



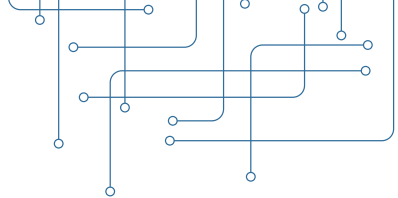
ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



*From Global Dialogue
to Grassroots Change:
Leading the Shift for an
Ethical Digital Future*

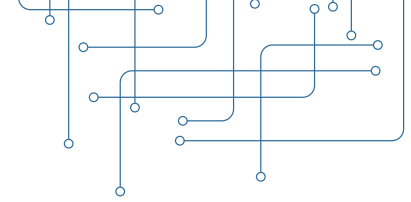


OCTOBER 2024 - SEPTEMBER 2025



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About this Report

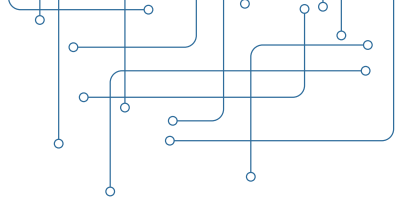
The Future Shift Labs Annual Impact Report (October 2024 – September 2025) captures a decisive year in which AI innovation converged with democracy, governance, cybersecurity, grassroots empowerment, and global policymaking.

From unveiling landmark research on AI and democracy to launching national literacy programs, from shaping parliamentary debates to training law enforcement in deepfake detection, this year reflects our journey from dialogue to institution-building, from grassroots workshops to global recognition.

Across these months, we saw AI move beyond labs and buzzwords to shape parliaments, classrooms, and communities. We built the Global Elections & AI Tracker, launched Yashoda AI for women's empowerment, inaugurated India's first cross-party Artificial Intelligence Legislators' Forum (AILF), and unveiled Alia AI, our narrative avatar to make AI accessible.

This period has been characterized by a systemic shift from conversation to institution-building, from pilot programs to parliamentary recognition. We have moved from raising awareness to actively shaping policy, building tools, and empowering communities from parliaments to panchayats. This report documents what we achieved and why it matters: for policymakers, citizens, communities, and future generations. It is more than a record of events; it is a reflection of how Future Shift Labs is building an ecosystem where AI strengthens democracy, protects sovereignty, and expands opportunity.

After all, we are [redefining tomorrow](#).



Messages from the Founders



Mr. Nitin Narang

Founder, Future Shift Labs

“

Future Shift Labs bridges AI innovation with real social impact and partnerships drive vital conversations on technology, trust, and a just, inclusive future.

”



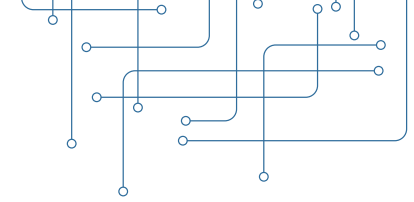
Mr. Sagar Vishnoi

Co-Founder, Future Shift Labs

“

This year reaffirmed our belief that purpose-driven technology can strengthen democracy and trust. Through our research & initiatives, we advanced AI governance, inclusion, and accountability.

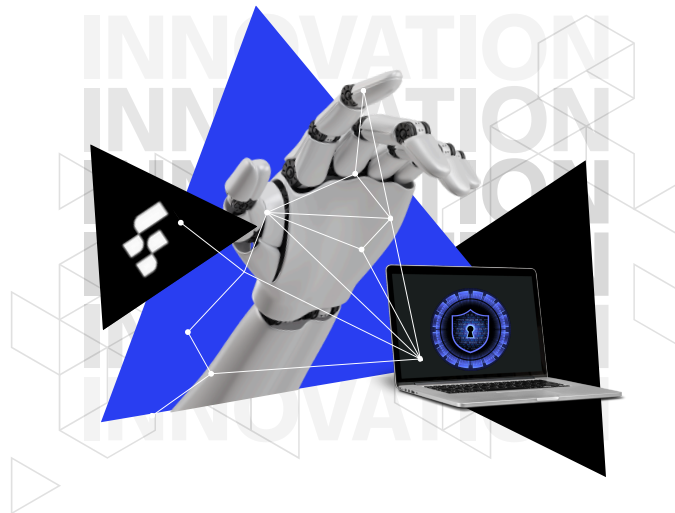
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Our Identity & Approach

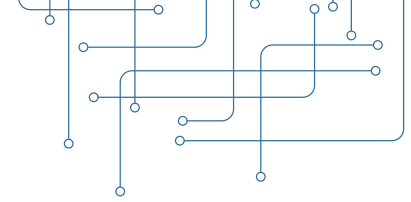
Who we are ?

At Future Shift Labs, we are devoted towards a sustainable and equitable future, believing technology should elevate humanity, not replace it. We are a global think tank working at the frontier, where AI, democracy, cybersecurity, ethics, and innovation converge to design a human-centred, just, and resilient future. At our core, we are shaping the future, as relentless optimists with a consideration for ethical innovation and a passion for global impact.



Our work focuses on

- **Research & Policy Innovation:** Producing bold, actionable insights to shape the next era of AI governance.
- **Community Empowerment:** Building grassroots capacity through workshops, leadership dialogues, and civic tech initiatives.
- **Cybersecurity Readiness:** Training frontline defenders to tackle emerging digital threats and deepfake risks.
- **Tools for Democracy:** Creating pioneering platforms like the Global Elections & AI Tracker to safeguard electoral integrity worldwide.
- **Global Collaboration:** Partnering with leading universities, civil society networks, and international organizations to strengthen digital trust ecosystems.

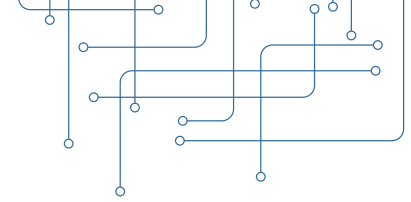


Our Approach

At Future Shift Labs, we cultivate AI expertise through a dynamic movement of:

- **Learners:** Who build a strong foundation of knowledge, transforming curiosity into capability.
- **Doers:** Who apply advanced skills to drive innovation, solve real-world problems, and spark change.
- **Trailblazers:** Who inspire and mentor communities, shaping a future where technology uplifts humanity.

Through continuous learning, hands-on experimentation, and global collaboration, we equip individuals and organizations to thrive and lead in an ever-evolving digital world.



