

Department of Data Science
Weekly Data Science Bytes

Soon, Fly to Taj Mahal from Delhi in 15 Minutes on a Water Plane: Nitin Gadkari Announces At Republic Plenary Summit



- Nitin Gadkari at Republic Plenary Summit 2025 LIVE: Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has announced that India will soon introduce water airplanes, significantly reducing travel time for passengers. Speaking at the Republic Media Plenary Summit 2025, he outlined several major infrastructure projects aimed at improving transportation efficiency and boosting economic growth.
- Gadkari shared his long-standing vision for water airplanes and revealed discussions with SpiceJet Chairman Ajay Singh. "I had a dream that water airplanes should start in India. Yesterday, I spoke to Ajay Singh of SpiceJet—he is planning to buy 100 water planes. Soon, these planes will land on water in our country," he said.

**Samsung's Project Moohan headset could surpass the Apple
Vision Pro on one front**



Samsung gave us yet another look at its much-awaited [Project Moohan](#) XR headset at [MWC](#) earlier this week but did not share any new information about the device. So far, the company has only confirmed that the headset will pack Qualcomm's most powerful VR chip, the Snapdragon XR2 Plus Gen 2. However, a new report has revealed some juicy details about the headset's displays.

- While the report doesn't reveal the launch timeline for the headset, it states that the parts suppliers that Samsung has contracted for its XR headset will begin mass production next month. This suggests that the headset might not be ready in time for Samsung's next major Unpacked event, where it's expected to unveil its next-gen foldables

LinkedIn introduces AI-powered job match feature to simplify hiring and job seeking



- LinkedIn has launched a cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) feature aimed at making job hunting and recruitment more effective. The new tool, called Job Match, is designed to help job seekers understand how their skills and experience align with open roles while enabling recruiters to connect with the right candidates more efficiently.
- “With one click, job seekers can gain detailed insights into which qualifications they meet and which they might lack, enabling them to focus on opportunities where they have a higher chance of success,” LinkedIn stated. The feature will roll out globally in English in the coming weeks, with additional languages to follow.

**Jyotiraditya Scindia tries Ray-Ban Meta AI glasses at MWC
2025, calls it a 'glimpse into the future'**



- Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya Scindia got a hands-on experience with Ray-Ban's AI-enabled smart glasses at the Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 in Barcelona, Spain. The minister tested the glasses' artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities, interacting with the smart tech and sharing his thoughts on the experience.
- Scindia took to Instagram to post a video of his interaction with the glasses, captioning it: "Had an insightful time trying out the AI-enabled Ray-Ban Meta glasses at the Mobile World Congress 2025."

When debris from space crashes to the earth, who is responsible?



- Imagine going about your day when a heavy metal object suddenly crashes in front of your house. You and your neighbours are shocked. You rush out to check what has happened and struggle to make sense of the sight: a misshapen piece of hot metal, blackened by fire and soot, with a cloud of dust swirling around it.
- This isn't a scene from a sci-fi film. On December 30, 2024, a metal object weighing 500 kg fell in Makueni county in Kenya. Experts from the Kenya Space Agency characterised it as a separation ring from a space-bound rocket. While Jonathan McDowell, an astronomer known for cataloguing space launches and objects in orbit, and some others have expressed scepticism that the object was a part of a rocket, similar incidents in the US and Australia before have served [repeated reminders](#) of the urgent problem of space debris.

'2025 likely to be a better year for Indian IT industry after two years of slowdown'

H1B visa concerns may ease under Trump administration; Trump's tax cuts and industry lobby may boost tech spending in 2025: Pareekh Consulting

DEBASH MOHAJATRA

HOW do you see 2024 for the Indian IT services industry? Give some perspective in this matter.

For both global & Indian IT industries, there was a slowdown across many geographies and verticals. Discretionary spend was down owing to the war (Russia-Ukraine) and uncertainty around the US presidential elections. Sector specific issues pulled down demand in BFSI (banking, financial services & insurance), telecom and manufacturing (towards the later part of the year). Overall, 2024 is not a good year for Indian IT industry though there is some ray of hope coming towards the end of the year that the discretionary spend will come back. Recent results of Accenture and growth recovery in BFSI vertical indicate towards its likelihood. In 2024, another important development is that GenAI is now taken as the next wave. It is here to stay. That is a definite positive for Indian IT industry.

