



WHERE DREAM CHISELS INTO REALITY

YOUNGSTER • ESTABLISHED 2004 • NEW DELHI • SEPTEMBER 2026 • PAGES 4 • PRICE 1/- • MONTHLY BILINGUAL (HINDI/ENGLISH)

## AI Meets Indian Knowledge Systems: Bridging Ancient Wisdom with Modern Technology



Richelle Bindal

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing the way people learn, work and communicate. From classrooms and hospitals to businesses and government offices, AI has become an important part of everyday life. In India, however, the conversation around AI is taking an interesting direction—how can modern technology learn from the country's rich and diverse Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)? Indian Knowledge Systems represent centuries of knowledge developed through traditions such as Ayurveda, Yoga, mathematics, astronomy, the agriculture, architecture, philosophy, linguistics and literature. Much of this knowledge has been passed from one generation to another through texts, oral traditions and practical experiences. Today, researchers and technology experts are exploring how AI can help preserve, understand and make this knowledge accessible to a new generation. One promising area is language technology. India has dozens of major languages and hundreds of dialects. AI-powered translation and speech technologies can help convert historical texts and regional knowledge into digital formats. A student who cannot read an ancient Sanskrit text, for example, could potentially use AI-assisted tools to understand its meaning in Hindi or English. Similar technologies could support the preservation of lesser-known languages and oral



traditions. AI can also assist researchers in studying large collections of traditional texts. Ancient manuscripts often contain information about medicine, astronomy, agriculture, philosophy and mathematics. Digitising these documents and using AI to organise and analyse them could make research faster and help scholars identify connections that may otherwise remain difficult to discover. At the same time, experts emphasise that technology should not treat traditional knowledge simply as a collection of data. Context matters. A verse from an ancient text may have a philosophical, cultural or historical meaning that cannot be understood accurately through automated processing alone. Scholars, linguists and practitioners therefore need to work alongside AI developers to ensure that digital interpretations remain responsible and authentic. Education is another important area where AI and IKS can come together. Students can be introduced to traditional

Indian approaches to mathematics, logic, philosophy, wellness and environmental understanding through interactive digital platforms. AI-based learning systems could explain complex concepts in regional languages and adapt educational material according to the learner's needs. The integration of AI with Indian Knowledge Systems also raises questions about ownership and ethics. Traditional communities and knowledge holders should receive recognition when their knowledge is digitised or used for technological applications. Protecting cultural heritage from misrepresentation, commercial exploitation and inappropriate use will be essential. The meeting of AI and Indian Knowledge Systems is therefore not simply about combining the old with the new. It is about creating a meaningful dialogue between traditional wisdom and contemporary technology. If developed carefully, AI can

become a powerful tool for preserving India's intellectual heritage while making it relevant and accessible to younger generations. As India moves deeper into the digital age, the challenge will be to ensure that technological progress does not leave cultural memory behind. Instead, AI could help bring that memory into the future—making centuries-old knowledge available for learning, research and reflection in the modern world. The success of this integration will ultimately depend on balancing innovation with cultural responsibility. By connecting ancient knowledge with modern tools, AI can create new opportunities for education, research and the cultural area.



## Cinema & Film Production: From the Past to the New Age



**Lucky Negi**

Cinema has always been more than entertainment. It reflects society, culture, technology and the changing imagination of people. From black-and-white films and limited production facilities to today's high-budget films, digital cameras, VFX and OTT platforms, cinema has gone through a remarkable transformation. In the early years of Indian cinema, filmmaking depended heavily on physical sets, film cameras, manual editing and theatrical releases. Directors and technicians had to work with limited technology, which made the production process time-consuming. Despite these limitations, filmmakers created memorable stories and characters that continue to influence cinema even today. The arrival of colour films, improved cameras and advanced sound technology changed the way stories were presented. Gradually, computer-based editing, digital cinematography and visual effects made filmmaking faster and more flexible. Today, filmmakers can create locations, characters and entire worlds digitally that were difficult or impossible to produce in the past. The biggest change in the recent years

has been the rise of OTT platforms. Films and web series are no longer dependent only on theatres. Platforms such as Netflix, Prime Video and other streaming services have created new opportunities for filmmakers and actors. Audiences can now watch content from different languages and countries from their homes.



Artificial intelligence is also beginning to influence film production. AI tools can assist with script development, editing, visual effects, dubbing, subtitles and other production processes. At the same time, the growing use of technology has created discussions about creativity, originality and the role of human professionals. The Audience involvement has also changed. Earlier, audiences mainly experienced films in theatres and discussed them with friends or family. Today, viewers actively participate through social media, reviews, fan edits, memes and online discussions. A film can become popular through social media even before its theatrical release. The future of cinema is likely to combine traditional storytelling with new technology. However, technology alone cannot make a film successful. Storytelling, emotions, performances and human creativity remain at the heart of cinema. Cinema has changed its tools, platforms and production methods, but its basic purpose remains the same: to tell stories that connect with the people emotionally.



