COEIR • NIT Calicut • CoE-AI

RCAI 2027

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Grounded Intelligence — Pragmatic AI for Engineering, Employability & Enterprise

9-10 January 2027 | NIT Calicut | Kerala | India

rcai2027.nitc.ac.in

THE THEME

Every outcome should touch something real

RCAI 2027 is a two-day, in-person colloquium where researchers, engineers, founders, students and NIT Calicut's global alumni network take AI from demonstration to deployment, from generative AI to grounded intelligence.





Engineering analysis



Infrastructure & cities



Employability



Enterprise value



350+
attendees



40–50
alumni returning



24h
hackathon



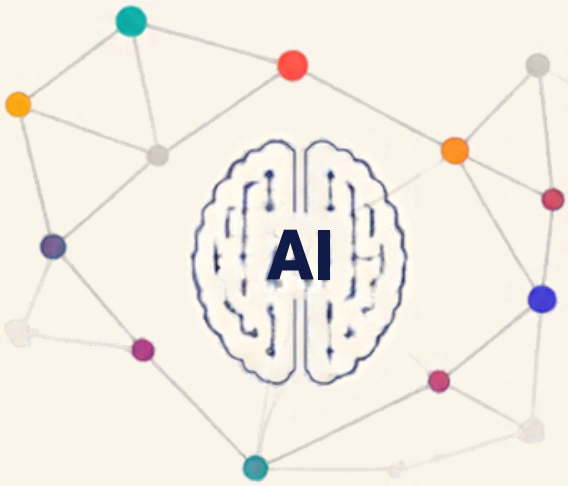
3
panels + 5 masterclasses



up to
₹1 Cr
project funding

WHY TAKE PART

One weekend. Five reasons to be in the room.



Students

- Compete in a 24-hour hackathon judged in front of industry and alumni
- Present papers and posters and win awards
- Hands-on masterclasses plus a panel on what employers expect
- Pitch AI/ML projects for funding at ₹25 L, ₹50 L and ₹1 Cr levels

Faculty & Researchers

- Peer-reviewed proceedings, with selected papers recommended to journals
- Pitch AI/ML projects for funding at ₹25 L, ₹50 L and ₹1 Cr levels
- Find industry partners and alumni seed support

Industry

- A dedicated Industry Track for white papers, use cases and deployment stories
- Set a hackathon challenge and meet the talent who solve it
- Open doors to consultancy and commercialisation of NITC research

Startups & Founders

- Seed funding, mentorship and pitch exposure through COEIR
- From Research to Startup: discovery, prototyping, IP and funding
- Themed networking tables

Alumni & Global Guests

- Judge live pitches and become a named mentor
- See exactly where funds land through transparent endowment tracking
- Reconnect with 40–50 fellow alumni

RCAI 2027

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM ON
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
NIT CALICUT

KOZHIKODE, KERALA, INDIA
9-10 JANUARY 2027

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Two days, one arc.

Pre-event

Thu 7 – Fri 8 Jan

- Thu 13:00 hackathon intro workshop
- Thu 17:00 → Fri 17:00 24-hour hackathon



Day 1

Sat 9 Jan • Discover + Connect

- Inauguration & Director's address
- Plenary: Pragmatic AI for Engineering
- Panel 1: Trustworthy & Explainable AI
- Lunch with top-10 hackathon showcase
- Parallel technical sessions in 5 rooms
- Panel 2: What makes AI useful in engineering
- UnGoogleable Talks
- Networking dinner & cultural evening

Day 2

Sun 10 Jan • Research + Impact

- Industry plenary: Enterprise AI — from business to measurable value
- 5 parallel masterclasses
- Lunch session: Impossible / Really Hard Problems
- Research Tasting Menu live funding pitches
- Panel 3: Employability in the Age of AI
- Awards & valedictory

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EVENT 01

24-HOUR HACKATHON

A day and a night to turn an idea into a working prototype.



