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Pre-Summit Event of



AI Fusion

Bridging AI with the Future

@ Kakinada

First-Ever **AI Summit** in the Godavari Region

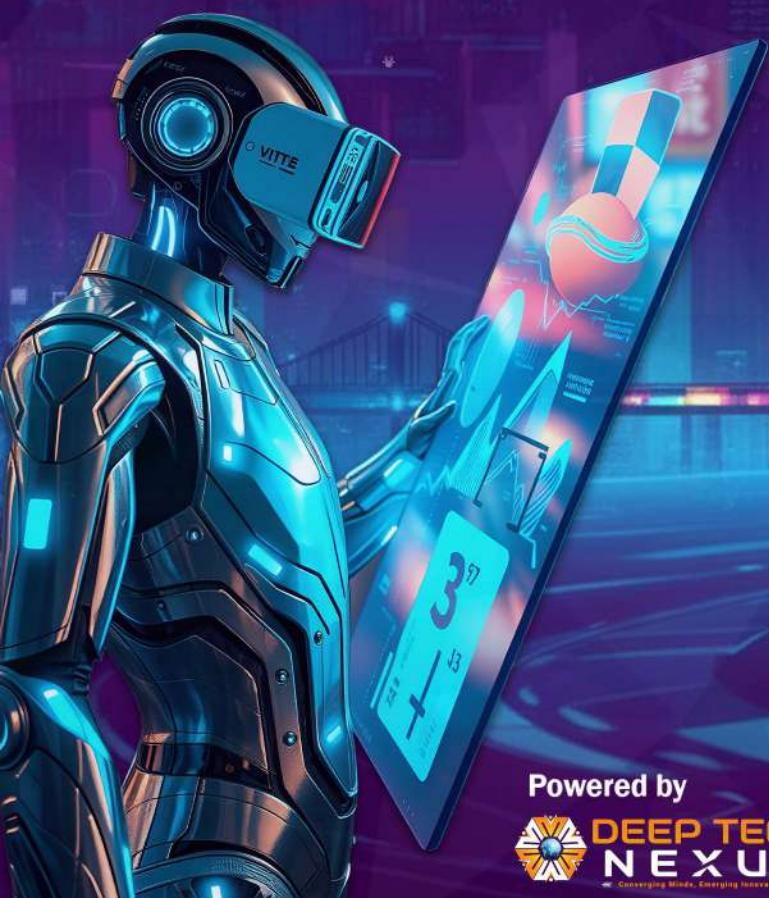
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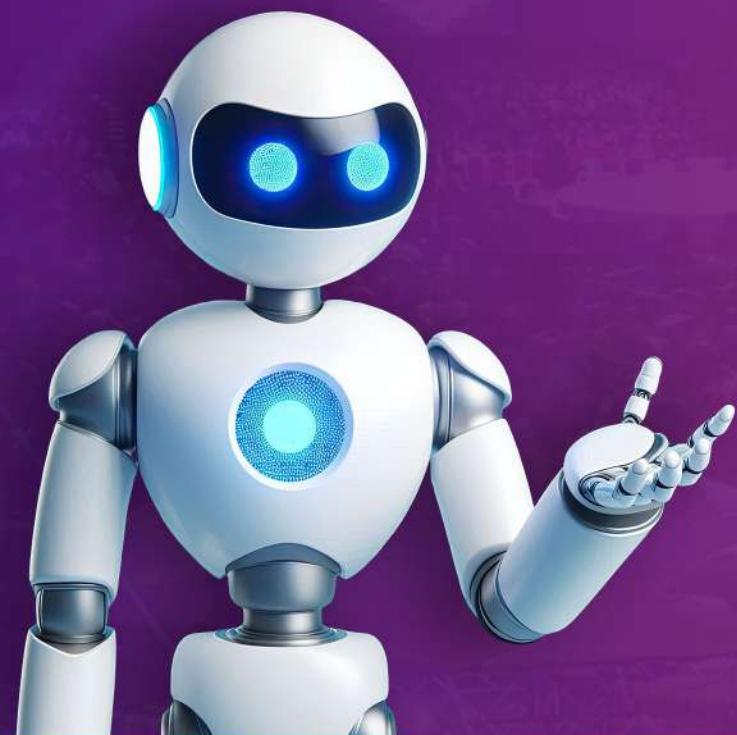


Summit Highlights



Summit Highlights

**AI Fusion summit is Officially Recognized as pre-summit event
of the India-AI Impact Summit 2026**



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Signing of an MoU between Anand PAG and Kakinada Institute of Engineering and Technology, supported by DeepTech Naipunya Foundation (DTNF)



Summit Theme

Democratizing AI: Building India's Innovation Ecosystem Beyond Metro Cities

AI Fusion is driven by the vision to build vibrant AI and DeepTech ecosystems in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across India, empowering innovators, startups, and students to harness the power of AI and shape the nation's digital future.

