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NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

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Today's View

Edge Computing

Edge computing is a networking philosophy focused on bringing computing as close to the source of data as possible in order to reduce latency and bandwidth usage. According to IBM edge computing is a distributed computing framework that brings enterprise applications closer to data sources, such as Internet of Things (IoT) devices or local edge servers.

Edge computing was developed due to the exponential growth of IoT devices, which connect to the internet for either receiving information from the cloud or delivering data back to the cloud. IoT devices generate enormous amounts of data during the course of their operations.

As per global research and advisory giant Gartner there will be 25 billion connected IoT devices by 2020. A new market research report by **MarketsandMarkets**, the global edge computing market size is expected to grow from $1.47 billion in 2017 to $6.72 billion by 2022 at a CAGR of 35.4% during the forecast period.

Companies such as **NVIDIA** have recognized the need for more processing at the edge which is why there new system modules include artificial intelligence functionality built into them for edge processing. The company's latest **Jetson Xavier NX** module, can be built into smaller devices such as drones, robots and medical devices

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With Rs 20 crore earnings, Byju's has a lesson for unicorns

Think and Learn, which owns and operates educational technology platform Byju's, posted net income of Rs 20.16 crore in the financial year ended March 31.

Turning a Page
40 MILLION REGISTERED USERS ON PLATFORM
₹**28.65**crore Net loss on standalone basis in FY 2018
₹**1,321.65**cr Total expenses for FY 2019
₹**3kcr** Revenue forecast for 2019-20
₹**1,341**cr Total income for FY 2019

Source – The Economic Times

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Date – 18th December, 2019

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Delhi based **Oakter** started in 2015 allows users to control their homes with a smartphone. Everything - from lights to TV - that has sensors can be controlled with the Oakter app. The platform integrates all sensors to give a user complete control of his home by computing this process locally at the edge without having to transmit data to the cloud.

DiscoveryIoT is an IoT and Blockchain based supply chain startup that seeks to provide an innovative solution for the problems faced in the supply chain today. They are building a sophisticated IoT network by creating a community of smartphone users through which they can track inventories utilizing the Edge computing capability.

Low bandwidth requirement of Edge computing would prove useful in situations where internet connectivity issue exists. Further in the event of loss of internet connectivity Edge platforms can still perform actions as long as sensors remain connected to gateways that are equipped with autonomous capability.

Today's News

Europe beckons Indian tech talent

Countries in Europe, including Finland, Germany, Ireland and the United Kingdom, are rolling out the red carpet for Indian technology talent and India-based IT firms, amid protectionist moves by the United States to stem the number of specialised category visas issued to Indian software companies.

Traditionally, Indian technology companies and engineering talent have looked to the United States, the biggest market for technology and tech services. A crackdown on H-1B visas over the last two years has, however, resulted in a sharp spike in rejections and made Indian companies realign their strategies, whether in hiring more people locally or setting up centres elsewhere. Indian companies have also found it hard to source highly skilled labour locally.

Source – The Economic Times READ MORE

India emerges as one of the top markets for content marketing jobs

Content marketing has become one of the hottest job profiles in India this year, as companies seek to devise newer ways of engaging with users. India has emerged as one of the top markets for such jobs, which include mostly marketing and social media related roles, according to a report by US-based online marketing analytics firm SEMrush, which shared the data exclusively with ET.

The report was compiled after an analysis of more than 450,000 tweets, 700,000 blog posts and responses by more than 1,200 marketers to a survey. The data was gathered between January and September.

Source – The Economic Times READ MORE

This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of Manish Kulkarni

Amazon to source directly from farmers

Amazon is running a pilot project in Pune where the US e-commerce company is for the first time sourcing fresh produce directly from the farmers as part its farm-to-fork initiatives. Amazon Retail India (ARIPL), the wholly-owned food retailing venture of the US giant, is working with dozens of farmers in the region and the company has created a cold chain hub in the vicinity to supply fresh produce to sell online through its Amazon Fresh and Amazon Pantry, two sources familiar with development, said.

Source – The Economic Times

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Facebook to pilot new fact-checking program with community reviewers

Facebook said on Tuesday it would ask community reviewers to fact check content in a pilot program in the United States, as the social media platform looks to detect misinformation faster. The company will work with data services provider Appen to source community reviewers. The social media giant said data company YouGov conducted an independent study of community reviewers and Facebook users, who will be hired as contractors to review content flagged as potentially false through machine learning, before it is sent to Facebook's third-party fact-checking partners.

Source – The Economic Times

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G Springboard raises $11 million from Reach Capital, others

Springboard, an online learning platform for workforce upskilling, has raised $11 million (over Rs 78 crore) in funding led by Reach Capital. The financing round also saw participation by Pearson Ventures, International Finance Corporation (IFC), as well as returning investors Costanoa Ventures, Learn Capital, and Blue Fog Capital.

The company, which has so far raised $20 million in funding, has also partnered with Microsoft to train and place 5,000 students into analytics jobs over the next three years through its new Data Analytics Career Track.

Source – The Economic Times READ MORE

Govt launches broadband plan to connect 6 lakh villages

The government Tuesday launched a national broadband mission that aims to connect 600,000 villages across India at an estimated outlay of Rs 7 lakh crore, including a 10% contribution from the state reserve over the next 3-4 years.

"The national broadband mission is a transformative programme to connect all villages," telecom and IT minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said, and added that the government aims to offer Internet speed up to 50 Mbps in a phased manner. "Some of the broadband mission's salient features include taking optical fibre connectivity to 50 lakh km from the current 22 lakh km, and deploying 10 lakh mobile towers from the present 5.65 lakh sites in next 3-4 years," Prasad said.

Source – The Economic Times READ MORE

Ola targets 1 million bike partners by next year

Ola plans to add about 700,000 people in the coming year to have on board about one million bike-partners, as the ride hailing firm seeks to create opportunities across micro-mobility platforms. A recent in-house survey revealed that six out of 10 Ola bike partners also work for food delivery networks, helping increase their income levels.

Food delivery riders who invest 4-5 hours on the Ola platform during peak traffic hours clock additional earnings of up to 30%, it found. "Food delivery riders who spent anywhere between 4-5 hours on the platform (8.30-10.30 am and 6-8 pm, which are non-peak hours for food delivery) earned 30% more than what they additionally did by delivering food for the remaining part of their workday," said a source in Ola, who did not want to be identified.

Source – The Economic Times READ MORE

Tech Mahindra set to gain from merger of US giants Sprint, T-Mobile

Tech Mahindra is likely to receive more business from a planned merger of US telecom giants Sprint and T-Mobile, analysts said, citing the Indian IT services provider's expertise in the communications vertical, both in legacy as well as emerging 5G technology. "Sprint + T-Mobile merger is a growth opportunity. Sprint mobile core systems will move to T-Mobile, which is managed by TechM," Amit Chandra and Apoorva Purohit of HDFC Securities said in a note following a meeting with the Tech Mahindra management recently.

Source – The Economic Times

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Why 2019 was a good year for startups

2019 saw the Indian entrepreneurial ecosystem make a paradigm shift. The country's startup landscape saw the emergence of seven new unicorns and value creation of $90 billion. Little wonder, then, that India is globally ranked third in its number of startups, behind only the US and China. Indian startups are gaining support from not just stakeholders within the country but also from beyond. West Asia, Japan, China and Germany are among the top investors showing interest in domestic innovators today. Japanese investment giant SoftBank alone has invested $10 billion in Indian startups. For Chinese investors, India represents one of the most important markets.

Source – The Economic Times

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