



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

आचार्य मनिष र. जोशी  
सचिव

**Prof. Manish R. Joshi**

Secretary



आजादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग  
**University Grants Commission**  
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(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

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**Subject: Organization of Pre-Summit Activities for AI Impact Summit 2026-reg.**

आदरणीय महोदया/महोदय,

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a key driver of global economic growth, productivity, and innovation. It is also a critical enabler of India's national visions of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat. Recognizing this strategic importance, the Government of India launched the IndiaAI Mission on March 7, 2024, to strengthen India's leadership in AI and to promote inclusive and responsible AI development.

The IndiaAI Impact Summit 2026, scheduled to be held in New Delhi on February 19–20, 2026, positions AI as a national priority and focuses on translating global AI commitments into tangible, real-world impact. The Summit emphasizes the importance of coordinated action among government, industry, and academia to drive inclusive growth and reinforce India's AI leadership. In this context, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) play a pivotal role in expanding AI adoption across education, research, and industry.

To build nationwide momentum and engagement, AI-focused Pre-Summit Events will be organized across HEIs, feeding into the IndiaAI Impact Summit 2026 and empowering students, educators, and institutions to contribute meaningfully to India's AI commitments. An '*Issue Note*' shared by the Ministry of Education on the subject is attached for ready reference.

In this regard, Higher Education Institutions are requested to organize one significant Pre-Summit Event during the period 15 January 2026 to 10 February 2026. The event may include participation from students, faculty members, industry experts, and representatives from at least ten nearby higher education institutions (excluding IITs and NITs). The activities may, *inter alia*, include:

- Awareness sessions on AI courses and programmes offered by the institution;
- Interaction with industry experts on emerging trends, career pathways and employment opportunities in AI; and
- Discussions on research, innovation and start-ups in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

**Contd-**

It is also requested that after the events the details of the same may be updated in the following link and social media post may use the hashtags #IndiaAllImpactsummit2026#AIforGood #IndiaAI#peopleplanetprogress #AIforAll.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1O\\_oP63qydvwCPFieUBjxt\\_yogJvLUD5AZPBNJpkXf9I/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1O_oP63qydvwCPFieUBjxt_yogJvLUD5AZPBNJpkXf9I/edit?usp=sharing)

सादर,

भवदीय,



(मनिष जोशी)

संलग्नक: उपरोक्तानुसार

सेवा में,

सभी विश्वविद्यालयों के कुलपति।

सभी महाविद्यालयों के प्राचार्य।

## Issue Note

### Pre-Summit Events in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

#### Context

Artificial Intelligence is a key driver of global economic growth, productivity, and innovation. Its adoption is expected to add USD 500–957 billion to India's GDP by 2035, making AI a key lever for national visions of **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **Viksit Bharat**.

Recognizing this, the Government of India launched the **IndiaAI Mission** on March 7, 2024 to strengthen India's leadership in AI and enable inclusive, responsible AI development. The Mission enables access to compute infrastructure, AI-ready datasets, AI models, talent development opportunities, and innovation support.

AI-driven disruptions highlighted the need to urgently strengthen the Higher Education system through a **transformative approach** that embeds ethical AI use, sustainability, and preparation of AI-ready graduates.

Higher Education Institutions, regardless of their digital maturity, are central to this effort as they face **increasing pressure to build an AI-ready talent pipeline, advance interdisciplinary research, and partner with industry** to translate AI innovation into real-world impact and entrepreneurship.

The **IndiaAI Impact Summit 2026**, to be held in New Delhi on February 19- 20, 2026, positions AI as a national priority and focuses on **translating global AI commitments into real-world impact**. It highlights the need for coordinated action between government, industry and academia as provided by the summit, for inclusive growth and AI leadership.

In this context, HEI-level Pre-Events aim to link education, upskilling/re-skilling, research, and industry needs to the Summit's seven interconnected themes: (1) Safe and Trusted AI, (2) Human Capital, (3) Science, (4) Resilience, Innovation & Efficiency, (5) Inclusion for Social Empowerment, (6) Democratizing AI Resources, and (7) Economic Growth & Social Good.

The series of AI-focused **Pre-Summit Events** across 200 HEIs aim to bolster **nationwide momentum and engagement**, feeding into the IndiaAI Impact Summit 2026, empowering students, educators, and HEIs for India's AI commitments.

## AI for Bharat | Role of HEIs

HEIs are crucial for expanding AI penetration across education, research, and industry roles. As demand for AI-ready graduates increases, institutions are integrating AI into curricula, teaching-learning processes, research, and academic operations.

Close industry collaborations ensure that AI adoption translates into improved learning outcomes, employability, innovation, and enhanced employability of students. HEIs can demonstrate their advances related to AI adoption and use by showcasing how they:

**01**

Build student capabilities in data-driven decision making, AI application development, and system integration.

**02**

Integrate AI into teaching, learning, research, and institutional administration to deepen AI penetration across HEIs.

**03**

Align higher education curricula, research agendas, and pedagogy with the IndiaAI Impact Summit themes and AI-enabled industry roles.

**04**

Expose students across disciplines to AI tools, methods, and real-world applications, beyond computer science and IT programs.

**05**

Highlight evolving career opportunities and job roles across the AI value chain.

**06**

Define clear pathways for student and faculty upskilling and reskilling to improve AI readiness for industry and research.

**07**

Encourage indigenous AI innovations and scalable solutions for the masses and inclusive economic growth.

By aligning with the seven IndiaAI Impact Summit themes, HEIs can showcase how education is both AI-enabled and AI-enabling. The Pre-Summit Events aim to help students move up the AI value chain from users to creators.

