

Together

**COVID-19 & DIGITALISATION
ACCELERATION
Spl. Edition**

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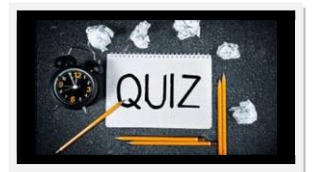
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COVID-19 has led to a twin crisis world-wide. We face not only our greatest global health shock but also our greatest economic shock of the century. It seems clear that our future will be increasingly digital. At the heart of the digital economy is the explosion of intelligence & information – data. Data is the lifeblood of the digital economy, inspiring a new direction of travel & offering a wealth of possibilities for business leaders & policy-makers. In April, the Chinese government made it official to recognize **data as a “new factor of production”**, recognizing how it is changing business models & market structures. While the exponential growth of data has the potential to enable better businesses, understanding how to leverage data is a critical component to success.

With the goal of becoming a trillion-dollar digital economy by 2025, India has been on a digital-first trajectory for a few years. Initiatives like **Digital India, Aadhaar, GSTN & Smart Cities** have provided a significant boost to the country's digital transformation drive. It is expected that, as we continue to fight the covid-19 pandemic, rapid digitalization will drive economic recovery by energising the key sectors like manufacturing, education, healthcare, & government services. The new initiative – ‘Accelerating Digital Transformation Program’, launched in May 2020, aims at helping companies to proactively create new Business Models by recalibrating Digital Workplaces into their business digital transformations.

A new wave of innovations in business models & technological capabilities across every sector are changing the paradigm. As a response to COVID-19 **healthcare** went online by leveraging the **Internet of Things (IoT), wearables & artificial intelligence (AI)**. Patient data can be analysed & interpreted remotely, ensuring improved outcomes. Now is the time to create an innovative extended healthcare model that can address the gaps in the public health infrastructure for universal access. Similarly, as **education** went online in the wake of the pandemic, there is tremendous potential in India to shift gears from ‘Access to Education’ to ‘Quality Education for All’. The new **National Education Policy (NEP)** if implemented well, will boost the adoption of emerging technologies like **Augmented Reality & Virtual Reality** to deliver realistic virtual learning experiences. Public private partnerships to set up **e-education hubs** in every gram panchayat can ensure equal access to quality education. Moreover, Covid-19 lockdowns have been especially hard on the Indian manufacturing sector. As the government pushes the nation to get “Vocal for Local”, manufacturing sector is beginning to explore technologies such as **IOT, robotics, AI & 3D printing** in order to accelerate the pace of technology adoption. **Industry 4.0** is well underway, to unlock the potential of **smart factories** that connect people, processes & machines for better efficiency. The country's large talent pool is an asset that needs to be upskilled for the smart factory era.

Furthermore, a ‘Collaborative Push’ to make India truly digital can unlock an economically prosperous future for India. All that is needed now is collaborative effort to move on to the next phase of this transformational journey. Digital transformation of key sectors can only happen when the right infrastructure is in place. From low latency, **high speed 5G networks to broadband highways**, the government must focus on building the foundation on which a truly digitally empowered India can stand. In fact, **5G** to be considered as an integral part of our social & economic fabric much like water or electricity. Technology needs to be made affordable & scalable to meet the needs of our population. With supportive policies, digital infrastructure development & focus on innovation, India can not only recover from the impact of the pandemic but also establish itself as a global manufacturing hub.



1. Which scheme has been notified by the Finance Ministry to provide financial support to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in selected infrastructure projects with immediate effect, on December 2020?
2. In a recent initiative, which two organizations have partnered to provide Smart Agricultural Solutions using AI & ML, to assist farmers in improving their productivity?
3. Name the company that has signed an agreement with the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) to establish Technology & Innovation Support Centers.
4. Which global tech major is developing a Planetary Computer to aggregate environmental data with the help of AI and ML as the next phase of 'AI for Earth' programme?
5. Which Food delivery & home services app was launched by Google for Indian market?
6. Which company has partnered with skylotech India to launch the world's first satellite based Narrow Band- Internet of Things (NB-IOTs) device to provide Pan India connectivity?
7. Which firm buys engineering & design teams for \$1.1 billion deal from HTC?
8. According to new guidelines of Reserve Bank of India, to whom the banks have to provide funds at 7% interest under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission?
9. Which Airways becomes the World's First Airline to launch Double beds in Business Class?
10. Which Small Finance Bank launched a 3-in-1 account (Tripartite account), that comprises savings, trading & demat accounts for its customers in December 2020?

Dale Carnegie's 10 - Keys to success

1. Take a chance - All life is a chance.
2. Be enthusiastic - If you want to be enthusiastic, act enthusiastic.
3. Learn to love your work - Do what you love, love what you do.
4. Learn from your mistakes - Develop success from failures.
5. Do not fear 'fear' - Inaction breeds fear and doubt.
6. Learn to prioritize - Make good use of your time.
7. Do the hard jobs first. The easy jobs will take care of themselves.
8. Persistence is the quality that most frequently leads to success.
9. We determine our happiness. It is governed by our mind.
10. Remember that everything you do sends a message.
Determine the message you want to send to the world.



Dale Carnegie
(1888 - 1955)

Send answers of **Management Quiz No. 42**, to Email: usha@imis.ac.in by 10th Jan. 2021 to win prizes for all correct answers.

Answers to Management Quiz No. 41
(Together, Sept.- October 2020, Vol.9, No. 102)
1. For their toxic content 2. Mexico 3. Pakistan 4. First class has been converted into fine dining restaurants 5. ELSS schemes 6. Parachutes 7 Prof Jayanth R Varma, Prof. Ashima Goya & Dr Shahshank Bhide 8. BMW and Daimler-Benz 9. Saral Jeevan Bima 10. Google Magenta



SPECIAL EDITION



ARTIFICIAL INTRLLIGENCE



CLOUD COUMPING



BIG DATA



BLOCK CHAIN TECHNOLOGY



ROBOTICS





Digital Transformation TECHNOLOGIES

Disrupting Businesses



DIGITIZATION

Information can be accessed in digital format.

DIGITALIZATION

The process of implementing digitalized information to simplify operations.

DIGITAL TWIN

Virtual image of product or block that accompanies the physical product during its entire lifecycle.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Process of using digital technologies to create new or modify existing business processes, culture, and customer experiences.

ECOSYSTEM

Network of organizations including suppliers, distributors, customers etc. involved in the delivery of a specific product/service.

CROWD SERVICE

The peer-to-peer support enables companies to be more efficient and improve their service without losing sight of the human aspect.

IoT

A system of interrelated computing devices & digital machines that are provided with unique identifiers & the ability to transfer data over a network without requiring human-to-human or human-to-computer interaction.

IIoT

An industrial framework, where devices/machines are connected through software tools & third platform technologies in a machine-to-machine & IoT context.

AUGMENTED REALITY

AR⁺

An interactive experience of a real-world environment where the objects that reside in the real-world are "augmented" by computer-generated perceptual information.

VIRTUAL REALITY

An interactive computer-generated experience taking place within a simulated environment.

BIG DATA

A large volume of structured, semi-structured & unstructured data that has the potential to be mined for information and used in machine learning projects and other advanced analytics applications.

DATA ANALYTICS

Mapping and tracing data from system to system in order to solve a given business or system problem.

