

## Weekly Data Science Bytes

### India to build its own foundational AI model; to host DeepSeek on Indian servers soon: Ashwini Vaishnaw



- India is set to join the global AI race by launching foundational artificial intelligence (AI) models on the lines of OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Gemini, and China's DeepSeek R1 over the next few months, according to the country's IT minister.
- “The foundational models made in India will be able to compete with the best of the best in the world,” electronics and information technology minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said at a press briefing on Thursday. “With algorithmic efficiency, we can create these models in a much shorter time frame. We will have a world-class foundational AI model in just a few months.”



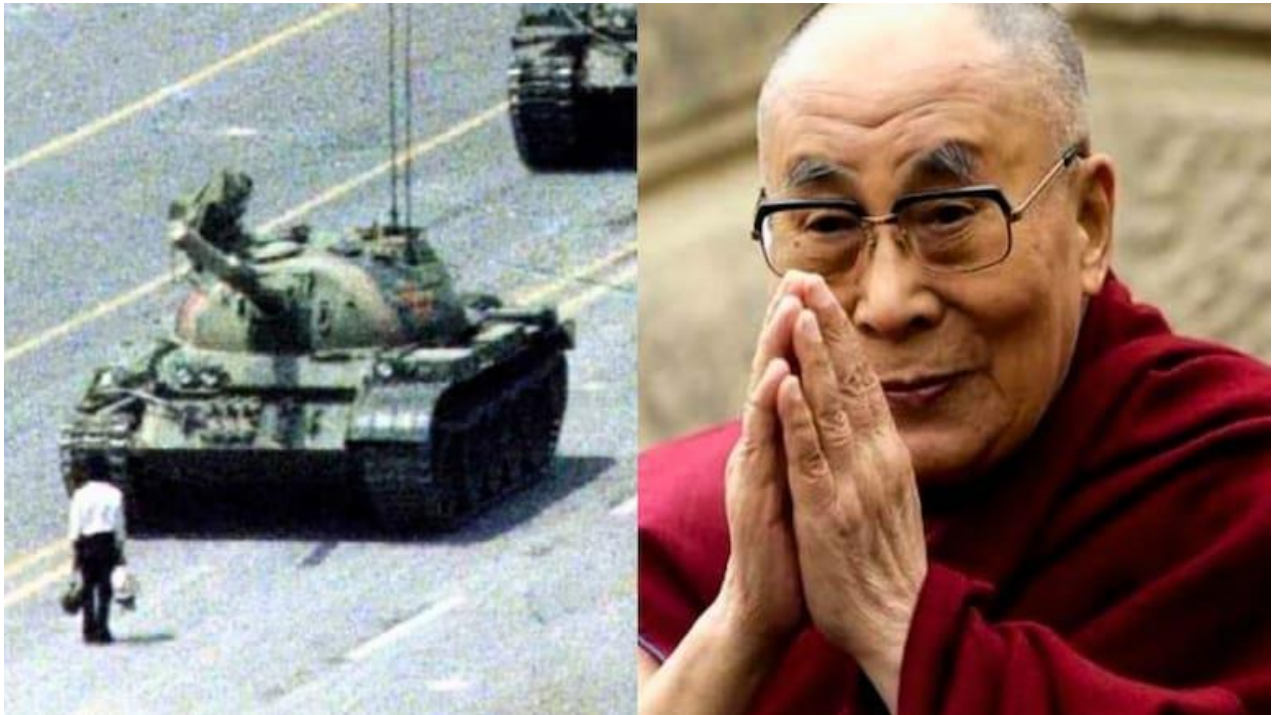
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Department of Data Science



- Foundational AI models can perform a wide range of tasks and form the bedrock for creating AI applications. Large-scale datasets and high-end GPUs (graphics processing units) are required for training foundational AI models. Currently, GPUs made by US-based Nvidia dominate the foundational AI ecosystem, followed by other chipmakers such as AMD and Intel.
- To support the training required to build the foundational AI model, India's central government will launch a common compute facility with 18,693 GPUs, of which the first 10,000 GPUs will come online shortly, Vaishnav said.
- The GPUs will be supplied by 10 private sector companies including Yotta Data Services, Tata Communications, CMS Computers, E2E Networks, Jio Platforms and NxtGen Datacenter. These companies have between themselves secured 12,896 Nvidia H100 GPUs, 1,480 Nvidia H200 GPUs, and 742 MI325 and MI325X GPUs from AMD.

