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Artificial Intelligence in India's Legal System: Navigating Accountability, Liability, and Legal Voids

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ABSTRACT

Artificial Intelligence can transform the current sluggish Indian legal system, by enhancing the efficiency and pace of court proceedings and legal research. However, its integration raises concerns regarding accountability, liability and legal gaps. This paper explores the significance of integrating AI in the legal field, and the key challenges associated with its application in legal research and the judiciary. It also examines the current Indian laws and regulations governing AI in the judiciary and legal research. It also examines the responsibility for errors in AI generated research and judgments. The paper concludes with key findings and recommendations on how the government should regulate AI in the Indian legal system.

KEYWORDS

Artificial Intelligence, Judiciary, Regulation, Accountability, Legal-Tech.

INTRODUCTION

Artificial Intelligence can be described as “allowing a machine to behave in such a way that it would be called intelligent if a human being behaved in such a way”. This concept was introduced by John McCarthy, who coined the term “Artificial Intelligence”. Today, machine AI is a common tool in workplaces, displacing humans by completing multiple tasks in less time with enhanced quality. Unlike the industrial revolution, which automated physical labor and replaced muscles with giant engines, the AI-powered revolution is automating mental tasks. Although AI is passively benefiting blue-collar jobs, it is playing an active role in transitioning white-collar jobs previously thought safe from

automation. Some of these professions are being reshaped by superhuman capabilities of AI, enabling tasks that were previously impossible, augmenting — and to some extent replacing — their human colleagues in offices. If we look at the field of law, which is based on picturing out a legal strategy and forming arguments using facts — and of course, critical thinking — is a good case in point. The concept of AI powered ‘robot lawyers’ has gained attraction, especially in recent years.¹ The potential benefits of utilizing AI in the law are significant. It can enhance attorney productivity and reduce financial errors. AI can be utilized to assist legal professionals in the near future, it is already being used to review contracts, find relevant documents in the discovery process, and conduct legal research. In recent times, AI has been used to draft contracts, aid in legal research, predict legal outcomes and even suggest judicial decisions about sentencing or bail.

It can also be used to enhance the efficiency and speed of legal research and judicial decision-making Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools can assist in formulating oral arguments presented before the court, court proceedings, and displaying real-time courtroom proceedings on monitors. AI can also be used to generate transcriptions; such content must be reviewed by qualified employees to ensure accuracy and then it should be submitted to the registry. AI can also be used to streamline case filing, wherein the court will receive digital submissions, this makes it easier to track case history and reduce the long working hours of court clerks. AI can accurately assess the outcome of a lawsuit, which would be beneficial for lawyers determine in advance whether to take a case, this would save significant time and financial resources for both client and lawyer. Moreover, if the outcome is predictable, case processing could be partly or even largely automated using AI, precisely because the result is largely or entirely certain.

In family and employment matters, the majority of routine cases. In these cases, judges assess the legal validity of the parties, AI can facilitate the digital filling of cases, making it easier for parties to proceed with their matter. These techniques were utilized during the COVID-19 pandemic, wherein virtual hearings and e-filing were used to facilitate the working of courtrooms. AI tools can improve cash flow, unclog processes that impede justice, and, in many situations, make administrative tasks easier. However,

¹ Acorn Money, *Artificial Intelligence: Robots Replacing Lawyers*, Leislat.io (Feb. 28, 2019), <https://medium.com/leislat-io/artificial-intelligence-robots-replacing-lawyers-592e09ba15bf>.

the intention of AI is not to replace human intelligence in courts, expertise and final decision-making, AI will never be able to replace human reasoning, logic, or intellect in the judiciary in the foreseeable future.² Companies such as Lex Machina, have been using machine intelligence to predict insights on cases, judges and lawyers.

Despite these benefits AI is still not ready to replace human judgment in the legal profession. The risk of algorithm bias in the data that powers AI and the inability to understand the rationale behind AI-derived decisions according to a human understanding (i.e., explainability) must be addressed before AI can be fully integrated into legal profession.