CLOUD COMPUTING

The practice of using a network of remote servers hosted on the Internet to store, manage, and process data, rather than a local server or a personal computer.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

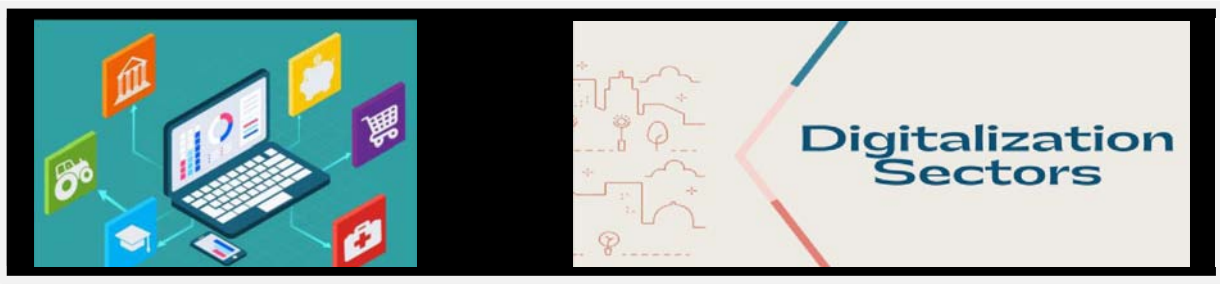
The ability of a computer program or a machine to think and learn. It is also a field of study which tries to make computers "smart".

MACHINE LEARNING

An application of AI that enables systems to automatically learn & improve from experience without being explicitly programmed.

PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE

It directly monitors the condition and performance of equipment during normal operation to reduce the likelihood of failures.



Artificial intelligence (AI) - It refers to the simulation of human intelligence in machines that are programmed to think like humans and mimic their actions. The term may also be applied to any machine that exhibits traits associated with a human mind such as learning and problem-solving. The ideal characteristic of artificial intelligence is its ability to rationalize and take actions that have the best chance of achieving a specific goal.

Big data - Is a term that describes the large volume of data – both structured and unstructured – that inundates a business on a day-to-day basis. But it's not the amount of data that's important. It's what organizations do with the data that matters. Big data can be analyzed for insights that lead to better decisions and strategic business moves.

Big Data helps the organizations to create new growth opportunities and entirely new categories of companies that can combine and analyze industry data

Cloud computing - Is the delivery of different services through the Internet. These resources include tools and applications like data storage, servers, databases, networking, and software.

Rather than keeping files on a proprietary hard drive or local storage device, cloud-based storage makes it possible to save them to a remote database. As long as an electronic device has access to the web, it has access to the data and the software programs to run it.

Block chain technology - A blockchain is a type of database. To be able to understand blockchain, it helps to first understand what a database actually is.

A database is a collection of information that is stored electronically on a computer system. Information, or data, in databases is typically structured in table format to allow for easier searching and filtering for specific information. Spreadsheets are designed for one person, or a small group of people, to store and access limited amounts of information. Large databases achieve this by housing data on servers that are made of powerful computers.

DIGITALIZATION

1. 5G
2. Smart home
3. Smart City
4. Artificial Intelligence
5. Digital Currency
6. E-Learning
7. Blockchain
8. Industry 4.0
9. Digital health
10. Augmented Reality

Autonomous Robots - An autonomous robot, also known as simply an auto robot or autobot, is a robot that performs behaviors or tasks with a high degree of autonomy (without external influence). Autonomous robotics is usually considered to be a subfield of artificial intelligence, robotics, and information engineering.

Autonomous robots are particularly desirable in fields such as spaceflight, household maintenance (such as cleaning), waste water treatment, and delivering goods and services.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed a clear digital divide: those companies which had already invested in digital operating models/enablement have fared much better than those which had not. In fact, for many businesses, the continuity of operations critically depends on their digital capabilities. Boards and markets are taking note, and consequently digital transformation is likely to be one of the most strategic topics on the boardroom agenda.

As businesses scramble to adjust to the new normal, we foresee the following seven key themes playing out on the wider economic canvas:

- *Digital nationalism
- *Shift towards digital labor
- *Workspaces of the future
- *Outcome linked and As-a-Service models
- *Digital skills
- *Capital-conscious models
- *Tech Foundations



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



ARTIFICIAL DOES NOT EXIST, AND MAY NEVER EXIST INTELLIGENCE

Early artificial intelligence stirs excitement.



MACHINE IS A LOGICAL CONTRADICTION AND LOGICALLY IMPOSSIBLE, THUS NONSENSE LEARNING

Machine learning begins to flourish.



DEEP IS ALSO NOT LEARNING LEARNING

Deep learning breakthroughs drive AI boom.



APPLICABILITY OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

1. AI in Astronomy

- Artificial Intelligence can be very useful to solve complex universe problems. AI technology can be helpful for understanding the universe such as how it works, origin, etc

2. AI in Healthcare

- In the last, five to ten years, AI becoming more advantageous for the healthcare industry and going to have a significant impact on this industry.
- Healthcare Industries are applying AI to make a better and faster diagnosis than humans. AI can help doctors with diagnoses and can inform when patients are worsening so that medical help can reach to the patient before hospitalization.

3. AI in Finance

AI and finance industries are the best matches for each other. The finance industry is implementing automation, chatbot, adaptive intelligence, algorithm trading, and machine learning into financial processes.

4. AI in education

- AI can automate grading so that the tutor can have more time to teach. AI chatbot can communicate with students as a teaching assistant.
- AI in the future can be work as a personal virtual tutor for students, which will be accessible easily at any time and any place.

5. AI in Data Security

- The security of data is crucial for every company and cyber-attacks are growing very rapidly in the digital world. AI can be used to make your data more safe and secure. Some examples such as AEG bot, AI2 Platform, are used to determine software bug and cyber-attacks in a better way.

6. AI in Travel & Transport

- AI is becoming highly demanding for travel industries. AI is capable of doing various travel related works such as from making travel arrangement to suggesting the hotels, flights, and best routes to the customers. Travel industries are using AI-powered chatbots which can make human-like interaction with customers for better and fast response.

7. AI in Robotics

- Artificial Intelligence has a remarkable role in Robotics. Usually, general robots are programmed such that they can perform some repetitive task, but with the help of AI, we can create intelligent robots which can perform tasks with their own experiences without pre-programmed.
- Humanoid Robots are best examples for AI in robotics, recently the intelligent Humanoid robot named as Erica and Sophia has been developed which can talk and behave like humans.

BIG DATA ANALYTICS



APPLICABILITY OF BIG DATA

Big Data Application examples in different Industries:

Retail/Consumer

- ❖ Merchandizing and market basket analysis
- ❖ Campaign management and customer loyalty programs
- ❖ Supply-chain management and analytics
- ❖ Event- and behavior-based targeting
- ❖ Market and consumer segmentations

Finances & Frauds Services

- ❖ Compliance and regulatory reporting
- ❖ Risk analysis and management
- ❖ Fraud detection and security analytics
- ❖ Credit risk, scoring and analysis
- ❖ High speed arbitrage trading
- ❖ Trade surveillance
- ❖ Abnormal trading pattern analysis

Web and Digital media

- ❖ Large-scale clickstream analytics
- ❖ Ad targeting, analysis, forecasting and optimization
- ❖ Abuse and click-fraud prevention
- ❖ Social graph analysis and profile segmentation
- ❖ Campaign management and loyalty programs

Health & Life Sciences

- ❖ Clinical trials data analysis
- ❖ Disease pattern analysis
- ❖ Campaign and sales program optimization
- ❖ Patient care quality and program analysis
- ❖ Medical device and pharmacy supply-chain management
- ❖ Drug discovery and development analysis

