

# MORNING BRIEF

Friday, 20 February 2026

## BHAGAVAD GITA — VERSE 1.1 (1/12)

*dhritarashtra uvacha*

*dharma-kshetre kuru-kshetre samaveta yuyutsavah*

*mamakah pandavashchaiva kimakurvata sanjaya*

Dhritarashtra said: O Sanjaya, what did my sons and the sons of Pandu do after gathering on the holy field of Kurukshetra, desiring to fight?

Our environment shapes our actions. Choose your environment wisely — surround yourself with influences that elevate your character, not diminish it.

## LAW 13: WHEN ASKING FOR HELP, APPEAL TO PEOPLE'S SELF-INTEREST (13/48)

If you need to turn to an ally for help, do not bother to remind him of your past assistance. Instead, uncover something in your request that will benefit him, and emphasize it out of all proportion.

## PAUL GRAHAM — THE TOP IDEA IN YOUR MIND (13/97)

Your mind works on your top idea even when you're not consciously thinking about it — in the shower, on walks, falling asleep. This is immensely powerful, but it means you must be deliberate about what occupies this slot. If your top idea is a dispute with a co-founder, that's what your unconscious brain will chew on. Fundraising, interpersonal conflicts, and administrative worries are particularly dangerous because they can hijack this precious unconscious processing.

Be deliberate about what problem occupies the background of your mind. Avoid disputes and administrative worries that hijack your best unconscious thinking time. If you catch yourself thinking about something unproductive in the shower, that's a sign you need to resolve or eliminate it.

[paulgraham.com/top.html](http://paulgraham.com/top.html)

**GIFT NIFTY 25,401.50** -3.50 (-0.01%)

Gap from NIFTY close: -53 pts (-0.21%)

## INDIAN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHANGE	%
NIFTY 50	25,454.35	-365.00	-1.41%
Sensex	82,498.14	-1,236.11	-1.48%
Bank NIFTY	60,739.55	-811.25	-1.32%
India VIX	13.46	+1.24	+10.15%

## FII / DII Flows

	NET (CR)
FII / FPI	-880
DII	-596

## US & GLOBAL MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHANGE	%
S&P 500	6,861.89	-19.42	-0.28%
Nasdaq	22,682.73	-70.90	-0.31%
Dow Jones	49,395.16	-267.50	-0.54%
S&P Futures	6,890.00	-4.25	-0.06%
Nikkei 225	56,868.65	-275.19	-0.48%
Hang Seng	26,705.94	+138.82	+0.52%

US Fear & Greed: **39** (fear)

## COMMODITIES & FOREX

ASSET	PRICE	CHANGE	%
US 10Y Yield	4.07	-0.00	-0.10%
Gold	5,027.50	+41.00	+0.82%
Silver	78.38	+0.87	+1.12%
Crude Oil	66.62	+1.43	+2.19%
USD/INR	91.02	+0.22	+0.25%

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- GIFT Nifty trading below prev NIFTY close by 53 pts (-0.21%) — signals a gap-down open.
- NIFTY dropped -1.41% — heavy selling.
- India VIX at 13.5 — low fear, complacency territory.
- Both FII and DII were net sellers — risk-off mode across institutions.
- Gold up +0.82% at \$5,028.
- Crude oil surged +2.19% — watch energy stocks.
- Rupee weakened to 91.02 — watch IT exporters.

## CRYPTO

COIN	PRICE	24H
BTC	\$67,164.00	+0.74%
ZEC	\$263.87	+0.07%

Fear & Greed Index: **7** (Extreme Fear)

- BTC consolidating around \$67,164.
- Fear & Greed at 7 (Extreme Fear) — historically a good accumulation zone.

# HACKER NEWS

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## 1. [Anthropic officially bans using subscription auth for third party use](#)

Legal agreements License Your use of Claude Code is subject to:- Commercial Terms - for Team, Enterprise, and Claude API users - Consumer Terms of Service - for Free, Pro, and Max users Commercial agreements Whether you're using the Claude API...