Year in Review : Timeline in Impact

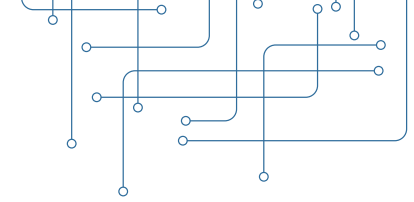
(October 2024 - September 2025)

This year, we accelerated our mission to build an ethical, inclusive AI-driven future—connecting ideas, communities, & leaders across the globe.

Key Achievements at a Glance

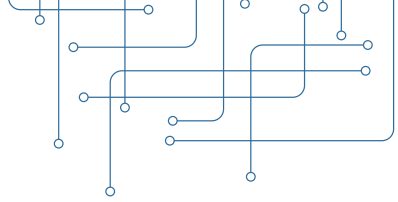
- **74 Elections Analysed:** Mapped AI's dual impact—empowering campaigns and fuelling disinformation—across global elections, with a sharp spotlight on India's deepfake surge.
- **Global Launches:** Successfully launched the Policy Paper "The Pervasive Influence of AI on Global Political Campaigns 2024" and the "Global Elections & AI Tracker" at the Political Tech Summit in Berlin.
- **Workshops & Training:**
 - Trained 120+ Law Enforcement Officers in cybercrime, AI-driven fraud, and deepfake forensics in Shravasti.
 - Empowered 30+ Youth Participants with AI safety and cybersecurity skills across marginalized communities.
 - Trained 32 Women Heads from Government commissions.





- **Summits and Dialogues:** Convened critical conversations at the Digital Empowerment Summit in New Delhi and contributed to policy dialogues in Vatican City, the University of Oxford, and the Community of Democracies in Warsaw.
- **In-House Series:**
 - Beyond AI Café: Hosted 2 grassroots conversations sparking ethical tech debates on democracy, journalism, and climate change.
 - The Bridge Series: Held 7 cross-sector leadership conversations on responsible AI, auditing systems, and global security.
- **Media Reach:** Featured in leading national and international publications including The Hindu Business Line, Mint, Marianne (France), The Associated Press, Deutsche Welle, and Tech in Asia.

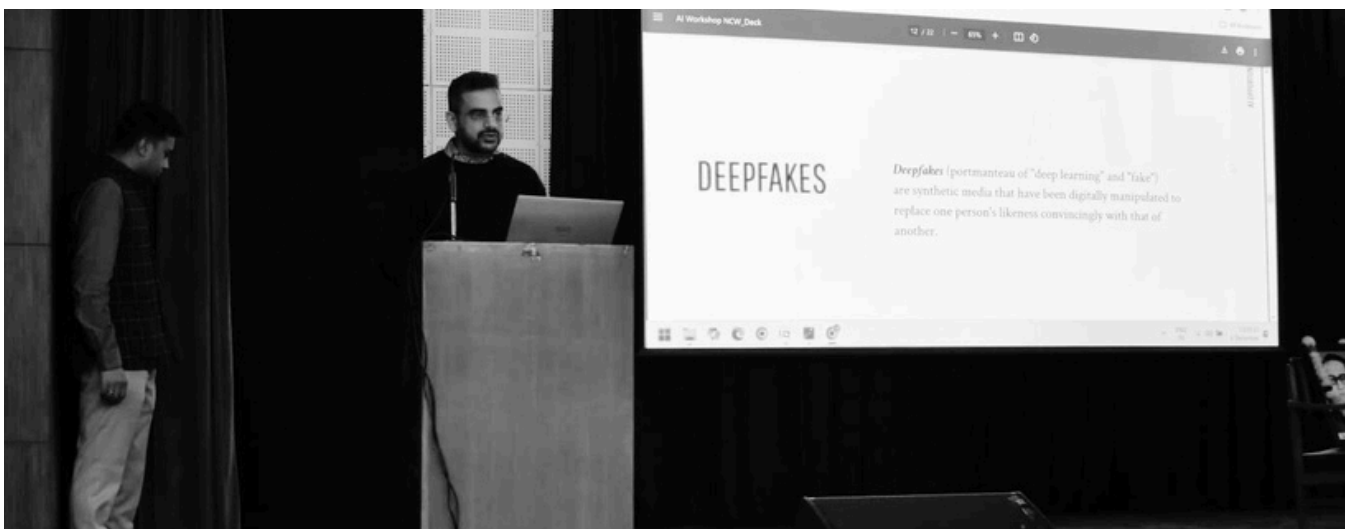




Detailed Timeline of Activities

Q4 2024 (October - December)

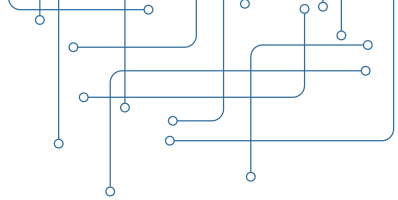
1. Mahaparinirvan Day with the National Commission for Women (December): Conducted a workshop on Deepfake Awareness and Digital Harassment targeting heads of state women commissions to strengthen digital safety strategies. We trained 32 Women Heads from the Government during this event.



Q1 2025 (January - March)

1. **Launch of "The Pervasive Influence of AI on Global Political Campaigns 2024" (January 25, Berlin):** Led by Nitin Narang and presented by Sagar Vishnoi at the Political Tech Summit. The paper analyzed AI's impact across 74 global elections, highlighting its dual role in enhancing outreach and spreading disinformation, with a spotlight on India's mass deepfake use.

2. **Unveiling of the Global Elections & AI Tracker (January 25, Berlin):** A landmark digital tool co-created with the British University (Georgia), offering real-time AI monitoring across electoral landscapes, featuring a disinformation detection matrix and transparency benchmarking for 74 countries.

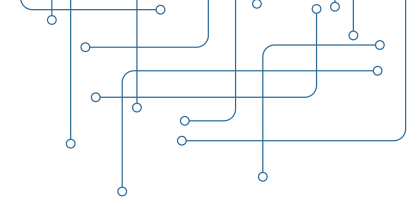


3. Digital Defenders Workshop, Shravasti (January 27-28): In partnership with UP Police, we trained over 120 law enforcement officers in cybercrime prevention, with specialized sessions on AI-driven frauds, deepfake forensics, and the first public-private initiative on "Digital Arrest" threats in India.

4. The Bridge Series - Episode 1 (February 18): "Deepseek Unleashed: The Ultimate AI Disruptor in Geopolitics"

5. Cybersecurity Workshops, Amity University, Meerut & Majuli, Assam (March 5-6): Students and local youth (30+ participants) across marginalized communities were trained in AI safety, cybersecurity basics, and responsible tech behavior.

