

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2304**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 08.08.2025

**MEASURES TAKEN TO PROTECT IT INDUSTRY FROM AI**

**2304. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the potential disruptive impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on employment and service delivery in the Indian Information Technology (IT) sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including findings and sector-specific risk assessments, if any;
- (c) whether there are any Government schemes or incentives to encourage Indian IT companies to develop ethical and employment-friendly AI applications; and
- (d) if not, whether Government proposes to introduce such schemes, and the timeline for the same?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) and (b): India's AI strategy is based on the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to democratize the use of technology. It aims to address India centric challenges, create economic and employment opportunities for all Indians.

**AI ecosystem in India at present:**

India has a strong information technology ecosystem. It generates annual revenues of more than 250 billion dollars and provides employment to more than 6 million people.

Global rankings such as Stanford AI rankings place India among the top countries in AI skills, capabilities, and policies to use AI. India is also the second-largest contributor to GitHub AI projects, showcasing its vibrant developer community.

**India's AI strategy:**

India's AI strategy aims to position India as a global leader in artificial intelligence. Government launched IndiaAI mission in March 2024. It is a strategic initiative to establish a robust and inclusive AI ecosystem aligned with India's development goals.

Seven pillars of AI mission are as follows:

1. **IndiaAI Compute Capacity:** It aims to provide high-end compute power (GPUs) to all, including MSMEs and startups, at an affordable cost.

2. **IndiaAI Foundation Models:** To develop India's own Large Multimodal Models (LMMs) trained on Indian datasets and languages. This is to ensure sovereign capability and global competitiveness in generative AI.
3. **AIKosh:** To develop large datasets for training AI models. AIKosh is a unified data platform integrating datasets from government and non-government sources.
4. **IndiaAI Application Development Initiative:** This pillar aims to develop AI applications for India specific challenges in sectors such as climate change and disaster management, healthcare, agriculture, governance, and assistive technologies for learning disabilities.
5. **IndiaAI FutureSkills:** To develop AI skilled professionals in India by increasing the number of graduates, post-graduate and PhDs in AI domain. It also envisions setting up Data and AI Labs in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across India.
6. **IndiaAI Startup Financing:** To provide financial assistance to AI start-ups.
7. **Safe & Trusted AI:** To balance innovation with strong governance frameworks to ensure responsible AI adoption.

### **IndiaAI FutureSkills**

- To cultivate a robust pool of AI-skilled professionals in India by increasing the number of graduates, postgraduates, and PhDs specializing in the field of Artificial Intelligence. Support will be provided to:
  - 500 PhD fellows
  - 5,000 postgraduates
  - 8,000 undergraduates
- It also envisions setting up Data and AI Labs in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across India.
- IndiaAI, in collaboration with NIELIT, has identified 27 IndiaAI Data & AI labs in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across the country. Details of which are placed in Annexure I.
- Additionally, State/UTs have nominated 174 ITIs/Polytechnics for setting up IndiaAI Data & AI labs. The state-wise list of nominated ITIs/Polytechnics is provided in Annexure II.
- Foundational courses on Data & AI, i.e., Data Annotation and Data Curation approved by NCVET, have been launched in the IndiaAI Data & AI labs to make the future workforce AI-ready.

### **FutureSkills PRIME**

- FutureSkills PRIME is available as an online platform for digital skills training, which is hosted at <https://futureskillsprime.in/> where premium contents are made available to the candidate to facilitate anytime, anywhere learning, in line with their aptitude and aspirations.
- So far, more than 22.79 Lakh candidates have signed up on the FSP portal and 13.44 Lakh candidates have enrolled/trained in various courses, of which 3.41 Lakh enrolled/trained in AI/Big data. In addition, C-DAC & NIELIT Resource Centres, have trained 18,785 Government Officials & 2,367 trainers in emerging technologies. Also, 208 Bootcamps are organized in various technologies under which 19,929 beneficiaries are trained, which includes 2499 beneficiaries in Artificial Intelligence.

### **Competency Framework for AI Integration**

A **Competency Framework for AI** Integration in India has been launched to equip public sector officials with the necessary skills to effectively engage with AI technologies, address public concerns responsibly, and incorporate citizen feedback in public service delivery

(c) and (d): The Government of India encourages the development of AI applications that are both ethical and contribute to employment and socio-economic transformation. These are primarily driven through the **IndiaAI Mission** by fostering innovation, enhancing domestic capabilities, and ensuring tech sovereignty.