612 pts · 738 comments

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## 2. [AI makes you boring](#)

This post is an elaboration on a comment I made on Hacker News recently, on a blog post that showed an increase in volume and decline in quality among the "Show HN" submissions.

528 pts · 299 comments

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## 3. [Gemini 3.1 Pro](#)

Gemini 3.1 Pro: A smarter model for your most complex tasks Last week, we released a major update to Gemini 3 Deep Think to solve modern challenges across science, research and engineering.

514 pts · 690 comments

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## 4. [Show HN: Micasa – track your house from the terminal](#)

A terminal UI for tracking everything about your home. Single SQLite file. No cloud.

427 pts · 130 comments

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## 5. [Paged Out Issue #8 \[pdf\]](#)

308 pts · 52 comments

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## 6. [We're no longer attracting top talent: the brain drain killing American science](#)

In April 2025, less than three months after Donald Trump returned to the White House, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) put out its latest public health alert on so-called "superbugs", strains of bacteria resistant to...

287 pts · 277 comments

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## 7. [Pebble Production: February Update](#)

#Mega update on Pebble Time 2, Pebble Round 2 and Index 01 Things are busy in Pebbleland! We're getting close to shipping 3 new hardware products and all the associated software that comes along with them. Overall, things feel good.

261 pts · 122 comments

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## 8. [California's new bill requires DOJ-approved 3D printers that report themselves](#)

237 pts · 290 comments

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## 9. [America vs. Singapore: You can't save your way out of economic shocks](#)

America vs.

212 pts · 327 comments

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## 10. [Mark Zuckerberg grilled on usage goals and underage users at California trial](#)

164 pts · 94 comments

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## 11. [Show HN: A physically-based GPU ray tracer written in Julia](#)

We're excited to announce RayMakie and Hikari, a physically-based GPU ray tracing pipeline integrated directly into Makie.

159 pts · 62 comments

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## 12. [A terminal weather app with ASCII animations driven by real-time weather data](#)

A terminal weather app with ASCII animations driven by real-time weather data. Features real-time weather from Open-Meteo with animated rain, snow, thunderstorms, flying airplanes, day/night cycles, and auto-location detection.

156 pts · 23 comments

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### **13. AI is not a coworker, it's an exoskeleton**

Stop Thinking of AI as a Coworker. It's an Exoskeleton. We're thinking about AI wrong.

142 pts · 157 comments

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### **14. Coding Tricks Used in the C64 Game Seawolves (2025)**

9 Exotic Coding Tricks used in the C64 Game, Seawolves Updated on: Introduction With the release of my first ever commercial game on the Commodore 64, Seawolves, I thought it might be of interest to the coders among you as to how the game was...

124 pts · 19 comments

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### **15. Bridging Elixir and Python with Oban**

What choices lay before you when your Elixir app needs functionality that only exists, or is more mature, in Python? There are machine learning models, PDF rendering libraries, and audio/video editing tools without an Elixir equivalent (yet).

122 pts · 52 comments

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## **MARKET NEWS**

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### **Global Market Today | Asian stocks fall, oil climbs with Iran in focus**

Stocks opened lower in Japan and Australia, indicating a headwind to sentiment after two days of advances for a gauge of the region's stocks.

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### **Pre-market action: Here's the trade setup for today's session**

Any escalation involving Iran could impact shipments through the Strait of Hormuz, which would be particularly negative for India given its heavy dependence on crude imports from the region.

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### **Stocks in news: Federal Bank, Waaree Energies, ICICI Pru life, Zydus, HUL**

In today's trade, shares of Federal Bank, Waaree Energies, ICICI Pru life, Zydus, HUL among others will be in focus due to various news developments.