6. World Childhood Foundation & Pontifical Academy of Sciences (March 20-22, Vatican City): Delivered a policy intervention on AI and child rights, covering algorithmic exploitation risks, deepfake threats to child safety, and designing a child-first AI governance model.



7. The Bridge Series - Episode 2 (March 28): "AI for Earth: Building a New Dawn for Sustainability"

8. Community of Democracies, Warsaw: Engaged in a strategic dialogue on PRC disinformation tactics across Europe with an emphasis on cross-border democratic resilience initiatives.

9. Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford: Presented a working paper on "AI Governance and the Global South," connecting grassroots realities with elite AI policy-making discourses.



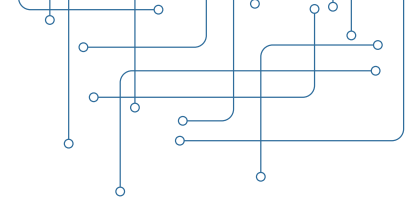
Q2 2025 (April - June)

1. Global AI & Elections Tracker + Policy Paper Launch in India (April 12, New Delhi): Held at the Constitution Club of India with esteemed guest Shashank Mani, MP. The event featured a global lens with insights from Farahdibha Tenrilemba (G20 Delegate, Indonesia) and a live demo of the tracker. The launch consolidated talking points for policymakers and received national business media coverage.



2. Digital Empowerment Summit: Women, Finance & Emerging Markets (April 14, New Delhi): Hosted in collaboration with Sapiens Research and Study Mate India. Keynotes were delivered by Sujeet Kumar (MP, Rajya Sabha) and Shri Ninong Ering (MLA, Arunachal Pradesh). The summit showcased India's Digital Public Infrastructure (Aadhaar, UPI, Jan Dhan) as a global model for inclusion.

3. The Bridge (Episode 3): The Role of Auditing in Responsible AI Governance (April 29): An online session with speakers Ryan Carrier (ForHumanity), Vibhav Mithal (Anand & Anand), and Michael Charles Borrelli (AI & Partners), moderated by Parishrut Jassal.



4. Yashoda AI Launch (May 22, Bareilly): "Your AI SAKHI for Shaping Horizons with Digital Awareness." Launched at Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Rohilkhand University in collaboration with the National Commission for Women (NCW). This nationwide AI literacy drive for women focuses on AI basics, cybersecurity, and digital safety, especially in rural and semi-urban India.

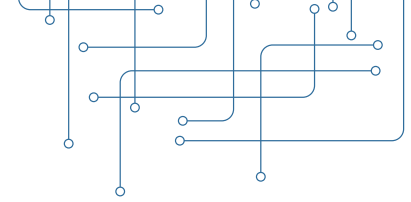
5. PRIME Meghalaya × Embassy of Israel in India — Startup Support Dialogue (June): Contributed to designing support systems for startups in Meghalaya, focusing on tech integration and knowledge-sharing.

6. Mobile E-Voting Pilot in Bihar (June 28): Noted the historic moment of Bihar piloting blockchain-based mobile e-voting, a topic previously discussed by Co-founder Sagar Vishnoi in a podcast.



7. Global Recognition - Polaris Awards 2025 (London, June): Received the Silver Polaris Award in the "Anti-Disinformation" category for the district-level Deepfake Detections Campaign in Shravasti (Indian Elections 2024), in partnership with Netratvshaala and SP Ghanshyam Chaurasia (Uttar Pradesh Police).

8. The Bridge (Episode 4): Making Digital Progress Truly Inclusive (June): Moderated by Bhairabi Kashyap Deka, featuring speakers Dr. Anandhi Vivek Dhukaram and Maya Sherman, with an introduction to Yashoda AI by Parul Madan.



Q3 2025 (July - September)

1. Advisor Appointment in Himachal Pradesh (July): Parishrut Jassal was appointed as a member of the Working Group on IT Infrastructure, Cyber-Hubs, and Future-Ready Industries by the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

2. The Bridge Dialogues (July):

- Episode 5 (July 6): "The Future of Democracy – Agentic AI & Political Communications" with Mathias Lipp-Rosenthal and Divyendra Singh Jadoun.
- Episode 6: "Narratives as Geopolitical Weapons" with Dr. Sriparna Pathak and Sharon De Cet, exploring China's digital and cognitive conflict strategies.

3. Punjab & Himachal Pradesh Administrative Training Sessions (July):

Conducted a session on "Introduction to AI: Responsible Administrative Integration" at MGSIPA, Chandigarh, focusing on foundational AI literacy for administrators.

4. ElectLab Training – Lithuania (July): Led a session on "Future-proofing Election Observation" for the European Platform for Democratic Elections.

5. Alia AI Launch (July): Introduced Alia AI as Future Shift Labs' resident presenter and insights lead—an AI avatar to decode complex trends and spark conversations.

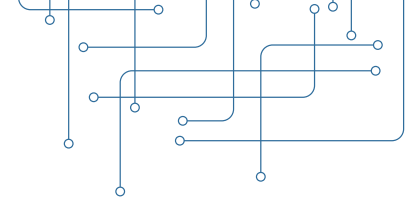


6. Furic Conference, European Parliament (September): Sagar Vishnoi moderated a panel on "Securing Democracy in the Age of AI," reinforcing our role in global dialogues.

7. Yashoda AI Workshop, Diu (IAS & IPS Officers, September): Led a workshop on the responsible integration of AI into governance, setting a precedent for embedding AI readiness within India's civil services.

8. AILF in South India (September 12-13): AI for Governance Workshops in Tamil Nadu, inaugurated by MP Tmt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, in partnership with JanSoch Consultancy.

9. Yashoda AI Sakhi Show Launch (September): The first episode, "ABC of AI," was launched to promote AI as Accessible, Beneficial, and Critical for women and youth.



Q4 2025 (October)

1. National Media Dialogue 2025, Gurguram University (9th October 2025): Ms. Sunanda R. Marak, Senior Geopolitical Analyst at Future Shift Labs, recently spoke at the event, where she addressed the growing challenge of misinformation and disinformation in the AI era.

She highlighted how digital narratives are increasingly shaping global politics and emphasised the need for cross-sector collaboration to rebuild trust and information integrity.

