

'Rapid tech strides not a concern but an opportunity'

IN REPLY

Research findings by Dell Technologies and the Institute for the Future on the next era of human-machine partnership signalled exciting times over the next decade, with opportunities to shape the future in myriad ways and in a meaningful manner. Speaking to *BusinessLine*, Alok Ohrie, President and Managing Director, Dell Technologies, India, said:



Enabling the workforce will be crucial to ensuring they cope with this pace of transformation
ALOK OHRIE
President and MD, Dell Technologies, India

"Strengthening human-machine partnerships will bolster opportunities for economic empowerment as well as decent work for all." Excerpts from the interaction.

We are depending on technology for everything. Will this over-dependence be a concern for the industry? Technology and advancement is an opportunity rather than a concern. This is because, with digitalisation gaining momentum across industries, businesses have

started adopting technology to structure future-ready. Emerging technologies like the Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain are not merely creating new possibilities but enabling new ways of working together. The key to successfully utilising this opportunity is to follow a more collaborative approach, where humans and machines work in tandem with each other.

How do you foresee the workforce coping with the transformation? Advanced capabilities of today's technologies are

driving enterprises, start-ups and institutions to create a future where their impact on society will be nothing short of transformation.

Studies show that 91 per cent of Indian business leaders believe that digital transformation should be more widespread, compared to 78 per cent globally.

This advocates the proposition that the impact of technology will extend over the next decade. Enabling the workforce will be crucial to ensuring they cope with this pace of transformation. Emerging technologies are set to revolutionise work and create new ways of preparing and connecting people to more rewarding careers. Organisations will need to retain and upskill existing workforce so as to enable them stay relevant in a changing work environment.

How do you think the skill gap could be bridged while preparing for the future of work?

Today, organisations are realising the need to invest in emerging technologies and create new ways to prepare people for their careers. With new evaluation practices, organisations will need to re-skill experienced workers while simultaneously empowering a new generation of workers. Over 60 per cent of business leaders are already developing their in-house digital skills and talent, and 57 per cent predict that the next generation of workers will disrupt their workforce with their ingrained digital skills and mindset.

Where do we stand in terms of technology and workforce landscape? India presents a promising opportunity as it is rapidly progressing towards becoming a digital economy. In order to create a work

environment where machines are viewed as colleagues, human strengths will need to be programmed and integrated into machine intelligence.

Can you share details about the forecast on hiring process in 2019 as compared to the present?

The hiring process has witnessed an evolution over the years. In the next decade, we will see machine-learning systems collaborate with humans to support the challenging work of hiring and retaining talent. Here, AI will play a prominent role in the hiring process and will be used to evaluate an individual's ability and assess his/her potential. The next generation workers must also have the capability to understand how their profiles are being interpreted by the machine-learning tools that employers will use to make informed hiring decisions.

Draft e-comm norms unveiled

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 5

To protect consumers' interest, the Centre has proposed guidelines for e-commerce firms that entail a 14-day deadline to effect request, mandate e-tailers to display details of sellers supplying goods and services on their websites and lays down procedure to resolve consumer complaints.

The Consumer Affairs Ministry has sought stakeholders' views on the draft guidelines by September 16.

Meanwhile, the government is planning to come out with a national e-commerce policy to facilitate holistic growth of the sector.

Among key guidelines, the e-commerce companies will also be required to ensure that personally identifiable information of customers are protected.

"Such data collection and storage and use comply with provisions of the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008," the ministry said.

That apart, e-commerce

firms should be a registered legal entity under Indian laws and should submit a self-declaration to the ministry stating that it is conforming with guidelines.

The proposed rules outlined that a promoter or key management personnel should not have been convicted of any criminal offence punishable with five years imprisonment.

The companies should also comply with the provisions of IT Rules, 2008.

"We are also required to display on their websites details about sellers supplying goods and services."

The industry said it is still studying the broad contours of the guidelines.

"We are evaluating the draft guidelines and look forward to participating in the deliberations to help finalise an operating framework," a Snapdeal spokesperson said in a statement.

Flipkart and Amazon India spokesperson said the company is still examining the draft guidelines.

To take on Amazon, Flipkart will offer free video streaming

BLOOMBERG

August 5

Walmart Inc's Flipkart plans to start a free Indian video streaming service in coming months, escalating a fight with Amazon.com Inc by borrowing its arch-enemy's tactics.

India's biggest online retailer plans to roll out video streaming for members of its Flipkart Plus loyalty programme by September, ahead of the peak Diwali shopping season, people familiar with its plans said. The service is currently in beta mode, the people said, asking not to be identified

discussing internal strategy. Flipkart Online Services is getting into a red-hot market by playing catch-up by taking a page from Amazon's playbook.

The retailer's Prime Video service had for years proven instrumental in retaining shoppers and attracting new ones. A streaming offering could help level the playing field with Amazon, which for years has dished award-winning shows such as *The Marvelous Mrs Maisel* for global audiences. Flipkart won't initially produce originals — a route that's proven costly for online plat-

forms including Netflix Inc. — and instead license content from the likes of Walt Disney Co and local studios such as Balaji Telefilms, the sources said.