METHODOLOGY

This research paper is based on secondary sources of research. It explores the integration of AI in the Indian legal system through various academic articles, research papers, case laws and reports. Data has been collected from official websites to ensure accuracy. The paper examines multiple studies to understand existing liability and challenges within Indian legal system. A logically analysis of the data various key findings, existing gaps and recommendations have been interpreted by researchers of this paper.

AI IN INDIA'S LEGAL SYSTEM: KEY APPLICATIONS

The emergence of Artificial intelligence has bought significant changes in the world, including the legal system. In India, a transformative shift can be seen in the use of AI to enhance the judiciary and law enforcement system. The integration of AI in the legal system has not only improved efficiency, accessibility, and decision-making but has also streamlined the operations, reduced the delays, increased access to justice for all.

Case backlogs, language barriers, and digitalization of the system are among the major challenges that the judiciary often come across. Technologies that have emerged with the advancement of AI- such as Machine Learning (ML), Natural Language Processing (NLP), Optical Character Recognition (OCR), and Predictive

² Suvigya Awasthy, Pintu Babu & Shubhangi Singh, *Application of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in the Indian Legal System: Use Cases for Judiciary, Law Firms, and Lawyers*, [Vol. 2 Issue 4] Int'l J. Innovative Res. & LegalStud.(2022),<https://ijirl.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/application-of-artificial-intelligence-and-machine-learning-in-the-indian-legal-system-use-cases-for-judiciary-law-firms-and-lawyers.pdf>.

Analytics-have facilitated the automation of administrative tasks, improved case tracking, and enhanced crime prevention.³

There are several initiatives of the judiciary that are acting as the catalysts in the evolution of legal landscape, these initiatives have increased the pace of the process, made them more efficient and enhanced transparency. The e-Courts Project (Phase III), AI-assisted legal translation, predictive policing, and AI-driven legal chatbots are such examples.

AI in the e-Courts Project (Phase III)

In order to modernize the functioning of judicial system through digital innovation, the Supreme Court has launched this initiative. Phase III of this initiative has incorporated with the advanced Artificial Intelligence. This was done to enhance case management and enhance administrative efficiency across the nation.

Implementation of AI in e-courts:

- **Automated case management:** In response to the growing demands on the judicial system, courts have adopted AI as an alternative to improve the operational flow and deliver the services more efficiently. AI-driven technologies not only assist in automating existing tasks, but also help transform core processes such as scheduling, case management, and backlog mitigation. These technologies utilize predictive analytics, enabling them to anticipate potential disruptions and slowdowns. By examining historical case data and current case details, they can predict the probability of postponements, estimate case completion times and identify urgent cases. This could help to bring about a major shift in the productivity of administration and courts. AI algorithms prioritize the cases based on urgency, complexity, societal impact ensuring that the most pressing matters are addressed as early as possible.
- **Legal Research:** Cutting-edge AI technologies are being integrated into daily legal practice to support the demanding work of legal professionals. These AI tools go beyond conventional search functions, acting as sophisticated research assistants for judges and lawyers.

³ Press Information Bureau, *AI to play a key role in legal justice system, says Secretary, Department of Justice*, (June 12, 2024)

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2106239>.

The incorporation of advanced Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning in the judicial processes enables professionals efficiently to sift through vast legal databases, pinpoint relevant case precedents, and extract key information. This capability significantly reduces the often-time-consuming process of legal research, enabling professionals to focus on higher-level analysis and strategic decision-making.

- **Assistance in filing and court procedures:** In order to improve and enhance the handling of digital documents, court systems have been using a combination of Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and Natural Language Processing (NLP).⁴ These technologies automate the intake and filing of document, paving the way to quicker processing times and fewer errors compared to conventional methods.
- **Enhanced Accessibility Through AI-Powered User support:** Since the emergence of AI, court systems have been deploying AI chatbots and virtual assistants to provide 24/7 accessibility to case information and procedural guidance for litigants. This initiative has been formulated to make the judicial process more accessible and user-friendly, especially for individuals who are navigating the legal system for the first time.
- **AI Predictive Analytics:** By analyzing process of past court decisions and case details AI algorithms are being deployed to improve efficiency, getting predict possible case outcomes and evaluate the risk associated with case. This helps judges and legal professionals to apply their understanding more efficiently on the decision-making process, strategies formulation which overall enhances the proactive nature of the judicial framework.
- **AI system to read legal judgments:** Researchers at IIT Kharagpur have developed an artificial intelligence-aided method to read legal judgments, which can not only identify which laws are being violated but also in the process help minimize legal costs. It can provide legal guidance to the common man to determine whether pursuing a particular