Intro workshop
Thu 7 Jan • 13:00–17:00

Build window
Thu 17:00 → Fri 17:00

Top 10 displayed at Day 1 lunch

Winners awarded at the valedictory

CHAIRS

Dr. Vinod Pathari

Dr. Hiran V Nath

STUDENTS
Show skill and get seen by recruiters and alumni

FACULTY
Mentor teams and scout talent

INDUSTRY SPONSORS
Set a real challenge problem

STARTUPS
Find co-founder

Details & updates
rcai2027.nitc.ac.in

RESEARCH & INDUSTRY TRACKS

RESEARCH TRACK

For academic authors

SUBMISSION
4-6 pages, PDF

REVIEW
Peer reviewed via Microsoft CMT

DEADLINE
15 Nov 2026

NOTIFICATION
30 Nov 2026

CAMERA-READY
10 Dec 2026

PUBLICATION
Published in the RCAI 2027 COLLOQUIUM PROCEEDINGS

JOURNAL RECOMMENDATION
Selected papers may be recommended to journals

RESEARCH TOPICS

- AI for engineering analysis
- Generative AI for research & academics
- Building reliable AI applications

INDUSTRY TRACK

For white papers, roadmaps, use cases and deployment experiences

INDUSTRY TOPICS

- From research to startup
- AI employability studio
- AI for development & applications

SUBMIT AT
rcai2027.nitc.ac.in/author.php

EVENT 03

PLENARIES & THREE PANELS

03

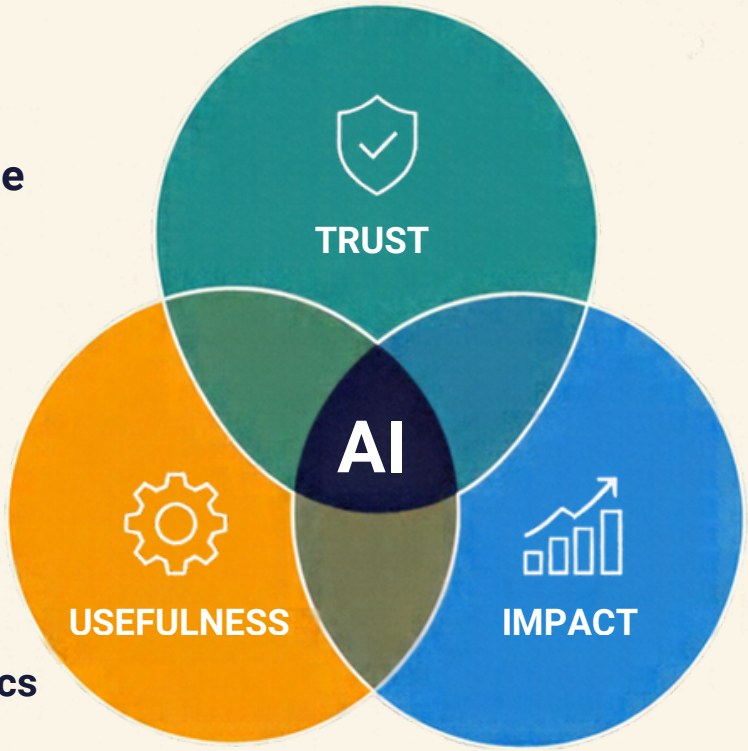
PLENARY:
Pragmatic AI for Engineering — from demonstration to deployment

INDUSTRY PLENARY:
Enterprise AI — from business to measurable value

PANEL 1:
Trustworthy & Explainable AI for high-stakes engineering

PANEL 2:
What makes AI useful — data, domain, deployment, ethics

PANEL 3:
Employability in the Age of AI



Each panel brings 2 industry voices and 1 academic.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS & MASTERCLASSES

DAY 1

5 parallel rooms · 4 talks per topic

- Energy
- Environment
- Manufacturing
- Infrastructure
- Healthcare
- Mobility
- Climate
- Education
- Cybersecurity

DAY 2

5 parallel hands-on masterclasses



- **STUDENTS** — practical skills and new perspectives
- **FACULTY** — research exchange and collaborators
- **INDUSTRY** — relevant methods and deployment insight
- **STARTUPS** — ideas, talent and partners

05

PITCH IT. FUND IT. BUILD IT.

