GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2294
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 19.12.2025

INDIGENOUS AI MODELS

2294. DR. SYED NASEER HUSSAIN:

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

(a) the steps being taken to promote open-source Artificial Intelligence (AI) research and AI innovation ecosystems in the country;
(b) the measures being taken to promote development of large-scale foundational AI models in India, given the absence of indigenous large-scale AI models that leaves India dependent on Western AI technologies;
(c) the steps being taken to address the major challenges faced by AI Startups in India; and
(d) whether the Ministry has partnered with private firms and international organisations/agencies for promoting AI research and development, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): India's AI strategy is based on the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of democratizing technology. It aims to address India centric challenges and create opportunities.

IndiaAI Mission
It is a strategic initiative to establish a robust and inclusive Al ecosystem aligned with India's development goals through the seven pillars. The details of IndiaAI mission available at www.https://indiaai.gov.in/.

Development of Indigenous Foundational Model
Under the IndiaAI Foundation Models pillar, the Government of India is supporting Indian startups, consortia and institutions to develop large language models, multimodal models and domain-specific small language models.
- Twelve organisations and consortia, including startups, industry players and academic institutions, have been selected for developing Large and Small Language Models.
- The models are developed based on Indian datasets spanning all 22 scheduled Indian languages
- The selected projects cover multilingual foundational models, speech and voice models, multimodal AI, scientific models, healthcare reasoning systems, and agentic AI platforms

The resulting AI models are expected to contribute to the open-source ecosystem by making them available through AIKosh platform for other startups and researchers. This will fuel innovation across India's startup and research community.

Development of Indian Datasets (AIKosh)

- AIKosh is a unified national platform that integrates datasets from Government and non-Government sources to support AI research and innovation
- It also provides seamless access to AI models, tools, and other compute resources for researchers, startups and academia.
- Indigenous AI models developed under the IndiaAI Mission will be made available through AIKosh to strengthen the open-source AI ecosystem
- These shared resources enable developers to focus on core AI innovation instead of recreating basic components

Affordable Compute Capacity for AI Development

Under IndiaAI Compute Pillar, a national AI compute capacity has been operationalized through empaneled AI service providers offering GPU access on cloud at subsidized rates to eligible users.

- As on date, 38,231 GPUs have been onboarded from 14 empaneled service providers under the IndiaAI Compute Capacity framework
- The average rate is approximately Rs 65 per GPU per hour, except for select high-end GPUs
- Empanelled providers are also delivering storage, networking, AI platforms and other supporting services necessary for AI model development and deployment

IndiaAI Application Development Initiative

- Government of India is also supporting startups for developing AI applications for India specific challenges in sectors such as climate change & disaster management, healthcare, agriculture, governance, and assistive technologies for learning disabilities.
- As on date, 30 (thirty) applications have been approved. List is mentioned in Annexure-1.

Empowering Indian AI Startups for Global Expansion

IndiaAI Startups Global program was launched in March 2025 in collaboration with Station F (Paris) and HEC Paris. 10 Indian AI startups are being helped in expanding into the European market.

Shaping global debate on AI

India is actively participating in shaping global debate on development, usage and safety of AI. India was the founder chair of Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI). India was able to carve out consensus on AI during the G20 communique.

India is hosting the global AI Impact Summit during 15-20 February 2026. The Summit will focus on people, planet and progress. More than 200 pre-summit events have been organized so far with more than 1.15 Lakh participants from around the world.

Strengthening AI research ecosystem in India

Under the IndiaAI FutureSkills pillar, the Government is developing an extensive AI talent and research pipeline by supporting 500 PhD fellows, 5,000 postgraduates and 8,000 undergraduates.

- 27 IndiaAI Data and AI Labs have been established in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities through NIELIT to conduct coursework in AI, data curation, annotation, cleaning and applied data science.
- 174 ITIs and Polytechnics across 27 States/UTs have been approved to set up additional IndiaAI Data and AI Labs

FutureSkills PRIME
- Government in collaboration with NASSCOM has launched courses for cutting-edge skills in areas such as AI, Big data and Cloud computing
- Over 500+ courses & 2000+ digital fluency pathways are offered on the platform. So far, 16.29 lakh+ candidates have enrolled/trained in various courses.

