AI FEST 2026

Date: 9th TO 28TH February 2025

Venue: IPS Auditorium

Introduction:

In an era where Artificial Intelligence is transforming industries, redefining career landscapes, and reshaping the future of education, ASM Group of Institutes took a visionary step by organizing AI Fest 2026 across all its campuses. With the powerful theme *"Lead with AI,"* the fest was designed not merely as a series of sessions, but as a comprehensive academic movement to integrate Artificial Intelligence into learning, research, innovation, and professional development. Artificial Intelligence today plays a crucial role in fields such as healthcare, finance, marketing, manufacturing, data analytics, education, and governance. Recognizing the rapid technological evolution and the increasing demand for AI-skilled professionals, ASM aimed to prepare its students to become competent, confident, and future-ready leaders in the digital age. At ASM's IPS and IIBR campuses, AI Fest 2026 was conducted from 9th February onwards with a structured series of expert lectures, hands-on workshops, technical demonstrations, research-oriented activities, and student competitions. The event brought together distinguished academicians, industry experts, trainers, researchers, and institutional leaders who shared their knowledge and practical insights on various dimensions of Artificial Intelligence. The fest served as a dynamic platform where theoretical knowledge met real-world application. Students were not only introduced to foundational concepts of AI but were also trained in using advanced AI tools for research writing, data analytics, presentation development, resume building, and professional branding. By combining academic depth with practical exposure, the event ensured

holistic learning. A significant aspect of AI Fest 2026 was its focus on experiential learning. Through competitions such as research paper writing using AI tools, AI-based collage and presentation creation, resume building competitions, and debates on AI-related topics, students actively applied what they learned. This approach enhanced creativity, critical thinking, analytical ability, teamwork, and technological adaptability. Furthermore, the launch of initiatives such as the AI Club and the AI Task Force reflected ASM's long-term commitment to embedding Artificial Intelligence into its academic ecosystem. These initiatives are expected to create continuous opportunities for innovation, interdisciplinary research, industry collaboration, and skill enhancement. AI Fest 2026 was not just an academic event; it was a transformative initiative aimed at building awareness, strengthening digital capabilities, encouraging research excellence, and cultivating leadership in Artificial Intelligence. The fest successfully created a culture of curiosity, innovation, and technological empowerment among students and faculty members. Through this grand celebration of intelligence and innovation, ASM reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing professionals who are not only job-ready but future-ready — capable of adapting, innovating, and leading in an AI-driven world.

Objective:

- To provide foundational and advanced knowledge of Artificial Intelligence.
- To encourage research and innovation using AI tools.
- To enhance academic and professional skills through practical AI applications.
- To improve career readiness through AI-assisted resume building and professional branding.
- To promote creativity, teamwork, and analytical thinking through competitions.
- To align students with modern technological trends and digital transformation.

Speaker:

1) Dr. Sheela Hunddekari Professor & Associated Director
2) Dr. Preeti Mulay Founder Weekend Forever PhD Thesis Reviewer
3) Mr. Amol Ujagare Founder of Scripting logic
4) Mr. Kaif Ahmad AI Trainer
5) Dr. Madhura Shukla
6) Mr.Saurabh Kulkarni Head of Digital Marketing of ASM Group
7) Mr.Santosh Awasarkar Six Sigma Expert

Report:

DAY 1

The AI Fest 2026 at ASM's IIBR, IPS, and CSIT campuses began with immense pride, enthusiasm, and academic spirit.

The inauguration ceremony commenced with a soulful Saraswati Vandana, seeking blessings for wisdom, knowledge, and success of the event. The atmosphere was filled with positivity and inspiration as students, faculty members, and dignitaries gathered to celebrate innovation and technological excellence. This was followed by the felicitation of the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker, Dr. Sheela Hundekari, Professor & Associate Director – Research and Development, School of Engineering and Technology, Pimpri Chinchwad University, Pune. She was warmly welcomed and honored for her remarkable contribution to research and higher education. With over 20 years of academic experience, 55 research publications, 41 Scopus-indexed papers, 18 authored books, and multiple patents, she stands as a distinguished personality in the field of Artificial Intelligence and advanced computing. A significant highlight of the inauguration was the launch of the AI Club for students, an initiative aimed at fostering continuous learning,

innovation, and collaboration in Artificial Intelligence. The club is expected to serve as a platform for students to explore AI projects, research opportunities, and industry interactions.

