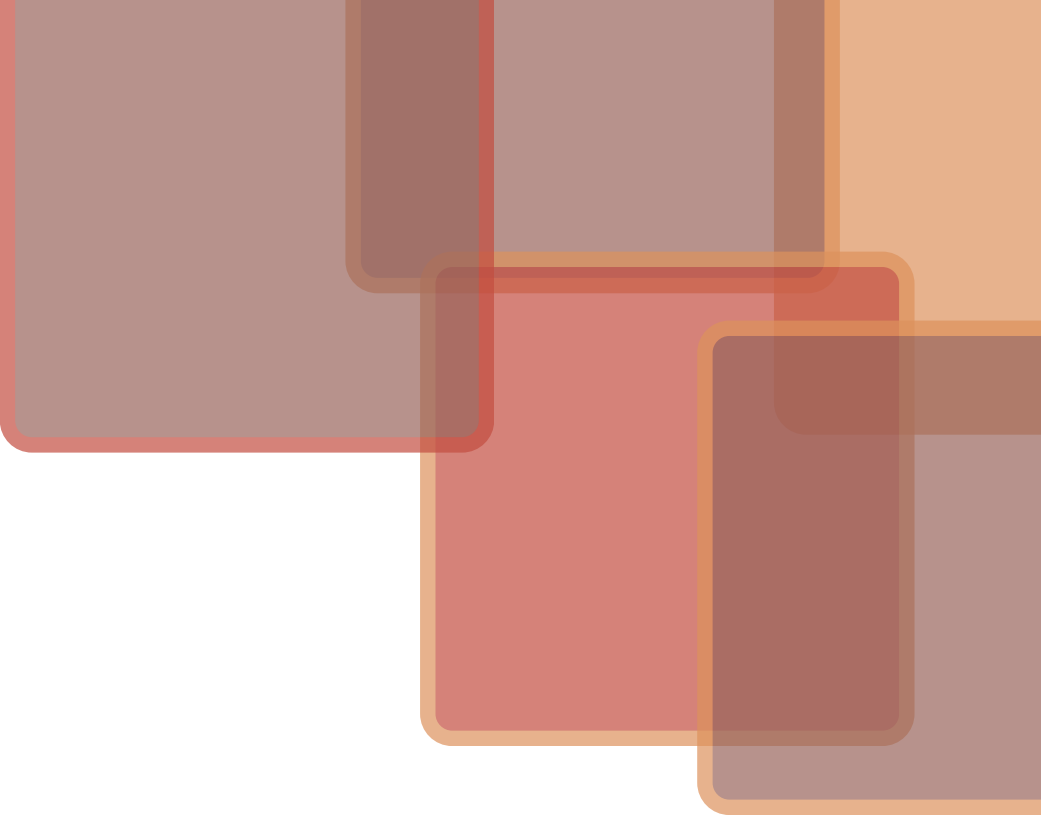
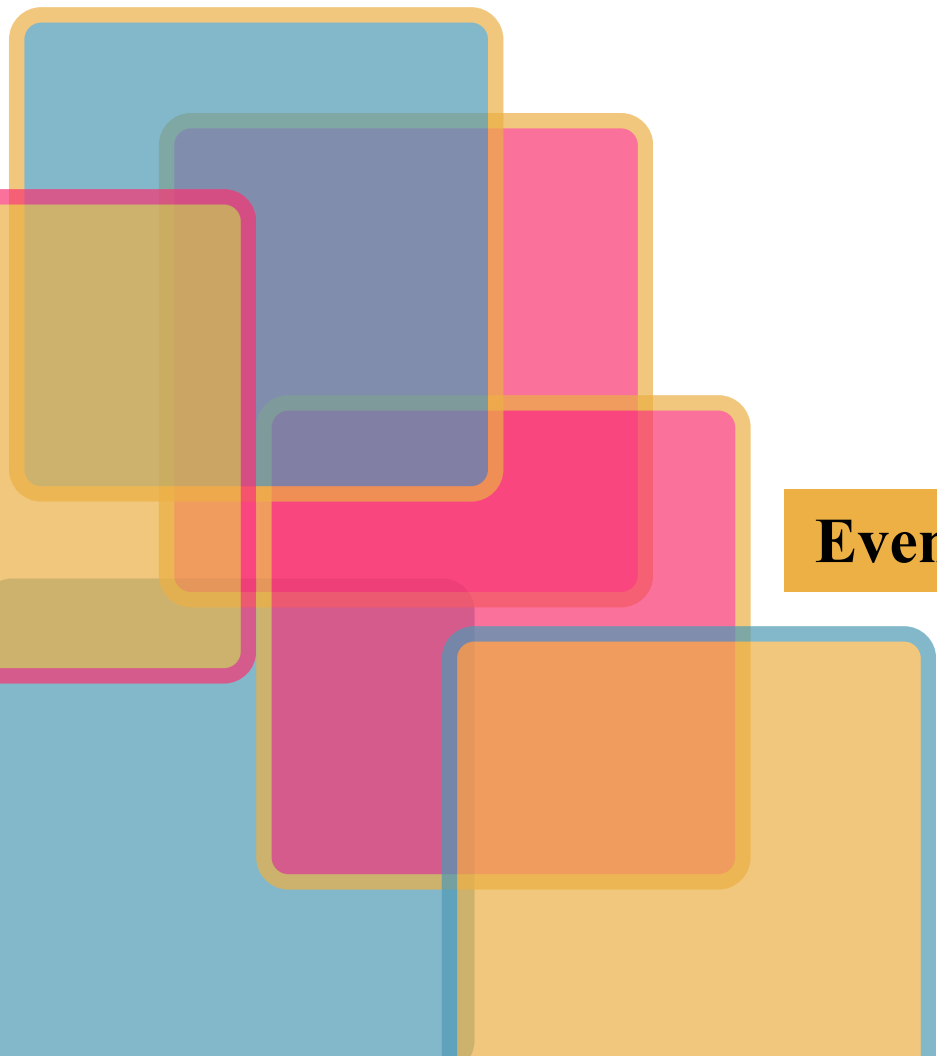