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### **US Market | Big fund managers bet against Fed cut hopes**

Yields on US government debt are close to their lowest levels in months, after a rally spurred by haven demand amid stock-market jitters and last week's tame January inflation reading.

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### **Crude shock for D-Street on fresh US-Iran tensions**

The NSE's Nifty fell 365 points, or 1.4% to close at 25,454.35. The BSE's Sensex declined 1,236.11 points, or 1.5%, to end at 82,498.14. Both the indices had opened marginally higher after ending firm for the past three trading sessions.

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### **Can MAS Financial sustain its outperformance on strong growth momentum?**

The company posted double-digit year-on-year growth in AUM, revenue and net profit for the December 2025 quarter as well as for the first nine months of the current fiscal year (FY26).

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### **Bajaj Finserv all set to launch \$1-billion alts investment platform**

Over time, the platform could scale to the equivalent of \$1 billion, depending on market conditions, she said. "This is not a monoline business. These are going to be like the supermarket of all businesses," Iyer said.

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### **Shares of local oil explorers surge on supply disruption fears**

Brent crude futures rose over 1% to \$71.11 per barrel.

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### **Global Market | Europe's wealthy return to hedge funds offering daily liquidity**

As central banks across the continent reduce benchmark interest rates, liquid alternative strategies packaged in retail-friendly structures are drawing affluent investors chasing yields in places other than fixed income.

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### **FPIs buy the most in fortnight since April 2025, IT still a sell**

Capital Goods shares received ₹8,032 crore in the period February 1-15, up from ₹2,761 crore in January, with the government's stake sale in BHEL worth ₹4,470 crore partly contributing to the inflows.

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## **IndusInd Bank chief says all strategic decisions ultimately must be made by the Board**

In the six months as the IndusInd Bank top boss, what steps have you taken to fix what went wrong, and what remains unfinished? All the regulatory disclosures have been made; everything has been taken into the P&L and the balance sheet.

## **Sebi sends show-cause notice to ZEEL over 'fund diversion'**

Zee Entertainment has refuted all the allegations mentioned in the notice against itself and the members of the board named in the notice. "An appropriate reply will be filed with Sebi by the company.

## **US stocks: Some US investors pivot to infrastructure amid broader AI selloff**

After huge gains in recent years, shares in AI tech giants such as Alphabet and Amazon have suffered sharp declines as investors worry returns from their massive investment in developing smarter AI systems won't justify such lofty valuations.

## **Federal Bank to receive Rs 686 crore tax refund after tribunal ruling**

This will have significant financial implications for the bank's profitability in the next quarter, people aware of the matter said. To put this in context, the bank earned Rs 1,041 crore in the third quarter.

## **US stocks: Trump-themed ETF manager scoops up MAGA fund**

The proposed acquisition, which has been approved by Truth Social trustees, is the second such transaction announced by Yorkville in less than a month to scoop up a fund with an investment thesis aligned with Trump's policies.

## **US Stocks: Bain Capital explores sale or IPO of Dessert Holdings, sources say**

Bain Capital is considering a sale or initial public offering of its portfolio company Dessert Holdings that could value the maker of cakes, pies and cookies at over \$3 billion, according to three people familiar with the matter.

## **Ahead of Market: 10 things that will decide stock market action on Friday**

Meanwhile, the volatility gauge India VIX ended at 13.46, up 10.12% from the last closing.

## **US trade deficit in goods widens to new record in 2025**

The US goods deficit stood at \$1.24 trillion for all of last year, widening slightly from 2024's level, the Commerce Department said. But the trade gap in goods with China narrowed for the full year, data showed.

## **US Stocks: Etsy shares jump 10% after Depop sale; demand pressures weigh on results**

The nearly \$1.2 billion deal, announced after markets closed on Wednesday, is expected to help Etsy double down on its core handmade and vintage goods marketplace as it pursues a turnaround under its new CEO.

## **US Stocks: Deere lifts full-year profit forecast as construction, sales rebound; shares soar 8%**

Its shares climbed 8.1% in morning trading.