Adding an element of surprise and innovation to the ceremony, our respected Chairman Sir presented a unique experience to the audience. Using AI technology, a realistic AI-generated model (digital avatar) was created, which delivered a speech in his voice and appearance — almost like a "double role" powered by AI. This live demonstration of AI capabilities left the audience amazed and perfectly aligned with the spirit of AI Fest 2026. Further enriching the event, Dr. Vikas Barbate, Dean – ASM IPS, shared valuable information about the formation of the AI Task Force, highlighting its objectives and future roadmap. He also introduced the AI Task Force Member for CSIT, Mr. Rushikesh Aly, emphasizing the institution's commitment to structured AI development and implementation.

The ceremony continued with inspiring addresses by:

- Dr. Daniel Penkar, who shared his thoughts on the importance of adopting AI in academics and management education.
- Dr. Lalit Kanore, who expressed his views on technological transformation and the need for students to lead the future with AI-driven innovation.

Another proud moment of the day was the launch of the "Navdrishti" App, symbolizing a new digital vision and technological advancement within the ASM ecosystem.

The inaugural keynote session was then delivered by Dr. Sheela Hundekari on the topic "Overview of Artificial Intelligence." She provided a strong conceptual foundation of AI, discussed emerging trends, research opportunities, ethical considerations, and the future scope of artificial intelligence across industries.

Her session provided:

- A strong conceptual foundation of AI
- Insights into machine learning and advanced computing
- Discussion on emerging AI trends
- Ethical considerations and research opportunities

The session inspired students to explore AI beyond textbooks and understand its transformative potential.

DAY 2:- Research Using AI: Tools, Data & Practical Applications

The second day of AI Fest 2026 at ASM's IIBR & IPS campuses was dedicated to exploring the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in research methodology and data-driven decision-making. The session was conducted by our esteemed Guest Speaker, Dr. Preeti Mulay, an accomplished academician, researcher, blogger, and PhD thesis reviewer with over 25 years of experience in academia and industry.

The session began in an engaging manner with the presentation of short, insightful videos demonstrating how Artificial Intelligence is revolutionizing research practices globally. These visual examples helped students understand the real-world relevance of AI in data collection, literature review, analysis, and academic writing. Dr. Mulay introduced students to the concept of Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) — a crucial step in research that involves understanding patterns, relationships, and insights within datasets before applying advanced models. She emphasized that AI-powered tools make EDA faster, more accurate, and highly efficient compared to traditional manual methods. Students were guided on how structured data exploration forms the foundation of meaningful research outcomes.

Understanding Data Sources to conduct quality research, access to authentic datasets is essential. Dr. Mulay introduced students to several reliable national and international data repositories:

- Data.gov – U.S. Government open data platform
- Data.gov.in – Government of India's open data portal
- IndiaAI – National AI portal promoting AI initiatives and datasets
- UCI Machine Learning Repository – Academic dataset repository for research
- Kaggle – A global platform for datasets, competitions, and AI community collaboration

She explained how these platforms provide structured datasets for academic projects, dissertations, and AI experimentation, helping students move beyond theoretical knowledge toward data-driven research.

EDA Tools and AI-Based Data Analysis The session then moved into practical exposure to AI-powered tools used for data analysis:

- Julius AI – Demonstrated as an AI data analyst tool capable of interpreting datasets, generating summaries, identifying patterns, and providing statistical insights in simple language.
- Students learned how AI can automatically clean, summarize, and interpret complex datasets within minutes.

For data preparation and formula automation, students were introduced to:

- FormulaBot.com – A tool that converts plain English instructions into spreadsheet formulas, simplifying data cleaning and transformation tasks

This part of the session highlighted how AI reduces technical barriers and allows even non-programming students to perform structured data analysis.

