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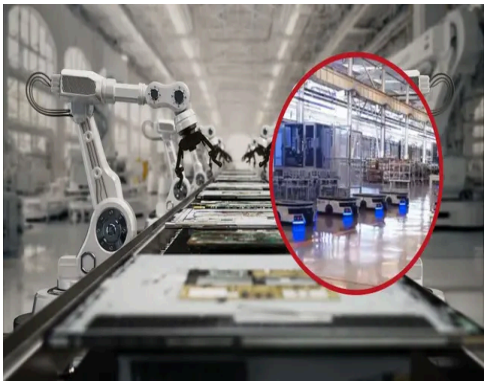
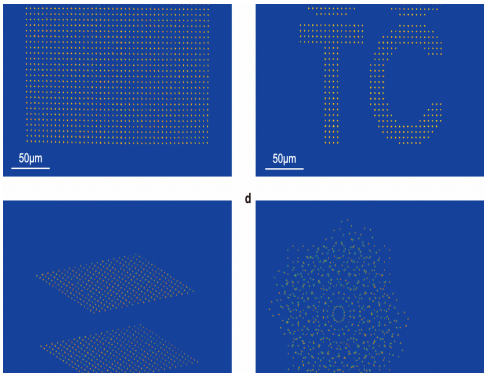
China's 200 robots automate entire excavator production process, logistics network



By Prabhat Ranjan Mishra, August 11, 2025

A Chinese company has delivered an intelligent system to automate the excavator production process. Guozi Robotics' supplied nearly 200 robots of diverse types to TZ Group's greenfield factory. Robots equipped with intelligent navigation and flexible collaboration have automated each step of production to final shipment.

In boost to quantum computing, AI makes atoms dance with lasers



By Vasudevan Mukunth, August 11, 2025

Quantum computing holds the promise to revolutionise science and technology by solving problems currently beyond the limits of classical computers. A critical step to building practical quantum computers is assembling large arrays of qubits — or quantum bits — with no defects.

India to triple satellites its three years: ISRO chairman

By Aloysius Xavier Lopez,August 11, 2025

Indian Space Research Organisation Chairman V.Narayanan said India will increase the number of satellites in orbit three times from the present 56 in three years.Speaking at the 21st convocation of SRM Institute of Science and Technology, he said "By 2040, India will match all developed countries in terms of all capabilities of the space programme.

Russia Builds Shahed-136 Drones Independently, Tensions With Iran Rise

By NDTV ,August 7, 2025

Russia's Alabuga drone factory is now upgrading and producing Shahed-136 drones nearly independently, a move that's said to be causing tensions with Iran.Russia's biggest drone manufacturing complex is almost completely self-sufficient in making Iranian-designed Shahed-136 attack drones. Western intelligence sources indicate this is putting a strain on relations between Moscow and Tehran, CNN reported. The Alabuga factory, in the Tatarstan region some 965 kms east of Moscow, now produces almost all the parts for the drones locally.

News Articles

AI and cloud are building intelligent infrastructure

APPLICATIONS NOW RUN WITH MINIMAL LATENCY

CHARU SRINIVASAN

INDIA IS UNDERGOING a revolution empowered by the convergence of cloud computing and AI. In just a few years, we've seen the cloud evolve into an intelligent platform, with AI now embedded across services. This shift has turned the cloud from a passive tool into a co-creator.

AI is now breaking language barriers and reaching beyond big cities into villages. A farmer in Punjab can talk to a chatbot in Punjabi, and a student in Tamil Nadu can learn from an AI tutor in Tamil—technology is speaking in the voices of India's heartland. Another key enabler is infrastructure. With cloud data centres across the country, application now runs with minimal latency and scale effortlessly. Whether supporting shopping spikes or delivering telehealth to remote areas, this infrastructure ensures high performance while keeping data within our borders.

In healthcare, AI is changing patient care in powerful ways. Apollo Hospitals' 'Clinician Copilot' provides instant, comprehensive patient views, enabling faster diagnoses and potentially saving lives. In education, the story is just as inspiring. Platforms like PhysicsWallah now offer AI tutors that answer thousands of questions instantly in preferred languages, making education more personalised and accessible—especially for students in remote areas.

The financial services sector is also being reshaped by AI, enhancing customer service and decision-making with a strong focus on security and compliance. SBI has used GenAI to reduce query turnaround days by 60%, while Bajaj Finserv Health has shortened claims processing by 40%.

One of the most exciting developments in India's AI journey is the IndiaAI Mission and the rise of IndiaAI Cloud by Yotta, enabling real-time AI across healthcare, finance, retail, and manufacturing. Together, they are building hybrid AI that prioritises trust, safety, and low latency, which is a key step toward giving organisations secure, sovereign access to leading AI infrastructure.

As we look ahead, we're seeing a clear evolution—from command-based AI to agentic AI that takes initiative, learns continuously, and works alongside humans. Imagine an AI salesrep that handles leads, holds conversations, and schedules meetings—freeing people to focus on creativity and strategy.

The intelligent cloud and AI are driving unprecedented human potential. India is tech at the forefront of this revolution—ready not just to adopt it, but to lead it.