## 1962 Indo-Sino War, Arunachal Pradesh: What China's

### DeepSeek AI Says



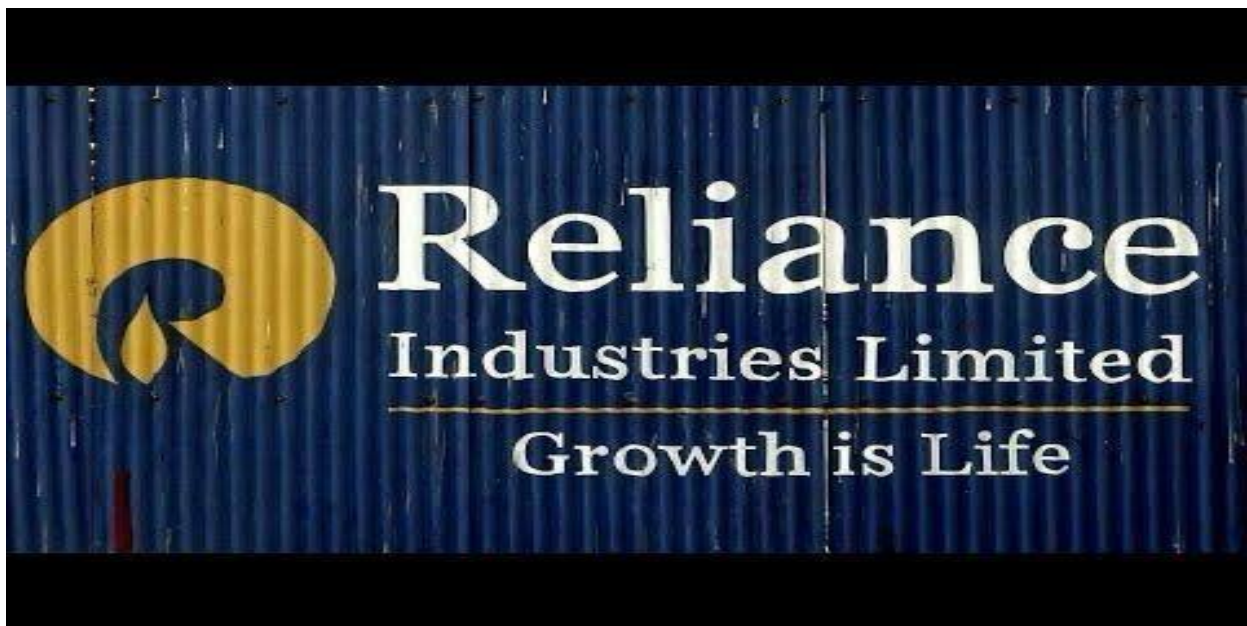
- Chinese artificial intelligence (AI) startup DeepSeek claims to have developed an AI assistant with performance comparable to leading Western models like OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google's Gemini but at a fraction of the cost. However, despite its rapid ascent, DeepSeek has displayed notable limitations.
- Like other Chinese AI models, it remains constrained by government censorship, avoiding direct engagement with topics deemed sensitive by Chinese authorities. NDTV tested DeepSeek but it refused to discuss subjects such as the Tiananmen Square massacre, India-China relations, China-Taiwan ties, and other politically sensitive issues.

## DeepSeek's success will undermine the US-China tech war



- DeepSeek has forever altered the trajectory of global rivalry in tech. In China, founder Liang Wenfeng has become a local champion. For a country where overseas degrees — especially those in the US — are still perceived as more prestigious than their domestic equivalent, students and parents have been stunned to discover that his artificial intelligence start-up's research team were all educated domestically.
- Beijing is more confident than ever in its pursuit of the technology. DeepSeek's success undermines the barriers that have been created in the US-China tech war.

## Reliance plans world's largest AI data centre in India



- India could soon play host to the largest data centre in the world, dwarfing the largest one by Microsoft that currently exists. Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries, according to a *Bloomberg* **report**, could set up the aforementioned data centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- The data centre, once up and running, will provide the infrastructure necessary to support a wide range of AI applications, with Ambani planning aggressive pricing for AI services.
- In pursuit of this goal, Reliance has reportedly begun to buy AI semiconductors from chipmaking giant Nvidia, including the company's Blackwell AI processors. Both companies have collaborated several times over the past months – in September 2024, the two teamed up to develop AI supercomputers and LLMs. The Indian government is supportive of these developments as well – it has, so far, pledged over Rs 10,000 crore to fund startups, AI projects, and development of LLMs.

Source:

**Trump and Nvidia CEO discuss DeepSeek, AI chip exports during meeting, source says**



- The source with knowledge of the meeting between the president and the CEO of the Santa Clara, Calif.-based company, which makes the most advanced AI chips, said it was set up before DeepSeek [rocked](#) the tech world.
- The source also said the president thinks the Chinese company's emergence means "U.S. companies don't have to spend a ton of money building a low-cost (AI) alternative."
- The meeting took place as worries are mounting that China is catching up to the United States in AI development. China's DeepSeek last week launched a free assistant it says uses less data at a fraction of the cost of U.S. models.

## IT industry applauds Budget 2025's focus on skilling, Make-in-India and more: Leaders Speak



The Union Budget 2025 received positive reactions from industry leaders, with many praising its focus on skilling, economic growth, fiscal prudence, and income tax relief measures. Various sectors expressed their approval of the provisions aimed at boosting growth.

### Puneet Chandok, President, Microsoft India & South Asia says-

The proposed Centre of Excellence (CoE) for AI in Education is a forward-thinking initiative towards empowering our workforce. Microsoft recently announced successful skilling of 2 million people across India in AI under our ADVANTA(I)GE India initiative. We further committed to train 10 million more people in AI by 2030. We will also establish 'AI Productivity Labs' in 20 National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs)/NIELIT centers in 10 states to impart foundational courses for 20,000 educators. With these investments, we are not only enhancing India's competitive edge but also ensuring sustainable growth and innovation. This Budget reflects a commitment to building a technologically advanced and inclusive economy. and we are excited to support India lead in an AI-centric world."