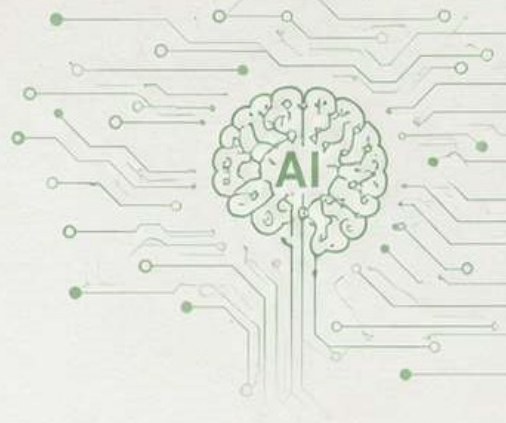




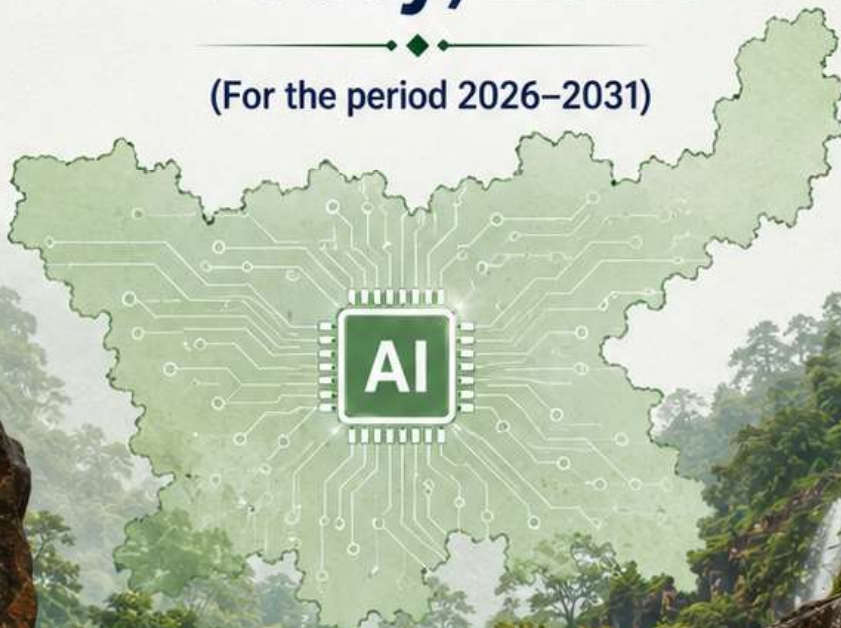
Government of Jharkhand



Jharkhand

Artificial Intelligence Policy, 2026

(For the period 2026–2031)



भगवान बिरसा मुंडा



[DRAFT]



INCLUSIVE GROWTH



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



AI FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE



SKILLING & INNOVATION



CITIZEN CENTRIC

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Jharkhand Artificial Intelligence Policy, 2026

1. Preamble

Artificial Intelligence is emerging as a foundational technology for the next phase of governance reform, economic modernization, and social sector transformation. It has the capacity to improve public administration through predictive analytics, optimize service delivery through intelligent automation, strengthen monitoring through real-time data processing, and enhance sectoral productivity in agriculture, healthcare, education, mining, logistics, and industry. India’s national AI direction is anchored in NITI Aayog’s “AI for All” strategy and its Responsible AI framework, while the Government of India’s IndiaAI Mission—approved with an outlay of ₹10,372 crore for five years—has been structured around compute capacity, foundational models, datasets, application development, future skills, startup financing, and safe and trusted AI.

The State of Jharkhand is uniquely placed to adopt AI at scale because it already possesses core enabling digital infrastructure in the form of the Jharkhand State Data Centre, the Unified Digital Data Platform, statewide connectivity networks, digital governance systems, Aadhaar-enabled service delivery, and a growing ecosystem of public-facing digital platforms. At the same time, the State faces structural development challenges in agriculture, healthcare access, service delivery efficiency, learning outcomes, natural resource governance, environmental management, and citizen grievance redressal. The application of Artificial Intelligence in these domains can help the State move from reactive administration to anticipatory governance, from fragmented databases to intelligent decision systems, and from scheme-centric operations to citizen-centric delivery.

