

## IT in March 2016

### General

- AADHAR enrolment crosses 1,000 million
- Elections to West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Kerala announced on March 4, 2016; elections during April 4 - May 16; all results on May 19, 2016
- Myanmar gets its first civilian President in 53 years in March 2016
- US President Obama makes history by visiting Cuba in March 2016 putting the last sign of Cold War to rest
- Brussels terrorist attack and temple tragedy in Kerala kill many

### Technology

- ISRO launches the sixth satellite (of the seven satellites) as part of India's own GPS on March 11, 2016
- Unified Payment Interface is commissioned

### Products

- Microsoft announces SQL Server for Linux in March 2016
- Apple launches "iPhone SE" on March 21, 2016; India launch on April 8, 2016
- Amazon "Kindle Oasis" launched in April 2016
- SanDisk launches "Connect" wireless stick in India in April 2016

### Markets

- Black stone buys MPhasis in March 2016
- E-Com startup InfiBeam goes for IPO in March; oversubscribed by 21%

### Indian IT Companies

- Hero Motors opens 100 acre campus global R&D Center dedicated to tracks (for testing), said to be the largest in the globe

### MNC IT companies in India

- Uber starts their engineering Center in Bangalore in March 2016; expected to have headcount of 100 by the end of the year
- Cisco selects Pune to start manufacturing in India
- Dell has \$ 2 Billion business in India
- Digital marketing company Epsilon to hire 600 people in Bangalore in 2016
- Amazon plans their biggest campus outside USA in Hyderabad
- LG starts manufacturing in India

### People

- Former Intel Chairman Andy Grove passed away on March 22, 2016

### Startup Scene

- Freecharge to enter mobile payments space

- Flipkart launches its own wallet
- Healthcare startup Practo goes to Brazil
- ECom startup InfiBeam goes for IPO in March; oversubscribed by 21%

#### Interesting Applications

- SBI and Uber team up for super-fast loan processing
- India Post Bank starts operations

#### Interesting Mobile Apps

- Google launches “Destinations”
- Zee TV launches free OZee App on Android in March to watch Zee programs at users’ convenience

#### Interesting numbers

- Bangalore Int'l Airport receivers its 100 millionth passenger in March 2016
- AADHAR crosses 100 Crores in March 2016
- Indian mobile customer base stood at 1058.85 Million with 1033.63 wireless and 25.22 wire-line subscribers as of March 31, 2016 (TRAI Press Release 34/2016 dated May 25, 2016)
- India’s Foreign Exchange reserves stood at \$ 355.56 billion on March 25, 2016
- Indian currency stood at Rs 66.29 against USD on March 31, 2016

---

Professor Sowmyanarayanan Sadagopan is the Director of IIIT-Bangalore. These are his personal views. He can be reached at [ss@iiitb.ac.in](mailto:ss@iiitb.ac.in)