#### General

Olympics fever grips the planet with 2016 Rio Olympics culmination on Aug 25; India bags medals in boxing and badminton Parliament passes the historic constitutional amendment to GST legislation on Aug 3, 2016 ending 10+ years of law making Government decides to target inflation at 6 Plus/Minus 2 percent in Aug 2016

Gujarat gets a new CM on Aug 10, 2016

Thai votes for a new constitution thru a nation-wide referendum on Aug 10, 2016

Emirates plane from India crashes in Dubai airport and all passengers escape miraculously on Aug 8, 2016

Saudi layoffs impact 10,000 poor Indian workers in August 2016 Assam terrorist attack in August 2016 leaves many dead Italy earthquake on Aug 24, 2016

# **Technology**

Singapore starts experimenting with driver-less cars on Aug 25, 2016 ISRO checks out scramjet technology on Aug 29, 2016

### <u>Markets</u>

Intel acquires Nervana - deep-learning start-up with 48 persons, founded by India-born Naveen Rao and Arjun Bansal - for \$ 400 million on Aug 10, 2016

Apple buys Seattle-based AI start-up Turi RBL (Ratnakar Bank) IPO over-subscribed 48 times on Aug 24, 2016

#### **Products**

Win 10 celebrates first anniversary on Aug 8, 2016 Google announces Duo in August 2016 that competes with Microsoft Skype and Apple FaceTime

### **Indian IT Companies**

Delhi based startup announces paid Devanagari domain and email service in August 2016

Indian Semiconductor industry association IESA starts Taiwan & Japan offices in Aug 2016

#### MNC IT companies in India

LeECo India to hire 1,000 R&D engineers in India

IBM gets \$ 750 million IT outsourcing contract from Vodafone India in Aug 2016

QualComm leases 500,000 sft of space in BLR in Aug 2016 Huawei starts largest GSC in Bangalore on Aug 26, 2016

#### **Education & Research**

Centuries old Nalanda University, re-created recently, had its First Convocation on Aug 28, 2016

IIT's to open doors to "Day scholars"

IIT Dharwad inaugurated on Aug 28, 2016

Bennett Coleman University (Private University founded by the media giant that runs the world's largest circulated English newspaper Times of India) in UP starts after getting all due approvals

## **People**

Ashwani Kumar Upadhyaya of Indian Railways wins MIT Tech Review Award in Aug 2016Government announces Dr Urjit Panel as the next RBI (India's Central Bank) Governor on Aug 20, 2016 Aruna Sundararajan (earlier IT Secretary, Kerala) is the new Secretary for

the new Ministry of IT in the Government of India

#### <u>Infrastructure</u>

April June quarter saw 2,400 km (more than 20 km per month) of construction national highways by NHAI

# Startup scene

ET Award of Startup of the year 2016 goes to Chennai-based company FreshDesk founded by Ganesh Matrubhootam - SaaS-based Tech support company

MakeMyTrip starts Tech Center in Bangalore in Aug 2016 and hires 200 tech staff

India-born Naveen Jain of InfoSpace fame gets permission for private sector Moon missions in Aug 2016

Oyo Rooms gets \$ 90 Million funding from SoftBank on Aug 15, 2016 Hike messenger crosses 100 million users in Aug 2016 AskMe shuts down in August 2016

## **Interesting Applications**

UPI (Unified Payment Interface) from National Payment Corporation (NPCI) that is set to be a path-breaker in mobile micro payments, gets rolling with 20 banks on Aug 25, 2016

### Interesting Apps

Rio 2016 App of Olympics game has millions of users Hindustan Petroleum LPG Gas cylinder booking App has very interesting features

WhatsApp starts sharing phone numbers with FaceBook (parent company of WhatsApp)

## Interesting numbers

Indian mobile customer base stood at 1059.86 Million with 1035.12 wireless and 24.74 wire-line subscribers as of June 30, 2016 (TRAI Press Release 90/2016 dated September 9, 2016)

India's Foreign Exchange reserves touch record \$ 365 billion on Aug 8, 2016

Indian currency stood at Rs 66.93 against USD on August 31, 2016

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