



Ethical AI-solutions for Social Good

Just AI Awards



Attributions

Just AI Awards Ethical AI-Solutions.....

Year of Publication: 2024

This work is under a creative common attribution
4.0 international license

Edited by: Arpit & Jayati

Cover by: Saurabh Saksena

Design and Layout by: Satish & Saurabh

Published and Distributed by: Digital Empowerment Foundation

Email: Justaiawards@gmail.com

Website: <https://justaiawards.defindia.org/>



The publishers and/or editors disclaim all liability for them. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers. For permission requests, write to the publisher at the address below. This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, resold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published.

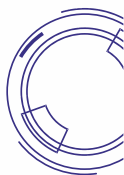


Table of Contents

Message from Curators

Osama Manzer	08
Jayesh Ranjan	08

Message from the Global Advisor Dr. Peter A Bruck	10
------------------------------------------------------	----

About Just AI Awards	10
----------------------	----

Behind the Scenes:	10
The Curators	
The Advisory Board	
The Eminent Jurors	
The Technical Expert	

Ethical AI-solutions for Social Good: Meet the Finalis	10
-----------------------------------------------------------	----

Winners of Just AI Awards 2024	11
--------------------------------	----

Best AI Practices of Just AI Awards	11
-------------------------------------	----

Meet the Just AI Team

Message from the Curators



Osama Manzar

Whenever I think about the development of a single AI model consuming as much energy and leaving as large a carbon footprint as an airplane circling the globe 360 times, I shudder at how damaging AI development could be for the climate.

Whenever someone says, "We have accumulated xxx number of datasets for training our LLM to develop an AI solution," I feel numb, thinking about the countless data laborers involved in collecting that data. Whenever a system or legal framework captures my facial image through cameras under the guise of efficiency, I tremble at the thought that AI could use my likeness for any purpose, without my knowledge or consent.

Since the public release of ChatGPT as a tool for asking questions and receiving comprehensive responses, AI has been hyped as a panacea for life's challenges. According to the BCG CCI Global Consumer Sentiment Survey 2023, 45% of India's population uses ChatGPT, the highest among the surveyed markets. This high usage is not necessarily for educational purposes but largely due to the population's proficiency in English. However, it is troubling that ChatGPT's effectiveness is limited by biased data and content articulation.

We also know that AI is nothing without data. Data is the oil and oxygen for AI. But data is no longer just a material thing—it is human. Humans are being converted into data. Every conversation, language, dialect, behavior, norm, tradition, habit, social practice, like, dislike, utterance, routine activity, body language, voice, expression - everything a human does is now data. This data, combined with that of others, trains machines. The goal seems to be creating AI that can behave better than humans, raising the question: can AI be trusted more than the people around us? I still struggle to understand how a technology that constantly extracts data and information can genuinely serve social causes or be entirely ethical in its conception, design, and practice.

The Just AI Award aims to identify Ethical AI-solutions - those that can genuinely make a social impact. This is no easy task, but the Just AI Award, conceived by Digital Empowerment Foundation and Government of Telangana, is committed to advocate for innovative AI solutions that promise ethical approaches and social insight.



Jayesh Ranjan

India is at the forefront of rapid adoption and integration of digital technologies. In the last decade, digital transformation has been unparalleled with technology taking the center stage in our lives and emerging as a game changer for the innovation ecosystem. The Government of Telangana has spearheaded several pioneering efforts towards building accountable and inclusive digital models of governance that ensure accessible and affordable citizen service delivery to the last mile. Telangana leads as an example today, of a resilient and robust tech ecosystem, with its IT legacy and a dedicated vertical of the Emerging Technologies (ET) working towards facilitating the adoption of different emerging technologies, including the Artificial Intelligence (AI). Through multistakeholder engagement, responsible policymaking, and good governance practices, our efforts are directed towards building a citizen-centric approach, enabling diverse perspectives and contextual solutions that make AI work for everyone. With the resolve to build a responsible AI innovation ecosystem that leverages technology for social good, empowers citizens and revolutionalises industries, the Just AI Awards initiative – an annual award system – has been institutionalised by Government of Telangana in partnership with Digital Empowerment Foundation, to recognise, advocate and promote the best pioneering AI practices that address complex and critical ethical challenges in the process of AI development across sectors and industries.



About Just AI Awards

The Just AI Awards, inaugurated in 2024, is an annual recognition system conceived by the Digital Empowerment Foundation in partnership with the Emerging Technologies Wing, Government of Telangana. It is supported by esteemed partners including T-Hub, World Summit Awards, MXR World, Commons Collective, and MediaNama as the media partner. The Award Ceremony will form part of the Global AI Summit, hosted by the Government of Telangana.

The Just AI Awards seek to honour the top three AI-driven practices in India that have effectively utilised Artificial Intelligence (AI) to create projects and solutions at the grassroots level. These initiatives are focused on dismantling social and digital barriers, reducing socio-economic inequalities, enhancing crisis response, and upholding democratic and feminist principles online. Special recognition is given to AI solutions that prioritise ethical data collection through participatory development methods, promote gender justice and inclusivity, decolonise the internet by supporting linguistic diversity, and ensure universal, affordable internet access.

