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AI Literacy in Higher Education and India's Strategic Vision Viksit Bharat 2047

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Abstract

Communication and digital literacy are essential to India's goal of becoming a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by the year 2047. This goal aims to equip citizens with the skills necessary for the digital economy, bridge the gap between urban and rural areas, improve access to e-governance (such as UPI and DigiLocker), encourage innovation (including artificial intelligence and information technology), and ensure inclusive growth through initiatives such as PMGDISHA and Digital India and other initiatives. Literacies are non-negotiable for the advancement of a nation since they are the driving force behind economic stability, the primary driver of educational improvement, and the facilitator of participation in a technologically advanced society. In the 21st century, artificial intelligence (AI) is a powerful instrument that can improve many aspects of life. This is part of India's Viksit Bharat 2047 ambition to improve the country by 2047, its centenary. Viksit Bharat 2047 (Developed India 2047) requires the integration of emerging technologies, particularly AI, across several sectors, including higher education. Beyond higher education, artificial intelligence affects economic growth and technology. This transformational vision can only be fulfilled when young minds actively engage with AI. AI literacy in higher education empowers students to explore, create, and innovate. As students learn AI, they may solve real-world problems, conduct research, and change the future. The PRISMA methodology was used to discover relevant studies from Google Scholar, Scopus, and IEEE in this comprehensive review. After strict inclusion and exclusion criteria, 130 studies were reviewed and 17 were chosen for in-depth analysis. AI's impact on higher education is better understood, highlighting benefits and concerns in the context of Vision Viksit Bharat 2047, India's long-term development goals. Digitalization, skill development, and ethics are difficulties, while individualized learning, adaptive assessment, and AI-driven research are opportunities. AI-driven education supports Viksit Bharat 2047 by creating a technologically skilled workforce for India's development. Educational institutions, government, and industry must collaborate to teach future generations AI skills that support Viksit Bharat 2047.

1. Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) has entered a new period in the 21st century, marking the beginning of a new era. People's ways of living, working, and interacting with one another in all facets of life have been completely transformed as a result of this. Not only has artificial intelligence been vital in driving technological innovation, but it is also essential to the functioning of modern civilization, since it is driving productivity, economic development, and decision-making that is informed by data. Artificial intelligence (AI) increases a person's level of competency and enables them to focus on roles that require creativity and planning (Li et al.). By automating the processes, it provides a competitive advantage to firms by reducing the amount of labour and resources that are wasted in the process of performing normal and repetitive operations across a variety of industries, including healthcare, banking, logistics, shipping, and manufacturing. According to Trabelsi (2024), artificial intelligence fosters innovation, promotes the creation of new job opportunities, and assists in the growth of wholly new industries, all of which contribute to the continued economic development of countries. Nevertheless, artificial intelligence-assisted automation has resulted in worker

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displacements in a variety of industries; consequently, in order to fill this hole, it is necessary to upskill and reskill the workforce in order to adapt to new and evolving job needs (Onifade et al., 2022). Furthermore, the data-driven insights that are provided by AI technologies allow enterprises and governments the ability to make decisions and formulate policies in a variety of domains, including public health, transportation, education, and urban planning (Marwaha et al., 2024). The permeation of artificial intelligence into deeper roots of daily life, on the other hand, has resulted in the emergence of a critical apprehension regarding privacy, prejudice, accountability, and the application of moral principles (Radanliev, 2025). For artificial intelligence to provide services that are both inclusive and egalitarian, it is vital that these concerns be resolved. Artificial intelligence is expected to significantly revamp and transform the educational systems around the world by the year 2030. This is due to the fact that AI will be able to deliver individualized instruction, better accessibility, and improved administrative efficiency. Through the implementation of artificial intelligence, traditional teaching approaches and pedagogies will undergo a dramatic transformation, paving the way for educational outcomes that are more student-centred, engaging, and rewarding on a global scale.

