

NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PORTAL – A CRITICAL HUB FOR EVERY AI IN INDIA

In a nutshell: The National AI Portal (INDIAai) operates as a one-stop digital platform for artificial intelligence (AI) related developments in India. It was developed to create and nurture a unified AI ecosystem in the country, and to promote knowledge creation, fostering economic growth and social empowerment.

Nodal agency: National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), in partnership with NASSCOM.

Artificial intelligence leverages computers and machines to mimic the problem solving and decision-making capabilities of the human mind. It has a broad spectrum of applications, and as Nandan Nilekani remarked, "...the time is right to apply AI across the board to India's most challenging issues, whether it's healthcare, education or judicial pendency..."

In keeping with the vision of Government of India, of making India a global AI hub, a one-of-a-kind digital platform called The National AI Portal (www.indiaai.gov.in) was developed.

Targeted towards AI practitioners and researchers, policy makers, students and aspiring entrepreneurs, INDIAai portal was designed to be a trusted and a reliable source of information related to AI to all stakeholders, at a single place through the web. INDIAai, through its initiatives, amplifies the voices of India's researchers, policymakers and industry leaders on AI and showcases many transformational use cases.

The project was launched on May 30, 2020 for a period of 3 years. "One Year of INDIAai" booklet can be downloaded here - <https://indiaai.gov.in/news/one-year-of-indiaai-report-unveiled>

INDIAai specializes in agritech, fintech and healthcare.

INDIAai portal: At a glance

These are some of the resources provided by INDIAai:

- Articles: nuanced coverage of leading trends in AI
- Learning: courses delivered by leading academic institutions and industry partners
- Research reports: collection of the most relevant research in AI today
- Datasets: to aid research
- AI standards: acceptable standards in AI development

It also spins together an AI ecosystem in the country by providing:

- Information on local and global AI related events
- Repository of cutting edge startups and companies
- Information on investment opportunities, including venture capital
- Compendium of AI initiatives of both the Government of India and other countries around the world

Flagship events organised by INDIAai

1. RAISE 2020 was India's flagship AI event, providing a platform for exchange of ideas. It consisted of 48 sessions, with panelists from over 21 countries. 79,000 persons from 147 countries registered for the event.
2. 'AI pe charcha' is a series of panel discussions featuring AI stalwarts. It focuses on knowledge sharing, analysis of best AI practices across the globe and public sector adoption of AI.

Impact and reach

As of Feb 2022, INDIAai had published:

- 986 articles
- 633 news items
- 194 videos
- 86 research reports
- 93 case studies

It also had information on 279 startups, 23 investment funds and AI developments from 27 countries across the world.

A team led by Professor Surjya K Pal, Professor-in-Charge, Centre of Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing Technology, IIT Kharagpur provides testimony to the effectiveness of the portal in advancing the AI ecosystem in India. "One of the most impressive works the portal has done is the effort it took in identifying and understanding the AI & ML research works happening across some of the premier institutes in India. Some of the work from our institute, IIT Kharagpur, was also featured on the portal", they opine.



A snapshot of the INDIAai website