

WHAT WAS **HOT** IN IT LAST YR

PERSPECTIVE FROM INDIA

PRODUCTS

- The revolutionary Samsung Galaxy Fold; 1,600 Samsung Fold Phones were sold in 3 minutes in India!
- Several Smart TV's - Nokia TV, Amazon Fire TV and OnePlus TV
- Apple virtual card (along with Goldman Sachs)
- Nokia phones - Nokia 2.3, Nokia 6.2 and Nokia 7.2 and Nokia 4.2
- Google Pixel 4 phone; Google Nest Mini, Google Music App and Google Bolo App



MARKETS

- L & T Infotech hostile take-over of Mindtree in October 2019
- Infineon acquisition of Cypress Semiconductors for a whopping \$10 Billion and NVIDIA acquisition of chip maker Mellanox for \$4.9 Billion
- Other acquisitions include HPE buying Cray, Google acquiring the wearables company FitBit and analytics start-up Looker, and, Salesforce acquiring Tableau



INDIAN IT COMPANIES

- TCS creates history; in 2019, its market capitalization (\$120.5 Billion) was higher than that of legendary IT

leader IBM (\$ 119.6 Billion); Its brand value takes it to global No. 3 (next only to Accenture & IBM)

- Mindtree joins the "billion dollar club" on April 17, 2019; however, its saga is over!

MNC IT Companies in India

- Samsung India is a \$10 Billion company on December 1, 2019
- Google announces the starting of Google AI Research Lab in India
- Google signs up for 450,000 sft office space in Gurgaon; Goldman Sachs in Bangalore (1.25 Million sft); and, Amazon in Bangalore (1.3 Million square)
- Apple started selling iPhone XR units made in India and even exports to other countries!

TELECOM

- In 2019, South Korea becomes the first country to start offering 5G services commercially (April) with Samsung device S10 5G; China is No 2 (November)
- The woes of Indian telecom sector continues
- Telecom companies increase tariff by up to 40% on December 1, 2019

PEOPLE

- After 53 years of outstanding service, Wipro Chairman Azim Premji hands over charge on July 31, 2019 to his son Rishad Premji



- Cognizant CEO Francisco D'Souza steps down after 12 years (CTS top-line grew from \$1.4 Billion in 2006 to \$16.1 Billion in 2018)

- Google CEO Sundar Pichai became the CEO of its parent company Alphabet in December



APPLICATIONS

- Mobile payment platform UPI volume exceeds debit card volume on October 1, 2019; touches 1 Billion mark on October 25, 2019



- FASTag (RFID reader-based toll collection) becomes mandatory on all toll booths of NHAI (National Highway Authority of India) effective December 15, 2019

START-UP SCENE

- Ritesh Agarwal founded Oyo is the world's third largest hotel as of July 2019! (8,50,000 rooms with 23,000 hotels in 800 cities)
- With Mirace of South Korea investing \$ 150 Million BigBasket turns Unicorn
- Pune-based data back-up and analytics firm Druva too is an Unicorn in this year!

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- Google claims quantum computing breakthrough on October 27, 2019

THE YEAR INCLUDE

- Turing Award (the Nobel Prize in Computing) to AI pioneers Yoshua Benigo, Geoffrey Hinton and Yann LeCun
- Chemistry Nobel to John Goodenough, Stanlet Whittingham and Akira Yoshimo for their work on "Lithium-ion batteries"; Economics Nobel to Abhijit Banerjee who studied in Calcutta University!
- Bhatnagar Prize to Manik Varma of Microsoft India Research
- Infosys Science Prize to Sunita Sarawagi of IIT Bombay
- ISRO gained lots of attention from the global the scientific community, thanks to its Moon Mission Chandrayaan II

MILESTONES

- In 2019, the world celebrated the 50th year of "Man on the Moon", a new AI program solves Rubik Cube in less than a second, WWW turned 30, Google turned 21, Wikipedia turns 18 and Gmail turned 15

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