

## **ATHARVA ROBOTICS CENTER**

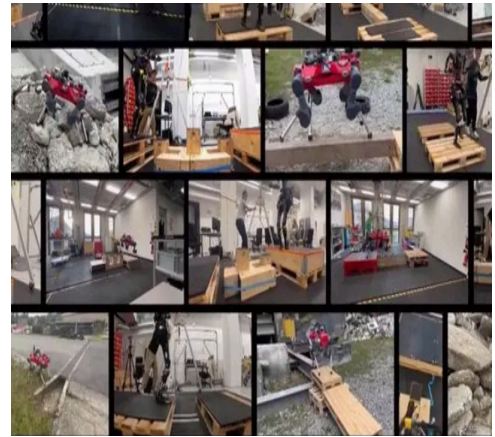
### **Daily News on Innovation & Technology**

28<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

#### **Humanoids and robot dogs navigate unseen terrains using attention mapping**

By Mrigakshi Dixit, August 27, 2025

The ETH Zurich team used the quadrupedal robot ANYmal-D and the humanoid robot Fourier GR-1. Researchers have developed a new control system for legged robots, including quadrupeds and humanoids, allowing them to navigate tricky terrains. The system uses a machine learning technique called attention-based map encoding, trained through reinforcement learning.



#### **SpaceX's Starship aces 10th flight with satellite deployment and splashdown**

By Sujita Sinha, August 27, 2025

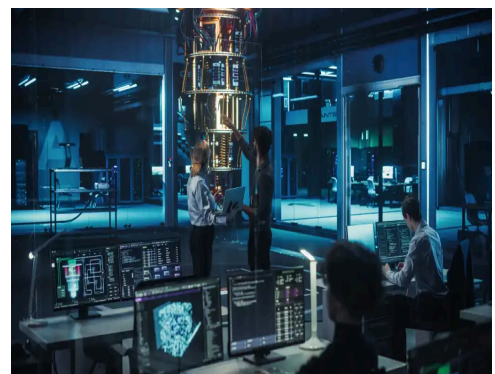
After months of setbacks and aborted missions, SpaceX finally scored a crucial win with its Starship megarocket. The 10th test flight marked the company's most successful trial yet, reaching several milestones that had eluded earlier attempts. The giant rocket lifted off from Starbase in southern Texas at 6:30 p.m. local time, standing tall at 403 feet and drawing loud cheers from engineering teams watching the live webcast.



#### **The dual threat of AI and quantum computing: IT leaders brace for the next data security era**

By Joan Goodchild, August 27, 2025

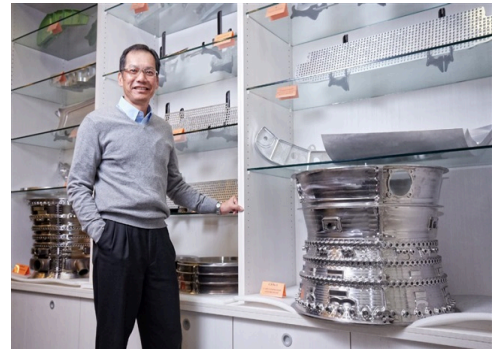
Artificial intelligence (AI) adoption is accelerating, and quantum computing is steadily moving from theory to reality. In fact, the United Nations declared 2025 the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, signaling quantum's shift from experimental research to real-world applications.



## [Semiconductor and defense sectors drive ChenFull Precision's optimistic outlook for 2026 operations](#)

By Chloe Liao, Taipei; Rodney Chan,, August 27, 2025

ChenFull Precision has disclosed that thanks to momentum from the semiconductor and defense industries, revenue in the second half of 2025 is expected to achieve double-digit growth compared to the first half of the year.