In a time of rapid technological advancement, the Just AI Awards aim to spotlight innovative projects that treat technology as a force for social good, addressing the complex ethical challenges associated with AI. With a commitment to making AI accessible, affordable, and accountable, the Awards highlight impactful models across various sectors that tackle issues such as task automation ethics, data privacy, algorithmic bias, and discrimination. The Just AI Awards celebrate the achievements of tech innovators who adopt a citizen-centric approach to AI.

BEHIND THE SCENES:



THE CURATORS



Osama Manzar

Osama Manzar operates at the critical intersection of access to information, legal rights, and the creation of meaningful online content. A highly decorated individual, he holds titles like Senior Ashoka Fellow, British Chevening Scholar, US State Department International Visitors Leadership

Program Fellow, and Advisor to the Women in Digital Economy Fund (WiDEF).

Following five years in technology journalism, Manzar founded the Digital Empowerment Foundation in 2002. Focused on "access to rights and rights to access," the organisation has empowered over 35 million people (roughly twice New York City's population) to date.

He has played a pivotal role in shaping policies and impacting the digital landscape in India. This includes championing India's National Digital Literacy Mission, the ban on FreeBasics, liberalising ISP licensing through PM-WANI, and spearheading the fight against misinformation alongside WhatsApp. Notably, he institutionalised this fight by creating a network of over 500 rural women fact-checkers.

Manzar has served on the boards and advisory committees of numerous organisations, including WiDEF, APC, World Summit Awards, GNI, Barefoot College, Protsahan, and MISSING. He has also been profiled by The Hindu as "the man who travelled more than 10,000 villages."

A prolific writer, he contributes regular columns to Mint (Livemint.com) and has co-authored over 20 titles, including "Internet Economy of India" and "NetChakra."



Jayesh Ranjan

Jayesh Ranjan, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the 1992 batch, has distinguished himself through a multifaceted career in public service.

With a strong academic background, Ranjan holds master's degrees in psychology, business management, and public management from prestigious institutions. He has also completed short courses at renowned universities worldwide, demonstrating his commitment to continuous learning and development.

His achievements extend beyond academic excellence. Ranjan has been recognized for his contributions to various fields, receiving awards such as the World Bank's Social Capital Visiting Scholarship and the British Government's Gurukul Chevening Scholarship. He has also conducted international consultancy assignments for organizations like the World Bank, UN-ESCAP, and Sedatu.

Currently serving as the Special Chief Secretary of Industries & Commerce and Information Technology in Telangana, Ranjan has a proven track record in policy development, investment attraction, digital empowerment, and rural development. His extensive experience in these areas has made him an asset to the state government.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Ranjan is actively involved in social, cultural, and charitable causes. He serves on the boards and advisory committees of numerous organizations, including United Way, Save A Child's Heart, Young Lives India, Save the Children, and World Wildlife Fund.

Jayesh Ranjan's dedication to public service, his expertise in various fields, and his commitment to social causes have solidified his reputation as a distinguished and influential figure in India.

MESSAGE FROM THE GLOBAL ADVISOR





Prof. Dr. Peter A. Bruck PhD, MA

Chairperson of the Board of Directors
World Summit Award

The global community of the World Summit Awards and its initiatives span 182 UN member states. It is dedicated to selecting digital solutions that drive positive social impact and contribute to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A key objective is to close digital divides and do so on many levels from access to content, from usage groups to data bias.

Artificial Intelligence in its multiple forms and deployments is reshaping our world at an astonishing pace, and it often leaves us questioning — are we still in control? Will we be still in control? Who is the “WE”? Who can make it happen that control is with users and people?

These questions are often discussed in very general terms and on abstract levels.

The WSA way is different. WSA selects and shares best practices, globally. Annually top experts and leading institutions/ organizations like DEF nominate their national best digital impact solutions in 8 categories. This year WSA expects to see nominations which showcase ethically sound algorithms, respectful use of data, trusted tools and solutions that genuinely benefit society.

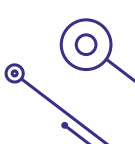
“Making AI work for Everyone” is a fitting title for the Global AI Summit in India. And a much needed focus. Why? Because the development of all technologies including data models and algorithms need direction. They are for something, just as all tools. There is a key difference, however, Digital tools are more flexible, more smart, more transformative than any tech which humanity has developed used and known in history. “We” will be able to shape the future more and more, the future of the planet and all human kind, of nature and society.

That is the reason why focusing AI on justice issues is so incredible important: climate justice, income justice, gender justice.

I send heartfelt congratulations to all involved in the Just AI Awards! I commend the winners! They show that AI can be a powerful force for empowerment, connection, and social impact when introduced responsibly and ethically.

“We” all need to demonstrate that AI can practically improve society.

Lastly, I especially acknowledge the leadership of the Telangana State Government and its Special Chief Secretary for ICT and the Digital Empowerment Foundation for creating this event and thus providing a promoting stage for stage for Just AI.





THE ADVISORY BOARD



Dr. Hemant Adarkar

Senior Fellow and Director Artha Centre for Technology and Innovation, Artha Global

Dr. Hemant Adarkar is a seasoned technology expert and development professional with a distinguished career spanning academia, industry, and government. Currently, he serves as Technology Advisor and Resident Senior Fellow at Artha Global, and Public Interest Director of NCDEX.

