

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
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- Q.1 You can't serve data on a hungry man's plate.
आप किसी भूखे आदमी की थाली में डेटा नहीं परोस सकते।
- Q.2 AI is overcoming our mental limitation but not expanding our mental horizon.
ए.आई. मनुष्य की मानसिक सीमाओं को नियंत्रित रहा है, किंतु मानसिक क्षितिज का विस्तार नहीं कर रहा है।
- Q.3 We are using environment for politics, not politics for environment.
हम पर्यावरण का उपयोग राजनीति के लिए कर रहे हैं, न कि राजनीति का उपयोग पर्यावरण के लिए।
- Q.4 The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal.
असमानता का सबसे बुरा रूप है असमान को समान बनाने का प्रयास।

AI IS OVERCOMING OUR MENTAL LIMITATION BUT
NOT EXPANDING OUR MENTAL HORIZON.

Chat GPT by Microsoft was a revolutionary break in artificial intelligence (AI) development and made headlines for months after it was launched. It gained this popularity due to the ease of access to information it provided. Searching for a piece of knowledge became as easy as asking a friend.

ChatGPT simply ~~has~~ read the query and typed out an answer — searching vast sum of data on internet — in mere seconds. Students, in particular, rejoiced as

they no longer have to sift through multiple articles, links and videos; through subscription walls, to find and piece together knowledge on a particular topic.

However, it raised alarms as it meant students could simply copy paste answers from Chat GPT without undertaking the intellectual endeavour that accompanies the academic exercise.

Chat GPT definitely reduced their drudgery but it also restricted their mental development and horizons from expanding in this crucial stage of learning. This makes AI a 'double edged sword' and there is a need for in-depth analysis of its impact on human cognition and lives.

In this essay, we will undertake the exercise of understanding how AI helps in overcoming the mental limitations of humans. We will also assess how it ^{and whether} limits our mental horizon and what are the reasons behind it. Furthermore, we will find solutions to escape from this quandary and towards human welfare.

AI helps humans in many ways. It serves as an extension of our brain. Humans are limited in the abilities to calculate and process large sum of data, as likes of Shaktantala and Ramanujan are once in a generation occurrences. AI aids in analysis of big data to increase sample size and accuracy of our results. It is seen in data analysis by social media companies for its vast user profiles.

Beyond calculation, AI further prediction

using this data with ~~too~~ much greater accuracy than humans. This has allowed companies to undertake predictive marketing. For instance, based on your past search and watch history, Netflix provides new recommendations to keep one hooked to the streaming service. This endeavour would be impossible ^{for a human team} for a large user base.

Furthermore, AI does the job of an intern but better and more efficiently i.e. sifting through varieties of sources for relevant information. It helps overcome the human limitation of time taken and efficiency with speedy results at the tip of our fingers. ~~It~~ It is only getting faster, for instance, AI machines took processing time ^{of} 3 hours for a certain amount of data in 2017, it has come down to 88 seconds in 2019.

The most human limitation that AI overcome is our subjectivity. Humans'

actions are clouded by conscious or subconscious bias or judgement and it rarely be neutral. AI helps in overcoming it by ~~ass~~ making decisions ~~most~~ based on rational analysis of data. For instance, a smart car's decision in a crisis will be based on rationality to save lives rather than prevent damage to an expensive car.

These abilities of AI to further our endeavours by overcoming mental limitations is because of inherent various characteristics.

Artificial Intelligence is based on processing by very fast set of computers. Supercomputers and quantum computers assess information at mind blowing speeds which is beyond the capacity of an average human. For instance, Google achieved quantum supremacy as its quantum computer did a calculation in 200 seconds which a supercomputer

would have taken years to do.

Another characteristic is the deep learning and machine learning capability of AI.

It brings computer functioning ^{closer} ~~similar~~ to how a human brain works. This allows AI to go beyond human mental limitations and exceed expectations.

However, these extraordinary capabilities of AI are also limiting the cognitive development and expansion of our mental horizons.

AI allows big data analysis and recently in the field of biotechnology, AI was able to undertake ^{complete} genome sequencing. It was a great feat, however, experts commented that it would turn biotech research labs into warehouses of data. This affects the research potential

and limits chances of unexpected or accidental discoveries. Even Marie Curie discovered radium while working on other chemical analysis. AI therefore limits human scientific endeavour.

