

ATHARVA ROBOTICS CENTER

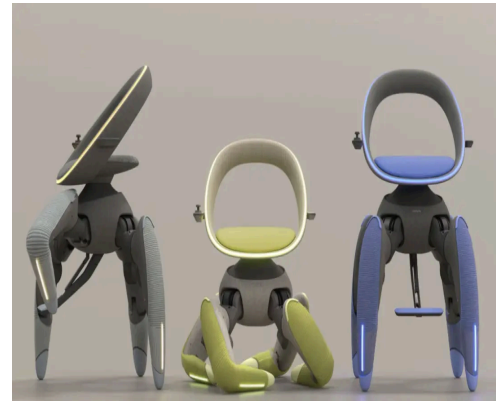
Daily News on Innovation & Technology

6th November, 2025

Walk Me: Toyota stuns world with robot chair that walks, climbs, and folds itself

By Kaif Shaikh, November 04, 2025

Toyota has displayed a revolutionary mobility concept called Walk Me, a four-legged autonomous chair that walks where wheels cannot. Presented at the Japan Mobility Show 2025, the device aims to address the everyday challenges faced by people with reduced mobility, such as climbing stairs, moving over uneven ground, or climbing into a car.



Chinese EV maker Xpeng to launch robotaxis, humanoid robots with self-developed AI chips

By Evelyn Cheng, November 05, 2025

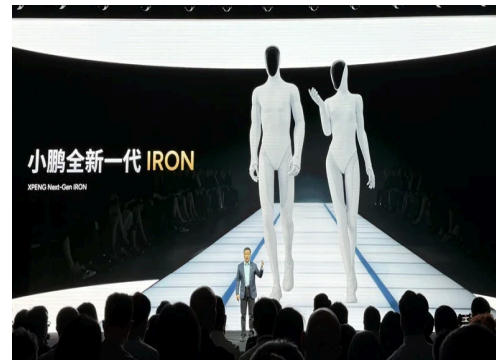
Guangzhou, CHINA — Chinese electric car company Xpeng plans to launch robotaxis next year after previously claiming it wouldn't be a real business in the near future and took the wraps off of its latest humanoid robot model. Xpeng's technology push mirrors one of its key rivals Tesla, as the Guangzhou, China-headquartered company looks to position itself as more than just an electric car firm.



Xpeng Debuts Humanoid Robot With Synthetic Skin, Custom Body, And 2026 Release Date

By José Adorno, November 05, 2025

Chinese EV maker Xpeng continues to expand on its EVs and flying vehicle technologies, but it also unveiled the new generation of its IRON humanoid robots at its AI Day in Guangzhou, China. Xpeng unveiled the eighth generation of its robot initiative (and the third with a humanoid design), and it now plans to mass produce the latest models by late 2026.



[IBM Collaborates Across Four National Quantum Innovation Centers to Help Drive the Future of Quantum-Centric Supercomputing](#)

By IBM, November 04, 2025

Today, the United States Department of Energy (DoE) announced the continued funding of the National Quantum Information Science Research Centers (NQISRCs). We applaud the DoE for continuing to promote quantum science in the United States, and we are committed to the success of these centers and accelerating our country's global leadership in quantum computing.



[qBraid to Democratize Access to Quantum Computing Capabilities](#)

By Qzo Quantum , November 05, 2025

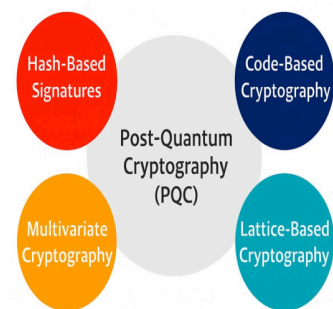
Quantum computers have the capacity to model novel molecules and weather patterns more accurately than any computer today. They may also one day speed artificial intelligence algorithms with a far reduced energy footprint. However, getting started with quantum computing can be daunting, from securing access to specialized hardware to learning how to use the growing number of quantum software platforms available.