2. The Bridge Dialogues (14th October 2025): As part of The Bridge, Future Shift Labs' online webinar series, Alisha Butala, Research Consultant at Future Shift Labs, shared insights on how AI is transforming the way humans think, create, and collaborate. She was joined by Mateusz Łabuz from the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH), with the session moderated by Vidhi Sharma, Visiting Fellow at Future Shift Labs.

3. AI Squad Workshop - Delhi College of Arts and Commerce (DCAC) (14th October 2025) - As part of its mission to make AI accessible and career-relevant, AI Squad, under Yashoda AI, organised a workshop at Delhi College of Arts and Commerce (DCAC). The session guided students on leveraging AI for skill upscaling, innovation, and future-ready career building in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

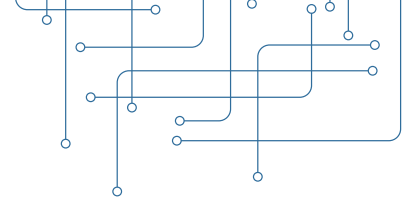
4. AI Squad Workshop - School of law, Central Campus, Christ University (14th October, 2025) - The workshop empowered students to explore how Artificial Intelligence is creating new opportunities while highlighting the need for cyber safety and digital awareness. It inspired them to stay informed, responsible, and prepared for a future where human potential and technology evolve together.



5. Yashoda AI's research heads to Cambridge (29th October 2025) - At the GenAI Education Summit 2025 at the University of Cambridge, Yashoda AI, our initiative in collaboration with NCW, presented its research on AI literacy and cybersecurity awareness among women.

The research was appreciated by educators and researchers worldwide, highlighting India's role in driving ethical and inclusive AI development.

6. AI Squad: Accelerate Your AI Journey (30th October 2025) - AI Squad, an interactive workshop series by Yashoda AI, brought together university students to gain real-world, practical AI skills. The session helped participants apply these learnings in academics, projects, and career pathways empowering them to lead with confidence in an AI-powered future.



Our Initiatives



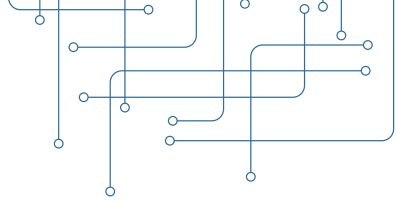
Quick Shift: A thought series decoding trends, truths, and transformations from the edge of tomorrow.



Yashoda AI: Empowering women through AI literacy, leadership, and inclusion across India.



AILF (AI Legislators' Forum): Building AI-ready policymakers for an informed, inclusive, and innovation-led India.



Core Initiatives & Programs

Yashoda AI: Empowering Women in the Digital Age

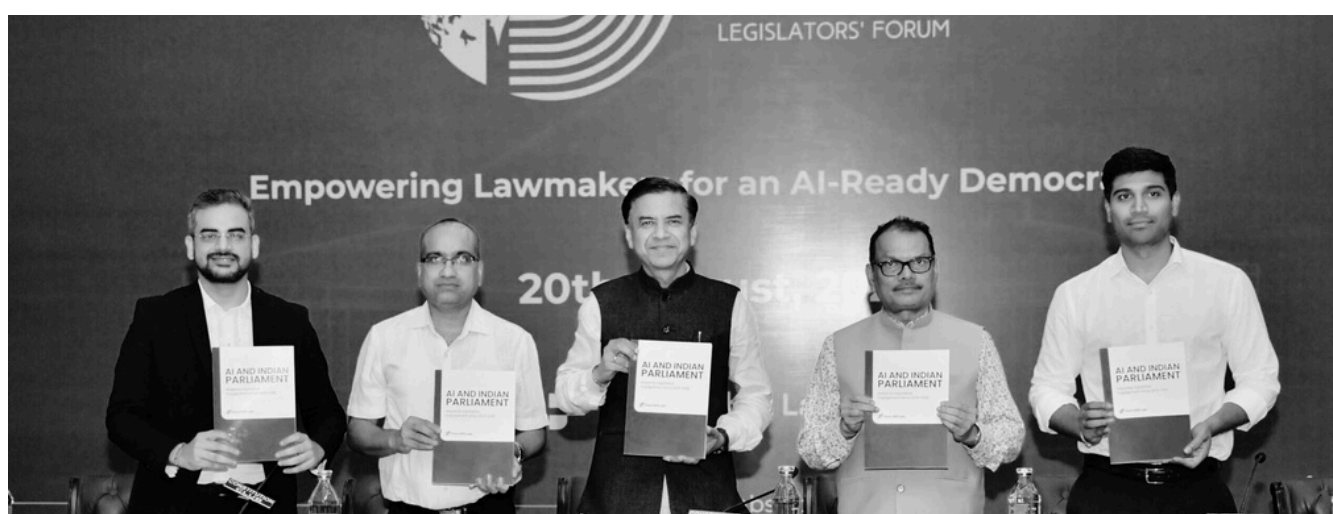
Yashoda AI is India's first national AI literacy and cyber safety initiative for women, launched by the National Commission for Women (NCW-India) in collaboration with Future Shift Labs.

- **Vision:** To make every 'AI Sakhi' a beacon of trust and resilience, guiding her community through the challenges of misinformation, cyber threats, and AI-driven change.
- **Convenor:** Pranav Dwivedi
- **Programme Lead:** Parul Madan
- **Focus Areas:**
 - **AI Literacy:** Helping women understand AI and its daily life applications.
 - **Cybersecurity & Digital Safety:** Training to identify online threats, protect data, and prevent harassment.
 - **Digital Confidence:** Building critical assessment skills to counter misinformation.
 - **Community Empowerment:** Creating "AI Sakhis"—digitally trained women leaders.
 - **Inclusive Tools:** Delivering learning through multilingual workshops, mobile apps, toolkits, and interactive content.



- **Key Milestones:**

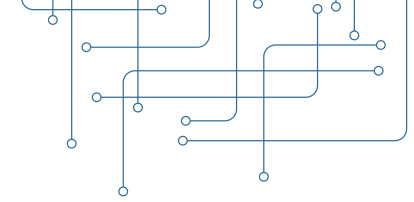
- **Launch (May 2025):** Officially launched in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Parliamentary Recognition (August 2025):** Acknowledged in the Rajya Sabha for empowering over 2,500 women.
- **AI Sakhi Show (September 2025):** Launched an educational series to further promote AI literacy.
- **Workshops for Civil Servants (September 2025):** Conducted specialized workshops for IAS and IPS officers in Diu.
- **Invited Collaborations:** Open call for trainers and facilitators to expand the initiative's reach.



