



BACKGROUNDERS

Press Information Bureau

Government of India

AI in Education

Building India's Talent Pipeline for Global Leadership

March 3, 2026

AI IN INDIA

FROM VISION TO IMPACT

Key Takeaways

- Infrastructure for All: Over 1.79 lakh ICT labs approved with Rs. 7,634 crore investment, reaching rural, tribal, and aspirational districts.
- Research to Workforce Pipeline: Centres of Excellence, promotion of AI-learning in universities, and skilling programs creating comprehensive AI talent ecosystem.

Introduction

India is positioning itself as a global AI powerhouse, with rapid growth across the sector. In 2024, 89% of new startups were AI-powered, and 87% of the enterprises are actively employing AI. This is just the beginning – the Indian AI market is expected to grow at a rate of 25%-35% through 2027. To support this growth, India, which had an AI talent pool of 600,000-650,000 in 2024, needs over 1.25 million AI professionals by 2027, at a 15% CAGR, according to NASSCOM.

Various initiatives and policies of the government are addressing the monumental shift in the labour market disrupted by AI. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recognises AI's potential for economic growth, solving educational challenges, enhancing teacher capabilities,

and personalising learning – and emphasises the importance of AI-learning across all educational levels. The IndiaAI Mission (launched in March 2024) aims to make India a global AI leader by fostering innovation across government, institutions, startups, private sector, and academia.

Central to this strategy is democratising technology—ensuring AI tools and digital platforms reach remote villages, tribal areas, and underserved communities, bridging the digital divide. This comprehensive approach aligns with the **Viksit Bharat 2047** vision, positioning India as an inclusive global AI leader.

National Education Policy 2020 on AI



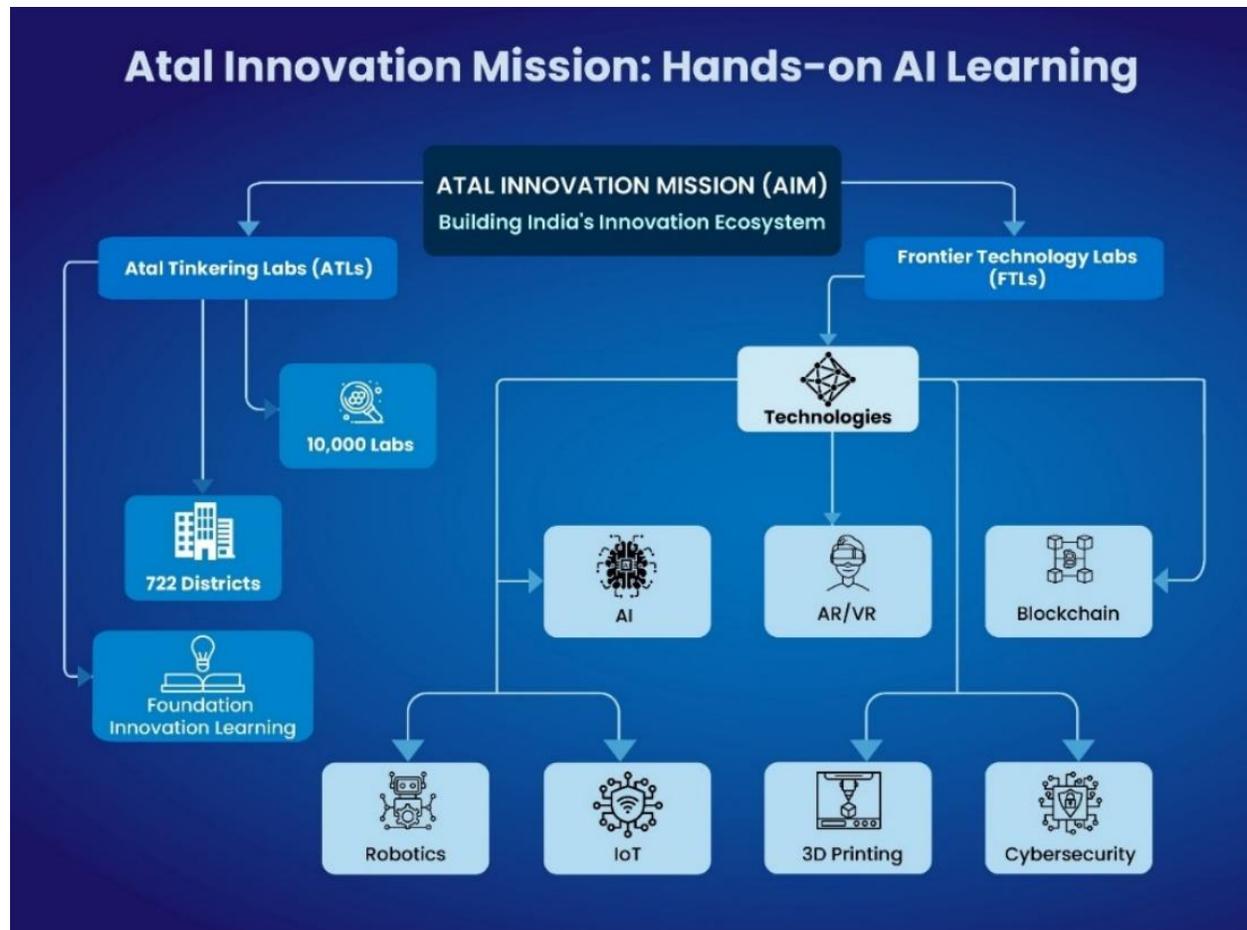
The NEP acknowledges that AI, big data and machine learning will transform labour markets and drive innovation. To ensure that the youth can cope with these monumental shifts, the NEP emphasises the importance of learning about AI, computer science/data science, along with other subjects for multidisciplinary education.