The writer is CVP, engineering at Microsoft India Development Centre

Source: The Financial Express Newspaper, 11-08-2025
Page No 10

Link: https://epaper.financialexpress.com/4043651/Mumbai/#page/5

'Strong guardrails key to GenAI success'

INDEGENE, a Bangalore-based healthtech company developing expert AI solutions for life sciences companies, helps pharma companies deliver drugs faster to patients, while bringing down the costs of clinical trials and targeting for them. The company offers a range of services including digital solutions, omnichannel activation strategies, and support for clinical trials, safety, and regulatory operations. In Q1 FY26, Indegene maintained a 4-quarter year rolling and profitable growth, recording ₹760.8 crore in revenue, compared to ₹616.76.5 crore during Q1FY25. Tarun Matthai, CTO at Indegene speaks to Sindhu Chowdhary on how pharma companies can learn to scale GenAI and address the industry's unique challenges. Excerpts

Has GenAI adoption in pharma reached a tipping point?

Pharma has a diverse range of use cases where GenAI-backed transformation of existing processes could yield valuable business as well as patient, caregiver, and regulatory outcomes. And multiple use cases across the pharma lifecycle have progressed beyond early experiments and have either scaled into production or are in the process of doing so.

That said, enterprises continue to evaluate the actual possibility and identify more opportunities. Experimentation remains a part of continuous innovation. Pharma leaders are figuring out how to scale and facilitate the change management that comes with GenAI adoption.

What kind of guardrails are needed for its responsible use?

From a technology perspective, governance is crucial. This not only entails building the standards for enterprise-specific guardrails, but also the standards for which models and technical frameworks to trust, how to deploy them, and how to establish observability around the agents using them.

Globally, healthcare companies are increasing their compliance requirements. Establishing trust with GenAI also requires systems and structures for transparency, data provenance, and fairness in AI model-assisted decision-making on patient data must adhere to data privacy regulations such as HIPAA and GDPR.

WE ARE INVESTING AND BUILDING A STRONG WORKFORCE SKILLED IN GENAI, AND THE NUANCES NEEDED FOR PHARMA

Which emerging trend holds the most long-term potential?

I think there are two trends. First, all information will be designed for natural language conversational GenAI. We will see data and interoperability standards change to adapt to this trend. Look at the open-source NLWeb from Microsoft as an early indicator of this shift. For the pharma industry, this has significant implications in designing systems and processes that mitigate risks, establish trust, and employ robust guardrails.

Second, deep research enabled agents will drive innovation and complex process transformations. Look at the recent product launches from Perplexity and OpenAI before deep research reasoning models coupled with tool-enabled agents can research problems with depth. We have just started exploring the art-of-possible with this capability.

What role is Indegene able to play in the life sciences industry?

Indegene is exclusively focused on the life sciences domain with 25+ years of operational experience working

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Page No 10

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'Global-first' Indian-origin AI startups rake in moolah

Supriya.Roy@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: A clutch of India-origin AI startups secured significant early-stage funding, attracting marquee global investors. With a global-first approach, these homegrown startups demonstrated early monetisation potential and commanded premium valuations, reflecting growing confidence in their scalability and global relevance.

These AI-native startup deals that **TOI** learnt about include GigaML, which offers secure on-premise deployment of large language models for enterprise use cases. At a stage of $1-3 million annual recurring revenue (ARR), it raised $40 million led by US-based Redpoint Ventures at a $350 million post-money valuation. Atomicwork, an AI-native alternative to traditional enterprise service desks, secured $25 million in a round that saw participation from Khosla Ventures at a $120 million valuation.

Funding Spree

Redpoint Ventures and Khosla Ventures have backed prominent tech companies globally. Other transactions **TOI** learnt about include Y Combinator-backed Emergent, which raised $20 million led by Lightspeed India at a $90 million valuation. UnifyApps secured $50 million from WestBridge Capital at a $250 million valuation. Confido Health raised $9.3 million from investors such as Blume and DeVc at a $35 million valuation. Composio raised $25 million in a round led by Lightspeed at a $120 million valuation.

Metaforms, at a scale of $1 million, raised $10 million led by Peak XV Partners at a valuation of $50 million. Meanwhile, Weaver AI, at a pre-revenue stage and founded by serial entrepreneur Kushagra Sinha, raised $10-12 million led by First Round Capital at a $70 million valuation. First Round Capital's global portfolio comprises the likes of Notion, Roblox, Square, and Uber. All these native AI deals are India-origin businesses adopting a global-first go-to-market approach.

Source: The Times of India Newspaper, 11-08-2025
Page No 12

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iiw-p0-eZgIKoX3Hn-RCTNdM6TdwMsUI/view

After NISAR, India to launch 6,500kg US comm sat: Isro chief

Surendra.Singh
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New Delhi: After launching the world's costliest earth observation mission, NISAR, in collaboration with US on July 30, India is set to launch a US communication satellite, Block-2 BlueBird, weighing 6,500kg in a couple of months, Isro chairman V Narayanan said on Sunday.