~~The~~ Further, the use of generative AI has allowed creative development of art, music among other things. For instance, recently Drake's voice was used to sing self made lyrics using AI. This limits human creativity and genius because of the wide variety of tools at human disposal. After all, the old adage 'necessity is the mother of innovation' still rings true.

However, many AI enthusiasts argue that the technology expands human horizons. The trick lie in the usage of technology.

It is said so because AI helps reduce

dredgery and focus on worthwhile endeavours. For instance, AI can help in classification and documentation of vast amount of legal data and easy retrieval for judicial pronouncements.

Another reason is that AI opens new windows of scientific research allowing scientists to explore new and unknown areas and developing ~~the~~ theoretical tools for them. For example, AI based calculations can help in space discovery, accurate launches and understand the origin of universe.

Furthermore, AI expands mental horizons owing to creation of ethical questions regarding its functioning. Debates are going on how ethical algorithms can be programmed in AI. Asimov's law provides one solution. However,

suffers from contradictions in certain situations. This has opened up new arenas of debate for philosophers.

Due to this overarching debate around AI, it continues to remain a hot topic. It has further created challenges of white collar job losses, questions over transparency and IPR issues.

In this larger light, there is a need to find solutions before moving ahead.

A global consensus can be envisaged for AI use, especially in this age of globalisation. The platform of Global Partnership for AI (GPAI) where India is presiding, can take the lead in these matters.

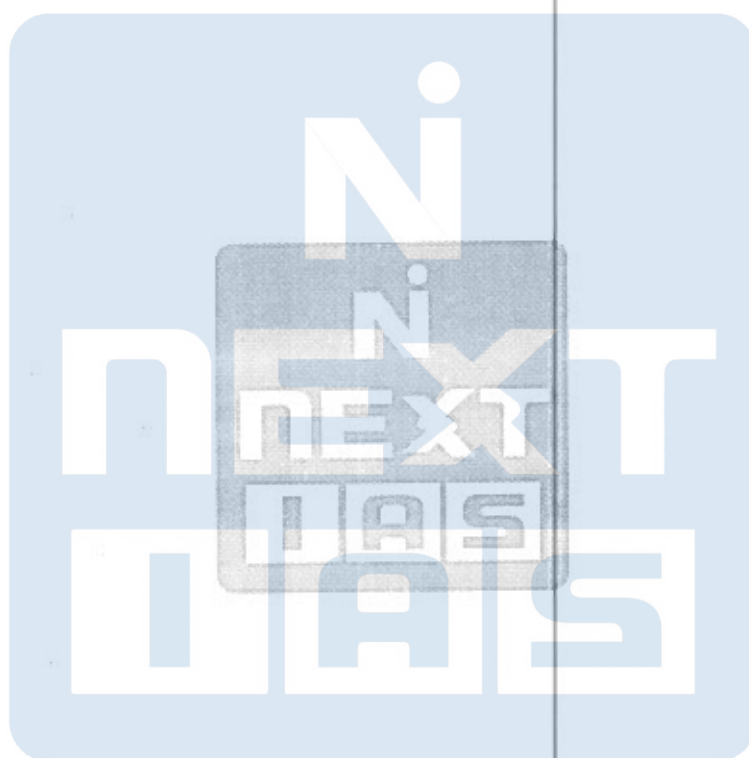
At the national level, a law for

management of AI and a regulatory body which balances innovation with human welfare can be helpful.

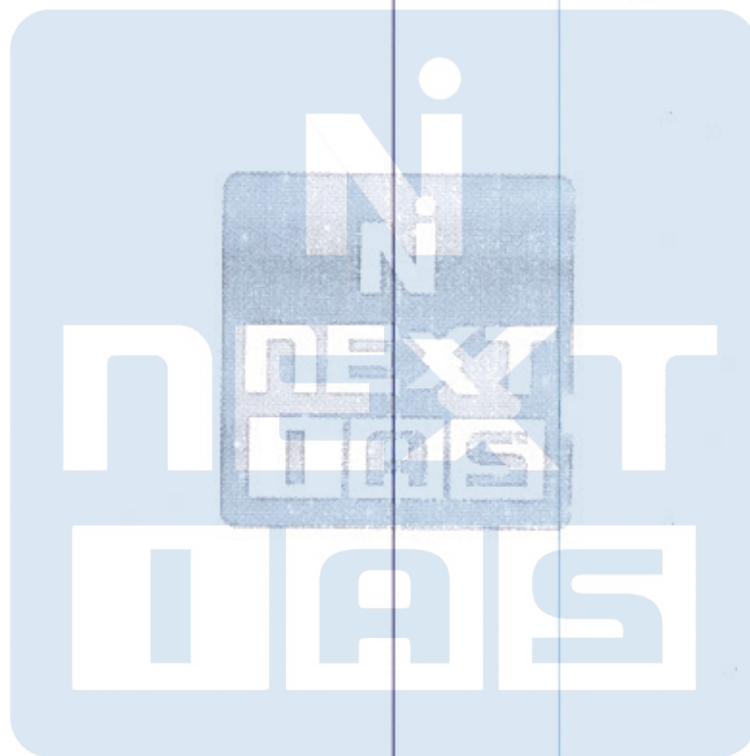
For the corporates, responsibility lies in making the AI technology transparency and reduce any 'black box' phenomena. The use of open source can truly democratise use of AI.

