**Volkswagen group to invest 1 bn euro in India by 2021**

German auto major Volkswagen Group announced investment of 1 billion euro between 2019 and 2021 as part of its latest strategy to enhance presence in India which will be led by group firm Skoda Auto. As part of 'India 2.0' project, Skoda Auto is setting up an engineering design and development centre besides enhancing capacities at the group's two plants in India. The group has set a target of capturing 5% of the Indian passenger vehicles market by 2025. "In India we are doing it collaboratively, this market is expected to be one of the biggest markets in the world.," Skoda Auto CEO Bernhard Maier said.

**Volvo Cars to manufacture electric vehicles in India**

Swedish luxury car major Volvo said on Wednesday that it will manufacture electric vehicles in India, while making a pitch for government benefits and incentives towards the cleaner cars. Charles Frump, MD for Volvo Cars India, said the company — owned by China’s Geely — wants to take a lead in the introduction of green technologies in India, especially with the government’s focus on electrics and other cleaner solutions. We are committed to the ‘Make in India’ programme, and of course we will look at increased assembly (of cars) in India, he said.

**Opportunities in India are unlimited says Canadian billionaire Prem Watsa**

Canadian billionaire Prem Watsa is open to the possibility of investing in India’s public-sector banks provided he is given control and appropriate policies are formulated to clean them up and bring in sound management. Watsa, who was on a nearly week-long trip to India last week, also said that he plans to substantially increase investments in financial services and infrastructure in the country and will look to expand the business of Catholic Syrian Bank once the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) okays Fairfax’s purchase of a majority stake.

**We commission more from India than anywhere else: Netflix’s Ted Sarandos**

“India is our biggest market for content. We commission more from here than anywhere else. We have been in India for two years and have commissioned much more (seven scripted and two unscripted shows). We are looking to work with great storytellers from the region. The more authentically local the storytelling is, the more likely we are to tap it”, said Netflix’s Chief Content Officer Ted Sarandos.
A strategic investment platform co-owned by Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) acquires a land parcel in Pune, India.

Island Star Mall Developers (ISMDPL), a strategic investment platform co-owned by The Phoenix Mills and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) has acquired a land parcel in Pune’s Wakad locality. The land parcel is adjoining two plots the company had acquired last year. The company had acquired a land parcel here in August 2017 and October 2017 to develop a retail mall.

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PE investments hit record US$ 8.2 bn in Q2 2018, up 60% from a year ago

Private equity (PE) firms have invested a record $8.2 billion in 158 deals during the quarter ended June 2018, a 60 per cent rise from $5.1 billion in 153 transactions a year ago. According to data from Venture Intelligence, the investment amount in the second quarter of 2018 was 112 per cent higher than the previous quarter’s $3.9 billion in 157 transactions. These figures include venture capital investments but exclude PE investments in Real Estate.

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‘Deep Tech’ start-ups making inroads into India

Early-stage investment companies feel the next bunch of Unicorns in India will come from the “Deep Tech” space. Deep Tech, which is an industry terminology for using technologies such as AI, Machine Learning and analytics to unearth newer business models, is increasingly finding flavour amongst Silicon Valley gurus and is now worming its way in India.

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Google exports India public Wi-Fi model

Technology giant Google has taken its public Wi-fi model from India to other countries such as Indonesia and Mexico, a senior company official said. Google India Director, Partnership, Next Billion Users, K. Suri said that after providing public Wi-Fi at 100 stations initially, the company now sees it as a product — the Google Station. Google had collaborated with Railtel in 2015 to deploy free public Wi-Fi at 400 railway stations in India.

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Indian seafood export rises 22% to nearly US$ 7.1 billion in 2017-18

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