Key Engagements

Global Keynotes by AI thought leaders and pioneers

Fireside Chats with disruptors and domain experts

High-Powered Panels on industry-specific AI adoption

AI Product Demos and use-case showcases

AI Fusion Awards recognizing top AI innovators

Summit Objectives

Translate India's AI potential into scalable, real-world applications

Facilitate cross-sector collaboration across tech, industry, and governance

Position Andhra Pradesh as a rising hub for AI innovation and adoption

Promote responsible AI frameworks and policy discussions

Enable knowledge exchange, talent skilling, & startup-industry partnerships

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Takeaways for Stakeholders

Business Leaders

Frameworks to implement AI-first strategies

Technologists

In-depth knowledge of cutting-edge AI tools

Startups

Investor access, exposure, and recognition

Researchers

Case studies and implementation insights

Policymakers

Models to craft inclusive AI policies

Students & Educators

Future-ready skill-building pathways

Key Areas



Agentic AI



Gen AI



AI for Innovators



Embodied AI
(Robotics)



Edge AI



Cross Sectoral AI



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Agenda

Inaugural Session Lighting Lamp & Guests Speeches



Cheif Guest
Shri. Prof CSRK Prasad
Vice Chancellor,
JNTU Kakinada



Distinguished Guest
Shri. Dr. Anand Govindaluri
CEO
Govin Capital, Singapore



Special Guest
Shri. A.V.Malleswara Rao
Addl Director, Office-In-Charge,
STPI, Kakinada



Special Guest
Shri. Indrajit Anne
CEO
Inventiz



Welcome Note
Shri. Sreedhar Kosaraju
Chairman, APDTI Network,
Chairman & Founder, DTNF

Keynote Address on AI as the Next Industrial Revolution: Shaping the Future of Business, Society, and Innovation



Keynote Speaker
Shri. Dr. Anand Govindaluri
Founding Director & CEO
Govin Capital, Singapore

Keynote & Fireside Chat on From Reactive to Proactive: AI Agents That Anticipate and Act



Keynote Speaker
Smt. Mythreyee Ganapathy
Product Leader
Google



Moderator
Shri. Kirti Dhawaj Singh
Product Manager
Google

Keynote & Fireside Chat on Beyond Text: Multimodal Gen AI for Vision, Speech, and Video



Keynote Speaker
Shri. Bhaskara Srihari V
Sr Tech Director
Bosch Global Software Technologies



Moderator
Shri. Dr. Rama Raju Poosapati
Head of Enterprise architecture
TCS

Fireside Chat on The Future of Work with AI: Displacement, Augmentation, or Transformation?



Moderator
Shri. Srinivas Sriramdas
Group CEO
Mendu Group



Panel Speaker
Shri. Dr. Ravi Saripalle
Professor of Entrepreneurship
Gitam



Panel Speaker
Shri. Suresh Narra
Center Head
Infosys, Visakhapatnam

Keynote on "The Silent Revolution: How AI is Turbocharging Everything You Don't See"/ Latest Trends



Keynote Speaker
Shri. Thirumalesh Konathala
Head of India & Partner, Alphanome.AI
Founder & Director, Datai2i

Fireside Chat on How Edge AI is Powering Real-Time Everything



Panel Speaker
Shri. Ashish Tiwari
Director & Chief Architect
Capgemini



Moderator
Shri. Trivenugopal Kadali
Founder & Director
Kaumodaki Nexusgrid

Keynote on The Robotic Senses Revolution: Vision, Touch, and Multimodal Perception



Keynote Speaker
Shri. Prakash Verma
Head of Engineering
Bosch Global Software Technologies

Keynote & Fireside Chat

Keynote On: Building an AI-Native Company from Day One

Fireside Chat On: AI for Innovators & Startups



Keynote Speaker
Shri. Ramesh Loganathan
General Partner
SucSEED Ventures



Moderator
Shri. K. Krishna Reddy
CEO
Krifly



Panel Speaker
Shri. Dr. Ravi Saripalle
Professor of Entrepreneurship
Gitam



Panel Speaker
Shri. Ravi Eswarapu
CEO, RTIH-Vizag
Serial Entrepreneur

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Inaugural Session with Guest Speeches



Cheif Guest
Shri. Prof CSRK Prasad
Vice Chancellor,
JNTU Kakinada



Distinguished Guest
Shri. Dr. Anand Govindaluri
CEO
Govin Capital, Singapore



Special Guest
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Addl Director, Office-In-Charge,
STPI, Kakinada



Special Guest
Shri. Indrajit Anne
President
ITAAP



Welcome Note
Shri. Sreedhar Kosaraju
Chairman, APDTI Network,
Chairman & Founder, DTNF

Shri. Sreedhar Kosaraju, Chairman, APDTI Network, Chairman & Founder, DTNF

Shri. Sreedhar emphasized the urgent need to transform India's approach to education, skills, and innovation in the era of AI and hyper-automation. He noted that traditional coding roles are rapidly evolving, making **AI literacy** essential for all professionals, regardless of their field.