Prior to his current roles, Dr. Adarkar held positions at the IDFC Institute, NaBFID, and the Bank of Baroda group. He has been instrumental in designing and implementing innovative technology solutions across various sectors, from banking and finance to humanitarian aid.

Dr. Adarkar's expertise extends beyond technology. He holds a PhD in nuclear physics from TIFR, India, and has contributed significantly to the fields of digitalization, socioeconomic change, and regional economic growth.



Prof. Abdul Shaban

Chairperson, Centre for Public Policy, Habitat and Human Development, School of Development Studies - Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Prof. Abdul Shaban is a renowned academic and expert in public policy, habitat, and human development. As Chairperson of the Centre for Public Policy, Habitat and Human Development at TISS, Mumbai, he has made significant contributions to the field.

Prof. Shaban has held leadership positions at TISS, including Chairperson of the International Relations Office and Deputy Director of the Tuljapur Campus. His research interests encompass digitalization, socioeconomic change, regional economic growth, cities, entrepreneurship, and creative industries.

Prof. Shaban has served on numerous committees, commissions, and policy think tanks. His contributions to the academic community are evident through his involvement with various journals as an editor and editorial board member.



Dushyant Arora

**Lawyer, Founder, Preamble Advisors &
Authentic Kahaniyan**

Dushyant is a lawyer, writer and senior advisor to global companies and institutions. His work has been featured in respected publications such as the Times of India, Caravan, New Indian Express, Frontline, and NDTV. He has provided strategic counsel to a range of high-profile clients, including Amazon, HBO, Dharma Productions, Rio Tinto, LIC, the Government of Odisha, and Dalberg. He has authored anthologies on global and digital issues.



Rama Devi Lanka

Director, Emerging Technologies Wing, Telangana

Leading the Emerging Technologies Wing of the ITE&C Department, Rama Devi has been instrumental in shaping policy frameworks for AI, Blockchain, Cloud, Drones, Cyber Security, and more. These initiatives have fostered a thriving ecosystem for emerging technologies in Telangana.

She has established Centers of Excellence in various fields, including AI, Cyber Security, eWaste, and Additive Manufacturing. These centers have facilitated infrastructure access, encouraged collaboration, and promoted responsible deployment of technology. Rama Devi's commitment to innovation extends beyond policy. She has spearheaded ecosystem-level initiatives like the Agri Data Exchange Platform (AdeX) and the Web 3.0 Regulatory Sandbox, fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration and inter-departmental cooperation. She has also supported startups in developing impactful solutions, such as drone-based vaccine delivery and blockchain-enabled seed traceability.

Prior to her current role, Rama Devi worked at the National Institute for Smart Government, contributing to e-Governance projects in areas like Health, Visa-Immigration, and Civil Aviation. She was also involved in implementing the Meghraj cloud policy for the Government of India. With a strong background in technology and a passion for innovation, Rama Devi has played a vital role in cementing Telangana's position as a leader in emerging technologies. Her contributions have had a significant impact on the state's development and the lives of its citizens.



Shalini Kala

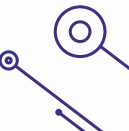
Rural Development and Agriculture Specialist

Shalini Kala brings over two decades of experience in rural development, livelihoods, food security, agribusiness, and agriculture, with a particular focus on empowering marginalised groups, including women, tribal, and indigenous communities. Her expertise extends to understanding the challenges faced by women home-based workers in the informal economy.

Leveraging information and communication technologies, Kala has successfully implemented interventions to improve farmer livelihoods, health, and governance. She has played a pivotal role in promoting access to information to enhance market linkages, productivity, and incomes for small farmers.

Her specialised experience in knowledge development initiatives and evaluative approaches has been instrumental in designing and implementing programs in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Kala's expertise encompasses program design and management, partnerships, research, evaluation, and capacity building across various Indian states and the Asia-Pacific region.

With a deep understanding of working with diverse partners, including governments, non-government agencies, international donors, and researchers, Shalini Kala is well-positioned to drive transformative change in rural development and women's empowerment.





The Eminent Jurors



Rama Devi Lanka

Rama Devi Lanka, Director of Emerging Technologies in Telangana, is a seasoned professional with a diverse background. Her journey has taken her from Silicon Valley to the forefront of India's technological advancements.

Leading the Emerging Technologies Wing of the ITE&C Department, Rama Devi has been instrumental in shaping policy frameworks for AI, Blockchain, Cloud, Drones, Cyber Security, and more. These initiatives have fostered a thriving ecosystem for emerging technologies in Telangana.

She has established Centers of Excellence in various fields, including AI, Cyber Security, eWaste, and Additive Manufacturing. These centers have facilitated infrastructure access, encouraged collaboration, and promoted responsible deployment of technology. Rama Devi's commitment to innovation extends beyond policy. She has spearheaded ecosystem-level initiatives like the Agri Data Exchange Platform (AdeX) and the Web 3.0 Regulatory Sandbox, fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration and inter-departmental cooperation. She has also supported startups in developing impactful solutions, such as drone-based vaccine delivery and blockchain-enabled seed traceability.