India–Korea Forum on Artificial Intelligence 2026: Fostering India-Korea AI Cooperation in a New Digital Era



Event Report

July 4, 2026

**India-Korea Forum
Ewha Women's University**

IKF | INDIA-KOREA FORUM
한-인도 포럼



About IKF

The India–Korea Forum (IKF) is a premier independent think tank dedicated to advancing India–Korea relations through research, policy dialogue, education, and strategic engagement. Bringing together researchers, academics, professionals, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and young leaders from India, South Korea, and around the world, IKF serves as a platform for promoting mutual understanding and collaboration. Through international conferences, policy dialogues, publications, research briefs, reports, leadership programmes, and digital engagement, IKF fosters cooperation across technology, business, education, public policy, culture, and emerging strategic sectors. Its initiatives have received recognition and support from government officials, diplomats, business leaders, and leading experts in both India and the Republic of Korea.

www.indiakoreaforum.org

India-Korea Forum 2026: Strength in the India and Korea Relationship on AI



India-Korea Forum on AI 2026 Welcome Group Photo

Executive Summary

The India-Korea Forum 2026: Fostering India-Korea AI Cooperation in a New Digital Era event hosted on July 4, 2026, at Ewha Women's University brought together CEOs, researchers, academics, and other professionals to discuss the current state and potential future of India-Korea cooperation on artificial intelligence technologies. Presentation topics ranged from language learning to systems navigation to healthcare and many more topics that touch on AI's growing role within industry, education, and daily life. The event's final roundtable discussion facilitated conversations around AI's further development and where India and Korea fit into a collaborative relationship around the technologies.