## [Pixxel, Dhruva Space launch satellites aboard Musk's SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket](#)

By Aihik Sur, August 27, 2025

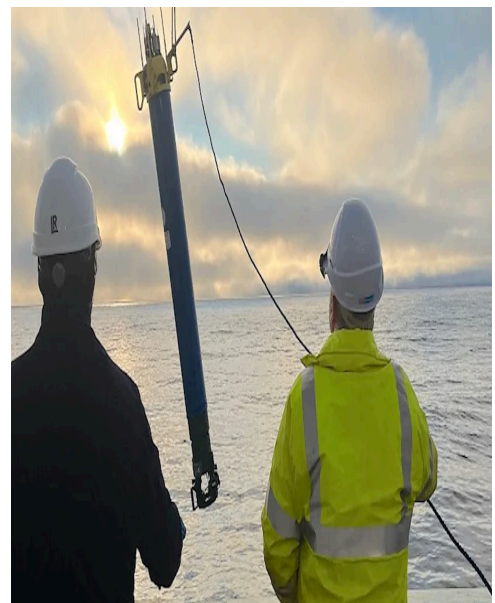
Bengaluru-based Pixxel Space and Hyderabad's Dhruva Space launched satellites aboard as the Elon Musk-led SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket early on August 27. While Pixxel launched three more of its Firefly hyperspectral satellites, Dhruva Space satellites hosted payloads of Akula Tech and Esper Sats, marking the start-ups first commercial mission. Founded by Awais Ahmed and Kshitij Khandelwal, Pixxel manufactures hyperspectral satellites that helps mine insights on the planet.



## [Scientists use robot to observe strange ocean phenomenon: 'Would have been nearly impossible with conventional methods'](#)

By Alyssa Ochs, August 27, 2025

A University of Galway research team studied a rare ocean phenomenon, shedding new light on changing climate conditions in the Arctic. In their study, they used an Air-Sea Interaction Profiler, a unique robotic instrument that specializes in small-scale changes on the ocean's surface. The researchers' fully autonomous Air-Sea Interaction Profiler took precise measurements of the water's temperature, salinity, and turbulence. They spent several weeks on an expedition in the Greenland Sea to conduct their study. The researchers published their findings in the Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans.



## [Xscape Photonics, Tower Semiconductor Launch Multi-Wavelength Laser for AI Datacenter Fabrics](#)

By Ray Sharma, August 27, 2025

Tower Semiconductor, a leading foundry of high-value analog semiconductor solutions, and Xscape Photonics, a U.S.-based innovator in advanced photonic interconnects funded by industry leaders such as NVIDIA and Cisco, announced the successful prototyping and validation kit availability of the industry's first on-chip, optically pumped, multi-wavelength laser source.



## [Japan launches its first homegrown quantum computer](#)

By Keumars Afifi-Sabet, August 27, 2025

Japan's first entirely homegrown quantum computer uses superconducting qubits and components made entirely domestically. Japan has switched on the first quantum computer that has been designed and built with components from the country. The system is now ready to take on workloads from its base at the University of Osaka's Center for Quantum Information and Quantum Biology (QIQB).



## News Articles

# GenAI, MLOps experts top salary growth projections: Teamlease

URVI MALVANIA  
Mumbai, August 27

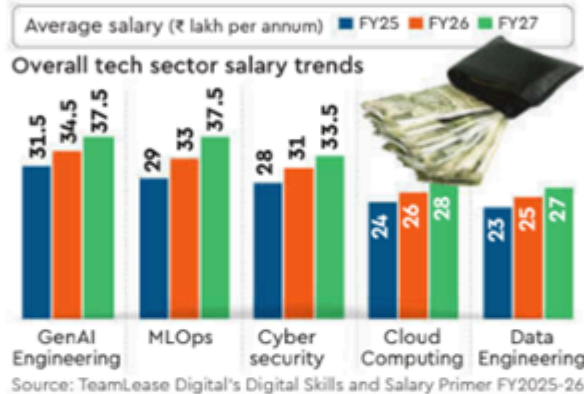
**THE HOTTEST PAYCHEQUES** in India's technology sector are being written for those who can build, secure and scale next-gen systems.

Generative AI engineers now top the charts with senior roles touching ₹60 LPA (lakh per annum), closely followed by MLOps (machine learning operations) specialists at ₹58 LPA, cybersecurity experts at ₹55 LPA, and cloud architects at ₹45 LPA, TeamLease Digital's Digital Skills and Salary Primer FY2025-26 said.

