

IT in October 2016

General

- RBI decreases Repo rate by 0.25% on Oct 4, 2016
- Surgical strike by Indian Army into Pakistan occupier Kashmir is in the news for much of October 2016
- BRICS Conference in Goa in October assumes significance
- Credit card fraud involving 1.35 Million card in India in Oct 2016
- Tata Sons sack Mistry as Chairman on Oct 24, 2016

Technology

- ISRO launches communication satellite launched from French Guyana on Oct 6, 2016

Products

- Apple iPhone 7 introduced in India with lot of fanfare on Oct 7, 2016 with FlipKart CEO delivering the phone for the first 3 customers himself at 7 pm!
- Google launches Pixel phones on Oct 20, 2016 in India
- Moto Z with motomods release in India in Oct 2016
- Microsoft Windows Creators Edition and Surface Desktop announced on Oct 26, 2016
- Apple launches new versions of MacBook Pro, Apple TV and introduces Smart Keyboard on Oct 27, 2016

Markets

- Essar bought over by Russian conglomerate for ₹ 85,000 Crores in October 2016, the largest acquisition for an Indian corporate
- Wipro buys company \$ 500 million on Oct 20, 2016, the largest acquisition by an Indian IT major
- Microsoft market capitalization reaches record \$ 56 billion on Oct 20, 2016
- In a mega deal, AT&T buys Times Warner for \$ 86 Billion on Oct 20, 2016
- IBM acquires Bangalore-based Sanovi on Oct 27, 2016

Indian IT companies

- Reliance Jio sets global record by selling 15 million SIM cards in 30 days! It also carried whopping 75 TB in its first 45 days and made history on Oct 20, 2016
- Airtel starts 100 Mbps V-fiber service on Oct 14, 2016 in Chennai
- Air India sets record by flying the longest flight on Oct 20, 2016

MNC IT companies in India

- Amazon festival sales jump more than twice during Diwali in October 2016

Telecom

- Spectrum auctioning license bid starts on Oct 1; yields ₹ 53,530 Crores on Day 1 and ₹ 66,000 Crores finally; no takers for 700 MHz spectrum; Government could realize just 4% of the targeted amount!
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- Reliance Jio sets global record by selling 15 million SIM cards in 30 days! It also carried whopping 75 TB in its first 45 days and made history on Oct 20, 2016

People

- Thai King passed away on Oct 14, 2016

Infrastructure

- Solar energy plans gets \$ 3 B boost from Prime Minister
- Bangalore Metro completes 5 years in Oct 2016
- Vadodara gets India's second green airport (solar powered) after Cochin in Oct 2016

Startups

- Online travel major MakeMyTrip and the travel portal Ibibio merge on Oct 17, 2016
- Chennai-based FreshDesk acquires Chatmity AI platform on Oct 17, 2016

Mobile Apps

- A new version of Air India App gets launched on Oct 24, 2016
- SMS alert for TDS for salaried employees announced on Oct 24, 2016

Interesting numbers

- Black Money voluntary disclosure yields ₹ 65,250 crores to the Government, though Telecom auction was a cropper
- FlipKart records ₹ 1,400 Crores sales on Day 1 on Oct 4, 2016; overall sales of ₹ 12,000 Crores during Festival season for e-com industry in India
- FlipKart and Amazon sell 15.5 Million and 15 million items respectively during Oct sale; unlike earlier years there were no glitches!
- Apple sells 45.3 Million iPhones in the July – Sep quarter; its annual sales \$ 226 B (for the first time it was down compared to the previous year!)

- Indian mobile customer base stood at 1058.85 Million with 1034,23 wireless and 24,62 wire-line subscribers as of July 31, 2016 (TRAI Press Release 97/2016 dated October 7, 2016) India's foreign exchange reserves was at \$ 371.99 Billion as of Sep 30, 2016
- Indian currency stood at Rs 66.62 against USD on Sep 30, 2016

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