⁴ Press Information Bureau, *AI to play a key role in legal justice system, says Secretary, Department of Justice*, (June 12, 2024) <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2106239>.

case in court has merit. Using machine learning, they have enabled two DL models to understand the rhetorical roles of sentences in a legal case judgment.

ROLE OF AI IN LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY

English is the primary language used in the Indian judiciary system, which poses a barrier in a country where many regional languages are spoken across different states. The Indian judiciary, through AI, working to overcome this challenge. Technologies like Legal Translation Tools (LTT) are being deployed to make legal documents and judgments more accessible. Major developments after its deployment:

- After the LTT deployment, over 31,184 Supreme Court cases have been translated into 16 regional languages including Hindi, Tamil, Marathi, Bengali and Kannada.⁵
- Around 4983 cases of High courts have been translated using the LTT.⁶
- The portal named e-SCR hosts these translated cases, making access to legal information easier.⁷

SC JUDGEMENTS AVAILABLE IN VERNACULAR LANGUAGES

Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software (SUVAS), an AI-powered bot is being used in Supreme Court to translate judgments in local vernacular languages, this initiative aims to enhance access to justice by promoting familiarity with legal issues and improving the general public's legal understanding. The apex court has started translating daily orders and rulings into nine Indian languages including Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu.⁸

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIME PREVENTION

Deploying AI in policing and law enforcement has worked wonders in the field of crime investigation, detection, and surveillance. Transformation in law enforcement:

⁵ Press Information Bureau, *AI to play a key role in legal justice system, says Secretary, Department of Justice*, (June 12, 2024)

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2106239> .

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Id.

⁸ Samiksha Mehra, *Five Notable Applications of Legal AI in India*, INDIA Ai (Mar. 27, 2025), <https://indiaai.gov.in/article/five-notable-applications-of-legal-ai-in-india>.

- **Crime prevention:** AI-driven technologies help law enforcement agencies analyze historical crime data, anticipate potential hotspots, and analyze criminal patterns, paving better ways to implement preventive measures.
- **Advancement in investigation approaches:** Technologies such as AI Driven drones are being deployed for automated crime scene investigation, surveillance and suspect tracking. The integration of facial recognition systems with national crime databases fosters rapid identification. AI fosters forensic analysis which helps in the better examination of both physical and digital evidences.
- **Systematized legal process:** during the FIR filling process AI-driven speech-to-text assists in recording and case documentation. AI is also being deployed during the process of analyzing witness testimonies and courtroom evidence evaluation.
- **Crime data and intelligence integration:** AI has enhanced the working capacity of Crime and Criminal Tracking Network Systems (CCTNS) and facilitated seamless integration with e-Prisons and e-Forensics databases. These advancements provide a comprehensive, data-driven approach to crime tracking and intelligence.⁹

AI PORTAL FOR SUPREME COURT

SUPACE is an AI portal, which stands for Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Courts Efficiency, launched by the CJI SA Bobde, who describes it as a “perfect blend of human intelligence and machine learning.” It has been introduced with the purpose of enhancing the productivity of legal researchers and judges in India. This integration of artificial intelligence into the judicial domain aims accelerate court proceedings, improve efficiency, and reduce case backlogs ultimately speeding up justice delivery. It can help in research by extracting relevant information of the cases, reading case files, managing teamwork, and drafting case documents. It can identify facts, issues, and points of law from thousands of pages of documents within seconds. The AI-powered workflow of SUPACE consist of four parts:

- **File Preview:** This is search bot that browses through various files. The case files can be converted into text, and previewed through this bot.

⁹ Press Information Bureau, AI to play a key role.