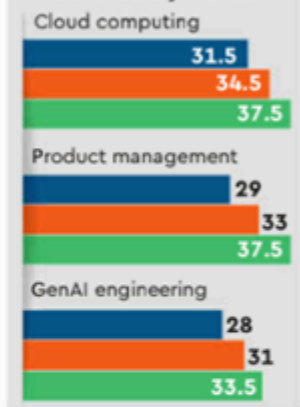
Mid-career professionals are also riding the wave, earning ₹38-40 LPA in GenAI and MLOps and ₹30-35 LPA in cloud and cybersecurity. Even freshers are finding themselves on strong footing: those entering GenAI and MLOps can start at ₹12 LPA, cloud/data/cybersecurity at ₹10-11 LPA, and Full Stack or API at ₹8-10 LPA.

The report draws a clear dividing line between roles. AI, MLOps, cloud and cybersecurity are rising, roles like DevOps, full stack and API engineering are steady, and roles like low-code develop-

### TOPPING THE CHARTS



### IT sector salary trends



ment are already showing signs of decline. In short, the premium is on innovation-linked skills that power transformation, while legacy roles inch towards irrelevance.

Average salaries across technology skills are projected to climb steadily from FY25 to FY27, with the steepest gains concentrated in innovation-led roles. Generative AI is expected to move from ₹31.5 LPA in FY25 to ₹37.5 LPA by FY27. Cybersecurity is expected to grow from ₹28 LPA to ₹33.5 LPA, while data engineering payouts are

expected to climb from ₹23 LPA to ₹27 LPA. Cloud computing advances from ₹24 LPA to ₹28 LPA over the same period.

By contrast, low-code is the only stream to drift lower, and mid-tier developer tracks such as DevOps, Full Stack and API show only modest, low single-digit gains—underscoring that salary momentum is concentrated in innovation-led skills.

The demand surge is not confined to the core tech industry. BFSI, manufacturing and retail are poised to lead hiring volumes, fuelled by deep investments in digital trans-

formation, automation and AI-driven services.

Neeti Sharma, chief executive officer at TeamLease Digital, said India's digital economy is at a pivotal moment pointing out that Global Capability Centres alone now contribute nearly a quarter of new white-collar tech jobs and account for a third of AI hiring nationwide. "The rise of GCCs from 2.16 million professionals today to 3 million by 2030, combined with diversity-first hiring, is accelerating innovation at an unprecedented pace," she said.

Source: The Financial Express, 28-08-2025

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Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13IVSnTAz87lqL8aMjlecGmq477OssUiY/view>

# 'There'll be fewer jobs in advertising with AI'

## Productivity To Rise, India Will Play A Leading Part In Reshaping Ad And Marketing: Sorrell

Rupali Mukherjee  
@timesofindia.com

Slowing global growth, rising tariffs, and geopolitical tensions are forcing businesses to rethink strategy, even as AI promises "faster, better, cheaper" solutions. Sir Martin Sorrell, who built WPP into the world's largest advertising group and now leads the digital-first ad firm, S4 Capital, says in an interview that India will play a leading role in reshaping advertising and marketing. At the same time, Sorrell sees AI as profoundly disruptive, enabling companies to do more with fewer people. His advice to CEOs is to stay agile in the face of rapid change, while urging marketers to harness AI to drive speed and efficiency.

### How do you see the current global business environment?

In a geo-political world, it's becoming harder for companies to operate and for people to work. On top of that, tariffs have made it worse. We're in a very uncertain environment. Once some of the tariff issues get resolved, it won't go back to where it was. Tariffs used to be very low. Now they're 15% or may be more (for certain countries). Combine that with major geopolitical challenges — which I think are fundamental and hard to solve — and growth will inevitably be slower. Global growth will likely stay below 3%, with stubborn inflation and higher interest rates. So, getting growth globally is really difficult. And, companies will have to choose markets much more carefully. So, you have to select the growth, whereas before it was globalisation no fragmentation. We're moving from globalisation to fragmentation, and fragmentation will only intensify.