AI-Powered Data Visualization Dr. Mulay further explained that research findings must be presented clearly and visually. She introduced several AI-based visualization platforms:

- Data Squirrel – Converts datasets into ready-to-use dashboards and visual insights.
- RAW Graphs – Helps create structured and custom data visualizations.
- Flourish Studio – A storytelling visualization tool used to transform raw data into interactive and engaging visual narratives.

Students were shown how storytelling through visualization enhances research presentations and makes academic findings more impactful and understandable.

Research Mapping & Literature Direction Tools Moving beyond data analysis, the session focused on literature review and research direction tools:

- Connected Papers – A powerful AI tool that visually maps research papers and shows relationships between them. It helps students understand how studies are interconnected and identify influential research.
- Elicit – An AI research assistant that helps in finding relevant academic papers, summarizing findings, and suggesting research directions. It guides students in narrowing down research gaps and building strong research questions.

These tools demonstrated how AI simplifies the traditionally time-consuming process of literature review and research planning.

Student Competition – Research Using AI In the second half of the day, a Research Using AI Competition was organized. Students applied the tools learned during the session to:

- Identify datasets
- Conduct exploratory data analysis
- Prepare visual insights
- Present research findings
- Propose innovative research directions

The competition encouraged analytical thinking, teamwork, digital literacy, and research confidence. Students showcased innovative ideas supported by AI tools, making the session both intellectually stimulating and practically enriching.

Day 2 successfully bridged the gap between traditional research methodology and AI-driven research practices. Students gained hands-on exposure to real data sources, AI-powered analysis tools, automated formula generation, visualization platforms, and literature mapping technologies. The session empowered students to conduct smarter, faster, and more structured research using Artificial Intelligence — reinforcing the vision of AI Fest 2026 to nurture future-ready researchers and innovators.

DAY 3:-

The third day featured a highly practical and engaging session by Mr. Amol Ujagare, Founder of Scripting Logic, with 15+ years of experience as a coach and business strategist.

He conducted a session on:
"Harnessing AI for Academic & Professional Excellence: Google Gemini & PPT Creation using Canva & Gamma AI."

He demonstrated:

- Content creation using ChatGPT and Gemini
- Smart presentation building using Canva & Gamma AI
- Automation in marketing and professional tasks
- AI tools for productivity and confidence building

Students gained hands-on experience in using AI tools for academic projects and professional branding.

Later, a Collage Making & AI Presentation Competition was organized. Students showcased creativity, teamwork, and technical understanding by developing AI-based presentations.

DAY 4:- AI Essential: Learning Models, Machine Learning & Modern Workflow

The fourth day of AI Fest 2026 at ASM's IIBR & IPS campuses was dedicated to building strong technical clarity about Artificial Intelligence fundamentals, learning models, and real-world industry applications. The session titled "AI Essential: Learning Model & Modern Workflow" aimed to give students a structured understanding of how AI systems are designed, trained, and deployed.

Types / Classification of Artificial Intelligence he session began with the classification of AI into three major types:

1. Normal AI (Narrow AI)

   This type of AI is designed to perform specific tasks only. It operates within a limited domain and cannot function beyond its programming. Examples include chatbots, recommendation systems, voice assistants, and facial recognition systems. Most AI systems used today belong to this category.
2. General AI (Strong AI)

   General AI refers to a system capable of performing any intellectual task that a human can perform. It would have reasoning ability, learning capability, and decision-making intelligence comparable to humans. Currently, General AI is still under research and development.
3. Super AI

   Super AI is a hypothetical advanced stage of AI that would surpass human intelligence in creativity, emotional understanding, and strategic thinking. It represents the future possibility of AI evolution.

This classification helped students understand the current position of AI technology and its future scope.

Modern AI Workflow The speaker then explained the step-by-step AI workflow followed in real-world projects:

1. Data Collection – Gathering structured and relevant datasets from reliable sources.
2. Model Selection – Choosing the appropriate AI or Machine Learning model based on the problem statement.

3. Training the Model – Feeding data into the system so it can learn patterns and improve accuracy. Students understood that AI development is a systematic and structured process rather than just using ready-made tools.

