

**Yogesh Haribhau Kulkarni**

• You

AI Advisor (Helping organizations in their AI journeys) | PhD (Geometric Modeling) | Tech Colum...
now •

...

The AI Tug of War: China races, America spends, and India wonders!!

The U.S. and China are locked in an AI arms race. America spends hundreds of billions chasing AGI, powered by Nvidia's top chips. China spends less but smarter, pushing open-source models like DeepSeek, building efficiency on lower-grade chips, and embedding AI across industries.

And India? We're barely on the radar.

Yes, Indians lead AI labs in Google, Microsoft, Meta. Yes, we have global experts on "Top 100" lists. But here's the uncomfortable question: 'Has even one homegrown AI app or model touched 0.1% of Indians?' That's just 14 lakh people. Compare that to UPI, an everyday revolution. But with AI? Silence.

I thought it's not about talent, but looks like I am wrong. Well, it's not about money either, look at the startup funding (pic below) and budgets of Bollywood films or IPL teams. It's about will (and sheer talent). Chinese AI builds China. Indian AI builds Silicon Valley.

We missed the bus with chips. Do we want to miss it again with AI? What can we do?

- ➡ Stop glorifying our perceived elite institutes or companies. Wake-up and smell the coffee.
- ➡ Promote domestic role models, however small but genuine.
- ➡ Leverage open-source to solve local problems, different domains.
- ➡ Push from papers to products. Apps/model usage is the key, rest is all blah-blah!!

This isn't a rant; it's a wake-up call. AI will define the future. If we don't build, we'll remain dependent on those who do. Think of a world where the U.S. restricts, forget AI, but even technologies/apps like, Gmail, Android, or AWS.

👉 So tell me: which Indian AI app, model, or library has 'already' touched lives at scale? (Not that face recognition functionality in some domestic app, using some open-source model, please) Drop names in the comments. Let's celebrate and amplify them.

More details at my [Medium](#) article <https://lnkd.in/dEZy4qi4> and also some more references, below

→ China closes gap in AI model development

<https://lnkd.in/dJ9g2ZUe>

→ Deedy's post <https://lnkd.in/d54uanM2>

→ China or USA: Who is Winning the Arms Race? <https://lnkd.in/diFFXRiW>

→ Nvidia Loses Nearly \$600 Billion <https://lnkd.in/dbk9VBjc>



Deedy ✓
@deedydas

India's biggest AI startup, \$1B Sarvam, just launched its flagship LLM.

It's a 24B Mistral small post trained on Indic data with a mere 23 downloads 2 days after launch.

In contrast, 2 Korean college trained an open-source model that did ~200k last month.

Embarrassing.

Downloads last month
23



7:06 AM · May 24, 2025