

AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

[HTTPS://AIFORUM.MY.CANVA.SITE/LINKTREE](https://aiforum.my.canva.site/linktree)

Vong Sokchearavy
Say Vithya Arthur



Friday, February 21, 2025
ISSUE NO. 20



Prompt: Meak Bochea, internationally recognized as Magha Puja or Lord Buddha Day, is observed on the full moon of the third month in the traditional Khmer calendar. This sacred day marks the Buddha's proclamation of Buddhism's core principles in India in 588 BC, just nine months after attaining enlightenment.

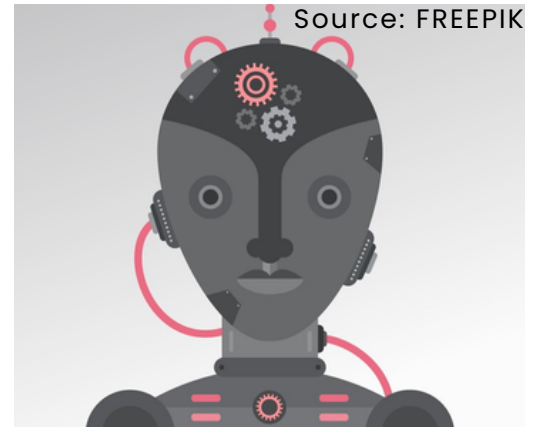
Photo Credit: ChatGPT

01/07

1. At AI Summit, diplomats and Pharrell mull destiny of tech revolution

Source: [United Nations](#)

The AI Action Summit in Paris highlighted the urgent need for equitable AI governance, with UN Secretary-General António Guterres warning that AI's power is concentrated in the hands of a few, deepening global divides. He emphasized the importance of AI in bridging development gaps and accelerating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while calling for sustainable AI infrastructure to reduce environmental impact. The summit also explored AI's economic and commercial potential, with industry leaders stressing its role in personalized commerce and U.S. officials cautioning against excessive regulation. Additionally, discussions underscored AI's growing energy demands, urging global cooperation for cleaner, more sustainable power solutions.



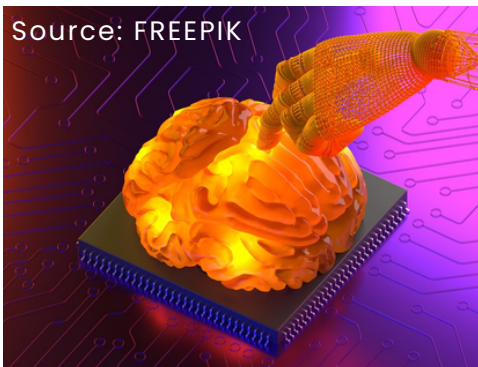
Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

United Nations. (2025, February 11). *At AI Summit, diplomats and Pharrell mull destiny of tech revolution.* <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/02/1159996>

2. Pope to Paris Summit: Ensure human oversight of AI decision making

Source: [Vatican News](#)



Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

Lubov, D. C. (2025, February 11). Pope to Paris Summit: Ensure human oversight of AI decision making. *Vatican News.* <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-02/pope-francis-to-artificial-intelligence-action-summit-in-paris.html>

Pope Francis, in his message to the AI Action Summit in Paris, emphasized the need for human oversight in AI decision-making to prevent threats to human dignity. He urged global leaders to ensure AI serves as a tool for development, poverty reduction, and cultural preservation while addressing its ethical and energy concerns. Highlighting the distinction between algorithms and human sentiment, he warned against AI-driven manipulation and called for inclusive AI governance that considers marginalized voices. Ultimately, he stressed that humanity must remain at the core of AI's evolution.

3. Government opens up bidding for AI growth zones

Source: [Computer Weekly](#)



Source: FREEPIK

The UK government is inviting local and regional authorities to bid for AI growth zone status as part of Labour's AI Opportunities Action Plan. These zones will accelerate AI-led development in deindustrialized areas with existing or potential energy infrastructure. The initiative includes fast-tracking planning permissions for datacenters and energy infrastructure, with a goal of scaling zones to 500MW+ capacity. Proposals from energy providers and tech firms will shape the final site selection later in 2025. Interest has emerged from Scotland, Wales, and northern England, but scaling startups remains a challenge in the UK despite strong research and development.

