



## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

**TRAI launches DND, MyCall apps on UMANG platform**

**A blockchain solution for education sector**

**Mobile wallet transactions hit record Rs. 14,632 crore in June, shows RBI data**

**Google bakes in enhanced privacy features, AI capabilities in Android Pie**

## Today's View

### Transforming Pharma with AI

“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most adaptable to change” -- Leon C. Megginson

To help the human race to survive and flourish, pharma companies are adopting emerging technologies like Big Data, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning in diverse fields like Competitive Intelligence, Drug Discovery, and Drug Repurposing etc.

As per **The Economist** report, Big Data innovations reduced time in clinical trials by 37 per cent, while drugs developed with new AI tools were 16 per cent more likely to reach market launch. When it comes to the effectiveness of machine learning, more data almost always yields better results—and the healthcare sector is sitting on a data goldmine. While **McKinsey** estimates that big data and machine learning in pharma and medicine could generate a value of up to \$100 Bn annually, based on better decision-making, and optimized innovation, improved efficiency of research /clinical trials, and new tool creation for physicians, consumers, insurers, and regulators.

Numerous pharma companies are banking on the benefits offered by emerging technologies to develop remedies for deadly diseases like cancer. For instance, **Genentech** has partnered with **GNS Healthcare**, a precision medicine company to leverage machine learning techniques to convert high volumes of cancer patient data into computer models that can be used to

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### Singapore's Temasek buys secondary stake in Ola

Singapore's Temasek has purchased a large single-digit stake in taxi-hailing application Ola for around \$225 million, said people directly briefed on the matter.



Source – The Economic Times

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Date – 08<sup>th</sup> Aug 18

identify novel targets for cancer therapy. On the other hand, **Johnson & Johnson** is collaborating with **IBM's** Watson Health for Mobile coaching solutions in order to improve patient outcomes using real-time data collection. The collaboration would initially concentrate on virtual patient coaching for individuals undergoing joint replacements and spine surgeries and rehabilitation support to improve patient outcomes.

Similarly, **Roche**, a Swiss multinational pharma company, has joined hands with Boston-based **Berg Health** for the discovery and development of drugs, and diagnostics and healthcare applications, based on Artificial Intelligence. Aside from developing new drugs, pharma companies like **Bayer** have come up with Grants4Apps Accelerator to offer digital health start-ups free co-working space, coaching and up to 50,000 Euros in funding. Few start-ups like **Turbineand** and **xbird** from this accelerator are AI-based medical start-ups focused on cancer and preventable diseases, respectively.

With continuous developments happening across Big Data and Machine Learning, emerging technologies like AI has the potential to revolutionize the pharmaceutical industry, leading to quicker decision making across processes from drug discovery, launch effectiveness, sales planning to competitive intelligence.

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## Today's News

### TRAI launches DND, MyCall apps on UMANG platform

In order to have some control over unwanted calls or SMS by consumers, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Tuesday launched the Do not Call (DND) 2.0 and MyCall apps with the Unified Mobile Application for New-Age Governance (UMANG) platform.

UMANG provides a single platform for all Indian citizens to access, pan-India, e-Gov services ranging from Central to local government bodies and other citizen centric services. It provides a unified approach where citizens can install one application to avail of multiple government services.

Source – *BusinessLine*

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### Four interesting Amazon patents in 2018 that use machine learning, AR, and robotics

When Jeff Bezos launched Amazon.com in 1994, it was an online bookselling site. This was during a time when bookstores such as Barnes & Noble, Waldenbooks and Crown Books were the leading front runners in the bookstore industry in the American shopping malls.

Today, Amazon's name has become almost synonymous with online retail for most people and has now spread its wings to cloud computing, electronics, tech gadgets and the entertainment world.

Source – *Packt Hub*

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This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of **G Balakrishna** and **Manish Kulkarni**

### Apple smartphones may come with TRAI's DND app

US tech giant Apple may comply with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's Do not Disturb (DND) app in its upcoming version of iOS (iOS 12), which is expected to be launched next month.

