Awareness Workshop on Digital India Initiatives & India AI Impact Summit held at IIIT Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Naya Raipur: An Awareness Workshop on Digital India Initiatives & India AI Impact Summit was successfully organized on January 29, 2026, at the IIIT Naya Raipur. The objective of the workshop was to familiarize students and government officials with the major initiatives of Digital India and create awareness about the upcoming India AI Impact Summit–2026, scheduled to be held in New Delhi from February 16 to 20, 2026.

Addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest, Prof. Omprakash Vyas, Director, IIIT Naya Raipur, stated that in the present era of rapidly evolving technology, keeping students updated with changing technologies is a significant challenge. Prof. Vyas emphasized that Artificial Intelligence will not remain limited to chatbots alone; in the future, AI agents are being developed that will independently take decisions and provide solutions to problems. He further noted that at present, AI is largely being utilized in developed nations, but expressed confidence that under the Digital India Mission, India will become the leading nation in Artificial intelligence.

Speaking at the workshop, Mr. Prabhat Malik, Chief Executive Officer, CHiPS, said that students should not restrict the use of AI only to academics but should also apply it in start-ups and innovation. This will enable students to develop innovative solutions to problems using their skills and enhance their ability to think creatively. He added that this capability will help students in selecting the right fields in relevant industries after their studies and support their professional career growth. Mr. Malik also invited students to gain practical experience through internships at CHiPS.

Mr. Atul Tripathi, Advisor, IISER Data Science Centre, Mohali, encouraged young engineers to adopt innovative thinking to make the country technologically empowered. He also motivated the youth to take steps towards innovation by leveraging new technologies to strengthen the nation's defence systems.

The workshop was conducted in three sessions. In the second session of the programme and the first technical session, Mr. Atul Tripathi discussed India's role in the global AI ecosystem. Prof. Omprakash Vyas spoke on the topic *"From Digital India to AI India: The Next Leap in National Transformation"* and elaborated on the country's achievements under the Digital India Mission.

In the third session, Prof. K. G. Srinivas, Academic Dean of IIIT Naya Raipur, delivered a lecture on the topic *"AI for Bharat: Empowering Tier 2, Tier 3 and Rural India."* AI Scientist Mr. Harshit Kumar enriched the knowledge of engineering students through his lecture

on *"Startups, AI and Youth Power: Building Solutions for India."* Additionally, Mr. Saumyajit Pramanik, Associate Professor, IIT Bhilai, highlighted research opportunities in the field of AI. In his lecture, he discussed the potential of AI in various sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, and law.

At the conclusion of the workshop, Dr. Ashish Jaiswal, Head SeMT presented about India AI Impact Summit 2026, Digital India Initiatives in the country and future opportunities for the youth. He also conducted a Quiz to assess students' knowledge related to emerging technologies. Students who gave correct answers in the quiz were awarded prizes.

Along with Chief Guest Prof. Omprakash Vyas and Mr. Prabhat Malik, several distinguished dignitaries were present, including Prof. Srinivas K. G., Dean (Academics), IIIT Naya Raipur; Mr. Mayank Agrawal, Chief Operating Officer, CHiPS; Mr. Harshit Kumar, AI Scientist; Dr. Saumyajit Pramanik, IIT; and Mr. Anupam Ashish Toppo, Joint Chief Executive Officer, CHiPS.

More than 300 students from various technical universities and colleges across the State and more than 100 government officials and faculties participated in the workshop.