### What does the changed environment mean for business strategy?

In a world, which is grow-

ing more slowly, you have to be as efficient as possible. So AI, technology, blockchain, becomes more and more significant. CEOs today are focused on two things: How to navigate geographic fragmentation and how to deliver efficiency. So, I think it's a different world. I think the last 40 or 50 years we've been lucky.

### Where does India fit into this new global order?

I remain a raging India

“In a geo-political world, it's becoming harder for companies to operate and for people to work. On top of that, tariffs have made it worse. We're in a very uncertain environment.. Global growth will likely stay below 3%, with stubborn inflation and higher interest rates. So, getting growth globally is really difficult. And, companies will have to choose markets much more carefully

“India is among the world's top 10 ad markets... It's a fast-growing economy in a region that will become even more powerful. And, it has a technological backbone, which will be extremely effective in an AI world, a blockchain and quantum world

—MARTIN SORRELL | EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN S4 CAPITAL



bull. India is in a fantastic position. You've got a great leader (Prime Minister Modi) who understands the importance of branding and positioning India. It's a fast-growing economy in a region that will become even more powerful. And two, it has a technological backbone, which will be extremely effective in an AI world, a blockchain and quantum world. Yes, outsourcing jobs are under pressure — TCS layoffs show that. But India can pivot. AI will replace some roles, but India is well-placed to exploit both fragmentation (as a neutral partner in geopolitics) and efficiency (through its tech and talent).

### What is your view on AI? How disruptive will it be for jobs?

It's a mixed picture, and controversial. For instance, in advertising — in visualisation, copywriting and media buying, AI reduces time, people needed, and costs — so there will be fewer jobs.

### How do you see India's advertising market today?

India is among the world's top 10 ad markets. Ad spend here is about 0.5% of GDP, compared to the global average of around 1% — so it's underweight. Indian companies underinvest in marketing. As competition intensifies inbound and outbound, Indian companies will have to invest more in marketing and branding, especially when going global. That's crucial as Indian entrepreneurs are spreading their wings increasingly.

### What role do you see Indian talent and innovation playing in reshaping the global advertising and marketing landscape?

As the world's most populous country and among the fastest growing economies, inevitably India will play a leading part in reshaping advertising and marketing. It already does with a disproportionate number of CEOs and CMOs of major global corporations.”

Source: The Times of India Newspaper, 28-08-2025  
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# HOW SAURABH CHANDRA is building a global robotics biz

Shilpa.Phadnis@timesofindia.com

After his outsourced product development company Neev Technologies was acquired by Publicis Groupe in 2013, Saurabh Chandra continued at Publicis for three more years. During those years, he was drawn to the idea of autonomous vehicles, but believing that that technology was a little far out, he decided to look at the then fast-growing factory automation business.

"After years in software, I wanted to dive deeper into hardware and how it integrates with software," says Saurabh.



## STARTUPS GO GLOBAL

That's how, in 2017, Ati Motors happened, a venture that builds autonomous mobile robots (AMRs) using a fully in-house platform. While it started domestically with strong adoption in India's manufacturing hubs, Ati now has over 50 customers, and its products are used in 70 factories worldwide. Its international business recently surpassed domestic revenue, and the team has grown to around 200 people, with offices in Bengaluru, Detroit, Mexico, Thailand, Pune, and Chennai.

Saurabh says his first international customer was Forvia, a French automotive supplier, which Ati came across at a trade show in Detroit, US. Today, among Ati's customers are Bosch, Harley Davidson, Siemens and Daimler.

Saurabh says they have designed and developed everything from navigation software and algorithms to the vehicles and sensors. This full-stack approach means its robots are easy to integrate, quick to customise, and ready to scale. The robots continuously solve

**I LIKE THAT:** Saurabh Chandra with Sherpa Mecha. Ati's mobile robots are used in 70 factories worldwide. Customers include Bosch, Harley Davidson, Siemens and Daimler. The international business recently surpassed domestic revenue. The company has offices in India, Detroit, Mexico, and Thailand.

three core questions: "Where am I?" (localisation), "What's around me?" (perception), and "What's my next move?" (navigation and safety).

