

This trend is increasingly being adopted by Bigtechs as well. For example, **Microsoft** has opened up its **Service Fabric** platform which is a distributed systems platform to package, deploy, and manage scalable and reliable micro-services. Similarly, **IBM**, **Google** and **Lyft** have teamed up to form **Istio**, an open technology that provides a way for developers to connect, manage and secure networks of different micro-services, regardless of platform, source or vendor. Apart from this, California based **Nginx** which supports the operation of around 450 million global websites including those of **Netflix**, **Instagram** and **Pinterest**, has set up shop in Australia to support companies embracing micro-services.

Recognizing the need to deliver value to customers faster many banks are seizing the opportunity to implement the micro-services architecture. By implementing such innovative architecture, **Ubank** created Australia's first home loan application chatbot, innovating and improving customer experience. Similarly, U. K based digital bank **Monzo** is also using cloud and micro-services architectures to develop back-end structure.

Micro-services can deliver better agility and scalability advantages than any other archetype. Several vendors are developing frameworks and platforms that simplify adoption of the micro-services architecture. However, we believe it will take some time for micro-services to evolve into complete and robust mainstream platform.

Today's News

Social media payment infrastructure likely to consolidate into UPI

As Facebook is beta-testing mobile recharges through its Messenger app, social media payments have become an integral part in the Indian payments space with the presence of other global players such as Google Tez and WhatsApp Pay.

Payment through social media is a feature that banks and wallets have been offering for quite a few years. While leading Indian banks enabled payments through Twitter in 2015, it was built on Twitter's public API services. Social media payments are finally picking up because of the united payments interface (UPI) infrastructure.

Source – *Business Standard*

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Industry, Govt think-tank to discuss national E-commerce policy

A cross-section of e-commerce, telecom & IT companies and representatives from the Government will discuss issues related to the e-commerce sector such as regulatory regime, taxation policy, data flows, server localisation, intellectual property rights protection and FDI, in the first meeting of the think-tank on 'Framework for National Policy on E-commerce'.

Source – *BusinessLine*

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

Razorpay plans to scale up its operations with eNACH

Razorpay, a converged payment solutions company, will enable eNACH for its merchant customers this year. eNACH is one of the newest methods of electronic payment. With eNACH, a customer can digitally give one's Aadhaar number to a merchant for auto-charging of his account. Razorpay is one of the eight entities certified by the NPCI for providing eNACH.

Source – *BusinessLine*

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Capital Float raises \$22 million equity funding from Amazon

Digital lending firm Capital Float has raised \$22 million in equity funding from Amazon. The current funding from Amazon is part of Capital Float's Series C round in 2017 when it raised \$45 million from Palo Alto-based Ribbit Capital and existing investors SAIF Partners, Sequoia India and Creation Investments.

Source – *Mint*

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Doxper gets Rs. 7.3 crore in pre-Series A

Health-tech start-up InformDS Technologies, which runs Doxper, has raised \$1.1 million (approx. Rs. 7.3 crore) in a pre-series A round from existing investors led by Vidal Healthcare. With this round, the start-up has raised a total of \$1.9 million.

Source – *The Economic Times*

Paytm first in line to buy Chennai-based TicketNew

Digital payments and e-commerce Company Paytm is in advanced talks to acquire Chennai-based online movie ticketing platform TicketNew, as it looks to fortify its entertainment ticketing business.

Paytm will acquire TicketNew from Alibaba Pictures at the price at which the latter had bought it, the persons cited earlier said, pegging the deal at anywhere between \$30 million and \$40 million. The acquisition is likely to be completed by next month, they said.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Amazon to double down on groceries; foray deeper into fresh produce in India

Amazon expects groceries and household products to account for over half of its business in India in the next five years, as it moves to broaden offerings in the segment and foray into areas such as fresh produce.

AmazonFresh, which launched more than a decade ago in the U.S. market, is the company's flagship fresh grocery delivery service. In India, Amazon currently offers some groceries via a service named Pantry.

Source – *Reuters*

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AI-driven music networking platform 'SocialMob' launched

Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered "SocialMob," a music and content app, announced its official launch in India. Developed by Kochi-based Padath Infotainment, the app aims at connecting like-minded individuals globally who share similar social interests in music, food, entertainment, food and travel, the company said in a statement.

SocialMob, is to provide a secure platform for music aficionados and uplift independent artists across the globe. With the "AI engine," the app will present recommendations for users based on their psychology and preference in various genres.

Source – *Business Standard*

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Mandatory local E-vehicle content likely to be hiked to 70% in 3 years

The Govt. plans to double the mandatory local content in e-vehicles to 70% in three years and impose heavy duties on imports to ensure that domestic manufacturing gets a big boost from the Rs. 8,730-crore proposal to shift public transport to battery-operated vehicles. This has huge implications for domestic car makers such as Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra, which are facing competition from foreign players like China's BYD, which recently won tenders with astonishingly low bids that seemed unviable to local rivals.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Fingerprint, eye-scan for stock trade

With the aim to enhance cyber security, market regulator SEBI is looking to put in place a new set of guidelines, wherein fingerprint or eye-scan will be required for stock trading through mobile applications. In case of applications installed on smartphones and tablets, traders and retail investors may need biometric authentication to buy and sell stocks.

Source – *BusinessLine*

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SAP to power Larsen & Toubro arm's digital transformation

Global software firm SAP SE announced the successful implementation of its "SAP S/4HANA Business Suite" at IT solutions company Larsen & Toubro Infotech (LTI). With SAP as the digital core, LTI will be powered by live information from across its operations, to help increase productivity, improve collaboration and drive innovation.

Source – *Business Standard*

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Brace up tech Start-ups, President of India suggests Sanskrit for ML and AI

The Indian new age tech start-ups may soon be on their way to blend their tech algorithms for ML (Machine Learning) and AI (Artificial Intelligence) with the ancient 'Sanskrit' language.

Source – *Inc42*

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