Accordingly, the Government of Jharkhand proposes to notify the **Jharkhand Artificial Intelligence Policy, 2026** as a five-year strategic framework to mainstream AI in governance and development, build institutional capacity, promote responsible innovation, and establish Jharkhand as a leading AI-enabled state with a distinctive focus on **AI for governance, AI for agriculture, AI for healthcare, and AI for mineral-resource administration.**

2. Vision

The vision of this Policy is to transform Jharkhand into a **trusted, inclusive, innovation-driven, and AI-enabled State**, where Artificial Intelligence is deployed responsibly to improve governance effectiveness, citizen welfare, economic productivity, and sustainable development.

3. Mission

The mission of the Policy is to build a comprehensive state-level AI ecosystem comprising enabling infrastructure, interoperable data systems, institutional mechanisms, skilled human resources, innovation support, and sector-specific deployment models, so that AI solutions can be adopted across departments and districts in a scalable, secure, and accountable manner.

4. Policy Goals

The policy seeks to achieve six broad goals over the five-year period. First, it seeks to establish AI as a core capability of government and integrate it into planning, monitoring, and service delivery systems. Second, it seeks to create common AI infrastructure and shared state platforms that can be used by all departments. Third, it seeks to strengthen the data foundations necessary for AI, including data quality, interoperability, anonymization, and secure access. Fourth, it seeks to promote innovation, startups, research, and industrial partnerships in AI-related areas. Fifth, it seeks to build AI skills across government, academia, and the wider workforce. Sixth, it seeks to ensure that all AI deployments in the State are guided by principles of legality, privacy, transparency, accountability, fairness, and security, consistent with national Responsible AI guidance.

5. Strategic Rationale for Jharkhand

Jharkhand's development context makes it especially suitable for a focused AI policy. The State's rural population, agriculture dependence, dispersed service delivery geography, mineral-based economy, and need for transparent beneficiary targeting all create high-value use cases for AI. Unlike many states where AI is driven mainly by private-sector innovation, Jharkhand has the opportunity to differentiate itself as a **public-governance-led AI state**, using AI not merely as a technology intervention but as a governance reform instrument.

The State also has a strategic comparative advantage in building AI around its **data and governance architecture**. With a unified data platform and expanding digital governance

systems, Jharkhand can develop state-level AI models for welfare analytics, fraud detection, grievance prioritization, mine monitoring, learning support, disease surveillance, crop intelligence, and environmental compliance. In this regard, the State's AI journey should not be seen as separate from the IndiaAI Mission; rather, it should be framed as a state-level implementation layer built on top of national frameworks for compute, data, skills, and trusted AI. IndiaAI's official articulation of common compute, datasets, startup financing, application development, future skills, and safe AI provides a strong national foundation for such state action.

6. Definitions

For the purpose of this Policy, Artificial Intelligence shall include machine learning, deep learning, computer vision, natural language processing, speech systems, predictive analytics, recommendation systems, generative AI, intelligent automation, and related algorithmic systems that perform tasks requiring data-driven inference, pattern recognition, or decision support. Responsible AI shall mean AI systems developed and deployed in a manner that protects privacy, minimizes harm, mitigates unfair bias, supports accountability, and remains lawful, explainable where necessary, and auditable. State AI infrastructure shall mean shared computing, storage, model-serving, security, and application-enablement resources established by or for the State Government.

7. Scope of the Policy

This Policy shall apply to all departments, directorates, agencies, missions, boards, corporations, public authorities, and government-supported institutions under the Government of Jharkhand, and shall guide the planning, procurement, design, testing, deployment, audit, and scaling of AI systems. It shall also guide partnerships with academia, startups, private firms, research organizations, and development partners in relation to AI projects funded, facilitated, or adopted by the State.

The Policy shall cover AI use across governance, agriculture, healthcare, education, skills, urban services, rural development, social protection, mineral administration, environment, logistics, law enforcement support systems, and citizen service delivery. It shall also cover common enablers such as datasets, compute, cyber safeguards, skilling, procurement standards, and monitoring frameworks.

8. Core Policy Principles

All AI initiatives under this Policy shall be guided by certain core principles. The first is **public value**, meaning that AI deployments must demonstrate a clear benefit in terms of service quality, access, efficiency, transparency, or socio-economic impact. The second is **inclusion**, meaning that AI systems must be designed keeping in view rural populations, tribal communities, linguistic diversity, digital access limitations, and accessibility needs. The third is **trust and responsibility**, meaning that the State shall prioritize privacy-preserving, secure, explainable, and fair AI systems. The fourth is **interoperability**, meaning that AI systems should be built on common standards and capable of integration with existing state platforms. The fifth is **scalability**, meaning that use cases should be designed so that successful pilots can expand across departments and districts. The sixth is **local relevance**, meaning that state priorities, local datasets, regional contexts, and field realities shall inform AI solution design.

