



Will Voice AI Be The Great Equaliser?

The Opportunity



The 2011 census data documented 121 languages across India. The linguistic diversity poses a significant technological challenge to inclusive digital access.

India's digital ecosystem is also expanding rapidly. By 2030, the country is forecast to have 1.2 bn smartphone users, many of whom will speak local languages. Voice technologies can enable equitable digital access for such populations.

Bhashini Project

Bhashini is an AI-powered language translation platform developed by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology under its National Language Translation Mission. It's working towards developing voice-first multilingual solutions including chatbots, translation tools, and facilitating services in regional languages. The open-source VoicERA Voice AI Stack on Bhashini infrastructure was launched at the AI Impact Summit.



Farmer Assistance



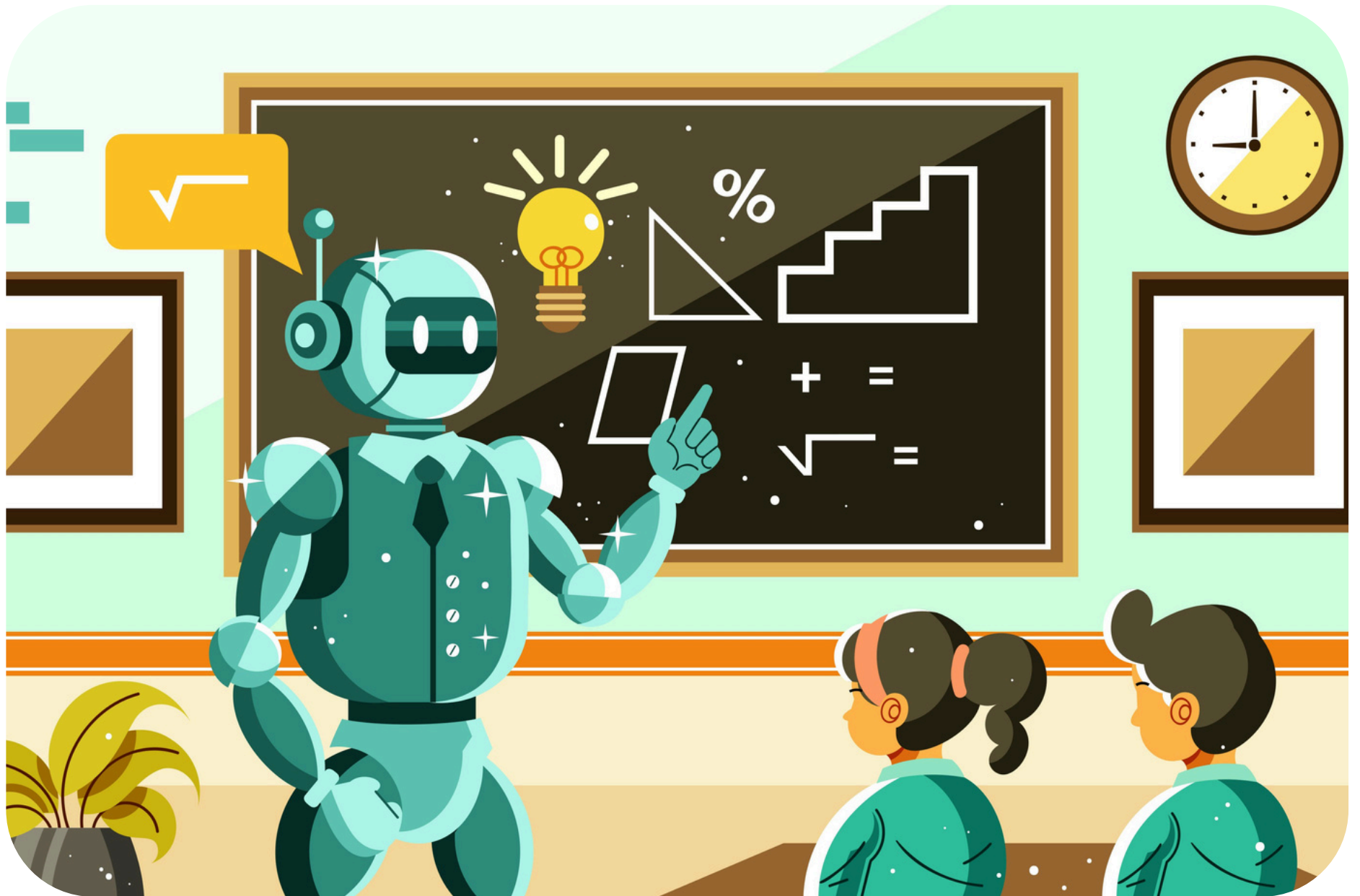
Apps like FarmerChat, KoroAI and Kisan Mithr assist farmers in getting answers to their queries via voice or even sharing images and support multiple regional languages. They inform them about agricultural schemes, market price, crop health, pest identification and best practices.

AI For Seniorcare

Apps like SentioAI, Saarthi AI Assistant and SeniorCare AI Voice Reminder app offer multilingual support for senior citizens. They focus on automated check-ins and reminders, offer conversation and companionship, give information, and track appointments.



The AI Tutor



Apps like ExtraMarks SmartClass Plus and Indilingo help students learn in regional languages.

Google's NotebookLM also supports languages like Marathi, Bengali, Tamil, Maithili and Konkani. It can be used to generate AI-powered, podcast-style audio summaries from uploaded documents.