Highlighting the gap between academia and industry, he advocated for **integrated learning models, faculty internships, & stronger collaboration** to ensure graduates are industry-ready. Without this alignment, he warned, India's youthful workforce could become a liability.

Explaining the vision behind **AI Fusion**, he said the initiative aims to **democratize AI** by nurturing innovation and talent in **tier-2 and tier-3 cities**, proving that transformative ideas can emerge from anywhere.

He commended the Andhra Pradesh government's leadership under Hon'ble Chief Minister **N. Chandrababu Naidu** and Hon'ble IT Minister **Nara Lokesh** for attracting major tech investments – including Google's \$15 billion data center in Visakhapatnam – expected to



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generate 3–4 lakh jobs in the Godavari and North Andhra region. He also urged the Godavari diaspora to invest in local IT and AI infrastructure.

Concluding, he called the summit a catalyst for learning and collaboration, inspiring participants to become builders and leaders in India's AI future.

Shri. Prof CSRK Prasad, Vice Chancellor, JNTU, Kakinada

Shri. Prof. C.S.R.K. Prasad emphasized the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence in reshaping industries, education, and society. Acknowledging his background in civil engineering, he noted how AI has moved beyond research labs into everyday life, enhancing sectors like healthcare, agriculture, and education. He reflected on how this digital transformation is redefining professional roles and creating opportunities for interdisciplinary innovation.

He highlighted that AI's true purpose is not automation but augmentation – empowering human intelligence through creativity and insight. Stressing the importance of ethics, transparency, and inclusivity, he said AI should enhance human values, not replace them. Prof. Prasad outlined India's major AI initiatives, including the ₹10,000 crore National AI Mission, the Bharat Jan language model, and Andhra Pradesh's pioneering AI university with NVIDIA, along with Google's upcoming \$15 billion AI data center in Visakhapatnam.

Discussing AI's role in education and research, he noted how it personalizes learning, supports teachers, and accelerates discoveries across disciplines. He also pointed out how AI tools are democratizing access to quality education and enabling collaborative learning across geographies. However, he reminded that teachers remain irreplaceable in inspiring creativity, critical thinking, and wisdom.

Citing examples from transportation engineering, he explained how AI-driven analytics & automation are making systems safer and more efficient, improving infrastructure planning and traffic management. He praised AI Fusion for fostering collaboration among innovators and urged students to use AI as a tool for societal good – solving challenges like climate change, food security, and inclusivity – while upholding ethics, human empathy, and the spirit of innovation.



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Inaugural Keynote by Dr. Anand Govindaluri, Founding Director & CEO, Govin Capital, Singapore

Shri. Dr. Anand Govindaluri delivered an inspiring keynote emphasizing how AI, when combined with innovation, entrepreneurship, and ethics, can transform societies & economies. He acknowledged the vision of Andhra Pradesh's leadership and noted that AI Fusion @ Kakinada marks the beginning of a regional movement for innovation and technological growth.

Drawing from his journey as an investor and mentor, he shared real-world applications of AI across sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, fintech, and education. Since 2015, Govin Capital has supported startups in Visakhapatnam through funding and mentorship, enabling innovations like IoT-driven smart irrigation, AI-based cancer detection, and telemedicine solutions. He also cited examples from Singapore where AI is integrated into healthcare and banking, illustrating how it enhances daily life and accessibility.

Dr. Anand highlighted that the next era of technology lies in the convergence of **AI and quantum computing**, where data analysis will become exponentially faster. He praised Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu as a visionary for conceptualizing the "Quantum Valley," positioning the state as a leader in emerging technologies.

Addressing students and entrepreneurs, he urged them to focus on solving real societal problems rather than merely developing solutions. He emphasized building native, linguistic AI models in regional languages like Telugu, rooted in local data, and expressed his willingness to fund such meaningful innovations.

He also called for a reimagining of India's engineering education – encouraging hands-on industry learning in the final year – and advocated shifting from academic publications to creating patents and intellectual property that fuel an innovation-driven economy. Citing Cambridge University's contribution of over £23 billion annually to the UK economy, he urged India to cultivate a similar ecosystem of applied innovation.