The policy aims to equip students in these subjects for economic success and greater opportunities.

As education is in the Concurrent List, NEP 2020's recommendations influence both Union and State/Union Territory education policies and support the government's push to position India as a global AI leader.

AI Initiatives in School Education

The Ministry of Education has integrated AI into school curricula across India through CBSE and NCERT, starting with grades 9, under National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2023.



Currently, CBSE offers a 15-hour AI skill module from Class VI onwards and AI as an optional subject in Classes IX-XII. NCERT has incorporated AI content in Class XI Computer Science and Informatics Practices textbooks and used AI/ML to translate Grade 1-2 textbooks into 22 Indian languages.

ICT LABS FOR AI & EMERGING TECH EDUCATION

TWO GOVERNMENT SCHEMES SUPPORTING ICT LABS



SAMAGRA SHIKSHA

Quality education for all children

GRANTS PER SCHOOL

One-time: Rs. 6.40 lakh

Annual: Rs. 2.40 lakh (5 years)

Covers: Hardware, software, training, digital boards, smart classrooms

TARGET

Govt & aided schools Classes VI-XII

Focus: Rural, tribal, aspirational districts

IMPLEMENTATION (As of February 2026)



SAMAGRA SHIKSHA:
1,79,153 ICT Labs approved

Rs. 7,634.95 crore allocated

CURRENT ICT INFRASTRUCTURE (UDISE+ 2024-25)