Prior to her current role, Rama Devi worked at the National Institute for Smart Government, contributing to e-Governance projects in areas like Health, Visa-Immigration, and Civil Aviation. She was also involved in implementing the Meghraj cloud policy for the Government of India. With a strong background in technology and a passion for innovation, Rama Devi Lanka has played a vital role in cementing Telangana's position as a leader in emerging technologies. Her contributions have had a significant impact on the state's development and the lives of its citizens.



Aditi Namdeo

Director, Strategic Interventions, J-PAL South Asia

Aditi boasts nearly two decades of experience across Europe, the US, and Australia, working in leadership positions with prominent organisations like the World Economic Forum (WEF) and PwC. Her expertise lies in public-private partnerships, technology policy, innovation, and consulting.

Currently, Aditi spearheads the Capacity Accelerator Network (CAN) in India. This initiative, launched with data.org and university partners, unlocks the potential of data use for social good. Additionally, she leads the set-up of the Air and Water Labs Initiative within J-PAL South Asia, generating evidence and solutions for improved air and water policy in the region.

With her extensive experience and global perspective, Aditi is a driving force in public-private partnerships, shaping innovation, and tackling crucial issues like environmental policy in South Asia.



Urvashi Aneja

Founding Director, Digital Futures Lab

Dr. Urvashi Aneja is a renowned expert on the intersection of technology and society in the global south. Her research on the ethics and governance of algorithmic decision-making systems, with a particular focus on Asia, has been widely cited in leading global media outlets.

Currently, Aneja serves as the convenor of a high-level working group on Democratic and Responsible AI in India, bringing together leaders from government, industry, and civil society. She is also a member of the Global Tech Thinkers, an advisory group appointed by the French Prime Minister's Office. Additionally, she co-chairs the T-20 Task Force on Digital Public Infrastructure, serves on the Steering Committee for the Global Index on Responsible AI, and is a member of the GPAI working group on Co-Generated Data. Her involvement in these initiatives demonstrates her commitment to shaping the ethical and responsible development of technology.





Dushyant Arora

Lawyer, Founder, Preamble Advisors &
Authentic Kahaniyan

Dushyant is a seasoned lawyer, writer, and senior advisor to global corporations and institutions. His work has been featured in prominent publications such as The Times of India, Caravan, New Indian Express, Frontline, and NDTV. He has provided strategic counsel to a diverse range of high-profile clients, including Amazon, HBO, Dharma Productions, Rio Tinto, LIC, the Government of Odisha, and Dalberg. Additionally, he has authored anthologies on global and digital matters.



Smita Gupta

Curator, Agami

Smita is a lawyer with three years of experience developing communities at the intersection of AI, justice, and law at Agami. She has been instrumental in spearheading the creation of Digital Public Goods, such as Legal NLP models and the Jugalbandi initiative under OpenNyAI, a mission dedicated to using AI to enhance access to justice. Smita is deeply committed to promoting responsible AI practices within the legal sector. She holds a degree from Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab.



Nikhil Pahwa

Founder, Editor & Publisher, MediaNama

An entrepreneur, investor, journalist, and activist, Nikhil Pahwa is a prominent figure in India's digital landscape. As the founder and editor of MediaNama, a leading publication chronicling the evolution of digital policy, Nikhil has established himself as a thought leader in the field.

Recognised as a TED Fellow, an Asia21 Fellow, and one of India Today Magazine's "Indians of Tomorrow," he has also garnered attention from publications like Forbes, Wired, and GQ. His dedication to building a robust digital ecosystem is further evidenced by MediaNama receiving the "Ecosystem Builder" award from Fortune Magazine in 2016.

Beyond his editorial work, Nikhil's activism has had a significant impact on shaping India's digital rights landscape. Notably, he spearheaded the SaveTheInternet.in campaign for Net Neutrality in 2015, successfully leading to the shutdown of Facebook's Free Basics program. His commitment to digital freedom extends to co-founding the Internet Freedom Foundation, advocating for the rights of internet users in India. His influence extends beyond editorial and activist spheres as he regularly contributes a column titled "TechNik" to the Economic Times Regulatory Engagement. Additionally, his expertise has been sought by various government bodies, where he has provided valuable insights on issues like Net Neutrality, social media regulation, and paid news. He actively participates in policy consultations at the Ministry of Electronics and IT, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Commerce, and the telecom regulator TRAI. His commitment to shaping digital spaces is further demonstrated by his role as an independent member on the Delhi Government's committee for rolling out WiFi in Delhi and his expert witness testimony before the Delhi Government's committee on Peace and Harmony investigating Facebook's alleged role in the Delhi Riots. Notably, this committee meeting marked a historic moment as the first ever government committee meeting to be livestreamed in India. These diverse engagements showcase Nikhil Pahwa's multifaceted contribution to the development of a responsible and accessible digital world in India.