## **Market Trading Guide: ONGC among 2 stocks to buy on Friday for up to 16% returns**

Rupak De, Senior Technical Analyst at LKP Securities said the 200-DMA is now positioned nearby and appears vulnerable. "Follow-up selling on Friday or Monday could lead to a breakdown below the 200DMA, which may reactivate the bearish trend.

## **US stock markets today: US stocks slide as tech stocks slide after recent gains**

The retailer's new CEO, John Furner, kicked off his tenure with a conservative fiscal 2027 forecast as well as a \$30 billion buyback plan. Shares of the company rose 2.4%.

## **US weekly jobless claims fall more than expected amid labor market stability**

Initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 23,000 to a seasonally adjusted 206,000 for the week ended February 14, the Labor Department said on Thursday. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast 225,000 claims for the latest week.

## **Gaudium IVF raises Rs 49 crore in anchor round ahead of IPO opening tomorrow. Check key investors**

Meru Investment Fund PCC – Cell 1 received 21.51 lakh shares, accounting for 34.34% of the anchor portion, with an allocation worth Rs 16.99 crore.

## **Stock market quote of the day by Jim Rogers | “Bottoms in the investment world don't end with four-year lows; they end with 10 or 15-year lows.”**

Markets move in cycles shaped by economic growth, liquidity, interest rates, and human psychology. During bull markets, investors often anchor to recent highs and assume declines are temporary.

## **Euro zone yields rise, await US data, Middle East tensions in focus**

Investors were also concerned about the potential inflationary impact of a further rise in oil prices, driven by escalating tensions between the U.S. and Iran.

## **Tata Steel among 5 stocks that hit 52-week highs and rallied up to 10% in a month**

On Thursday, the benchmark Sensex plunged nearly 1,236 points to settle at 82,498. Despite the sharp market sell-off, five stocks from the BSE 100 index climbed to their 52-week highs, reaching their strongest levels over the past year.

## **Gainers & Losers: Tata Investment, Newgen among 8 stocks that moved most on Thursday**

Newsmakers of D-Street The Indian equity markets ended with deep cuts on Thursday as the stand-off between the US and Iran lingered, causing a widespread sell-off.

## **Valuation Alert: 10 largecap stocks trading well above Industry PE**

When a company's Price-to-Earnings (P/E) ratio is above the industry average, it typically indicates that the stock is valued higher than its peers in the same industry.

## **Samco Securities: Gold and silver bull forecaster spots strong upswing in crude oil**

Apurva Sheth, Head of Market Perspectives and Research at Samco Securities, said the recent recovery in WTI crude from the \$55 zone is technically and structurally significant.

## **Brent hits 6-month high; will \$5–\$10 war premium push prices higher? Peter McGuire answers**

Peter McGuire, CEO of Australia-Trading.com, says the sharp rebound has surprised many who were positioned for softer prices amid oversupply fears. “Absolutely, it has hit everyone by surprise,” McGuire said.

## **Is MCX stock too expensive after doubling money in just 1 year? A CME case study explains it**

In 2025, silver soared 170%, while gold climbed over 60%. The momentum spilled into 2026, with silver rising more than 70% in the first two months before correcting sharply, tumbling 42% from its January 29 record high of Rs 4.20 lakh.

## **Market volatility calls for selective trading, focus on PSU stocks: Rahul Sharma**

Rahul Sharma, from JM Financial Services, noted, “As we speak we are actually at a support level. 25,650 is where the support for the Nifty is. It is a cluster of moving averages.

## **MSEDCL to get leaner before IPO, demerge agri biz by April; aims listing by end-2026**

“We are targeting an IPO by December for MSEDCL (Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company), and before that, we will demerge our agriculture business, which we aim to complete by April,” its Chairman and Managing Director Lokesh Chandra...