These principles are consistent with the broader national emphasis on “AI for All” and NITI Aayog’s Responsible AI approach, which stresses social inclusion, trust, accountability, and public-interest oriented deployment.

9. Priority Pillars of the Policy

9.1 AI for Governance

The first and most important pillar of the Policy is AI for governance. The State shall deploy AI to strengthen planning, monitoring, citizen interface, compliance management, beneficiary analytics, and grievance response. An AI-enabled **CM Dashboard 2.0** shall be developed to aggregate department-level data and generate predictive insights, trend alerts, anomaly flags, and decision-support visualizations for the highest levels of administration. The State shall also support AI-based systems for grievance classification and prioritization, intelligent file tracking, service-delivery bottleneck detection, predictive identification of implementation risks, and fraud or duplication detection in welfare delivery.

Special emphasis shall be placed on integrating AI with the Unified Digital Data Platform so that policy decisions and field-level interventions are supported by a consolidated evidence base. In addition, AI shall be used for identifying inclusion and exclusion errors in targeted schemes, improving departmental reporting quality, and enhancing transparency in departmental dashboards.

9.2 AI for Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods

Agriculture shall be treated as a high-priority domain. AI systems shall be encouraged for crop disease detection, soil-health interpretation, weather-linked advisories, yield prediction, irrigation optimization, pest-risk alerts, and farm-input recommendation systems. Remote sensing, drone imagery, and IoT data may be combined with AI models to support localized crop intelligence. Mobile-based advisory systems in local languages shall be promoted to improve adoption by farmers. The State shall also encourage AI for livestock health monitoring, agri-market intelligence, supply-chain optimization, and post-harvest loss reduction.

9.3 AI for Healthcare and Public Health

In healthcare, the State shall support AI applications for early disease screening, radiology assistance, pathology assistance, maternal and child health analytics, outbreak detection, resource optimization, and telemedicine support. AI tools may be piloted to assist frontline workers in risk stratification and follow-up prioritization. Public health intelligence systems shall be developed to identify disease patterns, seasonal clusters, gaps in service coverage, and referral-chain inefficiencies. In all cases, AI shall assist—not replace—human medical judgment, and deployment shall proceed only where clinical governance, consent, privacy, and safety standards are clearly defined.

9.4 AI for Education and Human Development

The education sector shall adopt AI tools for personalized learning support, adaptive assessment, dropout-risk analysis, teacher assistance, content translation, classroom analytics, and remedial education planning. AI-enabled learning systems may be designed for school and higher education contexts, with emphasis on foundational learning, digital literacy, and bridging regional disparities. The State shall also encourage creation of AI laboratories, curriculum integration, and partnerships with institutions for AI skilling and research.

9.5 AI for Mining, Minerals, and Industrial Development

Jharkhand’s mineral wealth gives it a distinctive opportunity to pioneer **AI for mining governance**. The State shall promote AI in mineral exploration, mine planning, dispatch optimization, predictive maintenance of heavy equipment, environmental compliance monitoring, and safety systems. AI may be used for satellite-based detection of suspicious mining activity, geofencing, permit-to-transport anomaly detection, production-revenue reconciliation, and monitoring of reclamation and air/water quality indicators. The Policy shall also encourage AI in manufacturing, logistics, warehousing, industrial inspection, and energy efficiency.

9.6 AI for Environment, Climate Resilience, and Disaster Response

The State shall support AI-based systems for land-use analysis, deforestation alerts, pollution forecasting, flood and drought risk modeling, disaster response planning, and ecological monitoring. These applications are especially relevant given Jharkhand's environmental vulnerabilities and need for better resource stewardship.

10. State AI Mission

For implementation of this Policy, the Government shall establish a **State AI Mission** under the Department of Information Technology & e-Governance. The State AI Mission shall be the apex institutional mechanism for strategic planning, inter-departmental coordination, standard setting, project appraisal, capacity building, program monitoring, and convergence with national initiatives. The Mission shall function through a Governing Council, an Executive Committee, and a dedicated Mission Directorate.