Thus, we as humankind need to realise that Technology is made for our use and not the other way around. The future is to be shaped by beneficial use of AI for human welfare and good of humanity. Moving ahead we need to create a society where AI is democratised and AI4all approach prevails.

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खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 Existence is a science, living is an art.
अस्तित्व एक विज्ञान है, जीना एक कला है।
- Q.6 If the truth shall kill them, let them die.
यदि सत्य से किसी की मृत्यु होती है, तो उन्हें मरने दो।
- Q.7 The only way to go beyond things, is to go through them.
हालातों से परे जाने का एकमात्र तरीका उनसे होकर गुजरना है।
- Q.8 Dream for the best. Be prepared for the worst. Enjoy life in between.
सर्वश्रेष्ठ के लिए सपना देखें। सबसे बुरे के लिए तैयार रहें। इसके बीच के जीवन का आनंद लें।

IF THE TRUTH SHALL KILL THEM,
LET THEM DIE.

ASK any philosopher and none will deny that truth is a virtue. Truth is an answer to many societal problems as well as a plank for human development. The defence for truth is a long list, but the question arises when we think "truth but to what end?".

The topic brings to fore the question of the use of truth. Should truth be spoken and upheld under all circumstances, or should its impact be

assessed beforehand.

There are many who argue that the virtue of truth is absolute; even if it ~~means~~ that it brings harm to a person. The truth should not be compromised under any circumstance.

One of the many reasons for upholding truth is its ~~core~~ characteristic of objectivity and rationality. Truth ensures that subjectivity and bias is removed. For instance, Galileo's discovery of heliocentrism was in stark contrast with church's teachings that sun revolved around the Earth. However, irrespective of the societal wrath, Galileo stuck by his claim and enhanced the boundaries of scientific wisdom.

Truth remains more valuable than any other value also because it fosters critical thinking and prevents societal stagnancy. Socrates ideas revolution-~~ise~~ised philosophy and encouraged his students to ask questions to authority. He literally chose death than to change his views reflecting heightened intellectual integrity.

Adherers of strict truth also assert that truth is an ethical value. Thus, it is means as well as end. Gandhiji believed in value of truth and made it an essential part of his Satyagraha strategy. He stood by his views, even if it brought criticism from certain sections like upper castes as he campaigned against untouchability. He truly

manifested that if the truth ~~to~~ shall kill them, let them die, metaphorically.

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Truth brings much good to the society and prevents delusion of any kind.

It ensures humans are aware of their realities and make informed choices. For instance, Marx asserted that the capitalist system exploits the workers while making everyone believe it is in everyone's welfare. This ~~same~~ was confirmed with growing concentration of wealth highlighted by Thomas Picketty, who claimed India shifted from 'British' to 'Billionaire Raj'.

Knowledge of truth and the ability to adapt accordingly also reflects human strengths. Therefore, the proponents call for truth even if it leads to harsh^{er} consequences.

as it helps separate capable humans from others. For instance, officials in UK's royal house hid scandals from Queen Elizabeth to safeguard her from worries. However, her proactive effort in facing criticism with brave face made her a respectable figure.

Furthermore, truth as an ^{absolute} value ensures human welfare at a large scale or in the long term. It was seen in the Raj Narain or Indira Gandhi case where her victory was nullified ~~due~~ ^{as} ~~to~~ ^{for} electoral malpractices came to light. While this brought anguish to the then Prime Minister, it cemented the principle of free and fair elections in Indian democracy.