Artificial Intelligence Legislators' Forum (AILF)

Launched in August 2025, AILF is India's first cross-party initiative on AI governance, positioning Future Shift Labs as a key convener of policymakers and technologists.

- **Mission:** To enable lawmakers in shaping inclusive, accountable, and future-ready AI governance.
- **Launch Event:** Attended by prominent Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPs.
- **"AI in Parliament" Report:** Released to map India's AI legislative engagement and provide governance recommendations.
- **AILF in South India:** Expanded activities with "AI for Governance" workshops in Tamil Nadu, demonstrating a commitment to localized policy dialogue.
- **Link:** futureshiftlabs.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/AILF.pdf
- **Featured in The Hindu:** [AI workshop held for Thoothukudi Corporation employees and council members - The Hindu](#)

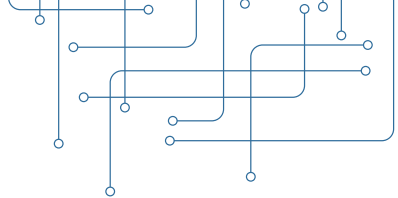


Introducing Alia AI: The Storyteller of the Future

In an age where algorithms calculate, predict, and optimize, Alia AI was created with a different mission: to tell stories, spark dialogue, and humanize artificial intelligence. She is not a tool or a chatbot, but an intelligent narrative avatar who translates the complexities of AI into language that citizens, educators, and policymakers can understand and trust.

Where jargon distances people from technology, Alia AI builds bridges; explaining cognitive warfare, demystifying deepfakes, unpacking AI policy shifts, and reframing them in ways that resonate with both parliaments and panchayats. By weaving together policy, ethics, and human experience, she turns technical debates into living conversations that expand understanding, nurture trust, and safeguard democracy. Alia AI is a storyteller with a purpose: reminding us that the future of technology will not be written in code alone, but in the stories, we tell, the values we uphold, and the collective trust we choose to build.





Tech Products

Global AI & Elections Tracker

A pioneering digital platform created in collaboration with the British University (Georgia) to provide real-time monitoring of AI's impact on elections worldwide.

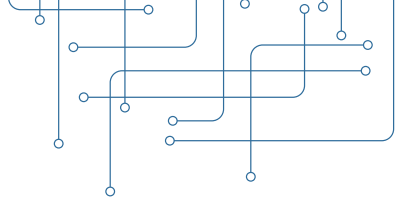
- **Launch:** January 2025 in Berlin and April 2025 in New Delhi.
- **Framework:** Developed by researchers Alisha Butala, Levan Gurgenidze, and Aastha Naresh Kohli, it provides a logical, calculative framework for analysis.
- **Features:**
 - Country-Specific Profiles: Deep-dives into 74 global elections.
 - Disinformation Detection Matrix: Tracks AI-generated disinformation campaigns.
 - Transparency Benchmarking: Evaluates campaigns against ethical AI use benchmarks.
- **Impact:** The tracker and associated policy paper have directly influenced the Election Commission of India's move to draft AI guidelines for upcoming elections

Link to the Policy Paper: [Global Elections AI 2024 Policy Paper - Future Shift Labs](#)

Yashoda AI Dashboard

The Yashoda AI Dashboard serves as our platform, where we continuously track, update, and integrate data from ongoing AI literacy and empowerment initiatives across India.





Thoughtful Leadership : Research, Publications & Commentaries

Major Research Publications & Policy Papers

1. The Pervasive Influence of AI on Global Political Campaigns 2024:

Authored by Alisha Butala, Dr. Christopher Nehring, and Mateusz Łabuz, this paper analyzes AI's role across 74 elections. It highlights India as a key case study for both voter outreach via language translation and mass deepfake-driven robocalls (over 50 million).

2. Agentic AI and the Future of Democratic Governance

Explores how adaptive AI raises new ethical dilemmas for elections and governance.

Link: [Research – Future Shift Labs](#)

3. Digital Transformation of Parliamentary Discourse (by Aşkın Ezo Barol):

Titled “Trolling Language and Its Impact on Democratic Communication,” this paper examines digital toxicity and its effect on democratic trust.

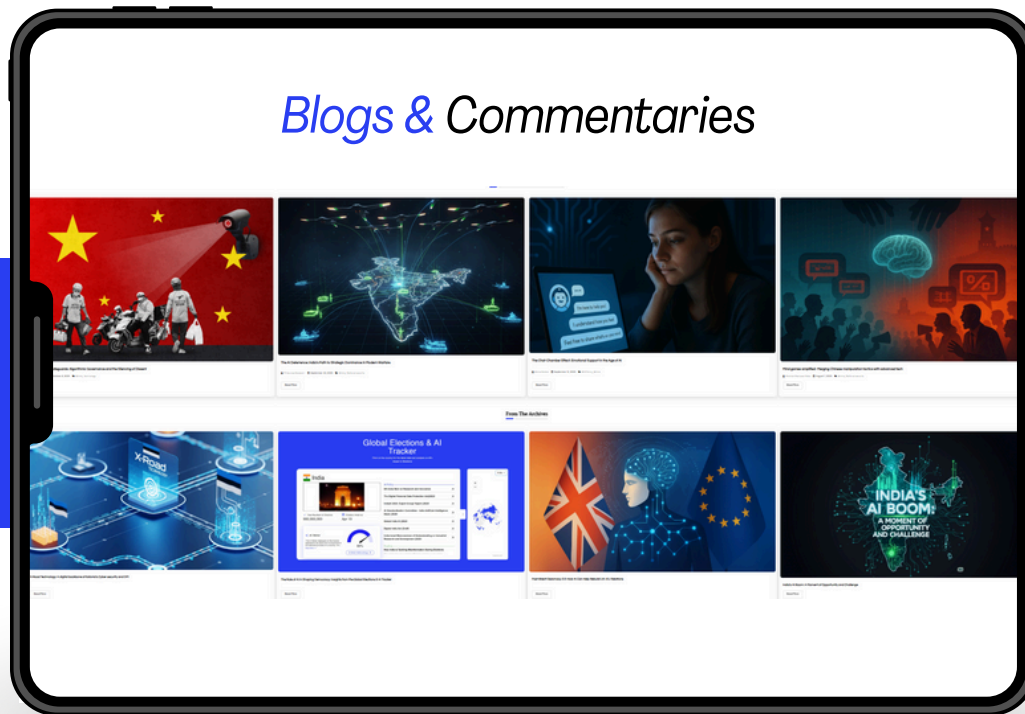
Link: [The Digital Transformation Of Parliamentary Disclosure – Future Shift Labs](#)

4. China’s Pursuit of Power Through Innovation (by Bhairabi Kashyap Deka):

Analyzes China’s use of AI, deepfakes, and brain-machine interfaces in cognitive warfare strategies.