Machine Learning Concepts The session further introduced Machine Learning (ML) as a core component of AI. Three major types were explained:

1. Supervised Learning – "Notice"
   In this method, the system learns from labeled data. It notices patterns and predicts outputs based on training examples. Example: predicting student results based on past performance.
2. Unsupervised Learning – "Information Discovery"
   Here, the system identifies hidden patterns in unlabeled data. It groups and organizes information automatically. Example: customer segmentation.
3. Reinforcement Learning – "Judgement & Decision"
   In this method, the system learns through rewards and penalties. It improves decisions based on feedback. Example: robotics and game AI systems. This explanation helped students understand how AI systems learn from data and improve over time.

Deep Learning & Neural Networks Students were introduced to Deep Learning, which works on neural networks similar to the human brain (input → hidden layers → output). The concept was explained in a simple "napkin model" format:

- Input Layer – Data is provided to the system.
- Processing (Hidden Layers) – Data is analyzed and patterns are detected.
- Output Layer – Final prediction or result is generated.

Natural Language Processing (NLP) the session covered Natural Language Processing (NLP) — the technology that allows machines to understand and generate human language. Applications discussed included:

- ChatGPT-like systems
- Language translation
- Sentiment analysis
- Voice assistants

Students learned how NLP bridges communication between humans and machines.

Students were introduced to Computer Vision, an important domain of Artificial Intelligence that enables machines to interpret and understand visual data. Through practical examples such as background detection and change, image filtering, object detection, and facial recognition, students learned how AI systems process images in a manner similar to human vision. This session enhanced their understanding of how visual intelligence is applied in real-world technologies. The session further highlighted how AI is transforming major industries. In healthcare, AI assists in disease prediction, medical imaging, and robotic surgeries. In cyber security, it strengthens threat detection and fraud prevention. In education, AI supports personalized learning and automated evaluation, while in finance, it plays a key role in risk assessment and fraud detection. These examples broadened students' awareness of career opportunities in AI-driven sectors. Students were also guided on practical AI tools and structured workflows for academic and project development. The speaker explained how to create a personalized ChatGPT for academic assistance and demonstrated AI-powered notebook applications where students can upload PDFs or notes to receive summaries, clarification of doubts, and query-solving support. This "Notebook & Neural (N & N) Workflow" approach encouraged organized learning and efficient research handling.

Day 5 – Career Enhancement through AI

The fifth day of AI Fest 2026 focused on preparing students for the modern job market using Artificial Intelligence**.** The session was conducted by Mr. Saurabh Kulkarni, Head – Digital Marketing, ASM Group of Institutes**,** on the topic "AI for Resume Building & Career Readiness." He explained how to create AI-optimized resumes that match Applicant Tracking Systems (ATS) used by companies. Students learned how to use AI tools to identify job-specific keywords, structure resumes properly, write strong professional summaries, quantify achievements, and customize resumes according to job descriptions. The session highlighted how AI can improve resume clarity, formatting, and selection chances.

The speaker also guided students on:

- Enhancing LinkedIn profiles using AI-generated summaries and keywords
- Building personal branding through digital platforms
- Understanding job market trends
- Practicing interview preparation using AI-based mock interview tools

In the second half, a Resume Building Competition using AI tools and a Debate Competition on AI-related topics were conducted. These activities boosted students' confidence, creativity, critical thinking, and professional readiness.

DAY 6 :-Data Analytics Using AI

On the sixth day of AI Fest 2026, students attended an insightful and industry-oriented session conducted by Mr. Santosh D. Awasarkar**,** Six Sigma Expert, on the topic "Data Analytics Using AI." The session focused on how Artificial Intelligence enhances the field of data analytics by improving accuracy, speed, and decision-making capabilities. Mr. Awasarkar explained how AI-

powered systems can analyze large volumes of structured and unstructured data efficiently, identify patterns, and generate meaningful insights. Key areas covered during the session included: AI in Data Analysis – Understanding how machine learning algorithms process data to detect trends and correlations. Predictive Analytics – Using historical data to forecast future outcomes and business performance. Decision-Making Using AI Tools – Leveraging AI dashboards and automated reports for strategic planning. Business Intelligence Applications – Applying AI in industries for performance monitoring, risk assessment, and operational efficiency. Real-world examples were discussed to demonstrate how organizations use AI-driven analytics to gain competitive advantages. The session helped students understand the practical relevance of AI in industry and how data interpretation plays a crucial role in business growth and innovation.