To inspire young innovators, Dr. Anand introduced two awards – the **Dr. Ella Pragadha Subbarao GEM Award** for scientists excelling in patent creation, and the **SMILE Award**, inspired by his mother, to honor innovation and leadership among youth.



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He concluded with three life lessons: take calculated risks, focus on identifying problems, and uphold values and humility as the foundation of success. Calling Kakinada “the ice cream after a full meal,” he expressed his affection for the region and his vision of seeing unicorn startups emerge from Andhra Pradesh.

Shri. A.V.Malleswara Rao, Addl Director, Officer-In-Charge STPI, Kakinada

Shri. A.V. Malleswara Rao thanked APDTI for organizing the first-ever AI Fusion Summit in Kakinada, calling it a **landmark event** that marks the beginning of a regional movement for AI adoption and innovation in the Godavari region.

He outlined the journey of the **Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)** – a premier organization under the **Ministry of Electronics and IT** – which has been pivotal for over 34 years in advancing India’s IT exports, startup ecosystem, and digital empowerment. Since its inception in 1991 with just three centers, STPI has expanded to 68 centers, mostly in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, contributing over ₹10.71 lakh crore in exports and supporting 1,600+ startups that have collectively raised ₹900 crore and created 18,000 jobs.

He highlighted STPI’s efforts toward inclusive growth through **Centers of Entrepreneurship**, incubation facilities, and initiatives such as the **Next Generation Incubation Scheme** and **India BPO Promotion Scheme**. STPI Kakinada, he noted, has supported 27 companies so far, with 8 currently operating from its incubation center.

Malleswara Rao emphasized that **AI is a transformative force** driving industries, sustainability, and innovation, urging participants to use the summit for collaboration and responsible innovation. He concluded by noting that **AI Fusion @ Kakinada** serves as a pre-summit event to the upcoming **AI Impact Summit 2026**, aimed at promoting inclusive and sustainable AI development.



Shri. Indrajit Anne, President, ITAAP

Shri. Indrajit Anne, President of ITAAP, described AI Fusion @ Kakinada not merely as a conference but as the beginning of a **movement to democratize innovation** – proving that creativity & technological advancement are not limited to metropolitan cities but thrive wherever curiosity and courage exist.

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He emphasized that AI belongs in real-world problem spaces – in towns like Kakinada, Guntur, and Visakhapatnam – where people can use it to solve local challenges. He contrasted the massive global investments in AI by companies like Google and Microsoft with the high failure rate of AI projects, attributing these failures not to the technology itself but to misguided implementation and over-enthusiasm without understanding the real need.

Indrajit urged a shift from “where to use AI” to “what problems AI can solve”, noting that meaningful innovation arises from solving genuine problems. He highlighted transformative AI applications already seen in healthcare, manufacturing, autonomous systems, and industry 4.0, and noted that AI’s impact extends far beyond software – influencing energy, infrastructure, and data management as well.



He concluded by encouraging students and professionals to learn from the industry leaders present at the summit, engage actively, and translate insights into purposeful innovation that benefits society.



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Keynote & Fireside Chat On From Reactive to Proactive: AI Agents That Anticipate and Act



Keynote Speaker
Smt. Mythreyee Ganapathy
Product Leader
Google



Moderator
Shri. Kirti Dhawaj Singh
Product Manager
Google

The session explored how **agentic AI** is transforming industries by moving beyond traditional reactive systems to proactive, context-aware agents capable of autonomous decision-making. The discussion highlighted how AI is reshaping business models, disrupting established players, and creating new opportunities for innovation, while also emphasizing the urgent need for adaptability and reskilling.

The speakers illustrated **AI-driven disruption with powerful industry** examples. Platforms like Chegg and Shutterstock experienced major declines in market value – Chegg losing over 80% & Shutterstock nearly 50% – due to the emergence of generative AI tools that provided similar or superior capabilities at lower cost. These examples underscored the pace of transformation and the existential threat that AI poses to legacy business models unable to evolve.

Amazon's strategic response served as a major case study. Recognizing that AI could disintermediate its e-commerce model, Amazon undertook both defensive and offensive strategies – integrating agentic AI within its ecosystem while preparing to launch its own "buy-it-for-me" **AI capability**. This allows users' personal agents to autonomously find the best deals and complete purchases, leveraging Amazon's existing strengths in trust, data, and reliability. The move demonstrated how established companies can embrace self-disruption to stay competitive in an AI-first world.