FUNDING UP TO
₹1 Cr

Call for NITC Projects

- Faculty & students: propose AI/ML projects for ₹25 L to ₹1 Cr in funding
- Pitch live to industry and alumni; learn how research gets funded
- A path from lab idea to industry and startups
- Alumni judges become named mentors



PROPOSALS DUE
26 NOV 2026
VIA CMT

LIVE PITCHES
9–10 JAN 2027

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL
RCAI2027.NITC.AC.IN/CPROJECT.PHP

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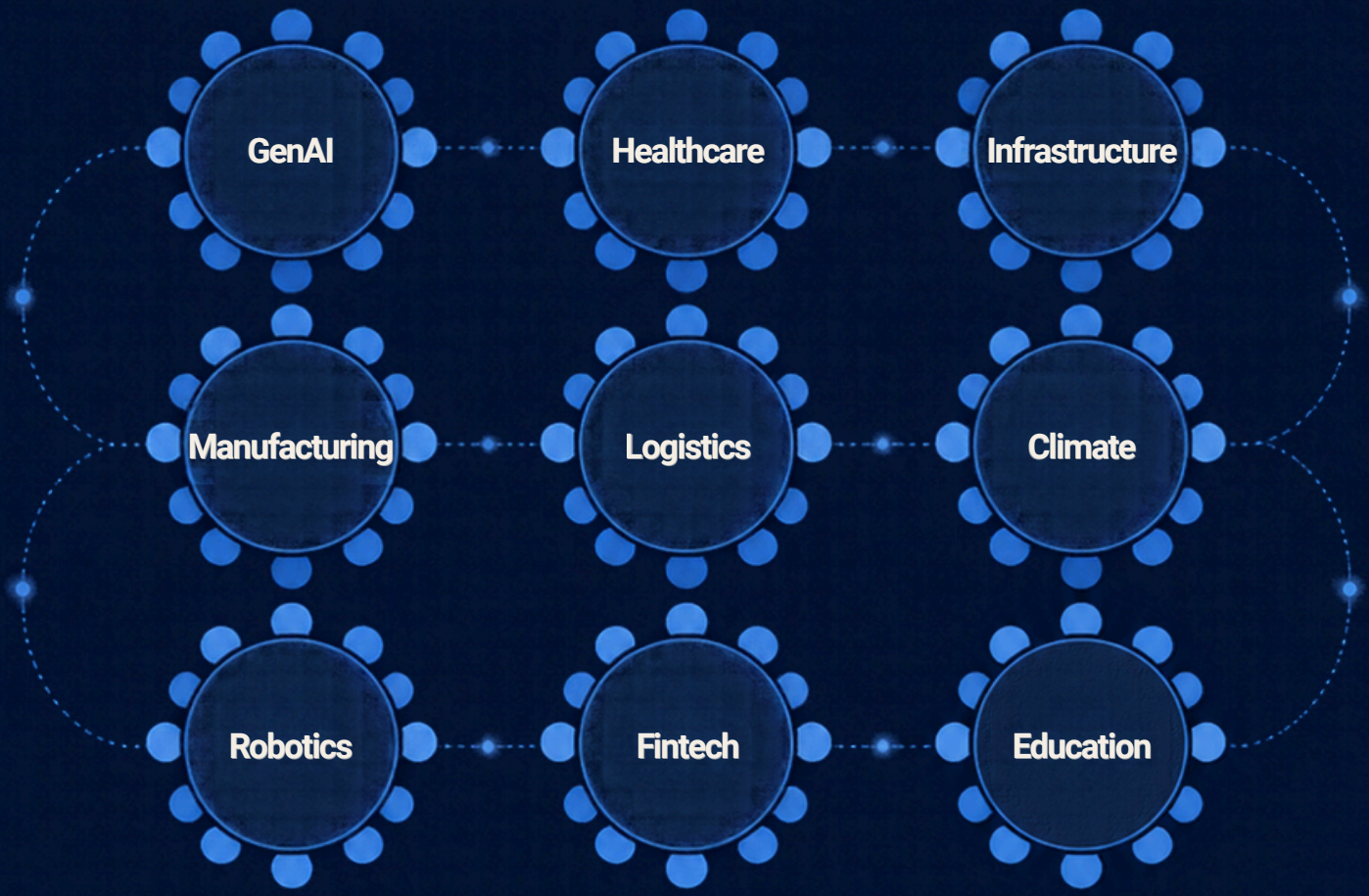
EVENT 06 9-10 JANUARY 2027

UNGOOGLEABLE TALKS & THE NETWORKING DINNER

06

Three entrepreneurs tell stories you won't find in any search result, followed by dinner, a cultural programme and nine themed tables.