Opening Ceremony Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Rajiv Kumar is the Director of the India-Korea Forum and the Principal Investigator on the India-Korea Forum's research projects with over fifteen years of work in teaching, research, and international collaboration. His welcoming remarks address the gathering of sixteen speakers from a variety of professional backgrounds to discuss artificial intelligence's effects on technology and international cooperation. He emphasizes the opportunity in Indian and Korean collaboration over this defining technology. India presents as the world's fastest-growing major economy with digital public infrastructure and a software talent pool that can complement South Korea's

leading innovation in semiconductors, manufacturing, and industrial AI. With India's scale and talent combining with Korea's manufacturing and innovation, the two countries can shape the future of AI in Asia. By bringing together the variety of researchers and professionals at this event, the director promotes creating opportunities for collaborations between the individuals present and the larger institutions and powers that the event represents.

Opening Remarks

Opening the India-Korea Forum on Artificial Intelligence 2026, **Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea H.E. Gourangalal Das** provides powerful remarks highlighting the importance of growing India-Korea cooperation on emerging artificial intelligence technologies. He highlights the forum's opportunity to connect professionals from both nations to collaborate and define the future of AI technology. The conference's strategic timing comes after South Korean President Lee Jae-myung and Prime Minister Narendra Modi met in April 2026 to sign memorandums of understanding (MOUs) on multiple collaboration points, most importantly including AI technology growth. The ambassador focuses on India and South Korea's complementary relationship where engineering talent and data scale combine with AI research & development, hardware, and conductors. Further beyond this complementary relationship, the policy and philosophy pushing this collaboration with India and South Korea's "AI for All" have taken stage during global gatherings such as the United Nations. Both governments have taken swift initiative to support AI models and technology that center on human dignity an



Dr. Rajiv Kumar presenting his opening remarks

inclusion, accessible for all citizens through the growing AI-focused startup market. Creating AI-literate constituencies, India and the Republic of Korea take on the unique opportunity to foster co-creation and innovation, strengthen talent and skill exchange, and center responsible and inclusive AI together. The two countries can transform these ideas and goals into action and reality through robust collaboration between academia, industry, government, and society. The India-Korea Forum's engagement fostering connections between India and South Korea will sustain itself and work further into the future to produce and inspire through this conference.



H.E. Gourangalal Das's video speech displayed for the conference

Congratulatory Remarks

Ms. Yeokyung Yoon offered congratulatory remarks for the success of the India-Korea Forum and the AI conference. As the Director of the Department of Global Partnership for Startups (KISED), she contributes her on-the-ground knowledge about the South Korean business market and startup scene to the conference. Her moving speech was conducted in Korean, reaching the ears of the many different attendants to the event.



Ms. Yeokyung Yoon sharing her congratulatory remarks

Official Launch of IKF-Brief

The official launch of the India Brief written in the Korean language began with **Ms. Sanjana Arya**, First Secretary (Commerce & Investment) from the Embassy of India, **Ms. Yeokyung Yoon**, **Professor Rajiv Kumar**, and Keynote Speaker **Professor David (Bong Jun) Choi**, the official launch of the Korean-language India Brief was enacted. This launch introduces articles written by academics and professionals discussing India-Korea relations on a variety of topics, including politics, economy, business, foreign policy, culture, and the evolving India-Korea relationship that shapes Asia. This magazine strives to become the premier Korean-language publication on India, with Professor Rajiv Kumar leading its effort as the editor-in-chief.



Announcement of the IKF Brief (Korean language)



Presentation of IKF Brief to special guests (right to left: Ms. Yeokyung Yoon, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Ms. Sanjana Arya, Dr. David (Bong Jun) Choi)

Keynote Address

Finally, the opening ceremony concluded with a Keynote Address from **Professor David (Bong Jun) Choi** from the Distributed Intelligence Lab in the School of Computer Science and Engineering at Soongsil University, South Korea. Professor Choi's lab identifies the current bottlenecks in AI research and development, then moves on to addressing these bottlenecks with specific solutions. His publications, patents, and books inform and guide a diverse lab team with members from South Korea and India. He aims to establish long-term cooperation between Korea and India, moving towards a future where data acts as capital for countries. With this future development, Professor Choi also establishes the term "sovereign AI" to describe a country's or an organization's capacity to independently

develop and deploy AI models. He proposes ways to train an AI model without collecting data from data owners, centering data protection and ensuring countries maintain sovereignty over their data. This would ensure national security and also create much more efficient systems that do not hold onto large amounts of data. He sees this as a worthwhile future to explore with collaboration between India and Korea to shift how AI technology is used.