- **Chatbot:** The bot uses text and voice input to provide easy summary of a case within minutes. By answering simple questions such as “What is the matter about?” or “Which fundamental rights of the petitioner are violated?”, this bot can preview various documents to answer such questions. Additionally, users can ask further questions for better understanding. The bot can cite the file making it easier for the user to check the source.
- **Logic Gate:** This fact extraction system for the chatbot is divided into four parts: Synopsis, FAQs, Evidence, and Case Law. The bot provides information about the case through overview, introduction, chronology, judgment, and analysis. With enough training the bot can explain the whole case to the user and will answer all the user’s questions.
- **Notebook:** This is the integrated word processor which truly makes the tool an end-to-end system. A brief summary of the case can be prepared by automatically generated by collating all information extracted from the database using AI. In addition, voice dictation can be used to prepare notes on this comprehensive drafting tool. As a result, a summary document can be generated in both digital and print formats without the need for manual typing.¹⁰

AI ACCOUNTABILITY: CHALLENGES IN INDIAN LAW

Ethical Concerns

The use of AI in legal practice raises significant ethical questions. AI systems rely on data to function, and if the data used to train AI models is biased or incomplete, the AI may perpetuate or even exacerbate these biases. For example, AI systems could unintentionally replicate biases present in historical legal decisions, leading to unfair outcomes. In India, where the legal system is grappling with issues related to caste, gender, and socio-economic disparities, it is crucial that AI systems are designed with fairness and equity in mind.

Ethical issues also extend to accountability. Who is responsible when AI systems make mistakes, particularly in legal matters that have serious consequences for individuals or organizations? In the Indian context, where legal decisions can have significant societal implications, establishing clear ethical guidelines for the

¹⁰ Samiksha Mehra, *AI is Set to Reform Justice Delivery in India*, **INDIA Ai** (Apr. 7, 2021), <https://indiaai.gov.in/article/ai-is-set-to-reform-justice-delivery-in-india>.

use of AI in law is essential to ensure justice is served fairly. A person is bound by code of conduct but AI is driven by data, not wisdom, and it has no regret for its actions, if AI makes a mistake, how can held it accountable in a way that ensures it recognizes and corrects its errors?

Data Privacy and Security

Legal data mostly consists of highly sensitive information, such as client details, legal strategies, case histories, and financial information. The use of AI to process this data raises concerns regarding privacy and security. If AI systems are not properly secured, the data may be manipulated or become vulnerable to cyber-attacks, leading to the leakage of confidential information.

The data privacy principle was established through landmark judgment, *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India (2017)* as a fundamental right protected under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. The judgment emphasized that personal data collection must be subject to strict safeguards to prevent unauthorized surveillance. However, AI-enabled surveillance tools, especially those linked to Aadhaar, still lack adequate regulatory frameworks to address potential abuses effectively. The right to privacy, as defined in the Puttaswamy case, includes the right to control one's personal data and limit the government's surveillance capabilities. Without comprehensive data protection laws tailored to AI, this right is at risk of erosion as AI surveillance continues to expand.

The Internet Freedom Foundation's (IFF) Report on AI Surveillance in India (2020) underscored the unchecked growth of AI surveillance in India. The report noted that without stringent regulatory oversight, surveillance could turn into a form of state control over citizens' behavior, thereby limiting personal freedoms. The report also warned that AI-based surveillance could lead to a "chilling effect," where individuals feel compelled to alter their behavior out of fear of being constantly monitored. This results in the infringement of Article 19 citizens' rights to free expression and association, cornerstones of democratic societies.¹¹

India is still in the process of enacting comprehensive data

¹¹ Aayush Bhardwaj & Heena Parveen, *AI, Privacy, and Justice: The Constitutional Challenges of Regulating AI in India*, 6 Indian J. L. & Legal Rsch. 3185 (2023), https://3fdef50c-add3-4615-a675-a91741bcb5c0.usrfiles.com/ugd/3fdef5_0fb235c1edb74a5ba26fb984be44d5e3.pdf.

protection laws, such as the Personal Data Protection Bill (PDPB). However, the regulations are still not stringent enough to guide how AI system should work in handling legal data. Legal professionals must ensure that AI-driven tools comply with privacy laws and safeguard sensitive information.