[QuSecure's All-in-One Platform for Proactive Post-Quantum Cryptography Migration](#)

By Filippo Di Giovanni , November 05, 2025

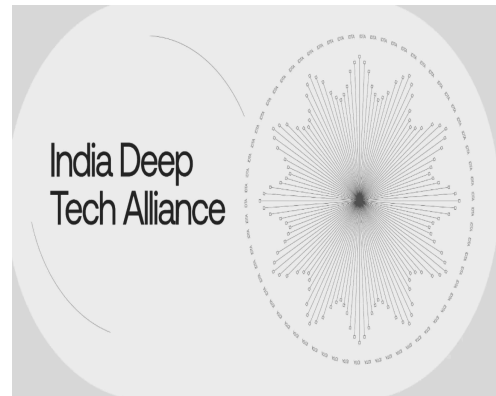
Quantum computing stocks continue to be volatile heading into third-quarter earnings reports. The companies are still unprofitable for the most part as they aim to advance the technology. IonQ (IONQ) reports earnings after the market close on Wednesday. Meanwhile, D-Wave Quantum (QBTS) reports early on Nov. 6. Rigetti Computing (RGTI) reports on Nov. 10, with Quantum Computing (QUBT) due on Nov. 14.



[NVIDIA and Qualcomm Ventures Join \\$1B India Deep Tech Alliance to Accelerate AI and Semiconductor Innovation](#)

By Filippo Di Giovanni , November 05, 2025

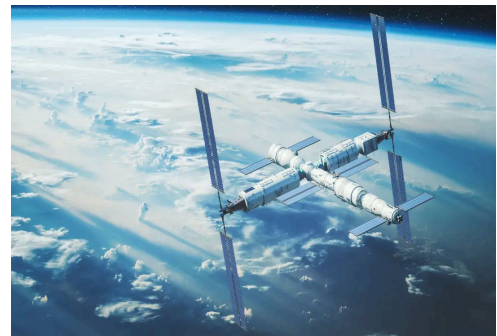
Nvidia and Qualcomm Ventures have joined the India Deep Tech Alliance (IDTA), a coalition of U.S. and Indian investors committing over \$1 billion to support India's emerging deep tech sector. The alliance, led by Celesta Capital, launched in September to align with India's new ₹1 trillion (\$12 billion) national Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) program.



[China tests inflatable 'space factory' module for in-orbit mass production](#)

By Chris Young , November 04, 2025

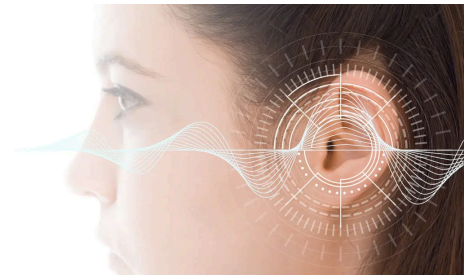
A team of scientists in China has completed ground tests of an inflatable, reconfigurable space station module that could enable large-scale industrial production in orbit. The new module features an innovative design that allows it to be launched in a tightly folded configuration. Once in orbit, it inflates to form a large space factory platform. The new platform could further boost China's space ambitions.



[Insect-inspired computer model teaches AI to process sight and sound like humans](#)

By Aamir Kholam , November 04, 2025

A new computer model developed at the University of Liverpool can merge sight and sound much like the human brain does. Inspired by biology, it could shape the next generation of artificial intelligence by teaching machines to perceive the world more naturally.



News Articles

When Artificial Intelligence becomes truly human



**CHAITANYA K
PRASAD**

There are moments in history when invention meets intention—when technology doesn't just advance but awakens. Artificial intelligence stands at one such moment.

There is a lot of talk about algorithms, competition, and existential risk in boardrooms and on the news. But in addition to all the hype, a more important and quiet question is coming up: can AI help people thrive instead of just surviving? In February 2026, New Delhi will host the AI Impact Summit, which will look at how technology could change people's lives, the environment, and progress. Instead of arguing about how machines can take over, the world will come together to talk about how they can heal, include, and lift people up. The challenge is not just to make AI smarter, but also to make it 'Jan AI'—people-centred, participatory, and purposeful. The seeds of that idea are already there. Doctors can find diseases early with the help of an AI-powered tool in a district hospital. A farmer in a small village uses an app that gets satellite data to predict when it will rain. A digital tutor explains a maths problem again in the child's first language.

These aren't stories about the future; they're peeks into a present that is slowly changing through lines of code that aren't visible and acts of kindness that are. AI now predicts cyclones before they strike, manages traffic to cut emissions, and tracks deforestation in real time. It helps cities breathe cleaner air and farmers grow more food. Yet beyond these applications lies something deeper—the democratisation of access. For the first time, intelligence itself can be shared. A voice assistant empowers a person with disability to access services. Once unattainable, an AI tool helps a rural business owner obtain credit. AI that is empathetically designed improves societies by making them more equitable in addition to making systems smarter.