THE TECHNICAL EXPERTS



Anivar Aravind

Head of Engineering – Foodhub

Anivar Aravind is a technology leader and changemaker with almost two decades of experience in public interest technology, tech policy, and internet governance. Renowned for his advocacy in digital rights, software freedom, and technology standardisation, he has made significant contributions to the Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) community and the advancement of Indian language technology. Throughout his career, Anivar has consistently championed the cause of open digital ecosystems, working to ensure that technology remains a force for public good. His work has been instrumental in driving policy discussions and technological innovations that prioritise inclusivity, transparency, and accessibility. In addition to his advocacy, Anivar has held key roles in various organisations, where he has led initiatives to enhance the impact of technology on society. Currently, he serves as the Head of Engineering at Foodhub, where he continues to leverage his expertise to drive innovation and build sustainable technology solutions that cater to diverse needs. Anivar's enduring commitment to technology that serves the public interest and his deep-rooted involvement in the FOSS community make him a prominent figure in the fields of digital rights and tech policy.



Piya Bahadur

Founder and CEO, Peabody Soft

Piya Bahadur is the Founder and CEO of Peabody Soft, a social enterprise dedicated to supporting the ecosystem surrounding very small business owners, particularly underserved women entrepreneurs in India. Through her leadership, Peabody Soft has developed a suite of tools designed to empower these entrepreneurs, with MeraBills, the company's flagship product, at the forefront. MeraBills, an Android application, provides micro-entrepreneurs with the technology necessary to manage their businesses more effectively. The platform is set to introduce AI-enabled features, offering accelerated value realisation, personalised business insights, and in-app content for self-learning. For ecosystem partners, the product suite includes usage and financial dashboards to track deployment, enhance adoption, and target interventions, alongside a SaaS system for managing learning and surveys at scale.

Piya spearheads strategy and marketing at Peabody Soft, working closely with the ecosystem that supports women micro-entrepreneurs, including government bodies, IDAs, micro-credit organisations, NGOs, and CBOs in the digital inclusion and financial literacy sectors. Prior to this, she served as Regional Director of the United States-India Education Foundation (USIEF), establishing its Hyderabad office and overseeing operations across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Orissa. Her tenure at the Wadhvani Centre for Entrepreneurship Development at the Indian School of Business (Hyderabad) provided her with a deep understanding of the micro-business landscape and the support required by micro-entrepreneurs.



Siddhartha Malempati

Directing Council - General Commons Collective

Siddhartha Malempati boasts a distinguished career spanning 17 years, marked by his profound expertise in Computer Science, Patent Law, and Economics. His multifaceted knowledge enables him to seamlessly integrate technical, legal, and societal perspectives, driving transformative change across various domains. As the Directing Council-General of the Commons Collective, he plays a pivotal role in a global network of activists, researchers, and practitioners dedicated to advancing the commons as a powerful catalyst for social progress.

In addition to his leadership at the Commons Collective, Siddhartha is a successful entrepreneur and co-founder of Helico Consulting, Octacomm Technologies, and Radius EduTech. These innovative firms are at the forefront of delivering cutting-edge solutions in cloud computing, video conferencing, and learning management systems. His reputation as a staunch advocate for free and open-source policies is well-established, with numerous campaigns and initiatives under his belt aimed at safeguarding digital rights, upholding net neutrality, and empowering communities. Siddhartha has also been instrumental in promoting free software and digital education in rural India, positively impacting over 30,000 individuals. His enduring mission centres on leveraging the power of technology and collaboration to create a more equitable and sustainable world.



**Ethical AI-solutions
for Social Good:
Meet the Finalist**



Plequs India Foundation

PROJECT TRANSParent

In alignment with the principles of the Digital Public Good (DPG) model, PLEQSUS India Foundation has developed PROJECT TRANSParent, an AI-enabled data repository designed to support India's transgender and gender and sexual minority (GSM) communities. This open, accessible, and transparent platform stores three types of data: demographic details, livelihood opportunities and enabling services, and government schemes and policies. The Livelihood Mapping Survey will be used to gather comprehensive demographic data and insights into various aspects of the livelihood framework for transgender and GSM communities. Meanwhile, the Resource Mapping methodology will be applied to identify livelihood opportunities, enabling services, and relevant government schemes.

PROJECT TRANSParent represents a significant step towards data-driven, evidence-based solutions aimed at poverty alleviation and enhancing service access for India's transgender, gender-diverse, and LGBTQI+ communities



Nayan India Science & Technologies Pvt. Ltd

Nayan

Nayan, developed by Nayan India Science & Technologies Pvt. Ltd., is a pioneering AI-based vision processing solution designed to revolutionise road safety and urban traffic management. Leveraging a robust framework supported by over 70 global patents, Nayan integrates cutting-edge Hybrid AI/ML technologies directly within cameras and dashcams, enabling real-time AI computations on-device. This advanced solution excels in monitoring and analysing a broad spectrum of road-related data, including traffic violations, infrastructure conditions, and driver behaviour. Unlike traditional systems that depend on centralised processing, Nayan's on-device AI offers rapid, accurate data processing, significantly reducing latency and enhancing responsiveness. Nayan's key features include real-time traffic violation detection, automatically identifying and reporting infractions such as speeding, red-light violations, and illegal parking. It also provides continuous monitoring of road conditions and infrastructure health, enabling preemptive maintenance interventions. Moreover, the system offers in-depth analysis of driver behaviour, promoting safer driving practices and reducing accident risks. By integrating crowd-sourced data, Nayan delivers comprehensive, actionable insights that support effective urban planning and traffic management, marking a significant advancement in the pursuit of safer and smarter cities.