Apple had earlier said it had no intention to do so. However, the telecom regulator stood firm that if Apple has to sell iPhones in India, it would have to comply with the existing norms.

Source – *BusinessLine*

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### Ola to drive into UK

After launching its operations in Australia early this year, Indian cab aggregator Ola is expanding its footprint to UK. Ola has obtained licences to operate in South Wales and Greater Manchester, and will launch operations in South Wales within the next month, according to a press release.

Source – *BusinessLine*

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### PayU ties up with reliance Money to extend personal loans through Citrus app

Non-banking finance company Reliance Money, a part of Reliance Capital has tied-up with digital payments major PayU India to offer instant app-based personal loans under the name LazyPay to customers seeking credit through the Citrus app.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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## A blockchain solution for education sector

One of the biggest challenges recruiters and higher educational institutions face is ascertaining the authenticity of the school and college certificates of the candidates. With the incidence of doctored certificates growing, recruiters and companies have been seeking the help of verification companies, which are found to be not too well-equipped to identify the fake certificates.

Source – BusinessLine

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## Amazon, Flipkart want the draft e-commerce policy scrapped

India's largest e-commerce firms Amazon Seller Services Pvt. Ltd and Flipkart Pvt. Ltd are lobbying the government to scrap the entire draft e-commerce policy, which recommends strict restrictions on online retail, including curbs on discounts, people familiar with the matter said. The online retailers have urged the government to instead consider fresh regulations, two people familiar with the matter said on condition of anonymity.

Source – Mint

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## Mobile wallet transactions hit record Rs. 14,632 crore in June, shows RBI data

The value of transactions made through mobile wallets touched a record Rs. 14,632 crore in June, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data released on Tuesday showed, rising 4.2% from Rs. 14,047 crore in May. However, the number of transactions fell around 5% to 309.62 million in June after reaching an all-time high of 325.41 million in May. The record transaction value shows wallet companies, which were struggling to set up compliance infrastructure and convince users to provide know-your-customer (KYC) documents, have survived the storm and signed up new customers.

Source – Mint

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## Google bakes in enhanced privacy features, AI capabilities in Android Pie

Tech giant Google today released Android 9 Pie, the latest version of its Android operating system that promises better user experience and enhanced privacy features. The rollout comes at a time when users across the globe, including in India, are concerned about privacy and security of information on their smart devices.

The new OS version will start rolling out as an over-the-air update for Pixel phone users, while companies like Sony Mobile, Xiaomi, HMD Global, Oppo, Vivo, OnePlus and Essential Phones as well as qualifying Android One will receive the update by the end of the year, Google said in a blogpost.

Source – The Economic Times

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## Payoneer offers 'working capital' products to Indian sellers

Payoneer, a global cross-border B2B digital payments provider, will soon start offering its 'working capital' products for Indian sellers, said its Chief Operating Officer (COO) Keren Levy. Describing India as "definitely a strategic market" for Payoneer, Levy said the New York-headquartered fintech was "already investing a lot" in India, and was "willing to invest more" in the coming days.

Source – BusinessLine

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## Logistics startup Shadowfax raises \$22 mn from NGP Capital, others

Shadowfax Tuesday raised \$22 million in Series C round of funding led by NGP Capital. Qualcomm Ventures, Mirae Asset. Existing investor, Eight Roads Ventures also participated in the round. It will use the fund for scaling up the business. It is targeting a ten-fold growth in its merchant base which is currently 40,000 by 2021.

Source – Money Control

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## JP Morgan to set up finclusion lab with IIM-A, Dell, Gates foundations

JP Morgan has committed \$7 million to a \$9.5-million fund to set up a financial inclusion lab to support fintech startups in association with IIM-Ahmedabad and the Dell and Bill Gates foundations, the Wall Street powerhouse said on Tuesday.

Source – Business Standard

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