

**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

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

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 house-wives 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

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

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

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

Start-up 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 applications

- **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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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)

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

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