Ati's initial focus was material movement in factories, using autonomous tugging robots. Unlike many warehouse robots that are confined indoors or rely heavily on markers and segregated spaces, Ati's machines navigate complex factory floors, outdoor terrains, and even rainy conditions. "Our robots work alongside humans as if there's nothing special going on," Saurabh says.

Recently, Ati launched what may be one of the world's most compact

5-tonne tuggers. It has also unveiled what it calls Sherpa Mecha, a humanoid-like robot designed specifically for factory floors – not bipedal but with a stable mobile base for better balance and long battery life of 10-12 hours. This robot can perform tasks such as part handling, visual inspection, and machine tending. It has the ability to adapt, switch tools, and work alongside other robots. Sherpa Mecha can move between workstations, lifting, scanning, and delivering materials. It can handle bins, inspect parts, assist other machines, manage trolleys. Production is slated for 2026.

### GLOSSARY OF IN-GROUP TERMS USED ON THIS PAGE



### FULL STACK ENGINEERING

In engineering, a full stack refers to the complete set of skills, tools, and technologies needed to build and run an entire system end to end. It covers both the front end (what users see and interact with) and the back end (servers, databases, and infrastructure). A full-stack engineer can design interfaces, write application logic, manage data, and deploy solutions.

Source: The Times of India Newspaper, 27-08-2025

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# SpaceX launch proves key milestone for Musk

LOREN GRUSH  
August 27

**SPACEX'S STARSHIP SUCCESSFULLY** put satellites in space for the first time, a major milestone for the Elon Musk-led company after a year marked by explosive test flights and development setbacks.

Tuesday's mission from its Texas launch site brings SpaceX closer to being able to use the vehicle to start lofting its Starlink internet satellites and, eventually, replace the company's workhorse Falcon 9 altogether.

The relatively smooth test flight comes after the first two launches of 2025 blew up within minutes, and a third failed to deploy dummy satellites and spun out of control.



A SpaceX Super Heavy booster carrying the Starship spacecraft lifts off at the launch pad in Texas on Wednesday REUTERS

Another Starship spacecraft exploded on a test stand in June during fueling.

The success affirms Musk's fly-fail-fix approach to rocketry that has seen SpaceX become

the world's dominant space transportation company—and among its most valuable.

But there's still a long road ahead before Starship will be ready to carry people to distant

places like the moon and Mars, the ultimate destination envisioned by the founder and now world's richest person.

Notably, the company needs to figure out how to refuel its Starship vehicles while they're in space, something SpaceX aims to attempt for the first time next year.

SpaceX also needs to demonstrate that Starship can come back to Earth fully intact in order to fulfill the company's promise that the vehicle will be fully reusable.

During Tuesday's flight, chunks of Starship could be seen breaking away as the spacecraft plunged through Earth's atmosphere. It appeared to explode after splashing down in the Indian Ocean.

—BLOOMBERG

Source: The Financial Express, 28-08-2025

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## Pact signed to integrate biotech, AI

**AKSHEEV THAKUR**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) have signed an MoU to integrate biotechnology and artificial intelligence.

Talking to *The Tribune*, DBT Secretary Dr Rajesh Gokhale said, "The convergence of biotechnology and artificial intelligence is really going to be transformative. MeitY is setting up infrastructure for AI work across the country. Under this collaboration, we will provide

MeitY with closed-loop projects. Any idea generated through AI-driven analysis can be tested in our labs in partnership with them."

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said more MoUs would soon be signed. "The age of interdisciplinarity has set in. We cannot be working in silos. AI, communication and quantum are with MeitY, and all of these will be handy," he said.

Singh also highlighted a memorandum of understanding signed between DBT and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for cooperation in

space biotechnology and bio-manufacturing, along with a joint working group to identify priority projects.

Marking a year of the BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy, Singh launched the "BioE3 Challenge for Youth" and the country's first National Biofoundry Network, calling it a step towards making biotechnology a driver of India's economy, environment and employment.

A biofoundry is a cutting-edge facility that integrates automation, synthetic biology, AI and high-throughput experimentation.

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Source: The Tribune Delhi Newspaper, 28-08-2025

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# **ATHARVA**

## **ROBOTICS CENTER**