## **Pernod has no plans for now to list India unit, CEO says**

(What's moving Sensex and Nifty Track latest market news, stock tips, Budget 2025, Share Market on Budget 2025 and expert advice, on ETMarkets. Also, ETMarkets.com is now on Telegram.

## **Invitation Homes forecasts annual FFO below estimates on higher costs**

The REIT, which owns, leases and operates single-family residential properties, continues to see an impact from increasing operating and maintenance costs on its topline.

## **JGB yield curve continues to flatten as 20-year auction draws firm demand**

The 20-year debt auction drew firm demand as Takaichi's landslide election win on February 8 gave investors confidence that her government will not resort to a too-loose fiscal policy as some of the opposition parties had called for.

## **Patience and discipline key as market navigates structural shifts: Samir Arora**

On the outlook for the year, Arora in an interview to ET Now said, "India will do well."

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### **Mainboard IPO: Omnitech Engineering to launch Rs 583 crore offer next week. Check dates and other details**

The offer is being made through the book building process with not more than 50% of the net offer allocated to Qualified Institutional Buyers, subject to anchor investor participation of up to 60% of the QIB portion. The anchor investor bid period is...

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### **Global Markets | South Korea shares close at record high as chips rally**

\*\* Among index heavyweights, chipmaker Samsung Electronics rose 4.86%, while peer SK Hynix gained 1.59%. Battery maker LG Energy Solution climbed 2.15%. \*\* Hyundai Motor and sister automaker Kia Corp were up 2.81% and 3.60%, respectively.

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### **10+ MFs added 11 stocks in January '26; 50–100% surge in a year, one turned multibagger**

In January 2026, mutual funds (MFs) maintained strong confidence in Indian equities, with net investments totalling approximately Rs 42,354 crore for the month.

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### **Global Markets | Australian shares hit record high on earnings optimism; banks, miners lead broad rally**

The S&P/ASX 200 index climbed 0.9% to 9,086.20 points, drumming up a fourth straight day of gains, hitting an all-time high of 9,118.3 earlier in the session. The benchmark has gained 1.9% in four sessions.

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### **ITC's worst is behind, but patience required: Abneesh Roy names better FMCG bets for 2025**

The FMCG revival is real — and institutional money is returning. Roy's bullishness on the broader FMCG sector rests on three pillars. GST rate cuts are driving grammage increases and improving affordability. Rural demand continues to hold up well.

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### **Rs 7.5 lakh crore selloff! US-Iran war fears among 5 key triggers behind Sensex's 1,400-point intraday crash**

In today's session, the 30-share Sensex plunged over 1,400 points intraday before closing 1,236 points lower at 82,498. Meanwhile, the 50-share Nifty slipped below the 25,400 mark during the day and settled at 25,454.

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### **Indonesia bond auction weak but not distressing, central bank policy decision awaited**

The result - not exactly calming but not overly concerning - comes after investors have been unnerved by setbacks for Southeast Asia's biggest economy, putting the bond market and rupiah under the microscope.

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### **Godfrey Phillips India shares rocket 31% in just 3 sessions! Here's what's fuelling the rally**

The sharp rise follows media reports indicating that companies have raised prices to pass on higher costs to consumers.

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### **TCS shares rise 2% after Tata Group and OpenAI announce strategic partnership**

The partnership with OpenAI has been announced amid the ongoing India AI Impact Summit in New Delhi, and a day after Infosys announced a tie-up with US-based Anthropic to deliver enterprise AI solutions.

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### **Stock picking key as markets navigate AI uncertainty: Amit Khurana**

Sharing his view on the quarter in an interview to ET Now, Amit Khurana from Dolat Capital said earnings largely held up against expectations and operating performance appears to be stabilising.

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### **Indian brokers' lobby seeks 6-month freeze on new RBI rules: Report**

Last week, the country's central bank tightened norms for bank lending to stock brokers and other market intermediaries.

