



**NEWS HIGHLIGHTS**

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**Today's View**

**Start-Ups For Healthcare Support**

The Corona virus pandemic has hit humanity at a very fast pace, enough to bring down the global healthcare system to its knees. From India, Spain, Italy, UK to USA, everyone has suffered. Healthcare needed support and technology equipped startups came to its aid.

Procuring and distributing vital equipment and medicines is not always an easy process, especially during the coronavirus pandemic. Drones make it possible to deliver blood, vaccines and other medical supplies where they are needed most. The supplies reach vulnerable groups faster, without human participation, and in tough weather or environmental conditions. Nigerian startup **Arone** provides an eco-friendly delivery solution using autonomous drones. The startup offers aerial logistics services for clinics, hospitals, laboratories, and other medical distribution centers to provide faster delivery of vital medical products, on-demand. An autonomous flight navigation software uses computer vision and artificial intelligence for flight planning, obstacle manoeuvring and detecting when a parcel is delivered.

Transporting patients with infectious diseases is challenging, especially considering the speed with which the disease spreads, as we see now with COVID-19. Without adequate isolation, the risk of transmitting viruses from patients to healthy people and medical personnel is very high.

**Akhil Handa**  
+91 22 6759 2873

**Prithwijit Ghosh**  
Prithwijit.Ghosh@bankofbaroda.com

**Show me the money!**

India's sovereign wealth fund, the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), has held talks to invest in FirstCry, three sources aware of the discussions said.

Unicorn	Date	Valuation (in \$ Billion)	Sector
Digit	Jan 15	\$19	Insurance
Innovaccer	Feb 24	\$13	Software
Infra.Market	Feb 25	\$10	Infrastructure
Five Star	Mar 27	\$14	Banking
Meesho	Apr 05	\$21	Social commerce
Cred	Apr 06	\$22	Fintech
Pharmeasy	Apr 07	\$15	E-pharmacy
Groww	Apr 07	\$10	Stockbroking
ShareChat	Apr 08	\$21	Social media
Gupshup	Apr 08	\$14	Enterprise messaging
Chargebee	Apr 20	\$14	Fintech
Urban Company	Apr 27	\$2	Home service
Moglix	May 17	\$1	B2B E-commerce

Source: Tech research

Source – The Economic Times

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Norwegian startup **EpiGuard** has developed medical equipment for the safe transport of contagious patients. EpiShuttle is a medical isolation and transportation system intended for use, in both high-risk scenarios, and in every-day practice, when dealing with resistant diseases or other contagious viruses that require maximum attention. Once the patient is loaded in the EpiShuttle, medical staff do not have to wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during transport.

The world is indebted to the healthcare workers. They have been at the forefront of the fight to save us from this pandemic. Healthcare workers are under huge pressure, struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic all over the world. Estonian startup **HealthCode** AI provides physicians with support in daily patient management by using an Artificial Intelligence (AI) diagnostic platform to pre-evaluate patients. This healthcare information platform provides tools for quick data exchange and care collaboration among medical teams and patients. The solution combines communication channels, electronic health records (EHR) with clinical decision support systems and other useful tools. This helps healthcare professionals stay informed, coordinate collaboration, and have all necessary information on their fingertips.

Many parts of the globe have hit by a more devastating second wave of the pandemic. Resources to fight the disease are already stretched. At such testing times help from startups using AI and other innovative technologies to aid the fightback has given hope and confidence to overcome the disease.

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## Today's News

### Payments Council Of India Finalising Independent Bid For Digital Payments Self-Regulatory Body

The Payments Council of India (PCI), an industry body for digital payment operators in the country, is in the final stages of submitting its independent application to become a self-regulatory organisation (SRO) for digital payments, under the Reserve Bank of India's mandate, said two sources aware of the development.

The PCI, which operates under the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), will float a new not-for-profit entity which would serve as the SRO entity, and is looking to on-board various stakeholders and other industry associations as members apart from existing payments companies, they said on the condition of anonymity.

Source – Media Nama

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### India second largest insurtech market in APAC: Report

India is the second largest insurance-technology market in Asia-Pacific and accounted for 35 per cent of the USD 3.66 billion insurtech-focused venture capital invested in the region, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence data.

The data showed that at least 335 private insurtechs are operating in Asia-Pacific, with about 122 of them disclosing USD 3.66 billion in aggregate capital raised via private placement deals.