The Governing Council may be chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister or such authority as may be notified by the Government, and shall provide strategic guidance. The Executive Committee, chaired at the senior administrative level, shall review proposals, approve implementation frameworks, and monitor progress. The Mission Directorate shall serve as the operational unit for technical support, project facilitation, vendor coordination, knowledge management, and reporting. JAP-IT may function as the nodal implementation agency, unless otherwise notified.

A sectoral advisory structure may be created with experts in governance, agriculture, healthcare, mining, cybersecurity, data science, law, ethics, academia, and industry to support use-case prioritization and technology review.

11. State AI Infrastructure

The State shall establish a shared **Jharkhand AI Cloud** hosted at or integrated with the Jharkhand State Data Centre. This shared infrastructure shall include high-performance computing resources, scalable storage, model training and inference environments, APIs, sandbox environments, data pipelines, and security controls. Departments shall be encouraged to use common infrastructure rather than developing fragmented AI stacks.

The State AI Cloud shall be designed, to the extent feasible, for interoperability with the IndiaAI compute ecosystem. Since the IndiaAI Mission explicitly prioritizes compute capacity as

one of its core pillars, Jharkhand shall leverage this national direction while creating localized shared infrastructure for departmental deployment.

12. Data Governance and AI-Ready Data Ecosystem

Data is the foundation of any meaningful AI deployment. The State shall therefore adopt a comprehensive data governance framework that addresses data quality, standardization, metadata, access controls, anonymization, security, and lawful use. The Unified Digital Data Platform shall be strengthened as the State's core data exchange and analytics layer. Departments shall be encouraged to prepare **AI-ready datasets** through cleaning, labeling, structuring, and privacy-preserving transformation.

Only such data use shall be permitted as is lawful, necessary, proportionate, and aligned with the purpose for which it is collected. The State shall ensure compliance with applicable data protection laws and adopt best practices in anonymization, encryption, and secure access. Data-sharing protocols shall be established across departments to enable interoperability while maintaining strict safeguards against misuse.

The Policy shall promote the creation of **domain-specific data registries**, standardized APIs, and real-time data pipelines to support AI applications. Mechanisms shall be developed for data validation, audit trails, and version control to ensure reliability and accountability. Where feasible, non-sensitive datasets may be made available for innovation and research purposes under controlled frameworks.

13. Innovation, Research, and Startup Ecosystem

The Policy recognizes that a vibrant innovation ecosystem is essential for sustained AI adoption. The Government shall promote the development of AI startups, research initiatives, and industry-academia collaborations. The IT Park at Ranchi shall be developed as a hub for AI innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship.

Support mechanisms shall include incubation facilities, access to shared AI infrastructure, mentorship programs, and funding support through State schemes and convergence with national initiatives. The State shall also encourage participation of startups in government AI projects through transparent procurement processes and pilot-based engagements.

Collaborations shall be encouraged with premier academic institutions, research organizations, and industry partners to drive innovation in AI technologies, including emerging domains such as edge AI, geospatial AI, and quantum AI.

14. Skill Development and Capacity Building

The successful implementation of AI initiatives requires a skilled workforce across multiple levels. The Policy shall therefore prioritize capacity building for government officials, technical staff, students, and professionals. Training programs shall be designed to enhance understanding of AI concepts, data analytics, and digital governance tools.

Partnerships shall be established with academic institutions, training organizations, and industry bodies such as NASSCOM to develop structured training modules and certification programs. AI laboratories and innovation centers shall be promoted in universities and technical institutions to foster hands-on learning.

Special emphasis shall be placed on building capacity at the district and field levels to ensure effective adoption of AI solutions in governance and service delivery.

15. Procurement and Implementation Framework

To ensure efficient deployment of AI solutions, the Policy shall establish a flexible and innovation-friendly procurement framework. Departments shall be encouraged to adopt **pilot-based approaches**, where AI solutions are first tested on a small scale and subsequently scaled based on performance.

Procurement processes shall emphasize outcome-based contracts, interoperability standards, and vendor accountability. Startups and emerging technology firms shall be given opportunities to participate through simplified procurement norms, sandboxes, and innovation challenges.

Standard guidelines shall be developed for project design, evaluation, and scaling to ensure consistency and quality across AI initiatives.