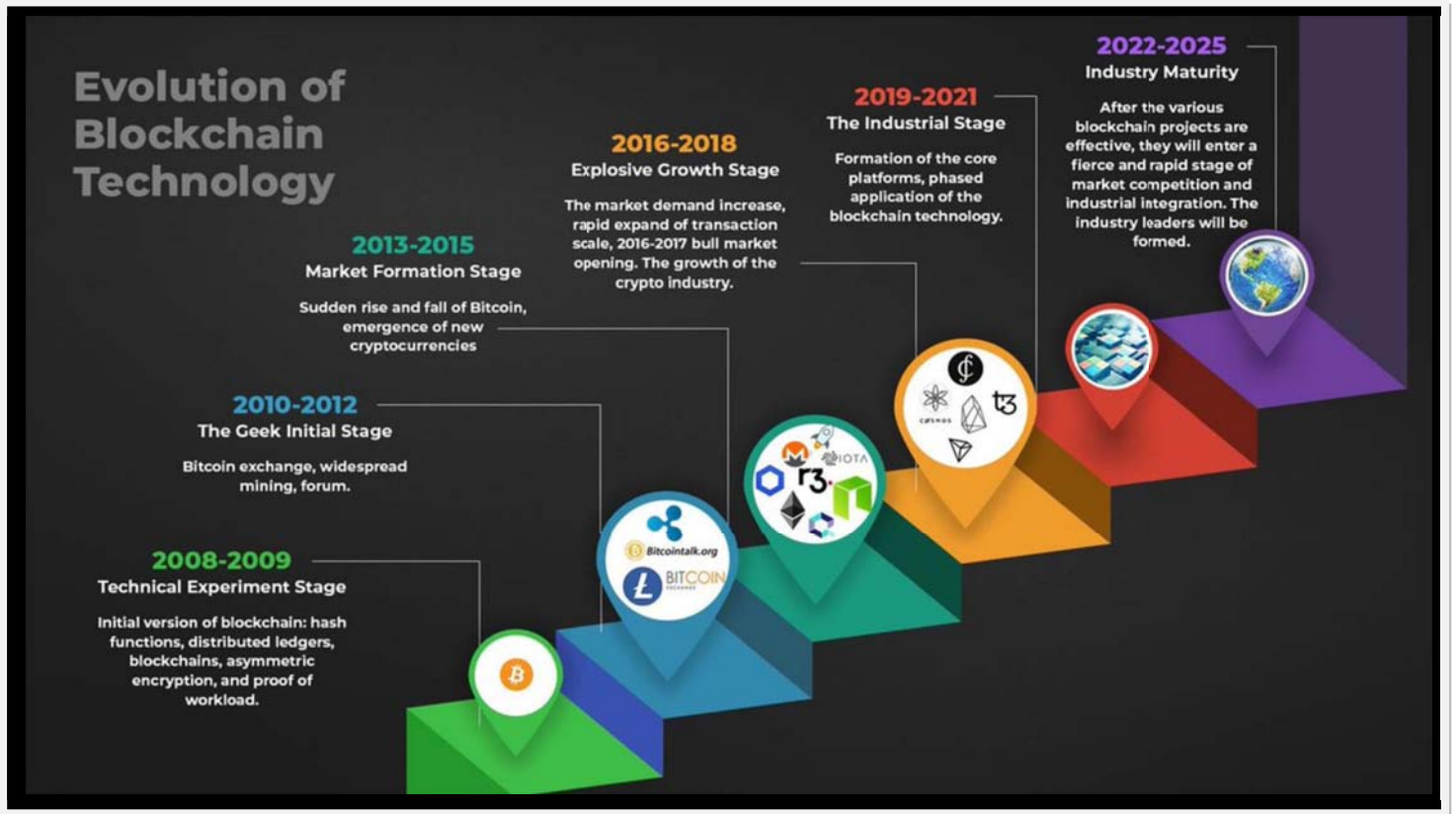
Telecommunications

- ❖ Revenue assurance and price optimization
- ❖ Customer churn prevention
- ❖ Campaign management and customer loyalty
- ❖ Call detail record (CDR) analysis
- ❖ Network performance and optimization
- ❖ Mobile user location analysis

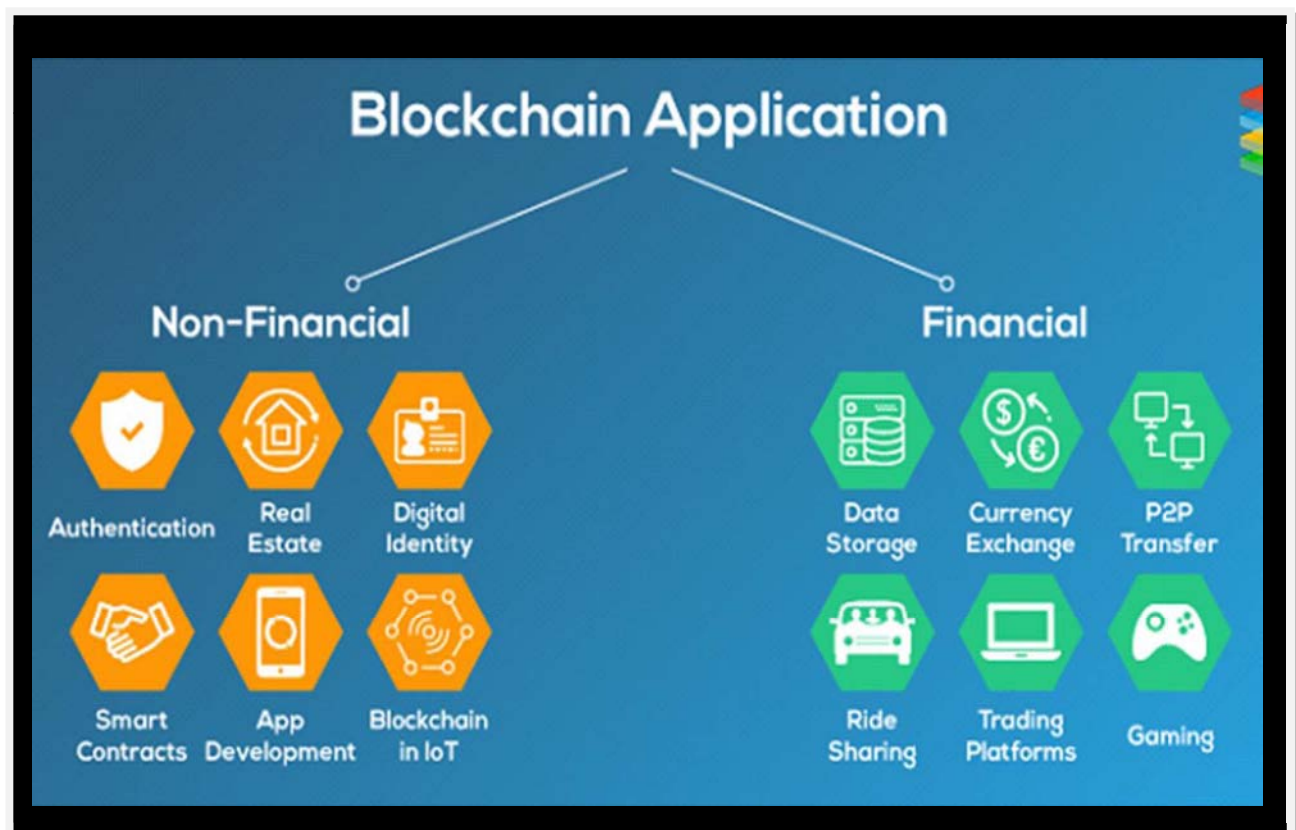
Ecommerce & customer service

- ❖ Cross-channel analytics
- ❖ Event analytics
- ❖ Recommendation engines using predictive analytics
- ❖ Right offer at the right time
- ❖ Next best offer or next best action

BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY



APPLICABILITY OF BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY



ROBOTICS



APPLICABILITY OF AUTONOMOUS ROBOTS

Health Care

- Advances in robotics have the potential to change a wide variety of health care practices, such as surgery, rehabilitation, therapy, patient companionship, and everyday activities. Robotic instruments used in health care are not designed to take over the duties of health care professionals, but rather to make their work easier.