Civic Innovation Foundation

Civis

Civic Innovation Foundation's AI solution, Civis, is an AI-enabled platform designed to foster constructive dialogue between governments and citizens. With a core belief that laws crafted for citizens should be created in collaboration with them, Civis aims to ensure equitable access to India's consultation process for all members of the public.

By harnessing the power of artificial intelligence, Civis streamlines the process of public consultation, enabling citizens to engage directly with legislative processes and voice their opinions on proposed laws and policies. The platform works to break down barriers to participation, ensuring that the voices of all citizens, regardless of background, are heard and considered in the decision-making process. Through Civis, Civic Innovation Foundation is paving the way for a more inclusive, transparent, and participatory form of governance, where the gap between governments and the governed is effectively bridged. This innovative solution represents a significant step forward in the pursuit of democratic principles, where citizen engagement is not just encouraged but actively facilitated.



Karya

Karya - Enabling Pathways Out of Poverty

Karya's AI-based solution, "Karya - Enabling Pathways Out of Poverty," is a digital work platform designed to offer supplemental income alongside numerous other advantages. These include enhancing skills and knowledge sharing, increasing digital literacy, and boosting self-confidence. For women, in particular, Karya helps to challenge and change societal perceptions of traditional roles, empowering them within their communities.

The platform leverages advanced AI technology to create economic and multi-dimensional growth opportunities for underserved populations, ensuring that the benefits of AI are democratized and accessible to all. By integrating AI into its framework, Karya not only provides immediate financial support but also fosters long-term development by equipping individuals with the tools and confidence needed to thrive in a rapidly digitalising world. This approach ensures that technology is not just an enabler but a transformative force for social and economic inclusion.



Bandhu, an innovative platform, is dedicated to supporting India's 300 million blue-collar rural-urban migrant workers by connecting them with jobs and affordable housing options across the country. The platform operates through two smartphone apps—Jobs and Housing—an IVR system, and a conversational AI-enabled WhatsApp chatbot known as Bandhu Bot.

Bandhu Bot serves as a crucial tool, offering curated options for affordable rental housing in the worker's native language. It also provides a pathway to credit scoring and access to affordable loan rates through repeated digital rent transactions facilitated via Bandhu's platform.

The process begins when a worker initiates a conversation with Bandhu Bot by sending a text message or voice note in any of India's 12 major languages through WhatsApp. Bandhu Bot then engages in an informal dialogue, powered by Large Language Models (LLMs), to understand the worker's specific situation and housing preferences. Once ready, the worker is presented with customised rental housing options sourced directly from Bandhu's database. After selecting a suitable option, the worker can complete a digital onboarding transaction and pay rent regularly through the secure chatbot link. With the help of LLM integrations and tailored prompts, Bandhu Bot builds trust and confidence in workers, guiding them through each step of the process.



Shhor AI is an advanced AI-driven content moderation solution designed to address the unique challenges of hate speech and doxxing in the Indian context. Shhor AI is built by Aindriya, a queer Adivasi neurodivergent AI-engineer and political artist from Tripura, India. Shhor AI utilizes natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning to detect and classify hate speech in text including code-mixed languages like Hinglish. Shhor AI's API provides real-time analysis, ensuring prompt and effective content moderation, thereby creating safer online environments especially for oppressed communities.



Sikshana Foundation, a unit of Sivasri Charitable Trust

Shiksha Copilot: A Teacher's Companion

Shiksha Copilot: A Teacher's Companion, developed by the Sikshana Foundation, a unit of Sivasri Charitable Trust, is an advanced AI-driven platform designed to revolutionise the way lesson plans are created and accessed by educators. The platform harnesses the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to generate tailored lesson plans, which are then accessed through front-end web applications that interact with the AI model via APIs.

Subject experts utilise the platform's front-end interface to generate, review, and curate lesson plans, ensuring they are optimised to meet the specific needs and requirements of classroom learning. These carefully curated lesson plans are made accessible to a broader community of teachers through a dedicated platform, which is designed to support educators in their daily tasks, such as accessing lesson plans tailored to their individual needs and scheduling lessons on their calendars.

Additionally, Shiksha Copilot includes a BOT feature, which is available to select power users or teachers, providing them with enhanced capabilities to manage and customise their teaching resources effectively. By integrating AI into the education process, Shiksha Copilot aims to empower teachers, streamline their workload, and ultimately enhance the quality of education delivered in classrooms across India.



Digital India BHASHINI Division BHASHINI

BHASHINI, developed by the Digital India BHASHINI Division, is an AI-based solution designed to break down language barriers, ensuring that every citizen can seamlessly access digital services in their native language. Launched by Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in July 2022 as part of the National Language Technology Mission, Bhashini is committed to providing technology translation services across 22 scheduled Indian languages, thereby bridging both the language and digital divides.

The Bhashini platform offers a comprehensive suite of services aimed at enhancing accessibility and overcoming language barriers. These include an intuitive web service portal, a beta version mobile app, and a dataset repository. Additionally, BHASHINI specialises in various language processing services such as Speech to Speech, Text to Text, Speech to Text, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), and Transliterations. Furthermore, it incorporates Bhasha Daan, a crowd-sourcing platform that invites active contributions of data for AI model training. This multifaceted approach fosters inclusivity, supports linguistic diversity, and drives innovation in the development of products and services across India, making digital interactions more accessible to all citizens, regardless of language.



