



BFSI

Fortnightly Newsletter

22nd March to 8th April 2019

BFSI Newsletter

Investment and Exit

YourNest Venture Capital leads \$2 million series A funding round in Lavelle Networks2nd April 2019. *Economics Times*

YourNest Venture Capital has led a \$2 million Series A round of funding in SDN networking platform Lavelle Networks, the early-stage investment firm announced on Tuesday...[more](#)

IIFL fund leads \$130 million investment in Northern Arc Capital26th March 2019. *Live Mint*

Northern Arc Capital (formerly IFMR Capital), a debt capital platform for financial institutions serving excluded individuals and businesses, on Tuesday said it had raised ₹ 910 crore (\$130 million) from IIFL Special Opportunities Fund and Standard Chartered Private Equity (SCPE), the company said in a statement...[more](#)

Fund Raise

AgriTech startup Intello Labs raises \$2mn seed round from Nexus Venture Partners and Omnivore3rd April 2019. *Economics Times*

AgriTech startup Intello Labs announced that it has raised a seed round of \$2 million from Nexus Venture Partners and Omnivore. Intello Labs uses artificial intelligence tools including computer vision and deep learning, to build a platform for grading and quality monitoring of agricultural commodities...[more](#)

After roping in Rajan Anandan, Sequoia eyes a \$200-million Surge3rd April 2019. *Economics Times*

Sequoia Capital India, which roped in Google India's Rajan Anandan to lead its Surge programme, is expected to raise a separate fund of \$150-200 million, people aware of the plan said...[more](#)

SurveySparrow raises \$1.4 million in seed funding from Prime Venture Partners2nd April 2019. *Economics Times*

SurveySparrow, a cloud-based customer experience platform that allows users to create and share mobile-first, conversational surveys that are user friendly, has raised \$1.4 million in seed funding from Prime Venture Partners...[more](#)

Paytm raising up to \$2 billion; valuation may soar to \$18 billion28th March 2019. *Economics Times*

Online payments services company Paytm is in the midst of raising \$1.5-2 billion from existing investors SoftBank Vision Fund and Alibaba's financial affiliate Ant Financial, said people with knowledge of the development...[more](#)

HDFC To raise Rs 3,000 crore through non-convertible debentures26th March 2019. *Business Standard*

HDFC Ltd Monday said it will raise up to Rs 3,000 crore by issuing bonds on a private placement basis to augment its long term capital resources...[more](#)

NBFC Finova Capital raises \$15 million in round led by Faering, Sequoia26th March 2019. *Live Mint*

Non-banking financial company (NBFC) Finova Capital on Monday said it has raised \$15 million in a series B round led by new investor Faering Capital and existing investor Sequoia Capital...[more](#)

Suryoday SFB raises ₹ 248 crore from DEG, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance3rd April 2019. *Live Mint*

Suryoday Small Finance Bank Ltd has raised ₹ 248 crore from a clutch of investors including development finance institution DEG, a subsidiary of Germany's KfW Group, and Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Co...[more](#)

Allahabad Bank to raise ₹ 4,000 crore equity capital via various modes

26th March 2019. [Live Mint](#)

State-owned Allahabad Bank on Tuesday said it would raise up to ₹ 4,000 crore equity capital by various means including public issue...[more](#)

SBI raises ₹ 1,251 crore by issuing Basel III-compliant bonds

22nd March 2019. [Live Mint](#)

The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) Friday said it has raised ₹ 1,251.30 crore by issuing Basel III-compliant bonds...[more](#)

Prudential Holdings to sell up to 3.71% in ICICI Pru Life to raise Rs 1,600 cr

25th March 2019. [Asia Insurance Post](#)

Prudential Corporation Holdings Ltd plans to sell up to 3.71 per cent stake in ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Co Ltd to raise nearly Rs 1,600 crore. The offer for sale of shares by the promoter begins on Tuesday...[more](#)

Merger And Acquisitions

Infosys to buy ABN AMRO's mortgage service unit

29th March 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Infosys is buying a controlling stake in Stater, the mortgage service unit of ABN AMRO Bank for Rs 1,000 crore (â, -127.5 million), the third such deal for the software exporter after Salil Parekh took charge as its CEO...[more](#)

Lakshmi Vilas Bank to merge with Indiabulls Housing Finance

6th April 2019. [Live Mint](#)

Private sector lender Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd on Friday said that its board has approved a merger with mortgage financier Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd in an all stock deal...[more](#)

ICICI Prudential MF sells stake in AstraZeneca, Fidelity buys in SH Kelkar

3rd April 2019. [Money Control](#)