9,33,987 schools with internet

4,50,919 schools with smart classrooms

2,91,048 schools with laptops/notebooks



5,13,533 schools with desktops/PCs

3,82,543 schools with tablets

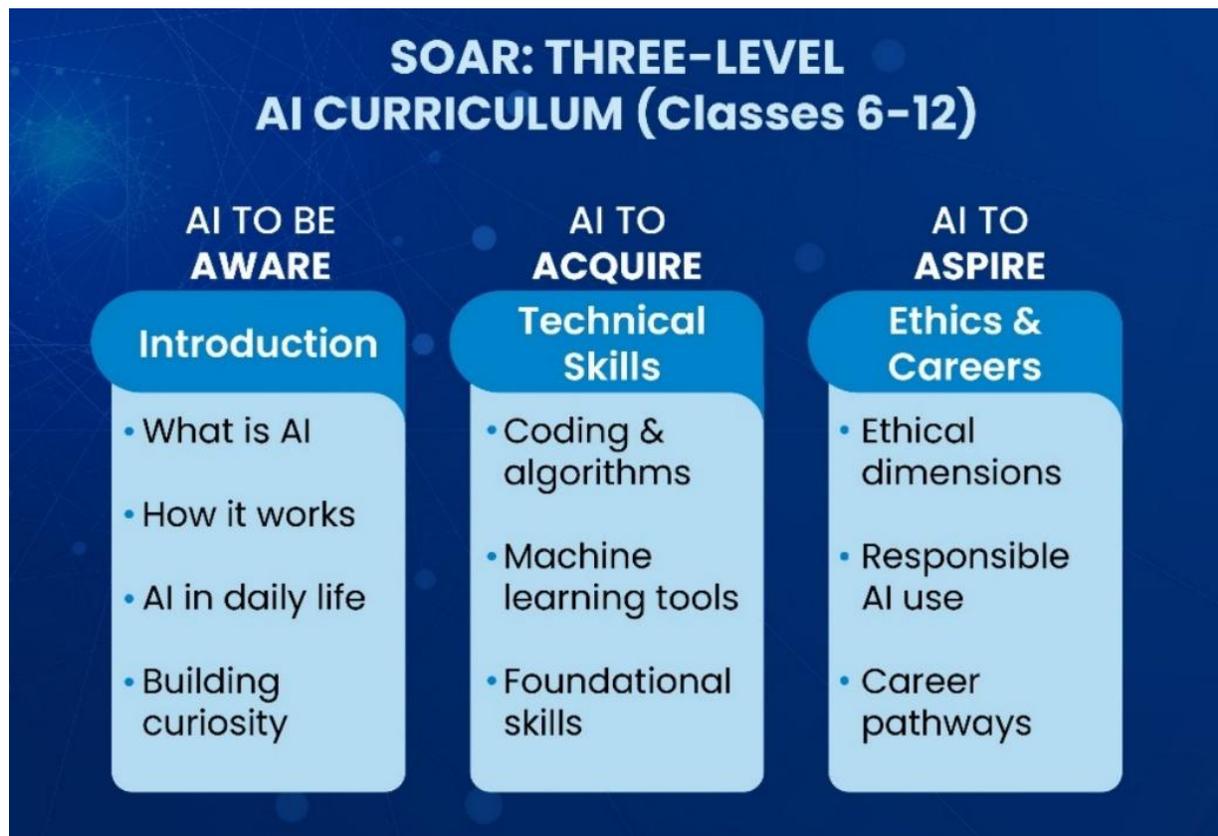
AI-Courses for Students and Educators

DIKSHA Platform

DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing), a Ministry of Education initiative, uses AI for inclusivity: AI-based keyword search in videos and read-aloud feature for visually impaired students. The DIKSHA mobile app is available for teachers and also for students and parents. The app is loaded with engaging learning material that fits the needs of the prescribed school curriculum.

SOAR Initiative

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched SOAR (Skilling for AI Readiness) to build AI awareness and skills for classes 6–12 students and educators. Program includes three 15-hour student modules and one 45-hour "AI for Educators" teacher module.



"AI for Educators" Module:

The module trains teachers to understand AI curriculum and pedagogy, use AI tools effectively in classrooms, promote inclusivity for diverse learners, create educational AI projects, and teach responsible AI ethics.

SWAYAM Platform

The Ministry of Education's SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) platform offers 110+ free AI courses from IITs and IISc, with 41.2 lakh+ students enrolled.

AI in Higher Education

The infographic is titled "AI in Higher Education" and features a light blue background with a white central area containing three horizontal bars. Each bar has a circular icon on the left and text on the right. The top bar has a graduation cap icon and lists "Curriculum (UGC)" with topics like AI, ML, Big Data, Drones, and Deep Learning. The middle bar has a laptop icon and lists "Programs (AICTE)" including AI courses and minor programs in AI, data science, machine learning, and robotics. The bottom bar has a person at a presentation board icon and lists "Training" with 250 Faculty Development Programs for faculty. On the right side, there are illustrations of a robot head, a person with a laptop, and various symbols like code tags and a leaf. The PIB logo is in the top right corner.

AI in Higher Education

- Curriculum (UGC)**
AI, ML, Big Data, Drones, Deep Learning
- Programs (AICTE)**
AI courses and minor programs in AI, data science, machine learning and robotics
- Training**
250 Faculty Development Programs for faculty

University Grants Commission (UGC): The 2022 undergraduate curriculum includes AI, 3D machining, big data analysis, machine learning, drone technologies, and deep learning with applications in health, environment, and sustainable living.