DAY 7:- Ideathon 2K26 – AI Powered Product Rollout Initiative

As a part of AI Fest 2026, Ideathon 2K26 was organized under the theme *"AI Powered Product Rollout Initiative."* The event aimed to provide students with a dynamic platform to showcase their innovative ideas and entrepreneurial thinking using Artificial Intelligence.

Students gathered at the IPS Auditorium at 11:15 AM to present their AI-driven product concepts. Participants demonstrated creative and practical solutions addressing real-world challenges across various domains. Each team presented their innovative product idea, explaining its problem statement, AI integration, working model, feasibility, and potential market impact. The Ideathon encouraged critical thinking, teamwork, innovation, and presentation skills among students. It also promoted the spirit of research, startup culture, and technology-driven problem-solving. The event successfully highlighted the creative potential of students and reflected ASM's commitment to fostering innovation and AI-based entrepreneurship.

DAY 8:- Faculty Research Paper Competition 2026 (25/02/2026)

The Faculty Research Paper Competition 2026 provided a platform for faculty members to present research-based ideas and practical implementation strategies focusing on AI integration within their respective departments.

Participants explored various dimensions of AI in education, including smart classrooms, adaptive learning systems, AI-powered assessment tools, automation in academic administration, and data-driven decision-making processes. Faculty members proposed innovative teaching methodologies and institutional frameworks designed to enhance student engagement, improve learning outcomes, and optimize administrative efficiency.

Photos:

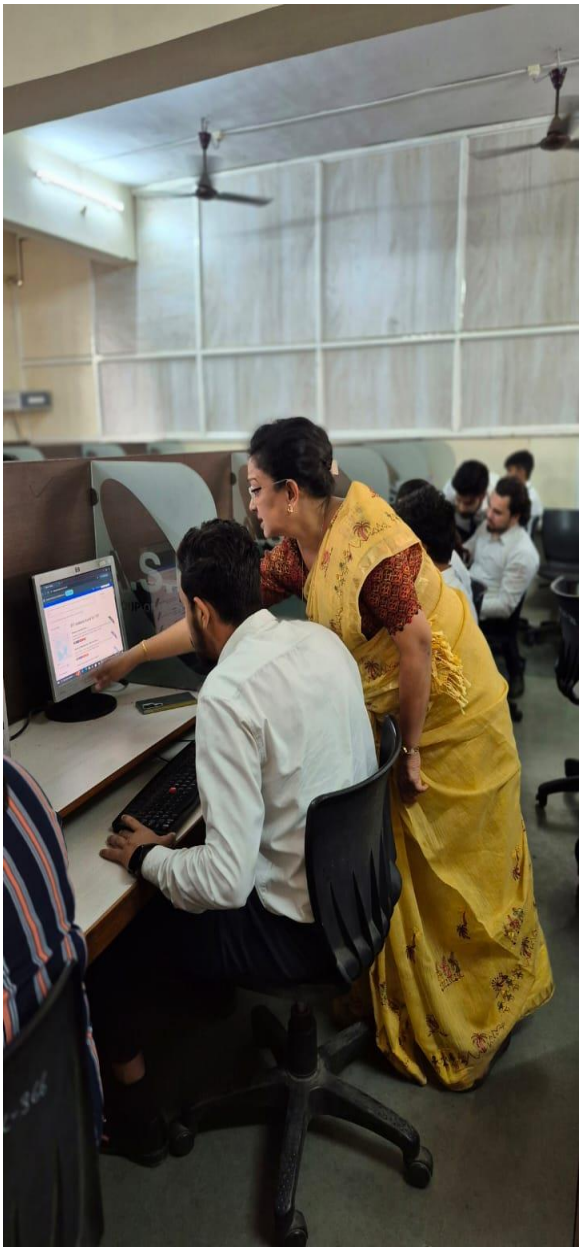

AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
ASM Group of Institutes proudly launches ASM AI Fest 2026,


AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
ASM Group of Institutes proudly launches ASM AI Fest 2026,
all students, faculty & staff embrace AI together.


