

India invites China to AI summit as ties thaw

Over 100 nations and top tech leaders to attend

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INDIA HAS INVITED China to attend its upcoming AI Impact Summit in February, underscoring New Delhi's intent to position itself as a global convener on artificial intelligence even amid a gradual easing in ties with Beijing.

Addressing a press briefing on Monday, IT Secretary S Krishnan confirmed that New Delhi had formally invited Beijing to join the upcoming summit. "We have sent an invitation to China," Krishnan said, adding that the event will bring together governments, global technology leaders and AI experts.

The AI Impact Summit, to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will focus on steering the global AI conversation toward productivity, inclusion and real-world economic outcomes. The event, organised by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), is expected to host delegates from over 100 countries, with invitations sent to about 140 nations.

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both of them participate in the event is significant and important. And this is why are creating a common forum for countries to meet and collaborate," said Krishnan.

According to MeitY, around 15-20 nations are expected to be represented at the head-of-state or head-of-government level, while more than 50 nations are likely to send ministerial-level delegations. Among the leaders expected to attend are the deputy prime minister of the UK and the heads of state of France and Brazil. Global technology executives who have confirmed participation include Bill Gates, Demis Hassabis (DeepMind), Dario Amodei (Anthropic), Shantanu Narayen, Mark Benioff, Cristiano Amon and Raj Subramaniam.

Krishnan said the summit aims to shift the international AI discourse from concerns

around safety and existential risks to an applied framework centred on economic growth, social development and measurable productivity gains. The focus will be on deploying AI in key sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, education, manufacturing and governance.

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The summit's thematic framework, built around people, planet and progress, includes seven working groups covering themes such as economic and social growth, democratisation of AI resources, inclusion, safe and trusted AI, human capital development, AI for scientific research, and resilience and efficiency.