



#### **NEWS HIGHLIGHTS**

IoT keeps the story alive for IT services companies

Another hit for digital lenders as NPCI suspends eSign-based eMandate

Mozilla to host roundtable on Privacy with Ola, Zomato, dunzo, Ibibo

AXISCADES opens its first Digital-Centre of Excellence in Pune

#### Today's View

#### CattleTech!

The internet of things (IoT) is transforming multiple industries and the agriculture & livestock industry are no exceptions. A Gartner report expects more than 25 billion connected objects around us by 2020.

In the sphere of cattle management, the IoT technology is proving to be a boon for dairy farmers. With wearable devices such as **True North Technology's** collars for cows are helping dairy farmers in Ireland to constantly track their location while they are grazing, sitting, walking, ruminating, or just standing around. With this, one can ensure that a particular area of pasture is not overgrazed and that the cows are spread optimally on the farmland. Some solutions also provide **theft early warning** directly to the IOT platform. They have an **alert-based system** that informs the farmer when a cow is out-of-range.

To track the small window of time when the cow can conceive, devices like the **Moo Monitor** detects the fertility of cows, ranging from single cows to groups to herds, ensuring that this critical window is accounted for. **Fujitsu** has clipped pedometers on the legs of cows and using Microsoft's embedded software and Azure, data is collected to check when the number of steps naturally goes up exponentially, which indicates that cow is in heat.

In the US, cows are getting equipped with IDs and transponders, which can track when they are ready to produce more milk. If a cow is eligible for

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### Recruiters at premier engineering schools look for niche tech talent

Artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), deep learning and data analysis are among the most wanted profiles at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) this year.



Source – The Economic Times

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FinTech & New Business Initiatives

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increased production, dairy workers can alter their diet to include a sweet-coated grain, which assists in lactation.

For health monitoring of the cattle, connected wearables are able to monitor the heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, digestion and other vitals of the cattle allowing farmers to be alerted at the sign of illness. Such monitoring devices can resolve feeding issues and prevent animals from illness. With the sensors built-in wearable measures animal's behaviour and conditions, it can help farmers save costs by taking correct actions soon.

Scientists at the University of Nottingham have developed a system to combat mortality in young cattle by monitoring data and risk of disease. The innovation, dubbed **Y-Ware**, could help in improving health and welfare of animals and reducing the antimicrobial use to treat these diseases.

This would help in effectively targeting use of antibiotics to treat these diseases and this will tackle overuse of the drugs which is contributing to the problem of antibiotic resistance in both animals and humans who are exposed to increasing levels through the food chain.

These innovative and precision health and monitoring technologies offer a great solution in the direction of cattle management. It would be interesting to see the new use cases technologists can come up with.

#### **Today's News**

#### IoT keeps the story alive for IT services companies

More than half of the 100 million patients of a US-based hospital interacted with their physicians online last year. IT services major Cognizant's internet-of-things (IoT) solution made this happen using information from smartphones and other devices such as glucose meters. This is not a one-off example of adding value in services using IoT. Management consulting firm Zinnov said HCL Technologies used an IoT-based solution (built on Microsoft Azure platform) to enable remote monitoring of Chiller plants and that improved visibility into performance of installed base of chillers at one of its client's sites.

Source - The Economic Times

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# FreeCharge founder Kunal Shah's new venture Cred aims to tap consumers with high credit scores

FreeCharge founder Kunal Shah has launched his new venture, Cred, a financial services platform targeting consumers with high creditworthiness. Shah has already raised \$25 million (about Rs 177 crore) in funding for his startup, with Sequoia Capital and financial technology-focussed fund Ribbit Capital leading the financing round. Other backers include RPT Global (formerly RuNet), China's Morningside Venture Capital, Russian investor Yuri Milner's personal investment vehicle Apoletto, and a clutch of individual investors.

Source - The Economic Times

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

## Coursera to introduce course on AI

Online learning platform Coursera is set to introduce an 'AI for everyone' course for non-technical business leaders to navigate the rise of artificial intelligence (AI). The course will be taught by Andrew Ng, one of the foremost researchers in AI, who previously led the deep learning research teams at Google and Baidu.

