Daily Economic News Summary: 30 September 2016

1. Google to open 'India Cloud Region' to help customers, developers

Source: Business Standard (Link)

In a fresh move to offer secured and improved cloud services to Indian developers and enterprise customers, Google has announced to open a new "Google CloudRegion" which is expected to go live in Mumbai in 2017. Announcing the "Google Cloud Regions" at an event in San Francisco titled "Horizon" on Thursday, the company unveiled the locations of eight new Cloud Regions - Mumbai, Singapore, Sydney, Northern Virginia, Sao Paulo, London, Finland and Frankfurt. The local region will help make Google Cloud Platform services even faster for Indian customers, enhancing differentiators that are already motivating companies to choose Google as their partner, the company said in a statement. With more than one billion end users, Google Cloud has gained significant traction in India and across the world. Globally, key customers already leveraging the benefits ofGoogle Cloud Platform include Snap Inc (formerly SnapChat), Niantic Labs (Pokemon Go), Telus International, and Evernote.

2. TVS Srichakra hits new high; zooms over 60% in one-month

Source: Business Standard (Link)

TVS Srichakra has moved higher to its new high of Rs 4,247, up 16% on the BSE in intra-day trade, in an otherwise subdued market on back of heavy volumes. In past one-month, the stock of two- and three -wheelertyre manufacturer zoomed 63% from Rs 2,601 on August 30, as compared to 1.8% decline in the S&P BSE Sensex. Most of the tyre companies stocks have outperformed the market on the back of expectations of a lower naturerubber prices that could improve the profit margin of these companies, as it accounts nearly 40% of the input cost. Along with the softened price of the rubber, there are few more factors at play which are boosting the rubber andtyre companies such as sales of passenger vehicles like car, vans as well as utility vehicles and two-wheelers have recorded double-digit growth in first five months of the current fiscal year.

3. Nettlinx raises \$3 million from overseas funds Source: **Business Standard** (Link)

Hyderabad-based internet service provider Nettlinx Limited has raised \$3 million (about Rs 20 crore) from strategic investors, the company management said on Thursday. Netherlandsbased EXchange Investors NV and Dubai-based TransGlobal FZC have been allocated share warrants on preferential basis and will be working closely with Nettlinx Limited in its diversification following their investment. The funds will enable the company to identify and acquire companies with experience in the industrial space, according to Nettlinx.

4. Amazon.in launches two new fulfilment centres in Tamil Nadu

Source: Live Mint (Link)

Amazon.in on Wednesday said that the company has launched two warehouses at Chennai and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, to empower thousands of small and medium businesses, to leverage the growth of digital economy and reach a wide customer base.mWith this launch, Amazon.in has 27 operational fulfilment centres (FCs) in 10 states across the country with a combined storage space of close to 7.5 million cubic feet. Spread over nearly 200,000 square feet with over 900,000 cubic feet of storage space, the two FCs will enable the e-commerce company for faster delivery during the upcoming festive season.The company has also announced festive sale from 1-5 October.

"For our customers, these FCs bring us closer to them in the region and will not only support our Prime promise of one-day & two-day delivery but will also allow us to efficiently serve them this festive season. For our sellers, these FCs will enable thousands of small & medium businesses to save money by replacing their upfront capital expense with low variable cost and pay only for the storage space they use and the orders that we fulfil," said Akhil Saxena, vice-president customer fulfilment, Amazon India. Unlike traditional warehouses, FCs are equipped with highly automated pick, pack and shipping processes to facilitate safe and timely processing of orders. With an already existing urban FC in Chennai, Amazon.in now has three FCs in Tamil Nadu offering over one million cubic feet of storage space.

5. Utkarsh Micro Finance raises Rs395 crore from domestic investors

Source: Live Mint (Link)

Utkarsh Micro Finance Pvt. Ltd has raised Rs395 crore from domestic institutional investors in an effort to lower the foreign holding in the company below 49% and help the microlender in the transition to a small finance bank, said a senior executive. Utkarsh is one of the 10 non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) that won a licence for a small finance bank. The microlender raised Rs395 crore from institutional investors such as HDFC Standard Life Insurance Co. Ltd, HDFC Ergo General Insurance Co. Ltd, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Co. Ltd, Shriram Life Insurance Co. Ltd, RBL Bank Ltd, Small Industries Development Bank of India and private equity funds Faering Capital and Arpwood Capital, said Govind Singh,

managing director, Utkarsh Micro Finance. ICICI Securities and Avendus Capital advised Utkarsh Micro Finance on the fundraising.

By Nandini Malhotra