

What's hot in IT in November 2021

A Perspective from India

1. Science & Technology, Innovation & Policy

- **118 Indian Universities** make it to the **QS World University Rankings 2022**; **IIT-Bombay & IIT-Delhi** in the **Top 50** (3 November 2021)

2. Higher Education

- **IEEE Fellows 2022** announced (30 November 2021)

3. Special events and Milestones

- **Kyndryl** (IBM offshoot) **lists** as **independent company** on NYSE it has 90,000 employees on roll and **Martin Schroeter** as **CEO** and **Harsh Chugh** as **COO**; **Lingaraju Sowcar** is the **India President** (3 November 2021)
- **Indian Government** decides to **repeal the farm laws** that had led to much agitation in Delhi & Punjab (23 November 2021)
- **Cities ranking** based on **cleanliness** is out; **Indore** continues to be No 1 for five years in a row (23 November 2021)
- **COPS26** (26th Convention on Climate Change) signs **Climate Deal** in Glasgow finally (15 November 2021)
- **Google loses** appeal against **EU fine** of \$ 2.8 Billion (10th November 2021)
- **US President signs** into Law a **legislation** to support **\$ 1.2 Trillion infrastructure** fund (15 November 2021)
- **USA** allows **auto job-authorisation** for **H1/H4 Visa holders** bringing much relief to Indian professionals in USA (15 November 2021)
- **Chennai rains** cause havoc much of November; with 2015 devastation in mind, there was visible worry everywhere; luckily, the damage was contained, thanks to Disaster Management team

On Covid-19 front,

- **Covid-19** deaths cross five million globally (1 November 2021); **vaccines** administered globally cross 7 Billion
- Many **countries** start **accepting Covaxin** (Hyderabad-based **Bharat Biotech** vaccine)

- New variant **Omicron** causes worries all over; Austria & Germany decide to impose lockdown in November 2021; India is on high-alert!

4. Products

- HotMail founder **Sabeer Bhatia** launches **ShowReel App** (18 November 2021)

5. Markets

- **Indian stock markets** record a **record drop** of 2,242 points in November 2021

In the **IPO space**

- Chennai-based **LatentView Analytics IPO** subscribed **326 times**, the largest ever subscription for any IPO in India; gains 48% value on Day 1 (22 November 2021)
- **One97** (parent of **PayTM**) IPO subscribed 1.89 times; it is the largest IPO in Indian history; raised 1.39 Lakh Crores (10th November 2021); however, the stock crashed on Day 1 causing much misery to early investors, lost 37% in just 2 days of listing (18 November 2021); improved a bit later (30 November 2021)
- **Nykaa** had an excellent Day 1 after IPO; market capitalisation touched Rs 1 Lakh Crores (10th November 2021)

Globally,

- **Ericsson** to acquire Inter telephony major **Vonage** for \$ 6.2 Billion (22 November 2021)
- **Alphabet** (**Google's** parent company) touched **\$ 2 Trillion market capitalisation**, for the first time (10 November 2021)

6. Indian IT Companies

- Indian IT companies talk of **record recruitment** (400,000) amidst **record resignations** in November 2021!
- Online groceries major **BigBasket** moves to **omni-channel** by way of opening their physical stores **FreshO** in Bangalore (24 November 2021)

7. MNC Companies in India

- **IBM CEO Arvind Krishna visits** India, announces investment in **Kochin** and **Ahmedabad**; **IBM** signs 500,000 sq ft space in **Bangalore** (18 November 2021)

- **Kyndryl** (IBM offshoot) **lists as independent company** on NYSE; it has 90,000 employees on roll and **Martin Schroeter** as **CEO** and **Harsh Chugh** as **COO**; **Lingaraju Sowcar** is the **India President** (3 November 2021)
- **Music Tribe** India operations start functioning in Bangalore (23 November 2021)
- Customer communications company **Twilio** Technologies India operations start functioning in Bangalore in 2021; November saw more activities
- Geo-location services major **TomTom** expands Pune Center with 1000-seat facility (15 November 2021)
- Japanese owned American Retail convenience Store **7-Eleven** launch their India Tech Center in Bangalore (26 November 2021)
- **Dixon** to make 500,000 **Acer laptops** a year in India in its 13th factory at NOIDA (24 November 2021)

8 Start-up Scene

The Indian Unicorn story goes unabated

- **MyGlam** and **Mensa Brands** in Consumer Brands, **NoBroker** in Property Tech, **Spinny** in Used Car space are the Unicorns of November 2021
- Chennai-based **LatentView Analytics IPO** subscribed **389 times**, the largest ever subscription for any IPO in India; gains 48% value on Day 1 (18 November 2021)
- **FlipKart** acquires parma **e-Com** start-up **SastaSundar** (18 November 2021)
- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala founded start-up Airline **Akasa Air** orders **72 Boeing Max planes** worth \$ 9 Billion (18 November 2021)
- **Uber** starts operations in **Warangal**, the **100th Town** in India (18 November 2021)

9. People

- Parag Agarwal (Undergraduate IIT Bombay CS 2005, PhD Stanford) takes over as **Twitter CEO** (30 November 2021)
- **Saifur Rahman** is the **IEEE President-Elect 2022**; will take charge on 1 January 2023 as **IEEE President**
- **US Vice President Kamala Harris** creates history; held **Presidential power** as **Commander-in-Chief** for 85 minutes during **US President Biden's** anaesthesia period, the first time ever for a woman; interestingly, her mother **Shyamala**

Gopalan grew up in Chennai until she was 19 and moved to USA to study in UC Berkeley (19 November 2021)

- **Shaktikanta Das** will be the **RBI Governor** for **three more years** from 10 December 2021
- **Admiral R Hari Kumar** is the new **Indian Navy Chief** (30 November 2021)

10. Telecom & Infrastructure

- **Airtel** increases **tariff** by 25%; **Vodafone** follows suit (18 November 2021)
- **Airtel** starts **5G trials** in Bangalore (18 November 2021)

11. Interesting Apps / Applications

- **Tele-Law App** to enable faster legal decisions at Panchayat-level and help rural Indians was launched on 14 November 2021
- **FreshWorks** launches **start-up friendly CRM** (18 November 2021)
- **Meesho** - the e-commerce App targeted at Tier 2 Town customers in India - was the most downloaded e-commerce App globally (57 Million across Apple AppStore and Google Play-store) in October; **Meesho** claims that in October 2021, nearly 5% of the Indian households shopped on **Meesho** every day of October 2021

12. Interesting numbers

- **UPI** logs 4.9 **Billion** transactions (compared to 4.6 Billion in October) in November 2021

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