## AI in Journalism: Technology Meets the Newsroom



**Harshita Moonga**

Journalism has always evolved with technology. From newspapers and radio to television, websites and social media, every technological change has influenced the way news is produced and consumed. Today, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming another important part of the modern newsroom. AI can help journalists with several routine tasks. It can assist in transcribing interviews, translating content, summarising large documents, analysing datasets and generating basic drafts. These tools can save journalists time and allow them to focus more on reporting, investigation and storytelling. One important use of AI is data analysis. Modern news organisations deal with huge amounts of information. AI tools can help identify patterns and organise information that may be difficult to analyse manually. This can be useful in areas such as elections, business, sports and public data. AI is also changing the way audiences receive news. News organisations can use technology to personalise content and recommend stories based on readers' interests. Automated systems can also help create simple reports from structured information, such as sports scores or financial data. However, AI also brings serious challenges to journalism.

AI-generated content can contain incorrect information, and artificial intelligence can produce convincing but completely false text, images, audio or videos. Deepfakes have made it increasingly difficult for audiences to distinguish authentic material from manipulated content. This makes human verification extremely important. Journalists must check sources, confirm facts and provide context before

publishing information. AI should therefore be treated as a tool that assists journalism rather than a complete replacement for journalists. Another concern is transparency. Audiences may want to know when AI has been used to create or modify content. News organisations need clear editorial guidelines regarding AI-generated material, privacy, copyright and the identity with accountability. The relationship between AI and journalism is still developing. The technology can make news production faster and help journalists handle large amounts of information, but journalism ultimately depends on credibility, ethics and public trust. The newsroom of the future may be more technologically advanced, but the responsibility of a journalist will remain unchanged: verify the facts, question the information and serve the audience with accurate and responsible reporting.



# Trapped Behind the Screen: Is Online Gaming Replacing Outdoor Play



Riva Baliyan

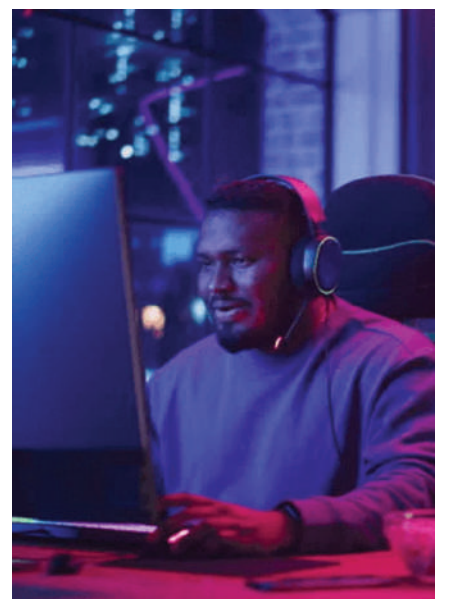
A cricket match in the neighbourhood, football in the park or a simple game of badminton used to be a common part of childhood. Today, smartphones, computers and gaming consoles have introduced young people to a completely different form of entertainment. Online gaming has become extremely popular, raising an important question: Is it reducing young people's participation in outdoor games?

Online games offer convenience and excitement. Players can compete with friends or strangers from different parts of the world without leaving their homes. Multiplayer games also provide communication, teamwork and competition. For many young people, gaming is not simply entertainment but also a social activity. However, excessive gaming can reduce the amount of time spent on physical activities. When several hours are dedicated to gaming, there may be less time for running, cycling, playing football, cricket or participating in other outdoor activities. This can contribute to a more sedentary lifestyle.

Outdoor games provide benefits that digital games cannot completely replace. Physical sports involve movement, exercise and on-

coordination. They also give young people opportunities to communicate face-to-face, work as a team and deal with real-world situations such as winning, losing and managing competition. At the same time, it would be unfair to say that online gaming itself is destroying outdoor sports. The issue is more closely connected to excessive or unbalanced screen time. Online gaming can be one form of entertainment among many, but problems may arise when it replaces physical activity, education, sleep or social interaction. Parents, schools and young people can play an important role in maintaining a balance. Schools can encourage sports and physical education, while families can create healthy screen-time routines. Young people can also divide their time between digital entertainment and outdoor activities.

Technology and sports do not necessarily have to compete with each other. Gaming can provide entertainment and certain digital skills, while outdoor sports provide physical activity and real-world interaction. The key is balance. The real question, therefore, is not whether online gaming should exist, but whether young people are getting enough time away from the screens.



# The Changing Face of Education in the Digital Age



Pallavi Singh

Education has traditionally been associated with classrooms, textbooks and teachers. The digital revolution has expanded this definition. Today, students can attend online classes, watch lectures, access digital libraries and learn new skills from almost anywhere. The advantages and

of digital education is accessibility. A student can learn from teachers and institutions located hundreds or thousands of kilometres away. Online resources have also made educational material available at relatively low cost. Technology has also changed the role of the teacher. Instead of being the only source of information, teachers increasingly act as guides who help students understand, evaluate and apply information.