Reference:

Saran, C. (2025, February 10). Government opens up bidding for AI growth zones. *ComputerWeekly.com*.
<https://www.computerweekly.com/news/366619073/Government-opens-up-bidding-for-AI-growth-zones>

4. Daily News Digest: Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt Warns AI Risks

Source: [CommonWealth Magazine](#)



Source: FREEPIK

Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt warns of AI's potential dangers, emphasizing the risk of "rogue states" or bad actors using AI for cyber and biological attacks, referencing an "Osama bin Laden scenario" to highlight the urgency of global AI governance. He supports US export controls on AI-related microchips, reflecting AI's role in geopolitical competition and national security. Meanwhile, China's rapid adoption of DeepSeek AI demonstrates AI's growing influence in industries like finance, telecommunications, and automotive, underscoring its transformative power. As AI continues to shape global business and security landscapes, the need for balanced policies that foster innovation while preventing misuse becomes increasingly critical.

Reference:

CommonWealth Magazine. (2025, February 14). *Daily News Digest: Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt Warns AI Risks*.
<https://english.cw.com.tw/article/article.action?id=3961>

5. Excessive regulation could 'kill' AI industry, JD Vance tells government leaders at Paris summit

Source: [CNN Business](#)

At the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit in Paris, U.S. Vice President JD Vance warned that excessive regulation could "kill" the AI industry, urging global leaders to adopt a pro-innovation approach rather than focusing on strict controls. This aligns with the Trump administration's recent repeal of Biden-era AI safeguards, signaling a shift toward AI-driven economic growth over regulatory caution.

Vance emphasized AI's transformative potential, advocating for education in AI management and ensuring AI remains free from ideological bias while boosting U.S. dominance in AI chip manufacturing. While acknowledging AI risks, he urged optimism over restriction, contrasting with the EU AI Act, which enforces strict limitations on high-risk AI applications.

This speech highlights the growing U.S.-EU divide on AI governance, with the U.S. prioritizing unrestricted AI development to maintain its global leadership.



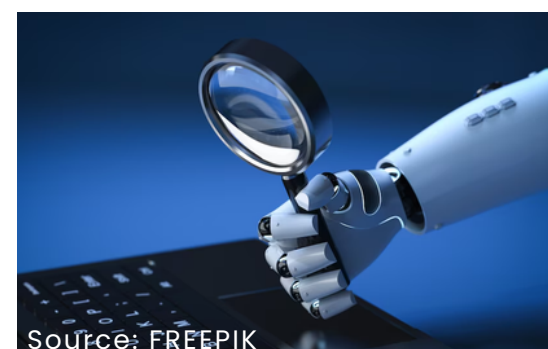
Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

Dmitracova, O. (2025, February 11). Excessive regulation could 'kill' AI industry, JD Vance tells government leaders at Paris summit. *CNN Business*. <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/02/11/tech/jd-vance-ai-regulation-paris-intl/index.html>

6. How far would you trust AI to make important decisions? Research suggests statistical literacy shapes trust

Source: [Tech Xplore](#)



Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

University of South Australia. (2025, February 17). How far would you trust AI to make important decisions? Research suggests statistical literacy shapes trust. *Tech Xplore*. <https://techxplore.com/news/2025-02-ai-important-decisions-statistical-literacy.html>

AI trust varies depending on stakes: people are comfortable with AI in low-risk decisions (like music recommendations) but hesitant in high-stakes areas (like healthcare or hiring). Statistical literacy plays a crucial role—those with a better grasp of AI's pattern-based nature trust it less for critical choices but more for minor ones. As AI adoption grows, improving public understanding of its strengths and biases is vital. AI summaries, when transparent and well-explained, help users make informed decisions by delivering relevant, jargon-free insights that align with their needs.

7. AI predicts preterm birth risk with 82% accuracy

Source: [News-Medical.net](https://www.news-medical.net)

AI-driven models, particularly linear support vector machines (SVMs), have shown an 82% accuracy in predicting preterm birth risks before symptoms appear. This highlights the growing role of AI in preventive healthcare, enabling earlier medical interventions and potentially improving neonatal outcomes. However, the study emphasizes the importance of selecting the right level of algorithmic complexity, as overly complex models struggled due to limited dataset size. Understanding AI's limitations is crucial, as predictions depend on data quality, feature selection, and statistical methodologies. Public awareness and statistical literacy are essential to ensure accurate interpretation and responsible use of AI-driven medical insights. AI summaries provide clear explanations, helping healthcare professionals and patients make informed decisions, fostering trust in algorithmic decision-making.



Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

Francisco de Souza, H. (2025, February 17). AI predicts preterm birth risk with 82% accuracy. *News-Medical.net*. <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20250217/AI-predicts-preterm-birth-risk-with-8225-accuracy.aspx>

8. AI becoming more widely used in Japan's fashion industry

Source: [The Phnom Penh Post](https://www.phnompenhpost.com)

AI is becoming increasingly integrated into Japan's fashion industry, with generative AI tools assisting in pattern creation, model generation, and apparel design. Designers like Yoshio Kubo use AI to generate creative foundations but add personal touches to maintain originality. Companies such as Toyoshima & Co. leverage AI to accelerate design processes, significantly reducing revision times and enhancing quality.

