

Another startup, **Nuro**, has shifted its modus operandi during the pandemic, away from home deliveries. **Nuro** was founded by pedigreed veterans of Google's self-driving car project and had signed delivery deals with **Domino's** and grocery chain **Kroger** prior to the pandemic; its toaster-like bot is built to travel in the street at speeds up to 25 mph. **Aethon** robots deliver food, linen, banquet supplies and luggage in hotels and hospitality environments. It is as comfortable in the front-of-house as it is capable in the back-of-house. Best of all it can show up at a guest's door to make a room service delivery, something truly memorable.

Eliport aims to solve the last-mile logistics problem by providing a fleet of ground-based, robotic delivery machines that will change the face of cities overnight. The company is creating autonomous robots for the delivery industry that will change cities for the better, saving everyone time, stress and money. **Cleveron** is creating the world's most innovative, robotics-based BOPIS (or buy online pick-up in-store) parcel delivery solutions to help retail and logistics companies manage their operations effectively. This, in turn, saves time for everyone.

Although, most of these services are still in the trial phase, we can only hope that delivery robots become a regular sight on city streets, in the coming future.

Today's News

Razorpay and PayPal Partner to Help Indian MSME's and Freelancers go Global

The partnership will make international payments seamless and safer; Razorpay is the first payment gateway to offer an integration with PayPal without code Bengaluru, Karnataka, India (NewsVair) Continuing its efforts to empower businesses with easy access to digital payment technologies.

Razorpay, India's leading full-stack financial solutions company, today announced a partnership with PayPal, a global leader in digital payments to enable seamless international payments for MSMEs and Freelancers.

Source – Outlook

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India betting on 30% cap on digital transactions to avoid tech monopolies like in the West

From Washington to Beijing, governments are trying to strike the right balance between enabling technology innovation and preventing giants like Google and Facebook Inc. from suffocating rivals. Now India is experimenting with a framework for financial technology that's certain to provide lessons worldwide — succeed or fail.

The country's unique approach is to decree limits on fintech competitors from the start: No single player can grab more than 30% of total payments transactions. Every company also has to use India's open payments platform, guaranteeing interoperability so money can be transferred between any of more than 100 traditional banks and digital services like Google Pay — all without fees.

Source – The Print

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Paytm partners Suryoday Small Finance Bank to provide instant digital loans to MSMEs

India's home-grown digital financial services platform Paytm today announced its partnership with Suryoday Small Finance Bank to empower MSMEs with instant digital loans. This is the first lending partnership for Paytm with a small finance bank to help merchants get loans seamlessly.

Collaboration between Paytm and Suryoday Small Finance Bank aims at broadening the lending landscape and Promote financial inclusion by offering collateral-free loans. The company through this partnership is aiming at disbursing loans to over 1 lakh small businesses in the next 12 months to 18 months

Source – The Economic Times

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Started with 100 loans a month, how StashFin grew to process 150 loans an hour

In 2016, StashFin was started by Shruti Aggarwal to make credit lending easy, transparent, safe, and secure for borrowers across India. The startup is servicing a segment of customers largely ignored by the banks by offering them a product that would benefit premium customers of a bank.

These could be students, unbanked, and first time credit consumers. Parikshit Chitalkar and Tushar Aggarwal are co-founders in StashFin.

Source – Your Story

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Evolution of a new normal in digital payments post the pandemic

There has been a lot written about a new normal for digital payments because of the Covid pandemic. The new normal is a general reference to 'contactless' payments where customers do not have to hand over their payment instrument (phone or NFC card) to the merchant. The reality though is that the trend has been a long time in the making and will only accelerate from here on.

True, the coronavirus has negatively impacted in-store payments but this is only temporary and will likely bounce back as the dust settles – this trend is being seen worldwide as lockdown conditions relax. That said, it is clear what will drive digital payments.

Source – Financial Express

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India's fintech sector in the current scenario: A brief analysis

The raging global pandemic has taken a heavy toll on global economies and financial markets, including India's fintech sector, have seen a slump. Fintech as it was during the pre-COVID times is long gone. With the end of the pandemic not yet in sight, there is a looming uncertainty vis-à-vis the future of Indian fintech, despite the sector getting back on its feet slowly. What is certain, though, is that the current scenario calls for certain measures to be taken to ensure the revival and growth of India's fintech sector is fast-tracked. On that note, here is an overview of the status of India's fintech industry in the current situation. Impact of COVID-19 and the lockdowns

The pandemic's devastating impact is being felt profoundly across the country – be it metro cities or in the hinterlands. For Indian fintech, there is a looming possibility of the sector taking a plunge if immediate reforms are not made. This is to say that the ongoing crisis may have a more significant impact on the sector than the 2008 financial crisis that led to the world's economies tumbling into a recession. To quicken the process of revival, fintech players across the country, both big and small, need to adopt a highly innovative, aggressive, and futuristic approach as a response to the downfall caused by the pandemic.

Source – The Economic Times

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OnePlus partners American Express to empower Indian customers

Smartphone brand OnePlus on Wednesday announced a partnership with American Express to provide customers with several offers on the purchase of OnePlus products in India. The partnership will provide cashback offers for customers on American Express Centurion, Platinum, Platinum Travel and Platinum Reserve cards in the country. One can avail offers exclusively on OnePlus.in and OnePlus Store app, the company said in a statement. "Partnering with American Express is truly unique as it marks the coming together of two premium brands to offer customers better value and enhanced customer experience," said Navnit Nakra, Vice President, Chief Strategy Officer, and Head of Sales, OnePlus India.

Customers can enjoy 10 per cent cashback across product categories listed on OnePlus.in for customers who purchase a product with a minimum listed price of Rs 40,000 and five per cent cashback across product categories on OnePlus.in for customers who purchase a product with a listed price of less than Rs 40,000.

Source – Telangana Today

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How this startup is scripting data journeys of organisations

'Data is the new oil' is a phrase that is bandied around constantly but something that is very true in the digital transformation stories of legacy organisations. A Dell EMC study says that only five percent of the world's organisations are truly digital, while the rest are yet to use data to make an impact.

A startup called BluePi uses its platform to help customers organise their data, help them establish the analytics framework and implement the use of data with AI/ML. Founded by Pronam Chatterjee and Kaushik Khanna, the company was launched in 2013.

Source – Your Story

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Now, walk into a kirana and withdraw cash

Mahagram, a fintech firm, aims to deploy 12 lakh wireless Bharat ATMs in small stores. Sangeetha Chengappa Soon, you may be able to withdraw cash from your neighbourhood kirana shop.

Mumbai-based fintech start-up Mahagram is set to deploy 12 lakh wireless ATMs in small retail stores, as banks are finding it increasingly unviable to operate and maintain these machines across the country.

Source – The Hindu Business Line

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