Agriculture

- To help increase productivity while lowering overall costs, the agriculture industry has been actively working to adopt different forms of robotic technology. Farmers have already been using tractors and harvesters that are self-guided by GPS. Recently, there has been a rise in the experimental use of autonomous systems that automate operations like pruning, thinning, mowing, spraying, and weed removal. Sensor technology is also being utilized to manage pests and diseases that affect crops.

Food Preparation

- One of the more extravagant advancements in robot technology will soon be available in the kitchen. Automated and intelligent robots — such as those invented by Moley Robotics — will be able to prepare and cook hundreds of meals in a home kitchen. This robotic chef will be controlled via a smartphone, and once the controller chooses a recipe and arranges pre-packaged containers of cut and prepared ingredients, the robot will be able to cook the predetermined meal quickly and efficiently.

Military

- In the military and public safety sectors, robotic technology is being applied in many areas. One highly visible area involves unmanned drones. These machines can be used for surveillance and support operations on the battlefield. Military drones flying over areas of war and conflict, in hostage situations, and for natural and manmade disasters are able to assess danger levels and provide soldiers and first responders with real-time information.

Manufacturing

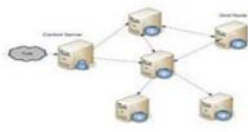
- Robotics is being used in many aspects of manufacturing to help increase productivity and efficiency while lowering production costs. Similar to the health care industry, many robots in manufacturing collaborate with workers to perform repetitive, monotonous, or intricate tasks under the worker's guidance and control. With these machines, precision is valued more than speed, as is the ability to be reprogrammed for specific tasks of different sizes and complexities. Robotic manufacturing technology is also becoming safer to operate. Cameras, sensors, and automatic shut-off capabilities enable robots to sense and stay clear of humans in the workplace.

CLOUD COMPUTING

The Evolution of Cloud Computing

Grid Computing

- Solving large problems with parallel computing
- Made mainstream by Globus Alliance



Utility Computing

- Offering computing resources as a metered service
- Introduced in late 1990s



Software as a Service

- Network-based subscription to applications
- Gained momentum in 2001



Cloud Computing

- Next-Generation Internet computing
- Next Generation Data Centers



APPLICABILITY OF CLOUD COMPUTING

Education

- Cloud computing in education helps students, teachers and administrators alike. Cloud computing allows students access to homework wherever there's an internet connection, teachers to instantly upload learning materials and administrators to easily collaborate with one another and save money on data storage.

Healthcare

- Cloud computing in healthcare increases the efficiency of the industry while decreasing costs. Cloud computing makes medical record-sharing easier and safer, automates backend operations and even facilitates the creation, and maintenance of, telehealth apps.

Banking

- Cloud computing facilitates banks in faster development of products and services. It not only allows the banking industry to boost computing power in order to meet the growing demands of their customers but also provides better insights which help banks to create customized services for their clients.

Everyday life

- Everyday life activities such as Banking, Email, Media Streaming, and Ecommerce all use the Cloud. On the Business side, Applications, Infrastructure, Storage, and Sales/CRM all have their presence out in the Cloud. ... They are Private, Hybrid, and Public Cloud

Manufacturing

- Cloud computing uses internet connections to store software and information used in businesses. This technology has an increasing use in manufacturing business operations and production processes. In 2017, 25% of finished product inputs were made using some type of digital technology, such as cloud computing.



News
FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

WPI inflation at 8-month high of 1.48% in Oct on costlier manufactured items

17 November 2020, The Economics Times

The wholesale price-based inflation rose to an eight-month high of 1.48 per cent in October, as manufactured products turned costlier, with experts saying that the RBI will keep interest rates on hold in its policy review next month. The WPI inflation was at 1.32 per cent in September and zero per cent in October last year.

RBI imposes penalty on Muthoot Finance, Manappuram Finance

19 November 2020, The Economics Times

The RBI on Thursday said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on Muthoot Finance, Ernakulam, for non-compliance with directions on maintaining loan to value ratio in gold loans and on obtaining copy of PAN card of the borrower while granting gold loans of over Rs 5 lakh. The central bank has also imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Manappuram Finance, Thrissur for non-compliance with directions on verification of ownership of gold jewelry.

Sensex jumps over 250 pts in early trade; Nifty tops 12,850

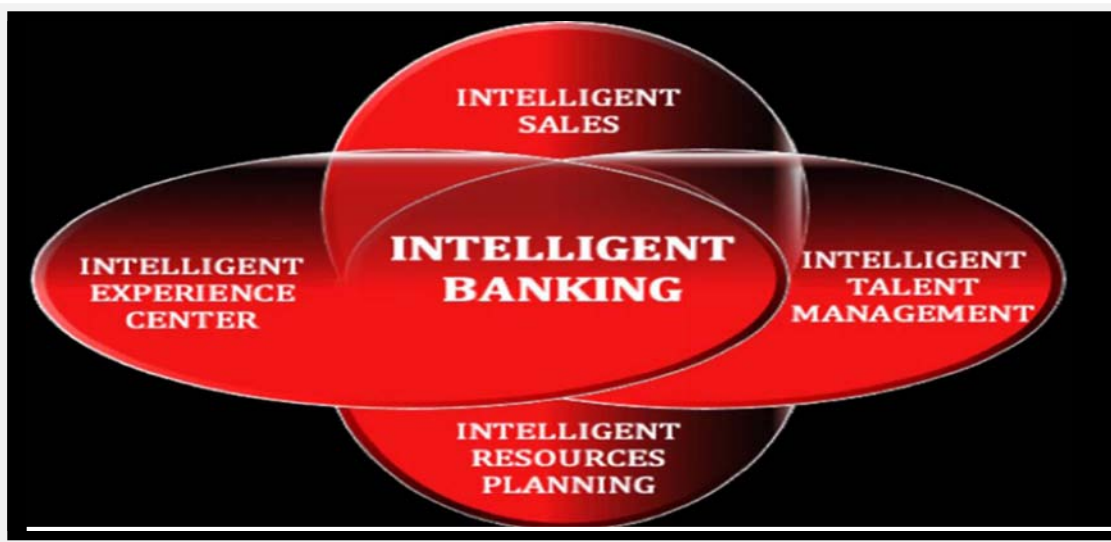
20 November 2020, The Economics Times

Equity benchmark Sensex surged over 250 points in early trade on Friday, tracking gains in index-heavyweights HDFC twins, Kotak Bank and Bajaj Finance amid largely positive cues from global markets and sustained foreign fund inflow. The 30-share BSE index was trading 282.07 points or 0.65 per cent higher at 43,882.03 in the opening session. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rose 78.45 points or 0.61 per cent to 12,850.15.