Source – The Economic Times

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### Bank of Sydney appoints Nucleus Software's lending solution 'FinnOne Neo' to accelerate digital lending transformation

Nucleus Software, the leading provider of lending and transaction banking products to the global financial services industry, on Monday has announced that Bank of Sydney has chosen Nucleus Software's flagship lending solution, FinnOne Neo, to accelerate its digital lending transformation strategy.

Bank of Sydney wanted a sophisticated lending solution to automate and digitize the origination processes for mortgages and credit cards.

Source – India Infoline

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### Electrum Fintech, YES BANK, and NPCI launch 'ZRO Prepaid Card' powered by RuPay

Electrum Fintech Solutions, an NCR based Fintech start-up, announced the launch of its integrated Payments and Spend Management platform, ZRO in association with YES BANK and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) wherein companies of any size can issue RuPay-powered Prepaid Cards to their employees for a plethora of payments.

ZRO is an innovative solution for managing corporate expenses and payments, bridging the gap between employee spends and the accounting department.

Source – News Patrolling

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## Digitalisation 2.0: Six trends that will shape banking, fintechs this year

The banking and finance world is moving at a fast pace, The last year was about the digitalisation of banking services among the customers. While that continues. other trends are emerging that promise to reshape the space this year. Open banking Open banking is a revolutionising technology that brings fintech and banking together and enables data exchange across institutions. Fintech markets in the UK and Europe have become crowded with AIS and PIS services providers and will reshape the traditional banking industry.

However, there are still many traditional players in banking that are reluctant to build partnerships with fintech companies. The hurdle of Open Banking regulations has made it difficult for fintechs to get into banking and adopt the technology. Hike in banking fees Globally, banking and fintech firms are hiking their fees. Some banks have already announced that they are planning to charge customers for interbank payments or increase fees for payments and account opening. Fintech companies and digital banks also continue to review their commissions.

Source – The Economic Times

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## PayPoint ties-up with Digit General Insurance to provide health insurance in rural areas

PayPoint India has partnered with Digit General Insurance to provide affordable health insurance to its customers in India's underserved regions, improving insurance access and assisting the rural masses in recovering themselves from significant financial losses due to the surging Covid-19.

The partnership is being flagged off with the launch of a coronavirus hospitalization insurance policy that covers treatments up to Rs 2 lakhs at a premium of Rs 799. PayPoint will offer offline access and assistance to its clients, directing them to make an informed financial decision, while Digit General Insurance focuses on selling this master policy online. Ketan Doshi, Managing Director of PayPoint India, said, "More than 80% of people in urban India and 85% of people in rural India do not have health insurance. There are a lot of rejections or deductions in claims settlements for Covid-19, and medical inflation is making treatments unaffordable. This coronavirus-specific insurance will protect our customers from the financial impact due to hospitalisation."

Source – The Economic Times

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## Worldline India gears up for cross-border payment services

The digital payments space has been seeing dramatic growth in number of transactions and volume too. Worldline India is looking to ride the same growth with its expansion plans on the domestic market and cross-border payment services. Ramesh Narsimhan, Head – Digital Commerce, Worldline India said, "Overall, this is a period of growth, expansion. We have never tested business continuity planning as such, We are enabling entire commerce not just e-commerce."

On its push towards cross-border payments, he said, "We are particularly looking at cross border payments. It allows Indian retailers to sell in foreign countries and vice-versa. We are gearing ourselves for this segment. Indian citizens can buy stuff from overseas retailers in rupees, and we will settle the transactions."

Source – The Economic Times

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## How Raaho is connecting shippers to carriers and digitising the trucking industry

After successfully exiting his first startup Hopper, which was acquired by messaging platform Hike, Mohammed Imthiaz wanted to start up again, with friends and colleagues Muralidharan Chandrashekar, Vipul Sharma, Abu Fahad, and Joshua Jebakumar. This time around, he was looking closely at the grocery space.

"Every morning I would visit the bazaar in Delhi-NCR to understand the space. We would go to the markets at midnight when trucks would come to unload fruits and vegetables. We wanted to understand how they would stock produce and other details," Imthiaz says.

Source – Your Story

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## Paytm empowers users in Kerala to pay their electricity bills 24x7

The financial services platform has partnered with over 70 electricity boards across the country

Digital financial services platform Paytm has announced that users in Kerala can now pay their electricity bill 24x7 on the platform.

The company has also announced an assured reward on every bill payment. Users paying the electricity bill for the first time on the platform will get a guaranteed cash back of up to Rs.50.

Source – The Hindu Business Line

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