

What's hot in IT An Indian Perspective – June 2019

Universities, Science & Technology, Policy, Special events and Milestones

- **QS World** rankings of Indian Universities is out on **June 18, 2019**; **IITKGP** moves up by 28 ranks!
- Bangalore-based **JNCAR in Nature's Top 10 list of June 2019**
- **JEE (advanced)** results were out on **June 14, 2019**, for admissions to IIT's; **38,705** qualify; girls constitute just 5,356! Karthikey Gupta among the boys (Rank 1) and Shabnam Sahay among the girls (Rank 10) are the Top 10 rank holders; of the first 100 ranks the number of students opting for IITB is 64;! It is 33 for IITD, 2 for IITK and 1 for IITM; of the first 500 ranks the number of students opting for IITB is 147;! It is 142 for IITD, 53 for IITM, 52 for IITK, 47 for IITKGP, 35 for IITR, 17 for IITG and 7 for IITH!
- **NEET** (Admission Test for Undergraduate courses in Medical and Dental colleges) results were out on **June 5, 2019**; staggering 14,10,755 students took the exam on 11 languages in 2,546 Centers spread across 154 Cities involving 128,000 invigilators and 64,000 rooms! 7,97,042 students qualify for counselling; Rajasthan boy Khandelwal tops the exam while Delhi's Bhavik and Kaushik from UP secure the second and third rank
- **ISRO** announces dates for **Moon Mission in June 2019**
- **Team Indus** (a tech start-up that did India proud by winning Google Lunar Rover challenge) gets a \$ 97 Million contract (as part of a Consortium) to build **Lunar Lander** for NASA 2020 Mission as per **June 7, 2019** announcement
- **Kaleswaram** irrigation project in Telangana State, said to be an engineering marvel with several global firsts, was inaugurated by the Chief Ministers of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra on **June 21, 2019**
- **RBI (Reserve Bank of India) cuts Repo rate** by 25 basis points, third in a row in the year 2019, on **June 6, 2019**; replaces the controversial **February 12, 2018** circular on NPA's, hopefully, leading to less stress in the overly stressed bank finance in India
- **TCS creates history**; its **market capitalization is higher** than that of legendary IT leader **IBM** on **June 9, 2019**
- **Jet Airways** goes for Bankruptcy on **June 16, 2019**; stopped flying from **April 17, 2019**
- **Monsoon** hits Kerala on **June 7, 2019**, a week later than the normal June 1; **Cyclone Vayu** gets close to **Gujarat**, but luckily does not cause havoc during **June 10-17, 2019**; most parts of India suffer from **scorching Sun** with temperatures up to ten degrees more than the normal temperatures during the first 3 weeks of **June 2019**, leading to heat wave deaths in several States; 100+ Bihar children die of Encephalitis; global tensions are high in June with Iran shooting down an US plane and US President announcing "shoot back" as retaliation move that was withdrawn in the last minute



Markets

- India's IT Products & Services company based out of Pune **Persistent** acquires **youperience** on **June 27, 2019** for \$ 6.8 Million
- **Facebook** invests \$ 25 Million in the Indian start-up venture **Meesho** (that helps housewives to get on to on-line commerce) on **June 14, 2019**
- **Dassault Systems** buys **Medidata** for \$ 5.7 Billion on **June 12, 2019**
- **United Technologies** and **Raytheon** merge on **June 10, 2019** to create \$ 120 Billion defence contractor
- **Salesforce** acquires **Tableau** for \$ 15.3 Billion on **June 10, 2019**
- **Google** announces its decision to acquire cloud-based Analytics provider **Looker** for \$ 2.6 Billion on **June 6, 2019**,
- **Wipro** acquires US-based CAD services company **ITI** for \$ 45 Million on **June 6, 2019**
- **Infineon** to buy **Cypress Semiconductors** for a whopping \$ 10 Billion on **June 5, 2019**, one of the largest acquisitions in semi-conductor industry



Interesting Application

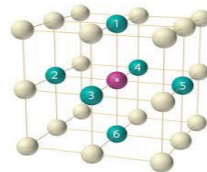
- **RBI (Reserve Bank of India)** waives charges on RTGS & NEFT transactions on **June 6, 2019** incentivizing the country's move towards digital money transactions; ATM charges too are to get rationalized
- **Google** launches "stay safe" feature in its mapping App in India in **June 2019**
- **Redbus** launches **rPool** in India on **June 10, 2019**
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Startup Scene