RBI panel proposes to allow large corporate houses as promoters of banks

21 November 2020, The Economics Times

An internal RBI panel has proposed that large corporates may be permitted to promote banks after necessary amendments to the Banking Regulations Act, as well as raising the cap on promoters' stake in private sector banks to 26 per cent. The panel also suggested the conversion of big non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) into banks. The Reserve Bank of India had constituted an Internal Working Group (IWG) on June 12, 2020, to review extant ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian private sector banks.



SBI raises Rs 2,500 cr from bonds

24 November 2020, The Economics Times

State Bank of India (SBI) on Tuesday said it has raised Rs 2,500 crore from bonds to fund business growth. The committee of directors for capital raising at its meeting held on Tuesday accorded approval to allot 25,000 Basel-III compliant non-convertible, taxable, perpetual, subordinated, unsecured, fully paid-up debt instruments in the nature of debentures qualifying as AT 1 capital of the bank to the subscribers, it said in a regulatory filing.

Govt approves merger of Lakshmi Vilas Bank with DBIL

25 November 2020, The Economics Times

The government on Wednesday approved merger of crisis-ridden Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) with DBS Bank India Ltd (DBIL) and removed restrictions on withdrawal of deposits by depositors. The Union Cabinet has approved the merger of the LVB with DBS Bank India Limited, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar told reporters, adding the decision will provide comfort to 20 lakh depositors and protect the services of 4,000 employees.

Banks to post larger capital declines without support: **Moody's**

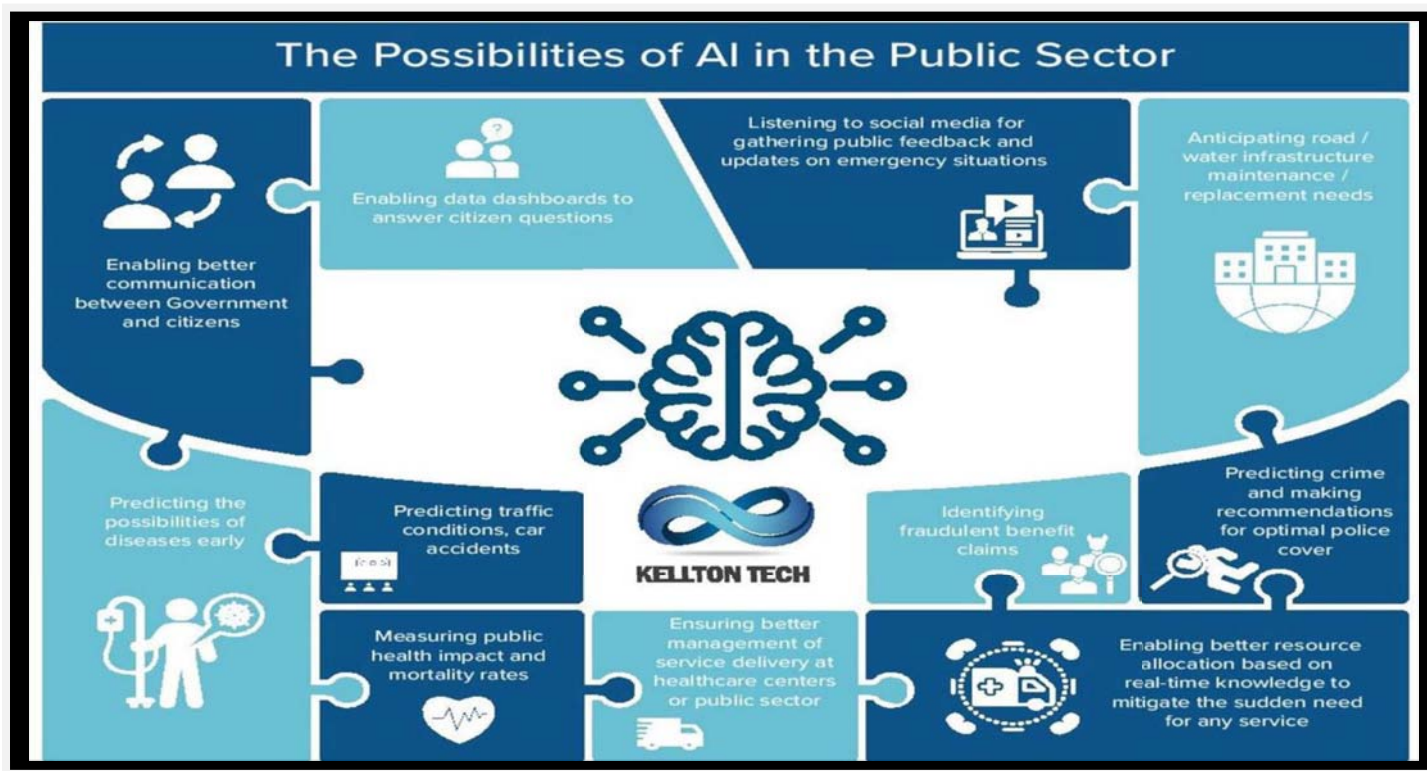
30 November 2020, The Economics Times

Banks in India are expected to post larger capital declines without public or private injections, Moody's Investors Service said in a report. In its 2021 outlook for financial institutions amid Covid-19 recovery, Moody's Investors Service said that capital will moderately fall in emerging Asia over the next two years. "Capital will moderately fall in emerging Asia over the next two years, and banks in India and Sri Lanka will post larger capital declines without public or private injections," it said in a statement.

Sebi eases compliance norms for brokers, depository participants

01 December 2020, The Economics Times

Markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday relaxed compliance requirements for brokers and depository participants with regards to submission of reports pertaining to internal as well as system audit in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The decision comes after receiving representation from stock exchanges and depositories, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in a circular.



RBI temporarily bars HDFC Bank from issuing new credit cards, launching digital initiatives

02 December 2020, The Economics Times

The Reserve Bank of India's order came on Wednesday, days after the last instance of service outage across its digital banking channels, including internet banking, mobile banking and other payments. The outage, which happened on November 21, had severely inconvenienced customers, the bank informed the exchanges on Thursday. In December 2018, the bank's new mobile application crashed within hours of its launch in what was attributed to the inability of the servers to handle the heightened traffic.

RBI likely to keep interest rates unchanged: Industry experts

03 December 2020, The Economics Times

The Reserve Bank is likely to keep the benchmark interest rate unchanged at its bi-monthly monetary policy review outcome to be announced on Friday, but may revise growth estimates in view of the September quarter GDP turning out to be better than RBI's earlier projections. According to experts, the stubborn retail inflation, which has remained above the comfort level of the RBI of around 4 per cent, will refrain the central bank from reducing interest rate on Friday.