The conversation then turned to the technical and organizational challenges of integrating agentic AI. Large-scale implementation demands strong data pipelines, secure infrastructure, and robust governance models. It also requires overcoming skill gaps – particularly in understanding

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how to design, codify, and deploy AI agents effectively. The panel emphasized that the shift to AI-driven systems calls for rethinking talent strategies, aligning technology, business, and human capabilities to maintain relevance and security in an evolving digital landscape.

A live demo showcased the rapid progress in AI-assisted software development. Using modern coding tools, a multi-agent conversational simulator featuring personas like Ronaldo and Elon Musk was built in just a few hours – a task that once took days. The demonstration revealed how quickly prototypes can now be created, but also reiterated that proof-of-concept does not equal production readiness. True innovation still requires engineering discipline, scalability planning, and secure deployment.

The session concluded with key takeaways for the audience: **embrace AI** as a collaborator rather than a threat, focus on building specific and well-defined prompts, and shift from merely developing standalone applications to curating and orchestrating AI systems that deliver holistic value. The panel encouraged students, professionals, and organizations to experiment, learn continuously, and actively engage in building the AI-driven future – because, as they emphasized, “the change is already here.”



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Sessions

Keynote on Gen AI



Shri. Bhaskara Srihari V

Sr Tech Director

Bosch Global Software Technologies

Shri Bhaskara Srihari highlighted how **multi-modal AI**, which understands and connects text, images, audio, video, and diagrams, is transforming industries by enabling richer intelligence for engineering, maintenance, and product support. He explained that industrial AI differs from consumer AI – it must deliver **accurate, auditable, and safe** outputs over long product lifecycles, demanding careful data handling and validation to avoid hallucinations.

He showcased real-world applications like robotics and automotive vision, AI-assisted equipment troubleshooting, immersive VR training, and digitization of service manuals and P&ID diagrams – helping preserve and transfer expert knowledge. He stressed that **simulation (sim-to-real)** and synthetic data generation are vital for building reliable physical AI systems.

Srihari outlined a practical pipeline for implementing Gen AI: structured data extraction, multimodal vectorization, linking diagrams to text, and continuous human-in-the-loop validation. He emphasized modular architectures and constant re-testing as key to moving from proof-of-concept to production.

He concluded by advising innovators to begin with clear **problem statements**, not technologies, and to build modular, validated, and safe systems. Multi-modal Gen AI, when engineered with precision and purpose, can make industrial intelligence truly proactive and human-centric.



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Fireside Chat On Beyond Text: Multimodal Gen AI for Vision, Speech, and Video



Moderator
Shri. Dr. Rama Raju Poosapati
Head of Enterprise architecture
TCS



Speaker
Shri. Bhaskara Srihari V
Sr Tech Director
Bosch Global Software Technologies

The session explored how **multimodal generative AI**—which integrates vision, speech, text, and video—can revolutionize real-world problem-solving across sectors. The discussion focused on applying AI to practical and socially relevant challenges, encouraging students and innovators to think beyond theory and develop solutions that create tangible impact.

A key use case discussed was **crowd management** in large gatherings like the Kumbh Mela or Jagannath festivals. The conversation highlighted how advanced surveillance using cameras, drones, and AI analytics can help authorities identify overcrowded zones and predict potential risk areas in real time. Current systems already utilize AI for mapping “hot zones,” but future improvements could involve predictive analytics through multimodal AI. However, the speakers pointed out challenges such as **poor network connectivity, limited 5G infrastructure, and high computational demands** that hinder real-time video analytics at scale. They emphasized the need for localized AI models and efficient edge computing to overcome these bottlenecks.

Another example discussed was **traffic management and automatic violation detection** using multimodal AI. While number plate recognition and automated challan systems are well established globally, India faces unique implementation barriers due to **non-standardized vehicle plates, poor readability, and data integration issues**. Algorithms trained on uniform datasets abroad struggle to interpret the variability and clutter in Indian plates, often caused by additional text, regional symbols, or damaged plates. The issue, therefore, is not the lack of AI capability but rather the **ecosystem and infrastructural readiness** to deploy such systems effectively.

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Throughout the discussion, the speakers stressed that AI innovation must be ecosystem-driven, combining technological readiness with policy support, standardization, and public infrastructure upgrades. They encouraged students to explore multimodal AI not just for technological advancement but for solving deeply rooted local challenges – from public safety and transport to urban management and civic engagement.

The session concluded by emphasizing that multimodal Gen AI marks a new frontier in artificial intelligence. It represents a significant leap in how machines understand and interact with the world. Speakers highlighted the immense potential of combining text, vision, and speech technologies. Such integration can drive innovation across diverse sectors, from education to healthcare. The discussion underscored the importance of collaboration among key stakeholders. Academia, industry, and government must work together to unlock AI's full potential. By harnessing real-time data, India can create meaningful, proactive solutions. Ultimately, these advancements aim to enhance everyday life across the nation.



