

Vodafone is working with fashion retailer **Mango** on a programme to roll out digital fitting rooms to the company's biggest stores worldwide. The new in-store retail experience is based on a digital-mirror system, designed by Mango and developed by Vodafone in collaboration with Spanish smart systems and IoT specialists, **JogoTech**. In the fitting rooms, clothes-tags are scanned – by barcode or RFID – and shoppers are able to contact floor staff directly from the digital mirror, which can switch between mirror and display modes. Shop assistants receive the customer's requests in real time on digital watches – and shoppers are also able to use their watches and smart devices to save the details of any outfits they like.

Other brilliant in-store digital transformations include the use of **Smart Beacon technology**. Smart beacons work with Bluetooth to alert retailers when customers are in the vicinity of their store or signage so that they can communicate with them at a targeted time or range.

To deal with the theft problem in retail stores, video surveillance has been present in stores for decades now. Adding network intelligence to the existing surveillance systems, **Deepcam's** video surveillance system across chain retailers don't just catch suspicious activity in one store at a time, but identifies patterns, trends and repeat actors across multiple locations and large populations. DeepCam's end goal is to reduce inventory shrinkage through shoplifting.

The era of smart retail is on the horizon, which will change the future of retail forever.

Today's News

Cobots are here! Will they raise banking sector's productivity?

Danish robot manufacturer Universal Robots and Germany-headquartered G+D are joining hands to bring cobots to the banking sector. G+D (Gieseck + Devrient) is a market leader in bank-note processing in India, and has been closely working with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) since 2005.

Source – *The Business Line*

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Sales via phone calls, web turning SaaS Infrastructure, AI on top of the game in India: Survey

The Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) ecosystem is undergoing tectonic shifts as it continues on its journey towards commercial adulthood. According to the India SaaS Survey by investment banking advisory DCS Advisory and software policy think tank iSPIRT, 'Inside Sales is fast becoming the most popular sales channel, with about 50% of respondents focusing on this mode.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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

Has BharatNet fulfilled its end task of providing functional internet?

On 28 April, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on Twitter that all 597,464 Indian villages now have access to electricity. However, if any of us are aware of the ground realities, we know that thousands of "electrified" villages lie in darkness for more than 20 hours a day.

Source – *Mint*

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Droom gets \$30 million funding jointly led by Toyota Tsusho, Digital Garage

Droom, an online automobile store, on Thursday announced a \$30 million Series-D investment jointly led by Toyota Tsusho Corporation, a unit of Japan's automobile major Toyota Group, and existing investor Digital Garage.

Source – *Mint*

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Tech firms tap AI tools to stem spread of terror content, spam

Global and Indian users are still smarting from the Cambridge Analytica incident, in which data of nearly 87 million Facebook users was used deceptively to manipulate the US elections.

It has also been pointed out that Google has a gigantic data repository that can be misused because it can connect the dots with machine intelligence.

Source – *Mint*

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BharatNet has a new target: Connect every village home

The government may emulate the 'Saubhagya' model of electricity distribution in rural areas to widen the scope of its national broadband project and help every village home surf the web, senior officials aware of the plan said.

India's broadband project, 'BharatNet', envisages delivering broadband connectivity to 250,000 gram panchayats (village councils), and the Centre is now deliberating that the project should not stop there but also provide internet connection to every village home. Under 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana', or 'Saubhagya', electricity is to be provided to nearly 40 million village homes by the end of this year.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Paytm is preferred payment option for rail e-bookings

With over 70 per cent of passenger reservations happening online, the Railways has expanded its electronic payment choices. The Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), a public sector unit of the national transporter that front-ends online booking, now offers 53 ways, including cash-on-delivery (COD), to make payments for e-bookings.

Source – *Business Line*

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GAVS Tech eyes tie-ups for machine learning solutions

Chennai-based GAVS Technologies Pvt Ltd plans to double its revenue to \$100 million in the next two-three years through organic growth and acquisitions.

"Acquisitions should help us grow in key geographies and develop technologies," said Sumit Ganguli, a General Partner at US-based PE and VC firm Basil Partners and CEO of GAVS Technologies.

Source – *Business Line*

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Centre unveils eSIM norms

The Centre has eased norms for users who want to change a mobile service provider or buy a new connection without replacing a SIM card. According to the Department of Telecom (DoT)'s new guidelines, embedded SIMs (eSIMs) can be installed in a device, and the details of service providers can be updated in it if the customer buys a new connection, changes operators, or wants to buy a standalone service from a telecom operator, such as data calling.

Source – *Business Line*

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Discom in MP sets up 'virtual office' app to address consumer concerns

In this digital age, waiting in dreaded queues for availing basic services is no longer accepted as a necessary part of life. Both the government agencies and private sector are, thus, increasingly seeking to extend their facilities via online platforms.

Following this trend, a Madhya Pradesh-based electricity distribution company (discom) is facilitating consumer services through a mobile application, 'Smart Bijlee', which allows users to make payments, submit complaints, or apply for a new connection, while sitting at home.

Source – *Mint*

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Capgemini and Efma Launch Innovative FinTech Portal

Innovative FinTechs are already building the foundations of this virtual marketplace by sharing their solutions every day. Launched today at the CCX Forum in London, the portal, which connects financial institutions and FinTechs, will have a feature that allows bankers and insurers to rate FinTechs and comment on their solutions, as well as a "matchmaker-like" personalized function for financial institutions.

Source – *Business Wire*

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Twitter to look at your conversation to identify the trolling instincts

Upping the ante against internet trolls, Twitter is looking at behavioural signals to narrow down on cyber bullies. In its newest safety initiative, the social media website is using machine learning to identify behaviours that distort and detract public conversations on Twitter.

Source – *Business Standard*

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