### **IndiaAI Application Development Initiative**

- This pillar aims to develop AI applications for India specific challenges in sectors such as climate change and disaster management, healthcare, agriculture, governance, and assistive technologies for learning disabilities.
- Currently, 30 (thirty) applications have been shortlisted.
- In addition, sector-specific hackathons have been organized in partnership with other ministries and government institutions.
- IndiaAI launched the CyberGuard AI Hackathon in collaboration with the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to develop AI-driven solutions for cybersecurity.

### **Support to AI-based startups in India**

- IndiaAI Startups Global program is launched with Station F & HEC Paris, to help 10 Indian AI startups expand into Europe; Currently they are undergoing training at Station F.
- These include startups working in areas like responsible AI, and AI in cybersecurity, among others (Details in Annexure - III).
- Among these are startups like **PrivaSapien Technologies**, working on privacy-enhancing AI, and **Secure Blink** focused on AI-driven cybersecurity.

### **Safe & Trusted AI**

- Establishment of IndiaAI Safety Institute For AI safety, security, and developing trust with diverse stakeholders.
- Diverse stakeholders including academia, startups, industry & government bodies engage through a hub-and-spoke model.
- Tools and frameworks are being built around Responsible AI, with a focus on 10 themes
- 8 Responsible AI Projects underway covering Machine Unlearning, AI Bias Mitigation, Privacy-Enhancing Tools, AI Governance Testing, etc.
- More projects on key themes like watermarking, ethical AI, risk assessment, stress testing, and deepfake detection tools are also being evaluated.

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**Annexure I**

**List of Data & AI labs planned by IndiaAI in collaboration with NIELIT in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across the country:**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>NIELIT Centre</b>	<b>State/UT</b>
1	Gorakhpur	Uttar Pradesh
2	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
3	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
4	Aurangabad	Maharashtra
5	Patna	Bihar
6	Buxar	Bihar
7	Muzaffarpur	Bihar
8	Kurukshetra	Haryana
9	Ropar	Punjab
10	Haridwar	Uttarakhand
11	Bikaner	Rajasthan
12	Tezpur	Assam
13	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
14	Calicut	Kerala
15	Guwahati	Assam
16	Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
17	Srinagar	J&K
18	Jammu	J&K
19	Ranchi	Jharkhand
20	Imphal	Manipur
21	Gangtok	Sikkim
22	Agartala	Tripura
23	Aizawl	Mizoram
24	Shillong	Meghalaya
25	Kohima	Nagaland
26	Leh	Ladakh
27	Silchar	Assam

## Annexure II

**The list of States/UTs which has nominated ITIs/Polytechnics for setting up IndiaAI data labs:**

<b>Sr No</b>	<b>State</b>	<b># ITIs Nominated by State Nodal Agency</b>
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	9
3	Assam	1
4	Chandigarh	1
5	Chhattisgarh	4
6	Daman & Diu	1
7	Delhi	1
8	Goa	1
9	Gujarat	5
10	Haryana	6
11	Himachal Pradesh	4
12	Jammu & Kashmir	1
13	Jharkhand	6
14	Karnataka	23
15	Ladakh	1
16	Lakshadweep	1
17	Madhya Pradesh	9
18	Mizoram	1
19	Nagaland	1
20	Odisha	9
21	Puducherry	1
22	Punjab	6
23	Rajasthan	25
24	Sikkim	1
25	Telangana	5
26	Tripura	1
27	Uttar Pradesh	49
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>174</b>

### **Annexure III**

#### **Startups supported under IndiaAI Startups Global program launched with Station F & HEC Paris:**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Startup Name</b>	<b>Area of Work</b>
1	PrivaSapien Technologies	Responsible AI with privacy engineering and privacy-enhancing technologies
2	CoRover.ai	Conversational Gen AI platform for contextual, domain-specific human-like responses
3	Staqui Technologies (Jarvis)	AI-powered audio-video analytics for surveillance, security, and governance
4	SatSure Analytics	Earth Observation using satellite imagery and AI for decision intelligence
5	Storyvord	AI-based video content generation from product URLs and brand context
6	VolarAlta	Drone-based AI solutions for industrial inspections
7	Smartail	AI-powered edtech platform for immersive learning and real-time assessment
8	Secure Blink	AI-driven cybersecurity with proactive DevSecOps posture management
9	NeuroPixel.AI	AI-enabled ultra-fast image editing for fashion and e-commerce
10	Voicing AI	Agentic AI platform for enterprise-grade intelligent voice agents

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