

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2306
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 07.08.2026

**IMPACT OF AI TOOLS ON CHILDREN'S COGNITIVE
DEVELOPMENT**

2306. SHRI RAJINDER GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of emerging research indicating that excessive reliance on generative AI tools may adversely affect critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, particularly among children and young users;
- (b) whether Government has any regulatory or advisory framework to address the cognitive and developmental impact of AI tool usage among children; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to undertake or support India-specific research and develop age-appropriate safeguards or design standards for AI tools used by children, particularly in view of the increasing use of AI in education?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Government is aware of the rapid advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI), including Generative AI, and its increasing adoption across various sectors, including education. The research on the long-term cognitive and developmental impact of Generative AI is still evolving and no definitive conclusions have emerged.

The existing legal framework governing AI-enabled services comprise the provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000, the rules made thereunder, and other applicable laws. The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 also provides enhanced safeguards relating to the processing of personal data of children, including obligations relating to verifiable parental consent and specified restrictions on processing, in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder. The Government has also issued advisories to intermediaries from time to time regarding compliance with applicable legal obligations in respect of AI-generated content.

The Government is promoting the development and deployment of safe, trusted and responsible AI through the IndiaAI Mission. The Mission includes a dedicated Safe & Trusted AI pillar aimed at developing indigenous AI governance frameworks, tools and evaluation mechanisms to facilitate responsible AI. Under this pillar, projects have been supported in premier academic and research institutions in areas such as AI safety, explainability, privacy-preserving AI, bias mitigation, deepfake detection and AI governance. The Mission also supports AI literacy

initiatives such as YUVA AI for All, which has enabled more than 26.5 lakh learners to acquire foundational knowledge of Artificial Intelligence and its responsible use.

India AI Governance Guidelines were released on 5th November, 2025, providing a comprehensive national framework for the safe, responsible and inclusive development and deployment of Artificial Intelligence in the country.

Pursuant to the Guidelines, the following institutional mechanisms have been initiated, AI Governance and Economic Group (AIGEG), a high-level inter-ministerial body to steer the development of India's national AI governance strategy; Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC), to support technical and policy recommendations; and AI Safety Institute (AIS), to undertake safety research, develop standards, test AI systems and evaluate emerging risks.

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 also envisages the responsible integration of technology in education while emphasising critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving and experiential learning, with technology serving as an enabler rather than a substitute for human learning. The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), aligned with NEP 2020T emphasises the development of cognitive, emotional, social, ethical, and physical capacities of learners and this is being achieved through the integration of arts, sciences, languages, sports, value education, and skill education.