Biasness and discrimination

Notwithstanding its benefits in various aspects, AI also has negative impact. Data privacy, bias and discrimination are among those negative impacts. These are among the major concerns in the legal field. Here's breakdown of the key issues: Sources of biases and errors:

- *Biases because of training data:*
 - i. If the data used to train AI models contains historical or societal biases, the model will perpetuate these biases. For instance, if criminal data shows disproportionate convictions of certain demographics, the AI may inappropriately predict a higher rate of guilt for those particular groups.
 - ii. A more concerning use of AI is in advising judges on bail and sentencing decisions. One such application is the Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS). COMPAS and similar AI tools are used by criminal judges in many states to assess the recidivism risk of defendants or convicted persons in decisions on pre-trial detention, sentencing or early release. There is significant debate regarding the fairness and accuracy of these systems. According to a ProPublica study, such assessment tools appeared to be biased against Black prisoners, disproportionately flagging them as significantly more likely to reoffend than White prisoners

- *Fabricated information:*
 - i. AI language models can exhibit a tendency to generate hallucinations, fabricated or incorrect information and presented as factual. In a legal context it could manifest as case of citing non-existing case or misrepresentation of legal principles.

- ii. *Mata v. Avianca* is one of the examples where a lawyer relied on ChatGPT for legal research. As a result, he ended up citing a fabricated case.¹²
- *Inability to understand the context:*
 - i. AI models may struggle to comprehend the nuanced context of legal arguments and the evolving nature of legal precedents. They may commit the fallacy of overlooking crucial distinctions between cases or struggle to recognize when precedents have been overturned.
 - ii. Meticulous understanding of social, political, and ethical factors is vital for legal reasoning and AI may struggle to capture these complexities.
 - *Algorithm bias:*

Notwithstanding perfect data, the algorithm itself can still be biased. The process used by an algorithm to weigh certain factors, or to ignore others, can also introduce biases.

These biases in AI models can have a significant impact on the legal system. Biased research can result in unjust or discriminatory legal results, particularly in the areas like criminal sentencing, bail decisions, loan approvals. It can undermine the integrity of legal proceedings and deteriorate trust of people in the justice system. Over-reliance on AI-driven technologies without essential human oversight can lead to the acceptance of flawed legal arguments and the perpetuate legal errors.

Regulatory and Legal Framework

The most significant barrier to AI adoption in the Indian legal system is the absence of regulations in the AI field. Although some regulations exist, there are no dedicated laws in India regulating AI in legal practices. Legal professionals remain uncertain how to integrate AI into court proceedings, while ensuring transparency, fairness and due process. To integrate AI into Indian legal system, government must introduce specific laws to regulate AI while ensuring data privacy, algorithmic accountability and the standards for AI-driven decision-making. There is also scope for the evolution of legal profession to allow the integration of new technologies which align with the ethical principles of justice and

¹² Seyfarth Shaw LLP, *Update on the ChatGPT Case: Counsel Who Submitted Fake Cases Are Sanctioned*, (June 26, 2023) <https://www.seyfarth.com/news-insights/update-on-the-chatgpt-case-counsel-who-submitted-fake-cases-are-sanctioned.html>.

fairness.¹³

Contemporary challenges

In administrative and civil cases (including subdistrict/local/small claims court cases), case handling primarily depends on, (a) the complexity of the information in a case and (b) the degree of predictability of the outcome. A relatively large proportion of routine cases have a predictable outcome. A relatively large proportion of routine cases have predictable outcomes, making AI algorithms a viable option for such cases. However, if all cases are judged based on historical algorithms, then there can be no evolution in judicial decisions and AI may become outdated in addressing contemporary legal challenges, as it relies on past algorithms. If this method had been followed in the past, evolutionary judgements like *Keshwanand Bharti* would not have emerged.