Session I

Jhertau Her begins Session I as its moderator. She is an India-Korea Forum Spring Fellow from the San Francisco Bay Area, California, United States, and a recent graduate of the University of Santa Cruz, California, who studies online community response to AI.

AI Governance and Autonomy

Ms. Mika (Jaeyun) Noh starts the forum off with her presentation “Beyond Code: Sovereign AI Governance” that shares her expertise on government response to artificial intelligence technologies. She outlined the current geopolitical issues with AI around its anglocentric bias and ex post facto law, where AI training presents intellectual property conflicts. Given this current reality, South Korea and India take on different approaches to their policies and systems around AI. South Korea’s legislative focus secures labor protections and Hallyu-related creative digital ecosystems. Meanwhile, India treats AI as a massive public utility for its over 800 million active digital citizens. To bring these two countries closer together, Ms. Noh proposes ‘System-Design Sovereignty,’ coined from her book *Curating Intelligence: The Playbook for Art, Governance, and the*



Professor David (Bong Jun) Choi during his keynote address



Ms. Mika (Jaehyun) Noh as the forum's first presentation

New Global Economy, where governing AI becomes an act of system design to build a democratic digital economy in the Indo-Pacific.

Obstacle-free Digital Ecosystem

Dr. Ravi Shankar Pandit begins his presentation “AI-Powered Multimodal Platform for Seamless Foreigner Access to Local Digital Ecosystems” with a call to action to create technologies to allow foreigners in any country to navigate the country’s systems exactly like a local citizen. As the winner of the K-Startup Grand Challenge 2025, Dr. Pandit aims to create a future with the development of his AI-powered app Konnect, where users only need a passport and their own local payment card to interact with the South Korean digital ecosystem, including services such as Kakao, LG, and T-Money. His background



Mr. Ravi Shankar Pandit starting his presentation

as a leader in technology and product innovation informs Konnect's mission and push to connect foreigners like him, as a citizen of India, to South Korea without lengthy transition periods to obtain government documents such as the South Korean alien registration card. He concludes with a hope for easier global digital ecosystems that allow people to move freely between countries.



India-Korea Forum on AI crowd attendance

Collaboration on the Development of Semi-conductors

Mr. Rancho Lee holds a close working relationship with India as he introduces his co-founded venture capital company, Simsan Ventures, in his presentation titled "Venture Capital, Cross-Border Investment, and Startup Expansion between India and Korea in the Age of AI." Their portfolio of



Mr. Rancho Lee introducing himself

of companies involves heavy collaboration between South Korea and India, bridging together South Korea's extensive AI infrastructure and India's deep talent pool of engineers to progress developments on semiconductors, smart cities, climate technology, and fintech. Mr. Lee focuses on the importance of South Korea and India further collaborating with each other. As someone with a stake in both countries' markets, he invites the creation of a soft landing for Indian startups in South Korea and a transition into India becoming a growth engine for the future of AI technology in a mutually beneficial market relationship.

Effective Usage of AI in Health Sectors

Dr. Sivashanmugam Amirthalingam brings his expertise in biomaterials and in healthcare to discuss AI's effects on healthcare in India and South Korea for his presentation "Transforming Healthcare with AI: An India-Korea Perspective." He begins by discussing his professional background in health innovation and how artificial intelligence contributes data-driven outcomes for patients. AI's growing involvement in healthcare has improved

drug discovery, medical imaging, surgical precision, and biomaterial optimization. India and South Korea bring in a complementary relationship where India's scale and diversity combine with Korea's tools and regulatory blueprint to build new AI healthcare solutions. This research brings an enduring argument for collaboration between the two countries to launch a shared vision for the future.



