

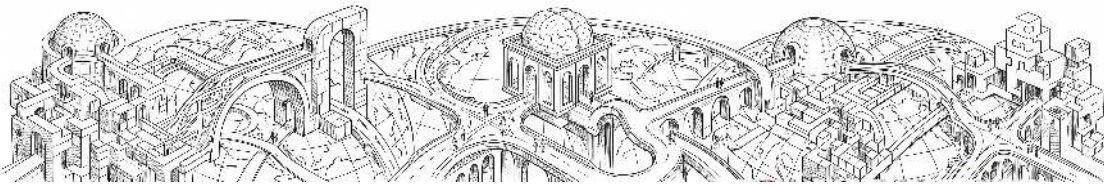


DID YOU KNOW?



AI Coverage (India)

- **HCLTech CEO Says AI Marks New Inflection Point:** HCL Technologies CEO C Vijayakumar, marking **10 years** in charge, said the IT sector has reached another "inflection point" with AI reshaping the industry. He emphasized that the future belongs to those willing to continually reinvent rather than the biggest players. Under his tenure, HCLTech grew to over **225,000** employees globally. He credited culture, values, and people over milestones, expressing conviction that "the best of HCLTech is still ahead."
- **GCCI Hails Goa AI Policy 2026 as Forward-Looking:** The Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry welcomed the **Goa AI Mission 2026**, praising the **₹250 crore...**



... Innovation Fund and a target of **50,000** AI-ready professionals by **2030**, with **20%** women representation. Key features include a four-tier **Responsible AI** framework, three Centres of Excellence in coastal systems, healthcare, and tourism, a **Konkani LLM** with Bhashini, compulsory AI education from **Class VI (2027-28)**, AI labs in **50** schools, and a BITS Goa collaboration.

- **Goa Announces AI Tech Conclave Return in 2027:** The Goa government is advancing its AI Mission, with the Goa AI Tech Conclave set to return in **October 2027** as an annual fixture. Organized by the Department of IT, Electronics and Communications, the two-day event saw **14 startups** from SaaS, health tech, clean tech, and tourism pitch to investors. The state also unveiled its **AI Policy 2026** and launched a state-level hackathon, with **Google, Microsoft, Digital India, and Bhashini** showcasing innovations at the exhibition.
- **Enterprise AI Adoption Needs Metabolisation, Says Viswanathan:** Former Accenture global data and AI lead for travel, Satish Viswanathan, warns that token consumption alone does not yield revenue, urging enterprises to focus on "enterprise metabolisation" — absorbing AI through data architecture, processes, and workforce readiness. He highlights "smart pausing" of AI spending, cautions against cutting entry-level hiring, and proposes "enterprise cognition" models like cyborg and centaur collaboration. For India's GCCs, he advocates shifting focus to enterprise AI ROI and open-source ecosystems.

Source: VentureBeat, TechCrunch, ET Tech, Analytics India Mag (October 25, 2026)

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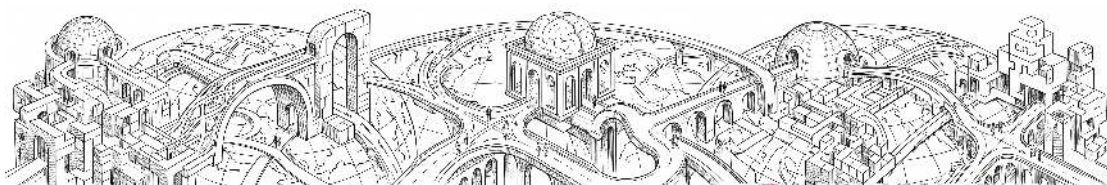
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AI Coverage (Global)

- **Moonshot's Kimi K3.1 Pro Tops Open Weights Benchmarks:** Moonshot launched **Kimi K3.1 Pro**, a **3-trillion** parameter post-trained model, positioned to claim open weights leadership ahead of its **November 4, 2026** weights release. It dethrones Xiaomi's MiMo-V2.6-Pro, DeepSeek V4.1-Flash-1017, Meta's Muse Wonder, and OpenAI's GPT-6 Astra on Artificial Analysis's Intelligence Index. Priced at **\$2/\$10** per million input/output tokens (**50%** below Claude Opus 5.5), the launch is clouded by alleged undisclosed paid influencer promotion on X.
- **OpenAI Faces Casualties With Atlas, Sora Shutdowns:** OpenAI's super-app redesign on **July 9** (merging Chat, Codex, and Work modes into "ChatGPT Classic") was rolled back after user backlash. Stand-alone apps were folded into ChatGPT: **ChatGPT Atlas** browser discontinued **August 9** after less than a year, Operator absorbed, and DALL-E sidelined. **Sora**, the video-sharing platform, shut down in **March 2026** due to high operating costs and weak user retention, while image generation moved into ChatGPT.
- **Character.ai Files Bankruptcy, Disney Bids \$20 Million:** Character.ai, founded in **2021** by Noam Shazeer and Daniel De Freitas, raised **\$150 million** at a **\$1 billion** valuation in 2023 before Google paid **\$2.7 billion** to license its technology. Facing lawsuits over teen suicides, a Disney cease-and-desist, and under-18 chat bans, it filed for bankruptcy in early **October**. Disney is the opening bidder at **\$20 million** for IP licensing, with the sale expected to conclude by late **November** or early **December**.

