

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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India's AI Unicorn Sarvam and Nepal's AIAI Partner to Build National AI Capability

AIAI named Sarvam's Country Partner for Nepal; Sarvam Forward Nepal to launch in Kathmandu on 15 August 2026

KATHMANDU, Nepal - 16 July 2026 - Sarvam, India's full-stack sovereign artificial intelligence company and one of the country's newest AI unicorns, and the Asian Institute of Artificial Intelligence (AIAI), a Nepal-based institution and subsidiary of the Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs (AIDIA), a premium thinktank and graduate school have entered into a strategic partnership to advance AI education, talent development, applied innovation and responsible adoption across Nepal.

The partnership creates an India-Nepal bridge for AI capability, combining Sarvam's full-stack AI platform and technical expertise with AIAI's institutional network and Nepal-side implementation capacity.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), AIAI will serve as Sarvam's Country Partner for Nepal and lead the local delivery of Sarvam Forward Nepal, the flagship implementation programme under the broader Sarvam for Nepal initiative. AIAI will coordinate implementation, training, pilot programmes and ecosystem development, working with universities, public institutions, businesses, startups and development partners.

Sarvam Forward Nepal will be formally launched in Kathmandu on 15 August 2026, beginning a wider effort to help Nepal move beyond access to AI and build the ability to understand, develop, govern and deploy it responsibly.

The agreement was signed on 10 July 2026 by Dr. Vivek Raghavan, Co-Founder and Director of Sarvam, and Sunil KC, Founding Director of AIAI.

Sarvam was selected by the Government of India under the IndiaAI Mission to build India's sovereign large language model. In June 2026, the company announced the first close of a US\$300 million Series B round, raising US\$234 million at a post-money valuation of US\$1.5 billion.

“AI becomes truly meaningful when people can use it in their own languages and when it strengthens the institutions they rely on every day,” said Dr. Vivek Raghavan, Co-Founder and Director of Sarvam. “Nepal has the talent, diversity and institutional ambition to build meaningful AI capability. Through this partnership with AIAI, we look forward to supporting students, educators, developers, public institutions and enterprises as they move from experimentation to responsible, real-world deployment. We also see this as an important model for regional cooperation through technology.”

Building Institutional AI Capability

The partnership will explore programmes in AI literacy, student and faculty development, campus AI systems, developer and AI-builder pathways, public-service applications, startup acceleration, executive education, enterprise adoption and local-language AI research.

Education and institutional capacity-building will be a major area of collaboration. The two organisations plan to develop AI-literacy programmes, faculty training, student builder cohorts, practitioner and engineering pathways, campus assistants, developer bootcamps and institutional AI-transformation programmes for schools, colleges and universities.

The partnership will also explore responsible AI applications for government, public services, healthcare administration, document intelligence, citizen-information systems, enterprise productivity and sector-specific institutional challenges.

“AI will not transform Nepal simply because new tools become available. It will transform Nepal when our universities, educators, young people, public institutions and businesses develop the capability to build with those tools,” said Sunil KC, Founding Director of AIAI. “This partnership is about creating that capability practically, responsibly and at institutional scale. Our ambition is to ensure that Nepal participates in the AI era not only as a consumer, but also as a builder, innovator and contributor.”

AI Education as a Public Good

Sarvam Forward Nepal will include a public-good component designed to expand access to AI education and responsible-use awareness among public universities, community campuses, public schools, educators, students, women, rural communities and underserved institutions.

The programme is expected to include free or subsidised AI-literacy courses, faculty orientation, public webinars, women-in-AI cohorts, rural and provincial capability programmes, scholarships, fellowships and responsible-AI workshops.

Building AI for Nepal's Languages

Sarvam and AIAI will explore research and applications in Nepali and other languages spoken across Nepal, including Maithili, Bhojpuri, Tharu, Nepal Bhasa, Tamang and Magar, alongside other local languages and dialects. Potential areas include speech technology, translation, document digitisation, educational-content localisation, evaluation datasets, benchmarks and multilingual public-information tools.

All language- and dataset-related work will be guided by consent, intellectual-property protection, privacy, data governance and responsible AI principles.

Sarvam's full-stack AI platform includes speech recognition, text-to-speech, translation, dubbing, conversational agents and document-digitisation capabilities designed for multilingual, population-scale use.

From Learning to Building

The partnership aims to strengthen Nepal's emerging community of developers, researchers, founders and technology institutions through AI hackathons, innovation laboratories, startup cohorts, API-based experimentation, demo days, university innovation programmes and India-Nepal startup exchanges.

The two institutions also plan to develop executive AI-readiness programmes and sector-specific initiatives for banking, financial services, insurance, telecommunications, manufacturing, hospitality, education, healthcare, media and professional services.

Neighbourhood First: Ethical AI for Shared Prosperity

About the Asian Institute of Artificial Intelligence

The Asian Institute of Artificial Intelligence (AIAI) is a Nepal-based institution dedicated to advancing AI education, talent development, applied innovation, research, institutional transformation and responsible AI adoption. AIAI works with universities, public institutions, businesses, startups and ecosystem partners to strengthen practical AI capability and support AI-led transformation in Nepal.

Website: www.aiai.edu.np

About Sarvam

Sarvam is India's full-stack sovereign AI company, building systems in which the value created by data, models and agents remains within a country or company. It operates across training and inference infrastructure, frontier models spanning text and other modalities, and AI products for enterprises, developers and government, with a focus on banking, insurance, govtech and defence. Its models cover language, speech, vision and documents, and are trained from scratch in India. Sarvam is headquartered in Bengaluru.

Website: www.sarvam.ai