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NAVIGATING MANAGEMENT REALMS >

Weekly
BUZZ

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N Chandrasekaran Says Slowdown In Indian Economy Temporary, India To 'Remain Fastest-Growing In The World'



Tata Group Chairman, N Chandrasekaran, expressed optimism regarding the domestic economic growth and noted that despite a slowdown this year, India will remain the fastest-growing economy in the world.

Speaking at the global alumni meet of NIT Trichy in Chennai, the executive said that the decline in the pace of growth in the Indian economy is temporary and is expected to pick up. "Indian economy is very strong. Even with a moderation in growth this year, we will still continue to be growing better than any other country. We will be the fastest growing," he said, reported Business Standard.

Elaborating on the major shifts around the world, he said that the transition to renewable energy, change in the global supply chain dynamics, and artificial intelligence (AI), all remained in line with the strengths of the Indian economy.

He further noted that 2025 is anticipated to be a 'phenomenal year for AI', with the sector expected to clock huge investments in small language models (SLMs) during the year, while large language models (LLMs) also set to play a role. "Small language models will have a deeper role to play because they will consume less energy, lower cost and give faster results. I feel this is going to be a phenomenal year for AI," he stated.



Electric car and SUV sales hit highest level in CY2024: 99,000 units



LUXURY ELECTRIC CAR & SUV MAK		
OEMS	CY2024	CY2023
BMW	1,210	1,308
Mercedes-Benz	940	516
Volvo	442	570
Audi	143	143
Porsche	73	96
Rolls-Royce	16	1
JLR	4	9
Total	2,828	2,643

Data: Vahan, January 2-2025, 7am

India's electric passenger vehicle (e-PV) segment achieved record sales of 99,004 units in CY2024, marking a 20% year-on-year (YoY) growth from 82,563 units in CY2023. Tata Motors remained the market leader but saw its market share drop to 62% (from 73%) due to increased competition, while JSW MG Motor India doubled its share to 21%. Luxury EV sales grew 7% YoY to 2,828 units. This growth reflects a rising preference for wallet-friendly EVs despite higher upfront costs, with nearly 250,000 e-PVs sold between 2015 and 2024.

CY2024 also witnessed record sales in the electric two- and three-wheeler segments, further emphasizing India's shift to e-mobility. With upcoming launches like the Maruti e-Vitara and Hyundai Creta EV in CY2025.

Source: Autocar Pro

ISRO's SpaDeX Mission A First Step For India To Set Up Its Own Space station



SpaDex is short for Space Docking Experiment. It involves an experimental docking, subsequent checks, and undocking of two satellites. The mission is particularly important keeping in mind India's plan to set up its own space station - the Bharatiya Antriksh Station.

Only three countries in the world - United States, Russia, and China - have the ability to carry out docking of two spacecraft or satellites in outer space. India is now on the cusp of achieving that feat as ISRO's last mission of 2024 - named SpaDeX - lift-off from Andhra Pradesh's Sriharikota at 2200 hrs (10 pm) IST.

SpaDex is short for Space Docking Experiment. This involves an experimental docking, subsequent interlocking and pressure checks, and undocking of two satellites. The mission is important for ISRO's future moon missions, including Chandrayaan 4. It is also particularly important for India's plan to set up its own space station.

Source: NDTV world

India's first robotic arm operates in space



The robotic arm, developed indigenously by Isro, is equipped with advanced sensors and actuators, enabling it to perform precise movements and handle delicate tasks in the harsh environment of space.

In Short, Walking Robotic Arm is part of Isro's SpaDeX mission. A key step in developing tech for future space station. A proud Make in India milestone in space robotics, says Isro. The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) successfully operated its first robotic arm in space, marking a significant milestone in the nation's space exploration endeavours.

Operating the remote robotic arm is a part of Isro's SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment) mission, which was launched on December 30 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

Source: India Today



HUL planning to Acquire Minimalist



Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), a leading FMCG company in India, is reportedly in advanced discussions to acquire Jaipur-based skincare brand Minimalist for ₹3,000 crore (\$350 million). Founded by Mohit and Rahul Yadav, Minimalist specializes in skincare and haircare products formulated with scientifically tested active ingredients. The brand's impressive FY24 performance, with an 85% revenue growth to ₹350 crore and a 100% rise in profits to ₹11 crore, has made it a key target for HUL as it looks to enhance its personal care portfolio.