Sri Vandanapushyami Energy Fuelling OPC Pvt Ltd

Innovative AI Solutions for Disaster Management

Sri Vandanapushyami Energy Fuelling OPC Pvt Ltd presents an innovative AI-powered solution for disaster management, known as Innovative AI Solutions for Disaster Management. Spearheaded by Dr. G. Srujana, this groundbreaking approach is set to transform sea disaster management and coastal disaster risk reduction (DRR). The solution leverages cutting-edge AI technologies, including OpenAI's GPT-4, to enhance the effectiveness of disaster management strategies.

This AI-driven solution is specifically designed to enhance preparedness and response efforts, ensuring that coastal regions are better equipped to handle disasters. Additionally, the initiative includes the deployment of a mobile petrol pump within Coastal DRR efforts, using GEOINT combined with AI to ensure timely and effective disaster response.

By integrating state-of-the-art AI technologies with real-time data analysis, this AI Solution represents a significant advancement in the field of disaster risk reduction, offering a proactive approach to safeguarding coastal communities against the devastating impacts of natural disasters.



Factly Media & Research

SACH AI Chatbot

The SACH AI Chatbot, developed by Factly Media & Research, is an advanced tool designed to tackle misinformation by offering instant fact-checking and contextual insights. This innovative solution employs a Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) approach, integrating a comprehensive database of over 400,000 global fact-checks. Through a user-friendly web application and browser extension, SACH provides real-time verification for both text and images.

Key features of the SACH AI Chatbot include multilingual support, an interactive chat interface, and real-time updates, making it a powerful resource for users to critically assess the accuracy of online content. Additionally, SACH supports fact-checking organisations by enhancing digital literacy and providing tools to combat the spread of misinformation, address information overload, and overcome language barriers. The chatbot is also designed with stringent data privacy and bias mitigation practices, ensuring a secure and reliable user experience.

Recognised as a 'Tech-Innovation Champion' at the Google India News Summit 2024, the SACH AI Chatbot is set to significantly impact the online information landscape, promoting a more informed and safer digital environment. This solution represents a vital step forward in the fight against misinformation, empowering individuals and organisations alike.



Cyient Limited

AI-Driven Waste Management

AI HealthGuard, developed by Cyient Limited, is an advanced AI-driven platform designed to empower individuals and communities through personalized health risk assessments and preventive care plans. By harnessing the power of artificial intelligence, big data, and predictive analytics, AI HealthGuard delivers tailored health insights and recommendations, enabling users to take proactive steps towards maintaining and improving their well-being.

The platform is specifically engineered to address the growing burden of chronic diseases by facilitating early detection and prevention. Through its user-centric approach, AI HealthGuard helps reduce chronic illnesses and enhances community health outcomes. Moreover, by focusing on prevention and early intervention, the platform contributes to the significant reduction of healthcare costs, benefiting both individuals and the broader healthcare system.

AI HealthGuard's innovative approach underscores the importance of personalized healthcare, offering a cutting-edge solution that adapts to the unique health profiles of its users. In doing so, it equips communities with the tools they need to lead healthier lives, marking a substantial step forward in the integration of AI technology in the healthcare sector.



Learn and Empower Private Limited

SignAssistive AI

SignAssistive AI, developed by Learn and Empower Private Limited, is India's pioneering LLM-based platform that translates vernacular content into Indian Sign Language (ISL). This groundbreaking solution is specifically designed to make education and communication more accessible for over 63 million deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals across the country.

By bridging the gap between spoken languages and ISL, SignAssistive AI empowers these individuals to fully understand and engage with the content that hearing people are communicating. The platform ensures that educational materials and other forms of communication are no longer barriers for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

SignAssistive AI represents a significant leap forward in inclusivity, providing a vital tool for equal access to education and information. By offering real-time translations and seamless integration into everyday learning environments, it enhances the learning experience for deaf individuals and fosters a more inclusive society where everyone can thrive.



Cittaa Health Services Private Limited

Vocalysis

Vocalysis, developed by Cittaa Health Services Private Limited, is an advanced AI-powered voice analysis tool designed to revolutionise mental health assessments. By utilising cutting-edge machine learning algorithms and acoustic pattern recognition, Vocalysis analyses voice samples to detect early signs of mental health disorders in real-time.

This innovative solution aims to make mental health evaluations more accessible, efficient, and scalable by offering immediate feedback on an individual's mental well-being through voice input. As a non-invasive and user-friendly diagnostic tool, Vocalysis can seamlessly integrate with mobile applications, telehealth platforms, and wearable devices, making it versatile and easy to use.

The platform not only provides personalised mental health insights but also generates tailored recommendations, facilitating early detection, continuous monitoring, and timely intervention for those experiencing mental health challenges. Vocalysis represents a significant leap forward in mental health care, empowering individuals with the tools they need to take proactive control of their well-being. Through this innovation, Cittaa Health Services Private Limited is enhancing the accessibility and effectiveness of mental health support, offering a promising solution for a pressing global issue.