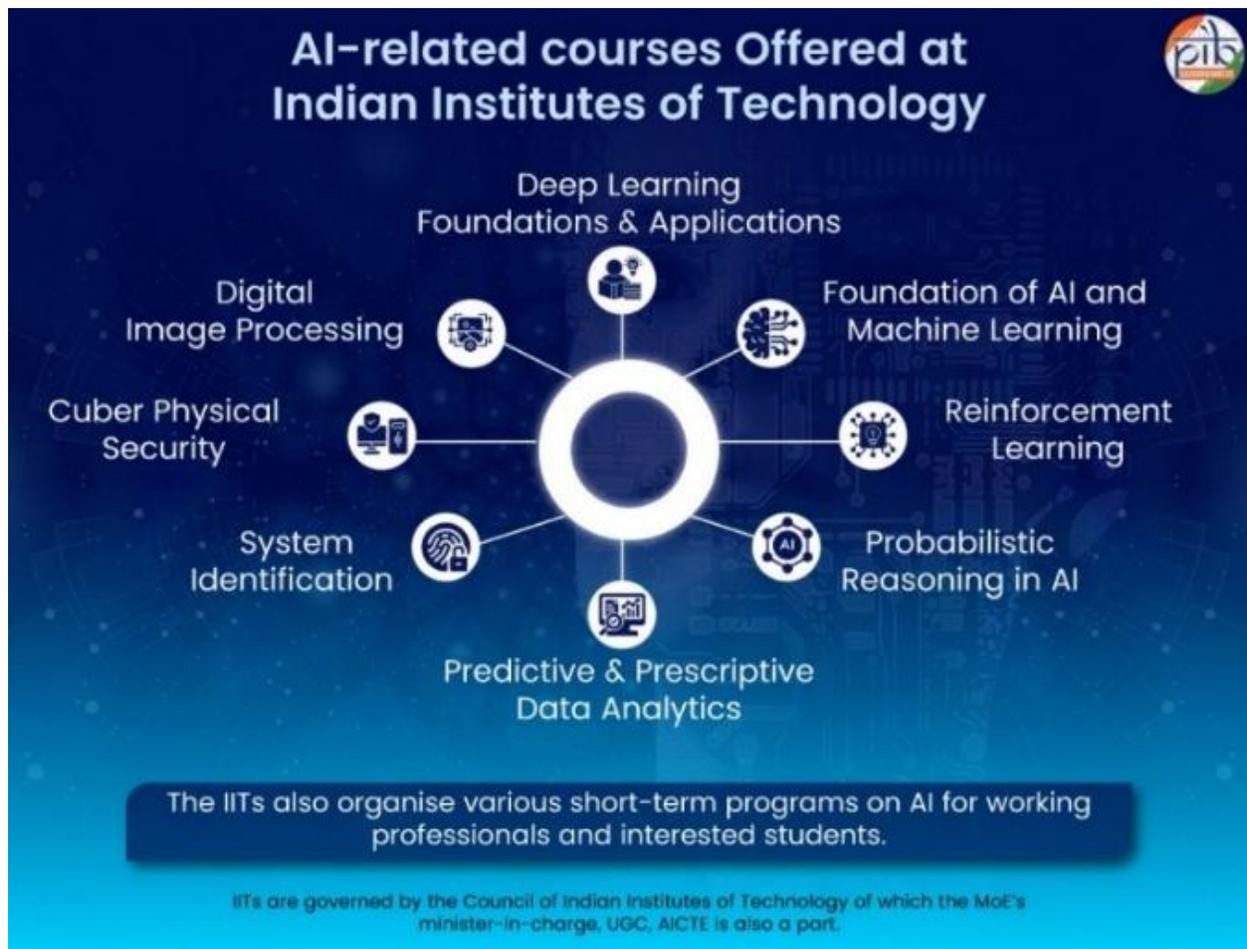
All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE):

- Incorporated AI components in all IT-related courses
- Conducts hackathons to promote AI awareness
- Offers women engineering scholarships (PRAGATI, Saraswati)
- Conducts faculty development programs

Perplexity Partners with AICTE

Perplexity, an AI-powered search engine has partnered with AICTE to provide support to 40 million students of 14,000 institutions through digital distribution via AICTE's various communication channels, faculty training session and pilot launches in Centres of Excellence. There is also student access to the Perplexity website/app through institutional onboarding.

