



## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

PhonePe to start selling financial services

Microsoft Acquires Open-Source Startup 'Citius Data' to Boost Cloud Business

OYO now plans big play in Indonesia, lines up \$100-million investment

CyberAgent Capital invests in Vietnam Fintech TheBank.vn

## Today's View

### AI in Cardiology

Cardiovascular diseases are one of the most dreaded diseases in the world, resulting in 31% of all global deaths. As per **American Heart Association**, cardiovascular diseases account for 17.3 million deaths per year, a number that is expected to grow to more than 23.6 million by 2030.

In order to increase the efficiency of diagnosis and after-care, medical practitioners are looking at the use of new technologies like Artificial Intelligence. It has the potential to drive improved patient care because it enables physicians to interpret more data in greater depth than ever before. Hence, it is of no surprise that some project the healthcare AI market to reach \$34 billion worldwide by 2025.

The major impact of AI in cardiology is expected in the diagnosis of cardiovascular diseases. Paris-based start-up **CardioLogs** is building Deep-Learning algorithms for ECG analysis. The CardioLogs ECG analysis solution is built on an ever-growing and proprietary database of more than 700,000 recordings and is supported by a number of clinical publications.

On the other hand, **KenSci** is using machine learning to predict patient risks of acquiring heart disease. Moreover, in order to predict early warning signs of lifestyle diseases including cardiovascular anomalies, smart-clothing companies such as **Hexoskin**, **OMsignal** and **ThinkBiosolution** are developing

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### Gift card usage gaining ground in non-metros: Survey

Qwiksilver Solutions, which runs online gifting platform Woohoo, said gift card usage in non-metros doubled in 2018 from the previous year and that the average value of a gift card in non-metros increased 20% to Rs 3,000. Across India, the market for gift cards grew two and a half times in 2018, as per a survey conducted by Woohoo.



Source – The Economic Times

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Date – 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 19

AI for monitoring cardiovascular diseases by tracking biometric and user behaviour.

AI is also enhancing live visualization of the heart, by colour coding the different heart chambers in real time and vastly improving the efficiency of clinical workflow for both cardiologists and radiologists. For example, **Philips** has built AI-based application called **HeartModel** to build a 3D model of the patient's heart from echocardiography images. Likewise, **Zebra's** AI-powered radiology assistant can predict the likelihood of coronary artery disease from non-contrast chest CT scans.

In the Indian context, nearly three million heart attacks happen in India every year and there are 30 million people who are suffering from coronary diseases, as per research by **Apollo Hospitals**. In order to significantly reduce the cost of diagnosis, healthcare diagnostics company **Cardiotrack** has been extensively using AI in cardiac care solutions. It is focussing on addressing key challenges in underserved areas where an on-time diagnosis can make a life-changing difference.

Looking at the promise AI holds in this space, we believe we are not far from the future where physicians will be able to enhance their clinical judgment and experience, leveraging thousands and thousands of previous medical cases in seconds.

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## Today's News

### Student micro-financing start-up SlicePay gets RBI licence for NBFC play

SlicePay, a Bengaluru-based start-up focused on micro lending to students, has secured a licence from the banking regulator to foray into non-banking financial services, co-founder Rajan Bajaj has tweeted. "@SlicePay received its NBFC licence today. Want to give RBI (Reserve Bank of India) a big shout out for completing the entire process in 2 months. Huge respect," Bajaj tweeted.

Source – Mint

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### CyberAgent Capital invests in Vietnam Fintech TheBank.vn

TheBank.vn, the Vietnam-based Fintech from SAMO Company, has announced the completion its first round of funding from CyberAgent Capital and Ncore. The amount of the investment is undisclosed. With this investment capital, TheBank.vn plans to improve customer experiences. This means launching registration forms for each loan service, improving the card opening process, helping people with insurance and selecting of financial products closest to their current needs. The company also seeks to improve the system to become a full stack solution provider of bid data, e-KYC, chatbots, and credit scoring.