Link: [Mind games amplified- Merging Chinese manipulation tactics with advanced tech – Future Shift Labs](#)

Blogs & Commentaries



1. Beyond the Battlefield: Pahalgam Attack & Information Warfare (by Sagar Vishnoi): Analyzed a terrorist attack as a coordinated disinformation campaign.

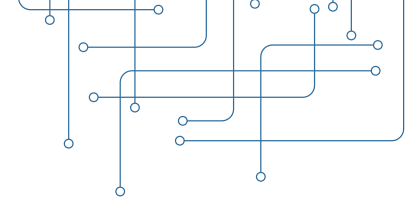
Link: [Building India's Shield Against Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference - Future Shift Labs](#)

2. The Subtle Threat of Deepfakes (by Mateusz Łabuz): Argued that the main danger of deepfakes is the gradual erosion of public trust.

Link: [Deep fakes pose a risk to electoral processes, but apparently not in a direct way. For now? -](#)

3. Fragmented Digital Spaces (by Dr. Katja Muñoz): Explained how AI-driven fragmentation and shifting governance are reshaping the online world.

Link: [The Hidden Forces Reshaping Social Media - Future Shift Labs](#)



4. Post-Brexit Diplomacy 2.0 (by Aşkın Ezo Barol): Focused on how AI can help rebuild UK-EU relations.

Link: [Post-Brexit Diplomacy 2.0: How AI Can Help Rebuild UK-EU Relations – Future Shift Labs](#)

5. From the Ship of Theseus to Deepfaked Democracy (by Mateusz Łabuz): Questioned the authenticity of political figures in the age of digital replacement.

Link: [From Ship of Theseus to Modern Elections – Deepfakes and Their Influence on Political Advertising – Future Shift Labs](#)

6. XRoad: Estonia’s Blueprint for Secure Digital Governance (by Sunanda R. Marak): Highlighted Estonia's model for secure e-governance.

Link: [X-Road Technology: A digital backbone of Estonia’s Cyber security and DPI – Future Shift Labs](#)

7. Beyond the Binary: Global South & AI’s Future Order (by Sudhanshu Kumar): Discussed ethics, data sovereignty, and inclusive governance from a Global South perspective.

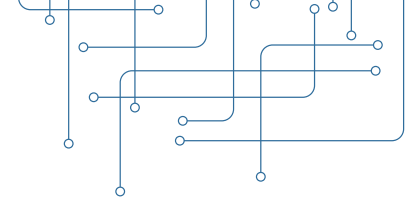
Link: [The Global South and the AI Battleground: Who’s Really Calling the Shots? – Future Shift Labs](#)

8. Beyond Empathy: Rise of Chatbots in Emotional Support (by Alisha Butala): Examined the risks and benefits of chatbots as emotional support tools.

Link: [The Chat-Chamber Effect: Emotional Support in the Age of AI – Future Shift Labs](#)

9. Quick Shift by Alia AI: A commentary on AI's impact on workflows and the risk to human creativity.

10. Alia AI Commentaries (September 2025): Covered diverse topics including the Vikram-32 processor, AI in modern warfare (Ukraine), Albania’s AI governance, and China’s proposal for international AI governance.



11. The Illusion of Safeguards: Algorithmic Governance and the Silencing of Dissent - This blog explores how algorithmic governance, while claiming to ensure fairness and accountability, often reinforces power structures and quietly suppresses dissenting voices.

Link - [The illusions of safeguards](#)

12. Making a case for a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Act for America - The article advocates for a U.S. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Act to build open, secure, and interoperable digital systems that strengthen democracy, innovation, and public access.

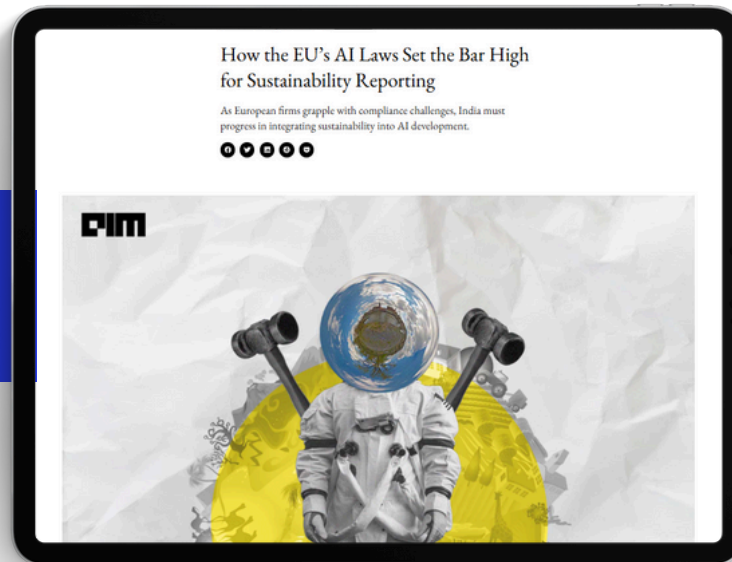
Link - [Making a case for a Digital Public Infrastructure \(DPI\) Act for America](#)

13. Are the US tariffs on China fostering a more resilient trade network in Southeast Asia? - The article explores whether the US tariffs on China are actually helping build a more resilient trade network in Southeast Asia or simply triggering a strategic reshuffle of supply chains.

Link - [Are the US tariffs on China fostering a more resilient trade network in Southeast Asia?](#)



Opinion Articles & Media Features



1. Environmental Accountability in AI Governance (AIM): Featured insights from Sagar Vishnoi on building sustainable and transparent AI ecosystems.

Link: [How the EU's AI Laws Set the Bar High for Sustainability Reporting](#)

2. AI in Agriculture (BusinessLine): An article by Pranav Dwivedi & Parishrut Jassal on AI applications in Indian farming.

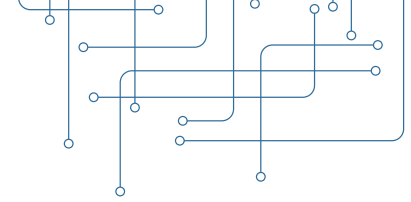
Link: [How artificial intelligence is reimagining agriculture in India: This kharif season and beyond - The Hindu BusinessLine](#)

3. AI Meets Democracy (Mint): Coverage of the Global AI & Elections Tracker and its findings on AI's manipulation potential in India's 2024 elections.