The global AI map is still not level, though. Its centres of creation are concentrated in a few wealthy nations, trained on datasets that mirror privilege. When algorithms fail to understand Hindi or Swahili, or optimise farming for temperate climates, they reveal an uncomfortable truth: AI reflects the world that builds it.

To change that, the Global South must move from testing ground to co-author. Its languages, cultures, and lived realities hold both the data

and the wisdom to make AI truly universal. The shift isn't only moral; it's practical. In the absence of diversity, intelligence is not intelligence but limitation. In this way, India embodies the world's complexity and hope. With 1.4 billion people, hundreds of languages, and a digital revolution that is extending to even the most remote regions of the nation, India offers the ideal setting for inclusive innovation. The goal of the Government's IndiaAI Mission is to make AI beneficial to all citizens, not just those with connections. Technology builds capability, but communication builds trust. To make Jan AI real, we must translate the abstract into the accessible—turning algorithms into stories, data into dialogue, and ethics into everyday empathy. Just as Swachh Bharat turned cleanliness into a civic emotion and Digital India made technology a shared dream, Jan AI must become a people's movement—a conversation that demystifies, decentralises, and democratises intelligence. Awareness campaigns can show how AI improves lives. Community radio, vernacular content, and local influencers can make it relatable. Storytelling in schools and skilling programmes can nurture curiosity and caution together. When citizens understand AI's promise and pitfalls, they participate not out of fear but with a sense of ownership.

A movement like Jan AI cannot be top-down. It must be expressed in multiple languages, felt in daily interactions, and communicated through a range of media. By promoting ethical data sharing, influencing local applications, and demanding accountability, it should not only encourage citizens to use AI but also to co-create it. By presenting real-life examples of nurses, teachers, and farmers using AI for good, digital media, motion pictures, and popular culture can humanise these possibilities. Each story and creation acts as a spark for a wider awakening, showing how inclusivity can guide intelligence to become collective.

In a world anxious about what machines can do, the New Delhi Summit asks a different question: what can we do with them—for each other? With empathy and inclusivity, technology cannot be the end of humanity's story but rather the start of its next chapter. India's leadership offers a chance to direct the world's discourse. If the answer begins here, in the heart of the Global South, perhaps 'Jan AI' will usher in the era of Artificial Intelligence where the solution starts here, in the centre of the Global South.

And perhaps, just possibly, the most human era will finally dawn, driven by dharma as well as data.

The writer is a former civil servant, who writes on cinema and strategic communication. With inputs from Zoya Ahmad and Vaishnavi Srinivasan

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Source: Pioneer English Delhi Newspaper, 06-11-2025

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Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BeiFPirVWlcpjJoFtOUJKq5Fc9WxH28N/view>

Digital discipline: Crafting minds beyond the glow of screens

Our educational mission is not just to prepare youth for jobs; we are charged with equipping them for life. It is essential that we transform screen addiction into opportunities for skill development and sports engagement



DINESH SOOD

India's youth is often hailed as its greatest asset, yet excessive digital habits are jeopardising this potential. As screens bombard our children — from smartphones and streaming services to gaming and endless scrolling — a troubling pattern is emerging: attention spans are shrinking, social skills are fading, and physical health is deteriorating.

As a dedicated skill alliance partner with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), we directly witness this transformation among thousands of young learners across India and abroad. Students entering our training programmes today do not lack aptitude; they lack attention. Their curiosity is high, but their focus is fractured. The battle against screen addiction extends beyond parental concern; it is an urgent educational, social, and national priority.

Screen Dependence: The New Learning Deficit

According to a 2023 UNICEF India study, children aged 10 to 17 now spend an alarming average of 4.4 hours a day on recreational screen time — up from just 2 hours before the pandemic. The World Health Organisation warns that prolonged screen exposure during formative years can stunt brain development, hinder language acquisition, and lead to chronic sleep deprivation.

Closer to home, counsellors are reporting a disturbing increase in anxiety, irritability, and plummeting grades — classic symptoms of what psychologists call "digital fatigue." In training centres, instructors are increasingly observing that learners struggle to engage in sustained physical or skill-based activities, whether related to hospitality tasks or creative design. The irony is stark: while the digital economy opens new doors, unchecked digital dependence undermines the concentration and discipline vital to seizing those opportunities.

