



UNIVERSAL AI AWARDS

AN INITIATIVE OF KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

CELEBRATING IMPACT. INSPIRING THE FUTURE

**DATE**

17 SEPTEMBER 2026
(THURSDAY)

**Time**

08:30 AM
ONWARDS (IST)

**Venue**

HYATT REGENCY
NEW DELHI

08:30 - 10:30	REGISTRATION, EXECUTIVE NETWORKING BREAKFAST & EXPERIENCE LOUNGE Delegate Registration • Executive Networking Breakfast • Media Interviews • Partner Showcases	
10:30 - 10:45	OPENING CEREMONY & CEREMONIAL LAMP LIGHTING Formal Inauguration of the Universal AI Awards	
10:45 - 11:15	KEYNOTE BY CHIEF GUEST India's AI Vision: Building a Global AI Powerhouse	Chief Guest
11:15 - 11:25	FELICITATION OF DIGNITARIES Felicitation of Dignitaries	Sanjay Puri , Founder and Chairman, Knowledge Networks
11:25 - 11:45	FOUNDER'S ADDRESS - GLOBAL LAUNCH OF UNIVERSAL AI AWARDS Introducing the Universal AI Awards Ecosystem Across India, America, along with its Vision, Governance Framework and Global Roadmap	Sanjay Puri , Founder and Chairman, Knowledge Networks
11:45 - 12:15	LEADERSHIP-LED PANEL DISCUSSION India's AI Roadmap: Policy, Innovation & Global Competitiveness	Moderator : Shakoor Rather, Founder, Science Matters Panelists : Dr. Shakti Goel , Chief Architect and Data Scientist, Yatra Online Ltd. Alok Shankar Pandey Group General Manager (Information Technology) & Chief C Information Security Officer, Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. Ankit Bose , Head of AI , NASSCOM
12:15 - 12:30	NETWORKING - COFFEE/TEA BREAK Executive Networking, Media Interactions and Partner Engagement	
12:30 - 12:45	VISION TALK Governing AI from the Ground Up: Building Accountable and Sovereign AI Systems	Shri Janardhana Swamy , Former Member of Parliament, Former Member of Council of IITs
12:45 - 01:15	LEADERSHIP-LED PANEL DISCUSSION Governing AI Responsibly: Balancing Innovation, Risk & Trust	Moderator : Prakhar Garg, Editorial, The Times Group Panelists : Saakshar Duggal , Global AI Leaders Forum, AI Governance and Law Expert Jibu Elias , Country Lead - India, Mozilla Foundation Shubhradeep Nandi , Co-Founder & CEO, ResponCibleAI Chandni Nanda , Associate Director - Lead AI/ML, United Health Group
01:15 - 02:15	NETWORKING - LUNCH Curated Networking Tables, Investor Meetings and Innovation Showcase	



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02:30 – 03:00	CXO LEADERSHIP PANEL The Chief AI Officer Agenda: Scaling Enterprise AI Across Industries	Moderator : Chinmay D. Gavankar, Partner, EY Panelists : Sudhanshu Mittal , Head – CoE Gurugram & Director – Technical Solutions, NASSCOM Ramesh Narayanaswamy , Group President – Digital and Data Intelligence, Hinduja Group Limited Mr. L Venkata Subramaniam , CEO, Qbit Force and Former Head, IBM Quantum India Atul Rai , CEO and Co-founder, Staqu Technologies
03:00– 03:20	TED-STYLE TALK AI for Social Good: Turning Data into Public Impact	Avik Sarkar , Faculty and Senior Researcher, Indian School of Business and Former Head of Data Analytics Cell, NITI Aayog
03:20 – 03:50	EXECUTIVE CONVERSATION Inside the AI Boardroom: Lessons from Enterprise AI Transformation	Moderator : Ashok Kalra, Associate Director, Deloitte Panelists : Vikarm Malhotra , Director of AI Technology Strategy, Microsoft Ashwin Raguraman , Co-Founder and Partner, Bharat Innovation Fund Vicky Nanda , COO & Head International Business, NiramAI Health Analytix Harish Chandra , Hospitality and Travel Transformation Leader
03:50 – 04:10	TED TALK / FIRESIDE CHAT AI Beyond Tomorrow: The Next Decade of Human Progress	Raul John Aju , Founder of ThinkCraft Academy, Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Airealm Technologies
04:10 – 04:30	CLOSING REFLECTIONS Key Takeaways from the Day's Discussions	Sanjay Puri , Founder and Chairman, Knowledge Networks
04:30 – 05:00	NETWORKING HI-TEA Coffee, Networking and Innovation Showcase	
05:00 – 05:20	SPECIAL ADDRESS Inaugural Special Address by Chief Guest	Chief Guest
05:20 – 05:45	JURY FELICITATION Appreciation and Felicitation of Jury Panel	Sanjay Puri , Founder and Chairman, Knowledge Networks
05:45 – 07:00	THE UNIVERSAL AI AWARDS 2026 – INDIA CHAPTER Grand Awards Ceremony	
07:00 ONWARDS	COCKTAIL RECEPTION Networking with Award Winners, Speakers, Investors and Global Delegates	
07:30 ONWARDS	UNIVERSAL AI AWARDS GALA DINNER Dinner and High-Level Networking with AI Leaders from across the Ecosystem	