24X7 RTGS from Dec 14; Rs 5,000 new limit for contactless card transactions

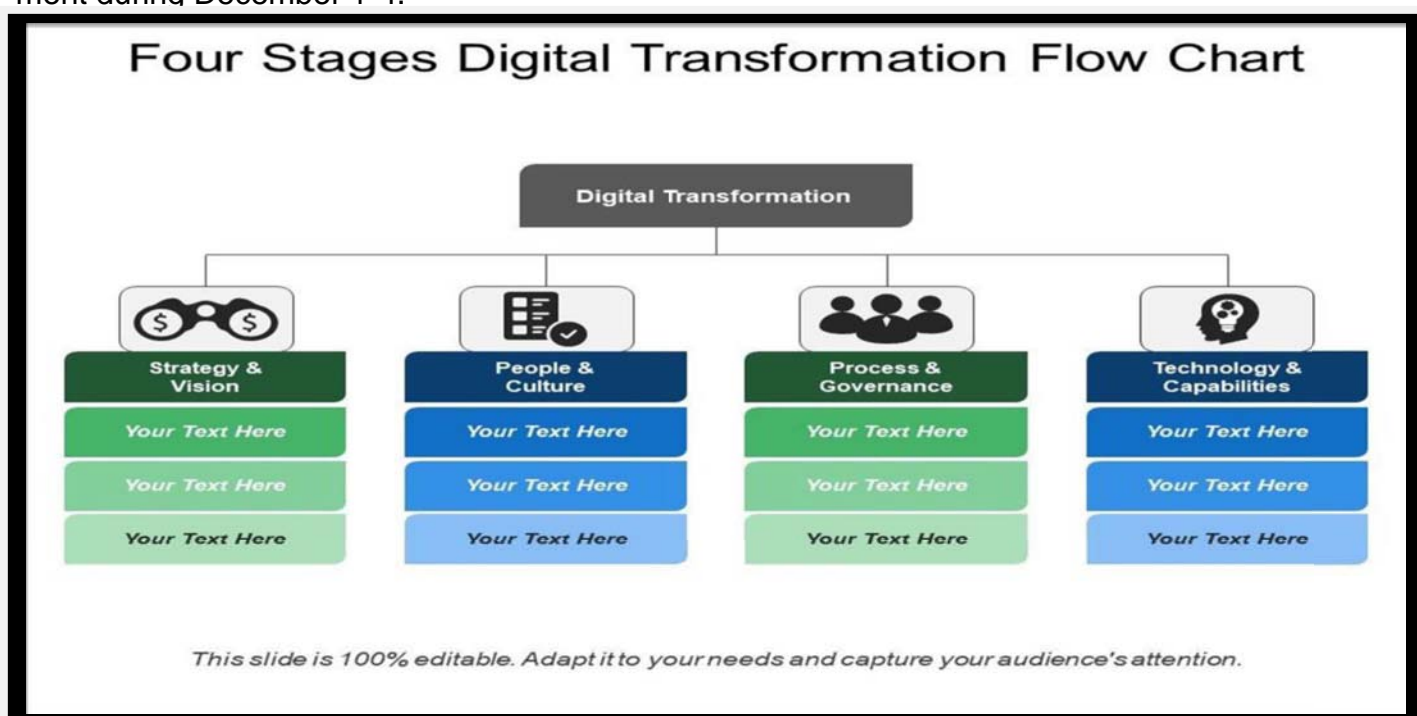
04 December 2020, The Economics Times

In a bid to give a push to digital payments, the Reserve Bank on Friday announced a slew of measures including enhancing the limit for contactless card transactions to Rs 5,000 and making RTGS transaction facility available round the clock from December 14. The RBI has also decided to grant license to entities operating payments systems on a perpetual basis, and permitted companies to reapply for license after one year of rejection of their application or revocation of their license.

FPIs pump in Rs 17,818 crore in just 4 trading sessions of December

07 December 2020, The Economics Times

Overseas investors remained net buyers to the tune of Rs 17,818 crore in Indian markets in first four trading sessions of December amidst better than expected economic recovery around the world and positive sentiment on the back of various vaccine results. As per depositories data, foreign portfolio investors (FPI) pumped in a net sum of Rs 16,520 crore into equities and Rs 1,298 crore in the debt segment during December 1-4.



FDI equity inflows into India cross \$ 500 bn milestone

09 December 2020, The Economics Times

Foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflows into India crossed the USD 500 billion milestone during April 2000 to September 2020 period, firmly establishing the country's credentials as a safe and key investment destination in the world. According to the data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the inflows during the period stood at USD 500.12 billion.

RBI cancels license of Karad Janata Sahakari

10 December 2020, The Economics Times

The RBI on Tuesday said it has cancelled the license of The Karad Janata Sahakari Bank Ltd, Karad, Maharashtra, as it does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. More than 99 per cent of the depositors of the bank will get full payment of their deposits from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), the Reserve Bank said in a statement. With the cancellation of license and commencement of liquidation proceedings, the process of paying the depositors of The Karad Janata Sahakari Bank will be set in motion.

Sensex jumps over 250 pts in early trade; Nifty tops 13,550

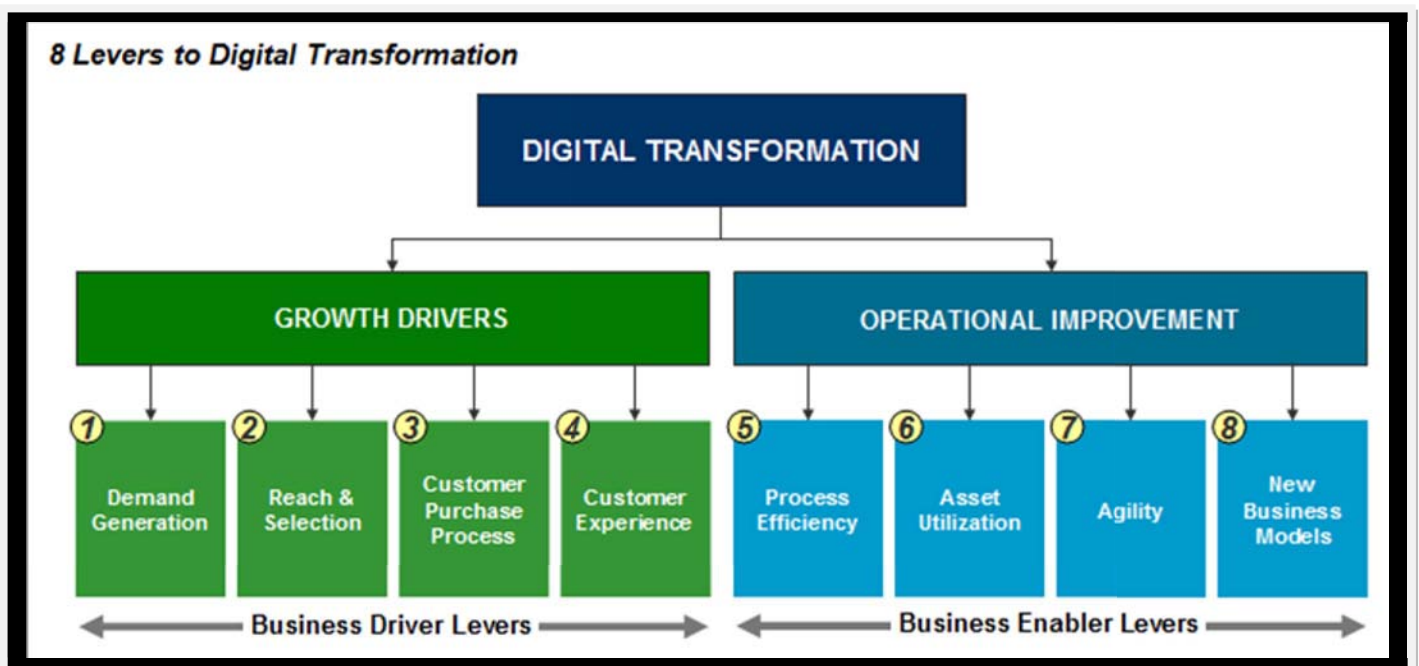
11 December 2020, The Economics Times

Equity benchmark Sensex rose over 250 points in early trade on Friday tracking gains in index majors Reliance Industries, HDFC and ICICI Bank amid persistent foreign fund inflows. After touching its record intra-day high of 46,212.53 in the opening session, the 30-share BSE index was trading 249.43 points or 0.54 per cent higher at 46,209.31. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rose 73.20 points or 0.54 per cent to 13,551.50. It hit a high of 13,553.80.