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund through its Volatility Advantage Plan sold 1.25 lakh shares of AstraZeneca Pharma India at Rs 2,000 per share on NSE, as per bulk deals data on April 3...[more](#)

Banking

HDFC Bank to add 100 branches in Northeast

31st March 2019. [Economics Times](#)

HDFC Bank Sunday said that it will open 100 more branches in the northeast region in next three years. The bank will open 100 more branches in the Northeast, taking its branch network close to 230 in the next three years and as a part of the expansion plan...[more](#)

Bandhan Bank to soon comply with 40% promoter stake rule: C S Ghosh

29th March 2019. [Business Standard](#)

Bandhan Bank will soon finalise the long-pending plan to reduce its promoters's™ stake to 40 per cent as required by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). C S Ghosh, managing director and chief executive, said an Offer for Sale was among the measures being considered...[more](#)

Catholic Syrian Bank gears up for listing, hires Axis Capital as adviser

28th March 2019. [Business Standard](#)

Fairfax-backed Catholic Syrian Bank (CSB) is gearing up for a listing in order to meet RBI requirements. The bank, which has enough capital for the next three years, says it is looking at two routes - direct listing, or through an IPO...[more](#)

Allahabad Bank looks to sell non-core assets

2nd April 2019. [Live mint](#)

State-owned Allahabad Bank is selling several prime properties across the country, including a land parcel in south Mumbai priced at a minimum of ₹ 166 crore, as part of plans to raise funds by selling off non-core assets, said two people aware of the development...[more](#)

RBI to repeat \$5 billion forex swap after successful auction

2nd April 2019. [Live mint](#)

The Reserve Bank of India on Monday said it will conduct a \$5 billion dollar-rupee swap auction on 23 April following the success of the first round last month...[more](#)

HDFC Bank opposes SBI's plea to liquidate 6.6 million USL shares

29th March 2019. [Live Mint](#)

A day after the SBI-led bankers consortium raised ₹ 1,008 crore by selling 7.4 million pledged shares of United Breweries, their bid to recover more money by liquidating shares of United Spirits faced opposition from HDFC Bank which moved the special PMLA court here against it...[more](#)

Kotak Bank to focus on SMEs to expand

4th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Kotak Mahindra Bank is focusing on two industry pockets to expand its corporate loan book: Growth financing and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)...[more](#)

NBFC

In bad news for borrowers, NBFCs' funding cost zooms to multi-year highs

22nd March 2019. [Live Mint](#)

Debt concerns have pushed funding costs for non-bank financing companies to multi-year highs in recent weeks...[more](#)

Now there is an ombudsman for non-deposit taking NBFCs too

4th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced today that it has extended the NBFC ombudsman scheme to cover non-deposit taking NBFCs as well...[more](#)

NBFCs increasingly tapping retail investors

5th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Non-banking finance companies (NBFC) Magma Fincorp L&T Finance and Shriram City Union are tapping retail investors to raise funds as banks have tightened lending to the sector after the IL&FS default crisis and investors became wary about investing in NBFCs...[more](#)

Micro Finance

Microfinance to mega dreams: Aspiration should be to financially include over 400 million lives in India

4th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

From humble beginnings in mid 1970s to 2019, the Indian microfinance sector has come a long way with its ups and downs over the years...[more](#)

Mutual Funds

RNAM partners with Google; Reliance Mutual Fund customers can now carry out voice-based transactions

31st March 2019. [Money Control](#)

Customers of Reliance Mutual Fund can now carry out voice-based financial transactions, with Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management (RNAM) partnering with internet major Google...[more](#)

Sebi proposes self-regulator for mutual fund distributors, advisers

2nd April 2019. [Live Mint](#)

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Monday issued a discussion paper proposing a self-regulator for distributors and advisors of mutual fund products...[more](#)

Insurance Companies

Bank of India looks to divest insurance JV stake for \$160 million

5th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

State-owned Bank of India on Friday offered to sell a 25 per cent stake in its joint venture company with Union Bank of India and Japan's Dai-ichi Life Holdings Inc for up to Rs 11.06 billion (\$159.87 million)...[more](#)

Irdai mulls offering installment mode of insurance claim settlement for certain policies

7th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Regulator Irdai is mulling giving policy holders an option to receive payment of claims in installments under certain policies like personal accident (PA) and benefit-based health insurance...[more](#)

Shriram General Insurance to open new branches

26th March 2019. [Bimabazaar](#)

Shriram General Insurance is planning to expand its operations in tier 2 and tier 3 cities, with plans to open 50 new branches over the next 12 months, a top official said...[more](#)

Allianz Global Corporate plans to set up reinsurance branch in India

23rd March 2019. [Bimabazzar](#)