16. Legal, Ethical, and Responsible AI Framework

The Policy shall ensure that all AI deployments adhere to the principles of legality, transparency, accountability, fairness, and privacy. AI systems shall be designed to minimize bias, ensure explainability where required, and protect citizen rights.

The State shall align its AI initiatives with the Responsible AI framework developed by NITI Aayog, which emphasizes ethical design, governance, and deployment of AI systems. Mechanisms shall be established for periodic audits, risk assessments, and compliance checks. Cybersecurity shall be strengthened through integration with State-level security frameworks, including Jhar-CERT, to safeguard AI systems and data infrastructure.

17. Financial Framework and Resource Mobilization

The implementation of the Policy shall require a structured financial framework. The total estimated outlay for the five-year period is proposed at ₹1150 Crore, covering AI infrastructure, Centres of Excellence, skill development, and innovation support.

Funding shall be mobilized through State budget allocations, convergence with central schemes including the IndiaAI Mission, and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models. The State shall also explore funding from multilateral agencies, research grants, and innovation funds.

A phased financial approach shall be adopted to align investments with implementation milestones and outcomes.

18. Implementation Roadmap

The Policy shall be implemented in three phases over a period of five years.

In the first phase, the focus shall be on policy notification, establishment of the State AI Mission, development of institutional frameworks, and initiation of pilot projects in selected sectors. In the second phase, emphasis shall be placed on scaling successful use cases, development of AI infrastructure, and expansion of capacity-building programs. In the final phase, the Policy shall aim for full integration of AI across departments, establishment of a mature innovation ecosystem, and sustained adoption of AI in governance and industry.

19. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Governance

A robust monitoring and evaluation framework shall be established to track the progress and impact of AI initiatives. Key Performance Indicators shall be defined for each project, focusing on efficiency gains, service delivery improvements, cost savings, and citizen satisfaction.

Real-time dashboards and analytics tools shall be used to monitor implementation, and periodic reviews shall be conducted at various levels of governance. Independent evaluations may be undertaken to assess outcomes and inform future policy directions.

20. Risk Management and Mitigation

The Policy acknowledges potential risks associated with AI adoption, including data privacy concerns, lack of skilled manpower, resistance to change, and cybersecurity threats. These risks shall be mitigated through robust data governance frameworks, targeted capacity-building programs, change management strategies, and strengthened cybersecurity measures.

A risk management framework shall be integrated into all stages of project implementation to ensure proactive identification and mitigation of risks.

21. Expected Outcomes

The implementation of the Jharkhand Artificial Intelligence Policy is expected to significantly enhance governance efficiency through data-driven decision-making and automation. It will improve service delivery at the grassroots level, particularly in rural and underserved areas, and contribute to increased agricultural productivity and improved healthcare outcomes.

The Policy will also foster innovation, create employment opportunities, and strengthen the State's position as a hub for AI-driven technologies. It will enable Jharkhand to emerge as a model for AI-enabled governance and inclusive development.

22. Review and Revision Mechanism

The Policy shall be subject to periodic review to ensure its relevance and effectiveness in a rapidly evolving technological landscape. Mid-term reviews may be conducted to assess progress and make necessary adjustments. The Government reserves the right to modify or update the Policy based on emerging needs, technological advancements, and feedback from stakeholders.

23. AI Investment Promotion and Facilitation Framework

23.1 Objective

The Government of Jharkhand recognizes that sustained growth of the Artificial Intelligence ecosystem requires active participation from private sector enterprises, startups, global technology firms, and research institutions. Accordingly, this framework aims to position Jharkhand as a competitive and investment-friendly destination for AI by offering targeted incentives, enabling infrastructure, streamlined approvals, and assured market access.

23.2 AI Investment Categories

For the purpose of incentives and facilitation, AI investments in the State shall be categorized as follows:

1. AI Infrastructure Projects

Including data centres, GPU clusters, cloud infrastructure, model training facilities, and AI platforms.

2. AI Product and Solution Companies

Startups, MSMEs, and enterprises developing AI-based applications, platforms, and services.

3. Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and AI Labs

Captive centres of multinational corporations engaged in AI research, development, and deployment.

4. Centres of Excellence and Research Institutions

Academic-industry collaborative institutions focused on AI innovation, advanced research, and domain applications.