Mehta et al. (2025) state that the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in education is becoming increasingly crucial as India prepares to realize the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, which calls for the nation to be fully modernized and developed in its centennial year of independence. As the Viksit Bharat 2047 initiative aims to equip all citizens with the values, knowledge, and skills necessary for comprehensive growth and global competitiveness, it is expected to play a pivotal role. Accessible learning across formal schooling, digital platforms, and sustenance for overlooked, backward, and disadvantaged masses of people is the goal of the education plan, which aims to reach 100% literacy and engagement. Building an inclusive, future-ready, and empowered nation is also a priority for students with disabilities, and this program helps them do just that. It is planned to restructure the curriculum with the help of competent educators and competency-based evaluations. Reasoning, creativity, and lifelong learning will all flourish in such an environment. The Viksit Bharat vision calls for the introduction of bridging courses, hostels, and scholarships to combat social and provincial disparities. Students and youth will be equipped with digital literacy, coding, and emerging tech skills by 2047, laying the groundwork for a knowledge-driven Viksit Bharat. This will be achieved through the provision of vocational education, which aims to promote continuous upskilling and prepare individuals to meet the demands of the future workforce (NITI Aayog, 2025).

India also requires a robust legal and policy framework for the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in order to guarantee that AI is utilized in an ethical and responsible manner across all industries, including education. In order to accomplish this, it is necessary to guarantee that the citizens' right to privacy is protected, in addition to guaranteeing that there is transparency, fairness, and accountability. Additionally, in light of the fact that technological advancement is occurring at a rate that has never been seen before in this day and age, it is of the utmost importance that this framework continue to be dynamic, and that the authorities continue to be proactive in ensuring that the framework is up to date with the most recent challenges and is able to address the continuously emerging, new hazards.

A road map for utilizing technology to empower India's informal labour is outlined in the document titled "AI for Inclusive Societal Development" (issued in October 2025) report prepared by NITI Ayog. One of the most important questions that it poses is: how can the most cutting-edge technologies in the world be made available to the most underutilized workers so that they can overcome limitations and take their rightful part in India's growth story? The paper is based on the actual experiences of people who work in informal settings. It is a reflection of the difficulties and goals that a household healthcare assistant in Rajkot, a carpenter in Delhi, a farmer, and a great number of other people face. These stories illustrate not only the enduring obstacles that exist, but also the enormous potential that may be unlocked by the strategic application of technology. The abilities of these millions of people should not be replaced by technology; rather, technology should enhance them. Artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, blockchain technology, robots, and immersive learning are some of the innovative technologies that are discussed in the roadmap as potential solutions to the systemic challenges that India's 490 million informal labourers confront. It imagines a future in which voice-first artificial intelligence interfaces will be able to overcome language and literacy hurdles by the year 2035. Payments will be made in a timely manner and transparently thanks to smart contracts. Micro credentials and on-demand learning will make it possible for people to advance their skills at the rate that best suits their goals. At the core of this strategy is the Digital ShramSetu Mission, which is a national program aimed at deploying cutting-edge technologies on a large scale for India's informal sector. When it comes to ensuring affordability and widespread adoption, the mission places an emphasis on prioritization that is led by personas or

sectors, implementation that is driven by the state, regulatory enablement, and strategic alliances. A strong multi-level impact evaluation framework will serve as the guiding principle for the mobilization of government, industry, and civil society institutions. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the fact that making this inclusive digital leap would require more than just optimism. A robust innovation ecosystem, targeted skilling programs, and coordinated investments in research and development are all required to meet this requirement. In the past, India has achieved success with digital public infrastructure, such as Aadhaar, UPI, and Jan Dhan, which demonstrates that it is possible to create platforms that are both inclusive and at scale. India's progress in AI is a result of deliberate planning and swift execution. The nation is actively building an AI ecosystem that will benefit its citizens and spur innovation by increasing its computing capacity, encouraging the development of local models, and providing support to businesses. Projects in the fields of healthcare, education, agriculture, and governance show how theoretical concepts may have an effect in the real world. Every citizen may be assured that innovation reaches them through strategic programs such as the IndiaAI Mission, Digital ShramSetu, and fundamental model development. These initiatives also promote research, skills, and entrepreneurship. In line with the goals of Viksit Bharat 2047, these initiatives set India up for success in the artificial intelligence (AI) industry.