Artificial intelligence is adding another layer to this transformation. AI-powered tools can help students understand difficult concepts, practise languages, generate ideas and receive personalised assistance. However, students

must learn to use these tools responsibly rather than depending on them completely. Digital education also has limitations. Not every student has equal access to reliable internet, devices or a suitable learning environment. Excessive screen time can also affect concentration and reduce opportunities for face-to-face interaction.

Education is ultimately about more than collecting information. Communication, creativity, teamwork, critical thinking and real-world experiences are equally important. The classroom of the future may look very different from the classroom of the past, but technology should remain a tool rather than the entire

education system. The most effective learning environment will likely combine human guidance with the possibilities offered by digital technology.



# Cleft Con India 2026: Celebrating Confidence, Acceptance and Care



**Tamanna Chugh**

Cleft Con India 2026, organised by Smile Train India, brought together children, families, healthcare professionals and members of the cleft community at Hyatt Regency, Chandigarh, on September 15 and 16. Under the theme "Cleft Proud, Smile Loud," the fifth edition focused on awareness, confidence, acceptance and comprehensive cleft care.

The first day featured therapy sessions and creative activities for children. Dance and theatre therapy encouraged confidence, communication and self-expression, while drawing activities allowed children to express their thoughts and feelings. A consultation and mental well-being session also provided emotional support.

The day ended with a cultural performance where children represented states including Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Kashmir through traditional costumes and dance. The second day featured personal stories, cultural performances and medical sessions. Cleft Warriors shared their experiences, while



dance, singing, poetry and Bhangra added to the celebrations. Doctors discussed various aspects of cleft care, including surgery, dental treatment and speech support. Cleft Con India 2026 highlighted that cleft care goes

beyond medical treatment. Emotional support, confidence, family acceptance and community encouragement are equally important in helping individuals lead fuller and more confident lives.

## The Rise of Short-Form Content and Our Attention Span



**Vanya Bhagwat**

A few seconds are often enough to decide whether someone will watch a video or scroll to the next one. Short-form content has become one of the biggest

changes in digital media, transforming the way people consume entertainment, information and advertising.

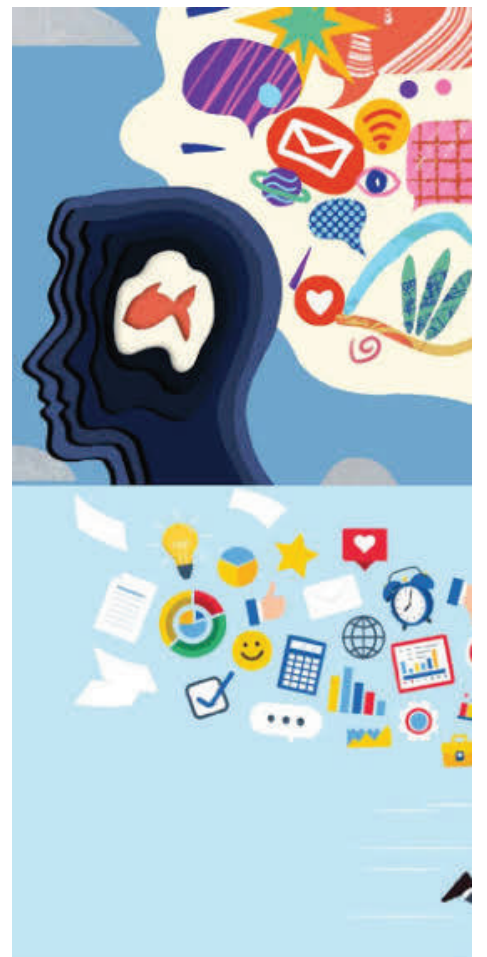
Short videos are designed to deliver information quickly. They are easy to watch while travelling, waiting or taking a short break. Their popularity has also created opportunities for creators, journalists, educators and small businesses to reach large audiences without expensive production.

However, the popularity of short-form content has raised questions about attention spans. When audiences become accustomed to receiving information in a few seconds, longer content may appear less attractive. Reading a detailed article or watching a long documentary can require a level of concentration that short videos do not always demand.

Another concern is oversimplification. Complex issues cannot always be explained accurately in a 30-second video. Important context may be removed in the process of making content short and engaging. Platforms have made it easier for viewers to discover stories from different parts of the country. As a result, Indian cinema can no longer be understood only through the lens of Hindi-language mainstream films. At the same time, short-form content should not be viewed only negatively. A well-made short video can introduce audiences to important topics, encourage people to learn more and make complicated information easier to understand.

The real challenge is balance. Short videos can be useful for quick information and entertainment, while books, documentaries, articles and

The future of digital media may therefore belong to a combination of formats. Short-form content can capture attention, but meaningful information requires time, context and critical thinking.



**RNI No.:** DEL/BIL/2004/14598

**Publisher:** Dr. Ram Kailash Gupta  
on behalf of Tecnia Institute of  
Advanced Studies, 3 PSP,  
Madhuban Chowk, Rohini,  
Delhi-85; **Printer:** Ramesh  
Chander Dogra; **Printed at:**  
Dogra Printing Press, 17/69, Jhan  
Singh Nagar, Anand Parbat, New  
Delhi-5

**Editor:** Dr. Akash Dwivedi  
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