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Reflections from a vantage point, year-end realizations, and new-year resolutions

Throughout this year, I've engaged with hundreds of students and professionals through my Saturday-Office-Hours and various public talks. We delved into discussions on AI, ML, Chatbots, LLMs, Generative AI, NLP, and navigating a career in data science, etc. – all for free! Why? Because I genuinely enjoy sharing whatever I know, and I'm not financially dependent on it.

However, after several experiences, it's become apparent that if you don't assign a non-trivial value to your efforts, many people don't appreciate your time, knowledge, or reputation. Forget expressions of gratitude; some don't even respond to messages or invites. So, in the spirit of finding a solution, my resolution for the upcoming year is to start charging some non-trivial amount for these discussions and talks.



Here's the plan based on the nature of the request:

✨ If you're a working professional or represent a commercial organization, my hourly charge is a minimum of Rs 25k (\$300) . You can donate the amount to any charitable cause of your choice, in your name. Simple as that. Just inform me about it; no need for proof. I trust you.

✨ If you're a student or currently unemployed, my time is still yours for free. However, in return, meaningful open-source or social contributions are to be demonstrated.

This proposed scheme accomplishes both: the requester pays or contributes, respecting my time both monetarily and in code/social contributions. On my end, I don't receive any money, maintaining my commitment to the purity of knowledge sharing, my dharma, as much as possible. 🧘 🖥️

In summary, from now on, no commitment of time from me unless there's a commitment from the other side, following the outlined scheme. ⌚ ↻

This decision wasn't easy for me as I don't expect anything in return for sharing knowledge, as many have done the same for me without expecting anything back.

What are your thoughts? Does it seem reasonable? Share your opinions in the comments below, and if you have alternative suggestions, I'd love to hear them!

By the way, wishing you all a fantastic New Year filled with joy and success! 🎉 🎉 🥂

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