Link: [How AI influenced Lok Sabha election 2024 campaign – from deepfake PM Rahul Gandhi to 50 million robocalls | Mint](#)

4. Between Wonder and Worry (Tech Disruptor Media): An article by Alisha Butala on navigating the AI age with inclusive and human-centred approaches.

Link: [Between wonder and worry: How we navigate the age of AI -](#)



5. Tech in Asia: Recognized Future Shift Labs and AILF among the "40 Most Influential Voices Shaping India's AI & Technology Ecosystem."

Link: [Movers and shakers in India's genAI space - Tech in Asia](#)

6. Analytics India Magazine: Featured an article on Nepal's social media ban, highlighting risks to democratic norms.

Link: [Ban on Social Media Giants Leaves Nepal in Limbo](#)

7. Rajasthan Patrika: Featured Sagar Vishnoi on the risks of chatbots for adolescents.

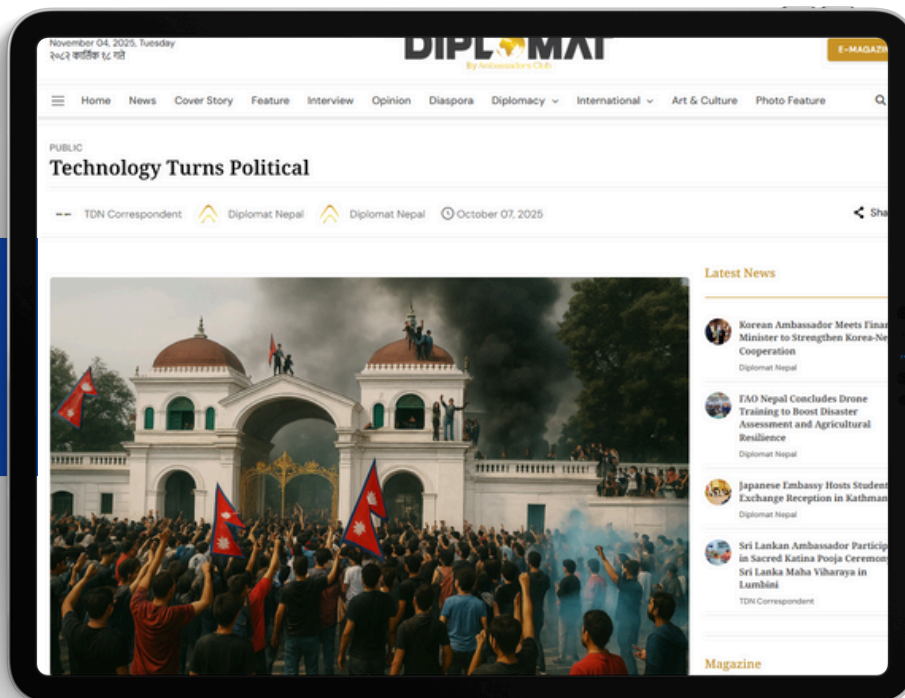
8. FSL featured on UAE-INDIA CEPA council newsletter : Future Shift Labs was featured in the UAE-India CEPA Council Newsletter for its contributions at the intersection of technology and policy.

The feature highlighted FSL's role in guiding policymakers to shape innovation with clarity, purpose, and integrity, strengthening the UAE-India partnership in building an ethical and responsible AI future.

9. Technology turns Political (The Diplomat) - Written by Sagar Vishnoi, Sudhanshu Kumar, and Dr. Monojit Das, the article examines how digital technologies, once seen as neutral tools of progress, have become instruments of political power.

It highlights how states increasingly use digital platforms for control, surveillance, and narrative dominance, raising urgent questions about freedom, governance, and the future of democracy in the digital age.

Link - [Technology turns political](#)



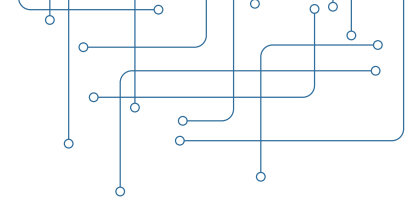
10. Will India's trade tensions spill over to OpenAI, Anthropic? (Tech in Asia by Samreen Ahmad) - Sagar Vishnoi, Co-Founder and Director of Future Shift Labs, emphasizes that India, one of the world's most data-rich economies should leverage its market strength, asserting that foreign AI companies depend on India more than India depends on them.

Link - [Will India's trade tensions spill over to OpenAI, Anthropic?](#)

11. Creative industry flags MeitY's 10% AI label rule as overreach (The Economic Times) - Sagar Vishnoi, cautions that while MeitY's 10% AI labelling rule aims to enhance transparency, it could significantly increase compliance costs by requiring creators and platforms to overhaul.

PDF - [Creative industry flags MeitY's 10% AI label rule as overreach - The Economic Times\[1\].pdf](#)

12. Other Media Spotlight: Featured in The Indian Express, Navbharat Times, Dainik Bhaskar, Deccan Herald, The Associated Press, Yahoo Finance, AFP, Money Control, Deutsche Welle, ABC News, Media Indonesia, and more.



Ongoing Research

1. Survey on the Evolving Role of AI in Mental Health Support for Young Adults (19–27 years): A study exploring how Gen Z utilizes AI tools for emotional well-being.

Survey Link: [AI and Mental Health: Survey for GenZ \(born between 1997–2012\)](#)

2. AI and Child Safety

AI-powered tools can help detect and prevent online child exploitation by analyzing patterns and anomalies in digital behavior.

3. AI and Education

AI-driven adaptive learning systems personalize education, enhancing student engagement and outcomes by tailoring content to individual needs.

4. Future Thali is an AI-powered concept exploring how climate and sustainability challenges may alter food and drinks by 2050–2060, and potential future-friendly alternatives.

5. AI & Child Safety

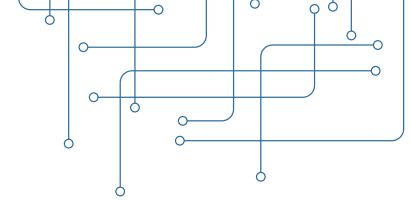
AI-powered tools can help detect and prevent online child exploitation by analyzing patterns and anomalies in digital behavior.

6. AI & Human Trafficking

AI-driven solutions can aid in identifying and combating human trafficking by analyzing data, predicting patterns, and tracking suspicious activities.