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Fireside Chat on The Future of Work with AI: Displacement, Augmentation, or Transformation?



Moderator
Shri. Srinivas Sriramdas
Group CEO
Mendum Group



Panel Speaker
Shri. Dr. Ravi Saripalle
Professor of Entrepreneurship
Gitam



Panel Speaker
Shri. Suresh Narra
Center Head
Infosys, Visakhapatnam

The discussion opened by distinguishing three central pathways that AI brings to work: displacement, where roles become obsolete because machines take over; augmentation, where human professionals partner with AI to enhance output; and transformation, where entirely new job categories and industry models emerge. This framework set the stage for deep reflection on how young engineers, faculty, and industry leaders must evolve in response to the rapid technological shift.

From a student-centred perspective, the panel emphasised that relevance in the job market will demand more than mastering a programming language. Instead, graduates must cultivate **learnability**, curiosity, and domain-specific insight. One industry leader shared that in his 26-year career, moving from mainframes to Java to cloud to AI, his continual enthusiasm to learn and adapt has been his key differentiator. Meanwhile, industry expectations are shifting: companies now classify candidates as takers (those who use tools), makers (those who build solutions with tools), and shapers (those who shape systems and business value). Employers looking for future talent expect confidence, efficient thinking, and the ability to **predict** problems before they occur, rather than merely solving them once they appear.

From the academic angle, the conversation underscored the disconnect between institutional evaluation models and industry demands. While many students rely heavily on AI assistants for coding and assignments, recruiters are concerned about the erosion of **cognitive foundations**, such as efficient

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algorithmic thinking and memory for optimization. One panelist cited studies showing that while students using AI complete tasks faster, they struggle to apply concepts and demonstrate comprehension compared to peers who used manual search and problem-solving.

The panel recommended moving toward project- and exhibition-based evaluation (like weekly showcases or real-world design labs) rather than heavy reliance on exams or rote learning.

On the industry front, speakers stressed that the future of work isn't simply about being replaced or aided by AI — it is about reshaping roles. One example: a retail business with 6,000 stores uses AI to predict which POS machine might fail two hours in advance and proactively enables a fix before disruption. This kind of predictive capability demands deep domain knowledge — a software engineer who knows retail logistics or manufacturing flows will far outlast one who only writes code.

The panel argued that while AI will keep changing, those who combine domain expertise with adaptive skills will thrive. They encouraged students to gain business process understanding first, then layering in tool competencies and problem-predictor mindset.

In conclusion, the panel urged listeners to embrace AI as an opportunity for transformation rather than fear displacement. They encouraged students, academics, and industry practitioners alike to: (1) begin with **clear problem** statements not just technology; (2) continuously test and optimize, thinking in terms of memory = money and efficiency rather than brute force; (3) build domain depth as well as tool fluency; and (4) view AI as a partner for new roles — predictors, shapers, and innovators — in a transformed workplace.



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Keynote on "The Silent Revolution: How AI is Turbocharging Everything You Don't See"/ Latest Trends



Shri. Thirumalesh Konathala

Head of India, Alphanome.AI

Founder & Director, Datai2i

The keynote explored how Artificial Intelligence is transforming the world in subtle yet powerful ways. Beginning with an AI-generated horror movie trailer created entirely by tools like Google VO3, MidJourney, and L1 Labs, the session highlighted how AI now handles end-to-end creative production – a symbol of its quiet but sweeping influence.

The speaker emphasized that **84% of people use AI daily without realizing it**, as it powers everything from Gmail's smart replies to personalized shopping and content recommendations. In healthcare, AI accelerates diagnosis and treatment; in education, tools like Google's Socratic app enhance learning; in transportation, autonomous systems are driving an industry expected to reach **\$1.8 trillion by 2030**. AI is also transforming manufacturing, agriculture, and governance – with examples like Xiaomi's AI-powered factories, AI-based health apps in Kerala, and multilingual translation in Indian Railways.

Highlighting five key domains – **automation, prediction, personalization, optimization, and production** – the keynote underscored that AI's greatest impact lies behind the scenes, enabling efficiency, precision, and innovation across sectors. The session concluded with a powerful message: AI's "silent revolution" is already here, quietly amplifying human creativity and productivity – even the presentation itself was designed using AI.