YesMentor

YesMentor.AI a virtual
career mentoring chatbot

YesMentor introduces a Virtual Career Mentoring Chatbot designed to be the Gateway of Future Skills Readiness, targeting youth and young professionals - Yes Mentor.AI, an innovative AI-driven platform designed to serve as a bridge between students and industry-readiness courses. The platform is committed to educating, engaging, enabling, and empowering youth and young professionals by preparing them with the future skills they need to succeed.

YesMentor.AI acts as a crucial link, connecting aspiring individuals with tailored learning paths that align with the evolving demands of the industry. By fostering this connection, the platform ensures that students and professionals are equipped with the knowledge and competencies required to excel in their chosen fields.

YesMentor's vision is to support and guide the next generation as they navigate the complexities of career development, ensuring they are fully prepared to meet the challenges of the future workplace. Through its innovative use of AI, Yes Mentor.AI empowers individuals to take charge of their career trajectories with confidence.



Physiz Agtech Private Limited (PhyFarm)

FarmGPT

FarmGPT is an AI-powered tool designed to assist farmers in making informed decisions for their farms by Physiz Agtech Private Limited (PhyFarm). The solution integrates data from various sources, including sensors, weather forecasts, and soil conditions, to provide practical advice on crucial farming tasks. These tasks include optimal irrigation timing, appropriate fertiliser application, and effective pest management strategies.

FarmGPT is user-friendly and serves as a valuable assistant, supporting farmers in their daily operations. By offering tailored recommendations, it helps farmers maximise their productivity while ensuring sustainable practices that protect the environment. The platform is specifically designed to empower farmers with the knowledge and tools they need to enhance their farming outcomes, making it an indispensable resource for modern agriculture.



AI Planet

AI Planet for Education

AI Planet for Education is a comprehensive platform aimed at empowering educators and enhancing student learning outcomes. As part of AI Planet's broader mission to make AI accessible to everyone, the education-focused solution addresses significant challenges faced by teachers, such as reducing time spent on grading, classroom preparation, and paper marking.

The platform offers AI-driven tools that streamline essential processes, including lesson plan creation, activity design, and the development of remedial strategies. Currently available to educational institutions and ed-tech companies, AI Planet for Education seeks to alleviate the workload of educators, allowing them to focus more on personalised teaching and student engagement.

While this application specifically highlights the platform's impact on education, AI Planet also plays a transformative role in other key industries, such as healthcare, agriculture, and financial services, demonstrating its broad societal influence.

Just

AI

Awards 2024

“Winners of Just AI aAwards 2024”

1. SignAssistive AI from Learn and Empower Private Limited

India's first LLM-based vernacular content to Indian Sign Language translation platform

2. The SACH AI Chatbot from Factly Media & Research

Combats misinformation using AI with a focus on real-time fact-checking and contextual insights

3. Shhor AI from Shhor

Addresses challenges of hate speech and doxing in the Indian context through AI-driven content moderation

“Best AI Practices of Just AI Awards”

1. FarmGPT – Civic Innovation Foundation

AI-driven decision-making tool for farmers, improving productivity and environmental sustainability

2. AI Planet for Education – AI Planet

*AI-powered platform that supports educators by streamlining grading, lesson planning, and classroom management

3. Bandhu Bot – BandhU

AI-based conversational platform providing rental housing options for blue-collar workers, empowering decision-making

3. Civis – Civic Innovation Foundation

AI-enabled platform fostering dialogue between citizens and government, promoting equitable lawmaking

Meet the Just AI Awards Team



Osama Manzar

Founder-Director
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Jayesh Ranjan

Special Chief Secretary for IT E&C and
Industries & Commerce Departments of
Government of Telangana



Rama Devi Lanka

Director, Emerging Technologies Wing
Government of Telangana



Saurabh Srivastava

Deputy Director - Media and Communication
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Arpita Kanjilal

Research & Advocacy Consultant
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Jayati Rautela

Deputy Manager - Media And Communication
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Portia Conrad

Senior Consultant, Research and Strategy
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Saurabh Saxena

Creative Officer - Design & Creatives
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Saikat Pal

Assistant Manager - Media & Communication
Digital Empowerment Foundation



Gulshan Dhanolia

Sr. Officer - Media & Communication
Digital Empowerment Foundation

The book introduces the Just AI Awards: Ethical AI Solutions for Social Good, which recognise and celebrate pioneering innovations that adhere to ethical principles and contribute to building a just, inclusive, and accountable AI ecosystem. By leveraging AI for Social Good, the book honors innovations that adopt a citizen-centric approach, effectively addressing the social and digital divide through just and responsible AI practices. It highlights initiatives that improve crisis response, strengthen social resilience, and enhance community well-being. Celebrating AI-solutions rooted in democratic values and feminist principles, the book emphasises equitable technological access for all. It also acknowledges AI practices that prioritise ethical data collection, participatory development, and address challenges such as algorithmic bias and data privacy, while ensuring affordable and accessible internet for underserved communities and demographics. The book advocates for responsible AI practices in task automation, privacy, and accountability, promoting global innovation and ethical AI deployment.



Principal Partners



Organizing Partners



Media Partner