Decisions of court are by human judges because of the public trust in judges' integrity and their esteemed position in the society. However, if the decisions of courts are driven by AI, then there would be a lack of trust in the minds of people. People would not believe it is true justice as the AI is incompetent to take decisions, as it has no human emotions and there are many times when the decisions are taken according to intuition of the judges and not as per the lines of law to reach its utmost duty of public welfare. Unlike a judge AI has not taken any exam it has not suffered, struggled for the position so it does not know the real worth of that position, raising concerns about the spirit of justice and faith in the legal system.

AI LIABILITY IN INDIA: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The nascent stages of AI liability in India and laws pertaining to it are being interpreted and adapted to solve the unique problems arose because of these rapidly evolving technologies.

The current legal landscape:

No specific AI regulating laws: India's among the nations that has not yet formulate the law, regulating the AI liability. This has created the sense ambiguity because of the existing laws when

¹³ Ruksar Mulla, *Transforming Legal Practice: The Opportunities and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence in the Indian Legal System*, Legal Service India (n.d.), <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-19912-transforming-legal-practice-the-opportunities-and-challenges-of-artificial-intelligence-in-the-indian-legal-system.html>.

applied in such scenarios creates other problems.

What is civil liability?

To put it simply, the answer is being legally accountable for causing some harm or losses to others, making them the receiver of the compensation. It's about the payment for one's negligent act to the party, who suffered the loss.¹⁴

Now question arises: who is responsible for the AI-developed decision and legal-research related content if it commits fallacies and errors? Who should be held liable for the errors that it commits during the processes of research and other legal related works? The question of civil or criminal liability for AI-developed decisions or content pertaining the legal advice, is a complicated and shaping area of law. There is no universally agreed-upon answer to it, and laying down of the responsibility can differ depending on the specific stances or jurisdictions.

Key players and Factor influencing civil liability

- *Developer liability:*
 - i. Faulty design or programming: if there has been any fault or negligence on the part of the developer while developing the design or program, due to which the advice contains flaws then the developer should be held liable. Defective algorithm, inadequate training data, or a failure to deploy proper safeguards.
 - ii. No warning: if the developers failed to provide sufficient warnings about the limitation and potential threat associated with the developed program, they should be held liable in that situation too.
 - iii. Liability of the product: there are some instances, where sometimes the AI software could be taken as a “product”, making the creator of the product liable. This could take into consideration the involvement of strict liability, meaning they could be held liable irrespective of any fault.
- *User liability:*
 - i. Professionals' accountability: legal professionals who completely rely on AI-driven technologies still must recheck the sources and apply their judgments. If they fail to do so, they should be held liable for the

¹⁴ Legal Information Institute, *Civil liability*, https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/civil_liability (last visited on 03/15/2025).

- negligence that has been committed by them.
- ii. Foreseeability: a user may be held liable for negligence if they had a reasonable expectation that the AI-generated content was wrong.
- iii. Agency: the important factor to be taken into consideration is the degree of control the user has and degree of independence the AI possesses.
- Shared responsibility: there are many situations arise where both, the developer and the user may share the liability. For example, the user may be held liable for not exercising due negligence while the developer may be held liable for faulty algorithm.

Criminal liability

There may be situations where AI can commit crimes, such as hate speech, or cybercrime, under that situation who is criminally liable? This is a highly controversial issue. Contemporary legal frameworks are primarily designed for human actors, and applying them to AI-driven technologies raises significant challenges. As mentioned above the potential parties that could be considered liable are: developers, users, and agencies.

Under the Indian law regime, it's not possible to prosecute AI. *Mens rea* (criminal intent) and *actus rea* (criminal act) both are generally required to prove the criminal liability and they both are traditionally attributed to human beings.

What legal challenges exist in proving mens rea in AI-driven offenses?

- No human-like intent: it is well-known fact that AI does not possess human-like consciousness or intent. They operate on the algorithm and data that has been used to train them, which clearly depicts that it is impossible to establish traditional *mens rea*.
- Causation: it's hard to find out if harmful AI behavior was the result of – intentional programming, faulty design, biased data, or unforeseen interactions.
- Rapid developments in AI: evolution in AI has made it difficult to make distinctions between autonomous functions and programmed outputs, making it hard to assign responsibilities. AI's growing self-learning capacities and decision-making processes force to think about the

extent to which it can be considered an independent actor, further making it hard to held accountable.

