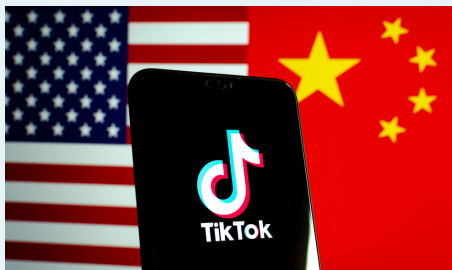## TikTok may get banned in the US entirely because of its links to Beijing.

On 13 December 2022, two US Senators proposed legislation to completely shut down the platform in the US because to its ties to Beijing.

Users of the app TikTok in the United States of America are on high alert once again due to the introduction of bills in the Senate to restrict the app's operation in the country and on government devices.

That is because TikTok is controlled by ByteDance, a Chinese firm that some senators suspect may be sharing user data with the Chinese government in order to spy on its users.

The government of the United States of America has not imposed a ban on TikTok in the country as of this writing.

Amazon Astro is Adorable but still remains an invite-only Prototype

Astro sports a motorised 10.1-inch screen and a 5-megapixel camera for video conversation and image capture. Two 55mm front-mounted speakers produce surprisingly nice audio with terrific bass.

Astro, like the popular Echo Show versions, is fully Alexa-compliant, allowing it to broadcast TV show material, play music, answer inquiries about almost any topic, and operate any Alexa-based smart home device. Astro has multiple highly sensitive array-based microphones and remarkable listening abilities.

What distinguishes Astro from a stationary Echo Show would be its ability to move and change its viewing angle. Amazon is still working on customising the robot so that it appears not only useful but also necessary, given the high price tag and lack of precedent for robots like this, particularly in households.

Largest-ever hydrogen plane to begin real-world testing

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has awarded a flying permit to a hydrogen-powered aircraft following a testing programme.

ZeroAvia's Dornier 228 aircraft has been equipped with a prototype hydrogen-electric powertrain, allowing the company to begin testing its 600kW hydrogen-electric powertrain for the first time.

Upcoming Events:

- Apple January 2023 Event to announce the new AR/VR headset

- BMW Joytown festival to launch 5 new cars in the Indian market

- Lollapalooza music festival coming to Mumbai in January 2023

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Build your own underwater world with AquaCity

On December 28, 2022, we witnessed the launch of the Metaverse platform, AquaCity. It was one of the most anticipated NFT projects in 2023, has finally been unveiled in some Asian countries. From The Sandbox's evolution, these Metaverse programmers uncovered unresolved challenges and created AquaCity. It is precisely to realize the idea of creating your own 'Underwater World'.

In the first phase of AquaCity Metaverse, 2D games will be built, followed by 3D and play-to-earn games.

AquaCity aims to create a "human-machine integration" setting, allowing users to operate Metaverse avatars with their real-life limbs through VR/AR.

Amazon launches Halo Rise, a no-contact sleep tracker

Halo Rise is a multipurpose bedside tracker, designed to improve and track sleep for the users. Inbuilt sensors help in giving a substantive analysis about the sleep schedule of the users. Collecting environmental data is also a feature of this product which in turn helps in optimizing the sleep conditions.

Halo Rise is so much more than simply a sleep tracker thanks to the intelligent alarm, wake-up light, and flawless Alexa connection that let you create a smarter, more individualised sleep experience.

The project is just getting started to assist users in making sense of all this important sleep data, and to give practical insights and resources to enhance their health and wellbeing.

ChatGPT is clever and Dangerously Creative

Google is far more than simply a search engine these days; it is now many people's first exposure to the internet. Google seems frightened as AI takes over the globe. According to The New York Times, Google has declared a "code red" over the AI chatbot ChatGPT.

Since December 2022, ChatGPT has been the buzz. ChatGPT can answer follow-up inquiries, admit mistakes, dispute wrong premises, and reject unsuitable requests in dialogue style. It's a groundbreaking technology as it can interpret human questions.

One of the main problems of employing this AI based model is that it may be used to get answers to school tests, win any coding competitions, and serious plagiarising.

If you're just seeking for some minor help, ChatGPT might be of some value. Putting too much faith in AI's control could be like digging your own grave.

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CSI Members' Achievements

Nishtha Chitalia

A second-year student in the Information Technology Department has been **selected for the Women Engineers (WE) Mentorship Program offered by TalentSprint and supported by Google.**

Over the course of two years, the mentorship programme, which is sponsored by Google, focuses on providing technical and corporate skills training for female engineers. The programme is extremely competitive; she was one of just 250 scholars chosen from more than 30,000 applicants from across the country.

Shiv Bhonde

A third-year student in the Information Technology Department, together with **his team "Cross Chain Bois", won 5 prizes at the World's Biggest Ethereum Hackathon, ETHIndia**, conducted in December, 2022.

"Diebetes" is a cross-chain funding tool that supports research on diabetes. Their objective was to achieve some good with crypto, and the plan eventually materialised into a working project.

Their project is powered by xCall from Connext, funding occurs on Polygon Technology while SVG certificate minting takes place on goerli. Additional features include social login, gasless, and batch transactions.

Bhavna Mulchandani

A third-year student in the Information Technology Department, **won the Smart India Hackathon'22 together with her team "BugSquashers1"**, winning a **cash prize of INR 100,000**.

Their research project 'Ivory Flame' encourages the idea of game-based learning. The games taught students logic-building, a critical programming skill. The game's website allowed users to analyse their performance and connect with better opponents if they had questions or problems. In addition, a game-builder was implemented, so players could create games without having to write any code, expanding their learning opportunities outside the realm of coding.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE ACHIEVERS!

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