In 2025, top level leadership change may not be that high as those new leaders require at least 2-3 years to execute their plans. Other way round, engineering services industry may see some leadership churn this year as things are expected to be tough in 2025

Can 2024 be interpreted as a good year for Indian engineering services players?

This year is overall a good year for engineering services companies though the latter part of the year, growth slowdown is seen. It is opposite to what has happened to Indian IT services players. IT services and engineering services segments are performing in different ways in the last two-three years. While IT services have not performed well in the last two years, engineering services segment has done well. However, trends shifted towards the latter part of 2024 as growth slowdown was seen in the automotive sector. Automotive sector has been one of the growth drivers for Indian engineering services companies. Engineering services have been witnessing growth in their revenues in high single digit to double digit. Automotive and aerospace have been the prime drivers of this growth. These two sectors have seen slowdown in the last two quarters. So, going may be tough for engineering services in 2025, while prospects for IT services look better.

What will be possible impact of Trump administration taking over from January 2025 on IT services industry as a whole and Indian IT industry in particular?

Though there are many unknowns with regard to the next US administration, overall things look positive. Concerns with regard to H1B visa may not materialise as there is a strong industry lobby like Elon Musk and other tech leaders are behind. Trump administration. As far as raising tariff is concerned, it is likely to happen

2024 has been a mixed bag for the Indian IT industry. What started as a tepid growth period in the beginning, slowly led to some growth revival towards the latter part of the year. Rising demand in the BFSI industry coupled with gradual rise in technology spending among US enterprises raised hopes of a full-fledged recovery in 2025. Especially, 2025 could see revival in discretionary spend on which Indian IT industry

is betting big.

In an interaction with **Blizz Buzz**, Pareekh Jain, Founder of Pareekh Consulting & EIR Trend said overall 2025 is likely to be a better year for the Indian IT industry after two years of slowdown. On the Trump administration, Jain said that H1B visa may not be major concern under the new administration. He also said that the appointment of senior technology leaders at White House is a good



Pareekh Jain, Founder, Pareekh Consulting

news for the AI industry as it may lead to more democratisation of AI-led innovation

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nics will be cautious with GenAI making inroads.

This is good news for fresher. There is also a lot of debate with regard to fresher salary (which has remained stagnant for a decade now). So, there is a likelihood that fresher salary will see some uptick.

under the new administration. But Trump's promise of cutting tax rates will definitely give boost to technology spending. Also, a favourable interest rate cycle will play its role. So, no major downfall is anticipated under Trump administration. Another major issue, that is being deliberated, is related to cutting Federal government's expenses. But the US government is a major spender of IT. But it may not impact Indian service providers as they don't have much exposure to Federal contracts. It may impact global players. It has to be seen what kind of trickle-down impact is played out on the Indian IT services players. That is one area, which needs to be watched out.



The President-elect of US, Donald Trump has appointed David Sacks as the White House AI and Crypto Coar with roping in Indian-origin, Sriram Krishnan as senior adviser. What kind of policy regulations are expected from the new US administration? Is it good or bad news for the global technology industry?

It is definitely positive for overall technology industry. The fact that they are roping in senior leaders from the tech industry means they are serious about it. Only thing the new administration seems to have in mind is that they don't want AI-related innovations to be controlled by a few (corporations). Overall, initial signs are that they want to regulate it so that AI will be more democratised.

After one and half year of talk, we have seen a bit of uptick in IT hiring. Indian IT firms have gone to campuses this year around and the numbers of new recruits of Accenture are encouraging. Will 2025 be a better year

as far as hiring is concerned in the IT sector? Will it reach the level of hiring during post pandemic days?

It is likely to be a better year in terms of hiring. We have already seen hiring has gone up as service providers are adding in their overall headcount. Accenture result is definitely showing the trend. However, this time is different from post pandemic years in terms of advent of generative AI (GenAI). So, there is a fear that service providers will require a smaller number of people than they used to. However, recent hiring trend shows that there is no job loss on net basis. So, in 2025, the total headcount is expected to increase. However, compa-

This year, Indian IT services industry saw many leaders exiting and joining. Even, this was the trend in many global firms. Can we expect stability with regard to leadership in 2025? What are your views on this matter?

Generally, leadership churn happens when things are tough. In the last two years, IT industry was going through a slowdown. Therefore, we saw many senior levels hiring and exits. But in 2025, top level leadership change may not be that high as those new leaders require at least 2-3 years to execute their plans. Other way round, engineering services industry may see some leadership churn this year as things are expected to be tough in 2025.