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TECH Dose

JAN 2025

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

1 Apple in talks with Bharat Forge to boost local manufacturing in India

Apple is reportedly in talks with Bharat Forge to expand its Indian supplier network. The potential partnership with the Pune-based manufacturer aligns with Apple's strategy to boost local production and reduce reliance on China. Apple already partners with Tata Group, Motherson Group, and Aequs, with iPhone production in India reaching $17.5 billion in 2024. This move aligns with Apple's strategy to enhance local production in India and reduce dependence on China. In recent years, Apple has been expanding its supplier network in India, partnering with companies like the Tata Group, Motherson Group, and Aequs.

https://www.business-standard.com/companies/news/apple-india-bharat-forge-component-manufacturing-deal-125012700162_1.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com

DeepSeek- Chinese AI company disrupting the stock market 2

DeepSeek began attracting more attention in the AI industry last month when it released a new AI model that it boasted was on par with similar models from US companies such as ChatGPT maker OpenAI, and was more cost-effective in its use of expensive Nvidia chips to train the system on huge troves of data. The chatbot became more widely accessible when it appeared on Apple and Google app stores early this year. The startup DeepSeek was founded in 2023 in Hangzhou, China and released its first AI large language model later that year.

https://www.dailypioneer.com/2025/technology/what-is-deepseek--chinese-ai-company-upending-stock-market-.html

3 Apple pulls error-prone AI-generated news summaries in beta iPhone software

Apple is suspending an error-prone feature that used artificial intelligence to deliver bogus news alerts to some iPhone owners. The decision was disclosed as part of a test version for the next software release, iOS 18.3. The beta version is only available to a relatively small group of iPhone users and developers, but the same features are usually released in an update available to all users several weeks after the testing begins.In the beta update, Apple said it is disabling the AI-generated feature for news and entertainment while it tries to fix the issue causing the technology to fabricate information — a problem often described as "hallucinations" within the industry. Similar software updates for Apple's iPad and Mac computers are also in a testing phase.

https://www.dailypioneer.com/2025/technology/apple-pulls-error-prone-ai-generated-news-summaries-in-beta-iphone-software.html

Bengaluru start-up to launch satellite to monitor space objects on board SpaceX rocket 4

Engaluru-based start-up Digantara is set to launch the world's first commercial satellite for surveillance of objects as small as 5 cm orbiting the Earth to ensure safer space operations. Surveillance of outer space or situational space awareness (SSA) is important to ensure the safety of spacecraft as orbits around the Earth become crowded with artificial satellites as well as space debris. Last month, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) had to delay the launch of SpaDeX satellites by two minutes due to congestion in the orbit and the path of the rocket. Even a slight nudge by a piece of debris to a spacecraft orbiting the Earth at over 25,000 km per hour could prove fatal.

https://www.dailypioneer.com/2025/technology/bengaluru-start-up-to-launch-satellite-to-monitor-space-objects-on-board-spacex-rocket.html

5 Zoho Corp CEO Sridhar Vembu steps down, takes on the role of chief scientist
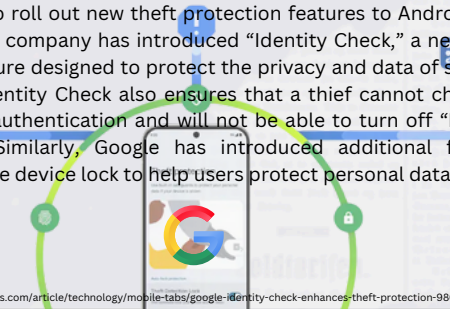
Ridhar Vembu, co-founder and CEO of Chennai-based cloud services company Zoho, is stepping down after a long tenure as chief executive officer. Vembu will transition to the role of Chief Scientist, where he will lead Zoho's deep R&D initiatives and focus on his personal mission for rural development. Following the change, co-founder Shailesh Kumar Davey will assume the role of Group CEO. Tony Thomas, also a co-founder, will lead Zoho's US operations. Rajesh Ganesan will head the ManageEngine division, and Mani Vembu will take charge of the Zoho.com division.

