

## OTHER INTERESTING NEWS

### Bitcoin and the Blockchain

Deal4Loans gets rebranded to Wishfin

Paytm cuts commission to be paid by sellers to compete with Flipkart, Amazon & Snapdeal

Flipkart looks to forge \$1.5 billion deal, with eBay and Tencent, to take on Amazon and Alibaba

Aadhaar wins World Bank praise amid 'big brother' fears

## Today's View

### Money laundering, in the digital age

While money laundering is ancient, the ways in which it is done keeps getting refreshed. The newest form of laundering is Transaction Laundering.

Transaction laundering is the new sophisticated form of money laundering and terrorism financing and is one of the biggest challenges facing the AML regime today internationally. MasterCard defines it as 'the activity whereby a vendor processes payment card transactions for the benefit of another vendor.'

The evolution of e-commerce and mobile payments has made transaction laundering through concealment of true origins of funds easy and scalable. Criminals no longer have to go through a complicated process of setting up a real storefront business. With transaction laundering criminals can tackle the three steps of money laundering (placement, layering, and integration) digitally.

Simply put, when a merchant applies to setup a payment gateway, he needs to fill up a declaration on what the online store sells (stuff like pornography, weapons, alcohol are in the negative list of many banks). Post the initial declaration, the merchant can use that acceptance page towards acceptance of any of the negative list items, with little check by the payment processors. The huge amount of data overload makes it extremely difficult for these Merchant Service Providers to determine where the money is coming from and where it is going.

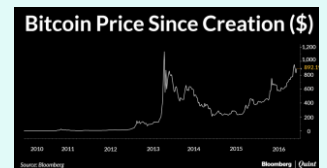
How it is affecting the real world can be seen through the January 7th, 2015 attacks on Paris. It is said that the chain of funding showed that the funds came from counterfeit goods that were sold online.

The only way to deal with this menace is to utilize big data and machine learning techniques to identify the patterns and deviations.

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### Bitcoin and the Blockchain

There's a new wave of excitement about an aspect of bitcoin: public online ledgers.



The blockchain — the technology used for verifying and recording transactions that's at the heart of bitcoin— is seen as having the potential to reshape the global financial system and possibly other industries.

Source- Mint

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Date- 16<sup>th</sup> Mar 17

## HDFC bank launches 3-minutes digital loan against securities service

HDFC Bank launched digital Loan against Securities (LAS) allowing customers to avail loans in less than 3 minutes. Customers can avail a minimum loan of Rs 1 lakh and maximum loan up to Rs 20 lakh under this facility.

The service will also be available to customers with no credit history. The bank, which will offer 10.5 per cent interest rate on the product, will soon expand the offering to other securities such as mutual funds, bonds and insurance policies.

Source- *The Economic Times*

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## Artificial Intelligence to dramatically impact businesses: TCS

According to a study by India's leading IT services provider Tata Consultancy services Artificial intelligence, regarded as "essential" to competitiveness, will have a dramatic impact on businesses by 2020.

84 per cent of the companies see the use of AI as "essential" to competitiveness, with a further 50 per cent seeing the technology as "transformative". The biggest adopters of AI today are IT departments, with two-thirds (67 per cent) of survey respondents using AI to detect security intrusions, user issues and deliver automation.

Source- *The Economic Times*

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## TN makes Aadhaar, PAN, mobile number mandatory for new vehicle registration

The Tamil Nadu government has made submission of mobile number, Aadhaar and permanent account number (PAN) mandatory for new vehicle registrations.

Some original equipment makers said that this would have an impact on two-wheeler sales. But car and commercial makers don't see any big impact due to this decision. The certificates of registration issued to owners after registration of vehicles would have these details.

Source- *Business Standard*

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## Cyber security: Soundwaves-based hacking exposes gaps in networks

According to Gartner, 8.4 billion connected devices will be in use in 2017— they are also finding out new security gaps that need plugging.

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

## Deal4Loans gets rebranded to Wishfin

Deal4Loans has been rebranded to bring loans, mutual funds and insurance products under one platform called 'Wishfin', which will also have a separate web presence. Wishfin will be the flagship product of parent company MyWish Marketplace, which runs Deal4Loans.

Wishfin offers comparisons of home loan, personal loan, car loan, credit cards, loan against property and education loans, and is still awaiting an insurance license from the regulator. It also enables mutual fund investments.

Source- *The Economic Times*

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## Paytm cuts commission to be paid by sellers to compete with Flipkart, Amazon & Snapdeal

Paytm E-Commerce has lowered the commission that sellers on its platform need to pay in some product categories to take on larger rivals Flipkart, Amazon and Snapdeal.

Company said that to help sellers get more out of selling with Paytm, they are lowering the base commissions for certain categories to 1.65%. With a lower commission, seller can now offer the most competitive prices to their customers and increase their chances of boosting sales.

Source- *The Economic Times*

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Research on cyber security has been restricted to only algorithm tampering, researchers have found a new window to hack the devices. Scientists from University of Michigan and South Carolina are said to have used soundwaves to tamper with accelerometers—motion trackers—to gain access to the device.

Source- *The Financial Express*

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## UK Online Shopping and E-Commerce Statistics for 2017

The market for online shopping is growing at a remarkable rate. Approximately 87% of U.K. consumers have bought at least one product online in the last 12 months, and the United Kingdom is second only to Norway for making e-commerce purchases in Europe.

In the coming 12 months, the market potential for British e-commerce is expected to improve dramatically. According to data from the Office for National Statistics, online sales increased by 21.3% during 2016 and should reach 30% by 2017's second half.

Source- *Yahoo Finance*

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## Gmail On Android Adds Support For Payments

Gmail on Android now allows users to send money to each other directly through the app. The feature has already been available to desktop users for the last several years, but Google has added Google Wallet Support to the Android version of the app.

The entire transaction process is completed within the Android Gmail app, so users do not need to have Google Wallet installed on their devices.

Source- *Value walk*

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## Investment facilitation, e-commerce to top BRICS meet agenda

BRICS nations will soon consider a proposal to frame 'guiding principles' for investment policymaking to boost investment flows into Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa as well as take steps to promote e-commerce among the five leading emerging economies.

China, the current BRICS chair, wants to push 'investment facilitation' and 'e-commerce'—related issues.

Source- *The Hindu*

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## Flipkart looks to forge \$1.5 billion deal, with eBay and Tencent, to take on Amazon and Alibaba

Flipkart is in talks to seal a funding round of up to \$1.5 billion. US-based eBay and China's Tencent are the frontrunners in the transaction that could make the Indian arm of the American online marketplace a part of Flipkart.

The discussions, if successful, will enable Flipkart to forge an alliance with deep-pocketed strategic investors — who also compete with its two main rivals, Jeff Bezos' Amazon and Jack Ma's Alibaba.

Source- *The Economic Times*

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## Aadhaar wins World Bank praise amid 'big brother' fears

The biometric identifier program Aadhaar has taken on a life of its own, authenticating loans and job seekers, pensions and money transfers across India.

Aadhaar has 1.1 billion users, a third of the world wide web. Indian banks are running transactions on it and Microsoft has embedded it into Skype.

Source- *Mint*

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