GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2476
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 13.03.2026

GENDER BIAS IN AI ALGORITHM AND DATASETS

2476. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) whether Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems trained on male-dominated datasets reinforce gender inequality-medical research based on male bodies, hiring algorithms discriminating and credit scoring deeming women less creditworthy;
(b) whether women constitute only 22 per cent AI professionals, 14 per cent senior levels, ensuring male experiences dominate algorithm creation;
(c) the measures mandating gender disaggregated data, diverse teams and bias audits before deployment;
(d) the accountability mechanism for digital public infrastructure, excluding women–authentication in alien languages, ₹ 100 fees for extracting data; and
(e) the timeline for implementing UNESCO, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recommendations on gender-responsive AI, avoiding female-voiced assistants, reinforcing subservient stereotypes?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Government of India emphasizes the concept of 'AI for All,' aligning with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to democratise use of technology. This initiative aims to ensure that AI benefits all sectors of society, driving innovation and growth.

AI systems are generally trained on large datasets that may include publicly available data as well as curated datasets. Their outputs depend on the quality and representativeness of such data.

Recognizing the need for safe, secure and trustworthy AI, the Government has supported several initiatives under the IndiaAI Mission.

Safe & Trusted AI
This pillar under the IndiaAI Mission seeks to balance innovation with strong governance frameworks to ensure responsible AI adoption.

13 projects have been selected addressing issues like machine unlearning, AI algorithm auditing tools, privacy-preserving machine learning, explainability, and evaluating gender bias in Agriculture LLMs etc.

Details are placed at Annexure-I. Bias mitigation is another project that ensures that inputs of gender bias in training data is minimized.

India AI Governance Guidelines

The India AI Governance Guidelines provide a comprehensive national framework to ensure the safe, responsible and inclusive development and deployment of AI. The guidelines emphasize human-centric AI development, with the core principle of "Do No Harm" and provide a comprehensive governance framework.

The Guidelines recommend developing a risk-assessment and classification framework for AI systems that reflects the country's social and cultural context and enables deployment of appropriate risk-mitigation measures.

Global Partnership 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) which is a multilateral initiative co-founded by OECD member and partner countries.

GPAI produced an Advancement Report "Towards Substantive Equality in Artificial Intelligence: Transformative AI Policy for Gender Equality and Diversity," detailing strategies like mainstreaming gender/diversity and stakeholder consultations emphasizing intersectionality.

UNESCO's Recommendations

UNESCO's recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, adopted by consensus in November 2021 by all 194 Member States including India, explicitly emphasizes gender equality.

It promotes fairness, non-discrimination, and active participation of all individuals or groups regardless of gender across AI's lifecycle, with dedicated policy actions on gender to address biases and ensure inclusivity.

As per the Stanford AI Index 2025, India continues to lead globally in relative AI skill penetration for women, with a score of 1.9. This score indicates stronger representation of women in AI skills relative to the general talent pool.

In comparison, the United States has the score of 1.7 and Canada 1.0 signifying relatively lesser participation.

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Annexure-I

Details of projects selected under the Safe and Trusted Pillar are as follows:

NAME OF THE THEME	SELECTED APPLICANT	TITLE OF THE PROJECT
Machine Unlearning	IIT Jodhpur	Machine Unlearning in Generative Foundation Models
Synthetic Data Generation	IIT Roorkee	Design and Development of Method for Generating Synthetic Data for Mitigating Bias in Datasets; and Framework for Mitigating Bias in Machine Learning Pipeline for Responsible AI
AI Bias Mitigation Strategy	National Institute of Technology Raipur	Development of Responsible Artificial Intelligence for Bias Mitigation in Health Care Systems
Explainable AI Framework	DIAT Pune and Mindgraph Technology Pvt. Ltd.	Enabling Explainable and Privacy Preserving AI for Security
Privacy Enhancing Strategy	IIT Delhi, IIIT Delhi, IIT Dharwad and Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC)	Robust Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning Models
AI Ethical Certification Framework	IIIT Delhi and Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC)	Tools for assessing fairness of AI model
AI Algorithm Auditing Tool	Civic Data Labs	ParakhAI: An open-source framework and toolkit for Participatory Algorithmic Auditing
AI Governance Testing Framework	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC)	Track-LLM, Transparency, Risk Assessment, Context & Knowledge for Large Language Models
Deepfake Detection Tool	IIT Jodhpur (CI) & IIT Madras	Saakshya: Multi-Agent, RAG-Enhanced Framework for Deepfake Detection and Governance
	IIT Mandi & Directorate of Forensic Services, Himachal Pradesh	AI Vishleshak: Improving Audio-Visual Deepfake Detection and Handwritten Signature Forgery Detection with Adversarial Robustness, Explainability & Domain Generalization
	IIT Kharagpur	Real-Time Voice Deepfake Detection System
Bias Mitigation	Digital Futures Lab & Karya	Evaluating Gender Bias in Agriculture LLMs- Creating Digital Public Goods (DPG) for Benchmarking and Fair Data Work

Penetration Testing & Evaluation	Globals ITES Pvt Ltd & IIIT Dharwad	Anvil: Penetration Testing & Evaluation Tool for LLM and Generative AI

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