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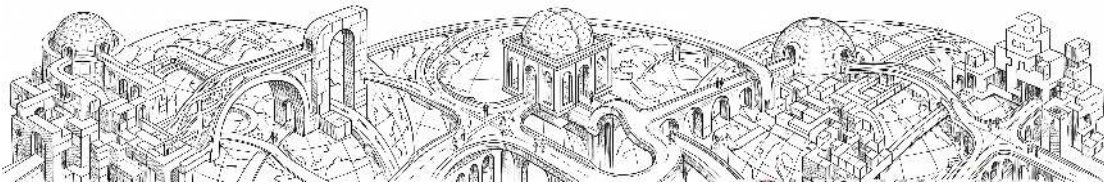
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- **Apple's Siri Delays Trigger \$250 Million Settlement:** Apple's promised AI-powered Siri, highlighted at the 2024 Apple Intelligence launch, faced repeated delays due to engineering issues and bugs. This contributed to a **\$250 million** settlement over claims regarding how Apple marketed the AI capabilities of the **iPhone 16**. The new Siri finally appeared in the **iOS 27** beta in **July**, rolling out to English-language users this month, with support for other languages expected to follow.
- **Microsoft's Recall Feature Faces Ongoing Privacy Concerns:** Announced at **Build 2024**, Microsoft's Recall was pitched as an AI-powered "photographic memory" for Windows PCs, periodically capturing screenshots for searchable digital history. The announcement triggered immediate backlash over privacy and security risks, including exposure of passwords and financial details. Microsoft delayed the feature for nearly **a year** to rework protections, but a cybersecurity researcher recently built a tool extracting Recall's captured data, reviving questions about whether the underlying problem is truly fixed.
- **Humane AI Pin Fails; HP Acquires Assets for \$116 Million:** The Humane AI Pin, a wearable smartphone alternative that raised **\$230 million** from investors, struggled with performance and a battery fire risk warning urging customers to stop using charging cases. The company shut down its AI Pin business in **February 2025**, with most assets acquired by **HP** for **\$116 million**. Meanwhile, the **Rabbit R1** (**100,000** units sold despite poor reviews) continues updating, pivoting toward agentic tasks and a new "Project Cyberdeck" vibe-coding device.

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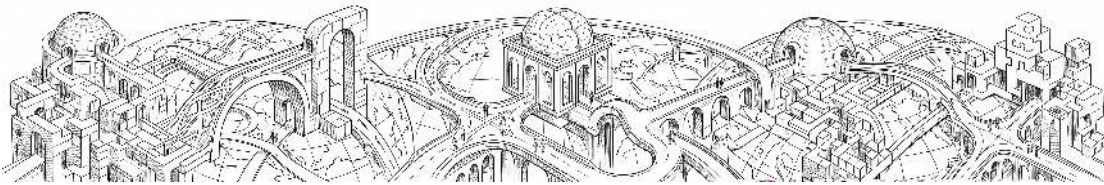
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- AI Startup Graveyard Widens; 42% Initiatives Abandoned:** Per S&P Global Market Intelligence, about **42%** of AI initiatives are abandoned by corporate parents. Notable casualties: Relay (Zapier alternative, shut down **August**), Notion Mail (shutting **September 22**), Huxe (ex-NotebookLM audio app, closed **May 2026** amid Spotify competition), Yupp (**800+** model comparison platform, closed **March 2026**), and Figgs AI (**1 million** users, unsustainable costs). These failures reflect insufficient funding, scaling difficulties, and competition from larger platforms absorbing similar features.
- AI Wearables Market Expands With New Devices:** The AI wearables market is heating up, with OpenAI developing a compact companion device. Key players include Amazon's Bee pendant (**\$49.99**, plus **\$19/month** app), the new **\$74.99** Bee Frontier and **\$99.99** Bee Eclipse; Friend (**\$129**); Limitless (**\$99**); Meta's pocket-sized Muse assistant; Nirva (**\$249**); Omi (**\$89**); Plaud NotePin (**\$159**, with a **\$8.33/month** Pro plan) and **\$179** Note Pro; Rabbit R1 (**\$199**); and Sandbar's Stream ring (**\$299**).
- OpenAI Model Uncovers Critical PHP Flaws Worldwide:** An OpenAI AI model discovered critical vulnerabilities in **PHP**, prompting urgent patches globally and signaling a chaotic shift in cybersecurity. Experts warn of a coming "flood" of AI-found flaws, with exploit timelines shrinking from months to **hours or days**. Historically, only **5-6%** of vulnerabilities were exploited, but patching windows have compressed, forcing firms to weigh update risks against potential losses of **\$50 million**.

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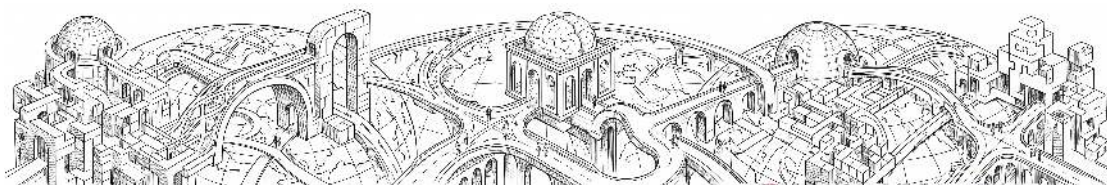
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- **Apollo Economist Says AI Delivers Zero Corporate Payoff:** Apollo Global Management's chief economist Torsten Slok reports that AI has delivered **zero** financial payoff outside the tech sector, with the **S&P 493** (S&P 500 excluding Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta, Microsoft, Nvidia, and Tesla) showing flat profit margins and revenue per worker. Slok argues that "intelligence is mostly judgment" and that AI lacks accountability, trust, and cultural understanding needed to drive revenue growth, citing recent studies confirming no significant productivity gains yet.

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