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### **Tata Investment Corp shares jump 13% on buzz around N Chandrasekaran's third term at Tata Sons**

The development gains significance as Tata Sons holds a majority stake in Tata Investment. According to the December quarter shareholding pattern, Tata Sons holds a 68.51% stake in the company, NSE data showed.

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## **CRYPTO NEWS**

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### **Inside the meeting: White House favors some stablecoin rewards, tells banks it's time to move**

Inside the meeting: White House favors some stablecoin rewards, tells banks it's time to move Sources familiar with the talks on stablecoin yields say the White House urged bankers to get on board with a deal that lets the market structure bill...

### **Bitcoin steadies near \$67,000 as traders pay for crash protection**

Bitcoin steadies near \$67,000 as traders pay for crash protection The average bitcoin ETF investor now sits on a 20% paper loss, leaving the market vulnerable to capitulation selling if prices slide further, a Wintermute trader said.

### **Latest White House talks on stablecoin yield make 'progress' with banks, no deal yet**

Latest White House talks on stablecoin yield make 'progress' with banks, no deal yet In the latest of a series of meetings hosted at the White House, bankers and crypto policy experts met to break down the wall halting the market structure bill.

### **Eric Trump reiterates claim bitcoin is just getting started on its road to \$1 million**

Eric Trump reiterates claim bitcoin is just getting started on its road to \$1 million U.S. President Donald Trump's son Eric Trump acknowledged bitcoin's volatility but said its upside potential outweighs the risks as prices hover below \$70,000.

### **Susquehanna-backed Blockfills up for sale after \$75 million lending loss**

Susquehanna-backed Blockfills up for sale after \$75 million lending loss The Chicago-based company said it was temporarily suspending client deposits and withdrawals last week due to recent market and financial conditions.

### **U.S. Federal Reserve researchers sing praises of prediction markets**

U.S. Federal Reserve researchers sing praises of prediction markets A deep look at predictions on Kalshi called such platforms valuable to policymakers and researchers, according to a new Fed paper. What to know: - Researchers at the U.S.

### **Fed's Neel Kashkari calls crypto 'utterly useless,' dismisses stablecoins as 'buzzword salad'**

Fed's Neel Kashkari calls crypto 'utterly useless,' dismisses stablecoins as 'buzzword salad' The Minneapolis Fed president said stablecoins don't beat Venmo and argued crypto fails basic real-world tests.

### **Robinhood vs. Vitalik: Why the trading app is building its own L2 while Ethereum founder cools on them**

Robinhood vs. Vitalik: Why the trading app is building its own L2 while Ethereum founder cools on them Centralized exchanges are moving forward building their own blockchain infrastructure even as the broader Ethereum ecosystem debates its future.

### **Anchorage Digital offers non-U.S. banks a stablecoin stand-in for correspondent banking**

Anchorage Digital offers non-U.S. banks a stablecoin stand-in for correspondent banking Crypto bank Anchorage Digital is launching U.S.-compliant stablecoin rails for international banks, offering faster movement of assets across borders.

### **Crypto for Advisors: crypto vaults explained**

Crypto for Advisors: crypto vaults explained Crypto vaults explained: Learn about risk layers (smart contract, redemption), composability and how RWAs will change DeFi yields.

### **Trump-linked World Liberty taps BlackRock-backed Securitize for hotel tokenization**

Trump-linked World Liberty taps BlackRock-backed Securitize for hotel tokenization The companies are working to structure and tokenize loan revenue tied to the Trump Organization's Maldives resort project.

### **Mike McGlone softens bitcoin downside target to \$28,000 after backlash over \$10,000 call**

Mike McGlone softens bitcoin downside target to \$28,000 after backlash over \$10,000 call Market analysts said the extreme downside scenario risked influencing real capital flows, prompting a heated public debate over bitcoin's macro outlook.