Sessions

Fireside Chat On How Edge AI is Powering Real-Time Everything



Moderator
Shri. Trivenugopal Kadali
Founder & Director
Kaumodaki Nexusgrid



Speaker
Shri. Ashish Tiwari
Director & Chief Architect
Capgemini

The Fireside Chat explored the transformative potential of Edge AI in enabling real-time decision-making, its integration with IoT and Industry 4.0 technologies, and the skill sets needed for professionals to excel in this fast-evolving domain. The discussion provided a comprehensive understanding of how computing at the edge—closer to data sources—bridges the gap between AI models and their deployment in real-world applications.

The session began with a detailed explanation of what distinguishes Edge AI from Cloud AI. While Cloud AI focuses on centralized model training using vast datasets, Edge AI emphasizes deploying pre-trained models on localized hardware to achieve instantaneous responses with minimal latency. Examples from automotive systems, robotics, mobile devices, and life sciences illustrated how Edge AI supports time-sensitive operations such as autonomous driving, robotic surgery, and smart manufacturing. The conversation highlighted the crucial role of hardware platforms like NVIDIA and Qualcomm, which provide the necessary GPU and NPU capabilities to handle these computationally intensive tasks in real time.

A significant part of the discussion focused on the challenges of implementing Edge AI – balancing model complexity with hardware limitations such as memory, compute power, and latency. The experts discussed optimization techniques using frameworks like TensorFlow, PyTorch, and Hugging Face, alongside platform-specific SDKs such as NVIDIA TensorRT and Qualcomm's QNN and AIMET, which help fine-tune AI models for deployment on edge devices.

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The conversation also addressed the growing adoption of Edge AI across industries, including automotive, healthcare, mobile technology, and smart networks, driven by the demand for faster, more reliable, and localized intelligence.

Another key theme was the convergence of supporting technologies like 5G, TinyML, and physical AI simulations. With 5G enabling ultra-fast data transfer, TinyML bringing AI to smaller, low-power devices, and simulation platforms like NVIDIA Omniverse and Isaac allowing digital twins for model testing, the ecosystem around Edge AI is rapidly maturing. Generative AI was also discussed in the context of edge applications – from automotive voice assistance and image-based decision systems to real-time sensor fusion – where multimodal inputs like text, audio, and video enhance the human-machine interface.

The discussion concluded with a strong emphasis on education and collaboration. Students and professionals were encouraged to develop expertise in AI frameworks, programming languages like Python and C++, and hardware-level programming such as CUDA and OpenCL. The session urged academia and industry to bridge gaps through joint research on areas like multi-agent orchestration, LLM optimization for edge devices, and physical-to-real-world AI adaptation. Finally, the speakers underscored that Edge AI is not just a technological advancement but a multidimensional field creating new roles for AI developers, IoT engineers, and data scientists – shaping the workforce for Industry 4.0 and beyond.



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Keynote on The Robotic Senses Revolution: Vision, Touch, and Multimodal Perception



Shri. Prakash Verma

Head of Engineering
Bosch Global Software Technologies

Shri Prakash Verma emphasized that the future of robotics lies in achieving human-like perception through multimodal sensing – combining vision, touch, and contextual awareness. While robots today are capable of precise and complex tasks, they lack the ability to understand their environment as humans do. He noted that the next major breakthrough is not in faster computing but in enabling deeper perception that allows robots to sense, interpret, and adapt intelligently.

He outlined three key challenges in robotic perception: sensory limitations, contextual blindness, and fragile generalization. Single-sensor robots, such as those using only cameras or LiDAR, often fail in real-world scenarios due to limited contextual understanding. By fusing multiple sensory inputs, robots can gain awareness similar to humans – for example, combining vision and tactile sensing helps them distinguish between different textures or materials, improving their adaptability and safety in dynamic environments.

He concluded that the next generation of robots will rely on **collaborative & multimodal intelligence**, where multiple robots & systems communicate to build shared environmental understanding. Showcasing Bosch's "Active Shuttle" used for factory logistics, he illustrated how this integration of perception, awareness, and AI-driven learning is transforming automation into a truly intelligent, adaptive system.



Keynote on Building an AI-Native Company from Day One



Shri. Ramesh Loganathan

General Partner

SucSEED Ventures

Shri Ramesh Loganathan's keynote offered a reality check on the current state of AI, emphasizing that while AI's potential is immense, its real-world implementation is far more complex than it appears.

He illustrated this through real projects at **IIIT Hyderabad**, covering domains like cybersecurity, healthcare, nutrition tracking, and robotics, where AI solutions faced major challenges in data quality, multilingual processing, and real-world adaptability. From call center automation for cybercrime reporting to nutrition analysis from food photos and autonomous wheelchairs—each demonstrated that **AI works beautifully in pilots but struggles in deployment**.

Ramesh highlighted that **AI is not replacing jobs anytime soon**—it is overrated in that regard. While AI can boost productivity in parts of a process, it doesn't drastically cut workforce needs. He also pointed out that 90–95% of GenAI enterprise pilots fail to scale due to the gap between lab success and real-world constraints.