Strategic Fit and Growth Potential
 HUL, known for brands like Dove and Lakmé, currently lacks products like serums, which are Minimalist's strong suit. This acquisition could help HUL diversify its portfolio and compete in the fast-growing D2C beauty market, where brands like Plum and Foxtale are already growing. With HUL's offline distribution network and marketing power, Minimalist could scale further and expand its customer base beyond online platforms.

Source: t.ly

Blinkit's 10-minute ambulance service puts the spotlight on why India needs more life support units



Zomato-owned quick commerce platform Blinkit has announced a 10 minute ambulance delivery service, as the firm looks to expand beyond grocery and print out deliveries.

CEO Albinder Dhindsa said the service will begin with five ambulances in Gurugram. "As we expand the service to more areas, you will start seeing an option to book a Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance through the Blinkit app," he said in a post on X.

Underlining that the facility was not launched with profit as a goal, Dhindsa said the aim was to expand to all major cities in the next two years.

A quick commerce platform jumping into ambulance services has highlighted the stark reality of the state of ambulance availability in India, where such vehicles are often difficult to obtain during critical medical needs, with a section of population also priced out owing to the sometimes high upfront costs, especially for more developed ambulances with advanced life support (ALS) functions.

And the government's own data shows many states in India have a big shortage of such vehicles.

Source: Indian Express

Parental consent must for children's accounts: Centre in draft social media rules

Children under 18 will need parental consent to open social media accounts under the draft rules of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has invited public feedback on these rules via MyGov.in, with suggestions accepted until February 18, 2025.

The draft rules of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, propose penalties of up to ₹250 crore for data breaches to ensure accountability and stricter safeguards for children's data and individuals with disabilities under guardianship. Data fiduciaries must obtain parental or guardian consent, verified through government IDs or digital tokens, before processing minors' data, with some exemptions for educational and child welfare organisations.

The rules define critical digital intermediaries, including "e-commerce entities", "online gaming intermediaries", and "social media intermediaries", setting specific guidelines for each.

Source: India Today



BUSINESS LEADERS NEWS

DEEPINDER GOYAL CEO OF ZOMATO

The Zomato Guy has revolutionized the food industry with his Food Delivery App. The late night cravings and urgent home delivery are all managed by Zomato and that too with a few clicks. Food Industry has huge potential in India and despite this Zomato is one other brand which dominates this industry. Zomato provides a complete reference of the restaurants, its menus, reviews and almost everything related to the restaurant. It was founded by Deepinder Goyal and Pankaj Chhada. Let us understand Mr. Deepinder Goyal Success Journey in detail.

Deepinder Goyal was born on 26th January 1983. He was born in Muktsar, Punjab and is 41 years of age. He is currently the Director and CEO of Zomato. Deepinder Goyal belonged to Middle Class Family. He completed his graduation from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi in the year 2005 in the field of Mathematics and Computing.

He was always interested in food and this encouraged him to start up a venture that would help people have their lunch, breakfast and dinner conveniently.

Despite his tech background, Zomato CEO Deepinder Goyal is a poetry lover and a bibliophile. He even published a book for an ideal workspace culture known as "Culture"

Zomato

Deepinder Goyal observed that ordering food was never easy. People used to wait in long que in restaurants to buy food. Also online food ordering did not provide proper information about the restaurants and thus customers were ignorant about the food quality, discounts and ratings of the restaurant.

Deepinder after graduation joined Bain and Company as a Senior Associate Consultant in 2006 during which he founded Foodie Bay.com which later on was renamed as Zomato.com at Bain and Company. This saved money and time while ordering food online.

In 2008, Goyal, in collaboration with Pankaj Chaddah, founded their food delivery company, initially named Foodiebay. A year later, rebranded as Zomato, the company expanded its footprint globally, reaching countries like South Africa, Canada, UAE, and New Zealand.



Bandwidth

"Bandwidth" is a term that was adapted from the technology industry and is now often used to describe how much energy or time an employee can contribute to a project.

Head Of The Department

Dr. Nilam Panchal

Team Members

Batch 2024-2026

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