### **UAE sits on \$344 million unrealized profit from its bitcoin mining operations**

UAE sits on \$344 million unrealized profit from its bitcoin mining operations Royal family-linked mining rigs are producing about 4 BTC a day, turning state-backed infrastructure into a steady sovereign bitcoin machine What to know: - The United...

### **Bitcoin miner Bitdeer tumbles 17% as \$300 million convertible note offering spurs dilution fears**

Bitcoin miner Bitdeer tumbles 17% as \$300 million convertible note offering spurs dilution fears The Singapore-based bitcoin miner and AI data center firm is raising capital to repurchase notes and fund expansion.

## **Finish the job on digital asset market structure**

Finish the job on digital asset market structure Legislators must choose whether America leads the next generation of finance or watches from the sidelines.

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## **CoinDesk 20 Performance Update: Bitcoin (BTC) Drops 0.3% as All Assets Decline**

CoinDesk 20 Performance Update: Bitcoin (BTC) Drops 0.3% as All Assets Decline Binance Coin (BNB) was also among the underperformers, down 0.5% from Wednesday.

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## **Why bitcoin's rare oversold RSI crash signals a long, slow grind ahead**

Why bitcoin's rare oversold RSI crash signals a long, slow grind ahead History suggests the current move could lead to consolidation around the \$60,000 region in the months ahead before the next leg upward.

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## **Figure is debuting its tokenized stock along with upsized \$150 million offering**

Figure is debuting its tokenized stock along with upsized \$150 million offering The FGRD token represents common shares of the company issued natively onchain with instant settlement and built-in lending tools.

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## **SocGen taps XRP Ledger for euro stablecoin distribution**

SocGen taps XRP Ledger for euro stablecoin distribution The French banking giant expands its euro stablecoin to a third blockchain, deepening institutional use of XRPL for compliant digital assets and onchain settlement What to know: - Societe...

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## **Illicit networks accounted for \$141 billion of the trillions of stablecoin volume in 2025**

Illicit networks accounted for \$141 billion of the trillions of stablecoin volume in 2025 Sanctions-related activity accounted for 86% of illicit crypto flows last year, with most of those flows routed through stablecoin platforms, according to TRM...

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## **Crypto markets feel the chill, Base, ether.fi reorganize layer-2 landscape**

Crypto markets feel the chill, Base, ether.fi reorganize layer-2 landscape Your day-ahead look for Feb.

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## **Bitcoin, ether rise as altcoins lag in low-volatility trade**

\$218 million in liquidations and 97 of top 100 tokens in the red underscore fragile sentiment. Bitcoin BTC\$67,311.54 and ether (ETH) both rose around 0.9% overnight while the broader altcoin market lagged on Thursday.

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## **The bank of the future: 77% of stablecoin users say they'd open a wallet with their bank today**

The bank of the future: 77% of stablecoin users say they'd open a wallet with their bank today YouGov survey published by Coinbase and BVNK also found that 71% of users would use a stablecoin-linked debit card as a means of spending them.

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## **Ledn raises \$188 million with first bitcoin backed bond sale in asset backed market**

Ledn raises \$188 million with first bitcoin backed bond sale in asset backed market Crypto lender packages more than 5,400 bitcoin collateralized loans into first asset backed securities transaction of its kind.

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## **Bitcoin, ether, xrp ETFs bleed while Solana bucks outflow trend**

Bitcoin, ether, xrp ETFs bleed while Solana bucks outflow trend U.S.

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## **TECH & STARTUPS**

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### **Google's new Gemini Pro model has record benchmark scores — again**

On Thursday, Google released the newest version of Gemini Pro, its powerful LLM. The model, 3.1, is currently available as a preview and will be generally released soon, the company said. Google's new model may be one of the most powerful LLMs yet.

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### **Nvidia deepens early-stage push into India's AI startup ecosystem**

Nvidia is stepping up efforts to court India's artificial intelligence startups earlier in their lifecycle, unveiling a string of partnerships this week aimed at reaching founders even before their companies are formally established.

