



Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

Weekly Updates

16 January – 22 January 2020

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the latest in Asia

Japan

[E-commerce: Rakuten, Walmart's Seiyu to jointly set up new logistics site](#)

Rakuten and Walmart's Seiyu will join forces to set up a new logistics site in Yokohama later this year to deal with growing sales from their joint online supermarket business

South Korea

[Convenience stores: GS25 opens cashier-free concept store in Seoul](#)

South Korea's convenience store chain GS25 has opened a cashier-free convenience store in Seoul; alike Amazon Go in the U.S., the concept store leverages AI technology and other digital tools including smart cameras, weight sensors and video-recognition speakers to create a checkout-free shopping experience for customers

Singapore

[Convenience stores: 7-Eleven Singapore pairs up with fintech startup Pay2Home](#)

7-Eleven Singapore has partnered with local fintech startup Pay2Home to provide remittance services for customers without a bank account; under the partnership, customers who are unbanked can initiate a remittance transaction using the Pay2Home mobile app and pay instantly with a generated QR-code bill using cash at any 7-Eleven store

[Discount stores: Don Don Donki opens mega store in Singapore](#)

Don Don Donki has launched its largest store for Singapore in Jurong's Jem mall; covering two floors, the mega store carries a wide selection of Japanese products including lifestyle, homewares and beauty products, and houses a sushi counter where its customers can buy freshly made sushi

Malaysia

[Beauty and personal care: Sephora Malaysia unveils mega flagship store](#)

Sephora Malaysia has recently unveiled a new flagship store at Fahrenheit88 shopping mall in Kuala Lumpur, marking its largest outlet in Southeast Asia; covering 17,000 sqft, the mega store carries more than 10,000 products from 100 beauty brands, including Bobbi Brown, La Mer, SK-II, Sulwhasoo, Aerin, Maison Margiela, Drunk Elephant and Tatcha

Thailand

[E-commerce: Pomelo takes over Thai fashion e-commerce site Looksi](#)

Looksi, previously known as Zalora Thailand, has been spun off to merge into the ecosystem of Pomelo; the move came after Looksi's parent company Central Group participated in Pomelo's US\$52 million funding round in September 2019

India

[E-commerce: Alibaba-backed Zomato reportedly acquires Uber Eats India](#)

Zomato, an Indian online food delivery platform backed by Alibaba, has reportedly acquired the Indian operation of Uber Eats for around US\$350 million; the all-stock deal will give Uber Eats about 10% stake in Zomato, while Uber Eats will cease to exist as a separate brand in India and users on its platform will be redirected to Zomato's app

[E-commerce: Amazon to invest US\\$1 billion to help India's small businesses go online](#)

Amazon will inject US\$1 billion into its Indian operations to help local small and medium-sized businesses go online; this is in addition to about US\$5.5 billion that the company has already invested in the country

[E-commerce: Amazon reportedly plans large delivery hubs for Amazon Fresh in India](#)

Amazon is reportedly planning to build two large delivery hubs in Bengaluru and Hyderabad for its Amazon Fresh two-hour grocery and fresh produce retailing service in India; launched in August 2019, Amazon Fresh currently has 15 nodes in four Indian cities - Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Delhi-NCR and Mumbai

[E-commerce: Paytm plans to expand its online lending business](#)

Paytm plans to take its online lending business across India later this year as it looks to make it a major income stream; currently, the platform has around 150 million users including 15 million merchants

[E-commerce: Flipkart strengthens supply chain with two more warehouses](#)

Flipkart is set to boost its supply chain infrastructure by setting up two more warehouses in Haryana; covering 900,000 sqft in total, the new warehouses will help Flipkart significantly scale up its supply chain infrastructure in North India and enhance the company's ability to support the delivery and supply chain logistics of a wide selection products

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