https://indianexpress.com/

Perplexity AI offers US government 50% stake in revised TikTok merger proposal: Report 6

Perplexity AI has modified its proposal to merge with TikTok's US division, granting the US government the option to acquire a 50 per cent stake of the new company if it goes public. The TikTok-Perplexity merged entity would be a US-based holding company called 'NewCo', according to a report by CNBC. The US government's 50 per cent ownership claim will reportedly come into play after a NewCo IPO in the future. Besides Perplexity, several other companies and individuals have put in their bids to either purchase or merge with TikTok, including Microsoft and Oracle.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/artificial-intelligence/perplexity-ai-us-government-tiktok-merger-proposal-9801394/

7 Windows 11 introduces colour-coded battery indicator for better clarity

Microsoft is rolling out a visual update to the battery indicator in the latest Windows 11 Insider Preview Build (26120.3000 – KB5050103). This update introduces colour-coded battery icons, allowing users to quickly assess their device's battery status. The updated icons use black, yellow, green, and red colours to depict different battery conditions. Black indicates the battery is in normal mode, green shows that it is charging, yellow signals that the laptop is in power saver mode, and red stands for critically low battery.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/laptops/windows-11-coloured-coded-battery-indicator-9800468/

8 Google's 'Identity Check' enhances theft protection on Pixel and Samsung smartphones

Google continues to roll out new theft protection features to Android smartphones. In its latest effort, the company has introduced "Identity Check," a new, biometric-based authentication feature designed to protect the privacy and data of smartphone owners in case of theft. Identity Check also ensures that a thief cannot change the PIN code without biometric authentication and will not be able to turn off "Find My Device" or theft protection. Similarly, Google has introduced additional features like theft detection and offline device lock to help users protect personal data in case of theft.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/mobile-tabs/google-identity-check-enhances-theft-protection-9800183/

Epic Games Store brings first batch of third-party games to its Android and iOS Store 9
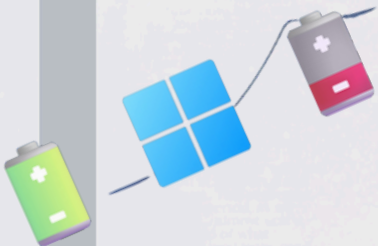
Epic Games Store, a third-party games marketplace, is currently installed on over 29 million smartphones. In a first, Epic Games Store is introducing up to 17 games by third-party developers, highlighting the friction that hampers user experience. Epic emphasizes its favourable terms and conditions for developers, offering an 88/12 revenue split on payments processed via the Store, compared to the industry-standard 70/30 cut. Epic plans to expand its iOS Store to the UK and Japan by the end of this year, with potential launches in Brazil, Australia, South Korea, and the United States once favourable government policies are in place.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/gaming/epic-games-store-brings-first-batch-of-third-party-games-to-its-android-and-ios-store-9799984/

10 Meta to spend up to $65 billion in 2025 to power AI goals, Zuckerberg says

Meta Platforms plans to spend as much as $65 billion this year to expand its AI infrastructure, CEO Mark Zuckerberg said on Friday, aiming to bolster the company's position against rivals OpenAI and Google in the race to dominate the technology.As part of the investment, Meta will ramp up hiring for artificial intelligence roles and build a more than 2-gigawatt data center that would be large enough to cover a significant part of Manhattan. The company — among the top buyers of Nvidia's sought-after AI chips — aims to end the year with over 1.3 million graphics processors and plans to bring about 1 GW of computing power online in 2025.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/meta-ai-goals-ceo-mark-zuckerberg-openai-google-nvidia-9798379/

11 Meta seeks urgent fix to AI chatbot's confusion on name of US president

In one incident this week, Meta appeared to be forcing some users to re-follow the profiles of Trump, Vice President JD Vance and first lady Melania Trump on Facebook and Instagram, even after the users had unfollowed those accounts. That issue cropped up during the company's normal practice of transferring official White House social media accounts to new control when a presidential administration changes, the company said. Another emergency procedure involved an issue in which Meta's Instagram service blocked searches for the hashtags #Democrat and #Democrats for some users, while turning up results without issue for #Republican.