Dr. Sivashanmugam Amirthalingam as a speaker

Elimination of GPU Wait-States

Dr. Ajit Kumar takes on revolting production bottlenecks through his presentation "Developing Reliable AI Systems," informed by his background as a senior software architect and knowledge on India and South Korea's technical synergy. Dr. Kumar points out that one of the main bottlenecks around AI systems is data availability and GPU delays. He stresses a need to eliminate GPU wait states through computational efficiency and creating efficiency flows between data and model consumption to generate desired outputs. The current AI system infrastructure cannot properly support this; thus, he proposes fixing this issue around infrastructure with further collaboration between South Korea and India. Korea's current supremacy around hardware and data centers combined with India's software talent pool and available large datasets provides an ideal landscape for a shared vision of AI system improvement.



Dr. Ajit Kumar speaking at the forum

With his technical background, Dr. Kumar suggests a practical and actionable solution to the conference.

Session II

Dr. Neeraj Kumar moderates Session 2. Dr. Kumar comes to the India-Korea Forum on Artificial Intelligence 2026 as a Research Professor at Kyung Hee University.

India-Korea Industrial Collaboration

Mr. Divya J. Singh presented on the topic titled "Mapping the India-Korea startup system," where he focused on the shared strengths of both Korea and India and how they can collaborate together for a better future. He emphasizes how these ecosystems of the two countries may not be similar but rather can be complementary to each other. He highlights that India has a huge market, digital public infrastructure, fast founder iteration cycles, and global engineering scale, whereas Korea, on the other hand, has industrial depth, deeptech and hardware, policy and corporate infrastructure, and enterprise deployment. Thus, together through collaboration, they can co-develop in Korea, validate at industrial scale, expand through India, and then export globally.



Mr. Divya J. Singh speaking in his presentation

Implementation of AI in Education

Mr. Hyunwoo Sun presented on the topic titled “Designing AI speaking practice that actually works,” where he focused on how AI can be implemented in language learning spaces without replacing the role of educators. He emphasises that by using AI, one can make language learning more interactive and exciting, which would lead to overcoming language barriers and bridging cultures. He emphasized how the Korean language is becoming a huge demand in India’s educational sector, which needs to be responded to with efficient supply. He suggests building not just B2B relations between India and Korea but also a B2E model for strengthening cooperation between the two nations.



Mr. Hyunwoo Sun presenting

Breaking Language Barriers

Mr. Nitish Kumar, who is the founder of Mednaath, presented on the topic titled “Breaking language barriers,”

where he starts off by emphasizing how AI is enabling cross-border living, business, and public services. He suggests how India and Korea can build together, where he puts forward this idea that governments can make use of AI to build public call centers, immigration lines, and community services intelligible to every resident, regardless of first language. Similarly, business sectors can hold cross-border commerce where banks, telecoms, and SMEs between India and Korea can hold revenue-bearing conversations in 150 languages without hiring a single multilingual agent. In addition, AI-assisted voice infrastructure can make a more connected world for society.



Mr. Nitish Kumar sharing his presentation

Human-Centric and Inclusive AI

Ms. Sudharani Lonavath’s presentation on the topic titled “The Intelligent Era,” which explores how Artificial Intelligence is evolving beyond a technological tool into a transformative force shaping human connection, communication, learning, and global collaboration. The presentation reflects on how AI has existed and evolved over decades before becoming part of everyday public conversation, while emphasizing the growing importance of human-centered and inclusive AI systems. It also highlights the significance of India–Korea cooperation in areas such as education, innovation, research, industry, and responsible AI development, focusing on



