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**Department of Data Science**  
**Weekly Data Science Bytes**

## **India investing in next-gen tech: Rajnath**



- Union defence minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said that India has emerged as a vibrant hub of innovation in the defence and security ecosystem and is investing in next-generation technology. He was speaking virtually at the inauguration ceremony of the two-day conference of defence attachés at Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU).
- The event, in the Global Defence Tech Landscape: Accelerating Innovation, Exports, and Joint Technology Partnerships', has diplomats and defence representatives from 24 countries . "Guided by the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, our approach seeks to build self-reliance while remaining globally connected," Singh said.

## Scientists Print Artificial Neurons That Can Talk to the Brain



- Printed artificial neurons can now send lifelike signals that activate real brain cells. This breakthrough could transform both brain implants and energy-efficient AI.
- Engineers at Northwestern University have developed printed artificial neurons that go beyond simple imitation and can directly engage with real brain cells. These devices are flexible, inexpensive, and capable of producing electrical signals that closely resemble those of living neurons.
- In laboratory tests using slices of mouse brain tissue, the artificial neurons successfully stimulated real neurons, prompting measurable responses. This achievement highlights a new level of compatibility between electronic systems and biological neural networks.

Source: <https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-print-artificial-neurons-that-can-talk-to-the-brain/>

## Skyroot Aerospace Becomes India's First Space-Tech Unicorn



- New Delhi, May 7 (PTI) Hyderabad-based Skyroot Aerospace on Thursday announced that it had become India's first space-tech unicorn following its latest round of funding of nearly USD 60 million, taking its valuation to USD 1.1 billion.
- The funding was provided by Sherpalo Ventures, Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC, the founders of Greenko Group and Arkam Ventures, among others.
- In a statement, Ram Shriram, founder of Sherpalo Ventures, said, "Access to space is one of the key challenges of our time. Skyroot is building the foundational infrastructure for that future with the best cost-to-performance ratio in the orbital-launch industry, and what the team has achieved is remarkable."

Source: <https://money.rediff.com/news/market/skyroot-aerospace-becomes-india-s-first-space-tech-unicorn/46607320260507>

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## QR code phishing was 'fastest-growing' form of email attacks in Q1, reports Microsoft Threat Intelligence



While email-based hackers and cybercriminals have many tools at their disposal in order to deceive users and harvest their credentials via phishing attacks, a new report from Microsoft stated that malicious QR codes were growing in popularity.

In a report titled 'Email threat landscape: Q1 2026 trends and insights,' by Microsoft Threat Intelligence and the Microsoft Defender Security Research Team, researchers outlined that between January and March, they detected around 8.3 billion email-based phishing threats.

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### How Chinese engineer Howard Huang become billionaire supplying robotic 'eyes'

- Howard Huang, founder of Shenzhen-based Orbbec, has become a billionaire after turning the company into a major supplier of 3D vision sensors, often described as robotic “eyes,” as demand for humanoid robots drives up its shares.
- Founded in 2013, Orbbec began by making vision sensors for 3D scanning and biometrics. It also produces lidar, short for light detection and ranging, sensors used for long-range tasks such as navigation. These sensors are used in industrial robots, autonomous mobile robots, robotic arms, self-driving cars, drones, and increasingly, AI-powered humanoid robots.
- The technology allows robots to perceive depth much like humans do, helping them move through complex environments and interact more accurately with their surroundings.



Source: <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/tech/personalities/how-chinese-engineer-howard-huang-become-billionaire-supplying-robotic-eyes-5070582.html>