AI FEST 2026


www.asmgroup.edu.in


AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
ASM Group of Institutes proudly launches ASM AI
our flagship initiative where all students, faculty & staff embrace AI together.

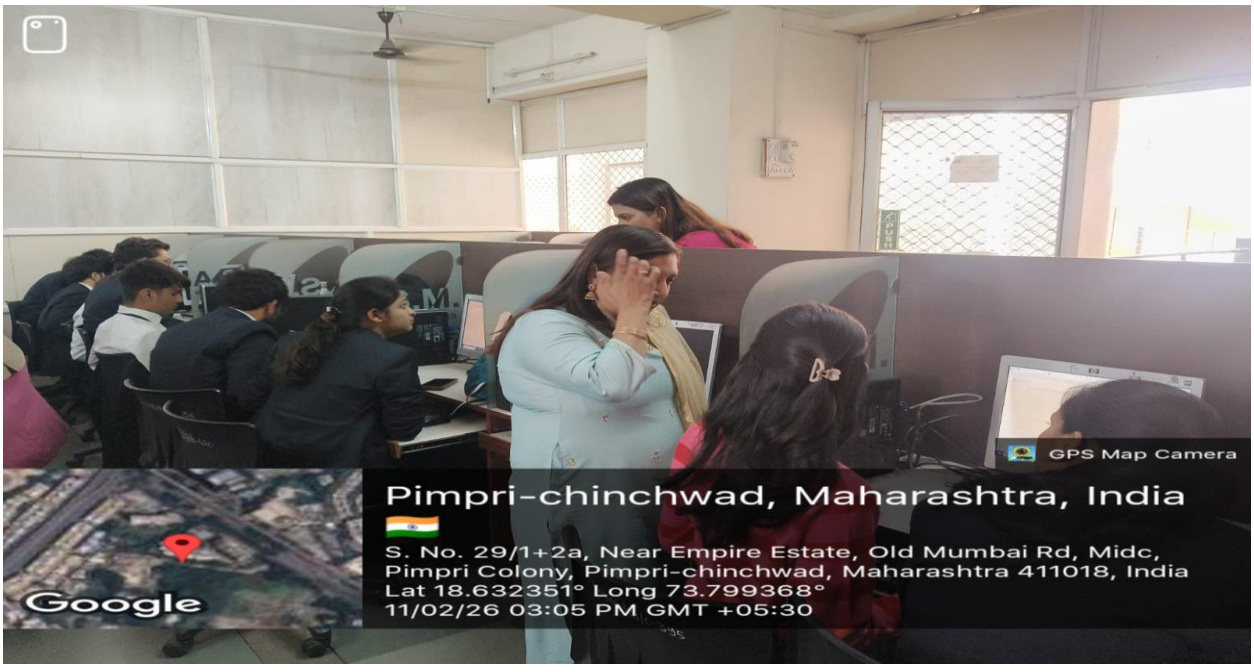



AI FEST 2026


FEST
2026
With AI
Official Pre-Summit Event of
AI Impact Summit 2026
Group of Institutes proudly launches ASM AI Fest 2026,
faculty & staff embrace AI together.


ASM
AI FEST
2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
our flagship initiative where all students, faculty & staff embrace AI together.


GPS Map Camera
Pune, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29, Old Mumbai Rd, Opposite Central Mall, Midc,
Pimpri Colony, Pune, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632165° Long 73.799604°
11/02/26 12:29 PM GMT +05:30
Google


GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc,
Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632351° Long 73.799368°
11/02/26 03:05 PM GMT +05:30
Google


Official Pre-Summit Event of AI Impact Summit 2026
AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
Taking inspiration from vision of AI Impact Summit 2026, ASM Group of Institutes proudly launches ASM AI Fest 2026, our flagship initiative where all students, faculty & staff embrace AI together.
GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc, Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.63228° Long 73.799368°
12/02/26 10:40 AM GMT +05:30
Google


GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc, Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632279° Long 73.799385°
12/02/26 10:42 AM GMT +05:30
Google