In-house content could come later, they added. The news was reported earlier on Monday by Money Control. In a departure from Amazon Prime, Flipkart Plus video streaming will come free just like its no-subscription fee loyalty programme. Flipkart shoppers can become members by amassing 300 super coins, at a rate of 2 for every ₹100 spent on its platform.

Airtel Q1 operating profit grew on rising ARPU, cost savings: Fitch

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, August 5

Reliance's aggressive posturing has begun to show the divergent impact on entrenched telcos, with Vodafone Idea getting impacted sharply and Bharti Airtel holding on, a report said on Monday.

The deep-pocketed telco's entry has so far hit all the telcos, forcing mergers and also bankruptcy filings. For Vodafone Idea, it was the market share loss to which providers to be its numbers for the June quarter, Airtel could hold on, global rating agency Fitch said in a note.

It said Airtel's operating profit grew 7 per cent during the June quarter compared to the three months ending March on an ARPU growth and shift of more consumers to the 4G network. Vodafone Idea's revenue slipped 4 per cent and its operating profit was down 22 per cent during the same period, Fitch said.

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NOTICE
Pursuant to Regulation 29(1) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 in Bangalore, India, to consider and approve the Unaudited Financial Results (Standalone and Consolidated) of the Company for the quarter ended June 30, 2019.

The above information is available on the Company's website: www.3m.co.in and also on the website of the stock exchanges to BSE Limited, www.bseindia.com and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited - www.nseindia.com.

By Order of the Board
V. Srinivasan
Company Secretary

Place: Bangalore
Date: 05.08.2019

Globus Infocom to set up digital classrooms in Tier-II/III towns; eyes ₹150-cr turnover in FY20

SHOBHA ROY

New Delhi, August 5

Digital classroom solutions provider Globus Infocom plans to tap the opportunity presented by rising demand for education and technology solutions from schools and colleges in Tier-II and Tier-III towns.

According to Kiran Dham, CEO, Globus Infocom, rural and semi-urban markets would be the focus areas for the company in the next few years.

The company has provided digital boards, display signage and labs, among others, to over 200 schools. A major-



Kiran Dham, CEO, Globus Infocom

ity of these are from the Tier I. "We are working in rural and semi-urban areas now and that will be our plan for a few years. We want to strengthen that market further," Dham

told *BusinessLine*. The company recently did a project with the Haryana government wherein it set up English digital labs in 36 schools, all of which were in remote areas. "According to feedback from the school principals, the attendance rate of students has increased after the labs were set up," she said.

Globus has also tied up with the governments of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Goa for providing its high-end ed-tech solutions to schools.

The company is also considering rolling out Hindi and Sanskrit labs by September

and a 3D Science Lab later. The company will provide both the hardware and software for these labs, she said. The expansion to Tier II and III towns and additional business or repeat orders from existing customers in urban markets will help boost the company's sales.

Globus, which has been registering a CAGR of over 27 per cent for the past four-five years, clocked revenues of ₹100 crore in 2018-19.

The company hopes to growing its turnover to ₹150 crore by March 2020 with the expansion into newer markets.

MTV to launch a web series in a TV+ strategy to gain subscribers

+ VARUN AGGARWAL

Mumbai, August 5

Youth entertainment channel MTV is working on creating web series to supplement its TV content as it looks at a TV+ strategy to capture its target audience on every platform.

The move to go beyond television came about as MTV saw a dip in subscriber numbers post TRAI's tariff order. While MTV said the move did not impact its advertising revenues, a drop in subscriber numbers remains a hard reality.

A part of the Viacom 18 group, MTV will soon have its own set of web series on Viacom's OTT platform Voot. Currently MTV's entire content is already available on Voot in a catch-up TV format. "The non-linear format allows us to create a lot more content for the viewers of a show," Feroz Dada, Head-Youth, Music and English Entertainment, Viacom18, told *BusinessLine*.

"Besides what we have on

television, there's behind-the-scenes content that we are able to do. We are also working on creating original series on Voot, which would be exclusively online. Currently, we are getting to know the audience better in the digital space. But you could see something within three-six months," said Palia.

Voot has helped MTV reach out to a larger set of audience, which so far couldn't spend much time on Voot because of a single TV household.

Personalised consumption
"We are not losing out to anyone but gaining on every front. While TV is growing, so is our digital platform Voot. As a brand, we've given the youth a place to consume content. OTTs have increased our reach to much smaller markets than we thought of. Personalised consumption is on the rise," Palia said.

Similar to the likes of TVF,

MTV has also been working on creating branded content with several advertisers such as Airtel, linking up with jockeys that's helping the brand increase its revenue at a time when advertising revenues are linked to subscriber and viewership numbers, which have been on the decline for most channels.

"Channels like us are bought very differently," Palia said. "For us it's always been about youth-centric brands. We do a lot of customisation around branded content. Seeing good growth there along with sponsorship — there's a lot of integration we do with brands. Branded content is growing faster than regular advertising albeit on a smaller scale."