http://surl.li/yytimc

Donald Trump fulfills promise to crypto community, bans CBDC 12

US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order banning the creation and issuance of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in the US. In the run-up to his presidential campaign, Trump had on occasions maintained that banning CBDC would be one of his agendas after assuming office. The latest executive order is against the adoption of CBDC, citing risks related to privacy, sovereignty, and financial stability. The executive order also establishes a presidential working group that has been tasked with developing a federal regulatory framework for digital assets, including stablecoins.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/donald-trump-cbdc-ban-cryptocurrencies-stablecoins-9796358/

13 OpenAI unveils tool to automate web tasks as AI agents take center-stage

Generative artificial intelligence heavyweight OpenAI previewed an AI agent that can carry out tasks on the web for users, as it seeks to enhance its chatbot amid intensifying competition. The tool, called Operator, is powered by a model that allows it to interact with on-screen buttons, menus and text fields. Operator can perform a variety of tasks, like creating to-do lists or assisting with vacation planning. It also takes user input once it decides a task is complete and seeks confirmation for some tasks, such as entering login details on a website.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/artificial-intelligence/openai-unveils-tool-to-automate-web-tasks-as-ai-agents-take-center-stage-9796471/

14 Meta scores partial victory in CCI antitrust case over 2021 WhatsApp's privacy policy

Meta received some relief in an antitrust case in India on Thursday, January 23, after a tribunal body set aside a directive by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to halt the sharing of WhatsApp user data with other platforms owned by the tech giant for advertising purposes till 2029. Ruling in favour of WhatsApp, the tribunal bench held that stopping it from sharing user data with other Meta platforms "may lead to the collapse of business model which has been followed by WhatsApp LLC. "It is also relevant to notice that WhatsApp is providing WhatsApp services to its user free of cost," the NCLAT order read.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/meta-partial-victory-cci-antitrust-case-whatsapp-privacy-9794740/

Microsoft's LinkedIn sued for disclosing customer information to train AI models 15

Microsoft's LinkedIn is facing a class-action lawsuit filed by Premium subscribers who allege that the platform disclosed their private messages to third parties without consent to train generative artificial intelligence (AI) models. The lawsuit, initiated by Alessandro de la Torre in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, claims that LinkedIn violated user privacy and breached its contractual promises. This lawsuit emerges amid increasing scrutiny of how technology companies collect and utilize user data, especially in the context of training AI models. The outcome of this case could have significant implications for data privacy practices and the development of AI technologies across the industry.

https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/microsofts-linkedin-sued-for-disclosing-customer-information-to-train-ai-models-9794384/
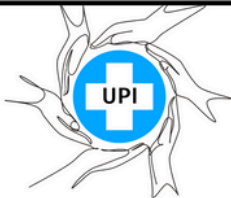
An App to Revolutionize Disease Management

People are using UPI app for small or big payments, and soon an app for healthcare is going to come. Through this app people will be able to consult doctors. IIT Kanpur is working on this app with the help of UP Government. The speciality of this app includes tracking of newly transmitting disease in a particular area. The digitization of common public health records will help in research as well as making necessary policies. According to professor Nishith Srivastava, the robot doctor app will provide healthcare services in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh. The availability of doctors will be shown in the app separately. The app will be available to general public by the middle of the year.

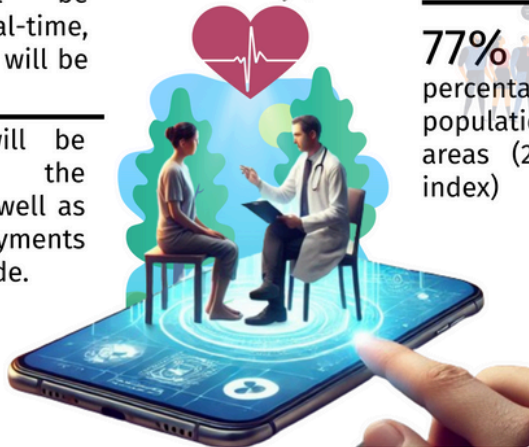IIT Kanpur bringing new technology with the help of UP Government

The availability of doctors, will be updated in real-time, private doctors will be available.