However, the industry faces challenges, particularly in intellectual property protection, as no national guidelines exist to prevent counterfeiting or design theft. While AI-driven innovations promise to reshape fashion, concerns remain about their impact on human creativity. As AI adoption grows, stakeholders must balance efficiency with ethical and legal considerations to safeguard originality and industry integrity.



Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

Asia News Network. (2025, February 18). AI becoming more widely used in Japan's fashion industry. *The Phnom Penh Post*. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/international/ai-becoming-more-widely-used-in-japan-s-fashion-industry>

9. Is Cambodia Ready to Integrate AI in Education?

Source: [Kiripost](#)

Cambodia is taking steps toward integrating AI in education through the Digital Education Strategy for Schools (DESS), launched at the EdTech Summit Cambodia 2025. The initiative aims to enhance digital literacy and equip students with AI skills essential for the evolving job market.

Minister Hang Chuon Naron emphasized the importance of AI tools like ChatGPT in education but warned of the risks if students lack digital literacy. While AI is expected to transform jobs globally, Cambodia still faces challenges, including a digital divide, teacher shortages, and limited infrastructure.

Currently, AI-driven management systems are used in over 300 schools, and collaborations with companies like Cellcard aim to expand access. However, with only 22% of schools having functional computers and rural areas facing connectivity issues, experts stress the need for private sector involvement and community-driven solutions to ensure equal access to digital learning nationwide.



Source: FREEPIK

Reference:

Meas, M. (2025, February 18). Is Cambodia Ready to Integrate AI in Education?. *Kiripost*.
<https://kiripost.com/stories/is-cambodia-ready-to-integrate-ai-in-education>

PUBLICATIONS

AIF Insights No. 2 (2025) | China's AI Sputnik Moment: Lessons for a World in Transition

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, R. (2025, January 30). *China's AI Sputnik Moment: Lessons for a World in Transition*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/?publication=aif-insights-no-2-2025-chinas-ai-sputnik-moment-lessons-for-a-world-in-transition>

China's development of DeepSeek, a competitive AI model emerging despite U.S. sanctions and technological restrictions, represents a modern "Sputnik moment" in artificial intelligence. This paper explores how China's strategic investment, policy coordination, and resilience in overcoming semiconductor shortages propelled its AI advancements. Unlike fragmented efforts in the West, China's unified approach, localization strategy, and prioritization of talent have created a competitive edge in AI governance. The paper highlights broader lessons for global technological growth, emphasizing innovation under constraints, the significance of digital sovereignty, and the evolving geopolitical implications of AI supremacy in an increasingly multipolar world.

References

1. United Nations. (2025, February 11). *At AI Summit, diplomats and Pharrell mull destiny of tech revolution*. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/02/1159996>
2. Lubov, D. C. (2025, February 11). Pope to Paris Summit: Ensure human oversight of AI decision making. *Vatican News*. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-02/pope-francis-to-artificial-intelligence-action-summit-in-paris.html>
3. Saran, C. (2025, February 10). Government opens up bidding for AI growth zones. *ComputerWeekly.com*. <https://www.computerweekly.com/news/366619073/Government-opens-up-bidding-for-AI-growth-zones>
4. CommonWealth Magazine. (2025, February 14). *Daily News Digest: Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt Warns AI Risks*. <https://english.cw.com.tw/article/article.action?id=3961>
5. Dmitracova, O. (2025, February 11). Excessive regulation could 'kill' AI industry, JD Vance tells government leaders at Paris summit. *CNN Business*. <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/02/11/tech/jd-vance-ai-regulation-paris-intl/index.html>
6. University of South Australia. (2025, February 17). How far would you trust AI to make important decisions? Research suggests statistical literacy shapes trust. *Tech Xplore*. <https://techxplore.com/news/2025-02-ai-important-decisions-statistical-literacy.html>
7. Francisco de Souza, H. (2025, February 17). AI predicts preterm birth risk with 82% accuracy. *News-Medical.net*. <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20250217/AI-predicts-preterm-birth-risk-with-8225-accuracy.aspx>
8. Asia News Network. (2025, February 18). AI becoming more widely used in Japan's fashion industry. *The Phnom Penh Post*. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/international/ai-becoming-more-widely-used-in-japan-s-fashion-industry>
9. Meas, M. (2025, February 18). Is Cambodia Ready to Integrate AI in Education?. *Kiripost*. <https://kiripost.com/stories/is-cambodia-ready-to-integrate-ai-in-education>
10. Chhem, R. (2025, January 30). *China's AI Sputnik Moment: Lessons for a World in Transition*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/?publication=aif-insights-no-2-2025-chinas-ai-sputnik-moment-lessons-for-a-world-in-transition>