

# What's hot in IT in 2019 Perspective from India

## Products

### New product launches in the year 2019 include

- 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**



## Science & Technology

- **Google claims quantum computing breakthrough** on **October 27, 2019**
- **Prestigious awards of 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**



## Startup 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!

## Interesting 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**

## 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**

## 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!



## Markets

- **I & T Infotech** 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**



## MNC 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!



## 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**



## Milestones

- In 2019**, the world celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> 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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