Allianz Global Corporate and Specialty (AGCS) announced setting up a new India reinsurance branch through which it plans to further expand its presence in the Asia-Pacific region...[more](#)

IRDA set to allow claim settlement in installments in health & PA policies

2nd April 2019. [Asia Insurance Post](#)

The insurance regulator will soon issue circular for allowing the Insurers to settle claims in installments in respect of personal accident and benefit based products...[more](#)

IRDAI clears new norms for life products and Indiabulls entry as a non-life insurance player

28th March 2019. [Asia Insurance Post](#)

The insurance regulator IRDAI has finally approved a set of significant changes in the current regulations on product guidelines for linked and non-linked life insurance policies that would impact designing term, credit life and micro-insurance products by the players...[more](#)

Payment Banks

PhonePe to become a separate entity as Flipkart board approves hive off plan

27th March 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Digital payments company PhonePe has received in-principle approval from Flipkart's board to be hived off as a separate entity, two people aware of the matter told ET...[more](#)

Payswiff joins hands with PhonePe to push digital payments

4th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Digital payments player for merchant outlets Payswiff has partnered with PhonePe, one of the largest UPI payments application to allow their merchants to accept payments through PhonePe on their regular as well as mobile PoS terminals...[more](#)

PhonePe gets Rs 743 crore fresh funds from parent company

23rd March 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Digital payments major, PhonePe has received Rs 743.5 crore as part of a fresh fund infusion from its Singapore registered parent entity PhonePe Pvt Ltd, formerly known as Flipkart Payments, according to documents filed with the Registrar of Companies ...[more](#)

Paytm Payments Bank to offer risk-free insurance, MF products by June: MD

3rd April 2019. [Business Standard](#)

Paytm Payments Bank is planning to launch risk-free insurance and mutual fund products by June this year, the company's MD and CEO Satish Kumar Gupta said Wednesday...[more](#)

Google Pay Partners With Pine Labs To Capture Offline Payments Space In India

28th March 2019. [INC42](#)

The India office of the technology major Google has collaborated with Pine Labs, a popular retail software and hardware maker to work on enabling offline transactions on Google Pay through Pine Labs's Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based digital payments product...[more](#)

Private Equity

Asian private equity manager Pacific Alliance Group to enter India

2nd April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Leading Asian private equity manager Pacific Alliance Group, better known as PAG, is set to open an India office and rope in a senior KKR & Co executive ...[more](#)

From KKR to Blackstone, global PE firms betting big on private credit

4th April 2019. [Business Standard](#)

At a time when public sector banks (PSBs) have pulled out of corporate credit, and private ones are coming out of their woes, bulge bracket private equity (PE) firms such as KKR, Blackstone and Brookfield are making the most of the situation in the private credit space, including corporate and real estate credit...[more](#)

Everstone scores one of its best exits as General Atlantic strikes a control deal

1st April 2019. [VCCircle](#)

Private equity firm Everstone Capital has agreed to exit drug delivery technology company Rubicon Research by selling its controlling stake to US-based PE firm General Atlantic...[more](#)

VC Funding

Venture Catalysts partners with Kanpur Angel Network to enable UP's startup ecosystem

1st April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Venture Catalysts, has expanded further into the Northern Indian region, by joining forces with one of the oldest and most active investor networks in the country, Kanpur Angel Network (KAN)...[more](#)

UK's CDC group finally manages to make low single-digit returns from India

28th March 2019. [Business Standard](#)

India has finally started delivering for the CDC group, a development financial institution (DFI) of the UK which has been in the country for three decades. CDC first invested in VC firm Gujarat Venture Finance Ltd in 1991...[more](#)

Exclusive: Astarc Ventures backs fintech firm floated by former Practo employees

2nd April 2019. [VCCircle](#)

Early-stage venture capital firm Astarc Ventures has expanded its portfolio basket by adding another fintech startup...[more](#)

Money Markets

Stock market increasingly becoming a poor play on India's economic story: Saurabh Mukherjea

5th April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

urabh Mukherjea, Founder, Marcellus Investment Managers, is of the view that market has been historically poor in reading election results...[more](#)

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code

Lenders still have the power to take corporates to NCLT

3rd April 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Indian banks would still have the power to recover loans by using the bankruptcy code, but they would have to demonstrate their seriousness about protecting depositors' money...[more](#)

NCLT admits Bank of India's insolvency plea against Shrenuj & Co

27th March 2019. [Economics Times](#)

Shrenuj & Co, the century-old diamond house that had the late Maharani Gayatri Devi of Jaipur as its brand ambassador during its heydays, has been admitted into bankruptcy court...[more](#)

Best Regards



Monal capital
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From the desk of,

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