Citing examples from **film production** (**Bahubali's team**) and **medical AI**, he reiterated that **AI should be seen as an enabler, not a magic replacement**. His closing message was clear: embrace AI for its possibilities, but recognize its limitations and build realistic, grounded AI-native systems from day one.



Sessions

Fireside Chat On AI for Innovators & Startups



Moderator
Shri. K. Krishna Reddy
CEO
Krify



Panel Speaker
Shri. Ramesh Loganathan
General Partner
SucSEED Ventures



Panel Speaker
Shri. Dr. Ravi Saripalle
Professor of Entrepreneurship
Gitam



Panel Speaker
Shri. Ravi Eswarapu
CEO, RTIH-Vizag
Serial Entrepreneur

Fireside Chat on “AI for Innovators & Startups” was focused on how artificial intelligence can empower entrepreneurship, foster innovation, and strengthen startup ecosystems across India—especially in tier-2 cities like Visakhapatnam and Kakinada. The discussion explored how AI is increasingly driving transformation in industries such as fintech, healthcare, and logistics, with emerging ventures in smaller cities proving that innovation is not limited to metropolitan regions. Examples were shared of startups using AI to process massive datasets in real time—like loan syndication platforms that analyze government records, financial history, and behavioral data in seconds to make lending decisions. Such use cases highlight how data-driven AI models are simplifying operations, reducing fraud, and expanding financial access to millions.

A key theme discussed was the **democratization of AI innovation**. While 85% of India’s AI companies are currently based in five major cities, participants emphasized that talent and creativity are widely distributed across the country. To unlock this potential, a collaborative framework was proposed through a three-tier architecture. The first layer focuses on establishing a data infrastructure—supported by government and industry—ensuring researchers and startups have access to quality datasets and computing resources. The second, design layer, involves social scientists, designers, and engineers working together to create human-centered AI solutions. The final decision layer integrates innovation into real-world use cases across sectors. This structured approach, if implemented effectively, could make tier-2 cities like Vizag true AI innovation hubs.

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Sessions

The speakers also stressed that AI should be viewed as an **enabler** rather than the end goal. Entrepreneurs were encouraged to start by identifying pressing societal or industrial problems, studying gaps in existing solutions, and then exploring how AI could amplify their impact. Building startups around a clear problem statement, rather than around a technology buzzword, was seen as the path to sustainable success. With open-source tools and accessible frameworks now widely available, technology has become a level playing field where innovators from smaller cities can compete globally, even with limited capital or infrastructure.

The conversation extended to how innovation ecosystems differ worldwide. It was noted that even in countries like the US and the UK, there exist disparities between major innovation centers such as the Bay Area or London and smaller cities like Denver or Manchester. Similarly, in India, metro regions like Bengaluru or Hyderabad currently dominate, but opportunities for growth exist if states develop **sector-specific innovation clusters**. For example, ports and logistics in Vizag, fintech in Mumbai, or defense and aerospace in Karwar could serve as specialized hubs. Such clustering not only builds expertise and collaboration but also drives region-specific technological advancement, mirroring successful innovation models seen in Japan and China.

Concluding the discussion, the panel emphasized that the future of India's AI and startup ecosystem lies in collaboration, **contextual innovation, and ethical entrepreneurship**. Universities, industries, and governments must jointly nurture talent, facilitate access to data and funding, and inspire problem-solving mindsets among students and innovators. The central message resonated deeply with the audience: innovation is born from curiosity and purpose—not from tools or trends. By focusing on solving meaningful problems with empathy, creativity, and a vision for societal impact, India's next generation of entrepreneurs can transform tier-2 cities into vibrant engines of technological progress.



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AI Startup Awards

The **AI Fusion @ Kakinada Awards** Ceremony was a celebration of creativity, innovation, and the incredible talent driving India's AI revolution. The event recognized outstanding contributions across three categories:

Award Categories	Winner / Runner
AI Startup Awards	ONYEG Pvt. Ltd (Winner) Project Genesis (Runner)
Best AI Idea Award	Ravi Kishore (Aditya University) (Winner) Lohitha Keta (Aditya University) (Runner)
Best Student AI Project Award	Syam sundar yadla (Aditya University) (Winner) Vedurupaka Maharaja Mourya (KIET) (Runner)



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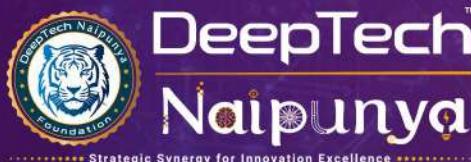
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