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Paris AI Action Summit, 2025

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The **Paris AI Action Summit, 2025**, marks a significant milestone in AI governance, co-chaired by **India** and **France**, bringing together over 90 countries to address global challenges related to **AI**. India, with its expertise in **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** and **STEM**, is well-positioned to bridge the divide between Western technological ambitions and the needs of the **Global South**, advocating for a balanced approach that fosters **innovation** while ensuring **AI safety**.

Applications of AI in Governance:

1. Enhancing Policy Formulation and Decision-Making:

- AI aids in **data-driven policymaking** by analyzing vast datasets to predict economic trends and optimize resource allocation.
- For instance, **NITI Aayog** uses AI tools from IIT Delhi to assess socio-economic conditions with satellite images, while the **Bhashini project** enhances multilingual communication for policy outreach.

2. Strengthening Public Service Delivery and Efficiency:

- AI-driven **automation** reduces bureaucratic delays and human errors, improving service delivery.
- **IUDX**, developed by **IISc Bengaluru**, facilitates seamless data exchange among urban stakeholders, enhancing service efficiency.

3. Improving Law Enforcement and Internal Security:

- AI supports **predictive policing** and real-time crime mapping, as seen in **Delhi Police's AI-driven Facial Recognition System**, assisting with crime resolution and locating missing persons.

4. Revolutionizing Healthcare and Pandemic Management:

- AI-enabled **diagnostics** and **robotic surgeries** improve healthcare access. Startups like **Niramai** and **ChironX** use AI to detect breast cancer and retinal abnormalities.

5. Optimizing Agricultural Productivity and Food Security:

- AI-powered tools like **Kisan e-Mitra** provide information about government schemes, and AI models for pest detection help ensure healthy crops, benefiting farmers.

6. Enhancing Justice Delivery and Legal Systems:

- AI tools like **SUPACE** aid in judicial efficiency, speeding up case processing and enhancing legal research.

7. Tackling Climate Change and Environmental Management:

- AI helps with **hyperlocal weather forecasting**, **climate modeling**, and **disaster prediction**, and tools like **CoS-it-FloWS** in flood-prone areas aid in better forecasting.

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477** / Whatsapp : **09710729833**

8. Enhancing Education and Personalized Learning:

- AI-powered **EdTech** platforms offer adaptive learning, improving education accessibility.

9. Strengthening Urban Governance and Smart Cities:

- AI manages **traffic** and **waste** efficiently in cities like **Bengaluru**, reducing congestion and improving waste management.

10. Improving Financial Governance and Taxation:

- AI detects **fraud** in financial transactions, streamlines **tax filing**, and optimizes **subsidy allocations** to avoid leakages, as seen with **MuleHunter.ai** by the **Reserve Bank of India**.

Issues AI Poses to India's Governance Landscape:

1. Job Displacement:

- AI-driven automation may lead to massive job losses, especially in labor-intensive industries, impacting India's workforce. For example, the **World Economic Forum** estimates AI could displace 75 million jobs by 2025.

1. Algorithmic Bias and Discrimination:

- AI models can reinforce **discriminatory biases**, leading to unfair governance outcomes, as seen in biased hiring tools and the **Amazon** AI recruitment tool case.

1. Privacy Violations:

- AI-powered surveillance systems, such as **facial recognition**, raise privacy concerns, particularly with **Delhi Police's** facial recognition technology and **UPSC's plans** for AI in exams.

1. Deepfakes and Misinformation:

- AI-generated **deepfakes** can undermine elections, as seen in **India's 2024 elections**, where deepfake videos of political leaders went viral.

1. Cybersecurity Risks:

- **AI-powered cyberattacks** target critical infrastructure, increasing threats in sectors like **banking** and **defense**. **AI-enhanced** cyber scams are growing in India.

1. Digital Divide:

- Unequal **AI access** between urban and rural India, with only 24% of rural households having **Internet access**, limits AI's reach in **rural governance**.

1. Environmental Concerns:

- **AI systems** require vast computing power, increasing **energy consumption** and **carbon emissions**. Data centers in India raise concerns about **electricity demand** and **water usage**.

1. Weak Regulations and Policy Gaps:

- India lacks a comprehensive AI regulatory framework, leaving room for unchecked AI development, unlike the **EU's AI Act**.

1. **Dependency on Foreign AI Technologies:**

- India's reliance on **foreign AI infrastructure** for cloud services and AI chips creates vulnerabilities in **digital sovereignty** and **national security**.

Measures India Can Adopt to Enhance AI Governance:

1. **Comprehensive AI Law:**

- India should create an **AI-specific law** that ensures balanced regulation, promoting **innovation** while addressing issues like **algorithmic accountability** and **bias mitigation**.

1. **National AI Regulatory Authority (AIGA):**

- India can set up a **National AI Regulatory Authority** to oversee ethical AI practices, conduct **AI audits**, and establish **impact assessments**.

1. **AI Safety for the Global South:**

- India can **lead AI safety** initiatives for developing nations by using its **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** and promoting **inclusive AI frameworks** in **BRICS** or **G20**.

1. **Explainable AI (XAI):**

- India should mandate **explainable AI** policies, ensuring transparency and accountability for AI decisions in governance, policing, and **financial services**.

1. **AI Sandboxes:**

- India could set up **AI regulatory sandboxes** for startups to innovate in real-world conditions, testing AI applications in **financial** and **healthcare** sectors.

1. **Indigenous AI Development:**

- India must **reduce dependence on foreign AI** technologies by investing in **domestic AI R&D**, **semiconductor manufacturing**, and **AI infrastructure**.

1. **Regulating AI-generated Disinformation:**

- India should introduce a **Deepfake Regulation** under the **Digital India Act**, preventing the spread of **AI-generated political misinformation** during elections.

Conclusion:

The **Paris AI Action Summit 2025** is a pivotal moment for global AI regulation. India, with its growing **digital economy**, must play a key role in **shaping balanced AI policies** that promote **innovation** while ensuring **ethical governance**. By adopting inclusive measures and setting **global precedents**, India can enhance its role as a **digital powerhouse** in the **AI governance** landscape.