

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1499
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 31.07.2026

SKILLING OF WORKFORCE IN AI

1499. # SHRI GOVINDBHAI LALJIBHAI DHOLAKIA:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been established that the future economy is expected to be skill-based rather than degree-based, and that there is a likelihood of significant employment growth driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI);
- (b) the plan of Government vis-a-vis AI training to the present generation of workforce, including Government employees across the country; and
- (c) Government's plan to develop a large-scale AI skilled work force?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): **IndiaAI Mission:**

India's AI policy is based on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of democratizing technology. It is aimed at creating economic opportunities and employment for youth, while addressing risks associated with AI.

India's AI strategy builds on India's vibrant IT sector with annual revenue of 300 billion dollars and 60 Lakh strong workforce. India AI Mission has seven pillars including development of AI models, applications, datasets, talent development and affordable compute.

Skill-Based Economy and AI-Driven Employment:

- The Government recognizes that, in emerging technology sectors including AI, employability is increasingly linked to skills, competencies and continuous upskilling. Accordingly, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the IndiaAI Mission and various skilling programmes emphasize competency-based learning, continuous upskilling and lifelong learning alongside formal education.
- In the Stanford Global AI Vibrancy 2025 report, India was ranked 3rd in the world for AI competitiveness and ecosystem vibrancy. India is also the second-largest contributor to GitHub AI projects, showcasing its vibrant developer community.
- 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, indicating stronger representation of women in AI skills relative to the general talent pool, compared to 1.7 for the United States and 1.0 for Canada.

AI Training for the Existing Workforce, including Government Employees:

- Under the **IndiaAI FutureSkills pillar**, the YUVA AI for All course has been completed by over 26.5 lakh individuals and is available across platforms including FutureSkills PRIME, Skill India and iGOT Karmayogi.
- **FutureSkills PRIME**, a joint initiative of MeitY and NASSCOM, has more than 34 lakh registered candidates, with over 23 lakh enrolled/trained across courses, including more than 9.58 lakh in AI/Big Data Analytics. Separately, 32,745 Government officials, 2,367 trainers and 40,435 candidates have been trained through more than 420 bootcamps at C-DAC and NIELIT centres, and 2.89 lakh candidates have enrolled/trained in the YUVA AI for All course onboarded on the FutureSkills PRIME platform.
- **NIELIT** delivers training through 56 Centres and 9,000+ partner institutes, and has developed 42 NSQF-aligned AI courses. As a formal academic offering, NIELIT's Deemed to be University offers 8 AI-focused programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, along with PhD research opportunities. The NIELIT Digital University (NDU) platform, offering online and blended AI/emerging-technology courses with AI-enabled mentoring and career guidance, has recorded over 2.75 lakh registrations.
- Under the **IndiaAI FutureSkills pillar**, NIELIT is implementing the “IndiaAI Data Labs” project (administrative approval dated 21.10.2024, outlay of ₹1,462.43 lakh over three years) to train 10,800 candidates in NSQF-aligned courses on Data Curation and Data Annotation using Python. IndiaAI Data Labs have been established at 27 NIELIT Centres, and 6,051 candidates have been trained to date.
- Under **Mission Karmayogi**, more than 1.7 crore Government officials from the Centre and States have been onboarded on the iGOT Karmayogi platform, which offers over 200 AI and emerging-technology courses. These courses have recorded more than 3.3 crore completions, with over 61 lakh officials having completed at least one AI course.
- The **Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH)**, implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, offers AI and Generative AI courses to support upskilling and reskilling of the workforce.

Building a Large-Scale AI-Skilled Workforce:

- The **IndiaAI Fellowship scheme** provides for 500 PhD, 5,000 postgraduate and 8,000 undergraduate fellowships; 686 fellowships have been awarded to date across 178 participating institutions.
- 27 IndiaAI Data and AI Labs have been established at NIELIT Centres, with 543 further labs identified for establishment across ITIs/Polytechnics in Tier-2/3 cities.
- IndiaAI is working with expert partners to design and deliver industry-aligned, NCVET-recognised certification courses, preparing learners for entry-level AI careers while promoting responsible use of AI.
- An **IndiaAI Competency Framework** equips public-sector officials with the skills required to engage with AI technologies, building a foundational understanding of AI's capabilities and defining the behavioural, functional and domain-specific competencies required for government roles, thereby enabling administrators to integrate AI for enhanced service delivery and address public concerns responsibly.
- The Government has approved a scheme for **58 AI Centres of Excellence** across States and Union Territories to strengthen AI innovation, industry-academia collaboration and the national AI talent pipeline.

- NITI Aayog has constituted a High-Powered Standing Committee on Education to Employment and Enterprise to assess the impact of emerging technologies, including AI, on jobs, skills and workforce readiness; MeitY's AI Governance and Economic Group (AIGEG) complements this by examining the economic, labour-market and societal implications of AI.
- The Government's approach further spans integration of AI into school, higher and technical education curricula, and provision of shared AI compute infrastructure, datasets and models through the IndiaAI Mission to support learning, research and innovation.
- Institutions under the Ministry of Education are offering specialized courses and programmes in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Science, and Cyber Security and Ethical Hacking, to enhance students' digital capabilities and employability.
