What's hot in IT An Indian Perspective - Feb 2020

Science & Technology

ISRO postpones its **GIST-1 satellite launch** of **March 5, 2020**

Products

Samsung launched its **Galaxy S20** phones in San Francisco on **February 12, 2020**

Policy

➤Government okays **Wi-Fi in flight** on **March 2, 2020**; **Vistara**, the first airline likely to offer this service soon

➤**US Fed** cuts Federal Funds rate by 50 points on **March 2, 2020;** several countries follow suit

➤**Supreme Court** overrules RBI decision to stop **Crypto-currency** in India on **March 2, 2020**

Start-ups scene

➤**Tri-Cog,** Bangalore-based company specializing in remote diagnostics of heart patients (ET, FE Award winning start-up) gets $ 10.5 Million funding on **March 5, 2020**

➤**ClearTax** buys GST Unit of **Karvy** on **March 4, 2020**

Interesting Apps & Applications

Samsung R&D Institute launches **Samsung Digital Library** in 100 Government Schools in Karnataka with Samsung Tablets and curated content on **February 29, 2020**

Higher Education

QS World Rankings 2020 announced on **March 5, 2020** has 2 Indian Institutes – IITB (44), IITD (47) in Top 50 for Engineering; IIMA (), and IIMB () in Top 50 for Management

Indian IT Companies

➤Bangalore-based **TALLY Solutions** (accounting used by millions of accountants in dozens of countries) extends any-device based browsing of TALLY data, an important step in the evolution of the product

➤**Sonata** (Bangalore-based IT Services company) **acquires** Melbourne, Australia-based **GAPBusters**, a company that specializes in UX for customer surveys, on **March 5, 2020**

Special events and Milestones

➤**Indian Railways** with **zero fatalities in 11 months** in 116 years creates history

➤**Coronavirus Disease** (officially **Covid-19**) continues to bother the global population in February 2020 with tens of thousands affected; 2 deaths in India and nearly 1,000 deaths in China. **MWC** (Mobile World Congress) is **off** for the year **2020!**

Telecom

➤**Indians** consume more than **11 GB/month data** according to Nokia's MBIT (Mobile Broadband India Traffic Index) Report of **February 27, 2020**

➤**AGR** mess (created by Supreme Court ruling) causes grievous wound to the telecom sector; **Vodafone-Idea** almost on the verge of shutting shop; **Airtel** springs a surprise by **paying up** to **Rs 18,000 Crores** by **February 29, 2020!**

Markets

➤**SBI Cards IPO** over-subscribed 26 times by **March 5, 2020**

➤**Covid-19** continues to cause trouble to markets everywhere, with $ 5 Trillion getting wiped out by February 29, 2020. India's stock market indices Sensex and NIFTY at record low of 38,297 and 11,839 respectively by **February 29, 2020**

MNC Companies in India

Capgemini to hire 30,000 in India in **2020** (up from 12,000 announced earlier)

People

➤**Dr Jack Welch**, (PhD in Chemical Engineering from Univ of Illinois), 84-year old former **CEO of GE** and famous for his faith in "6-Sigma" and in "emerging markets" passed away on March 5, 2020; he inaugurated **Jack Welch Tech Center** in Bangalore in 2001 that was a game changer for MNC's operating in India

➤**Dr Ajay Bhushan Pandey** (IITK CS B Tech, PhD from Univ of Minnesota, ex UIDAI Chairman, GSTN Chairman) is the country's **Finance Secretary** from **March 6, 2020**

➤India-born **Rajiv Suri** steps down as **Nokia CEO** on **March 2, 2020**

Interesting numbers

GST collection for **February 2020** crosses Rs 1 Lakh Crores; for the fourth month in a row