7. EU-India AI Readiness

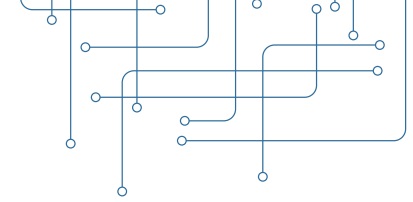
The EU and India are enhancing their AI readiness through collaborative research, capacity building, and innovation, focusing on areas like healthcare, education, and security.



Partnerships & Collaborations

Our Partners

1. **NGOs/International Orgs:** Deepfakes Analysis Unit (India), European Platform for Democratic Elections (EPDE).
2. **Think Tanks:** Civitas Labs (India), CUTS International, Sapiens Research.
3. **Government:** Uttar Pradesh Police (India), National Commission for Women (NCW), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
4. **Academia:** British University in Georgia (Tbilisi).
5. **Events/Summits:** Political Tech Summit (Germany).
6. **Coalitions:** Core-AI (India).

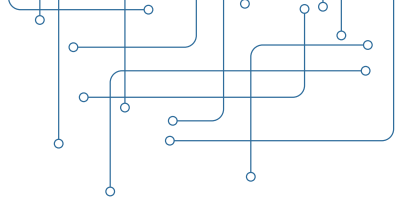


Visiting Fellows



Our global perspective was expanded this year by welcoming a distinguished group of Visiting Fellows:

- **Damar Juniarto:** Leading digital rights advocate from Southeast Asia and consultant to the UN AI Advisory Body.
- **Levan Gurgenidze:** Political strategist specializing in predictive modelling and digital engagement.
- **Dr. Christopher Nehring:** Expert in disinformation, intelligence, and media.
- **Mateusz Łabuz:** Researcher on synthetic media, deepfakes, and cognitive warfare.
- **Vidhi Sharma:** Expert in cross-border regulation, AI safety, diplomacy, and global governance.
- **Sharon De Cet:** Expert in cyber intelligence, foreign influence operations, and digital geopolitics.
- **Pranjal Dwivedi:** AI governance and policy expert.
- **Apporva Srivastava:** Public policy and governance expert.
- **Tarang Jain :** Cybersecurity, Disinformation, Trust & Safety Expert

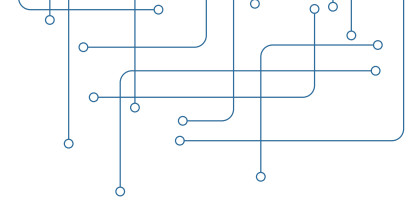


Our Team : The League of Innovators



A global, multi-disciplinary team driving the future of ethical innovation:

- **Nitin Narang:** Founder
- **Sagar Vishnoi:** Co-Founder
- **Aastha Naresh Kohli:** Head of Communications
- **Alisha Butala:** Research Consultant
- **Pranav Dwivedi:** Consultant
- **Parishrut Jassal:** AI Governance Researcher & Advisor
- **Anhaiaetaa Puri:** Partnership Manager
- **Parul Madan:** Program Lead
- **Bhairabi Kashyap Deka:** Communications Associate
- **Abir Mahanta:** Multimedia Designer
- **Sunanda R. Marak:** Senior Geopolitical Analyst
- **Aşkim Ezo Barol:** Research Associate
- **Shubham Singh:** Cyber Security Expert
- **Ritika Grover:** Digital Media Associate
- **Akanksha Dhanraj:** Tech Intern
- **Neha Sethi** - Research Intern
- **Sugam Vishnoi** - Operations Associate
- **Tejasvi Vishnoi** - Video Editor
- **Hardik Pathak** - Graphic Design
- **Yukta Bansal** - Partnership Associate
- **Riya Sandal** - Program Associate



The Road Ahead : Whats Next ?

Expanding Impact, Deepening Foresights

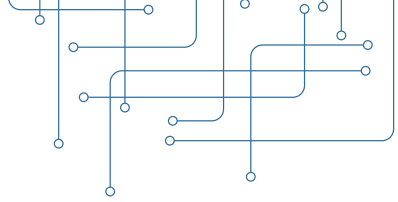
Emerging technologies: Technologies like Digital Twins, Blockchain will be researched to enable smarter simulation, prediction, and leverage decentralized systems to enhance transparency.

Research Priorities: Advancing studies on AI safety, cybersecurity, fintech, mental health, agriculture, and climate resilience to guide ethical innovation and informed governance.

Future Centres:

- Future Centre for Digital Transformation of Governments: Advancing digital adoption and efficiency in public systems.
- Future Centre for Sustainability: Exploring emerging technology pathways for climate action and sustainable growth.
- Institute for Future Studies: A foresight lab examining the long-term societal impact of emerging technologies.

Tribal Research & Ground Interventions: Initiating community-based projects and research to strengthen digital inclusion, cultural resilience, and AI access among India's tribal and indigenous populations.

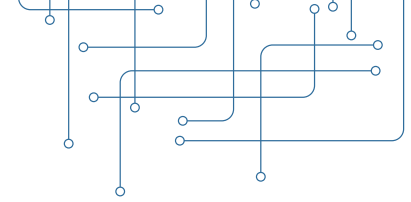


Conclusion

The period from November 2024 to September 2025 demonstrates that AI's transformative potential is not merely technical; it is profoundly social, political, and human. Future Shift Labs has shown that technology, when coupled with foresight, governance, and community empowerment, can strengthen democracy, safeguard sovereignty, and expand opportunity.

From parliamentary recognition of Yashoda AI to the cross-party dialogues of AILF, from agentic AI research to Alia AI's narrative stewardship, this period reflects a deliberate shift from conversation to action. The journey ahead will build on these foundations, ensuring that AI is not only a tool of innovation but also a means to enhance societal resilience, trust, and inclusivity.

For we say,
**“The future of AI will not
be written in code alone,
but in the policies we
craft, the communities
we empower, and the
trust we cultivate.”**



Get Involved

Whether you are a policymaker, journalist, technologist, lawyer, student, or concerned citizen — your voice matters in shaping the AI-driven world ahead.

Join Us to

- Collaborate on research and policy.
- Host cybersecurity and AI literacy workshops.
- Support ethical innovation projects.
- Sponsor grassroots tech initiatives.

Reach out: contacts@futureshiftlabs.com

Explore more: <https://futureshiftlabs.com/>

Follow our journey: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/futureshiftlabs>



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