Source – e27

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

## PhonePe to start selling financial services

PhonePe, the payments arm of Flipkart, is set to enter financial services, starting with selling mutual funds through its app. The move comes at a time when the Fintech space is seeing heightened action with multiple startups raising capital in the last two weeks. PhonePe aims to tap the growing base of millennials looking to manage their wealth. Co-founder and CEO Sameer Nigam told TOI the company has set up a new entity, PhonePe Wealth Services, for this business

Source – The Economic Times

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## Microsoft Acquires Open-Source Startup 'Citius Data' to Boost Cloud Business

Microsoft has said it has acquired open-source company Citius Data to bolster the competitiveness of its Cloud computing business. Citius Data is a company dedicated to the open-source database software PostgreSQL. Microsoft did not disclose detailed terms of the deal.

Source – NDTV

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## Smaller ecommerce players like Snapdeal, ShopClues back February 1 deadline

Domestic ecommerce companies Snapdeal and ShopClues, social commerce startups including Shop101, and a bunch of online-only brands have come together to oppose any extension of a February 1 deadline for online marketplaces to comply with FDI rules.

Source – The Economic Times

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## OYO now plans big play in Indonesia, lines up \$100-million investment

OYO, India's largest hotel chain, plans to invest more than \$100 million in Indonesia. The firm is eyeing a major takeover of the south-east Asian hospitality market. This would be the third-biggest country the hospitality chain plans to enter after India and China. Within three months of its foray into Indonesia, the Ritesh Agarwal-led company has launched the first phase of expansion in 16 cities, and witnessed a 5x growth.

It aims to expand to 100 cities by the end of the year. Launched in October 2018, with a string of over 30 exclusive hotels — franchised and operated and over 1000 rooms in three cities in Jakarta, Surabaya and Palembang, the hotel chain already operates in 150 hotels across 16 cities.

Source – Business Standard

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## Ola cuts investment in Foodpanda, to narrow focus on cloud kitchen private labels

India's largest ride hailing app Ola has more than halved its cash burn at its food business Foodpanda and plans to make its private label brands the cornerstone for growth, even as the food tech war gets more aggressive, driven primarily by deep pocketed rivals Swiggy, Zomato and UberEats' continued discounting, three people directly aware of the company's plan said.

According to the new mandate, Foodpanda will focus on running the business more cost efficiently by focusing on its own private labels and cloud kitchens which include The Great Khichdi Experiment, Lovemade and FLRT brands, and continue to leverage Ola's customer base.

Source – The Economic Times

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## GCash and Qwikwire partner to innovate real estate industry in Philippines

Philippine-based mobile wallet GCash has announced that it has signed a deal with Qwikwire, a Philippines' cross-border payments platform to innovate the local real estate payments transaction process. In the Philippines, there has been a boom in the real estate industry over the last 5 years, but the problem is that people still pay their real estate dues through the traditional Post-dated checks (PDCs), Bank Deposits and over the counter payments directly to property developers or to their brokers.

With GCash, users can leverage on a mobile money service from the smartphones. The partnership has brought aboard clients of property developers — including DMCI, Century Properties, Double Dragon, Revolution Precrafted and more.

Source – e27

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## Now Paytm Money users can track all their mutual fund investments on its app

Popular online payment platform Paytm has said that its users would now be able to track the performance of their mutual fund investments on its subsidiary portal Paytm Money for free. Investors would have to upload their Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) generated via Karvy Fintech on Paytm Money to track their all investments in their portfolio on the Paytm Money app, the company said in a statement.

Source – Financial Express

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## UpGrad to invest Rs 100 cr in advertising in 2019

Online higher education platform UpGrad says it will invest Rs 100 crore in advertising and brand building activities in 2019 as it sets its eyes on signing up 5,000 students for its post graduate and professional skilling programmes this quarter.

Source – The Economic Times

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## AQI India app will show you real-time pollution level around you

The AQI India app from PureLogic Labs shows you real-time info from their own sensors. You can see PM2.5, PM10 levels, temperature and humidity. The dashboard has graphs of the air quality for a day, past 24 hours, a week or a month — this makes it easy to determine when air quality is the best.

Source – The Economic Times

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