Ms. Sudharani Lonavath speaking during presentation

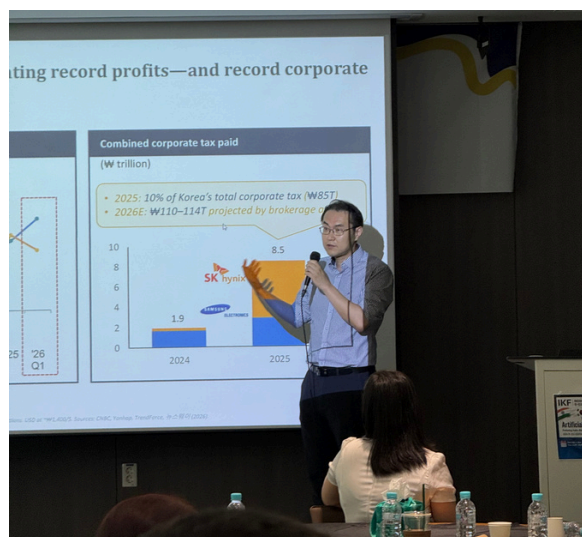
how collaborative ecosystems can help shape a more connected and inclusive intelligent future.

Session III

Dr. Sudeshna Pandey moderates Session 3. Dr. Pandey brings her expertise as a Postdoctoral Researcher at Korea University, Seoul, to the forum.

Making AI Inclusive

Prof. Hyunkyun Jang presented on the topic titled “Towards Inclusive AI: Who Gets Heard,” in which he talks about how AI needs to be more inclusive. He starts off his presentation by highlighting how South Korea has rapidly been investing in and developing AI. He talks about how humans train AI, which in turn leads us to the question: who gets to decide what is right? He tells how in South Korea, AI is unable to accurately recognize the Korean spoken by foreign speakers, leading to ineffective transcriptions. This way, certain voices get left behind. Similarly, in India, due to the presence of multiple languages, it becomes challenging to build an inclusive AI. He ends his presentation with the idea that inclusion is a question of whose voice the future is built to hear.



Prof. Hyunkyun Jang giving his presentation at forum

Modulation of AI in Health Sectors

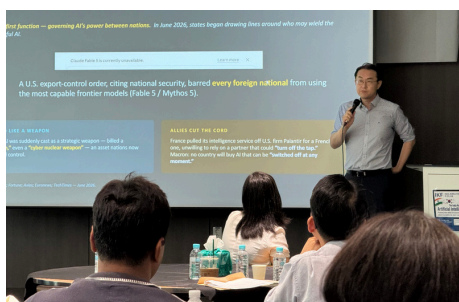
Dr. Mohammad Hassan Baig presented on the topic titled “From pipeline to platform”, where he focused on how we can engineer the India-Korea health technology alliance. He starts off the presentation by identifying the gap. He mentions the fact that India faces 1.5 million new cancer cases a year, whereas Korea has the world’s most effective cancer care which means that the collaboration between the two nations can assist in filling the gap and building exportable health IP. India has world-class AI talent at scale, and Korea, on the other hand, has precision medicine & AI-approved medical devices; hence, they both can together attain leadership in global health markets.



Dr. Mohammad Hassan Baig presenting

Synergy Framework in Educational Sector

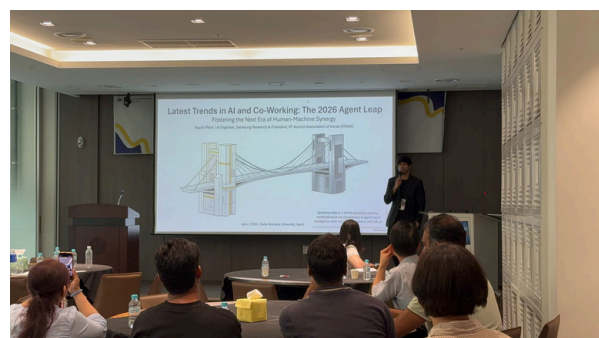
Mr. Charles Yunchan Suk presented on the topic titled “AI-Driven Educational Innovation: Case studies in India-Korea Synergy,” which focuses on the vision and functioning of his application called “Visual Camp” and how it can be implemented in India as well. Visual Camp develops on-device AI eye-tracking software for all mobile devices, tablets, or laptops, as one’s gaze data is valuable data that reflects one’s attention, concentration, and intention. He highlights how immense usage of smartphones or screens has deprived people of literacy. Therefore, to this, he suggests cognitive X-ray technology, which goes beyond “whether they read it” to understand “where and why they got stuck” using the gaze data. In the case of India, he did a field investigation in Haryana to understand the literacy or the reading ability of students. The result of the investigation suggested that 76% of grade 3 government schools lack grade-level reading ability. He puts forward steps for penetration into the Indian market, which start off by first validating trust, expanding the state, scaling mass production, and, lastly, monetizing. With Seoul’s deep-tech innovation and New Delhi’s Mass scale & policy, together they can bring in a synergy framework where Korean technological precision meets Indian educational scale, creating a definitive mode for the generative AI era.



