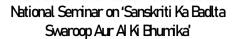# AI and Gender Equations in Current Perspectives: A Brief Study

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Abstract

In recent years, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a potent force capable of reshaping numerous facets of society. Within India, a nation grappling with entrenched gender disparities and social hurdles, AI stands poised to wield substantial influence in advancing women's empowerment.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the field of computer science dedicated to creating intelligent systems capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence. It finds applications across diverse sectors such as healthcare, finance, transportation, and more. AI enables systems to analyse vast amounts of data, identify patterns, and make informed decisions, leading to enhanced efficiency and accuracy.

AI is utilized in various applications including medical diagnosis, fraud detection, autonomous vehicles, personalized recommendations, natural language processing, and virtual assistants. Its potential for revolutionizing businesses and society lies in augmenting human capabilities and driving innovation. In terms of definition and concept, AI involves the replication of human cognitive abilities in robots, enabling them to perform tasks that require human-like intelligence. This encompasses a wide array of technologies and methodologies aimed at enabling robots to perceive, reason, learn, and make decisions akin to humans. The focus of AI lies in developing intelligent systems capable of analysing large datasets, extracting relevant insights, and adapting their behaviour based on changing circumstances.

According to the Global Gender Gap Report of 2023, there are only 30 per cent women currently working in AI. "When technology is developed with just one perspective, it's like looking at the world half-blind," concurred Mahfouz. She is currently working on a project to create an AI-powered platform that would connect Afghan women with each other.

"More women researchers are needed in the field. The unique lived experiences of women can profoundly shape the theoretical foundations of technology. It can also open new applications of the technology," she added.

The AI field needs more women, and that requires enabling and increasing girls' and women's access to and leadership in STEM and ICT education and careers.

The World Economic Forum reported in 2023 that women accounted for just 29 per cent of all science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) workers. Although more women are graduating and entering STEM jobs today than ever before, they are concentrated in entry level jobs and less likely to hold leadership positions. The world has a gender equality problem, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) mirrors the gender bias in our society. Although globally more women are accessing the internet every year, in low-income countries, only 20 per cent are connected. The gender digital divide creates a data gap that is reflected in the gender bias in AI. Who creates AI and what biases are built into AI data (or not), can perpetuate, widen, or reduce gender equality gaps.

The paper delves into the world of Artificial Intelligence and gender equations at global as well as national purview.

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