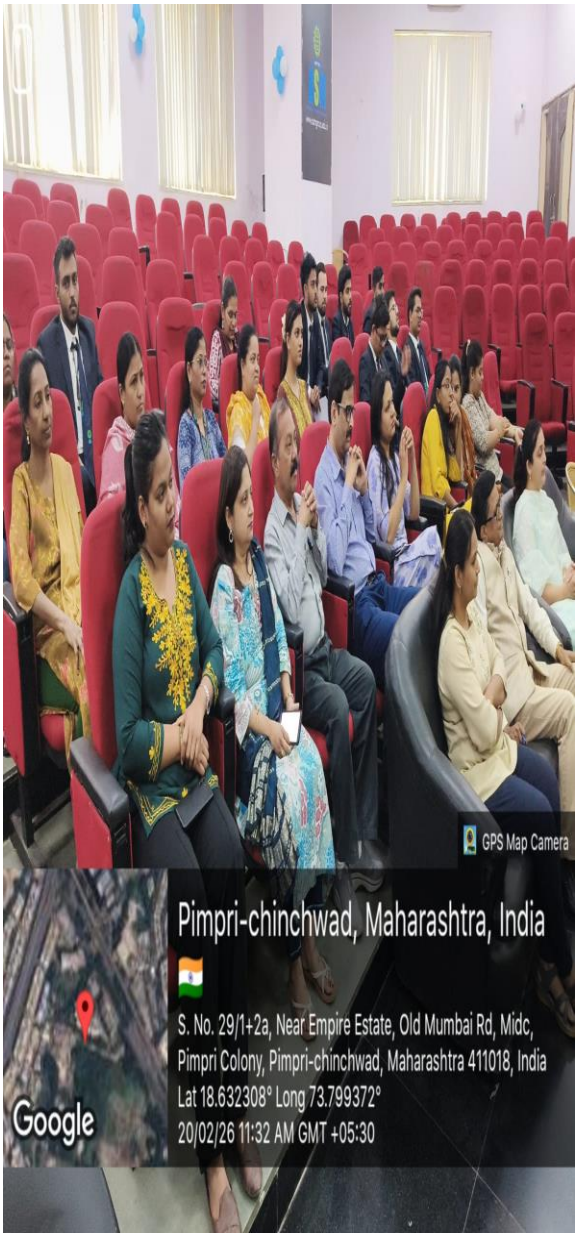

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX
GPS Map Camera
Check In
Google
Pune, Maharashtra, India
1+2a, Cts No. 4695, Wing-b, S. No. 29, Old Mumbai Rd, Opposite Central Mall, Midc, Pimpri Colony, Pune, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632177° Long 73.799624°
Thursday, 12/02/2026 10:54 AM GMT +05:30


Business Plan Competition Structure
GPS Map Camera
Google
Pune, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29, Old Mumbai Rd, Opposite Central Mall, Midc, Pimpri Colony, Pune, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.63224° Long 73.799625°
12/02/26 12:46 PM GMT +05:30


GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc,
Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.63228° Long 73.799378°
13/02/26 11:09 AM GMT +05:30
Google