The Block-2 BlueBird satellite features large communication arrays, up to 2,400sq-ft, and has been designed to achieve data transmission speeds of up to 12Mbps, enabling voice, data and video communication capabilities for end users. The satellite will provide direct-to-smartphone broadband connectivity, eliminating the need for specialised terminals.

The next-generation American satellite is expected to reach India in Sept and will be launched aboard LVM-3-M5, Isro's heaviest rocket, from the Sriharikota spaceport. BlueBird satellite uses AST & Science's patented technologies for connecting to cellphones in a space environment for their SpaceMobile constellation.

An image of earlier BlueBird satellite

The satellite has a communications array measuring 64.38sq-m to establish direct connectivity with cellphones via 3GPP-standard frequencies, in partnership with leading cellular service providers around the world.

After NISAR, the Block-2 BlueBird launch will further boost Indo-US space collaboration.

Narayanan, who was presented with an honorary Doctor of Science degree by Maharashtra governor CP Radhakrishnan during the convocation ceremony at SRM Institute of Science and Technology at Kattankulathur near Chennai, talked about the rapid strides India's made in the field of space technology.

He said Isro was set up in 1963, with a tiny rocket being donated by US that year to mark the beginning of Indian space programme. In 1975, with satellite data given by US, Isro demonstrated 'mass communication' through 2,400 TV sets at 2,400 villages across six Indian states. "From that (humble beginnings), July 30 was a historic day for Indian space programme. We have launched the NISAR satellite, the costliest one ever built in the world. Today, we are work-

Source: The Times of India Newspaper, 11-08-2025
Page No 12

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AI widebody fleet upgrade delayed again, likely to be done by Oct 2028

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Air India's upgrade of its legacy widebody fleet has been delayed again. The airline now hopes to complete the task by Oct 2028, about a year longer than the five-year plan announced earlier. Supply chain constraints since Covid have delayed Tata's $400 million fleet retrofit programme for "delivering a world class flying experience and enhancing operational reliability across its legacy fleet".

The airline said it had finally started the upgrade programme for its legacy widebody fleet with the Boeing 787 Dreamliner. The work is now expected to finish by Oct 2028, "with the timeline having shifted due to supply chain delays".

In its last few cash-starved state-owned years, Air India had no funds for cabin maintenance or upkeep, and poor in-flight experience

SUPPLY CHAIN CONSTRAINTS

on those planes remains among the biggest irritants for passengers on long-haul routes on which these aircraft are deployed.

"Air India has commenced the widebody retrofit programme for its legacy B787-8 aircraft, with the first of 26 aircraft (VT-ANT) having flown to a Boeing facility in Victorville, California, in July. A second aircraft is scheduled to depart for the same facility in Oct, with both expected to return to service in Dec. Retrofit programme for Air India's B787-8s, now on a steady schedule for completion by mid-2027, will introduce brand-new interiors featuring a three-class configuration," the airline said in a statement.

Starting early 2027, the airline will additionally retrofit 13 of its legacy Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, aiming for completion by Oct 2028, with the timeline having shifted due to supply chain delays.

As part of a reliability enhancement programme, Air India said it would upgrade the avionics and other critical components of the 26 legacy B787-8 aircraft. "This is intended to reduce operational disruptions." Additionally, seven of the 26 B787-8s will undergo heavy, scheduled maintenance (D-checks) in Victorville. The airline said the retrofit programme for 27 legacy narrowbody A320neo aircraft commenced last Sept. It is "progressing per schedule".

Source: The Times of India Newspaper, 11-08-2025
Page No 12

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iiw-p0-eZgIKoX3Hn-RCTNdM6TdwMsUI/view

Isro to launch 6,500 kg US satellite: Chairman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Mumbai, August 10

AFTER MARKING A humble beginning in the Indian space programme with a tiny rocket supplied by the US, ISRO would launch a 6,500 kg communication satellite built by the US in the next couple of months, the chairman of the space agency, V Narayanan said on Sunday.

Following the historic launch of NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission onboard a GSLV-F16 rocket on July 30, ISRO would be launching another satellite for the United States, he said at an event near Chennai.

Narayanan, who is also the secretary of Department of Space, was presented with the honorary degree of Doctor of Science, by the Governor of Maharashtra C P Radhakrishnan, during the 21st Convocation of SRM Institute of Science and Technology at Kattankulathur near Chennai.

In his acceptance speech, Narayanan recalled that the ISRO was set up in 1963 and the country was 6-7 years behind advanced countries then. In the same year, a tiny rocket was donated by the United States marking the beginnings of the Indian Space Programme. "It was on November 21, 1963," he said. In 1975, through satellite data given by the US, ISRO demonstrated 'mass communication' by keeping 2,400 television sets across 2,400 villages of 6 Indian states, he said.

"From that (kind of humble beginnings), the 30th of July was a historical day for the Indian space programme. We have launched the NISAR satellite. The costliest satellite ever built in the world. The L Band SAR payload from the USA and S Band payload provided by ISRO. The satellite was placed in orbit precisely by Indian launcher (GSLV). And today, we are shoulder to shoulder with advanced countries," Narayanan remarked.

The Financial Express Newspaper, 11-08-2025
Page No 05

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