



Lithuania -based multi-platform **TRAFI** is using real-time data to help users find the best possible way to commute from door to door either by public transport, taxi, cycling or even walking. In addition to this, transport app **Citymapper**, available in the cities like London, Berlin, Paris and New York pulls in public transport information and provides multi-modal transport options to get users to their chosen destinations, beating the traffic.

Even in India, the traffic situation is getting out of control. As per a survey of the traffic conditions of major cities around the world by **IBM Traffic**, Bangalore and Delhi rank 6th and 7th in the "Commuter Pain Index". The Uber-commissioned report by the Boston Consulting Group, **Unlocking Cities: The impact of ridesharing across India** reveals that India wastes about Rs 1.44 lakh crore due to traffic congestion in just four major Indian cities: Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Kolkata.

In Mumbai, an app called **Ridlr** is helping Commuters with daily intra-city travel needs. It helps users to plan their commute with traffic updates and alerts about delays, cancellations, mega blocks, etc. directly on their smartphone. Similarly, **Traffline** is a website and mobile app that provides real-time traffic information in five cities in India.

Since traffic has a significant impact on the livability and efficiency in evolving smart cities, it is imperative we use Smart traffic management to make urban driving more seamless and efficient. Here IoT could prove to be the key to actively manage the traffic situation.

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## Today's News

### RBI crackdown provides major boost to bit-coin trading through P2P channels

RBI's recent diktat barring banks from supporting crypto-currencies could lead to massive illegal trading in these digital currencies in the grey market, according to experts. RBI asked all regulated entities and banks to stop dealing with individuals and companies associated with crypto-currencies.

While the crackdown was aimed at the legally registered Indian crypto-currency exchanges, such as Zebpay, Unocoin and Coinex, among 50 others, trading is still continuing on a large scale in the grey market through P2P channel, which is not only difficult to track but also a huge loss for the ITD.

Source – BusinessLine

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### Researchers develop method to spot fake social media accounts

Researchers from Israel's Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and University of Washington, Seattle have developed a method to detect fake accounts on social networks such as Facebook and Twitter.

Source – BusinessLine

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This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of Balakrishna and Pankaj Tadas

## Total to develop AI solutions with Google Cloud

French multinational oil and gas company Total announced it has signed an agreement with Google Cloud to jointly develop AI solutions for subsurface data analysis for oil and gas exploration and production.

Source – The Economic Times

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## Barclays and PayPal partner to help customers enhance their Digital payments

Barclays (BARC.L, BCS) announced a new strategic partnership with PayPal (PYPL) that is designed to enable customers to manage and use their Barclays and PayPal accounts together.

The partnership is expected to benefit millions of consumer and small business customers, and initially focus on enhancing products and services for consumers in the UK and the US.

Source – Nasdaq

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## Blockchain Start-up KrypC eyes to secure IoT devices

IoT are the future and are touching every aspect of our lives, be it healthcare, transport or the smart home systems. These devices, which are connected to the Internet, function by gathering data and talking with each other.

IoT device hacks have become a dangerous reality. Due to the sensitive nature of data collected, many see blockchain technology as the logical option to help with security.

Source – Inc42

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## Google overhauls Gmail to lure businesses away from Microsoft

Google unveiled its first Gmail redesign since 2013, capping what the company says was an expensive overhaul two years in the making to adopt security and offline functionality and better resemble Microsoft Outlook.

It is Google's most extensive update to software in its G Suite workplace bundle since accelerating efforts to steal business from Microsoft Corp's (MSFT.O) dominant Office workplace software suite. Previously, G Suite added instant-messaging and spreadsheet features.

Source – Reuters

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## Telecom service providers pursue multiple paths to IoT revenue

According to a new Ericsson study, exploring IoT Strategies, provides unique insights on Internet of Things (IoT) value chain positioning from 20 leading telecom service providers globally as they engage with, and position themselves in, the IoT market.

The study identifies an IoT positioning framework, which captures service providers' roles, and sub-roles, in the IoT value chain. The study also provides commercial insights, key capabilities required and case studies for each role.

Source – Business Standard

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## Flipkart and Amazon plan mega summer sales in May

This summer will see the return of mega sales by Flipkart and Amazon. The rivals are set to once again lock horns next month, with scaled-down versions of their marquee annual festive event, when consumers are flooded with heavy discounts, four senior industry executives said.

The two marketplaces started stocking up for the sale last week and have purchased 70-80% of what they typically procure for their festive sales, which is an indicator of the size of the planned event, the executives said.

Source – The Economic Times

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## PayStand Announces B2B Payments Integration with SuiteCloud, Achieves 'Built for NetSuite' Status

PayStand, the B2B payment platform for the future of business, has achieved 'Built for Netsuite' status. The new SuiteApp integrates and automates entire NetSuite-based financial processes by automating the \$550 billion worth of transactions stuck in pre-internet paper, plastic and manual processes.

"Built for NetSuite is the gold standard for B2B payments applications," said Jeremy Almond, CEO and Founder, PayStand. In conjunction with the strong, deeply integrated SuiteCloud, PayStand offers unprecedented ease of Digital payments.

Source – Bristol Herald Courier

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## Top countries hiring most number of AI, Machine Learning experts

Demand for AI and machine learning experts is on the rise globally despite a fear that AI will eat away at many jobs. The rate at which global companies are hiring gives us a different picture. The technological advancement is still creating more positions as companies need high-skilled AI talents to develop and maintain a wide range of applications.

Source – Analytics India

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## BigCommerce raises \$64mn to power e-commerce sites

The growth-stage start-up, which powers e-commerce sites for Sony, Toyota and 60,000 other merchants, has raised \$64 million to accelerate its business. The investment was led by Goldman Sachs, with participation from General Catalyst, GGV Capital and Tenaya Capital. And it brings BigCommerce's total raised to more than \$200 million since it was founded in 2009.

Source – Tech Crunch

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## Google launches job search in India

After launching Google for Jobs last year in the US, the search giant has brought the feature to India. According to the company, jobseekers will now be able to directly search for jobs across over a dozen partners through the Google search bar making the process less cumbersome and making jobs more discoverable.

Source – The Economic Times

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