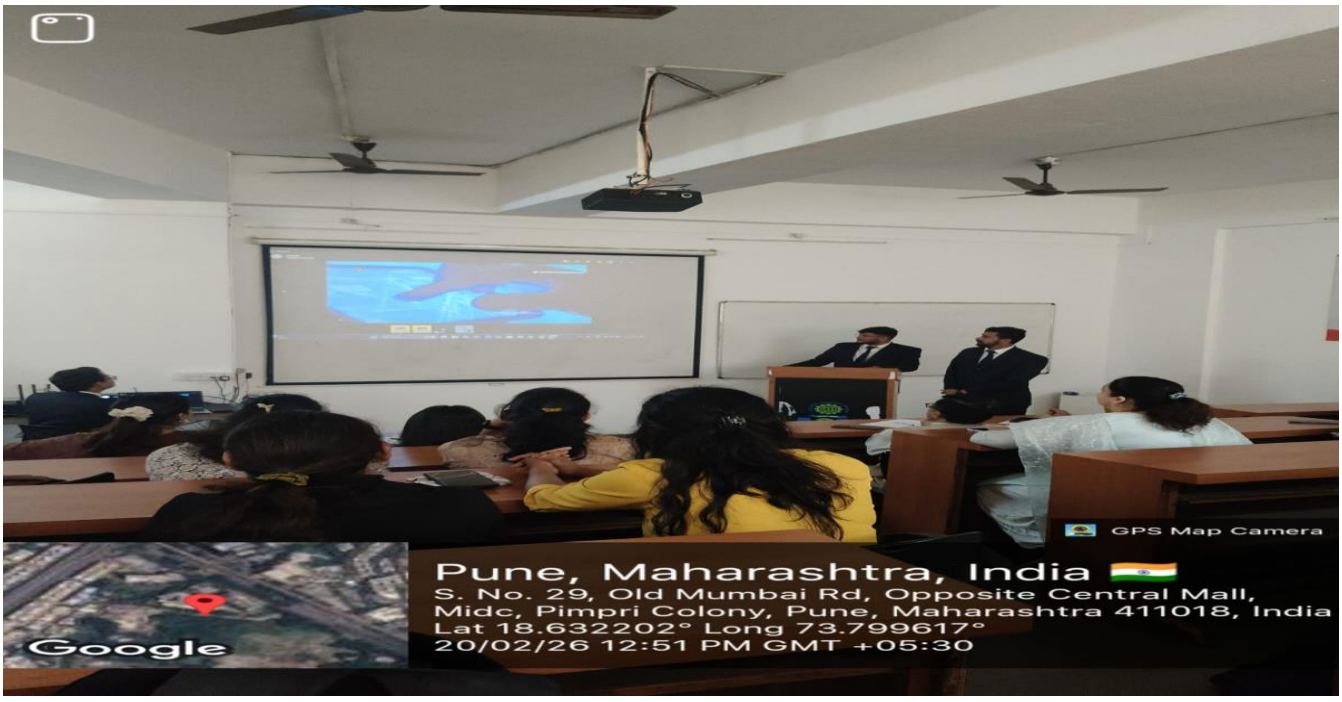

Official Pre-Summit Event of AI Impact Summit 2026
AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc,
Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632301° Long 73.799386°
13/02/26 11:06 AM GMT +05:30
Google


ASM
AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
on from vision of AI Impact Summit 2026, ASM Group of Institutes proudly launches ASM AI Fest 20
our flagship initiative where all students, faculty & staff embrace AI together.


GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc,
Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632308° Long 73.799372°
20/02/26 11:32 AM GMT +05:30
Google


Official Pre-Summit Event of AI Impact Summit 2026
AI FEST 2026
Lead With AI
9th To 28th Feb 2026
GPS Map Camera
Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29/1+2a, Near Empire Estate, Old Mumbai Rd, Midc,
Pimpri Colony, Pimpri-chinchwad, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632313° Long 73.799368°
20/02/26 11:31 AM GMT +05:30
Google


GPS Map Camera
Pune, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29, Old Mumbai Rd, Opposite Central Mall,
Midc, Pimpri Colony, Pune, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632191° Long 73.79961°
20/02/26 12:20 PM GMT +05:30
Google


GPS Map Camera
Pune, Maharashtra, India
S. No. 29, Old Mumbai Rd, Opposite Central Mall,
Midc, Pimpri Colony, Pune, Maharashtra 411018, India
Lat 18.632202° Long 73.799617°
20/02/26 12:51 PM GMT +05:30
Google

Outcomes:

AI Fest 2026 at ASM's IPS and IIBR campuses successfully achieved its objective of promoting awareness, practical knowledge, and career readiness in Artificial Intelligence. From the grand inauguration and launch of the AI Club to expert sessions, technical workshops, competitions, and Ideathon 2K26, the fest provided a comprehensive learning experience.

Students gained strong conceptual clarity in AI fundamentals such as Machine Learning, Deep Learning, NLP, Computer Vision, and AI workflow. They developed practical skills in research, data analytics, visualization, resume building, and AI-powered tools.

Through competitions and product presentations, students enhanced creativity, teamwork, critical thinking, and confidence. Career-oriented sessions improved their resume writing, LinkedIn optimization, and interview preparation skills.

Overall, AI Fest 2026 strengthened students' technical competence, research orientation, innovation mindset, and professional readiness, truly reflecting the theme — **"Lead with AI."**