Prescription will be available on the application as well as WhatsApp. Payments can also be made.

25.95 Crores is the expected population rise till 2036

77% or even greater percentage of the population lives in rural areas (2011 population index)

Ease of Use

Uttar Pradesh is far from satisfactory rate when talking about health care services in rural areas. Apart from PHC-CHC, the entire burden is on district hospitals. ICICI Foundation along with UP Government has funded Rs 34 Crore under CSR to reach the common people through app. Unlike any other app, a common person will be able to type their problems as soon they login. After that patient will be connected to the related doctor instantly. The doctor, after checking on the patient can write off medicines and related test through app's interface.
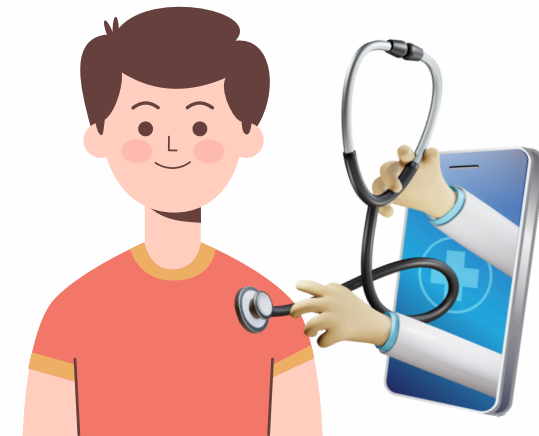
Usefulness of Doctor will increase

Professer Nishith Srivastava said the medicines and tests will also have doctors digital signature. People will also be able to take a print out of it. There will also be a facility to get pathological tests done from private labs. Our aim through this app is to increase the usefulness of doctors for primary and community health centres. The availability of doctors will be updated in real-time. Government doctors will attend to the patients on the app after OPD. Doctors joining the app will inform their time of availability in advance.

Monitoring of Diseases

AI features will be added to the app. This is being tested, but the use of this feature will be limited. The interface will also remove ambiguity for patients who do not have any basic scientific understanding.

"Robot Doctor App will prove to be a revolutionary step in increasing the reach of health services in the rural areas of UP. This will enable better monitoring of public health in the future."

- Ranjan Kumar,
Principal Secretary,
Uttar Pradesh

"By combining AI in telemedicine with the UP Government , we will ensure the availability of health services even in rural areas. This will be beneficial for the common people."

- Prof.Manindra Agarwal,
Director,
IIT Kanpur

TOP 10 EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES TO WATCH IN 2025

As we step into 2025, technological advancements continue to shape the way we live, work, and interact with the world. Here are the top 10 emerging technologies that are set to redefine industries and society in the coming year.

1. Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) Progress
AI is advancing towards human-like reasoning, enhancing automation, research, and decision-making.

2. AI-Powered Robotics
Smarter, autonomous robots will transform industries like manufacturing, healthcare, and service sectors.

3. Quantum Computing Breakthroughs
Quantum processors are advancing, with major implications for medicine, finance, and climate modeling.

4. AI in Scientific Discovery
AI accelerates research in medicine, chemistry, and climate solutions, expediting innovation.

5. Decentralized AI & Blockchain
AI models integrated with blockchain will enhance security, transparency, and decentralized access.

6. AI-Optimized Cybersecurity
AI-driven security systems will proactively detect threats, ensuring safer digital environments.

7. 6G & Wi-Fi 7 Connectivity
Faster, low-latency networks will improve cloud gaming, automation, and global communication

8. Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCIs)
Neural interfaces will revolutionize communication, medical treatments, and cognitive enhancement.

9. Sustainable Electronics
Eco-friendly, biodegradable electronics will reduce e-waste and promote a circular economy.

10. AI in Drug Discovery & Medicine
AI will personalize treatments and accelerate drug discovery, improving healthcare outcomes.