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IT in September 2014

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General

- Indian Prime Minister Modi had a very successful visits to Japan and USA and hosted the Chinese Premier in India all in September 2014; his US visit gets rock star welcome with 20,000 representatives of the 3.2 million strong Indian diaspora (from 186 organizations across 48 States and 5 Canadian provinces) attending a gala function in Times Square Garden on September 27, 2014
- Japan commits \$35 billion investment over 5 years in India during PM Modi visit to Japan in September 2014
- China allows short route to Manas Sarovar (soon after Chinese President visit) in September 2014
- Prime Minister launches "Make in India" and "Clean India" Campaign on September 24, 2014
- Supreme Court cancels all 204 coal block allocation on September 24, 2014, causing major hurdles for the Indian power sector
- Kashmir flood causes havoc in September 2014
- Afghanistan sees change of guard with Ashraf Ghani taking over from President Hamid Karzai on September 26, 2014
- Scotland decides (through referendum) to stay with United Kingdom on September 19, 2014

Science & Technology

• India's maiden Mars Mission successful with Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) on to perfect position on September 24, 2014 at 7:52 AM IST; India is the fourth country, and the first to succeed in the very first attempt on Mars Mission; MOM provided a huge moral boost to the Science & Technology community in India

Markets

- Indian stock market index Sensex touches 27,000 on September 2, 2014 as Modi Government completes 100 days in office
- **Cognizant** acquires **TriZetto**, a US-based healthcare company for \$ 2.7 billion on September 15, 2014
- Microsoft buys mobile gaming company Minecraft for \$2.5 billion on September 17, 2014
- Global market research major **Nielsen** buys**Indicus Analytics**(India's premier economic research and analytics company founded in December 2000) on September 18, 2014
- **Firstsource** (BPM major) buys **Nanobi**, an analytics product startup company (HSR Layout, Bangalore) on September 18, 2014
- SAP buys Concur (founded by Sudhir Steven Singh in 1993) a cloud-based travel and expenses management company for \$ 7.3 billion on September 19, 2014
- Chinese e-commerce major Alibaba goes for phenomenally successful IPO (\$21,8 Billion) on

September 22, 2014; its market capitalization (\$ 231 billion) exceeded that of **Amazon** (\$ 153 billion) and **eBay** (\$ 65 billion) combined on September 20, 2014

- Bangalore-based startup **BookPad** gets acquired for \Box 50 Crores by Yahoo on September 21, 2014
- **IndiGo Airlines** signs \$2.6 billion financing deal with Chinese bank ICBC to buy more than 30 planes

Products

- Samsung launches Galaxy Note 4 in Berlin on September 3, 2014
- Microsoft launches Nokia730, Nokia735 and Nokia830 phones in Berlin on September 4, 2014
- Apple launches iPhone 6 and iPhone6 Plus (improved iPhone versions), Apple Watch (a new category) and Apple Pay(a new online payment service) on September 9, 2014
- **Google** SVP Sundar Pichai launches**Android One** phones in India (smartphones in □ 6000 Price range) on September 15, 2014
- Blackberry launches square-screened Blackberry Passport mobile phone on September 24, 2014
- Moto X(2nd Generation) introduced in India by Motorola at price of □31,9999 on Sep 24, 2014
- Amazon launches Fire 7.9" Tablets in September 28, 2014
- AppleiPad Classic gets a quiet burial in September 2014

Indian IT companies

- TCS(India's No 1 IT Services company) women employees' headcount crosses 100,000 in September 2014
- Infosys(India's No 3 IT Services company) ties up with Microsoft,Hitachi and Huawei in September 2014; wins contract with British Petroleum in September 2014
- Wipro (India's No 4 IT Services company) wins \$35 million order from Philip Morris in September 2014
- **Tech MahindraCognizant**(India's No 5 IT Services company) bags multimillion dollar projects with **Ahlstorm**(\$ 1 Billion strong Finnish materials company) in September 2014
- HCL Tech(India's No 6 IT Services company) bags Sydney Trains order in September 2014;set to recruit 1,200 in USA in 2014 and invests \$ 9 million in North Carolina Center
- **Cognizant**(India's No 2 IT Services company) announces the acquisition of **TriZetto**, a U.S.based healthcare company for \$ 2.7 billion on September 15, 2014
- Global market research major **Nielsen** buys**Indicus Analytics**(India's premier economic research and analytics company founded in December 2000) on September 18, 2014
- **Firstsource** (BPM major) buys **Nanobi**, an analytics product startup company (HSR Layout, Bangalore) on September 18, 2014
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MNC companies in India

• **Goldman Sachs** to build \$ 200 million campus in Bangalore and to increase headcount to 9,000 from current 5,400

People

• N Chandrasekaran re-appointed CEO of TCS for another five years (October 6, 2014 to October 5, 2019)

