

Don't be scared of AI, expert urges

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Ranchi: India has a large pool of professionals skilled in information technology and even an established IT industry but it has not adopted artificial intelligence (AI) to the desired level because most Indians feel that it will do more harm than good.

Daniel David Castro, vice-president of Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, an independent, non-partisan research and educational institute in Washington, DC, focusing on the intersection of technological innovation and public policy, said this while addressing students of IIM and Amity University in Ranchi on Thursday.

He delivered a talk, organised by the US Consulate in Calcutta, on "Data localisation and privacy rights" at IIM Ranchi on Thursday afternoon. In the morning, he spoke on "Data driven innovation and Artificial Intelligence" at the Amity University



VP of Information Technology and Innovation Foundation Daniel David Castro addresses the event at Amity University in Ranchi on Thursday.

Picture by Manob Chowdhary

ty event organised in collaboration with the Cyber Peace Foundation of Ranchi.

"He writes and speaks on a variety of issues related to information technology and internet policy, including open data, privacy, security, intellectual property, internet governance and e-government," Krish Das, deputy director of American Center, Calcutta, said while introducing Castro.

Non-adoption of artificial intelligence by India was why the country lagged behind the US, China and European Union that are doing very well using AI, Castro said. "According to data available for 2017, India has 17,384 researchers engaged in artificial intelligence-trusted researches compared to 18,232 in China and 28,536 in the USA," Castro said at both the institutions.

According to another survey, he said, 71 per cent of Indian respondents had felt that large-scale adoption of AI would do more harm than good. "Chinese researchers have done more research in the field in collaboration with their counterparts from foreign countries," he said when asked why India lagged behind.

"Artificial intelligence can beat humans in many fields — from playing chess and poker to detecting heart diseases and even inspecting bridges," Castro said while explaining usefulness of adopting AI in various fields.