23.3 Fiscal Incentives

Subject to detailed guidelines to be notified separately, eligible AI units may be provided the following incentives:

(a) Capital Subsidy

A capital subsidy of up to 30–50% on eligible fixed capital investment, subject to project size and category, with higher incentives for anchor investments and priority sectors.

(b) Stamp Duty and Registration Fee Exemption

Up to 100% exemption on stamp duty and registration charges for land or property transactions related to approved AI projects.

(c) Power Tariff Subsidy

Reimbursement of power tariff to the extent of ₹2–3 per unit for a period of up to 5 years, particularly for compute-intensive AI infrastructure.

(d) Employment Generation Incentive

Payroll-linked incentive for creation of AI and data-related jobs, with additional incentives for employment of local youth and women.

(e) Rental / Lease Subsidy

Support for startups and early-stage companies operating from notified IT Parks or AI Zones, for a period of up to 3–5 years.

(f) R&D and Innovation Grants

Project-based grants for development of AI solutions in priority sectors such as agriculture, mining, healthcare, and governance.

23.4 Non-Fiscal Incentives

To complement financial support, the State shall provide:

- Plug-and-play infrastructure in IT Parks and AI Zones
- Access to shared AI Cloud and compute resources at subsidized rates
- Preferential access to state datasets under controlled frameworks
- Support for pilot deployments within government departments

Facilitation of industry-academia collaborations

23.5 Anchor Investor Strategy

The State shall proactively identify and attract 3–5 anchor AI investors, including global technology firms, hyperscalers, and leading AI enterprises.

Such anchor investors may be offered:

- Customized incentive packages
- Priority land allotment in AI Zones
- Dedicated infrastructure support
- Fast-track approvals and clearances
- Co-branding opportunities with the State AI Mission

The presence of anchor institutions shall be leveraged to catalyze the broader AI ecosystem in Jharkhand.

23.6 AI Parks and Innovation Zones

The Government shall notify Jharkhand AI Parks / AI Innovation Zones, with initial focus on Ranchi and other suitable locations.

These zones shall provide:

- High-speed connectivity and reliable power supply
- Access to shared AI infrastructure (including GPU clusters)
- Incubation and co-working facilities
- Regulatory sandbox environments for testing AI solutions
- Proximity to academic and research institutions

23.7 Government as Market (AI Procurement Facilitation)

To reduce market-entry barriers for AI companies, the State shall adopt a Government-as-a-Market approach, including:

- Structured AI innovation challenges and hackathons
- Pilot-to-scale framework, enabling successful pilots to transition into full-scale deployments within defined timelines
- Creation of a pre-qualified vendor pool for AI solutions
- Encouragement of outcome-based procurement models

Departments shall be encouraged to allocate a portion of their digital or innovation budgets specifically for AI-based solutions.

23.8 Data Access and Innovation Enablement

Recognizing data as a key enabler of AI innovation, the State shall:

- Provide access to anonymized, non-sensitive datasets through controlled data-sharing mechanisms
- Develop standardized APIs and data exchange protocols
- Encourage creation of sector-specific data registries
- Enable secure data sandboxes for startups and researchers

All such access shall be governed by applicable laws including the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023 and relevant State data governance frameworks.

23.9 Single Window Clearance and Investor Facilitation

A dedicated AI Investment Facilitation Cell shall be established under the State AI Mission to provide end-to-end support to investors.

Key features shall include:

- Single-window system for approvals and clearances
- Defined timelines (preferably within 30 days) for processing applications
- Dedicated relationship managers for large and strategic investors

- Escalation mechanisms for issue resolution

23.10 Convergence with National and International Initiatives

The State shall actively align its investment promotion efforts with national programs such as the IndiaAI Mission and collaborate with global institutions, development agencies, and industry bodies to attract investment, technology partnerships, and knowledge exchange.

23.11 Monitoring and Review

The State AI Mission shall periodically review the effectiveness of incentives and facilitation measures, and may revise them to remain competitive with leading AI destinations within India and globally.

24. Conclusion

The Jharkhand Artificial Intelligence Policy, 2026 represents a forward-looking initiative to harness the transformative potential of AI for the holistic development of the State. By leveraging existing digital infrastructure, aligning with national priorities, and focusing on inclusive growth, the Policy aims to create a sustainable and scalable AI ecosystem that delivers long-term socio-economic benefits.

The Policy positions Jharkhand not only as a participant in the national AI journey but as a potential leader in **AI-driven governance and mineral-resource management**, setting a benchmark for other states.

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