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ANNEXURE-1

Details of IndiaAI Innovation Challenge: Shortlisted Solutions

Sl.No.	Name of the Solution	Solution Description	Theme
1	Promoting regenerative agriculture practices for a sustainable future using AI	Measurement, Reporting, and Verification technology designed to ensure the integrity and quality of generated carbon credits.	Agriculture
2	Krishi Sah'AI'yak - Farming Co-pilot	AI-powered conversational co-pilot to provide personalized advisory to farmers in Indic languages.	Agriculture
3	Kadalcompass - We Amplify the voice of water using Hydro-AI,Underwater com,IoUT with Sensor Network	5G-enabled device that transforms fishing practices using AI, IoUT, and advanced communication technologies.	Agriculture
4	KissanCopilot Multilingual Multimodal personalized AI Assistant for small holder farmers	Powered by Dhenu's vertical LLM for agriculture, provides personalized agricultural advisory services to smallholder farmers.	Agriculture
5	Rapid, chemical-free soil testing solution using NIR Spectroscopy & AI/ML models	End-to-end soil testing approach leverages an offline app, AI-powered spectral device, and ML models to deliver timely, chemical-free soil analysis.	Agriculture
6	AI deep-tech driven quality assessment of Maize	SAAS platform to provide objective quality assessment of maize including price estimation & sales pipelining.	Agriculture

7	AI-Driven Live Fish Logistics and Mortality Reduction in Aquaculture	AI-driven solution that optimizes aquaculture operations.	Agriculture
8	QScan	AI-powered IoT solution that captures critical data throughout the fresh produce lifecycle, providing real-time analysis of food quality and actionable insights to sellers.	Agriculture
9	Heatwave Resilience: Integrating AI-based Advanced Forecasting for Extreme Heat Events	Integrates AI-based climate forecasting with health data to develop a targeted risk classification system for heat-health impacts.	Climate
10	Multi-Hazard Susceptibility Mapping	Hazard management system to predict Landslides, Debris Flows and Flash Floods.	Climate
11	DeepFlood: Rapid flood inundation mapping using Vision Transformers and Satellite Data	Advanced flood inundation mapping tool using SAR data and deep learning models for real-time, automated flood detection.	Climate
12	Moskeet: Climate impact on mosquito-borne diseases	AI-powered platform integrates real-time climate data with mosquito tracking to predict and prevent disease outbreaks.	Climate
13	End to End AI Cloud Platform for Radiology Diagnosis	AI cloud platform for radiology diagnosis, integrating innovative technologies such as CV, GenAI, NLP, Dicom, mobile, and cloud computing.	Healthcare
14	NIDAAN (iNtegrated lung health screening & tuberculosIs Detection through Ai At National scale)	qXR, an advanced AI tool for interpreting chest X-rays (CXR), detects & localizes 30+ findings.	Healthcare
15	Impactful AI solution, preventing preventable blindness, for socio-economic transformation.	Early detection of vision threatening retinal abnormalities.	Healthcare
16	AI Powered Wearable Technology for Detection & Diagnosis of Musculoskeletal Joint Health Pain.	AI Enabled Hardware Platform for Joint Pain Diagnostics and Rehabilitation Segments of Healthcare.	Healthcare
17	VoxelBox	Neuro-informatics platform that allows to map the functional maps / connectomics of the human brain.	Healthcare

18	Development of Ocellux: An AI-Based Solution for Enhanced Early Diabetic Eye Screening in INDIA.	Portable, affordable and highly accessible retina imaging device powered by AI for early detection of eye diseases like Diabetic Retinopathy, AMD & Glaucoma.	Healthcare
19	Revolutionizing healthcare using doctor-led AI	AI-powered personal doctor available 24x7 and free of cost, designed to assist people when they are sick, monitor their health through wearables, and act as a health coach to prevent diseases.	Healthcare
20	AI/ML enabled MafPro device platform for cancer staging, localization, and margins.	MafPro handheld detector provides a radiation-free, non-invasive, safe and cost-effective solution that can reliably detect and adequately evaluate metastases in lymph nodes using AI/ML based algorithms.	Healthcare
21	Readabled (Online Dyslexia Training)	Web-based application designed to help children with dyslexia improve phonetic awareness through interactive exercises.	Learning disabilities
22	Voice fusion AI	AI application to provide assistive support to individuals with SLDs in multiple Indian languages.	Learning disabilities
23	ScreenPlay - a digital game based screening tool for autism and related disorders.	Digital, game-based screening tool designed to identify children aged 3 to 6 who may be at risk for autism or related developmental conditions.	Learning disabilities
24	Jiveesha	AI-powered diagnostic platform for early detection of SLDs.	Learning disabilities
25	Adaptive Learning and Detection for SLDs	Advanced AI techniques to detect SLDs such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia.	Learning disabilities
26	Special Educator AI	AI-driven system designed to address India's shortage of special educators and support children with SLDs.	Learning disabilities
27	ConvoZen.AI by NoBroker Technologies	AI-powered conversational platform that automates customer engagement across channels like chat, voice, email, and social media, offering fast, personalized, and multilingual support.	Governance

28	AI contact center	AI-powered technologies like machine translation, NLP, ASR and TTS, and multilingual voice recognition to enhance governance by improving communication and accessibility across India's linguistic diversity.	Governance
29	Adalat AI: AI solutions for Courts	AI-powered platform provides real-time multilingual transcription, translation, live case flow management, and WhatsApp chatbots to streamline courtroom operations.	Governance
30	Gov.Civis.Vote	AI-powered Digital Public Infrastructure designed to transform public consultations in India by making citizen engagement more inclusive, scalable, and comprehensive.	Governance

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