Will AI Threaten IT Jobs? What Should Students Do?

Description

â??AI has arrived. So, is there any point in learning coding anymore?â?•
â??If I pursue B.Tech in CSE, will I really get a job?â?•

These are among the most common questions being asked by engineering students and their parents in 2026. With AI tools such as ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot and Google Gemini rapidly transforming the IT industry, anxiety about the future of technology jobs has grown significantly.

But should students really fear that AI will eliminate jobs? Not necessarily.

The bigger reality is that AI is changing the nature of jobs rather than simply eliminating them.

Jobs Are Changing, Not Disappearing Completely

AI can perform repetitive and rule-based tasks much faster than humans. As a result, demand may decline for certain entry-level roles involving basic coding, repetitive software testing, data entry, data labelling and Level-1 customer support.

Tasks such as writing simple pieces of code, fixing routine bugs or handling predictable customer queries can increasingly be automated with AI.

However, this does not mean that the entire IT workforce will become redundant. Instead, companies are looking for people who can work effectively with AI and use it to solve complex problems.

This is where the new opportunities are emerging.

New-Age AI Jobs Are Growing

Roles such as AI Engineer, Machine Learning Engineer, Data Analyst, AI Product Manager, Prompt Engineer and AI Safety & Ethics Specialist are gaining importance.

Companies need professionals who can integrate AI models into products, develop AI-powered solutions, analyse data, design AI-driven products and ensure that AI systems are used responsibly.

The message for students is clear:

Do not ask, â??Will AI take my job?â?• Ask, â??How can I use AI to become better at my job?â?•

Coding Is Still Important

Students should not make the mistake of abandoning coding because AI can generate code.

AI may write code, but a professional still needs to understand:

- Why the code is required
- Whether the code is correct
- How to identify and fix errors
- How the system should be designed
- Whether the solution meets the business requirement
- How different technologies should work together

Therefore, the future is not about choosing between coding and AI.

It is about Core Skills + AI Skills.

For example:

Python + AI/ML + Domain Knowledge + Problem-Solving Skills

This combination can make an engineering graduate much more valuable in the job market.

Domain Knowledge Will Become a Major Advantage

Students should not limit themselves to technology alone. They should also understand at least one industry or business domain.

Finance, healthcare, marketing, agriculture, cybersecurity and fintech are just some of the areas where AI is creating new possibilities.

A student who understands both AI and healthcare, for example, can potentially work on AI-powered healthcare solutions.

Similarly, someone with knowledge of AI and finance can explore opportunities in fintech and financial analytics.

The future belongs to professionals who can combine technology with domain expertise.

Make AI Your Friend

Students should start using AI tools as learning and productivity assistants.

ChatGPT can help with resume preparation, interview practice, coding explanations and debugging.

GitHub Copilot can assist developers with code suggestions and improve development speed.

AI presentation tools can help students create professional presentations, while tools such as Notion AI can assist with research, summarisation and note-taking. Canvaâ??s AI features can help with creative and visual communication.

However, students should never blindly trust AI-generated information.

They must learn to verify, analyse and improve AI outputs.

That requires critical thinkingâ??one of the most important skills that AI cannot completely replace.

Soft Skills Are No Longer Optional

Technical knowledge alone may not be enough to succeed in the AI-driven job market.

Communication, creativity, teamwork, leadership and problem-solving skills will remain extremely important.

Imagine an engineer who develops an excellent AI solution but cannot explain it to a client or business team.

The technical skill becomes less valuable if the person cannot communicate its importance.

Therefore, students should develop both technical and human skills.

Hyderabad: A Growing AI Opportunity Hub

Hyderabad is already a major centre for IT, pharmaceuticals and fintech. The next major opportunity is the integration of AI with these sectors.

AI startups, technology companies and Global Capability Centres are increasingly creating opportunities around artificial intelligence, data, automation and digital transformation.

For students in Hyderabad and Telangana, this should be viewed not as a reason for fear but as an opportunity to upgrade their skills.

Five Free AI Tools Students Can Explore

1. ChatGPT
   Useful for resume writing, interview preparation, learning concepts, coding assistance and debugging.
2. GitHub Copilot
   Helps developers write and understand code more efficiently.
3. Gamma AI
   Can help students create professional presentations quickly.
4. Notion AI
   Useful for summarising notes, organising information and assisting with research.

5. Canva AI
   Useful for creating posters, presentations, social media creatives and professional banners.

What Should Students Do Now?

The answer is simple: Donâ??t panic. Upgrade.

Students should spend the next six months building a combination of core technical knowledge and AI skills.

They should:

Learn one programming language well.
Python is an excellent starting point for students interested in AI and data.

Learn AI fundamentals.
Understand machine learning, generative AI, prompting and responsible AI.

Build projects.
Instead of simply collecting certificates, create practical AI-based projects that can be demonstrated during interviews.

Develop domain knowledge.
Choose an industry and understand how AI can solve real-world problems in that sector.

Improve communication.
Learn to explain technical ideas clearly and confidently.

Use AI every day.
Treat AI tools as learning partners rather than shortcuts.

The Real Threat Is Not AI

AI will certainly reduce the need for some repetitive tasks. At the same time, it will create new roles, new businesses and new opportunities.

The real challenge for students is not that AI will take every job.

The bigger challenge is that professionals who know how to use AI effectively may have an advantage over those who refuse to adapt.

Technology has always changed the job market. The professionals who survived previous technological transformations were not those who resisted change, but those who learned to work with new technology.

The same principle applies to AI.

AI may not replace every IT professional. But an IT professional who knows how to use AI can become far more productive and valuable.

So, students should not abandon engineering or coding because of AI.

Instead, they should embrace a new formula:

Core Skills + AI + Domain Knowledge + Critical Thinking + Communication = Future-Ready Professional

The future of IT is not necessarily humans versus AI.

It is increasingly becoming humans working with AI.

Learn AI. Build skills. Experiment. Adapt. The future belongs to those who are ready for it.

â?? G. Gayathri
B.Tech, BBA | LinkedIn Influencer

AI FOR YOUNG MINDS â?? THE FUTURE STARTS NOW

LOOKING FOR A VIDEO AD
FOR YOUR COMPANY?

with Artist - Model - Anchor

+91

Script Voice

Editing Music G

Date Created
August 12, 2026
Author
editor