The purpose of the project is for students to explore how AI tools can support research, innovation and real-world applications. This project aligns with the NEP's emphasis on experiential learning.



IIT Madras Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026

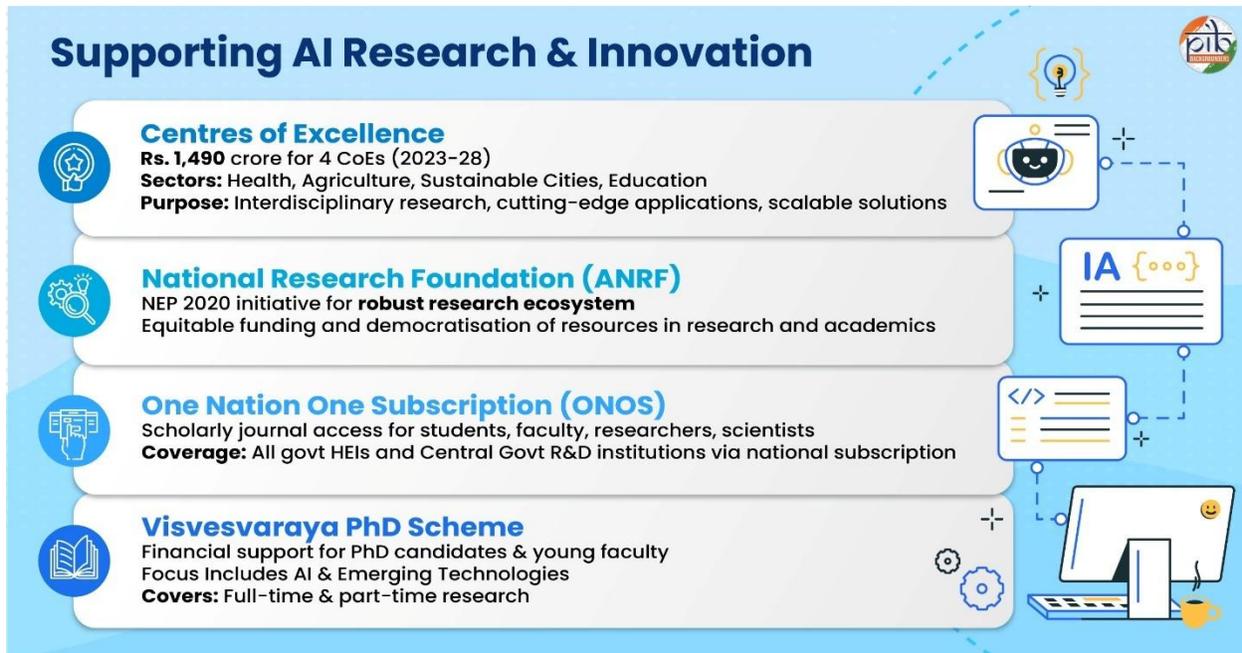
Ministry of Education, Government of India, is inviting participants who have developed credible and research-backed AI solutions with demonstrated measurable outcomes to part in the IIT Madras Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026 which will take place on February 12-13 in New Delhi. The call is open to solution providers, academic and research institutions, government bodies and other stakeholders from across India and abroad.

Submissions are invited across four priority verticals:

1. AI for School Education,
2. AI for Higher Education,
3. AI for Skilling and Workforce Readiness, and
4. AI Research and Deep Technology.

Research and Development

The government is supporting research and development in AI through various initiatives or schemes.



IndiaAI and Meta established the **Center for Generative AI, Srijan (सृजन)** at IIT Jodhpur and launched the **YuvAi Initiative** (with MeitY and AICTE) to advance open-source AI in India. The program targets **100,000 students and developers (aged 18-30)** over three years to develop AI solutions for healthcare, education, agriculture, smart cities, and financial inclusion.