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### **FBI says ATM 'jackpotting' attacks are on the rise, and netting hackers millions in stolen cash**

In 2010, the famed security researcher Barnaby Jack spectacularly hacked into an ATM cash machine onstage at the Black Hat security conference, forcing it to spit out reams of bank notes in front of an awestruck audience.

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### **At a critical moment, Snap loses a top Specs exec**

Snap has big plans to release the newest version of its AR glasses, Specs, later this year.

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### **Second and last chance for innovators to win scaling perks: Belden extends nomination window**

The search for the next wave of breakthrough innovation isn't over yet. Due to overwhelming interest and strong early submissions, nominations for the 2026 Joseph C.

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### **Cellebrite cut off Serbia citing abuse of its phone unlocking tools. Why not others?**

Last year, the phone hacking tool maker Cellebrite announced it had suspended Serbian police as customers, after human rights researchers alleged local police and intelligence agencies used its tools to hack into the phones of a journalist and an...

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### **Google says its AI systems helped deter Play Store malware in 2025**

Fewer bad actors are targeting Google Play with malicious apps, the company says, a shift that the tech giant credits with its increased investments in proactive security systems and AI technology.

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### **An AI data center boom is fueling Redwood's energy storage business**

A year ago, Redwood Materials didn't have an energy storage business. Now, it is the fastest-growing unit within the battery recycling and materials startup — a reflection of an AI data center building boom.

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### **Why these startup CEOs don't think AI will replace human roles**

As AI companies get bigger in valuation and usage, there is a constant debate about how AI is replacing humans in various jobs.

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### **YouTube's latest experiment brings its conversational AI tool to TVs**

The race to advance conversational AI in the living room is heating up, with YouTube being the latest to expand its tool to smart TVs, gaming consoles, and streaming devices.

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### **Toyota contracts seven Agility humanoid robots for Canadian factory**

After a year-long pilot project, Toyota's Canadian manufacturing subsidiary has contracted seven humanoid robots to work in a plant building RAV4 SUVs under a robots-as-a-service deal.

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### **The boys' club no one was supposed to write about**

If you work in tech, Wired's new cover story isn't exactly going to shatter your worldview, but it's a genuinely great read all the same.

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### **SpaceX's Starbase city is getting its own court**

SpaceX's company town in Texas, Starbase, is less than a year old, but it already has its own volunteer fire department and is working on creating a police department. Now it wants its own court, too.

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### **As browser wars heat up, Chrome adds new productivity features**

As AI companies and startups push their way into the web browser market, the world's biggest browser, Google Chrome, is rolling out a handful of new features.

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### **Reddit is testing a new AI search feature for shopping**

Reddit announced on Thursday that it's testing a new AI search tool that takes community recommendations and matches them with products from some of the company's shopping and advertising partners. A small group of users in the U.S.

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### **Meta is shutting down Messenger's standalone website**

Meta is shutting down its standalone Messenger website, the company shared in a help page. Starting April 2026, the website will no longer be available.

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### **New York hits the brakes on robotaxi expansion plan**

Waymo's big chance to bring its robotaxis to the state of New York has been thwarted — for now.

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### **Zuckerberg grilled in court over social media harms on teens**

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg testified in court on Wednesday in a landmark trial aiming to determine if the tech giant's social media applications are addictive and harmful to teens and kids.

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### **SoftBank to spend an eye-popping \$33B to build huge US gas power plant**

SoftBank subsidiary SB Energy is expected to build a massive 9.2 gigawatt natural gas-fired power plant on the Ohio-Kentucky border, according to a report from Bloomberg.

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### **OpenAI reportedly finalizing \$100B deal at more than \$850B valuation**

OpenAI is nearing a deal to raise more than \$100 billion at a valuation that could exceed \$850 billion, Bloomberg reports, citing sources familiar with the matter.

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