Furthermore, helping students and faculty engage with real-world AI applications, production environments, and AI ethics fills the gap between AI education and employment.

# **Discussion Points aligned with IndiaAI Impact Summit Themes**

## **01 Human Capital Enhancement for an AI-Ready Workforce**

- » Explores the rapid evolution of the industry and job market due to AI.
  - » As the nature of work shifts, the demand for skills is moving toward roles that **leverage AI for human-centered designs and outcomes**. Discussions will focus on enhancing curricula based on model frameworks and industry inputs on emerging roles.
  - » Participants will examine **interdisciplinary learning and upskilling** to prepare for careers across the AI value chain and to enable students to be trained for an AI-based knowledge economy.
  - » This discussion theme **addresses how HEIs can lead** the large-scale transformation of India's human resource talent to meet these new global demands.
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## **02 Economic Growth & Social Good:**

- » This point focuses on **building indigenous AI solutions** for economic and social impact. Students and faculty learn **how to move from AI users to creators** up the AI value chain.
  - » The discussion explores **how HEIs can translate campus-based AI research projects** into viable startups, industry partnerships, and social impact solutions.
  - » HEIs can examine ways to strengthen student-led AI innovation through Innovation Councils, structured **incubation and start-up support**, and **pre-incubation ecosystems** that enable idea scouting, early prototyping, access to data, and basic business support. These mechanisms can help AI ideas progress from classrooms to real-world solutions.
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## **03 Science and R&D Strengthened by AI:**

- » This point examines **how AI is transforming scientific research** from traditional R&D approaches to data-driven, AI-enabled methods.
  - » Participants explore **how AI accelerates discovery, improves research quality, productivity**, and helps HEIs achieve research outcomes across higher Technology Readiness Levels.
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## **Discussion Points aligned with IndiaAI Impact Summit Themes**

### **04 Democratizing AI Resources**

- » HEIs can discuss expanding access to AI infrastructure and tools through **shared AI labs and open-access computing facilities**, and by developing and disseminating AI tools and models to students across disciplines.
  - » Institutions can explore **interdisciplinary short AI courses**, and **hands-on learning opportunities** that enable **technical and non-technical students** to **acquire AI skills** for their domains.
  - » The discussions can highlight the role of **student-led AI clubs, innovation communities, and informal labs where students can tinker, experiment, and collaboratively develop AI tools and applications**. This allows participants in HEIs to build advanced AI solutions regardless of their location or existing infrastructure.
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### **05 Resilience, Innovation & Efficiency**

- » **Expansion of AI infrastructure** requires tremendous amount of energy. It has a significant carbon footprint and impact on climate.
  - » This point aims to **raise awareness about frugal AI and developing sustainable AI solutions** for low-resource areas.
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### **06 Inclusion and Social Empowerment with AI Innovations**

- » This discussion point focuses on **AI for quality and accessible education** across the country.
  - » Participants will explore **opportunities for personalized learning, adaptive assessments, assisted learning for persons with special learning needs, and multi-lingual teaching-learning** for expanded access to inclusive and equitable quality education.
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### **07 Safe and Trusted AI in Higher Education Institutions**

- » Focuses on the **AI for academic work, use of data science, AI safety, ethics, and transparency** in academia and student-led innovation.
- » Explore how to build reliable systems that use data responsibly.

# **Key Challenges and Enablers**

Integrating AI into Education is crucial to ensure that large segment of learners get adequately aligned to future employment opportunities. However, several systemic challenges remain which need to be addressed.

Prominent challenges and mitigation mechanisms are outlined below:

## **Infrastructure and Capacity Constraints**

Limited AI infrastructure access, industry linkages, and innovation funding constrains HEIs from fully realizing the potential of AI. This presents an opportunity for inter-institutional collaboration and innovative resource pooling models.

## **Limited Access to High-Quality, Context-Relevant Data**

The lack of well-curated datasets aligned to Indian languages, sectors, and societal needs pose a challenge for applied AI research. HEIs have an opportunity to develop, curate, and responsibly share locally relevant datasets through mutually beneficial collaborations.

## **Translating Research Into Real-World Impact**

While AI research and student projects are growing, pathways to scale, commercialization, or social deployment remain underdeveloped. Strengthening innovation councils, pre-incubation support, and industry partnerships can help bridge this gap.

## **Ecosystem and Responsible AI Enablement**

Connects HEIs with industry and public-sector use cases while promoting ethical, safe, and trusted AI development.

## **Expectation from Pre-Summit Events**

The Pre-Summit Events are expected to deliver the following *outcomes*:

**Increased AI awareness and readiness among students and faculty.**

**Understanding the AI value chain, career pathways, and emerging job roles.**

**Strengthened HEI-Industry collaboration for improved outcomes.**

**Curriculum alignment with labour-market needs.**

**Awareness and adoption of effective AI-enabled pedagogy.**

**Ethical use of AI tools, addressing plagiarism, bias, and hallucination.**

**Enhanced AI research and innovation ecosystems within institutions.**

**Capacity building for administrators and faculty, including women in STEM.**

**Development of future-ready academic programs.**

 **Jan 15 - Feb 10, 2026**

As next steps, HEIs are encouraged conduct in-person Pre-Summit Events between January 15- February 10, 2026, aligned with previously outlined points.

Engagements should include **demonstrations of student-led AI innovations, showcase AI solutions by incubated startups, panel discussions, roundtables, workshops, industry forums, presentations, and other suitable formats.**



Institutions are also expected to document participation details, capture photographs, and actively disseminate outcomes through their official communication and social media channels to amplify impact and share best practices.