Mr. Charles Yunchan Suk speaking during his presentation

Human-AI Collaboration under Autonomous Agents

Mr. Ayush Patel presented on the topic titled “Latest trends in AI and Co-working: The 2026 Agent Leap,” which focuses on how the role of AI is shifting from instruction-based prompting to intent-based autonomous execution. There is a shift in agency where humans are transitioning from manual operators to “air traffic controllers” who set high-level intent while agents autonomously map plans, execute tasks, and self-correct. He emphasizes how India’s software depth, which includes algorithmic architecture, deep content engineering, and scalable software talent, can collaborate with Korea’s hardware leadership, which includes advanced silicon, on-device integration, and precision manufacturing. He suggests that the future of AI depends on advances in on-device intelligence, context engineering, and efficient agent architecture, which improves privacy, accuracy, and cost-effectiveness. Similarly, organizations must redesign workflows and incentives to support AI collaboration rather than simply adding AI to existing systems. This way, one can maintain human critical thinking, which is essential to AI decision-making. Lastly, he concludes by suggesting that India’s software expertise with Korea’s hardware leadership can drive the next era of AI-powered digital transformation.



Mr. Ayush Patel speaking to crowd

Implementation of AI law for ethical practices

Ms. Poonam Shenoy's presentation titled "Trustworthy AI," where she focused on how ethical AI is. She emphasizes the AI law implemented in different countries, especially in Korea and India. Her argument was that the usage of AI must be within certain AI law frameworks, which is something that both the countries need to work on. South Korea does have a comprehensive AI framework that has a hybrid approach that includes innovation as well as ethical governance that stresses building trust, safety, and global alignment. While, on the other hand, in India there isn't such a comprehensive law yet. India must focus on inclusion, governance, and digital infrastructure. She suggests having a joint AI testing sandbox, shared ethical standards, and sector-specific collaboration.



Ms. Poonam Shenoy as the final speaker

Strategic Roundtable

During the roundtable, various ideas and questions were put forward by both speakers and the audience, which made it a meaningful discussion. While there was understanding among the participants of how AI can be harmful and exploitative, there were also ideas and perspectives put forward as to how we can implement AI in a meaningful way that is sustainable and serves the betterment of the citizens. Both Indian and Korean audiences shared meaningful insights in the discussion, which would

enhance strengthening India-Korea relations in the AI industry.



Director Rajiv Kumar calling for the strategic roundtable to commence



Ms. Poonam Shenoy sharing her opinion on the future of AI



Prof. David (Bong Jun) Choi giving insights to the roundtable conversation



Crowd listening to Mr. Charles Yunchan Suk respond

Key Takeaways

- This forum brought together diverse kinds of researchers, scholars, entrepreneurs, professors, etc., both from India and Korea, to discuss how India and Korea can collaborate in shaping a better future for the coming generation.
- This event was meant to bring together diverse perspectives and ideas on cooperating AI in today's Digital Era through diplomatic ties between Korea and India.
- The discussion ranged from how India-Korea bilateral relations can help in the growth of the two nations in public sectors, educational sectors, health sectors, and business sectors with proper cooperation of AI by carefully intersecting the strengths of each nation in filling gaps in places where one nation lags behind to also acknowledging the importance of proper governance of AI to efforts to be put in making AI more inclusive, and appropriate laws on AI must be implemented for building trust and safety of its users.
- This forum focused on looking at AI through various lenses and gave a space for critical thinking in order to foster India-Korea relations.



Credits

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