

India's AI Opportunity:

Increasing equity across
healthcare, education, and
languages



AI is no longer just a future promise for India; it is an active driver of economic and social equity. By enhancing efficiency in healthcare, education, and commerce, AI is poised to inject billions into the Indian economy while solving critical infrastructure challenges. From empowering frontline ASHA workers to serve 98 million additional patients annually, to unlocking ₹880 billion (US\$11 billion) in economic value through linguistic inclusion, AI is bridging the gap between access and opportunity.

Better prices and service for patients: the impact of AI for healthcare

AI can transform healthcare delivery across India by making diagnoses faster, cheaper, and more accurate. AI can help cut the price of medical diagnostics by around 17%. It can also enable frontline health workers to visit an additional 98 million rural patients annually. AI-powered tools can strengthen both efficiency and equity in the healthcare system.

¹We estimate this efficiency gain by aggregating AI impacts from various studies and weighting based on the time ASHA workers spend on the tasks augmented.

²This percentage reduction in prices is based on a review of the global academic literature.

+98 million rural patient visits

AI-powered digital tools could **boost the labour productivity of India's 1 million+ ASHA frontline workers by an estimated 6%**, primarily by saving time on record-keeping and enabling faster referrals.¹ Based on their current estimated workload (over 1.6 billion patient interactions a year), this 6% efficiency gain **would unlock the capacity to deliver an additional 98 million visits to rural patients each year**.

This is a critical intervention, as almost half of rural Indians must travel outside their locality for specialty healthcare services. By strengthening this frontline care, AI tools can reduce the need for such travel, saving patients significant time and money.

₹390 billion savings

By improving diagnostic accuracy and optimising costs, AI-assisted screening tools could **reduce the price of medical diagnostics in India by around 17%**.² Based on current testing volumes, this price reduction would translate into a **direct saving for the Indian public of around ₹390 billion (US\$4.7 billion) a year**. This represents a significant impact, equivalent to approximately 12% of India's total out-of-pocket healthcare expenditure.

Time savings for educators: the impact of AI for education

Automation in lesson planning and other time-intensive tasks could free up 2.7 hours daily for teachers to provide targeted and improved support for students.

2.7 hours saved per day

By automating repetitive tasks like research, lesson preparation, and grading, AI could generate significant productivity gains, **saving a teacher in India up to 2.7 hours per day**. If reinvested in student-facing activities, this time saving would allow teachers to focus more on interacting with students and addressing their learning needs.

Unifying the Indian market: the impact of AI for languages

AI translation tools eliminate language barriers for SMEs, unlocking ₹880 billion in new economic value by enabling seamless inter-state commerce.

₹880 billion boost

AI-enabled translation tools could add **₹880 billion (US\$11 billion) a year to India's economy** by reducing inter-state trade frictions and widening market access. In a country with **20+ primary languages**, firms face significant transaction costs for localisation across contracts, compliance, customer support, and digital storefronts. Automating this activity **lowers entry barriers across state lines and expands addressable demand**, especially for SMEs. For scale, this potential uplift is equivalent to approximately 0.3% of India's GDP.

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