Key Components:

1. Gen AI Resource Hub (courses, case studies, open datasets)
2. LLM for Young Developers Course (designed by Meta)
3. Master Training Activation Workshops (foundational AI concepts)
4. Unleash LLM Hackathons (mentoring, seed grants, market support for top ideas)
5. AI Innovation Accelerator (supporting 10 student-led startups with incubation and visibility).

IndiaAI Mission's Educational Goals

IndiaAI Mission (launched in March 2024) is laying the foundation for India's AI sector development. The initiative has been allocated a budget of ₹10,371.92 crore over five years. It provides computing infrastructure for developing AI models, creates datasets for training, and develops practical applications across sectors including education.

INFRASTRUCTURE ACCESS: AI LABS ACROSS INDIA

27 NIELIT DATA & AI LABS

Location:
Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities

Purpose:
To conduct coursework in AI, data curation, annotation, cleaning and applied data science

174 ITI & POLYTECHNIC LABS

Location:
27 states and union territories

The infographic features a central illustration of a white robot with a blue visor standing on a blue platform, surrounded by server racks and data visualizations. A small 'pib' logo is in the top right corner.

IndiaAI's initiatives supporting AI-centric education and AI-research are:

AI is helping children with learning disabilities bridge their learning gaps through various applications:

Existing Solutions:

- Readabled (Online Dyslexia Training): Web-based application helping children with dyslexia improve phonetic awareness through interactive exercises
- ScreenPlay: Digital, game-based screening tool identifying children aged 3-6 at risk for autism or related developmental conditions

Prototype Stage:

- Voice Fusion AI: Application providing assistive support to individuals with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLDs) in multiple Indian languages
- Adaptive Learning and Detection for SLDs: Advanced AI techniques detecting specific learning disorders (SLDs) such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia

Idea Stage:

- Jiveesha: AI-powered diagnostic platform for early detection of SLDs
- Special Educator AI: AI-driven system addressing India's shortage of special educators and supporting children with SLDs

The Government is funding R&D projects at premier institutions like IITs to build AI tools.

Indian educational institutions are also working on IndiaAI Application Development Initiative. Selected projects are:

DeepFlood: Rapid Flood Inundation Mapping

- Team: Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
- Stage: Prototype
- Description: Advanced flood inundation mapping tool using SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) data and deep learning models for real-time, automated flood detection with Vision Transformers and satellite data

The details of the selected projects developed by teams from Indian educational institutes under “Safe & Trusted AI” Pillar are:

Responsible AI Projects

- 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 Pvt. Ltd.: 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

Skilling in AI

To equip India's workforce with AI and digital capabilities, the government has launched comprehensive skilling initiatives spanning students, industrial trainees, professionals, and government officials. These programs combine foundational AI literacy with advanced technical training.

Programme	Implementing Agency	Target/Scale	Key Features
Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 4.0	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)	36,584 trained in AI (as on June 30, 2025); 45% women	Short-Term Training (STT) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL); AI Career for Women Initiative launched in April 2025 (targeting 8,000 girls over 2 years)
SkillSaksham Program	MSDE + Microsoft (MoU Aug 2024)	200 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs); 10,000+ candidates targeted; 8,500+ already trained	1,200 hours AI training + 400 hours Advanced AI in ~15 National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) under Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS)
iGOT Karmayogi Bharat Platform	Mission Karmayogi	Government officials	Digital learning platform offering courses in AI, data analytics, and digital transformation
FutureSkills PRIME	Government + NASSCOM	16.29 lakh+ enrolled/trained	500+ courses, 2,000+ digital fluency pathways in AI, Big Data, Cloud Computing; aligned with National Occupational Standards (NOS) and National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)
YUVA AI For All	IndiaAI Mission	Target: 1 crore citizens	Free, self-paced foundational AI course (4-4.5 hours) for students, youth, professionals, parents, senior citizens

Conclusion

India's comprehensive AI education strategy—aligned with NEP 2020 and the IndiaAI Mission—spans curriculum integration from primary to higher education, teacher capacity building, infrastructure development, skilling initiatives, and research Centres of Excellence. The approach extends beyond urban centres to tribal and aspirational districts, democratising technology access across all communities. These initiatives position India as a global AI leader while ensuring inclusive socio-economic development, embodying Welfare for All, Happiness for All (Sarvajanam Hitaya, Sarvajanam Sukhaya).

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