The India Artificial Intelligence Mission, which was initiated in March 2024 and has a budget of ₹10,372 crore (US$1.2 billion) for a period of five years, with the objective of "Make AI in India and Make AI Work for India." The GPU access has been scaled up from 10,000 units to 38,000, resulting in the provision of reasonably priced computing resources at a rate of just ₹65 per hour (US$0.75). Through the use of AIKosh, the mission provides support for artificial intelligence applications in the fields of healthcare, agriculture, governance, climate, and education. Additionally, it builds large datasets, develops India's own multimodal AI models, educates thousands of students and researchers, provides funding for startups to expand internationally, and ensures the adoption of AI in a responsible and safe manner. Additionally, India is investing in research hubs as well as programs to improve skills. In order to develop artificial intelligence solutions that are scalable, Centres of Excellence for Healthcare, Agriculture, Sustainable Cities, and Education bring together academic institutions, private businesses, and government agencies. During the time that government officials are being trained through the AI Competency Framework, National Centres of Excellence for Skilling are preparing young people with skills related to artificial intelligence. International networks are made available to businesses through the implementation of programs such as the India AI businesses Global Acceleration Programme. Innovative technologies such as Sarvam AI, which uses generative artificial intelligence to improve Aadhaar services, Bhashini, which breaks down language barriers for digital inclusion, and BharatGen AI, which is India's first government-funded multimodal artificial intelligence model, supports 22 languages and integrates text, speech, and image interpretation. In addition to boosting climate services, AI is also helping healthcare, agriculture, education, and governance. Using tools such as MausamGPT, it helps doctors diagnose diseases more quickly, it enables telemedicine in rural regions, it assists farmers on irrigation and crop management, it augments learning, it increases the efficiency of governance, and it strengthens weather forecasting and disaster preparedness. By supporting personalized learning, boosting administrative efficiency, enhancing research, and promoting skill development, artificial intelligence plays a transformative role in higher education. That being said, in order to fully exploit the potential of artificial intelligence, it is essential to solve obstacles such as data protection, the digital divide, and faculty training. An education system that is prepared for the future can be shaped in India and worldwide through the use of a balanced strategy that incorporates AI with traditional teaching methods. Through improvements in teaching approaches, administrative efficiency, and research capacities, artificial intelligence is bringing about a revolution in higher education all over India. On the other hand, in order to fully realize the promise of artificial intelligence, it is essential to address infrastructure shortages, provide digital literacy, and guarantee data protection. A higher education ecosystem in India that is both inclusive and prepared for the future can be achieved through the implementation of a balanced approach that integrates technology with human-centred education.

2. Conclusion

In accordance with the goals of Viksit Bharat 2047, this article has investigated the possibility that artificial intelligence could serve as a catalyst for inclusive growth in India. Education, healthcare, and economic opportunity are three key areas in which artificial intelligence has the potential to benefit marginalized people. However, in order to successfully navigate this path, it is necessary to address issues such as constraints in infrastructure, gaps in digital

literacy, and ethical considerations around data privacy and algorithmic prejudice. To be successful in overcoming these obstacles, a diversified approach is required. When combined with programs to increase capacity and the promotion of innovation in artificial intelligence for social good, public-private partnerships have the potential to pave the road for implementation that is both responsible and equitable. Undeniably, artificial intelligence has the potential to facilitate inclusive growth in India. Solutions that are powered by artificial intelligence have the potential to personalize learning experiences, enhance access to healthcare in remote places, and empower economically marginalized groups. However, in order to realize this goal, it is necessary to pursue Responsible AI with unwavering determination. It is essential to have robust ethical frameworks, as well as transparent development procedures and continual monitoring of AI solutions, in order to guarantee that artificial intelligence will turn out to be a positive force that will not leave anyone behind. When it comes to developing an environment that is conducive to the development of responsible artificial intelligence that is in line with the inclusive development goals of Viksit Bharat, multi-stakeholder discussions that involve the government, civil society, and the corporate sector are absolutely necessary. India has the ability to bridge the gap towards a more egalitarian and prosperous future for all of its residents if it is able to harness the promise of artificial intelligence in a responsible manner.

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