies commissions on digital transactions to payment firms

Today's View

Printing Industrial Objects

3D printing – known in the trade as "additive manufacturing" is evolving as a next-generation manufacturing technology which promises areas of potential future application. According to PwC, global spending on 3D printers hit about \$11 billion in 2015 and are expected to reach \$27 billion per year by 2019.

In addition to being cheaper, the 3D printing process is also faster, more uniform and works with a wide variety of metals, alloys and compounds. The technology allows ready-to-use products to be made 25 to 100 times faster than other methods and creates previously unachievable geometries that open opportunities for innovation not only in healthcare and medicine but also in other major industries such as automotive and aviation.

3D printing is shaping the future of aircraft maintenance, repair & overhaul. For instance, **Etihad** is the first airline to certify, manufacture and fly 3D printed parts in-house. Emirates Engineering, part of the biggest airline in the UAE, has been actively exploring 3D printing for cabin parts.

Recently, 3D printing has been a common theme in the construction industry. 3D Printing is used to Resurrect Old Building Facades. The US-based architecture and engineering firm **EDG** has made waves with its new 3D-printed concrete moulds, which can be used to restore old building facades relatively inexpensively.

Akhil Handa

+91 22 6759 2873 akhilhanda@bankofbaroda.com

Pankaj Tadas

+91 22 6759 2880 pankaj.tadas@bankofbaroda.com

Swiggy enters unicorn club, raises \$210 million from DST Global, Naspers

Food delivery continues to determine the flow of big capital in India's startup ecosystem with Swiggy being the latest to join the race. The food delivery startup has raised \$210 million in its latest round of funding.



Source – The Economic Times

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Likewise, the healthcare industry is also seeing the benefits provided through 3D printed anatomical models. **3D Systems** has launched its **On Demand Anatomical Modeling Service** which is used to makes custom 3D printed models to be used in surgical planning and patient education. Another application is the use of 3D printers to create replacement organs, and even to directly repair the human body in situ. This is known as Bioprinting and is an area of rapid development.

Furthermore, the automotive space is an interesting one to watch unfold. **MIT** and **BMW** are partnering to develop a 3D printed, inflatable, stretchy material that could change car design in the future. Similarly, **HP** together with **Guangdong** has unveiled a new production-grade 3D printing centre in China to meet the growing demand for functional prototypes and production-grade parts for major auto, consumer goods and motorcycle customers.

Even this emerging technology is paving the way for the space of cryptocurrency. **Makerslab24.com** is launching a platform that will fuse cryptocurrency with 3D printing technology. The company is creating the 3dP-Token to offer customers greater accessibility to 3D printed products at a lower cost.

At present, 3D printing as an end-use manufacturing technology is still in its early stages. But in the coming decades, with its digital manufacturing capabilities and related technologies, it has the potential to radically transform many design, production and logistics processes. It is easy to say, 3D printing will change the way we live.

Today's News

IndiaFirst Life Insurance ties up with Oxigen to widen reach

IndiaFirst Life Insurance has partnered payment solutions provider Oxigen to utilise its point of sale (POS) network for distributing insurance policies in a bid to reach the under banked population. "We are taking insurance to the last mile, both in rural and urban areas. This is for people who are either not saving or not opting for insurance because of paperwork issues," said Pramod Saxena, chairman and managing director (MD), Oxigen Services India.

Source – Business Standard

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Differentiation through innovation: Banks pick fintech firms over bigtech

As the focus on product differentiation through innovation and technology increases, banks are increasingly turning to fintech companies over their bigtech counterparts. The agility and fast-paced innovation by fintech companies makes them the ideal partners for banks, especially in product development and innovation.

Source – Business Standard

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This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of Vikas Madaan and Pankaj Tadas

Dell sharpens focus on Al suite as it prepares for a digital future

India's largest public sector lender, the State Bank of India (SBI), is undertaking a "massive digital banking transformation exercise" and setting up a major innovation centre to explore the integration of emerging technologies such blockchain, artificial intelligence and machine learning, with the services the bank currently offers.

Source - Mint

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Zomato in talks to raise \$400 million at \$2 billion valuation

Food-tech startup Zomato Media Pvt. Ltd is in talks to raise \$400 million, largely from existing investors Ant Financial and Temasek, at a valuation of as much as \$2 billion, as the fast-growing online food ordering space continues to attract investor attention, according to two people close to the development.

Source - Mint

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Goibibo partners with PhonePe for hotel bookings

Goibibo has partnered with company digital payments PhonePe to provide a unified login and payments experience to over 100 million PhonePe users while making their hotel bookings. As a part of this partnership, Goibibo will be live with their 'Hotels' store on the PhonePe application to streamline travel booking experience through Goibibo.

Source – The Economic Times

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Interchange fee row puts spanner in Aadhaar-based payment works

The government's ambitious move to allow every consumer with an Aadhaar number to undertake digital payments directly at merchant outlets by using their biometric details is getting caught up in issues around interchange fees and sharing of costs between participating entities. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the nodal body for Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS) transactions, has held back introduction of the new charges for each transaction, which were decided in April.

A debate around prices has split the banking world through the middle where multiple large banks who have a large customer base are against any minimum interchange fee, while younger generation banks said the current charges are not enough to encourage players to deploy more terminals.

Source - The Economic Times

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RBI tells banks to upgrade ATMs 'in a phased manner'

As part of its 'control measures for ATMs', the Reserve Bank of India has directed banks and white-label ATM operators (WLAOs) to implement antiskimming and whitelisting solutions by March 2019, and also upgrade, in a phased manner, all ATMs with supported versions of the operating system by June 2019.

The central bank flagged the vulnerability arising out of the ATMs operating on unsupported version of the operating system and non-implementation of other security measures. This could potentially affect the interests of the banks' customers as well as impinge on the image of the bank. The RBI asked banks and WLAOs to implement security measures such as BIOS password, disabling USB ports, disabling auto-run facility, applying the latest patches of operating system and other software, terminal security solution, and time-based admin access, among others, by August 2018.

Source – BusinessLine

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Key issues government needs to work on to bring PSUs on digital path

The vast Indian public sector will embark on a true digital journey only once the government decides to relax old procurement rules, make the stakeholders aware of benefits of Cloud and get rid of the ageing IT infrastructure, a top Amazon Web Services (AWS) executive has stressed.

According to Peter Moore, Regional Managing Director, Public Sector-Asia Pacific at AWS, which is Amazon's growing Cloud computing business, governments around the world including in India are grappling with massive loss of data owing to old hardware and software, badly designed IT architecture and poor operating practices in terms of accessing the data.

Source – The Economic Times

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Geo-tagging to help Amazon deliver faster

Amazon is trying to map the entire country through geo-tags to create efficiencies in its delivery network and improve customer experience even as it readies to battle the Flipkart-Walmart combine in its fight for supremacy in the Indian ecommerce space. It is also betting big on local Indian languages to expand its foothold in India.

Source – The Economic Times

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Cleartrip to acquire Saudi's online travel aggregator Flyin

Online travel agent Cleartrip is making its first ever acquisition, with it agreeing to buy Saudi Arabia-based online travel aggregator Flyin as part of efforts to strengthen its leadership in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Source - The Economic Times

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SBI denies commissions on digital transactions to payment firms

India's largest public sector bank just tightened its purse strings when it comes to sharing revenues with its payment partner firms for digital transactions. The bank makes use of services of online payment aggregators, firms which enable people to pay through State Bank of India (SBI) gateways using their debit cards and get paid a share of the commission that the bank collects.

Source – Business Standard

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