MTV expects the watch time to cross 5 billion minutes in the second half of the year with the help of increased online content presence.

Indian customers against brands tracking buying patterns: Survey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 5

As much as 77 per cent of Indian consumers believe that organisations collect too much data about them and 74 per cent are against the use of technology tools to assess their buying patterns, a recent survey has revealed.

The survey, conducted by Verint Systems across 18 countries and 34,000 consumers, highlighted how an 'always on' era has led to explosion of unstructured data from digital channels of customer engagement. In India, more than 2,000 consumers who have access to a digital platform took part in the research to reveal their assessment on such issues as how customers perceive data privacy, their readiness to accept data breach, and a use of technology to analyse buying patterns, a Verint statement said.

As per the findings, nearly 77 per cent of Indian respondents agreed that organisations collect too much data about them and 74 per cent said it is 'creepy' to use technology to analyse their buying patterns and preferences, the statement noted.

"In India 73 per cent of the respondents voted in favour of actively avoiding brands that use technology to analyse and track their buying engagement patterns," it added.

About 75 per cent of the Indian customers who were surveyed agreed that service providers cannot do much to prevent data breach, but majority did not wish to engage with a brand that has experienced a data hack.

VENKY'S (INDIA) LIMITED				
(CIN: L10222PN197PLC017422)				
Registered and Corporate Office: "Venkateshwara House", S. No. 114/A/2, Pune - Sinhagad Road, Pune 411 030. www.venkys.com				
EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE, 2019				
₹ (in lacs)				
Sr. No.	Particulars	30/06/2019 (Audited)	30/06/2018 (Audited)	31/03/2019 (Audited)
1.	Total income from operations (net)	90,530	75,555	304,314
2.	Net Profit for the period (before tax and Exceptional items)	8,523	10,874	27,652
3.	Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	9,523	10,874	27,652
4.	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	6,184	7,105	17,414
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	6,177	7,163	17,392
6.	Net Profit for the period after tax and Equity Share Capital	1,409	1,409	1,409
7.	Other equity	-	-	86,740
8.	Earnings Per Share (of ₹10/- each) ("not annualised") (for continuing and discontinued operations):			
a) Basic: ₹		43.90	50.44	123.62
b) Diluted: ₹		43.90	50.44	123.62

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites and also on Company's website www.venkys.com

For Venky's (India) Limited

B. Balaji Rao
Managing Director
CIN: D0013551

Place: Pune
Date: August 5, 2019



PRICOL LIMITED

(CIN: L24027TN197PLC02194)

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NOTICE OF AGM AND E-VOTING

Notice is hereby given that the 8th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Members of the Company will be held on Thursday, the 28th August 2019 at 4.30 p.m. at "Ardra", No. 5, North, Huzur Road, (Near Anna Statue) Coimbatore - 641018, to transact the Business contained in the Notice of the 8th AGM.

The Company has completed the dispatch of Notice of the 8th AGM and Annual Report for the financial year 2018 - 19 by email / registered parcel on 2nd August 2019 and by courier on 3rd August 2019 to the members of the Company. The Annual Report and Notice of 8th AGM is available on the company's website www.pricol.com. In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with the Companies (Management and Administration) Amendment Rules, 2015, and Regulation 44 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Company is providing remote e-voting facility to the members of the Company, to enable them to cast their votes electronically on all business items forming part of the Notice of the 8th AGM. The Company has engaged National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) as the Authorised Agency to provide the e-voting facility. The Company wishes to notify as under:

- Members of the Company holding shares either in physical or dematerialized form on the cut-off date, 23rd August, 2019 only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or voting through ballot paper at the AGM.
- Remote e-voting period commences on Sunday, 25th August, 2019 at 9.00 a.m. and ends on Wednesday, 28th August, 2019 at 5.00 p.m. The e-voting facility shall be disabled by NSDL for voting thereafter.
- Remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time.
- Detailed instructions for remote e-voting, is provided in the section "Notes" in the Notice of the 8th AGM, which is displayed on the website of the Company at www.pricol.com and of the agency NSDL at www.evoting.nsdl.com.
- The facility for voting, through ballot paper shall be made available at the AGM and members attending the meeting who have not already cast their vote by remote e-voting, shall be able to exercise their voting rights at the AGM. The members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM, may also attend the meeting, but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.
- The Board of Directors of the company has appointed Mr. P. Eswaramoorthy of M/s. P. Eswaramoorthy and Company, Company Secretaries, Coimbatore, as scrutineer to Scrutinize the remote e-voting and physical voting at the AGM in a fair and transparent manner.
- Any person, who acquires shares of the Company and becomes a Member of the Company after the dispatch of the Notice and holding shares as on the cut-off date i.e. 23rd August, 2019, may obtain the login ID and password / grievances, you may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for Share holders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the Downloads section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or may contact Mr. T.G. Thamizhamban, Company Secretary, Pricol Limited, 109, Race Course, Coimbatore - 641 018. Phone: +91 422 4336223. Email: cs@pricol.co.in.

Place: Coimbatore
Date: 5th August 2019

For Pricol Limited
T.G. Thamizhamban
Company Secretary