- Kris Gopalakrishnan(Infosys Co-Founder) joins IAN (Indian Angel Network) on September 24, 2014
- Oracle founder Larry Ellison decides to step down as CEO on September 19, 2014 after 37 years
- **Amazon** CEO **Jeff Bezos** visits India in September 2014, invests \$ 2 billion, drives in the Indian lorry, talks of 11,500 merchants selling 17 million products already on Amazon India
- Google EVP Sundar Pichai launches Android One globally from India on September 15, 2014
- Microsoft Founder Bill Gates visits India and pledges support for Kashmir rehabilitation
- Chinese Premier Xi visits India during September 16-18, 2014
- Australian PM visits India in September 2014
- Richard Verma (born to Indian migrant) named US Ambassador to India on September 18, 2014
- General Motors CEO Mary Barra visits India in September 2014
- Justice HL Duttu becomes India's 16thChief Justice of India on September 26, 2014

Education & Research

- Nalanda university opens after eight centuries on September 1, 2014
- Prime Minister Modi creates history by speaking to millions of high-school students on Teachers Day (September 5, 2014)
- Bhatnagar Awards for 2014 announced on September 26, 2014; Dr. Roop Mallik of TIFR, Bombay (Biological Sciences), Dr.K R Prasad of Indian Institute of Science and Dr.Souvik Maiti of Institute of Genomics, Delhi (Chemical Sciences), Dr. S N Tripathi of IIT Kanpur (Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences), Dr. Venkata Mohan of IICT, Hyderabad and Dr. Soumen Chakrabarti of IIT Bombay (Engineering Sciences), Dr. K K Verma of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (Mathematical Sciences), Dr. Anurag Agarwal of Institute of Genomics, Delhi (Medical Sciences) and Dr. Pratap Raychaudhuri of TIFR, Bombay and Dr. Sadiquali Abbas Rangwala of Raman Research Institute, Bangalore (Physical Sciences) are the winners

Telecom

• Vodafone launches 3G Mobile Wi-Fi(Rs. 5,500) in India on September 3, 2014

Infrastructure

• Vijayawada will be the new Andhra Pradesh capital as per September decision

Interesting applications

- Jan Dhan Yojana (mega "inclusive banking" initiative) started on August 29, 2014 gets 15 million new accounts on Day 1; 40 million by September 15, 2014
- **Employees Provident Fund Organization** (EPFO) launches UAN Services in September 19, 2014, to provide seamless online access to millions of employees for their account (across employers)
- Five new schemes get AADHAR- UID (Universal ID) authentication push by Government of India on September 20, 2014
- Income tax department launches a new user friendly web site <u>www.Incometaxindia.gov.in</u> on September 21, 2014
- All India Radio (AIR) launches SMS based News service in Hindi, Marathi, Sanskrit, Dogri and Nepali on September 23, 2014

- Google Maps launches navigation instructions in Hindi from September 2014
- Indian Railways introduces SMS-based "wake up" call service
- <u>www.Schoolreportcards.in</u> is the App that provides instant information about 1.5 million schools in India, thanks to NUEPA (National University of Educational Planning and Administration)
- Ola Cabs App Wallet introduced in September 2014
- Mysore city sees **Taxi Apps** making a difference to the huge tourist population during *Dasara* season

Interesting numbers

- **Telecom subscriber** base on July 31, 2014 stood at 946.40 million with 918.72 million mobile subscribers and 27.68 million wire-line subscribers (with net addition of 3.80 million mobile subscribers and net reduction of 0.35 million wire-line subscribers in July2014) (TRAI Press Release No. 61/2014 dated September 10, 2014)
- India's Foreign Exchange on September 26, 2014 was at \$ 314.2 billion (RBI)
- Indian Rupee stood at 61.76 against USD on September 30, 2014 (RBI)
- On September 30, 2014 **BSE Sensex** and **NSE NIFTY 50** (Indian stock market indices) were at 26,665 and 7,954 respectively (Reuters)
- **Apple** sells mores than **10 million new phones** (iPhone 6 and 6 Plus) during the launch weekend (September 19-21, 2014)
- **Firefox** powered low cost smart phone priced at amazingly low □ 1,999 Cloud FX by **Intex** sells 15,000 in 3 days (Aug30, 2014)
- TCS market capitalization reaches \Box 5 Lakh Crores again on September 3, 2014
- India consumes 301 million smartphones during April June 2014 (IDC)
- On September 9, 2014 Indian stock markets hit new peak; M-cap reaches \$ 1.6 trillion!
- **BigBasket** crosses 1 million orders and 25 million items in September 2014

Words of Wisdom

The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, but wiser men so full of doubts.

- Bertrand Russell

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The deepest secret is that life is not a process of discovery, but a process of creation. You are not discovering yourself, but creating yourself anew. Seek therefore, not to find out Who You Are, but seek to determine Who You Want to Be.

- Neale Donald Walsch