Dinner · culture · conversations that continue beyond the stage



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SPEAKERS

Voices from labs, boardrooms and startups.



Dipanjan Dutta
Head of Solutions Engineering, Sanas AI, Bengaluru



Harisankar Radhakrishnan
CEO, Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram



Anjana A Karumathil
Associate Professor of Practice, IIM Kozhikode



Shabana K.M
Senior Project Scientist, Wadhwani School of Data Science & AI, IIT Madras



Deepak Warrier
Chief AI Officer, Mstack AI, Bengaluru



Bhaswar Goswami
Co-founder & COO, Secondbrain AI

Keynote speakers — to be announced.

GENERAL CHAIRS



Abhilash Edacherian
King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia



Pradeepkumar Ashok
University of Texas at Austin, USA



S D Madhu Kumar
NIT Calicut, India

SPONSORSHIP

Put your name on grounded AI.

	PLATINUM ₹4,00,000	GOLD ₹2,50,000	SILVER ₹1,50,000	BRONZE ₹75,000
Programme Placement	premium programme placement	logo + profile	logo	name in programme
Website Logo	website logo	website logo	website logo	website logo
Signage	own signage	own signage	shared signage	shared signage
Recognition	slide & verbal mention	slide & verbal mention		
Complimentary Passes	5 passes	3 passes	2 passes	1 pass
Lanyards	lanyards			
Flyer	flyer	flyer		
Logo Items	2 logo items	1 logo item	1 logo item	
Tabletop Display	tabletop display	tabletop display		
LinkedIn Thank-you	own LinkedIn thank-you post	own LinkedIn post	group LinkedIn post	group LinkedIn post

ADD-ONS

Own a moment.



- **Alumni dinner host** · ₹3,00,000
- **Hackathon** ₹2,50,000 includes setting a challenge problem
- **Tea & coffee breaks** · ₹2,00,000
- **Lunch** ₹1,50,000/day
- **Pitch session** · ₹1,00,000
- **Tabletop display** · ₹60,000
- **Digital & highlights** · ₹40,000
- **In-kind support welcome** · compute credits, job openings

How to commit:
send the form to
info@coeir.org
by 10 December 2026.

SPONSORSHIP CHAIR

Dr. Preethi M.

ORGANISERS & CONTACT

Hosted by NITC. Powered by alumni.

COEIR
ALUMNI PARTNER

Alumni-led nonprofit bringing industry to campus and backing student startups.

NIT CALICUT
HOST INSTITUTION

Patron: Prof. Prasad Krishna, Director, NIT Calicut

COE-AI
NITC'S AI CENTRE

Centre of Excellence in AI, leading the institute's AI/ML research.

NITCAA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

NIT Calicut Alumni Association, connecting the institute's global alumni.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Organising Chairs	Dr. Priya Chandran, Dr. Santosh G. Thampi and Dr. Kumaravel S.
Technical Programme	Dr. Shihabudheen K. V. and Dr. Munavar Fairooz C.
Publication	Dr. Prateek Negi
Local Organising	Dr. Rakesh Warrier R.
Publicity	Dr. Vrinda Varma, Dr. Anu Mary Chacko, Dr. Jay Prakash, Mr. Venkitesh Hariharan

STEERING COMMITTEE

Abhilash Edacherian, Bobby Rajagopal, Hema K Menon, Pradeepkumar Ashok and S D Madhu Kumar

KEY DATES

15 Nov 2026	26 Nov	30 Nov	10 Dec	7-8 Jan 2027	9-10 Jan 2027
papers close	proposals	notification	camera-ready & sponsor deadline	hackathon	colloquium

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