



Ministry of  
**Electronics &  
Information Technology**  
Government of India



**Digital India**  
Power To Empower



National e-Governance Division

## Department of IT, DNH & DD Organised Pre-Event Workshop for India AI Impact Summit 2026

**Daman:** The Department of Information Technology, Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, in collaboration with the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) and the State e-Mission Team (SeMT), organised a Pre-Event Workshop for the India AI Impact Summit 2026 at the NIFT/GEC Seminar Hall, Varkund, Nani Daman on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 2026.

The workshop, themed “**Building Inclusive Futures: Regional Growth under Digital India and the IndiaAI Mission,**” aimed at enhancing awareness and capacity building on the application of Artificial Intelligence across governance, education, industry, healthcare, and community development, in alignment with the vision of the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India.

The programme began with a welcome address by **Shri Amit Kumar Pamasi, DANICS, Director-cum-JS (IT)**, who stated that the initiative is being implemented under the guidance of the Hon’ble Administrator, **Shri Praful Patel**, to accelerate digital transformation and promote innovation in the Union Territory.

**Shri Ajay Kumar Gupta, IAS, Secretary (IT)**, joined the workshop during the second session and emphasised that such initiatives are vital for strengthening institutional preparedness and aligning regional efforts with national digital priorities under the IndiaAI Mission.

Delivering keynote insights, **Shri Nikhil U. Dessai, IAS, Secretary (Transport)**, highlighted the role of Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies in improving governance efficiency, enabling data-driven decision-making, and enhancing citizen-centric service delivery through responsible AI adoption.

**Mrs. Sonal Bhatawadekar, Director, STPI**, highlighted STPI’s role in fostering IT/ITES industries, startup incubation, innovation ecosystems, and technology-driven entrepreneurship in emerging regions.

**Prof. (Dr) Rudra Prasad Pradhan, Professor, BITS Pilani (Goa Campus)**, presented AI use cases in the Blue Economy, focusing on maritime governance, coastal sustainability, fisheries management, and ocean-based economic development relevant to coastal regions.

**Dr. Aruna Govada, Assistant Director (IT), Daman, and UT Nodal Officer for the IndiaAI Mission**, presented an overview of the IndiaAI Mission, the vision of the India AI Impact Summit 2026, and the Union Territory’s AI roadmap, highlighting emerging AI applications in healthcare and public service delivery.

**Shri Utpal Mehta, ASIO, NIC**, briefed participants on AI initiatives undertaken by NIC, including AI-enabled e-Governance solutions and the role of MeghRaj Cloud in providing secure and scalable government IT infrastructure.

**Shri Satyanand Jha, Senior Consultant, NeGD, DNH & DD**, delivered a session on the Digital India vision and initiatives, highlighting NeGD platforms and national digital infrastructure that enable interoperable, efficient, and citizen-centric e-Governance across departments.

**Shri Kishore Choudhary, Director, NIELIT**, emphasised the importance of AI skill development for building a future-ready workforce, while **Shri Paresh Gajjar, Organising Secretary, Silvassa Industry Federation Association**, highlighted AI-driven industrial automation and the need for strengthened industry–government collaboration.

The workshop witnessed participation from over **265 stakeholders offline and around 50 online**, including government officers, academicians, and technical professionals. The event marked a significant step towards strengthening the Union Territory’s preparedness for the India AI Impact Summit 2026 and reaffirmed its commitment to inclusive, responsible, and innovation-led digital growth. An AI quiz was also conducted towards the end of the event in which the participants participated both offline and online.