From Addiction to Action

Skill training is the definitive antidote to passive screen time. When learners shift



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ACCORDING TO A 2023 UNICEF INDIA STUDY, CHILDREN AGED 10 TO 17 NOW SPEND AN ALARMING AVERAGE OF 4.4 HOURS A DAY ON RECREATIONAL SCREEN TIME — UP FROM JUST 2 HOURS BEFORE THE PANDEMIC

The writer is Co-Founder and Managing Director of Qsine International, a Training Partner with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

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from merely consuming content to actively creating value — from tapping screens to handling tools, engaging in the performing arts, mastering grooming tasks, working with robotics kits, or coding — they rediscover their purpose. Our extensive experience across India and numerous international partnerships demonstrates that hands-on skill learning revolutionises not just employability but also lifestyle. Students who once squandered their evenings on gaming are now developing essential grooming and makeover skills, crafting innovative wearable prototypes and jewellery, repairing drones, or volunteering as sports coaches.

The focus must move from chasing fleeting dopamine hits to committing to deliberate practice. This vision aligns with our mission to cultivate a skilled, confident, and future-ready youth base that recognises learning as a lifelong, balanced pursuit.

It is imperative for training academies to incorporate Digital Discipline modules into every skill programme. Before starting technical training, students must undergo a rigorous seven-day "Detox to Focus" workshop, emphasising screen-

time awareness, self-regulation, and daily movement goals (a minimum of 45 minutes of sport or yoga). They will also learn to use technology mindfully — transforming phones into tools, not toys — and participate in peer mentoring circles to discuss vital topics like sleep, focus, and motivation. The results will be undeniable.

Within just one year, we can expect marked improvements in attendance, hands-on performance scores, and overall mood and discipline among trainees. The message is clear: when training becomes experiential and engaging, screens lose their grip.

Digital Inclusion with Human Connection

The global conversation about excessive screen use is escalating, and it is time for decisive action. Japan's Ministry of Education has taken the critical step of capping screen exposure in schools, while employers in the UK are proactively offering "digital detox" retreats for their staff. India must seize this moment to lead with a robust model — "Digital Inclusion with Human Connection." By

directly linking the National Skill Development Corporation's (NSDC) skill mission to public health goals, we can unequivocally demonstrate that productivity and well-being are not opposing forces; they are powerful allies. The future workforce will demand more than just coding skills; essential human qualities like concentration, empathy, and teamwork are non-negotiable for success — and they cannot be nurtured through a touchscreen alone.

Fostering Focus as a 21st-Century Skill

India's next major initiative in skill development must address attention as a paramount frontier. We must establish focus, discipline, and emotional balance as measurable competencies within our educational frameworks. Policymakers will have to incentivise skill development partners to integrate mental wellness and physical activity modules into their curricula. Let us implement national awards to recognise "screen-light" schools and academies that excel in promoting digital balance programmes.

Private organisations should be mobilised to create impactful, expert-led

FIRST COLUMN

videos in Hindi and regional languages that emphasise digital hygiene and encourage sports participation, specifically targeting youth in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

Establishing a Healthier Digital Culture

The recent advisory from Haryana Police advocating for screen-free routines in families is a vital and timely intervention. Yet, to achieve lasting change, this initiative must extend far beyond the family unit to encompass schools, skill development centres, and community programmes. Here is how the skill development ecosystem must rise to the challenge:

- Integrate "Digital Wellbeing" into All NSQF-Certified Courses: Every trainee — whether in retail, healthcare, or engineering — must learn how to effectively balance screen use and productivity.
- Launch Community Sports and Skill Festivals: Our academies must collaborate with district administrations to create "Screen-Free Sundays" that blend local sports, skill exhibitions, and career workshops.

- Implement Parental Engagement Sessions: Parents deserve guidance on managing digital behavior just as much as their children.

- Promote Hybrid Learning Wisely: Digital tools should be leveraged to enhance learning but must be complemented with tactile, human interaction to engage students fully.

The Screen as a Tool, Not a Trap

As trainers, mentors, and leaders in nation-building, we must unequivocally declare that technology is a servant, not a master.

Our educational mission is not just to prepare youth for jobs; we are charged with equipping them for life. It is essential that we transform screen addiction into opportunities for skill development and sports engagement.

By doing so, we will not only preserve attention spans but also foster self-reliance, creativity, and a strong sense of community. The solution demands active engagement, skilled craftsmanship, and a laser-focused mindset, rather than promoting isolation. We can no longer afford to have unchecked screen usage; it is time for decisive action to create a balanced and healthy digital present and future.

Source: Pioneer English Newspaper, 05-11-2025

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