Not only highlighting the truth creates multiple benefits, it is also seen that hiding of truth creates

adverse consequences for the individuals and society.

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Hidden truths can lead to violation of rights of individuals at others' expenses. For instance, NCRB notes that majority of child sexual harassment cases are by someone they know.

Often families hide the truth and prevent reporting for the fear of social consequences and of sending relative to prison. This creates psychological impacts on the victims and perpetuates this culture.

~~Thus~~ Hiding truths at the institutional level further a culture of opacity allow malpractices to occur. For instance, the Bofors scandal in 1980s remained hidden in the name of national security. However, practices

of corruption are illegal and unethical and cannot be justified to meet any end.

Further, oppressing the culture of truth at the societal level can have very far reaching consequences. It leads to creation of a post truth society where fake news, propaganda and opinions matter more than facts. This leads to polarisation of society and prevents critical thinking. This phenomena was seen in USA during their 2016 and 2020 presidential elections.

However, while truth remains significantly important, its absoluteness can be questioned in certain situations.

While exercising one's freedom of speech and expression to convey truth, we can assess the impact on others. This is in line with JS Mill's 'Harm Principle' wherein one's liberties are restricted when they can be detrimental to others. For instance, a doctor giving hope to patients in critical conditions despite adverse reports.

Furthermore, while truth is an ethical value, human welfare is also an important moral value. Buddhist thought ~~is~~ upholds the value of truth but allows untruth to be spoken to ensure larger good. It can be seen in the case of protection of critical information under national security.

Going further ahead, it is believed that whole truth is almost impossible to claim. The Jain thought of 'Anekantavada' asserts that one can only know partial truth from their point. In this light, truth absolutism does not stand.

Therefore in light of this debate, we need to find certain solutions to the dilemma.

Truth as a virtue should be encouraged in the socialisation process - i.e. through families and value education.

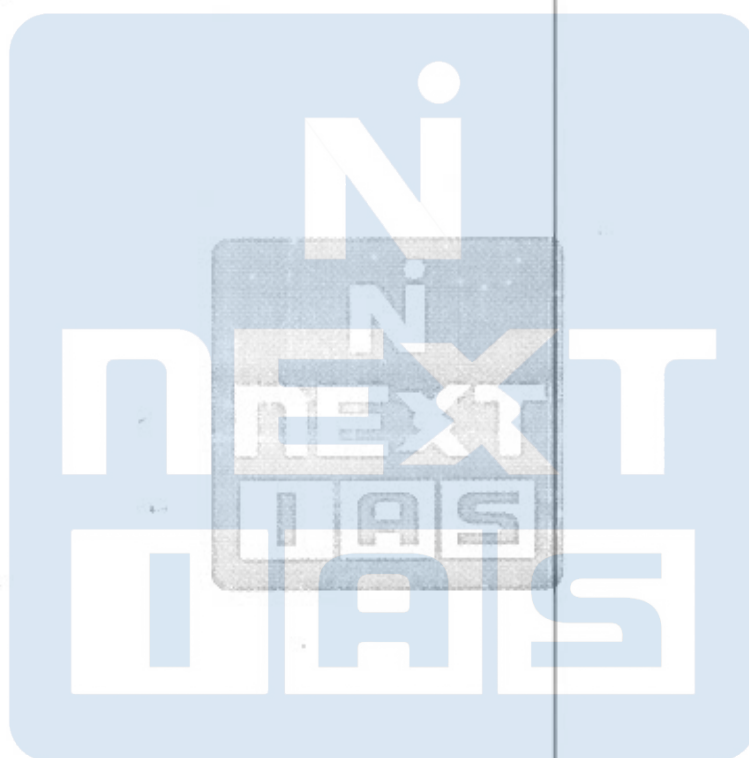
Children should learn by seeing and ~~the~~ learning values of honesty and openness. ~~the~~ This will ensure citizens that value truth as a virtue are contributing to nation and society.

Furthermore, a large system of checks and balances need to be placed to further accountability in situations required. For instance,

Right to Information Act serves as a good example for it calls for voluntary disclosure (section 4) and allows exemptions (section 8) in cases of ~~trans~~ private information or national security.

Therefore, the need of the hour is to develop cognitive and ethical understanding of using truth and its consequences. An informed decision will ensure a balance of truth as a virtue and human welfare in the long term. ~~Therefore~~ Thus, means and ends should be regarded circumstantially for good of all.

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