- **DailyHunt** acquires **LocalPlay** on **June 22, 2019**
- Bangalore-based **Skylark** and **Throttle Aerospace** are the very first Drone companies to get DGCA Certification on **June 21, 2019** (The new **Drone Policy** of the Government of India is at work!)
- Pune-based data back-up and analytics firm **Druva** offering SaaS-based solutions gets \$ 130 Million funding and becomes an Unicorn on **June 21, 2019**

Interesting numbers

- India's **forex reserves** inch towards a record \$ 426 Billion on **June 28, 2019**
- **China** with 21%, **India** with 18% and **USA** with 8% are the Top 3 Internet User countries as per Mary Meeker Report of **June 12, 2019**
- India's stock market index **Sensex** goes past 40,000 and closes at 40,267 on **June 3, 2019**, the first time ever; has 554 point fall on a single day on **June 6, 2019**
- **Government of India** plans to recruit 500,000 employees in 2 years (**FY 2019 & 2020**)



Indian IT companies

- **TCS creates history**; with **417,929** employees (as per Wikipedia), its **market capitalization (\$ 120.5 Billion)** is **higher** than that of legendary IT leader **IBM (\$ 119.6 Billion)** on **June 9, 2019**. Interestingly, TCS had a turnover of \$ 21 Billion for FY 19 and \$ 4.5 Billion profit, while IBM with 3,50,600 employees (as per Wikipedia) had a much larger \$ 79.6 Billion turnover and \$ 8.7 Billion profit and for the same period
- Indian IT Services major **TechM** to jointly work with **Airbus Industries** from **June 2019**
- Chennai-based IT services major **Hexaware** buys **Mobiquity** for \$ 182 Million on **June 1, 2019**
- **TCS** bags Rs 310 Crores CIMS order from RBI on **June 2019**
- After additional capital infusion, **Oyo** market capitalization set to reach \$ 10 Billion in **June 2019**, a record for an Indian start-up
- **L& T InfoTech** open offer of 31% of additional stake in **Mindtree** shares slated for the period **June 17 to 28, 2019**, after market regulator SEBI approval



People

- **Jonathan Ive**, the legendary design Guru of Apple announces his decision to leave Apple on **June 27, 2019**; Apple loses \$ 9 Billion of mar-cap in a day!
- RBI Deputy Governor Dr Viral Acharya quits 6 months ahead of his tenure on **June 25, 2019** and returns to University of Chicago
- Om Birla is unanimously elected as the Lok Sabha (Lower House of the Indian Parliament) Speaker on **June 17, 2019**
- Premal Desai appointed as ThyssenKrupp global CEO on **June 14, 2019**
- After 53 years of outstanding service Wipro Chairman Azim Premji announces his decision to step down and hand over charge on **July 31, 2019** to his son Rishad Premji (who has been groomed for two decades to take on the mantle) on **June 5, 2019**



MNC IT Companies in India

- **Xiaomi** supplier **Holitech** invests \$ 200 Million in NOIDA plant in UP in North India; production expected to start as early as Q3 of this year
- **Amazon** leases 1.3 Million square feet office space in Bangalore in **June 2019**
- **IBM** announces 2,000 job cuts globally (of its 350,600 employees) in **June 2019**

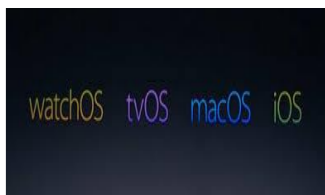


General

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Maldives and Sri Lanka (**June 3-4, 2019**) as part of "neighbor first" policy; attends SCO meet in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (**June 13-14, 2019**) and meets world leaders including Chinese President and Russian President; has a very successful meeting at G 20 Summit in Osaka, Japan during **June 28-29, 2019**

Products

- **Apple** announces upgrades to several of its products - MacOS, iOS, Watch OS, and tvOS; retires iTunes, announces a new iPadOS and a high-end Mac Pro product in its WWDC (World Wide Developer Conference) During **June 3-6, 2010**



Professor **Sowmyanarayanan Sadagopan** is the **Director** of IIIT-Bangalore. These are his personal views. He can be reached at ss@iiitb.ac.in. He has been writing on "What's hot in IT" from an Indian perspective continuously from 1997; Times of India, Financial Express and IT Magazine carried the monthly (and yearly columns) till 2016; **IEEE India** has been carrying the quarterly columns since 2017.