CEPA 24th session

Dedicated observer consultation

Item 6: Role of Governments in Ensuring Transparency and accountability of artificial intelligence systems in public administration

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Executive Summary

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed colleagues, and visionary leaders,

In the present day, we stand at the intersection of technology and governance, where our guiding national philosophies and perspectives have shaped the future of AI in public service.

- Western thought emphasizes logic and individual progress, often measured by profit, but sometimes at the cost of sustainability and inclusivity. Eastern thought, on the other hand, focuses on balance, unity, and collective well-being, with a vision of "more for less for more."

Though different, both philosophies share a common goal: sustainable development.

- By blending Eastern imagination and Western reason, we unlock AI's full potential, ensuring it benefits everyone.

India, with its smaller GDP compared to global leaders, has emerged as a pioneer in AI-driven, inclusive governance.

- Despite challenges, India has localized the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through initiatives such as Niti Aayog's "AI for All" and the Digital India Program, which enhance digital literacy, device accessibility, and foster local innovation.

In the field of public administration, AI is serving as our कवच (shield), our विद्यावान (source of wisdom), our महावीर (augmented power), and our संकटमोचन (savior).

1. AI has become our *kavach* (shield) against inefficiency, fraud, and corruption through initiatives like
   a. the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system, powered by AI and the JAM Trinity (*Jan Dhan, Aadhaar*, and Mobile). This has saved India ₹3.48 lakh crore, ensuring equitable access to resources via AI-driven platforms like UPI.

      b. AI-driven Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), such as UPI, provides equitable access to resources and empowers millions of citizens.

2. It is our *vidyawan* (source of wisdom), transforming vast amounts of data into actionable insights for sectors such as agriculture, health care, and education.
   a. Platforms like *Kisan.ai* and *Poshan* Tracker are improving outcomes for farmers and children respectively by providing real-time data and personalized interventions.
   b. Through AI driven MyGov platform, we are enabling citizens to access information, participate in governance, and transform their lives.

3. It is our *mahaveer* (augmented power), not by replacing human leadership, but by enhancing it.
   a. During the COVID-19 vaccination drive, AI enabled the administration of over 2.2 billion doses with speed and precision.
   b. AIRAWAT, India's AI supercomputer, is ranked among the top 100 globally and is empowering over 17,500 individuals in the High-performance computing (HPC)domain. Similarly PARAM *Shavak,* India's first indigenous HPC-in-a-box, integrates AI, quantum computing, and home-grown energy-efficient liquid cooling systems.

And it is our *sankatmochan* (savior) who ensures that public services reach the most vulnerable in a timely and effective manner.

- The Unified Lending Interface (ULI) by the RBI simplifies loan approvals for small borrowers, especially in rural areas.
- AI plays a crucial role in the development of smart cities by optimizing traffic management, energy usage, waste management, and urban planning.

Yet, AI is just the beginning. It cannot replace human intuition and creativity. It cannot divide – it must unite.

- India is fostering an ecosystem where technology serves as a force for good, prioritizing localized solutions, women-led startups that are responsive to our socio-cultural aspirations.
- Policies like the National Strategy for AI and the Digital Personal Data Protection Act ensure AI drives inclusive growth while protecting privacy.

In conclusion, India's journey shows how blending technology and human leadership can address challenges and deliver equitable solutions.

Let us ensure that AI serves humanity, creating a future where technology uplifts all.

Thank you.