Source - The Economic Times

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### AXISCADES opens its first Digital-Centre of Excellence in Pune

Product engineering firm AXISCADES today announced the launch of its first Digital-Centre of Excellence (D-COE) in Pune. The D-COE will house some of the key technology stacks that the company has been investing on including ΙοΤ, industrial augmented reality, AI/ML, Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES).

Source - The Economic Times

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# Verloop raises \$3 million led by IDFC Parampara Fund

Verloop, which offers an artificial intelligence-powered engagement platform, Monday said it has raised \$3 million funding, led by IDFC Parampara Fund. The series-A investment round also saw participation from Infosys cofounder S Gopalakrishnan (also known as Kris) and Ranjan Pai, Chairman of the Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG).

Source – The Economic Times

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# Home-grown innovation has the potential to help India be a global leader

Technology and innovation are at the heart of transforming India. A notable feature of this landscape is that the focus is not restricted to any single sector or group. India has certain inherent strengths that support a vibrant startup culture. First, robust economic growth and a demographic dividend have created a large domestic consumer base with rising purchasing power. Second, a large number of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) graduates are eager to take part in India's technology revolution.

Source – The Economic Times

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# Another hit for digital lenders as NPCI suspends eSign-based eMandate

Digital lenders are set to see operational costs increase as they will no longer be able to use a completely paperless model for automated collection of loan payments from customers, after the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) informed banks that the eSign-based eMandate product will be suspended starting Monday. This is likely to have an impact on digital lenders, especially smaller fintech startups. This move also comes after Fintech lenders were hit by the Supreme Court's Aadhaar ruling, which curbed the Aadhaar-based eKYC process.

Source - The Economic Times

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### Mozilla to host roundtable on Privacy with Ola, Zomato, dunzo, Ibibo

Mozilla Corporation, maker of open-source web browser Firefox, will host a round-table on 'Privacy Matters' with online companies such as Zomato, Ola, Practo, Dunzo, Ibibo and Zeotap, as well as upcoming start-ups. Mozilla said the aim of this session is to drive the conversation on privacy and how businesses can make decisions about personal data more thoughtfully. It added that the meeting hopes to surface practical stories of challenges faced and to share lessons from the Indian context. Senior Executive from Mozilla headquarters, Urmika Shah - Lead Product and Data Counsel, will guide the discussions.

Source – The Economic Times

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### India to see over 1 million cloud computing job roles by 2022: Report

India is expected to see more than a million cloud computing job roles by 2022 as more organisations shift their operations to the cloud infrastructure, says a report by Great Learning. As the Indian cloud computing market, currently at \$2.2 billion, is expected to grow to \$4 billion by 2020 with an annual growth rate of more than 30%; IDC estimated more than one million new jobs to be created in India. Roles in cloud computing will offer much higher salary package than the traditional IT services roles, and they could often double the current pay offered to the IT professionals.

Source – The Economic Times

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## MobiKwik launches digital insurance

MobiKwik, a leading digital financial services platform, has rolled out digital insurance on its app. In the first phase, MobiKwik users can purchase accident insurance. It will partner leading insurance companies to offer an extensive range of products to its users. Buying insurance will be a paperless, two-step process and issuance of the policy will be instant. Users can purchase insurance either via the app or the MobiKwik website.

Source - BusinessLine

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# Niki.ai is breaking even on all transactions: CEO Sachin Jaiswal

Homegrown chatbot firm Niki.ai said it is breaking even on every order transacted on its platform. Backed by Ratan Tata, Ronnie Screwvala and SAP, Niki.ai enables users to book cabs, buses and hotels, as well as perform services such as bill payments on a chat and voice interface.

Source - The Economic Times

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### Nanotech startup Log 9 in talks to raise \$10 million in Series A

Nanotech startup Log 9 is in talks to raise \$10 million in Series-A funding round by early 2019. The startup had earlier this year raised a Pre-series-A funding of around Rs 3 crore from Metaform Ventures, Hemant Luthra, chairman of Mahindra CIE, GEMS and other angel investors.

Source – The Economic Times

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