SBI will prefer co-origination models of lending to MSMEs: Chairman

13 December 2020, The Economics Times

State Bank of India (SBI) will prefer the co-origination model to cater to the financing needs of MSMEs and collaboration with fintech's is a good idea as it helps in assessing the risk profile of the borrower in a better manner, its chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara said on Saturday. Pointing out that the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are constrained today in terms of cash flows, time gap in realizing receivables, among others and also the level of lenders' confidence in funding them, Khara said collaborating is a better model than lending directly to MSMEs.





Harley-Davidson says working with partner Hero to ensure smooth transition for customers in India

22 November 2020, The Economics Times

American cult-bike maker Harley-Davidson on Saturday said it is working with its new partner Hero MotoCorp to “ensure a smooth transition” for its customers in India, including after-sale services and warranty. Last month, Harley-Davidson and Hero MotoCorp announced their partnership for the Indian market. They have inked a distribution agreement, under which Hero MotoCorp will sell and service Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Jio Platforms receives subscription amount of Rs 33,737 cr from Google

24 November 2020, The Economics Times

Jio Platforms Limited has received the subscription amount of Rs 33,737 crore from Google International LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Google LLC. Jio Platforms Limited has allotted equity shares to Google International LLC following which Google International LLC holds 7.73 per cent of the fully-diluted equity share capital of Jio Platforms Limited.

50% tech startups expect pre-Covid level revenue in 6 months

26 November 2020, The Economics Times

Indian tech start-ups are now witnessing a gradual road to recovery, with over 50 per cent of them saying that they expect revenue to reach pre-Covid level in less than six months, according to a Nasscom survey released on Wednesday. Revenue acceleration and funding has improved the cash availability with startups, showed the findings of the “Nasscom Start-up Pulse Survey II”.

India IT, business services market to reach \$13bn this year: IDC

27 November 2020, The Economics Times

The IT and Business Services market in India is expected to grow annually by 5.4 per cent to reach \$13 billion by the end of the year, an IDC report said on Wednesday. In the first half (January-June period), the India IT and Business Services market grew by 5.3 per cent (on-year) as compared to the 8.9 per cent growth in the first half last year, according to the IDC’s ‘Worldwide Semiannual Services Tracker-1H20’.



Govt intends to formalise registration process of vintage motor vehicles

28 November 2020, *The Economics Times*

The Centre on Friday said it intends to formalise the registration process of the vintage motor vehicles, and has sought public comments for proposed rules regarding this. In a statement, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said it has invited public comments for proposed rules on registering vintage vehicles. "The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has published GSR 734 (E) dated November 25, 2020, seeking comments and suggestions in regards to amendment to CMVR 1989 relating to vintage motor vehicles,

Yamaha reports 35 pc sales growth in November

01 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Yamaha Motor India on Tuesday reported a 35 per cent increase in sales in November at 53,208 units as compared with 39,406 units in the same month last year. The company has been reporting growth in its sales volumes consecutively over the past four months as compared with the same year-ago period following the lifting of the COVID-led lockdown, the two-wheeler maker said in a statement.

IndiGo reaches 70 pc of its pre-COVID capacity, operating 1,000 daily flights

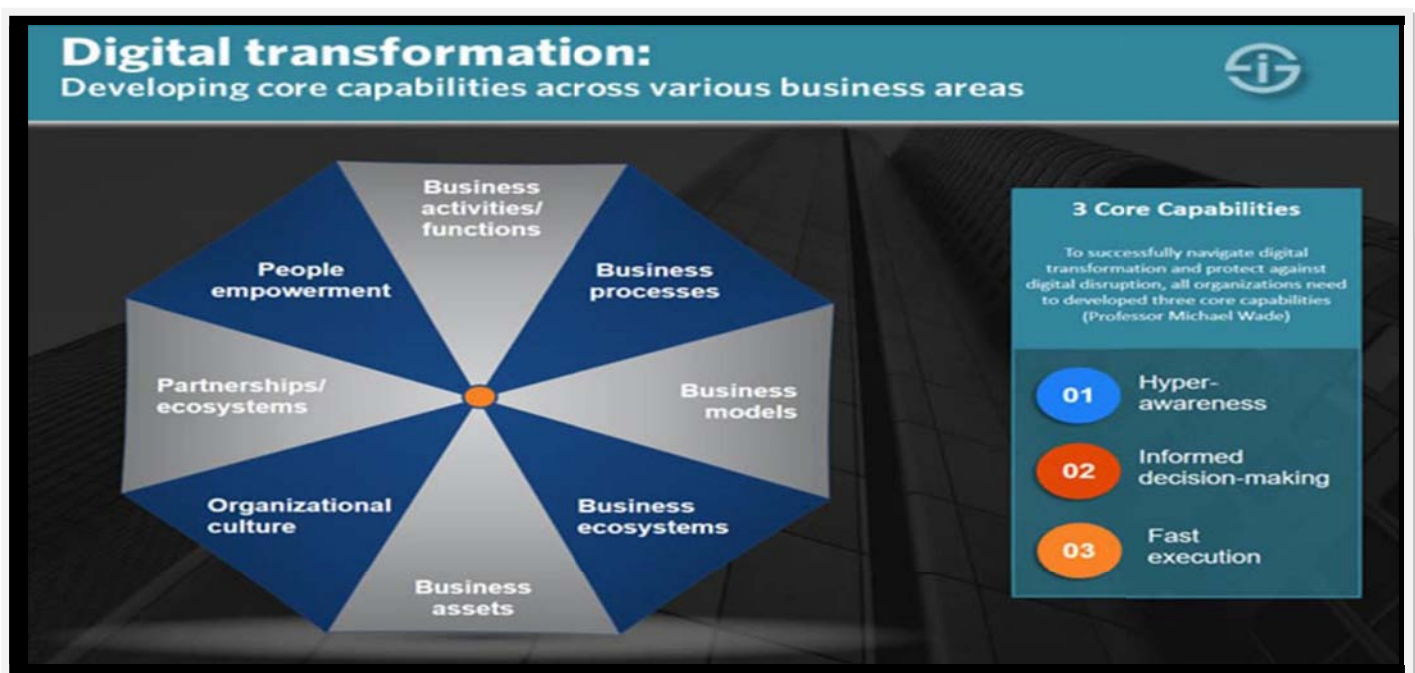
02 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

IndiGo on Wednesday said it has reached 70 per cent of its pre-COVID capacity and is operating 1,000 daily international and domestic flights. India resumed domestic passenger flights on May 25 after a gap of two months due to the coronavirus-triggered lockdown. At the time of resumption, the government had allowed airlines to operate not more than 33 per cent of their pre-COVID domestic flights. In the subsequent months, this limit was gradually increased and it currently stands at 70 per cent.

Shri Bijay Kumar Das takes over as NALCO Director

03 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Bijay Kumar Das, has taken over as the Director (Production) of the Navratna CPSE, National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) with effect from 1 st December 2020. Prior to the new assignment, Shri Das was serving in the Company as Executive Director (Projects) at Corporate Office, Bhubaneswar. Shri Das, a graduate in Mechanical Engineering from NIT, Rourkela (Formerly REC), began his career in NALCO as a Graduate Engineer Trainee in 1984.