- Cybercrime: AI may be used in the generation of very complex phishing, and malware attacks, making it cumbersome to track the sources.

CONCLUSION

This absence of a clear policy is an opportune moment to reflect on how the Indian judiciary can adopt an approach that accords center-space to justice and equity when using AI.

Key findings

This paper has explored the integration of AI into the legal system of India, which makes clear the landscape of both immense opportunities and various risks associated with its integration. Though it promises to revolutionize the legal processes- from smoothening the research and court administration to bolstering law enforcement and language accessibility- the pace of its adoption has undermined the development of clear legal guidelines. Due to this mismatch, a vast gap has been created unknowingly on accountability and liability, directly threatening the fundamental principles of justice and fairness.

The problems that we have been coming across are deeply rooted in the very nature of AI. The capacity for biases found within the training data, as exemplified in cases like COMPAS, risks aggravating existing societal inequalities and leading to discriminatory results. The innate opacity of sophisticated AI algorithms, coupled with their potentiality to generate inaccurate or even fabricated information, as seen in *Mata v. Avianca*, creates serious issues about the reliability of AI-generated legal content. Moreover, the limitations of AI while comprehending the subtle nuances of legal arguments underscores the requirement for heedful consideration when depending only on automated systems.

Creating transparent AI accountability is very essential to maintain public trust in India's governance and justice system. Without clarity and explainability in AI-driven decisions, civilians' trust will inevitably erode. More to it, the capability of AI to infringe upon fundamental rights, specifically in fields like surveillance and predictive policing, asks for strong safeguards. Lastly, maintaining ethical standards in legal practice, where human judgments are unavoidable, necessitates transparent and comprehensive guidelines for AI integration.

The contemporary legal framework in India shows vast gaps in addressing AI liability. The lack of specific laws leaves legal professionals and users guiding a scenario of uncertainty. Present laws, i.e., the IT Act, 2000, and the DPDP Act, 2023, give only half solutions and fail to sufficiently address the unique problems about AI-driven content. The innate hardness in proving criminal intent (*mens rea*) in AI-driven crimes, backed by the uncertainty in assigning criminal and civil liability, highlights the urgency for legal reform. The most important question of whether AI itself can be held liable, or if responsibility should go to the developers, users, or regulators, continues to be a critical and unresolved issue.

Recommendations

To cope with these pressing issues, India must come up with an urgent and decisive legal framework. To start with, there is an essentiality for the enactment of meticulous AI-specific legislation, dealing with all the concerning issues, such as AI development, deployment, and accountability, dealing with issues such as data privacy, algorithmic transparency, and ethical standards. At the next stage, there is urgency for the creation of a robust AI liability act, defining responsibility for developers, users, and regulators. This act should take the consideration the risk-based approach, differentiating between high-risk and low-risk AI applications, and establishing clear mechanisms for redress in cases of AI-driven harm.

After that at the third stage, there should be a proper mechanism should be implemented, for the certification and registration of AI, enhancing accountability and ensuring compliance with legal standards. This includes mandatory audits and assessments of AI systems to satiate bias and ensure justice. Fourth would be the enforcement of human oversight over the AI-generated decision, particularly in crucial sectors like judicial decision-making and law enforcement.

An approach that includes proactive and forward-thinking capacity should be adopted by India, so it neutralizes AI innovation with legal safeguards. This approach should include fostering collaboration between legal past masters, technologists, and policy framers to develop ethical guidelines and best practices for AI integration.

Finally, India should step in to ensure accountable AI governance. This incorporates investment in public awareness and education about AI's capacities and limitations. Judicial training programs

should integrate AI ethics and legal implications to equip legal professionals with significant knowledge and skills. Moreover, to enhance knowledge, and global best practices and to contribute to harmonized legal frameworks, India should participate in international discussions. By implementing these recommendations, India can equip the transformative capability of AI while protecting its legal system and maintaining the principles of justice and fairness.