Digital could drive over 80% of spend for enterprises in near term: Report

04 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

The pandemic has accelerated digital adoption, and over 80 per cent of the near-term spending may be driven by Covid-19 resilient digital offerings as enterprises look at re-wiring their operating models for the new normal, a report by Nasscom said on Thursday. The report titled 'Future of Technology Services – Navigating the New Normal', compiled by McKinsey & Company as knowledge partner, said there has been an extensive acceleration in digital adoption by enterprises and that there is a potential increase in outsourcing intensity due to remote working.

Flipkart launches '2GUD Local' to digitise offline retailers

05 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Flipkart's independent value-driven platform, 2GUD on Friday launched 2GUD Local to connect popular offline retailers scattered across the country with online shoppers. The new format aims to enable local stores - single brand or multi-brand stores and other shopping destinations - and retailers to expand their digital footprint to connect more effectively with their consumers. 2GUD Local will showcase the best of these stores through long-format videos coupled with engaging narratives, Flipkart said

GST payers now to fill just 4 GSTR-3B forms instead of 12

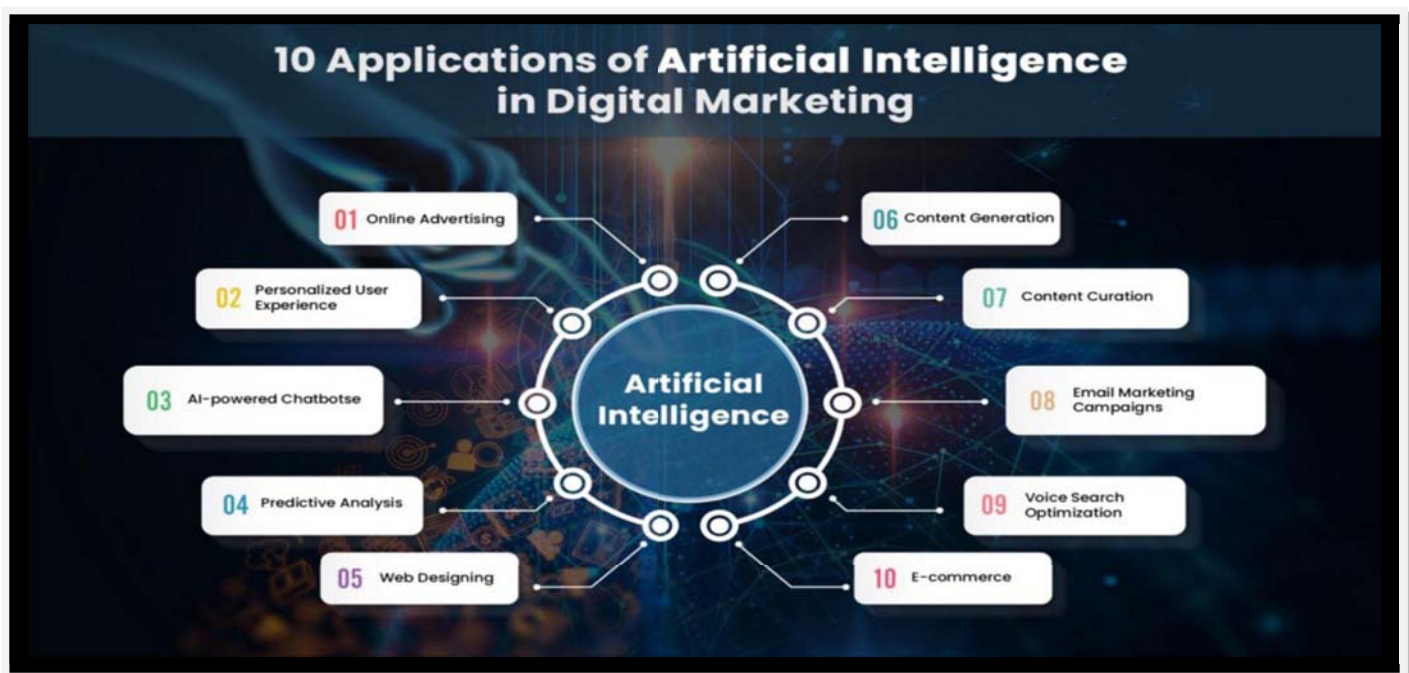
06 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Come January 1 and GST payers would need to fill only 4 GSTR-3B returns in a year instead of 12 returns at present. In a major reform, the government has eased the return filing experience for the GST taxpayers with the introduction of Quarterly filing of Return with Monthly Payment (QRMP) Scheme. The scheme would impact almost 94 lakh taxpayers, about 92 per cent of the total tax base of the GST, who have an annual aggregate turnover (AATO) up to Rs 5 crore, said sources in the Department of Revenue (DoR).

Ambani hints at 5G rollout in second half of 2021

08 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani on Tuesday hinted at rolling out 5G telecom services in the second half of 2021 and said policy steps are needed to accelerate the early rollout of ultra-high-speed 5G services that are affordable and available everywhere. Ambani, whose four-year-old telecom venture Jio has captured the No.1 spot offering free voice calling and data at dirt-cheap rates, also pitched for developing hardware manufacturing in India, saying the nation cannot rely on imports in such a critical area.



Jet Airways may resume operations next year: Jalan-Kalrock consortium

09 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

The consortium of UAE-based businessman Murari Lal Jalan and London's Kalrock Capital - which has won the bid to revive Jet Airways - on Monday said it expects to start operating the airline by the summer of 2021. The consortium is awaiting the NCLT and other regulatory approvals, including reinstatement of slots and bilateral traffic rights by the civil aviation ministry and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). It is also planning to launch dedicated freighter services once the carrier takes off the ground again.

Facebook India FY20 revenue up 43% at Rs 1,277.3 crore, net profit doubles

10 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Social media giant Facebook India's revenues grew 43 per cent year-on-year to about Rs 1,277.3 crore in 2019-20, while its net profit more than doubled to Rs 135.7 crore, as per regulatory documents. Its total income was Rs 893.4 crore in the financial year ended March 31, 2019, according to Registrar of Companies filing - shared by market intelligence firm Tofler. The net profit increased by over 107 per cent to Rs 135.7 crore in FY20 as compared to Rs 65.3 crore in the preceding fiscal, it added.

Adani Group: We do not buy food grains from farmers; only manages storage for FCI

11 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

With its name echoing in farmer protests against Agri reform bills, Adani Group has said it neither buys food grains from farmers nor decides the pricing of food grains. The port-to-energy conglomerate said it only develops and operates grain silos for Food Corporation of India (FCI). "The company has no role in deciding the volume of storage as well as pricing of grain as it only a service/ infrastructure provider for the FCI," it said in a statement posted on its Twitter handle.

Digitalisation is redefining the manufacturing industry, says Debjani Ghose

13 December 2020, *The Economics Times*

Digitalisation is redefining the manufacturing industry and the NASSCOM CoE is strongly focused on driving thought leadership and co-innovation with startups to help manufacturing companies innovate in the new normal. The overwhelming interest in the 'Manufacturing Innovation Challenge' brings to the fore the innovative capabilities of the start-up ecosystem and the opportunity for the country to build a vibrant and digitally-led manufacturing industry.

Research, knowledge, innovations. Technological revolution. Industry 4.0

Question for discussion:

Will one of the products of Industry 4.0 technology be creating fully autonomous robots capable of self-improvement?

Innovative Technologies

AI